
HOUSE BILL 2910

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2004 Regular Session

By Representatives Simpson, G., Cooper, Woods, Hinkle and Conway

Read first time 01/22/2004. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to special license plates for professional fire
2 fighters and paramedics; amending RCW 46.16.313 and 46.16.316; adding
3 new sections to chapter 46.16 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter
4 46.04 RCW.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 The department shall issue a special license plate displaying a
9 symbol, approved by the special license plate review board, for
10 professional fire fighters and paramedics who are members of the
11 Washington State Council of Fire Fighters. Upon initial application
12 and subsequent renewals, applicants must show proof of eligibility by
13 providing a certificate of current membership from the Washington State
14 Council of Fire Fighters. The special license plate may be used in
15 lieu of regular or personalized license plates for vehicles required to
16 display one or two vehicle license plates, excluding vehicles
17 registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon the terms and conditions
18 established by the department.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 "Professional fire fighters and paramedics license plates" means
4 license plates issued under section 1 of this act that display a symbol
5 denoting professional fire fighters and paramedics.

6 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.16.313 and 1997 c 291 s 8 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 (1) The department may establish a fee for each type of special
9 license plates issued under RCW 46.16.301(1) (a), (b), or (c), as
10 existing before amendment by section 5, chapter 291, Laws of 1997, in
11 an amount calculated to offset the cost of production of the special
12 license plates and the administration of this program. (~~Until~~
13 ~~December 31, 1997, the fee shall not exceed thirty five dollars, but~~
14 ~~effective with vehicle registrations due or to become due on January 1,~~
15 ~~1998,)~~) The department may adjust the fee to no more than forty
16 dollars. This fee is in addition to all other fees required to
17 register and license the vehicle for which the plates have been
18 requested. All such additional special license plate fees collected by
19 the department shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to
20 the motor vehicle fund.

21 (2) (~~Until December 31, 1997, in addition to all fees and taxes~~
22 ~~required to be paid upon application, registration, and renewal~~
23 ~~registration of a motor vehicle, the holder of a collegiate license~~
24 ~~plate shall pay a fee of thirty dollars. The department shall deduct~~
25 ~~an amount not to exceed two dollars of each fee collected under this~~
26 ~~subsection for administration and collection expenses incurred by it.~~
27 ~~The remaining proceeds, minus the cost of plate production, shall be~~
28 ~~remitted to the custody of the state treasurer with a proper~~
29 ~~identifying detailed report. The state treasurer shall credit the~~
30 ~~funds to the appropriate collegiate license plate fund as provided in~~
31 ~~RCW 28B.10.890.~~

32 (~~3) Effective with vehicle registrations due or to become due on~~
33 ~~January 1, 1998,)~~) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be
34 paid upon application and registration of a motor vehicle, the holder
35 of a collegiate license plate shall pay an initial fee of forty
36 dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed twelve
37 dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for administration

1 and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall
2 be remitted to the custody of the state treasurer with a proper
3 identifying detailed report. The state treasurer shall credit the
4 funds to the appropriate collegiate license plate fund as provided in
5 RCW 28B.10.890.

6 ~~((4) Effective with annual renewals due or to become due on~~
7 ~~January 1, 1999,))~~ (3) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be
8 paid upon renewal of a motor vehicle registration, the holder of a
9 collegiate license plate shall pay a fee of thirty dollars. The
10 department shall deduct an amount not to exceed two dollars of each fee
11 collected under this subsection for administration and collection
12 expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall be remitted to
13 the custody of the state treasurer with a proper identifying detailed
14 report. The state treasurer shall credit the funds to the appropriate
15 collegiate license plate fund as provided in RCW 28B.10.890.

16 ~~((5))~~ (4) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid
17 upon application and registration of a motor vehicle, the holder of a
18 special baseball stadium license plate shall pay an initial fee of
19 forty dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed
20 twelve dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for
21 administration and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining
22 proceeds, minus the cost of plate production, shall be distributed to
23 a county for the purpose of paying the principal and interest payments
24 on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball stadium, as
25 defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary
26 preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW
27 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds
28 to the state general fund.

