
SENATE BILL 5722

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senators Oke, Haugen, Eide, Rossi, Roach, Costa, Kastama, Winsley and Rasmussen

Read first time 02/01/2001. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to special armed forces license plates; reenacting
2 and amending RCW 46.16.305; adding a new section to chapter 46.16 RCW;
3 repealing RCW 73.04.110 and 73.04.115; and providing an effective date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.16.305 and 1997 c 291 s 6 and 1997 c 241 s 10 are
6 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

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8 plates issued by the department under the sections repealed under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10 plates issued under those repealed sections before January 1, 1991, are
11 valid to the extent and under the conditions provided in those repealed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

14 (1) A horseless carriage plate and a plate or plates issued for
15 collectors' vehicles more than thirty years old, upon payment of the
16 initial fees required by law and the additional special license plate
17 fee established by the department, are valid for the life of the
18 vehicle for which application is approved by the department. When a

1 single plate is issued, it shall be displayed on the rear of the
2 vehicle.

3 (2) The department may issue special license plates denoting
4 amateur radio operator status only to persons having a valid official
5 radio operator license issued by the Federal Communications Commission,
6 upon payment of regular license fees.

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

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

16 ~~(a) Is a resident of this state;~~

17 ~~(b) Was a member of the United States Armed Forces on December 7,
18 1941;~~

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

22 ~~(d) Received an honorable discharge from the United States Armed
23 Forces; and~~

24 ~~(e) Is certified by a Washington state chapter of the Pearl Harbor
25 survivors association as satisfying the qualifications in (c) of this
26 subsection.~~

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

32 ~~The department shall issue these plates upon payment by the
33 applicant of all other license fees, but the department may not set or
34 charge an additional fee for these special license plates.))~~

35 (4) The department may set a charge or an additional fee for
36 special veteran license plates that are available to active duty and
37 former members of the United States Armed Forces and Washington State
38 National Guard and Reserves under the following terms:

1 (a) The department may issue for use on only one motor vehicle
2 owned by a qualified applicant special veteran license plates denoting
3 the following:

4 (i) United States Marine Corps;

5 (ii) United States Army;

6 (iii) United States Navy;

7 (iv) United States Air Force;

8 (v) United States Coast Guard;

9 (vi) Washington State National Guard;

10 (vii) Washington State Reserves.

11 (b) The department shall charge an additional fee of twenty-five
12 dollars, over the department's costs, for the special veteran license
13 plates. All such additional fees for the special veteran license
14 plates collected by the department must be deposited in the state
15 treasury and credited to the veterans' emblem account. The governor's
16 veterans advisory council shall oversee the disbursement of this
17 revenue, which must be used for veteran memorial and education
18 programs.

19 (c) Applicants for the special veteran license plates must show
20 proof of their eligibility by presenting one of the following: An
21 active duty military, guard, or reserves identification card; a veteran
22 or retired military identification card; or a DD-214 form or discharge
23 papers. The documents must be submitted with valid picture
24 identification.

25 (5) The department shall replace, free of charge, special license
26 plates issued under subsection(~~s~~) (3) (~~and (4)~~) of this section if
27 they are lost, stolen, damaged, defaced, or destroyed. (~~Such~~) The
28 department shall charge a replacement fee for other special license
29 plates issued under this section if they are lost, stolen, damaged,
30 defaced, or destroyed. The amount of the replacement fee may not
31 exceed the cost to the department to replace the special license
32 plates. Plates (~~shall~~) issued under subsections (2) through (4) of
33 this section remain with the persons upon transfer or other disposition
34 of the vehicle for which they were initially issued, and may be used on
35 another vehicle registered to the recipient in accordance with (~~the~~
36 provisions of)) RCW 46.16.316(1).

37 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
38 to read as follows:

1 Special license plates issued under RCW 46.16.305(4), 73.04.110,
2 and 73.04.115 as they existed before their amendment or repeal by this
3 act continue to be valid for the life of the person to whom they were
4 issued, and the department may not recall the plates or require their
5 return to the department. However, the department need not replace the
6 plates if they are lost, stolen, damaged, defaced, or destroyed.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The following acts or parts of acts are each
8 repealed:

9 (1) RCW 73.04.110 (Free license plates for disabled veterans,
10 prisoners of war--Penalty) and 1987 c 98 s 2, 1983 c 230 s 2, 1982 c
11 115 s 1, 1980 c 88 s 2, 1979 c 158 s 221, 1972 ex.s. c 60 s 1, 1971
12 ex.s. c 193 s 1, 1951 c 206 s 1, & 1949 c 178 s 1; and

13 (2) RCW 73.04.115 (Free license plates for surviving spouses of
14 deceased prisoners of war) and 1990 c 250 s 91 & 1987 c 98 s 1.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act takes effect July 1, 2002.

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