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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6532**

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**State of Washington**

**54th Legislature**

**1996 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Owen, Oke, Spanel and Fraser)

Read first time 02/06/96.

1 AN ACT Relating to exceptions from vessel registration; amending  
2 RCW 88.02.030; and providing an expiration date.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 88.02.030 and 1991 c 339 s 30 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 Vessel registration is required under this chapter except for the  
7 following:

8 (1) Military or public vessels of the United States, except  
9 recreational-type public vessels;

10 (2) Vessels owned by a state or subdivision thereof, used  
11 principally for governmental purposes and clearly identifiable as such;

12 (3) Vessels either (a) registered or numbered under the laws of a  
13 country other than the United States; or (b) having a valid United  
14 States customs service cruising license issued pursuant to 19 C.F.R.  
15 Sec. 4.94;

16 (4) Vessels that have been issued a valid number under federal law  
17 or by an approved issuing authority of the state or country of  
18 principal operation. However, a vessel that is validly registered in  
19 another state or country but that is removed to this state for

1 principal use is subject to registration under this chapter. The  
2 issuing authority for this state shall recognize the validity of the  
3 numbers previously issued for a period of (~~sixty days~~) six months  
4 after arrival in this state;

5 (5) Vessels owned by a resident of another state if the vessel is  
6 located upon the waters of this state exclusively for repairs or  
7 reconstruction, or any testing related to the repair or reconstruction  
8 conducted in this state if an employee of the repair facility is on  
9 board the vessel during any testing: PROVIDED, That any vessel owned  
10 by a resident of another state is located upon the waters of this state  
11 exclusively for repairs, reconstruction or testing for a period longer  
12 than sixty days, that the nonresident shall file an affidavit with the  
13 department of revenue verifying the vessel is located upon the waters  
14 of this state for repair, reconstruction or testing and shall continue  
15 to file such affidavit every sixty days thereafter, while the vessel is  
16 located upon the waters of this state exclusively for repairs,  
17 reconstruction or testing;

18 (6) Vessels equipped with propulsion machinery of less than ten  
19 horsepower that:

20 (a) Are owned by the owner of a vessel for which a valid vessel  
21 number has been issued;

22 (b) Display the number of that numbered vessel followed by the  
23 suffix "1" in the manner prescribed by the department; and

24 (c) Are used as a tender for direct transportation between that  
25 vessel and the shore and for no other purpose;

26 (7) Vessels under sixteen feet in overall length which have no  
27 propulsion machinery of any type or which are not used on waters  
28 subject to the jurisdiction of the United States or on the high seas  
29 beyond the territorial seas for vessels owned in the United States and  
30 are powered by propulsion machinery of ten or less horsepower;

31 (8) Vessels with no propulsion machinery of any type for which the  
32 primary mode of propulsion is human power;

33 (9) Vessels which are temporarily in this state undergoing repair  
34 or alteration;

35 (10) Vessels primarily engaged in commerce which have or are  
36 required to have a valid marine document as a vessel of the United  
37 States. Commercial vessels which the department of revenue determines  
38 have the external appearance of vessels which would otherwise be  
39 required to register under this chapter, must display decals issued

1 annually by the department of revenue that indicate the vessel's exempt  
2 status; and

3 (11) Vessels primarily engaged in commerce which are owned by a  
4 resident of a country other than the United States.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Section 1 of this act shall expire July 1,  
6 1999.

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