

---

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5063**

---

**State of Washington**

**62nd Legislature**

**2011 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, King, and Shin)

READ FIRST TIME 01/27/11.

1 AN ACT Relating to special license plates for motorcycles; and  
2 amending RCW 46.04.437, 46.18.215, 46.18.225, 46.18.230, 46.18.235,  
3 46.18.270, 46.18.280, and 46.18.290.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.04.437 and 2010 c 161 s 133 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 "Purple heart license plates" means special license plates that may  
8 be assigned to a motor vehicle required to display one or two license  
9 plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon  
10 terms and conditions established by the department, to recipients of  
11 the Purple Heart medal or to another qualified person.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.18.215 and 2010 c 161 s 614 are each amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 The department shall create, design, and issue a special baseball  
15 stadium license plate that may be used in lieu of standard issue or  
16 personalized license plates for motor vehicles required to display one  
17 or two license plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter  
18 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the department.

1 The special license plates commemorate the construction of a baseball  
2 stadium, as defined in RCW 82.14.0485. The department shall also issue  
3 to each recipient of a special baseball stadium license plate a  
4 certificate of participation in the construction of the baseball  
5 stadium.

6 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.18.225 and 2010 c 161 s 615 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 A state university, regional university, or state college as  
9 defined in RCW 28B.10.016 may apply to the department, in a form  
10 approved by the department and request the department to issue a series  
11 of collegiate license plates, for display on motor vehicles required to  
12 display one or two license plates, excluding vehicles registered under  
13 chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the  
14 department, depicting the name and mascot or symbol of the college or  
15 university, as submitted and approved for use by the requesting  
16 institution.

17 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.18.230 and 2010 c 161 s 618 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (1) A registered owner who has been awarded the Congressional Medal  
20 of Honor may apply to the department for special license plates for use  
21 on a ((passenger)) motor vehicle required to display one or two license  
22 plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon  
23 terms and conditions established by the department. The Congressional  
24 Medal of Honor recipient must:

25 (a) Provide proof from the Washington state department of veterans  
26 affairs showing receipt of the medal; and

27 (b) Be recorded as the registered owner of the motor vehicle on  
28 which the Congressional Medal of Honor license plate or plates will be  
29 displayed.

30 (2) Congressional Medal of Honor license plates must be issued:

31 (a) Only for a personal ((passenger)) motor vehicle owned by  
32 persons who have received the Congressional Medal of Honor; and

33 (b) Without payment of vehicle license fees, license plate fees,  
34 and motor vehicle excise taxes.

35 (3) Congressional Medal of Honor license plates must be replaced,

1 free of charge, if the license plates become lost, stolen, damaged,  
2 defaced, or destroyed.

3 (4) A Congressional Medal of Honor license plate or plates may be  
4 transferred, free of charge, from one motor vehicle to another motor  
5 vehicle owned by the Congressional Medal of Honor recipient upon  
6 application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or  
7 subagent appointed by the director.

8 **Sec. 5.** RCW 46.18.235 and 2010 c 161 s 619 are each amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (1) A registered owner who is a veteran, as defined in RCW  
11 41.04.007, may apply to the department for disabled American veteran or  
12 former prisoner of war license plates, for use on one personal use  
13 motor vehicle required to display one or two license plates, excluding  
14 vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions  
15 established by the department. The veteran must be recorded as the  
16 registered owner of the motor vehicle on which the disabled American  
17 veteran or former prisoner of war license plate or plates will be  
18 displayed and:

19 (a) Provide certification from the veterans administration or the  
20 military service from which the veteran was discharged that the veteran  
21 has a service-connected disability rating;

22 (b) Have lost the use of both hands or one foot;

23 (c) Have been captured and incarcerated by an enemy of the United  
24 States during a period of war with the United States and have received  
25 a prisoner of war medal;

26 (d) Have become blind in both eyes as the result of military  
27 service; or

28 (e) Be rated by the veterans administration or the military service  
29 from which the veteran was discharged and be receiving service-  
30 connected compensation at the one hundred percent rate that is expected  
31 to exist for more than one year.

32 (2) The special license plates under this section must:

33 (a) Display distinguishing marks, letters, or numerals indicating  
34 that the registered owner is a disabled American veteran or former  
35 prisoner of war; and

36 (b) Be issued for one personal use vehicle without the payment of  
37 any vehicle license fees, license plate fees, or excise taxes.

1 (3) A registered owner who is a veteran, as defined in RCW  
2 41.04.007, may, in lieu of applying for the special license plates  
3 under this section, apply for regular issue or any qualifying special  
4 license plate and receive the full benefit of the vehicle license fee  
5 and excise tax exemption provided in subsection (2)(b) of this section.

6 (4) The department may periodically verify the one hundred percent  
7 rate as described in subsection (1)(e) of this section.

8 (5) A veteran who has been issued disabled American veteran or  
9 former prisoner of war license plates under this section before July 1,  
10 1983, continues to be eligible for the vehicle license fee and excise  
11 tax exemption described in subsection (2)(b) of this section.