29 ~~((6) Effective with annual renewals due or to become due on~~
30 ~~January 1, 1999,))~~ (5) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be
31 paid upon renewal of a motor vehicle registration, the holder of a
32 special baseball stadium license plate shall pay a fee of thirty
33 dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed two
34 dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for administration
35 and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall
36 be distributed to a county for the purpose of paying the principal and
37 interest payments on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball
38 stadium, as defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary

1 preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW
2 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds
3 to the state general fund.

4 (6) Effective with vehicle registrations due or to become due on
5 January 1, 2005, in addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid
6 upon application and registration of a motor vehicle, the holder of a
7 professional fire fighters and paramedics license plate shall pay an
8 initial fee of forty dollars. The department shall deduct an amount
9 not to exceed twelve dollars of each fee collected under this
10 subsection for administration and collection expenses incurred by it.
11 The remaining proceeds must be remitted to the custody of the state
12 treasurer with a proper identifying detailed report. Under RCW
13 46.16.755, the state treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the motor
14 vehicle account until the department determines that the state has been
15 reimbursed for the cost of implementing the professional fire fighters
16 and paramedics license plates. Upon the determination by the
17 department that the state has been reimbursed, the treasurer shall
18 credit the proceeds to the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters
19 benevolent fund established under section 4 of this act.

20 (7) Effective with annual renewals due or to become due on January
21 1, 2006, in addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon
22 renewal of a motor vehicle registration, the holder of a professional
23 fire fighters and paramedics license plate shall, upon application, pay
24 a fee of thirty dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to
25 exceed two dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for
26 administration and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining
27 proceeds must be remitted to the custody of the state treasurer with a
28 proper identifying detailed report. Under RCW 46.16.755, the state
29 treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the motor vehicle account until
30 the department determines that the state has been reimbursed for the
31 cost of implementing the professional fire fighters and paramedics
32 special license plate. Upon the determination by the department that
33 the state has been reimbursed, the treasurer shall credit the proceeds
34 to the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters benevolent fund
35 established under section 4 of this act.

36 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
37 to read as follows:

1 (1) The Washington State Council of Fire Fighters benevolent fund
2 is created in the custody of the state treasurer. Upon the
3 department's determination the state has been reimbursed for the cost
4 of implementing the professional fire fighters and paramedics special
5 license plate, all receipts, except as provided in RCW 46.16.313 (6)
6 and (7), from professional fire fighters and paramedics license plates
7 must be deposited into the account. Only the director of the
8 department of licensing or the director's designee may authorize
9 expenditures from the account. The account is subject to allotment
10 procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not
11 required for expenditures.

12 (2) Funds in the account must be disbursed subject to the following
13 conditions and limitations:

14 (a) Under the requirements of RCW 46.16.765, the department must
15 contract with a qualified nonprofit organization to receive and
16 disseminate funds for charitable purposes on behalf of members of the
17 Washington State Council of Fire Fighters, their families, and others
18 deemed in need.

19 (b) For the purposes of this section, a "qualified nonprofit
20 organization" means a not-for-profit corporation incorporated and
21 operating exclusively in Washington that has received a determination
22 of tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the federal internal
23 revenue code. The organization must have been established for the
24 express purposes of receiving and disseminating funds for charitable
25 purposes on behalf of members of the Washington State Council of Fire
26 Fighters, their families, and others deemed in need.

27 (c) The qualified nonprofit organization must meet all requirements
28 set out in RCW 46.16.765.

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

31 Except as provided in RCW 46.16.305:

32 (1) When a person who has been issued a special license plate or
33 plates under section 1 of this act or RCW 46.16.301 as it existed
34 before amendment by section 5, chapter 291, Laws of 1997, sells,
35 trades, or otherwise transfers or releases ownership of the vehicle
36 upon which the special license plate or plates have been displayed, he
37 or she shall immediately report the transfer of such plate or plates to

1 an acquired vehicle or vehicle eligible for such plates pursuant to
2 departmental rule, or he or she shall surrender such plates to the
3 department immediately if such surrender is required by departmental
4 rule. If a person applies for a transfer of the plate or plates to
5 another eligible vehicle, a transfer fee of five dollars shall be
6 charged in addition to all other applicable fees. Such transfer fees
7 shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. Failure to surrender the
8 plates when required is a traffic infraction.

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

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