
SENATE BILL 5697

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Owen, Prince and Deccio; by request of Department of Licensing

Read first time 02/01/95. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to the renewal of driver's licenses; amending RCW
2 46.20.120, 46.20.161, 46.25.080, 46.68.041, and 46.68.041; adding a new
3 section to chapter 46.68 RCW; repealing RCW 46.20.181; providing an
4 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.20.120 and 1990 c 9 s 1 are each amended to read as
7 follows:

8 No new driver's license may be issued and no previously issued
9 license may be renewed until the applicant therefor has successfully
10 passed a driver licensing examination. However, the department may
11 waive all or any part of the examination of any person applying for the
12 renewal of a driver's license except when the department determines
13 that an applicant for a driver's license is not qualified to hold a
14 driver's license under this title. The department may also waive the
15 actual demonstration of the ability to operate a motor vehicle by a
16 person who surrenders a valid driver's license issued by the person's
17 previous home state and who is otherwise qualified to be licensed. For
18 a new license examination a fee of seven dollars shall be paid by each
19 applicant, in addition to the fee charged for issuance of the license.

1 A new license is one issued to a driver who has not been previously
2 licensed in this state or to a driver whose last previous Washington
3 license has been expired for more than four years.

4 Any person renewing his or her driver's license more than sixty
5 days after the license has expired shall pay a penalty fee of ten
6 dollars in addition to the renewal fee under RCW ~~((46.20.181))~~
7 46.20.161. The penalty fee shall be deposited in the highway safety
8 fund.

9 Any person who is outside the state at the time his or her driver's
10 license expires or who is unable to renew the license due to any
11 incapacity may renew the license within sixty days after returning to
12 this state or within sixty days after the termination of any such
13 incapacity without the payment of the penalty fee.

14 The department shall provide for giving examinations at places and
15 times reasonably available to the people of this state.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.20.161 and 1990 c 250 s 40 are each amended to read
17 as follows:

18 (1) The department, upon receipt of ((a)) the appropriate fee ((of
19 fourteen dollars, which includes the fee for the required photograph)),
20 shall issue to every applicant qualifying therefor a driver's license,
21 which license shall bear thereon a distinguishing number assigned to
22 the licensee, the full name, date of birth, Washington residence
23 address, and a brief description of the licensee, and either a
24 facsimile of the signature of the licensee or a space upon which the
25 licensee shall write his or her usual signature with pen and ink
26 immediately upon receipt of the license. No license is valid until it
27 has been so signed by the licensee.

28 (2) A driver's license issued under this section expires on the
29 fifth anniversary of the licensee's birthdate after the issuance of the
30 license. However, the department may issue a driver's license for a
31 period other than five years, or may extend by mail a license that has
32 already been issued, in order to evenly distribute, as nearly as
33 possible, the yearly renewal rate of licensed drivers. Every license
34 is renewable on or before its expiration upon application as prescribed
35 by the department and payment of the appropriate fee. The department
36 may adopt rules as necessary to carry out this subsection.

1 (3) The fee for a driver's license is three dollars and fifty cents
2 for each year for which the license was issued or extended. This fee
3 includes the fee for the required photograph.

4 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.25.080 and 1989 c 178 s 10 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The commercial driver's license must be marked "commercial
7 driver's license" or "CDL," and must be, to the maximum extent
8 practicable, tamperproof. It must include, but not be limited to, the
9 following information:

10 (a) The name and residence address of the person;

11 (b) The person's color photograph;

12 (c) A physical description of the person including sex, height,
13 weight, and eye color;

14 (d) Date of birth;

15 (e) The person's Social Security number or any number or identifier
16 deemed appropriate by the department;

17 (f) The person's signature;

18 (g) The class or type of commercial motor vehicle or vehicles that
19 the person is authorized to drive, together with any endorsements or
20 restrictions;

21 (h) The name of the state; and

22 (i) The dates between which the license is valid.

23 (2) Commercial driver's licenses may be issued with the
24 classifications, endorsements, and restrictions set forth in this
25 subsection. The holder of a valid commercial driver's license may
26 drive all vehicles in the class for which that license is issued and
27 all lesser classes of vehicles except motorcycles and vehicles that
28 require an endorsement, unless the proper endorsement appears on the
29 license.

30 (a) Licenses may be classified as follows:

31 (i) Class A is a combination of vehicles with a gross combined
32 weight rating (GCWR) of 26,001 pounds or more, if the GVWR of the
33 vehicle being towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds.

