
HOUSE BILL 1436

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Mosbrucker, Wylie, Orcutt, Pettigrew, Goodman, Irwin, and Griffey

Read first time 01/22/19. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to snow bikes; reenacting and amending RCW
2 46.10.300; adding a new section to chapter 46.16A RCW; adding a new
3 section to chapter 46.10 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 46.61
4 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 46.04 RCW.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16A
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) It is the intent of the legislature to create a single
9 vehicle license that allows for the operation of a motorcycle as
10 either a motorcycle or as a snow bike.

11 (2) The department shall allow the owner of a motorcycle to
12 register the vehicle, or to renew the vehicle registration, for use
13 both as a motorcycle and as a snow bike. The terms of the
14 registration are those under this chapter that apply to motorcycles
15 and under chapter 46.10 RCW that apply to snowmobiles. The department
16 may not charge a fee that exceeds the fee required for a dedicated
17 motorcycle or for a dedicated snowmobile, whichever is higher.

18 (3) The department shall establish a declaration subject to the
19 requirements of RCW 9A.72.085, which must be submitted by the
20 motorcycle owner when initially applying for a snowmobile
21 registration under chapter 46.10 RCW for the use of the converted

1 motorcycle as a snow bike. The declaration must include a statement
2 signed by the owner that a motorcycle that had been previously
3 converted to a snow bike must conform with all applicable federal
4 motor vehicle safety standards and state standards while in use as a
5 motorcycle upon public roads, streets, or highways. Once submitted by
6 the motorcycle owner, the declaration is valid until the vehicle is
7 sold or the title is otherwise transferred.

8 (4) The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.10
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 The owner of a motorcycle may apply for a snowmobile registration
12 as provided in section 1 of this act and under the terms of this
13 chapter to use the motorcycle, when properly converted, as a snow
14 bike for the purposes of this chapter.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 46.61
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 A person may operate a motorcycle, that previously had been
18 converted to a snow bike, upon a public road, street, or highway of
19 this state if:

20 (1) The person files a motorcycle highway use declaration, as
21 provided under section 1 of this act, with the department certifying
22 conformance with all applicable federal motor vehicle safety
23 standards and state standards while in use as a motorcycle upon
24 public roads, streets, or highways;

25 (2) The person obtains a valid driver's license and motorcycle
26 endorsement issued to Washington residents in compliance with chapter
27 46.20 RCW for a motorcycle; and

28 (3) The motorcycle conforms to all applicable federal motor
29 vehicle safety standards and state standards.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
31 RCW to read as follows:

32 "Snow bike" means a motorcycle or off-road motorcycle that has
33 been modified with a conversion kit to include (1) an endless belt
34 tread or cleats or similar means for the purposes of propulsion on
35 snow and (2) a ski or sled type runner for the purposes of steering.

1 **Sec. 5.** RCW 46.10.300 and 2010 c 161 s 225 are each reenacted
2 and amended to read as follows:

3 The following definitions apply throughout this chapter unless
4 the context clearly requires otherwise.

5 (1) "All terrain vehicle" means any self-propelled vehicle other
6 than a snowmobile, capable of cross-country travel on or immediately
7 over land, water, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, and other natural
8 terrain, including, but not limited to, four-wheel vehicles,
9 amphibious vehicles, ground effect or air cushion vehicles, and any
10 other means of land transportation deriving motive power from any
11 source other than muscle or wind; except any vehicle designed
12 primarily for travel on, over, or in the water, farm vehicles, or any
13 military or law enforcement vehicles.

14 (2) "Commission" means the Washington state parks and recreation
15 commission.

16 (3) "Committee" means the Washington state parks and recreation
17 commission snowmobile advisory committee.

18 (4) "Dealer" means a person, partnership, association, or
19 corporation engaged in the business of selling snowmobiles or all
20 terrain vehicles at wholesale or retail in this state.

21 (5) "Highway" means the entire width of the right-of-way of a
22 primary and secondary state highway, including any portion of the
23 interstate highway system.

24 (6) "Hunt" means any effort to kill, injure, capture, or disturb
25 a wild animal or wild bird.

26 (7) "Public roadway" means the entire width of the right-of-way
27 of any road or street designed and ordinarily used for travel or
28 parking of motor vehicles, which is controlled by a public authority
29 other than the Washington state department of transportation, and
30 which is open as a matter of right to the general public for ordinary
31 vehicular traffic.

32 (8) "Snowmobile" means both "snowmobile" as defined in RCW
33 46.04.546 and "snow bike" as defined in section 4 of this act.

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