

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5815

53rd Legislature
1993 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 24, 1993
YEAS 44 NAYS 0

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 24, 1993
YEAS 94 NAYS 0

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Marty Brown, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5815** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5815

AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Passed Legislature - 1993 Regular Session

State of Washington 53rd Legislature 1993 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senators West and Moyer)

Read first time 03/03/93.

1 AN ACT Relating to seizure and forfeiture; amending RCW 69.50.505
2 and 46.12.270; adding new sections to chapter 46.61 RCW; adding new
3 sections to chapter 46.12 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 69.50.505 and 1992 c 211 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (a) The following are subject to seizure and forfeiture and no
8 property right exists in them:

9 (1) All controlled substances which have been manufactured,
10 distributed, dispensed, acquired, or possessed in violation of this
11 chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW, and all hazardous chemicals, as
12 defined in RCW 64.44.010, used or intended to be used in the
13 manufacture of controlled substances;

14 (2) All raw materials, products, and equipment of any kind which
15 are used, or intended for use, in manufacturing, compounding,
16 processing, delivering, importing, or exporting any controlled
17 substance in violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW;

18 (3) All property which is used, or intended for use, as a container
19 for property described in paragraphs (1) or (2);

1 (4) All conveyances, including aircraft, vehicles, or vessels,
2 which are used, or intended for use, in any manner to facilitate the
3 sale, delivery, or receipt of property described in paragraphs (1) or
4 (2), except that:

5 (i) No conveyance used by any person as a common carrier in the
6 transaction of business as a common carrier is subject to forfeiture
7 under this section unless it appears that the owner or other person in
8 charge of the conveyance is a consenting party or privy to a violation
9 of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW;

10 (ii) No conveyance is subject to forfeiture under this section by
11 reason of any act or omission established by the owner thereof to have
12 been committed or omitted without the owner's knowledge or consent;

13 (iii) No conveyance is subject to forfeiture under this section if
14 used in the receipt of only an amount of marijuana for which possession
15 constitutes a misdemeanor under RCW 69.50.401(e);

16 (iv) A forfeiture of a conveyance encumbered by a bona fide
17 security interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if
18 the secured party neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or
19 omission; and

20 (v) When the owner of a conveyance has been arrested under this
21 chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW the conveyance in which the
22 person is arrested may not be subject to forfeiture unless it is seized
23 or process is issued for its seizure within ten days of the owner's
24 arrest;

25 (5) All books, records, and research products and materials,
26 including formulas, microfilm, tapes, and data which are used, or
27 intended for use, in violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or
28 69.52 RCW;

29 (6) All drug paraphernalia;

30 (7) All moneys, negotiable instruments, securities, or other
31 tangible or intangible property of value furnished or intended to be
32 furnished by any person in exchange for a controlled substance in
33 violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW, all tangible
34 or intangible personal property, proceeds, or assets acquired in whole
35 or in part with proceeds traceable to an exchange or series of
36 exchanges in violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW,
37 and all moneys, negotiable instruments, and securities used or intended
38 to be used to facilitate any violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41
39 or 69.52 RCW(~~(:—PROVIDED, That)~~). A forfeiture of money, negotiable

1 instruments, securities, or other tangible or intangible property
2 encumbered by a bona fide security interest is subject to the interest
3 of the secured party if, at the time the security interest was created,
4 the secured party neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or
5 omission(~~(:—PROVIDED FURTHER, That)~~). No personal property may be
6 forfeited under this paragraph, to the extent of the interest of an
7 owner, by reason of any act or omission which that owner establishes
8 was committed or omitted without the owner's knowledge or consent; and

9 (8) All real property, including any right, title, and interest in
10 the whole of any lot or tract of land, and any appurtenances or
11 improvements which are being used with the knowledge of the owner for
12 the manufacturing, compounding, processing, delivery, importing, or
13 exporting of any controlled substance, or which have been acquired in
14 whole or in part with proceeds traceable to an exchange or series of
15 exchanges in violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW,
16 if such activity is not less than a class C felony and a substantial
17 nexus exists between the commercial production or sale of the
18 controlled substance and the real property(~~(:—PROVIDED, That)~~).