34 (ii) Class B is a single vehicle with a GVWR of 26,001 pounds or
35 more, and any such vehicle towing a vehicle not in excess of 10,000
36 pounds.

1 (iii) Class C is a single vehicle with a GVWR of less than 26,001
2 pounds or any such vehicle towing a vehicle with a GVWR not in excess
3 of 10,000 pounds consisting of:

4 (A) Vehicles designed to transport sixteen or more passengers,
5 including the driver;

6 (B) Vehicles used in the transportation of hazardous materials that
7 requires the vehicle to be identified with a placard under 49 C.F.R.,
8 part 172, subpart F; and

9 (C) School buses designed to carry fewer than sixteen passengers.

10 (b) The following endorsements and restrictions may be placed on a
11 license:

12 (i) "H" authorizes the driver to drive a vehicle transporting
13 hazardous materials.

14 (ii) "K" restricts the driver to vehicles not equipped with air
15 brakes.

16 (iii) "T" authorizes driving double and triple trailers.

17 (iv) "P" authorizes driving vehicles carrying passengers.

18 (v) "N" authorizes driving tank vehicles.

19 (vi) "X" represents a combination of hazardous materials and tank
20 vehicle endorsements.

21 The license may be issued with additional endorsements and
22 restrictions as established by rule of the director.

23 (3) Before issuing a commercial driver's license, the department
24 shall obtain driving record information through the commercial driver's
25 license information system, the national driver register, and from the
26 current state of record.

27 (4) Within ten days after issuing a commercial driver's license,
28 the department must notify the commercial driver's license information
29 system of that fact, and provide all information required to ensure
30 identification of the person.

31 (5) A commercial driver's license (~~shall~~) expires in the same
32 manner as provided in RCW (~~46.20.181~~) 46.20.161.

33 (6) When applying for renewal of a commercial driver's license, the
34 applicant shall complete the application form required by RCW
35 46.25.070(1), providing updated information and required
36 certifications. If the applicant wishes to retain a hazardous
37 materials endorsement, the applicant shall take and pass the written
38 test for a hazardous materials endorsement.

1 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.68.041 and 1985 ex.s. c 1 s 12 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) The department shall forward all funds accruing under the
4 provisions of chapter 46.20 RCW together with a proper identifying,
5 detailed report to the state treasurer who shall deposit such moneys to
6 the credit of the highway safety fund except as otherwise provided in
7 this section.

8 (2) Out of each fee of (~~fourteen~~) three dollars and fifty cents
9 collected for each year for which a driver's license is issued or
10 extended, the sum of (~~ten~~) two dollars and (~~twenty~~) fifty-five
11 cents shall be deposited in the highway safety fund, and (~~three~~
12 ~~dollars and eighty~~) ninety-five cents shall be deposited in the
13 (~~general~~) temporary licensing technology account of the highway
14 safety fund.

15 **Sec. 5.** RCW 46.68.041 and 1995 c . . . s 4 (section 4 of this act)
16 are each amended to read as follows:

17 (1) The department shall forward all funds accruing under the
18 provisions of chapter 46.20 RCW together with a proper identifying,
19 detailed report to the state treasurer who shall deposit such moneys to
20 the credit of the highway safety fund except as otherwise provided in
21 this section.

22 (2) Out of each fee of three dollars and fifty cents collected for
23 each year for which a driver's license is issued or extended, the sum
24 of two dollars and fifty-five cents shall be deposited in the highway
25 safety fund, and ninety-five cents shall be deposited in the
26 (~~temporary licensing technology account of the highway safety~~)
27 general fund.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 46.68 RCW
29 to read as follows:

30 The temporary licensing technology account is created in the
31 highway safety fund of the state treasury, to the credit of which shall
32 be deposited all moneys directed by law to be deposited in it. Upon
33 expiration of this section, moneys remaining in the temporary licensing
34 technology account shall be deposited in the general fund. This
35 section expires on July 1, 1997.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** RCW 46.20.181 and 1990 c 250 s 41, 1981 c
2 245 s 2, 1975 1st ex.s. c 191 s 4, 1969 c 99 s 7, 1965 ex.s. c 170 s
3 46, & 1965 ex.s. c 121 c 17 are each repealed.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 1 through 4, 6, and 7 of this act
5 are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace,
6 health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing
7 public institutions, and take effect immediately. Section 5 of this
8 act takes effect July 1, 1997.

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