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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1879**

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**State of Washington**

**59th Legislature**

**2005 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Murray, Hankins, Cody, Simpson, Schual-Berke, Ericks, Chase, Hasegawa and Wood)

READ FIRST TIME 03/07/05.

1 AN ACT Relating to funding driver's education; amending RCW  
2 28A.220.040; adding a new section to chapter 46.16 RCW; creating a new  
3 section; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

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

7 Beginning with vehicle registrations that are due or become due  
8 July 1, 2005, and thereafter, at the time of initial vehicle  
9 registration or upon periodic replacement of license plates under RCW  
10 46.16.233, the registered owner shall pay and the department shall  
11 collect an additional fee of three dollars for each license plate  
12 issued, to assist in funding traffic safety education. The department  
13 shall transmit the fee to the state treasurer for deposit into the  
14 public safety and education account. The amount so deposited may be  
15 used only for reducing the cost of traffic safety education courses  
16 under chapter 28A.220 RCW.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The office of the superintendent of public  
18 instruction will report by July 1, 2006, to the transportation

1 committees of the legislature regarding the expenditure of the funds  
2 collected through the fee created in section 1 of this act. The report  
3 will include, but not be limited to, information regarding: (1) The  
4 number of students in each school district that applied for  
5 scholarships to driver training schools licensed under chapter 46.82  
6 RCW, (2) the number of students in each school district that received  
7 scholarships to driver training schools licensed under chapter 46.82  
8 RCW, (3) the dollar amount of the scholarship offered in each school  
9 district, (4) the percentage of students in each school district that  
10 enrolled in a school district-provided traffic safety education course,  
11 and (5) the number of students that enrolled in driver training schools  
12 licensed under chapter 46.82 RCW.

13 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.220.040 and 2000 c 115 s 10 are each amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (1) Each school district shall be reimbursed from funds  
16 appropriated for traffic safety education.

17 ~~((+a))~~ (2) The state superintendent shall determine the per-pupil  
18 reimbursement amount for the traffic safety education course to be  
19 funded by the state. The superintendent shall deduct an amount not  
20 more than five percent of the fees collected under section 1 of this  
21 act for administrative expenses incurred in determining the allocation  
22 of those funds. Each school district offering an approved standard  
23 traffic safety education course shall be reimbursed ~~((or granted))~~ an  
24 amount up to the level established by the superintendent of public  
25 instruction as may be appropriated. Each school district will offer to  
26 students the option of either enrolling in a school district-provided  
27 traffic safety education course or receiving a scholarship of an  
28 equivalent amount to enroll in any drivers' school licensed under  
29 chapter 46.82 RCW, based on available funds received under section 1 of  
30 this act.

31 ~~((+b))~~ (3) The state superintendent may provide per-pupil  
32 reimbursements to school districts only where all the traffic educators  
33 have satisfied the continuing education requirement of RCW  
34 28A.220.030(4).

35 ~~((+2))~~ (4) The board of directors of any school district or  
36 combination of school districts may establish a traffic safety  
37 education fee, which fee when imposed shall be required to be paid by

1 any duly enrolled student in any such school district prior to or while  
2 enrolled in a traffic safety education course. In accordance with  
3 funding received under section 1 of this act, the board shall set a  
4 reduced fee for students qualified to receive school lunches on a  
5 reduced-cost or free basis. Traffic safety education fees collected by  
6 a school district shall be deposited with the county treasurer to the  
7 credit of such school district, to be used to pay costs of the traffic  
8 safety education course.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
10 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
11 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
12 July 1, 2005.

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