
SENATE BILL 5488

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen, Benton, T. Sheldon and Winsley

Read first time 01/24/2001. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to special license plates; amending RCW 46.16.313;
2 reenacting and amending RCW 46.16.305; adding a new section to chapter
3 46.04 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 46.16 RCW; adding a new
4 section to chapter 28A.300 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that good
7 language skills are essential for productive adults and that public
8 schools in the state of Washington provide trained speech pathologists
9 to assist children who lack adequate verbal communication skills to
10 compete successfully in the challenges of securing an education. It
11 recognizes that the task of teaching students to speak well is a
12 formidable one and sees shrinking public funding as an obstacle in
13 providing sufficient professional staff to realize that goal. It
14 further recognizes that professionally trained and nationally certified
15 speech pathologists are provided at no cost by nonprofit charitable
16 organizations to preschool and school-age children. To aid the public
17 schools in teaching essential speech skills, a "Help Kids Speak"
18 license plate is established.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 "Help Kids Speak license plates" means license plates that display
4 a symbol of a nonprofit, charitable organization that provides no-fee
5 nationally certified speech pathologists to teach youngsters to speak.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 In cooperation with the Washington state patrol and the department
9 of licensing, the sponsors of the "Help Kids Speak" program shall
10 create and design, and the department shall issue, a special license
11 plate displaying a symbol of a nonprofit charitable organization and
12 the words "Help Kids Speak" that may be used in lieu of regular or
13 personalized license plates for motor vehicles required to display two
14 motor vehicle license plates, excluding vehicles registered under
15 chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the
16 department. The special plates will commemorate the "Help Kids Speak"
17 organization.

18 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.16.313 and 1997 c 291 s 8 are each amended to read
19 as follows:

20 (1) The department may establish a fee for each type of special
21 license plates issued under RCW 46.16.301(1) (a), (b), or (c), as
22 existing before amendment by section 5, chapter 291, Laws of 1997, in
23 an amount calculated to offset the cost of production of the special
24 license plates and the administration of this program. ~~((Until~~
25 ~~December 31, 1997,))~~ The fee shall not exceed ~~((thirty five dollars,~~
26 ~~but effective with vehicle registrations due or to become due on~~
27 ~~January 1, 1998, the department may adjust the fee to no more than))~~
28 forty dollars. This fee is in addition to all other fees required to
29 register and license the vehicle for which the plates have been
30 requested. All such additional special license plate fees collected by
31 the department shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to
32 the motor vehicle fund.

33 ~~((Until December 31, 1997, in addition to all fees and taxes~~
34 ~~required to be paid upon application, registration, and renewal~~
35 ~~registration of a motor vehicle, the holder of a collegiate license~~
36 ~~plate shall pay a fee of thirty dollars. The department shall deduct~~
37 ~~an amount not to exceed two dollars of each fee collected under this~~

1 subsection for administration and collection expenses incurred by it.
2 The remaining proceeds, minus the cost of plate production, shall be
3 remitted to the custody of the state treasurer with a proper
4 identifying detailed report. The state treasurer shall credit the
5 funds to the appropriate collegiate license plate fund as provided in
6 RCW 28B.10.890.

7 ~~(3) Effective with vehicle registrations due or to become due on~~
8 ~~January 1, 1998,))~~ (3) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be
9 paid upon application and registration of a motor vehicle, the holder
10 of a collegiate license plate shall pay an initial fee of forty
11 dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed twelve
12 dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for administration
13 and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall
14 be remitted to the custody of the state treasurer with a proper
15 identifying detailed report. The state treasurer shall credit the
16 funds to the appropriate collegiate license plate fund as provided in
17 RCW 28B.10.890.

18 ~~((+4))~~ (3) Effective with annual renewals due or to become due on
19 January 1, 1999, in addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid
20 upon renewal of a motor vehicle registration, the holder of a
21 collegiate license plate shall pay a fee of thirty dollars. The
22 department shall deduct an amount not to exceed two dollars of each fee
23 collected under this subsection for administration and collection
24 expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall be remitted to
25 the custody of the state treasurer with a proper identifying detailed
26 report. The state treasurer shall credit the funds to the appropriate
27 collegiate license plate fund as provided in RCW 28B.10.890.

28 ~~((+5))~~ (4) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid
29 upon application and registration of a motor vehicle, the holder of a
30 special baseball stadium license plate shall pay an initial fee of
31 forty dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed
32 twelve dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for
33 administration and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining
34 proceeds, minus the cost of plate production, shall be distributed to
35 a county for the purpose of paying the principal and interest payments
36 on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball stadium, as
37 defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary
38 preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW

1 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds
2 to the state general fund.

3 ~~((6))~~ (5) Effective with annual renewals due or to become due on
4 January 1, 1999, in addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid
5 upon renewal of a motor vehicle registration, the holder of a special
6 baseball stadium license plate shall pay a fee of thirty dollars. The
7 department shall deduct an amount not to exceed two dollars of each fee
8 collected under this subsection for administration and collection
9 expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall be distributed
10 to a county for the purpose of paying the principal and interest
11 payments on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball stadium,
12 as defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary
13 preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW
14 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds
15 to the state general fund.

