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HOUSE BILL 1430

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State of Washington                      64th Legislature                      2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Walkinshaw, Holy, Clibborn, and McBride

Read first time 01/20/15. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1            AN ACT Relating to Washington state tree special license plates;  
2 amending RCW 46.68.420; reenacting and amending RCW 46.18.200,  
3 46.17.220, and 46.18.060; adding a new section to chapter 46.04 RCW;  
4 and providing an effective date.

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

6            **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.18.200 and 2014 c 77 s 1 and 2014 c 6 s 1 are  
7 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

8            (1) Special license plate series reviewed and approved by the  
9 department:

10            (a) May be issued in lieu of standard issue or personalized  
11 license plates for vehicles required to display one and two license  
12 plates unless otherwise specified;

13            (b) Must be issued under terms and conditions established by the  
14 department;

15            (c) Must not be issued for vehicles registered under chapter  
16 46.87 RCW; and

17            (d) Must display a symbol or artwork approved by the department.

18            (2) The department approves and shall issue the following special  
19 license plates:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36	LICENSE PLATE	DESCRIPTION, SYMBOL, OR ARTWORK
	4-H	Displays the "4-H" logo.
	Armed forces collection	Recognizes the contribution of veterans, active duty military personnel, reservists, and members of the national guard, and includes six separate designs, each containing a symbol representing a different branch of the armed forces to include army, navy, air force, marine corps, coast guard, and national guard.
	Breast cancer awareness	Displays a pink ribbon symbolizing breast cancer awareness.
	Endangered wildlife	Displays a symbol or artwork symbolizing endangered wildlife in Washington state.
	Gonzaga University alumni association	Recognizes the Gonzaga University alumni association.
	Helping kids speak	Recognizes an organization that supports programs that provide no-cost speech pathology programs to children.
	Keep kids safe	Recognizes efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect.
	Law enforcement memorial	Honors law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line of duty.
	Music matters	Displays the "Music Matters" logo.
	Professional firefighters and paramedics	Recognizes professional firefighters and paramedics who are members of the Washington state council of firefighters.

1	Seattle Seahawks	Displays the "Seattle Seahawks"
2		logo.
3	Seattle Sounders FC	Displays the "Seattle Sounders
4		FC" logo.
5	Seattle University	Recognizes Seattle University.
6	Share the road	Recognizes an organization that
7		promotes bicycle safety and
8		awareness education.
9	Ski & ride Washington	Recognizes the Washington
10		snowsports industry.
11	State flower	Recognizes the Washington state
12		flower.
13	<u>State tree</u>	<u>Recognizes the Washington state</u>
14		<u>tree.</u>
15	Volunteer firefighters	Recognizes volunteer firefighters.
16	Washington lighthouses	Recognizes an organization that
17		supports selected Washington
18		state lighthouses and provides
19		environmental education
20		programs.
21	Washington state parks	Recognizes Washington state
22		parks as premier destinations of
23		uncommon quality that preserve
24		significant natural, cultural,
25		historical, and recreational
26		resources.
27	Washington's national park fund	Builds awareness of Washington's
28		national parks and supports
29		priority park programs and
30		projects in Washington's national
31		parks, such as enhancing visitor
32		experience, promoting
33		volunteerism, engaging
34		communities, and providing
35		educational opportunities related
36		to Washington's national parks.

1	Washington's wildlife collection	Recognizes Washington's
2		wildlife.
3	We love our pets	Recognizes an organization that
4		assists local member agencies of
5		the federation of animal welfare
6		and control agencies to promote
7		and perform spay/neuter surgery
8		on Washington state pets to
9		reduce pet overpopulation.
10	Wild on Washington	Symbolizes wildlife viewing in
11		Washington state.

12 (4) Applicants for initial volunteer firefighters special license  
13 plates must (a) have been a volunteer firefighter for at least ten  
14 years or be a volunteer firefighter for one or more years and (b)  
15 have documentation of service from the district of the appropriate  
16 fire service. If the volunteer firefighter leaves firefighting  
17 service before ten years of service have been completed, the  
18 volunteer firefighter shall surrender the license plates to the  
19 department on the registration renewal date. If the volunteer  
20 firefighter stays in service for at least ten years and then leaves,  
21 the license plate may be retained by the former volunteer firefighter  
22 and as long as the license plate is retained for use the person will  
23 continue to pay the future registration renewals. A qualifying  
24 volunteer firefighter may have no more than one set of license plates  
25 per vehicle, and a maximum of two sets per applicant, for their  
26 personal vehicles. If the volunteer firefighter is convicted of a  
27 violation of RCW 46.61.502 or a felony, the license plates must be  
28 surrendered upon conviction.

29 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.17.220 and 2014 c 77 s 2 and 2014 c 6 s 2 are  
30 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

31 (1) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon  
32 application for a vehicle registration in chapter 46.16A RCW, the  
33 holder of a special license plate shall pay the appropriate special  
34 license plate fee as listed in this section.