12 (6) A disabled American veteran and former prisoner of war license  
13 plate or plates may be transferred from one motor vehicle to another  
14 motor vehicle owned by the veteran upon application to the department,  
15 county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director.

16 (7) For the purposes of this section:

17 (a) "Blind" means the definition of "blind" used by the state of  
18 Washington in determining eligibility for financial assistance to the  
19 blind under Title 74 RCW; and

20 (b) "Special license plates" does not include any plate from the  
21 armed forces license plate collection established in RCW 46.18.200(3).

22 (8) Any unauthorized use of a special license plate under this  
23 section is a gross misdemeanor.

24 **Sec. 6.** RCW 46.18.270 and 2010 c 161 s 625 are each amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 (1) A registered owner who has survived the attack on Pearl Harbor  
27 on December 7, 1941, may apply to the department for special license  
28 plates for use on only one motor vehicle required to display one or two  
29 license plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW,  
30 upon terms and conditions established by the department, and owned by  
31 the qualified applicant. The applicant must:

32 (a) Be a resident of this state;

33 (b) Have been a member of the United States armed forces on  
34 December 7, 1941;

35 (c) Have been on station on December 7, 1941, between the hours of  
36 7:55 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. Hawaii time at Pearl Harbor, the island of  
37 Oahu, or offshore at a distance not to exceed three miles;

1 (d) Have received an honorable discharge from the United States  
2 armed forces;

3 (e) Provide certification by a Washington state chapter of the  
4 Pearl Harbor survivors association showing that qualifications in (c)  
5 of this subsection have been met;

6 (f) Be recorded as the registered owner of the motor vehicle on  
7 which the Pearl Harbor survivor license plate or plates will be  
8 displayed; and

9 (g) Pay all fees and taxes required by law for registering the  
10 motor vehicle.

11 (2) Pearl Harbor survivor license plates must be issued without the  
12 payment of any license plate fee.

13 (3) Pearl Harbor survivor license plates must be replaced, free of  
14 charge, if the license plates have become lost, stolen, damaged,  
15 defaced, or destroyed.

16 (4) Pearl Harbor survivor license plates may be issued to the  
17 surviving spouse or domestic partner of a Pearl Harbor survivor who met  
18 the requirements in subsection (1) of this section. The surviving  
19 spouse or domestic partner must be a resident of this state. If the  
20 surviving spouse remarries or the surviving domestic partner marries or  
21 enters into a new domestic partnership, he or she must return the  
22 special license plates to the department within fifteen days and apply  
23 for regular license plates or another type of special license plate.

24 (5) A Pearl Harbor survivor license plate or plates may be  
25 transferred from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by  
26 the Pearl Harbor survivor or the surviving spouse or domestic partner  
27 as described in subsection (4) of this section upon application to the  
28 department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the  
29 director.

30 **Sec. 7.** RCW 46.18.280 and 2010 c 161 s 628 are each amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 (1) A registered owner who has been awarded a Purple Heart medal by  
33 any branch of the United States armed forces, including the merchant  
34 marines and the women's air forces service pilots may apply to the  
35 department for special license plates for use on only one motor vehicle  
36 required to display one or two license plates, excluding vehicles

1 registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions  
2 established by the department, and owned by the qualified applicant.

3 The applicant must:

4 (a) Be a resident of this state;

5 (b) Have been wounded during one of this nation's wars or conflicts  
6 identified in RCW 41.04.005;

7 (c) Have received an honorable discharge from the United States  
8 armed forces;

9 (d) Provide a copy of the armed forces document showing the  
10 recipient was awarded the Purple Heart medal;

11 (e) Be recorded as the registered owner of the motor vehicle on  
12 which the Purple Heart survivor license plate or plates will be  
13 displayed; and

14 (f) Pay all fees and taxes required by law for registering the  
15 motor vehicle.

16 (2) Purple Heart license plates must be issued without the payment  
17 of any special license plate fee.

18 (3) Purple Heart license plates may be issued to the surviving  
19 spouse or domestic partner of a Purple Heart recipient who met the  
20 requirements in subsection (1) of this section. The surviving spouse  
21 or domestic partner must be a resident of this state. If the surviving  
22 spouse remarries or the surviving domestic partner marries or enters  
23 into a new domestic partnership, he or she must return the special  
24 license plates to the department within fifteen days and apply for  
25 regular license plates or another type of special license plate.

26 (4) A Purple Heart license plate or plates may be transferred from  
27 one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the Purple Heart  
28 recipient or the surviving spouse or domestic partner as described in  
29 subsection (3) of this section upon application to the department,  
30 county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director.

31 **Sec. 8.** RCW 46.18.290 and 2010 c 161 s 630 are each amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 A registered owner may apply to the department, county auditor or  
34 other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a square dancer  
35 license plate. The registered owner shall pay the special license  
36 plate fee required under RCW 46.17.220(1)(q), in addition to any other  
37 fee or tax required by law. The square dancer license plate may be

1 issued in lieu of standard issue or personalized license plates for  
2 motor vehicles required to display one or two license plates, but may  
3 not be issued for vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW.

--- END ---