
HOUSE BILL 1844

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Sells, Robinson, Hayes, and Lovick

Read first time 01/31/17. Referred to Committee on Public Safety.

1 AN ACT Relating to attempting to elude a pursuing police vehicle;
2 amending RCW 46.61.024; and prescribing penalties.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.61.024 and 2010 c 8 s 9065 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Any driver of a motor vehicle who willfully fails or refuses
7 to immediately bring his or her vehicle to a stop and who drives his
8 or her vehicle in a reckless manner while attempting to elude a
9 pursuing police vehicle, after being given a visual or audible signal
10 to bring the vehicle to a stop, shall be guilty of a class C felony.
11 The signal given by the police officer may be by hand, voice,
12 emergency light, or siren. The officer giving such a signal shall be
13 in uniform and the vehicle shall be equipped with lights and sirens.
14 A "pursuing police vehicle" includes a police vehicle that, after
15 signaling the driver of a motor vehicle to immediately bring his or
16 her vehicle to a stop, does not initiate vehicular pursuit or
17 terminates vehicular pursuit.

18 (2) It is an affirmative defense to this section which must be
19 established by a preponderance of the evidence that: (a) A reasonable
20 person would not believe that the signal to stop was given by a

1 police officer; and (b) driving after the signal to stop was
2 reasonable under the circumstances.

3 (3) The license or permit to drive or any nonresident driving
4 privilege of a person convicted of a violation of this section shall
5 be revoked by the department of licensing.

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