19 However:

20 (i) No property may be forfeited pursuant to this subsection, to
21 the extent of the interest of an owner, by reason of any act or
22 omission committed or omitted without the owner's knowledge or consent;

23 (ii) The bona fide gift of a controlled substance, legend drug, or
24 imitation controlled substance shall not result in the forfeiture of
25 real property;

26 (iii) The possession of marijuana shall not result in the
27 forfeiture of real property unless the marijuana is possessed for
28 commercial purposes, the amount possessed is five or more plants or one
29 pound or more of marijuana, and a substantial nexus exists between the
30 possession of marijuana and the real property. In such a case, the
31 intent of the offender shall be determined by the preponderance of the
32 evidence, including the offender's prior criminal history, the amount
33 of marijuana possessed by the offender, the sophistication of the
34 activity or equipment used by the offender, and other evidence which
35 demonstrates the offender's intent to engage in commercial activity;

36 (iv) The unlawful sale of marijuana or a legend drug shall not
37 result in the forfeiture of real property unless the sale was forty
38 grams or more in the case of marijuana or one hundred dollars or more

1 in the case of a legend drug, and a substantial nexus exists between
2 the unlawful sale and the real property; and

3 (v) A forfeiture of real property encumbered by a bona fide
4 security interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if
5 the secured party, at the time the security interest was created,
6 neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or omission.

7 (b) Real or personal property subject to forfeiture under this
8 chapter may be seized by any board inspector or law enforcement officer
9 of this state upon process issued by any superior court having
10 jurisdiction over the property. Seizure of real property shall include
11 the filing of a lis pendens by the seizing agency. Real property
12 seized under this section shall not be transferred or otherwise
13 conveyed until ninety days after seizure or until a judgment of
14 forfeiture is entered, whichever is later: PROVIDED, That real
15 property seized under this section may be transferred or conveyed to
16 any person or entity who acquires title by foreclosure or deed in lieu
17 of foreclosure of a security interest. Seizure of personal property
18 without process may be made if:

19 (1) The seizure is incident to an arrest or a search under a search
20 warrant or an inspection under an administrative inspection warrant;

21 (2) The property subject to seizure has been the subject of a prior
22 judgment in favor of the state in a criminal injunction or forfeiture
23 proceeding based upon this chapter;

24 (3) A board inspector or law enforcement officer has probable cause
25 to believe that the property is directly or indirectly dangerous to
26 health or safety; or

27 (4) The board inspector or law enforcement officer has probable
28 cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used
29 in violation of this chapter.

30 (c) In the event of seizure pursuant to subsection (b), proceedings
31 for forfeiture shall be deemed commenced by the seizure. The law
32 enforcement agency under whose authority the seizure was made shall
33 cause notice to be served within fifteen days following the seizure on
34 the owner of the property seized and the person in charge thereof and
35 any person having any known right or interest therein, including any
36 community property interest, of the seizure and intended forfeiture of
37 the seized property. Service of notice of seizure of real property
38 shall be made according to the rules of civil procedure. However, the
39 state may not obtain a default judgment with respect to real property

1 against a party who is served by substituted service absent an
2 affidavit stating that a good faith effort has been made to ascertain
3 if the defaulted party is incarcerated within the state, and that there
4 is no present basis to believe that the party is incarcerated within
5 the state. Notice of seizure in the case of property subject to a
6 security interest that has been perfected by filing a financing
7 statement in accordance with chapter 62A.9 RCW, or a certificate of
8 title, shall be made by service upon the secured party or the secured
9 party's assignee at the address shown on the financing statement or the
10 certificate of title. The notice of seizure in other cases may be
11 served by any method authorized by law or court rule including but not
12 limited to service by certified mail with return receipt requested.
13 Service by mail shall be deemed complete upon mailing within the
14 fifteen day period following the seizure.

15 (d) If no person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in
16 writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of
17 items specified in subsection (a)(4), (a)(7), or (a)(8) of this section
18 within forty-five days of the seizure in the case of personal property
19 and ninety days in the case of real property, the item seized shall be
20 deemed forfeited. The community property interest in real property of
21 a person whose spouse committed a violation giving rise to seizure of
22 the real property may not be forfeited if the person did not
23 participate in the violation.

