
HOUSE BILL 2975

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Representatives McCabe, Wylie, Orcutt, Irwin, Chapman, Goodman, and Griffey

Read first time 01/31/18. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to snow bikes; amending RCW 46.04.546; adding a
2 new section to chapter 46.16A RCW; adding a new section to chapter
3 46.10 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 46.61 RCW; adding a new
4 section to chapter 46.04 RCW; and providing an effective date.

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) The department shall allow a motorcycle owner to register
9 initially as provided in RCW 46.16A.040 or to renew the registration
10 as provided in RCW 46.16A.110 and, at the same time, to register the
11 vehicle, or renew the vehicle registration, for use as a snow bike
12 under the terms for snowmobile registration in chapter 46.10 RCW. The
13 fees and other terms pertaining to vehicle registration under this
14 chapter and chapter 46.10 RCW apply.

15 (2) The department shall establish a declaration subject to the
16 requirements of RCW 9A.72.085, which must be submitted by the
17 motorcycle owner when applying for a snowmobile registration or
18 registration renewal under chapter 46.10 RCW for the use of the
19 converted motorcycle as a snow bike. The declaration must include a
20 statement signed by the owner that a motorcycle that had been
21 previously converted to a snow bike must conform with all applicable

1 federal motor vehicle safety standards and state standards while in
2 use as a motorcycle upon public roads, streets, or highways.

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

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

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

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

12 A person may operate a motorcycle, that previously had been
13 converted to a snow bike, upon a public road, street, or highway of
14 this state if the person:

15 (1) Files a motorcycle highway use declaration, as provided under
16 section 1 of this act, with the department certifying conformance
17 with all applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards and state
18 standards while in use as a motorcycle upon public roads, streets, or
19 highways;

20 (2) Obtains a valid driver's license and motorcycle endorsement
21 issued to Washington residents in compliance with chapter 46.20 RCW
22 for a motorcycle.

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

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

29 **Sec. 5.** RCW 46.04.546 and 2010 c 161 s 145 are each amended to
30 read as follows:

31 "Snowmobile" means a self-propelled vehicle that is capable of
32 traveling over snow or ice that (1) utilizes as its means of
33 propulsion an endless belt tread or cleats, or any combination of
34 these or other similar means of contact with the surface upon which
35 it is operated, (2) is steered wholly or in part by skis or sled type
36 runners, and (3) is not otherwise registered as, or subject to, the

1 motor vehicle excise tax in the state of Washington. "Snowmobile"
2 includes snow bikes.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act takes effect July 1, 2018.

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