35	PLATE TYPE	INITIAL FEE	RENEWAL FEE	DISTRIBUTED UNDER
36				
37	(a) 4-H	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420

1	(b) Amateur radio license	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
2	(c) Armed forces	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
3	(d) Baseball stadium	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	Subsection (2) of this section
4				
5	(e) Breast cancer awareness	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
6	(f) Collector vehicle	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
7	(g) Collegiate	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.430
8	(h) Endangered wildlife	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
9	(i) Gonzaga University	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
10	alumni association			
11	(j) Helping kids speak	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
12	(k) Horseless carriage	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
13	(l) Keep kids safe	\$ 45.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
14	(m) Law enforcement	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
15	memorial			
16	(n) Military affiliate radio	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
17	system			
18	(o) Music matters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
19	(p) Professional firefighters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
20	and paramedics			
21	(q) Ride share	\$ 25.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
22	(r) Seattle Seahawks	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
23	(s) Seattle Sounders FC	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
24	(t) Seattle University	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
25	(u) Share the road	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
26	(v) Ski & ride Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
27	(w) Square dancer	\$ 40.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
28	(x) State flower	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
29	(y) State tree	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>
30	(z) Volunteer firefighters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
31	((z)) (aa) Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
32	lighthouses			
33	((aa)) (bb) Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
34	state parks			

1	(((bb))) (cc) Washington's	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
2	national parks			
3	(((ee))) (dd) Washington's	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
4	wildlife collection			
5	(((dd))) (ee) We love our	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
6	pets			
7	(((ee))) (ff) Wild on	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
8	Washington			

9 (2) After deducting administration and collection expenses for  
10 the sale of baseball stadium license plates, the remaining proceeds  
11 must be distributed to a county for the purpose of paying the  
12 principal and interest payments on bonds issued by the county to  
13 construct a baseball stadium, as defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including  
14 reasonably necessary preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being  
15 collected under RCW 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer  
16 shall credit the funds to the state general fund.

17 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.68.420 and 2014 c 6 s 3 are each amended to read  
18 as follows:

- 19 (1) The department shall:
  - 20 (a) Collect special license plate fees established under RCW
  - 21 46.17.220;
  - 22 (b) Deduct an amount not to exceed twelve dollars for initial
  - 23 issue and two dollars for renewal issue for administration and
  - 24 collection expenses incurred by it; and
  - 25 (c) Remit the remaining proceeds to the custody of the state
  - 26 treasurer with a proper identifying detailed report.
- 27 (2) The state treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the motor
- 28 vehicle account until the department determines that the state has
- 29 been reimbursed for the cost of implementing the special license
- 30 plate. Upon determination by the department that the state has been
- 31 reimbursed, the state treasurer shall credit the remaining special
- 32 license plate fee amounts for each special license plate to the
- 33 following appropriate account as created in this section in the
- 34 custody of the state treasurer:

35	ACCOUNT	CONDITIONS FOR USE OF
36		FUNDS

1	4-H programs	Support Washington 4-H
2		programs
3	Gonzaga University alumni	Scholarship funds to needy and
4	association	qualified students attending or
5		planning to attend Gonzaga
6		University
7	Helping kids speak	Provide free diagnostic and
8		therapeutic services to families of
9		children who suffer from a delay
10		in language or speech
11		development
12	Law enforcement memorial	Provide support and assistance to
13		survivors and families of law
14		enforcement officers in
15		Washington killed in the line of
16		duty and to organize, finance,
17		fund, construct, utilize, and
18		maintain a memorial on the state
19		capitol grounds to honor those
20		fallen officers
21	Lighthouse environmental	Support selected Washington state
22	programs	lighthouses that are accessible to
23		the public and staffed by
24		volunteers; provide environmental
25		education programs; provide
26		grants for other Washington
27		lighthouses to assist in funding
28		infrastructure preservation and
29		restoration; encourage and support
30		interpretive programs by
31		lighthouse docents
32	Music matters awareness	Promote music education in
33		schools throughout Washington

1	Seattle Seahawks	Provide funds to InvestED to
2		encourage secondary students
3		who have economic needs to stay
4		in school, return to school, or get
5		involved within their learning
6		community
7	Seattle Sounders FC	Provide funds to Washington state
8		mentors and the association of
9		Washington generals created in
10		RCW 43.15.030 in the following
11		manner: (a) Seventy percent and
12		the remaining proceeds, if any, to
13		Washington state mentors, to
14		increase the number of mentors in
15		the state by offering mentoring
16		grants throughout Washington
17		state that foster positive youth
18		development and academic
19		success, with up to twenty percent
20		of these proceeds authorized for
21		program administration costs; and
22		(b) up to thirty percent, not to
23		exceed forty-thousand dollars
24		annually as adjusted for inflation
25		by the office of financial
26		management, to the association of
27		Washington generals, to develop
28		Washington state educational,
29		veterans, international relations,
30		and civics projects and to
31		recognize the outstanding public
32		service of individuals or groups in
33		the state of Washington
34	Seattle University	Fund scholarships for students
35		attending or planning to attend
36		Seattle University