24 (e) If any person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in
25 writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of
26 items specified in subsection (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), (a)(5), (a)(6),
27 (a)(7), or (a)(8) of this section within forty-five days of the seizure
28 in the case of personal property and ninety days in the case of real
29 property, the person or persons shall be afforded a reasonable
30 opportunity to be heard as to the claim or right. The hearing shall be
31 before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency or the
32 chief law enforcement officer's designee, except where the seizing
33 agency is a state agency as defined in RCW 34.12.020(4), the hearing
34 shall be before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency
35 or an administrative law judge appointed under chapter 34.12 RCW,
36 except that any person asserting a claim or right may remove the matter
37 to a court of competent jurisdiction (~~if the aggregate value of the~~
38 ~~article or articles involved is more than five hundred dollars)).~~
39 Removal of any matter involving personal property may only be

1 accomplished according to the rules of civil procedure. The person
2 seeking removal of the matter must serve process against the state,
3 county, political subdivision, or municipality that operates the
4 seizing agency, and any other party of interest, in accordance with RCW
5 4.28.080 or 4.92.020, within forty-five days after the person seeking
6 removal has notified the seizing law enforcement agency of the person's
7 claim of ownership or right to possession. The court to which the
8 matter is to be removed shall be the district court when the aggregate
9 value of personal property is within the jurisdictional limit set forth
10 in RCW 3.66.020. A hearing before the seizing agency and any appeal
11 therefrom shall be under Title 34 RCW. In a court hearing between two
12 or more claimants to the article or articles involved, the prevailing
13 party shall be entitled to a judgment for costs and reasonable
14 attorney's fees. In cases involving personal property, the burden of
15 producing evidence shall be upon the person claiming to be the lawful
16 owner or the person claiming to have the lawful right to possession of
17 the property. In cases involving real property, the burden of
18 producing evidence shall be upon the law enforcement agency. The
19 burden of proof that the seized real property is subject to forfeiture
20 shall be upon the law enforcement agency. The seizing law enforcement
21 agency shall promptly return the article or articles to the claimant
22 upon a determination by the administrative law judge or court that the
23 claimant is the present lawful owner or is lawfully entitled to
24 possession thereof of items specified in subsection (a)(2), (a)(3),
25 (a)(4), (a)(5), (a)(6), (a)(7), or (a)(8) of this section.

26 (f) When property is forfeited under this chapter the board or
27 seizing law enforcement agency may:

28 (1) Retain it for official use or upon application by any law
29 enforcement agency of this state release such property to such agency
30 for the exclusive use of enforcing the provisions of this chapter;

31 (2) Sell that which is not required to be destroyed by law and
32 which is not harmful to the public;

33 (3) Request the appropriate sheriff or director of public safety to
34 take custody of the property and remove it for disposition in
35 accordance with law; or

36 (4) Forward it to the drug enforcement administration for
37 disposition.

38 (g)(1) When property is forfeited, the seizing agency shall keep a
39 record indicating the identity of the prior owner, if known, a

1 description of the property, the disposition of the property, the value
2 of the property at the time of seizure, and the amount of proceeds
3 realized from disposition of the property.

4 (2) Each seizing agency shall retain records of forfeited property
5 for at least seven years.

6 (3) Each seizing agency shall file a report including a copy of the
7 records of forfeited property with the state treasurer each calendar
8 quarter.

9 (4) The quarterly report need not include a record of forfeited
10 property that is still being held for use as evidence during the
11 investigation or prosecution of a case or during the appeal from a
12 conviction.

13 (h)(1) By January 31st of each year, each seizing agency shall
14 remit to the state treasurer an amount equal to ten percent of the net
15 proceeds of any property forfeited during the preceding calendar year.
16 Money remitted shall be deposited in the drug enforcement and education
17 account under RCW 69.50.520.

18 (2) The net proceeds of forfeited property is the value of the
19 forfeitable interest in the property after deducting the cost of
20 satisfying any bona fide security interest to which the property is
21 subject at the time of seizure; and in the case of sold property, after
22 deducting the cost of sale, including reasonable fees or commissions
23 paid to independent selling agents, and the cost of any valid
24 landlord's claim for damages under subsection (n) of this section.

