
HOUSE BILL 2259

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Murray, Hankins, Ogden, K. Schmidt, Fisher, Radcliff, Hatfield, Hurst and Morris

Read first time 03/03/1999. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to issuing drivers' licenses; amending RCW
2 46.20.120, 46.20.161, 46.20.181, 46.20.470, and 46.20.505; and
3 providing an effective date.

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

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

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

1 licensed in this state or to a driver whose last previous Washington
2 license has been expired for more than (~~four~~) six years.

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

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

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

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.20.161 and 1998 c 41 s 12 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 The department, upon receipt of a fee of (~~fourteen~~) thirty
17 dollars, unless the driver's license is issued for a period other than
18 six years, in which case the fee shall be five dollars for each year
19 that the license is issued, which includes the fee for the required
20 photograph, shall issue to every applicant qualifying therefor a
21 driver's license, which license shall bear thereon a distinguishing
22 number assigned to the licensee, the name of record, date of birth,
23 Washington residence address, photograph, and a brief description of
24 the licensee, and either a facsimile of the signature of the licensee
25 or a space upon which the licensee shall write his usual signature with
26 pen and ink immediately upon receipt of the license. No license is
27 valid until it has been so signed by the licensee.

28 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.20.181 and 1990 c 250 s 41 are each amended to read
29 as follows:

30 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, every
31 driver's license expires on the (~~fourth~~) sixth anniversary of the
32 licensee's birthdate following the issuance of the license. Every such
33 license is renewable on or before its expiration upon application
34 prescribed by the department and the payment of a fee of (~~fourteen~~)
35 thirty dollars. This fee includes the fee for the required photograph.

36 (2) During the period from July 1, 2000, to July 1, 2006, the
37 department may issue or renew a driver's license for a period other

1 than six years, or may extend by mail a license that has already been
2 issued, in order to evenly distribute, as nearly as possible, the
3 yearly renewal rate of licensed drivers. The fee for a driver's
4 license issued or renewed for a period other than six years, or that
5 has been extended by mail, is five dollars for each year that the
6 license is issued, renewed, or extended. The department may adopt any
7 rules as are necessary to carry out this subsection.

8 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.20.470 and 1989 c 178 s 21 are each amended to read
9 as follows:

10 There shall be an additional fee for issuing any class of
11 commercial driver's license in addition to the prescribed fee required
12 for the issuance of the original driver's license. The additional fee
13 for each class shall not exceed (~~twelve~~) twenty-four dollars for the
14 original commercial driver's license or subsequent renewals, unless the
15 commercial driver's license is renewed or extended for a period other
16 than six years, in which case the fee for each class shall not exceed
17 four dollars for each year that the commercial driver's license is
18 renewed or extended. The fee shall be deposited in the highway safety
19 fund.

20 **Sec. 5.** RCW 46.20.505 and 1993 c 115 s 1 are each amended to read
21 as follows:

22 Every person applying for a special endorsement or a new category
23 of endorsement of a driver's license authorizing such person to drive
24 a motorcycle or a motor-driven cycle shall pay an examination fee of
25 two dollars which is not refundable. In addition, the endorsement fee
26 for the initial or new category motorcycle endorsement shall (~~be six~~)
27 not exceed nine dollars, and the subsequent renewal endorsement fee
28 shall (~~be fourteen~~) not exceed thirty dollars, unless the endorsement
29 is renewed or extended for a period other than six years, in which case
30 the subsequent renewal endorsement fee shall not exceed five dollars
31 for each year that the endorsement is renewed or extended. The initial
32 or new category and renewal endorsement fees shall be deposited in the
33 motorcycle safety education account of the highway safety fund.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act takes effect July 1, 2000.

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