
HOUSE BILL 2533

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Representatives Simpson, G. and Chase; by request of Department of Licensing

Read first time 01/15/2004. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to vehicle license plates; and amending RCW
2 46.16.290 and 46.16.316.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.16.290 and 1997 c 291 s 4 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 In any case of a valid sale or transfer of the ownership of any
7 vehicle, the right to the certificates properly transferable therewith,
8 except as provided in RCW 46.16.280, and to the vehicle license plates
9 passes to the purchaser or transferee. It is unlawful for the holder
10 of such certificates, except as provided in RCW 46.16.280, or vehicle
11 license plates to fail, neglect, or refuse to endorse the certificates
12 and deliver the vehicle license plates to the purchaser or transferee.
13 If the sale or transfer is of a vehicle licensed by the state or any
14 county, city, town, school district, or other political subdivision
15 entitled to exemption as provided by law, or, if the vehicle is
16 licensed with personalized plates, amateur radio operator plates, medal
17 of honor plates, disabled person plates, disabled veteran plates,
18 prisoner of war plates, plates issued under RCW 46.16.233 (2) or (3),
19 or other special license plates issued under RCW 46.16.301 as it

1 existed before amendment by section 5, chapter 291, Laws of 1997, the
2 vehicle license plates therefor shall be retained and may be displayed
3 upon a vehicle obtained in replacement of the vehicle so sold or
4 transferred.

5 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.16.316 and 1997 c 291 s 10 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 Except as provided in RCW 46.16.305:

8 (1) When a person who has been issued a special license plate or
9 plates under RCW 46.16.301 as it existed before amendment by section 5,
10 chapter 291, Laws of 1997, or plates under RCW 46.16.233 (2) or (3),
11 sells, trades, or otherwise transfers or releases ownership of the
12 vehicle upon which the special license plate or plates have been
13 displayed, he or she shall immediately report the transfer of such
14 plate or plates to an acquired vehicle or vehicle eligible for such
15 plates pursuant to departmental rule, or he or she shall surrender such
16 plates to the department immediately if such surrender is required by
17 departmental rule. If a person applies for a transfer of the plate or
18 plates to another eligible vehicle, a transfer fee of five dollars
19 shall be charged in addition to all other applicable fees. Such
20 transfer fees shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. Failure to
21 surrender the plates when required is a traffic infraction.

22 (2) If the special license plate or plates issued by the department
23 become lost, defaced, damaged, or destroyed, application for a
24 replacement special license plate or plates shall be made and fees paid
25 as provided by law for the replacement of regular license plates.

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