25 (3) The value of sold forfeited property is the sale price. The
26 value of retained forfeited property is the fair market value of the
27 property at the time of seizure, determined when possible by reference
28 to an applicable commonly used index, such as the index used by the
29 department of licensing for valuation of motor vehicles. A seizing
30 agency may use, but need not use, an independent qualified appraiser to
31 determine the value of retained property. If an appraiser is used, the
32 value of the property appraised is net of the cost of the appraisal.
33 The value of destroyed property and retained firearms or illegal
34 property is zero.

35 (i) Forfeited property and net proceeds not required to be paid to
36 the state treasurer shall be retained by the seizing law enforcement
37 agency exclusively for the expansion and improvement of controlled
38 substances related law enforcement activity. Money retained under this
39 section may not be used to supplant preexisting funding sources.

1 (j) Controlled substances listed in Schedule I, II, III, IV, and V
2 that are possessed, transferred, sold, or offered for sale in violation
3 of this chapter are contraband and shall be seized and summarily
4 forfeited to the state. Controlled substances listed in Schedule I,
5 II, III, IV, and V, which are seized or come into the possession of the
6 board, the owners of which are unknown, are contraband and shall be
7 summarily forfeited to the board.

8 (k) Species of plants from which controlled substances in Schedules
9 I and II may be derived which have been planted or cultivated in
10 violation of this chapter, or of which the owners or cultivators are
11 unknown, or which are wild growths, may be seized and summarily
12 forfeited to the board.

13 (l) The failure, upon demand by a board inspector or law
14 enforcement officer, of the person in occupancy or in control of land
15 or premises upon which the species of plants are growing or being
16 stored to produce an appropriate registration or proof that he is the
17 holder thereof constitutes authority for the seizure and forfeiture of
18 the plants.

19 (m) Upon the entry of an order of forfeiture of real property, the
20 court shall forward a copy of the order to the assessor of the county
21 in which the property is located. Orders for the forfeiture of real
22 property shall be entered by the superior court, subject to court
23 rules. Such an order shall be filed by the seizing agency in the
24 county auditor's records in the county in which the real property is
25 located.

26 (n) A landlord may assert a claim against proceeds from the sale of
27 assets seized and forfeited under subsection (f)(2) of this section,
28 only if:

29 (1) A law enforcement officer, while acting in his or her official
30 capacity, directly caused damage to the complaining landlord's property
31 while executing a search of a tenant's residence; and

32 (2) The landlord has applied any funds remaining in the tenant's
33 deposit, to which the landlord has a right under chapter 59.18 RCW, to
34 cover the damage directly caused by a law enforcement officer prior to
35 asserting a claim under the provisions of this section;

36 (i) Only if the funds applied under (2) of this subsection are
37 insufficient to satisfy the damage directly caused by a law enforcement
38 officer, may the landlord seek compensation for the damage by filing a

1 claim against the governmental entity under whose authority the law
2 enforcement agency operates within thirty days after the search;

3 (ii) Only if the governmental entity denies or fails to respond to
4 the landlord's claim within sixty days of the date of filing, may the
5 landlord collect damages under this subsection by filing within thirty
6 days of denial or the expiration of the sixty-day period, whichever
7 occurs first, a claim with the seizing law enforcement agency. The
8 seizing law enforcement agency must notify the landlord of the status
9 of the claim by the end of the thirty-day period. Nothing in this
10 section requires the claim to be paid by the end of the sixty-day or
11 thirty-day period.

12 (3) For any claim filed under (2) of this subsection, the law
13 enforcement agency shall pay the claim unless the agency provides
14 substantial proof that the landlord either:

15 (i) Knew or consented to actions of the tenant in violation of this
16 chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW; or

17 (ii) Failed to respond to a notification of the illegal activity,
18 provided by a law enforcement agency under RCW 59.18.075, within seven
19 days of receipt of notification of the illegal activity.

