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HOUSE BILL 1713

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State of Washington                      53rd Legislature                      1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Bray, R. Fisher, Grant and Mastin

Read first time 02/05/93. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1            AN ACT Relating to tinted windows in motor vehicles; and amending  
2 RCW 46.37.430.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.37.430 and 1990 c 95 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) No person may sell any new motor vehicle as specified in this  
7 title, nor may any new motor vehicle as specified in this title be  
8 registered unless such vehicle is equipped with safety glazing material  
9 of a type that meets or exceeds federal standards, or if there are  
10 none, standards approved by the Washington state patrol. The foregoing  
11 provisions apply to all passenger-type motor vehicles, including  
12 passenger buses and school buses, but in respect to trucks, including  
13 truck tractors, the requirements as to safety glazing material apply to  
14 all glazing material used in doors, windows, and windshields in the  
15 drivers' compartments of such vehicles except as provided by subsection  
16 (4) of this section.

17            (2) The term "safety glazing materials" means glazing materials so  
18 constructed, treated, or combined with other materials as to reduce  
19 substantially, in comparison with ordinary sheet glass or plate glass,

1 the likelihood of injury to persons by objects from exterior sources or  
2 by these safety glazing materials when they may be cracked or broken.

3 (3) The director of licensing shall not register any motor vehicle  
4 which is subject to the provisions of this section unless it is  
5 equipped with an approved type of safety glazing material, and he or  
6 she shall suspend the registration of any motor vehicle so subject to  
7 this section which the director finds is not so equipped until it is  
8 made to conform to the requirements of this section.

9 (4) No person may sell or offer for sale, nor may any person  
10 operate a motor vehicle registered in this state which is equipped  
11 with, any camper manufactured after May 23, 1969, unless such camper is  
12 equipped with safety glazing material of a type conforming to rules  
13 adopted by the state patrol wherever glazing materials are used in  
14 outside windows and doors.

15 (5) No film sunscreening or coloring material that reduces light  
16 transmittance to any degree may be applied to the surface of the safety  
17 glazing material in a motor vehicle unless it meets the following  
18 standards for such material:

19 (a) The maximum level of film sunscreening material to be applied  
20 to any window, except the windshield, shall have a total reflectance of  
21 thirty-five percent or less, plus or minus three percent, and a light  
22 transmission of thirty-five percent or more, plus or minus three  
23 percent, when measured against clear glass ~~((and))~~ resulting in a  
24 minimum of twenty-four percent light transmission on AS-2 glazing where  
25 the vehicle is equipped with outside rearview mirrors on both the right  
26 and left. Installation of more than a single sheet of film  
27 sunscreening material to any window is prohibited. The same maximum  
28 levels of film sunscreen material may be applied to windows to the  
29 immediate right and left of the driver on limousines and passenger  
30 buses used to transport persons for compensation and vehicles  
31 identified by the manufacturer as multi-use, multipurpose, or other  
32 similar designation. All windows to the rear of the driver on such  
33 vehicles may have film sunscreening material applied that has less than  
34 thirty-five percent light transmittance, if the light reflectance is  
35 thirty-five percent or less and the vehicle is equipped with outside  
36 rearview mirrors on both the right and left. ~~((Manufacturers of film~~  
37 ~~sunscreening material shall provide a label to affix to the vehicle~~  
38 ~~indicating the percentage light transmittance and light reflectance of~~  
39 ~~the film and it shall be affixed by the installer to the area~~

1 immediately below the federal vehicle identification number sticker on  
2 the driver's side striker post. All vehicles equipped with film  
3 sunscreening material are required, on and after January 1, 1991, to  
4 meet the labeling requirements in this section. The label shall meet  
5 standards adopted by the state patrol.) A person or business tinting  
6 windows for profit who tints windows within restricted areas of the  
7 glazing system shall supply a sticker to be affixed to the driver's  
8 door post, in the area adjacent to the manufacturer's identification  
9 tag. Installation of this sticker certifies that the glazing  
10 application meets this chapter's standards for light transmission,  
11 reflectance, and placement requirements. Stickers must be no smaller  
12 than three-quarters of an inch by one and one-half inches, and no  
13 larger than two inches by two and one-half inches. The stickers must  
14 be of sufficient quality to endure exposure to harsh climate  
15 conditions. The business name and state tax identification number of  
16 the installer must be clearly visible on the sticker.

17 (b) A greater degree of light reduction is permitted on all windows  
18 and the top six inches of windshields of a vehicle operated by or  
19 carrying as a passenger a person who possesses a written verification  
20 from a licensed physician that the operator or passenger must be  
21 protected from exposure to sunlight for physical or medical reasons.

22 (c) Windshield application. A greater degree of light reduction is  
23 permitted on the top six-inch area of a vehicle's windshield. Clear  
24 film sunscreening material that reduces or eliminates ultraviolet light  
25 may be applied to windshields.

26 (d) When film sunscreening material is applied to any window except  
27 the windshield, outside mirrors on both the left and right sides shall  
28 be located so as to reflect to the driver a view of the roadway,  
29 through each mirror, a distance of at least two hundred feet to the  
30 rear of the vehicle.

31 (e) The following types of film sunscreening material are not  
32 permitted:

33 (i) Mirror finish products;

34 (ii) Red, gold, yellow, or black material; or

35 (iii) Film sunscreening material that is in liquid preapplication  
36 form and brushed or sprayed on.

37 Nothing in this section prohibits the use of shaded or heat-  
38 absorbing safety glazing material in which the shading or heat-  
39 absorbing characteristics have been applied at the time of manufacture

1 of the safety glazing material and which meet federal standards and the  
2 standards of the state patrol for such safety glazing materials.

3 (6) It is a traffic infraction for any person to operate a vehicle  
4 for use on the public highways of this state, if the vehicle is  
5 equipped with film sunscreening or coloring material in violation of  
6 this section.

7 (7) Owners of vehicles with film sunscreening material applied to  
8 windows to the rear of the driver, prior to June 7, 1990, must comply  
9 with the requirements of this section and RCW 46.37.435 by July 1,  
10 1993.

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