Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research



Transportation Committee

HB 1524

Brief Description: Addressing the registration of street rod vehicles and custom vehicles.

Sponsors: Representatives Van Werven, Chapman, Orcutt, Dent, Walsh and Pellicciotti.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Authorizes street rod vehicles or custom vehicles to be registered with collector vehicle license plates.

Hearing Date: 2/18/19

Staff: Patricia Hasan (786-7292).

Background:

A street rod vehicle is defined as a motor vehicle that:

- is a 1948 or older vehicle or the vehicle was manufactured after 1948 to resemble a vehicle manufactured before 1949; and
- has alterations to one or more of the major component parts that change the appearance or performance of the vehicle from the original manufacturer's design or has a body constructed from nonoriginal materials.

A custom vehicle is defined as a motor vehicle that:

- is at least 30 years old and of a model year after 1948 or was manufactured to resemble a vehicle at least 30 years old and of a model year after 1948; and
- has alteration to one or more of the major component parts that change the appearance or performance of the vehicle from the original manufacturer's design or has a body constructed from nonoriginal materials.

When applying for a certificate of title for a street rod vehicle or a custom vehicle for the first time, the owner of the street rod vehicle or the custom vehicle must: (1) submit a certification that the street rod vehicle or the custom vehicle will be maintained for occasional transportation,

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exhibitions, club activities, parades, tours, and similar uses, and will not be used for general daily transportation; and (2) provide a certificate of vehicle inspection by the Washington State Patrol or other authorized inspector. This inspection is to ensure that the vehicle is being titled for the first time as a street rod vehicle or custom vehicle. The inspection must verify that the vehicle identification number is genuine and agrees with the number shown on the certificate of title and registration certificate.

The model year and the year of manufacture that are listed on the certificate of title of a street rod vehicle or a custom vehicle must be the model year and year of manufacture that the body of the street rod vehicle or custom vehicle resembles. The presence of modern equipment including, but not limited to, brakes, engines, or seat belts, or the presence of optional equipment, such as hoods and bumpers, on a street rod vehicle or custom vehicle does not invalidate the year of manufacture on the certificate of title. Street rod vehicles and custom vehicles must be registered with collector vehicle license plates, and an initial registration issued to a street rod vehicle or custom vehicle need not be an initial registration for that vehicle.

Street rod vehicles and custom vehicles are exempt from emissions testing requirements set forth by the Department of Ecology for motor vehicles registered with an address of record in a noncompliance area within the state.

Summary of Bill:

Street rod vehicles or custom vehicles are authorized to be registered with collector vehicle license plates.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.