20 (o) The landlord's claim for damages under subsection (n) of this
21 section may not include a claim for loss of business and is limited to:

22 (1) Damage to tangible property and clean-up costs;

23 (2) The lesser of the cost of repair or fair market value of the
24 damage directly caused by a law enforcement officer;

25 (3) The proceeds from the sale of the specific tenant's property
26 seized and forfeited under subsection (f)(2) of this section; and

27 (4) The proceeds available after the seizing law enforcement agency
28 satisfies any bona fide security interest in the tenant's property and
29 costs related to sale of the tenant's property as provided by
30 subsection (h)(2) of this section.

31 (p) Subsections (n) and (o) of this section do not limit any other
32 rights a landlord may have against a tenant to collect for damages.
33 However, if a law enforcement agency satisfies a landlord's claim under
34 subsection (n) of this section, the rights the landlord has against the
35 tenant for damages directly caused by a law enforcement officer under
36 the terms of the landlord and tenant's contract are subrogated to the
37 law enforcement agency.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.61 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) A vehicle driven by or under the actual physical control of the
4 owner of the vehicle in violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 is,
5 upon the conviction of the owner when that conviction is the second or
6 subsequent conviction for a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504
7 within a five-year period, subject to seizure and forfeiture and no
8 property right exists in that vehicle.

9 A forfeiture of a vehicle encumbered by a bona fide security
10 interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if the secured
11 party neither had knowledge of nor consented to the violation of RCW
12 46.61.502 or 46.61.504.

13 (2) A vehicle subject to forfeiture under this chapter may be
14 seized by a law enforcement officer of this state upon process issued
15 by a court of competent jurisdiction. Seizure of a vehicle may be made
16 without process if the vehicle subject to seizure has been the subject
17 of a prior judgment in favor of the state in a forfeiture proceeding
18 based upon this section.

19 (3) A seizure under subsection (2) of this section automatically
20 commences proceedings for forfeiture. The law enforcement agency under
21 whose authority the seizure was made shall cause notice of the seizure
22 and intended forfeiture of the seized vehicle to be served within
23 fifteen days after the seizure on the owner of the vehicle seized, on
24 the person in charge of the vehicle, and on any person having a known
25 right or interest in the vehicle, including a community property
26 interest. The notice of seizure may be served by any method authorized
27 by law or court rule, including but not limited to service by certified
28 mail with return receipt requested. Service by mail is complete upon
29 mailing within the fifteen-day period after the seizure. Notice of
30 seizure in the case of property subject to a security interest that has
31 been perfected by filing a financing statement in accordance with
32 chapter 62A.9 RCW, or a certificate of title, shall be made by service
33 upon the secured party or the secured party's assignee at the address
34 shown on the financing statement or the certificate of title.

35 (4) If no person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in
36 writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of
37 the seized vehicle within forty-five days of the seizure, the vehicle
38 is deemed forfeited.

1 (5) If a person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in
2 writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of
3 the seized vehicle within forty-five days of the seizure, the law
4 enforcement agency shall give the person or persons a reasonable
5 opportunity to be heard as to the claim or right. The hearing shall be
6 before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency or the
7 chief law enforcement officer's designee, except where the seizing
8 agency is a state agency as defined in RCW 34.12.020(4), the hearing
9 shall be before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency
10 or an administrative law judge appointed under chapter 34.12 RCW,
11 except that any person asserting a claim or right may remove the matter
12 to a court of competent jurisdiction. Removal may only be accomplished
13 according to the rules of civil procedure. The person seeking removal
14 of the matter must serve process against the state, county, political
15 subdivision, or municipality that operates the seizing agency, and any
16 other party of interest, in accordance with RCW 4.28.080 or 4.92.020,
17 within forty-five days after the person seeking removal has notified
18 the seizing law enforcement agency of the person's claim of ownership
19 or right to possession. The court to which the matter is to be removed
20 shall be the district court when the aggregate value of the vehicle is
21 within the jurisdictional limit set forth in RCW 3.66.020. A hearing
22 before the seizing agency and any appeal therefrom shall be under Title
23 34 RCW. In a court hearing between two or more claimants to the
24 vehicle involved, the prevailing party shall be entitled to a judgment
25 for costs and reasonable attorney's fees. The burden of producing
26 evidence shall be upon the person claiming to be the lawful owner or
27 the person claiming to have the lawful right to possession of the
28 vehicle. The seizing law enforcement agency shall promptly return the
29 vehicle to the claimant upon a determination by the administrative law
30 judge or court that the claimant is the present lawful owner or is
31 lawfully entitled to possession of the vehicle.

