

SHB 2612 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Transportation

ADOPTED 03/01/2018

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that efficiency
4 and public safety is served by consolidating the multiple license
5 plates currently required on the vehicles of registered tow truck
6 operators. These registered tow truck operators currently have up to
7 four separate license plates that are required to be displayed on the
8 vehicle at all times. The operators have the highest training and
9 qualifications of any towing operators in Washington state.

10 (2) The legislature further finds that a single unified license
11 plate with separate endorsement tabs prevents confusion and allows
12 for easy identification and review of tow trucks by law enforcement
13 and the motoring public. The unified license plate also saves
14 resources by reducing the need for license plate production and
15 reduces fraud by limiting access to these commercial license plates.

16 (3) A unified license plate for registered tow truck operators
17 serves the purposes of Washington residents, the motoring public, and
18 law enforcement, and saves money as well.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.55
20 RCW to read as follows:

21 (1) If a tow truck, the registered owner of which is a registered
22 tow truck operator, is to conduct transporter business under chapter
23 46.76 RCW, the license plate that is required to be displayed under
24 RCW 46.16A.030 must contain an indicator tab that the vehicle is
25 licensed to perform transporter services. The fee for an original
26 transporter's license plate indicator tab for a tow truck, the
27 registered owner of which is a registered tow truck operator, is
28 twenty-five dollars. Vehicles that are used to conduct transporter
29 business and are not owned by a registered tow truck operator must
30 follow the requirements of chapter 46.76 RCW.

1 (2) If a tow truck, the registered owner of which is a registered
2 tow truck operator, is used for a hulk hauler or scrap processor
3 business under chapter 46.79 RCW, the license plate that is required
4 under RCW 46.16A.030 must contain an indicator tab that the vehicle
5 is licensed to perform hulk hauler or scrap processor purposes under
6 the laws of the state of Washington. The fee for a hulk hauler or
7 scrap processor business license plate indicator tab is five dollars
8 for the original tab and two dollars for each additional tab.
9 Vehicles that are used to conduct hulk hauler or scrap processor
10 business and are not owned by a registered tow truck operator must
11 follow the requirements of chapter 46.79 RCW.

12 (3) If a tow truck, the registered owner of which is a registered
13 tow truck operator, is used for a wrecker business under chapter
14 46.80 RCW, the license plate displayed that is required under RCW
15 46.16A.030 must contain an indicator tab that the vehicle is licensed
16 to perform wrecker services. The fee for a wrecker license plate
17 indicator tab is five dollars for the original tab and two dollars
18 for each additional tab. Vehicles that are used to conduct wrecker
19 business and are not owned by a registered tow truck operator must
20 follow the requirements of chapter 46.80 RCW.

21 (4)(a) The license plate indicator tabs must:

22 (i) Affix to the license plate required to be displayed under RCW
23 46.16A.030;

24 (ii) Clearly identify the business purpose of the licensed
25 vehicle;

26 (iii) Use some combination of letters and numbers to indicate a
27 vehicle is licensed to conduct transporter business under chapter
28 46.76 RCW, hulk hauler or scrap processor business under chapter
29 46.79 RCW, or wrecker business under chapter 46.80 RCW; and

30 (iv) Be approved by the department.

31 (b) All other requirements concerning registration and display of
32 plates as required under chapter 46.16A RCW may not conflict with
33 this section.

34 (5) This act does not allow for the use of indicator tabs,
35 authorized in this section, on a special or personalized license
36 plate authorized in chapter 46.18 RCW.

37 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.76.030 and 1967 c 32 s 92 are each amended to
38 read as follows:

1 Upon receiving an application for transporter's license the
2 director, if satisfied that the applicant is entitled thereto, shall
3 issue a proper certificate of license registration and a distinctive
4 set of license plates or an indicator tab pursuant to section 2 of
5 this act and shall transmit the fees obtained therefor with a proper
6 identifying report to the state treasurer, who shall deposit such
7 fees in the motor vehicle fund. The certificate of license
8 registration and license plates or indicator tab issued by the
9 director shall authorize the holder of the license to drive or tow
10 any motor vehicle or trailers upon the public highways.

