
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6020

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By Senate Transportation (originally sponsored by Senator Haugen)

READ FIRST TIME 03/02/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to the compilation, collection, and release of
2 traffic accident information in compliance with certain federal law;
3 and amending RCW 46.52.060.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.52.060 and 2005 c 171 s 2 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) Subject to subsection (4) of this section, it shall be the duty
8 of the chief of the Washington state patrol to file, tabulate, and
9 analyze all accident reports and to publish annually, immediately
10 following the close of each fiscal year, and monthly during the course
11 of the year, statistical information based thereon showing the number
12 of accidents, the location, the frequency, whether any driver involved
13 in the accident was distracted at the time of the accident and the
14 circumstances thereof, and other statistical information which may
15 prove of assistance in determining the cause of vehicular accidents.
16 However, the information described in this section must be compiled or
17 collected solely for the purposes related to those identified in 23
18 U.S.C. Sec. 152 and 23 U.S.C. Sec. 409.

1 (2) Distractions contributing to an accident to be reported must
2 include at least the following: Not distracted; operating a handheld
3 electronic telecommunication device; operating a hands-free wireless
4 telecommunication device; other electronic devices (including, but not
5 limited to, PDA's, laptop computers, navigational devices, etc.);
6 adjusting an audio or entertainment system; smoking; eating or
7 drinking; reading or writing; grooming; interacting with children,
8 passengers, animals, or objects in the vehicle; other inside
9 distractions; outside distractions; and distraction unknown.

10 (3) Such accident reports and analysis or reports thereof shall be
11 available to the director of licensing, the department of
12 transportation, the utilities and transportation commission, the
13 traffic safety commission, and other public entities authorized by the
14 chief of the Washington state patrol, or their duly authorized
15 representatives, for further tabulation and analysis for pertinent data
16 relating to the regulation of highway traffic, highway construction,
17 vehicle operators and all other purposes, and to publish information so
18 derived as may be deemed of publication value. However, any public
19 entity listed in this subsection shall compile or collect the
20 information described in this section solely for the purposes related
21 to those identified in 23 U.S.C. Sec. 152 and 23 U.S.C. Sec. 409.

22 (4) Information compiled or collected under this section is subject
23 to public disclosure in a manner consistent with the state public
24 records act, chapter 42.56 RCW, but may be released only in conformance
25 with 23 U.S.C. Sec. 409.

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