
SENATE BILL 5704

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session

By Senators Billig, Benton, Fain, Liiias, Hobbs, and Mullet

Read first time 01/29/15. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to proof of financial responsibility to operate a
2 motor vehicle; adding new sections to chapter 48.02 RCW; and
3 prescribing penalties.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 48.02
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The commissioner shall establish a random sampling program to
8 determine if registered vehicle owners meet the financial
9 responsibility requirements to operate a vehicle as required in RCW
10 46.30.020.

11 (2) The commissioner shall select no more than three percent of
12 registered vehicles per year in monthly increments and send the
13 registered owner of each vehicle selected a form requesting that the
14 owner provide proof of financial responsibility to operate a vehicle
15 as required in RCW 46.30.020 for a randomly selected date during the
16 last registration period.

17 (3) If the registered owner fails to provide proof of financial
18 responsibility to operate a vehicle as required in RCW 46.30.020, as
19 requested by the commissioner, within forty-five days of the date
20 shown on the request, the registered owner must be assessed a penalty

1 of fifty dollars to be collected before the registered owner may
2 renew the vehicle registration.

3 (4) Any person who knowingly provides false evidence of financial
4 responsibility to the office of the insurance commissioner, including
5 an expired or canceled insurance policy, bond, or certificate of
6 deposit, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

7 (5) The commissioner shall administer and collect the fifty
8 dollar penalty. The commissioner shall deduct an amount equal to the
9 administration and collection expenses. The commissioner shall
10 deposit any remaining proceeds under this subsection to the financial
11 responsibility education account created in section 2 of this act for
12 use in public information campaigns to educate the public regarding
13 the financial responsibility requirements under this chapter and
14 chapter 46.30 RCW.

15 (6) The department of licensing must provide information and
16 support as deemed necessary by the commissioner.

17 (7) The commissioner may adopt rules necessary to administer this
18 section.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 48.02
20 RCW to read as follows:

21 The financial responsibility education account is created in the
22 custody of the state treasurer. After the deduction of administration
23 and collection expenses incurred by the commissioner, all receipts
24 from the fifty dollar penalty imposed under section 1 of this act
25 must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may
26 be used only for public information campaigns to educate the public
27 regarding the financial responsibility requirements under chapters
28 46.29 and 46.30 RCW. Only the commissioner or the commissioner's
29 designee may authorize expenditures from the account. The account is
30 subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an
31 appropriation is not required for expenditures.

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