11 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.76.060 and 2010 c 8 s 9093 are each amended to
12 read as follows:

13 Transporter's license plates or indicator tabs pursuant to
14 section 2 of this act shall be conspicuously displayed on all
15 vehicles being delivered by the driveaway or towaway methods. These
16 plates or indicator tabs shall not be loaned to or used by any person
17 other than the holder of the license or his or her employees.

18 **Sec. 5.** RCW 46.76.065 and 1977 ex.s. c 254 s 1 are each amended
19 to read as follows:

20 The following conduct shall be sufficient grounds pursuant to RCW
21 34.05.422 for the director or a designee to deny, suspend, or revoke
22 the license of a motor vehicle transporter:

23 (1) Using transporter plates or indicator tabs pursuant to
24 section 2 of this act for driveaway or towaway of any vehicle owned
25 by such transporter;

26 (2) Knowingly, as that term is defined in RCW 9A.08.010(1)(b),
27 having possession of a stolen vehicle or a vehicle with a defaced,
28 missing, or obliterated manufacturer's identification serial number;

29 (3) Loaning transporter plates or indicator tabs;

30 (4) Using transporter plates or indicator tabs for any purpose
31 other than as provided under RCW 46.76.010; or

32 (5) Violation of provisions of this chapter or of rules and
33 regulations adopted relating to enforcement and proper operation of
34 this chapter.

35 **Sec. 6.** RCW 46.76.067 and 1988 c 239 s 4 are each amended to
36 read as follows:

1 (1) Any person or organization that transports any mobile home or
2 other vehicle for hire shall comply with this chapter and chapter
3 81.80 RCW. Persons or organizations that do not have a valid permit
4 or meet other requirements under chapter 81.80 RCW shall not be
5 issued a transporter license or transporter plates or an indicator
6 tab pursuant to section 2 of this act to transport mobile homes or
7 other vehicles. RCW 46.76.065(5) applies to persons or organizations
8 that have transporter licenses or plates or indicator tabs and do not
9 meet the requirements of chapter 81.80 RCW.

10 (2) This section does not apply to mobile home manufacturers or
11 dealers that are licensed and delivering the mobile home under
12 chapter 46.70 RCW.

13 **Sec. 7.** RCW 46.76.080 and 1979 ex.s. c 136 s 96 are each amended
14 to read as follows:

15 The violation of any provision of this chapter is a traffic
16 infraction. In addition to any other penalty imposed upon a violator
17 of the provisions of this chapter, the director may confiscate any
18 transporter license plates or indicator tabs used in connection with
19 such violation.

20 **Sec. 8.** RCW 46.79.060 and 2010 c 8 s 9096 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 The hulk hauler or scrap processor shall obtain a special set of
23 license plates or an indicator tab pursuant to section 2 of this act
24 in addition to the regular licenses and plates required for the
25 operation of vehicles owned and/or operated by him or her and used in
26 the conduct of his or her business. Such special license shall be
27 displayed on the operational vehicles and shall be in lieu of a trip
28 permit or current license on any vehicle being transported. The fee
29 for these plates shall be five dollars for the original plates and
30 two dollars for each additional set of plates bearing the same
31 license number.

32 **Sec. 9.** RCW 46.80.060 and 1995 c 256 s 8 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 The vehicle wrecker shall obtain a special set of license plates
35 or an indicator tab pursuant to section 2 of this act in addition to
36 the regular licenses and plates required for the operation of such
37 vehicles. The special plates must be displayed on vehicles owned

1 and/or operated by the wrecker and used in the conduct of the
2 business. The fee for these plates shall be five dollars for the
3 original plates and two dollars for each additional set of plates
4 bearing the same license number. A wrecker with more than one
5 licensed location in the state may use special plates bearing the
6 same license number for vehicles operated out of any of the licensed
7 locations.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** This act takes effect June 1, 2019."

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9 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "operators;" strike the
10 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 46.76.030, 46.76.060,
11 46.76.065, 46.76.067, 46.76.080, 46.79.060, and 46.80.060; adding a
12 new section to chapter 46.55 RCW; creating a new section; prescribing
13 penalties; and providing an effective date."

EFFECT: Removes technical language requiring the hulk hauler,
scrap processor, or wrecker tabs to have the same license number.

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