1	Share the road	Promote bicycle safety and
2		awareness education in
3		communities throughout
4		Washington
5	Ski & ride Washington	Promote winter snowsports, such
6		as skiing and snowboarding, and
7		related programs, such as ski and
8		ride safety programs,
9		underprivileged youth ski and ride
10		programs, and active, healthy
11		lifestyle programs
12	State flower	Support Meerkerk Rhododendron
13		Gardens and provide for grants to
14		other qualified nonprofit
15		organizations' efforts to preserve
16		rhododendrons
17	<u>State tree</u>	<u>Provide funds to support the</u>
18		<u>Washington park arboretum and</u>
19		<u>John A. Finch arboretum in the</u>
20		<u>following manner: (a) Eighty-five</u>
21		<u>percent of the proceeds to the</u>
22		<u>arboretum foundation to support</u>
23		<u>the University of Washington</u>
24		<u>botanic gardens' environmental</u>
25		<u>education programs for children at</u>
26		<u>the Washington park arboretum</u>
27		<u>and to the University of</u>
28		<u>Washington botanic gardens and</u>
29		<u>the city of Seattle for maintenance</u>
30		<u>of the Washington park</u>
31		<u>arboretum; and (b) fifteen percent</u>
32		<u>of the proceeds to the city of</u>
33		<u>Spokane for maintenance of the</u>
34		<u>John A. Finch arboretum</u>
35	Volunteer firefighters	Receive and disseminate funds for
36		purposes on behalf of volunteer
37		firefighters, their families, and
38		others deemed in need

1	Washington state council of	Receive and disseminate funds for
2	firefighters benevolent fund	charitable purposes on behalf of
3		members of the Washington state
4		council of firefighters, their
5		families, and others deemed in
6		need
7	Washington's national park fund	Build awareness of Washington's
8		national parks and support priority
9		park programs and projects in
10		Washington's national parks, such
11		as enhancing visitor experience,
12		promoting volunteerism, engaging
13		communities, and providing
14		educational opportunities related
15		to Washington's national parks
16	We love our pets	Support and enable the
17		Washington federation of animal
18		welfare and control agencies to
19		promote and perform spay/neuter
20		surgery of Washington state pets
21		in order to reduce pet population

22 (3) Only the director or the director's designee may authorize  
23 expenditures from the accounts described in subsection (2) of this  
24 section. The accounts are subject to allotment procedures under  
25 chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for  
26 expenditures.

27 (4) Funds in the special license plate accounts described in  
28 subsection (2) of this section must be disbursed subject to the  
29 conditions described in subsection (2) of this section and under  
30 contract between the department and qualified nonprofit organizations  
31 that provide the services described in subsection (2) of this  
32 section.

33 (5) For the purposes of this section, a "qualified nonprofit  
34 organization" means a not-for-profit corporation operating in  
35 Washington that has received a determination of tax exempt status  
36 under 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3). The qualified nonprofit organization  
37 must meet all the requirements under RCW 46.18.100(1).

1       **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.18.060 and 2014 c 77 s 5 and 2014 c 6 s 4 are  
2 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

3       (1) The department must review and either approve or reject  
4 special license plate applications submitted by sponsoring  
5 organizations.

6       (2) Duties of the department include, but are not limited to, the  
7 following:

8       (a) Review and approve the annual financial reports submitted by  
9 sponsoring organizations with active special license plate series and  
10 present those annual financial reports to the joint transportation  
11 committee;

12       (b) Report annually to the joint transportation committee on the  
13 special license plate applications that were considered by the  
14 department;

15       (c) Issue approval and rejection notification letters to  
16 sponsoring organizations, the executive committee of the joint  
17 transportation committee, and the legislative sponsors identified in  
18 each application. The letters must be issued within seven days of  
19 making a determination on the status of an application; and

20       (d) Review annually the number of plates sold for each special  
21 license plate series created after January 1, 2003. The department  
22 may submit a recommendation to discontinue a special plate series to  
23 the executive committee of the joint transportation committee.

24       (3) In order to assess the effects and impact of the  
25 proliferation of special license plates, the legislature declares a  
26 temporary moratorium on the issuance of any additional plates until  
27 July 1, 2015. During this period of time, the department is  
28 prohibited from accepting, reviewing, processing, or approving any  
29 applications. Additionally, a special license plate may not be  
30 enacted by the legislature during the moratorium, unless the proposed  
31 license plate has been approved by the former special license plate  
32 review board before February 15, 2005.

33       (4) The limitations under subsection (3) of this section do not  
34 apply to the following special license plates:

35       (a) 4-H license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

36       (b) Breast cancer awareness license plates created under RCW  
37 46.18.200;

38       (c) Gold star license plates created under RCW 46.18.245;

39       (d) Music Matters license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

40       (e) Seattle Seahawks license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

1 (f) Seattle Sounders FC license plates created under RCW  
2 46.18.200;  
3 (g) Seattle University license plates created under RCW  
4 46.18.200;  
5 (h) State flower license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;  
6 (i) State tree license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;  
7 (j) Volunteer firefighter license plates created under RCW  
8 46.18.200.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04  
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 "State tree license plates" means special license plates issued  
12 under RCW 46.18.200 that display the Washington state tree.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act takes effect January 1, 2016.

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