16 (6) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon
17 application and registration of a motor vehicle, the holder of a "Help
18 Kids Speak" license plate shall pay an initial fee of forty dollars.
19 The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed twelve dollars of
20 each fee collected under this subsection for administration and
21 collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds, minus the
22 cost of plate production, shall be remitted to the custody of the state
23 treasurer with a proper identifying detailed report. The state
24 treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the "Help Kids Speak" license
25 plate account established under section 5 of this act.

26 (7) Effective with annual renewals due or to become due on January
27 1, 2002, in addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon
28 renewal of a motor vehicle registration, the holder of a "Help Kids
29 Speak" license plate shall pay a fee of thirty dollars. The department
30 shall deduct an amount not to exceed two dollars of each fee collected
31 under this subsection for administration and collection expenses
32 incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall be remitted to the
33 custody of the state treasurer with a proper identifying detailed
34 report. The state treasurer shall credit the funds to the "Help Kids
35 Speak" license plate account established under section 5 of this act.

36 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
37 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) The "Help Kids Speak" program is created. The purpose of the
2 program is to provide grants to nonprofit, charitable organizations,
3 incorporated under the laws of the state of Washington that do not
4 discriminate in any way, and that provide nationally certified speech
5 pathologists on a no-fee basis to youngsters, regardless of their
6 economic status, whether enrolled in a public, private, or home school,
7 of preschool or school age, and who have displayed a lack of verbal
8 communication skills; including in the grant application a finding that
9 there is, on staff of the nonprofit, charitable organization,
10 nationally certified speech pathologists trained in the techniques of
11 teaching youngsters essential communication skills. The superintendent
12 of public instruction shall administer the grant program.

13 (2) The "Help Kids Speak" license plate account is established in
14 the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts, except as provided
15 in RCW 46.16.313 (6) and (7), from "Help Kids Speak" license plates
16 must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may
17 be used only to fund the grant program under subsection (1) of this
18 section. Only the superintendent of public instruction or the
19 superintendent's designee may authorize expenditures from the account.
20 The account is not subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88
21 RCW, and no appropriation is required for expenditures.

22 **Sec. 6.** RCW 46.16.305 and 1997 c 291 s 6 and 1997 c 241 s 10 are
23 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

24 The department shall continue to issue the categories of special
25 plates issued by the department under the sections repealed under
26 section 12 (1) through (7), chapter 250, Laws of 1990. Special license
27 plates issued under those repealed sections before January 1, 1991, are
28 valid to the extent and under the conditions provided in those repealed
29 sections. The following conditions, limitations, or requirements apply
30 to certain special license plates issued after January 1, 1991:

31 (1) A horseless carriage plate and a plate or plates issued for
32 collectors' vehicles more than thirty years old, upon payment of the
33 initial fees required by law and the additional special license plate
34 fee established by the department, are valid for the life of the
35 vehicle for which application is approved by the department. When a
36 single plate is issued, it shall be displayed on the rear of the
37 vehicle.

1 (2) The department may issue special license plates denoting
2 amateur radio operator status only to persons having a valid official
3 radio operator license issued by the federal communications commission.

4 (3) The department shall issue one set of special license plates to
5 each resident of this state who has been awarded the Congressional
6 Medal of Honor for use on a passenger vehicle registered to that
7 person. The department shall issue the plate without the payment of
8 licensing fees and motor vehicle excise tax.

9 (4) The department may issue for use on only one motor vehicle
10 owned by the qualified applicant special license plates denoting that
11 the recipient of the plate is a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor
12 on December 7, 1941, to persons meeting all of the following criteria:

13 (a) Is a resident of this state;

14 (b) Was a member of the United States Armed Forces on December 7,
15 1941;

16 (c) Was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55
17 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Hawaii time at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or
18 offshore at a distance not to exceed three miles;

19 (d) Received an honorable discharge from the United States Armed
20 Forces; and

21 (e) Is certified by a Washington state chapter of the Pearl Harbor
22 survivors association as satisfying the qualifications in (c) of this
23 subsection.

24 The department may issue such plates to the surviving spouse of any
25 deceased Pearl Harbor survivor who met the requirements of this
26 subsection. If the surviving spouse remarries, he or she shall return
27 the special plates to the department within fifteen days and apply for
28 regular plates. The surviving spouse must be a resident of this state.

29 The department shall issue these plates upon payment by the
30 applicant of all other license fees, but the department may not set or
31 charge an additional fee for these special license plates.

32 (5)(a) The department shall issue one set of special license plates
33 to each resident of this state who has been awarded the law enforcement
34 medal of honor under chapter 41.72 RCW for use on a passenger vehicle
35 registered to that person.

36 (b) The department may issue these plates to the surviving spouse
37 of any person awarded the law enforcement medal of honor posthumously.
38 If the surviving spouse remarries, he or she shall return the special

1 plates to the department within fifteen days and apply for regular
2 plates. The surviving spouse must be a resident of this state.

3 (6) The department shall replace, free of charge, special license
4 plates issued under subsections (3) and (4) of this section if they are
5 lost, stolen, damaged, defaced, or destroyed. Such plates shall remain
6 with the persons upon transfer or other disposition of the vehicle for
7 which they were initially issued, and may be used on another vehicle
8 registered to the recipient in accordance with the provisions of RCW
9 46.16.316(1).

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