
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5005

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senate Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Takko, Sheldon, Carlyle, Conway, Fortunato, and Wagoner)

READ FIRST TIME 02/07/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to personalized collector vehicle license plates;
2 amending RCW 46.17.210, 46.18.220, and 46.18.275; and providing an
3 effective date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.17.210 and 2013 c 329 s 6 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, in
8 addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon application
9 for a vehicle registration under chapter 46.16A RCW, the holder of a
10 personalized license plate shall pay an initial fee of fifty-two
11 dollars and forty-two dollars for each renewal.

12 (2) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon
13 application for a vehicle registration under chapter 46.16A RCW and
14 RCW 46.17.220(5), a registered owner with a collector vehicle license
15 plate issued under RCW 46.18.220 may receive a personalized collector
16 vehicle license plate upon payment of a one-time initial fee of
17 fifty-two dollars.

18 (3) The personalized license plate fees under this section must
19 be distributed as provided in RCW 46.68.435.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.18.220 and 2015 c 200 s 3 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) A registered owner may apply to the department, county
4 auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a
5 collector vehicle license plate for a motor vehicle or travel trailer
6 that is at least thirty years old. The motor vehicle must be operated
7 primarily as a collector vehicle and be in good running order. The
8 applicant for the collector vehicle license plate shall:

9 (a) Purchase a registration for the motor vehicle or travel
10 trailer as required under chapters 46.16A and 46.17 RCW; and

11 (b) Pay the special license plate fee established under RCW
12 46.17.220(~~((1)-(f))~~) (5), in addition to any other fees or taxes
13 required by law.

14 (2) A person applying for a collector vehicle license plate may:

15 (a) Receive a collector vehicle license plate assigned by the
16 department; (~~(e)~~)

17 (b) Provide an actual Washington state issued license plate
18 designated for general use in the year of the vehicle's manufacture;
19 or

20 (c) Personalize their collector vehicle license plate by paying
21 the additional fee specified in RCW 46.17.210, in addition to any
22 other fees or taxes required by law.

23 (3) Collector vehicle license plates:

24 (a) Are valid for the life of the motor vehicle or travel
25 trailer;

26 (b) Are not required to be renewed; and

27 (c) Must be displayed on the rear of the motor vehicle or travel
28 trailer.

29 (4) A collector vehicle registered under this section may only be
30 used for participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours,
31 parades, and occasional pleasure driving.

32 (5) Collector vehicle license plates under subsection (2)(b) of
33 this section may be transferred from one vehicle to another vehicle
34 described in subsection (1) of this section upon application to the
35 department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by
36 the director.

37 (6) Any person who knowingly provides a false or facsimile
38 license plate under subsection (2)(b) of this section is subject to a
39 traffic infraction and fine in an amount equal to the monetary
40 penalty for a violation of RCW 46.16A.200(7)(b). Additionally, the

1 person must pay for the cost of a collector vehicle license plate as
2 listed in RCW 46.17.220(~~((1)-(f))~~) (5), unless already paid.

3 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.18.275 and 2010 c 161 s 626 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) A registered owner may apply to the department for a
6 personalized license plate or to personalize a collector's license
7 plate for any vehicle required to display one or two vehicle license
8 plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon
9 terms and conditions established by the department. The application
10 for personalized license plates must contain the combination of
11 letters or numbers, or both, requested by the registered owner.

12 (2) Personalized license plates must:

13 (a) Be the same design as standard issue license plates;

14 (b) Consist of numbers or letters or any combination of numbers
15 or letters;

16 (c) Not exceed seven positions unless proposed by the department
17 and approved by the Washington state patrol; and

18 (d) Not contain less than one character.

19 (3) A person who purchased personalized license plates containing
20 three letters and three digits on or between the dates of August 9,
21 1971, and November 6, 1973, is not required to pay the additional
22 annual renewal fee described in RCW 46.17.210.

23 (4) The department shall not issue or may refuse to issue
24 personalized license plates that:

25 (a) Duplicate or conflict with an existing or projected vehicle
26 license plate series or other numbering systems for records kept by
27 the department; or

28 (b) May carry connotations offensive to good taste and decency or
29 which would be misleading.

30 (5) Personalized license plates must be issued only to the
31 registered owner of the vehicle on which they are to be displayed.
32 The registered owner must:

33 (a) Pay the personalized license plate fee required under RCW
34 46.17.210, in addition to any other fee or taxes due;

35 (b) Renew personalized license plates annually, regardless of
36 whether or not the vehicle on which the personalized license plates
37 are displayed will be driven on the public highways;

1 (c) Surrender personalized license plates that have not been
2 renewed to the department. The failure to surrender expired
3 personalized license plates is a traffic infraction; and

4 (d) Immediately report to the department when personalized
5 license plates have been transferred to another vehicle or another
6 owner.

7 (6) The department may establish rules as necessary to carry out
8 this section including, but not limited to, identifying the maximum
9 number of positions on personalized license plates for motorcycles.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act takes effect October 1, 2019.

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