32 (6) When a vehicle is forfeited under this chapter the seizing law
33 enforcement agency may sell the vehicle, retain it for official use, or
34 upon application by a law enforcement agency of this state release the
35 vehicle to that agency for the exclusive use of enforcing this title.

36 (7) When a vehicle is forfeited, the seizing agency shall keep a
37 record indicating the identity of the prior owner, if known, a
38 description of the vehicle, the disposition of the vehicle, the value

1 of the vehicle at the time of seizure, and the amount of proceeds
2 realized from disposition of the vehicle.

3 (8) Each seizing agency shall retain records of forfeited vehicles
4 for at least seven years.

5 (9) Each seizing agency shall file a report including a copy of the
6 records of forfeited vehicles with the state treasurer each calendar
7 quarter.

8 (10) The quarterly report need not include a record of a forfeited
9 vehicle that is still being held for use as evidence during the
10 investigation or prosecution of a case or during the appeal from a
11 conviction.

12 (11) By January 31st of each year, each seizing agency shall remit
13 to the state treasurer an amount equal to ten percent of the net
14 proceeds of vehicles forfeited during the preceding calendar year.
15 Money remitted shall be deposited in the public safety and education
16 account.

17 (12) The net proceeds of a forfeited vehicle is the value of the
18 forfeitable interest in the vehicle after deducting the cost of
19 satisfying a bona fide security interest to which the vehicle is
20 subject at the time of seizure; and in the case of a sold vehicle,
21 after deducting the cost of sale, including reasonable fees or
22 commissions paid to independent selling agents.

23 (13) The value of a sold forfeited vehicle is the sale price. The
24 value of a retained forfeited vehicle is the fair market value of the
25 vehicle at the time of seizure, determined when possible by reference
26 to an applicable commonly used index, such as the index used by the
27 department of licensing. A seizing agency may use, but need not use,
28 an independent qualified appraiser to determine the value of retained
29 vehicles. If an appraiser is used, the value of the vehicle appraised
30 is net of the cost of the appraisal.

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

33 (1) Whenever a person is charged with a violation of RCW 46.61.502
34 or 46.61.504 and that person has been previously convicted for a
35 violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 within a five-year period, the
36 court shall instruct the person charged of the provisions of section 5
37 of this act and shall immediately forward notice of the charge to the
38 director.

1 (2) Upon the conviction or acquittal of the person charged or if a
2 pending charge is otherwise terminated, the court shall immediately
3 forward notice of the conviction, acquittal, or other termination of
4 charge to the director.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 46.12 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 Upon receiving notice of a charge under section 3 of this act, the
8 director shall withhold the issuance of a certificate of ownership on
9 a vehicle subject to section 5 of this act unless the applicant is
10 included in the exceptions listed in that section or until receiving
11 notice of acquittal or other termination of the charge under section 3
12 of this act.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 46.12 RCW
14 to read as follows:

15 It is unlawful to convey, sell, or transfer the ownership of a
16 motor vehicle that was driven by or was under the actual physical
17 control of the owner of the vehicle who has previously been convicted
18 for a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 within a five-year period
19 and is currently charged with a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or
20 46.61.504, except that:

21 (1) A vehicle encumbered by a bona fide security interest may be
22 transferred to the secured party or to a person designated by the
23 secured party; and

24 (2) A leased vehicle may be transferred to the lessor or to a
25 person designated by the lessor.

26 **Sec. 6.** RCW 46.12.270 and 1969 ex.s. c 125 s 3 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 Any person violating ~~((the provisions of))~~ RCW 46.12.250 ~~((or))~~,
29 46.12.260 ~~((shall be))~~, or section 5 of this act is guilty of a
30 misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not more than two
31 hundred fifty dollars or by imprisonment in a county jail for not more
32 than ninety days.

--- END ---