
SENATE BILL 5164

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Senators Roach, Rivers, Schoesler, Becker, Carrell, Bailey, Padden, and Honeyford

Read first time 01/22/13. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to farm vehicles that are exempt from vehicle
2 registration; amending RCW 46.16A.080 and 46.17.325; reenacting and
3 amending RCW 46.16A.420; adding a new section to chapter 46.17 RCW;
4 recodifying RCW 46.17.325; and providing an effective date.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.16A.080 and 2011 c 171 s 45 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 The following vehicles are not required to be registered under this
9 chapter:

10 (1) Converter gears used to convert a semitrailer into a trailer or
11 a two-axle truck or tractor into a three or more axle truck or tractor
12 or used in any other manner to increase the number of axles of a
13 vehicle;

14 (2) Electric-assisted bicycles;

15 (3)(a) (~~Farm implements, tractors, trailers, and other~~) Farm
16 vehicles (~~(i)~~) operated within a radius of fifteen miles of the farm
17 where it is principally used or garaged, (b) farm tractors and farm
18 implements including trailers designed as cook or bunk houses(~~(, (ii))~~)
19 used exclusively for animal herding(~~(, and (iii))~~) temporarily

1 operating or drawn upon the public highways, and ~~((b))~~ (c) trailers
2 used exclusively to transport farm implements from one farm to another
3 during daylight hours or at night when the trailer is equipped with
4 lights that comply with applicable law;

5 (4) Forklifts operated during daylight hours on public highways
6 adjacent to and within five hundred feet of the warehouses they serve;

7 (5) Golf carts, as defined in RCW 46.04.1945, operating within a
8 designated golf cart zone as described in RCW 46.08.175;

9 (6) Motor vehicles operated solely within a national recreation
10 area that is not accessible by a state highway, including motorcycles,
11 motor homes, passenger cars, and sport utility vehicles. This
12 exemption applies only after initial registration;

13 (7) Motorized foot scooters;

14 (8) Nurse rigs or equipment auxiliary for the use of and designed
15 or modified for the fueling, repairing, or loading of spray and
16 fertilizer applicator rigs and not used, designed, or modified
17 primarily for the purpose of transportation;

18 (9) Off-road vehicles operated on a street, road, or highway as
19 authorized under RCW 46.09.360, or nonhighway roads under RCW
20 46.09.450;

21 (10) Special highway construction equipment;

22 (11) Dump trucks and tractor-dump trailer combinations that are:

23 (a) Designed and used primarily for construction work on highways;

24 (b) Not designed or used primarily for the transportation of
25 persons or property on a public highway; and

26 (c) Only incidentally operated or moved over the highways;

27 (12) Spray or fertilizer applicator rigs designed and used
28 exclusively for spraying or fertilization in the conduct of
29 agricultural operations and not primarily for the purpose of
30 transportation;

31 (13) Tow dollies;

32 (14) Trams used for transporting persons to and from facilities
33 related to the horse racing industry as regulated in chapter 67.16 RCW,
34 as long as the public right-of-way routes over which the trams operate
35 are not more than one mile from end to end, the public rights-of-way
36 over which the tram operates have average daily traffic of not more
37 than fifteen thousand vehicles per day, and the activity is in
38 conformity with federal law. The operator must be a licensed driver

1 and at least eighteen years old. For the purposes of this section,
2 "tram" also means a vehicle, or combination of vehicles linked together
3 with a single mode of propulsion, used to transport persons from one
4 location to another; and

5 (15) Vehicles used by the state parks and recreation commission
6 exclusively for park maintenance and operations upon public highways
7 within state parks.

8 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.16A.420 and 2010 c 161 s 409 and 2010 c 8 s 9010
9 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

10 (1) A farmer shall apply to the department, county auditor or other
11 agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a farm exempt
12 (~~decals~~) plate for a farm vehicle if the farm vehicle is exempt under
13 RCW 46.16A.080(3). The farm exempt (~~decals~~) plate:

14 (a) Allows the farm vehicle to be operated within a radius of
15 fifteen miles of the farm where it is principally used or garaged;

16 (b) Must be displayed on the farm vehicle so that it is clearly
17 visible from outside of the farm vehicle; and

18 (c) Must identify that the farm vehicle is exempt from the
19 registration requirements of this chapter.

20 (2) A farmer or the farmer's representative must apply for a farm
21 exempt (~~decals~~) plate on a form furnished or approved by the
22 department. The application must show:

23 (a) The name and address of the person who is the owner of the
24 vehicle;

25 (b) A full description of the vehicle, including its make, model,
26 year, the motor number or the vehicle identification number if the
27 vehicle is a motor vehicle, or the serial number if the vehicle is a
28 trailer;

29 (c) The purpose for which the vehicle is principally used;

30 (d) The place where the farm vehicle is principally used or
31 garaged; and

32 (e) Other information as required by the department upon
33 application.

34 (3) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent
35 appointed by the director shall collect the fee required under RCW
36 46.17.325 (as recodified by this act) when issuing a farm exempt
37 (~~decals~~) plate.

1 (4) A farm exempt (~~decal~~) plate may not be renewed. The status
2 as an exempt vehicle continues until suspended or revoked for misuse,
3 or when the vehicle is no longer used as a farm vehicle.

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

5 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.17.325 and 2010 c 161 s 526 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 Before accepting an application for a farm exempt (~~decal~~) plate
8 as required under RCW 46.16A.420, the department, county auditor or
9 other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the
10 applicant to pay a five dollar fee in addition to any other fees and
11 taxes required by law. The five dollar fee must be deposited in the
12 motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.17.325 is recodified as a section in
14 chapter 46.17 RCW under the subchapter heading "license plate fees."

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act takes effect January 1, 2014.

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