
HOUSE BILL 2899

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2018 Regular Session

By Representatives Gregerson, Doglio, Jinkins, and Peterson

Read first time 01/22/18. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a vehicle maintenance improvement
2 program; adding a new chapter to Title 46 RCW; making an
3 appropriation; and providing an effective date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1)(a) The legislature finds, regarding
6 the don't drip and drive program undertaken by the department of
7 ecology between 2011 and 2017, that the program:

8 (i) Was designed to improve vehicle owners' awareness of vehicle
9 leaks and to motivate the owners of leaking vehicles to fix the
10 leaks;

11 (ii) Has achieved progress in addressing a significant source of
12 water pollution in the Puget Sound region: Vehicles that leak fluids
13 that cause significant water quality impairments;

14 (iii) Was developed in partnership with an extensive coalition of
15 municipalities and other partners in the Puget Sound region;

16 (iv) Was founded on extensive research and a well-developed
17 educational campaign;

18 (v) Has been funded by a series of one-time grants; and

19 (vi) Has resulted in the reduction of the source of water
20 pollution from vehicle fluids, as well as a number of ancillary
21 benefits, including improved vehicle fuel economy for vehicle owners,

1 better air quality, the delayed need for vehicle repairs, improved
2 reliability in vehicle operation, and others;

3 (b) The legislature further finds that the results of the program
4 demonstrate benefits that could be realized: More comprehensively,
5 were the scope of the program to emphasize all benefits of proper
6 vehicle maintenance; more broadly, were the program to be expanded
7 statewide; and continuously, were the program to be funded with a
8 permanent revenue source;

9 (c) The legislature further finds that the benefits of proper
10 vehicle maintenance are more pronounced in older vehicles; and

11 (d) The legislature also recognizes the value of partnerships
12 with local governments and private sector stakeholders in ensuring
13 the development and establishment of a robust and enduring program.

14 (2) Therefore, the legislature intends to create an ongoing and
15 statewide vehicle maintenance improvement program, led by the
16 department of ecology, in collaboration with the department of
17 commerce, and in concert with local government partners, using the
18 don't drip and drive program initiated by the department of ecology
19 as a model, for the purpose of: Raising awareness of the importance
20 of routine vehicle maintenance, particularly for older vehicles; and
21 achieving actual environmental, economic, vehicle performance and
22 reliability, and other benefits of proper vehicle maintenance.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department of ecology, in
24 collaboration with the department of commerce, and in concert with
25 municipal partners around the state, must establish an ongoing
26 vehicle maintenance improvement program with the goals of:

27 (a) Improving vehicle owners' awareness of the importance of
28 proper and regular vehicle maintenance, particularly with older
29 vehicles;

30 (b) Motivating vehicle owners to conduct routine and proper
31 vehicle maintenance; and

32 (c) Yielding outcomes that provide improvements to the
33 environment, reliability of vehicle travel, and personal economy.

34 (2) The state's role in the vehicle maintenance improvement
35 program, through the department of ecology, in collaboration with the
36 department of commerce, is to:

37 (a) Coordinate public outreach and education efforts to promote
38 proper and routine vehicle maintenance;

1 (b) Provide grant oversight and technical assistance to local
2 government partners;

3 (c) Develop educational materials in different languages and for
4 different media to engage a broad spectrum of the public;

5 (d) Develop vehicle maintenance workshops and other events for
6 the purpose of identifying symptoms of vehicle wear, correctable by
7 routine maintenance, thus providing the public with learning
8 opportunities and potential trust building experiences with car
9 mechanics;

10 (e) Establish an advisory group of public, private, and nonprofit
11 stakeholders for the purposes of guiding the program development;

12 (f) Develop strategies to reduce costs or perceptions of costs
13 associated with vehicle maintenance, in part through working with
14 private sector stakeholders and associations, in order to motivate
15 vehicle owners to conduct proper vehicle maintenance; and

16 (g) Measure the behavioral response to the program, as well as
17 environmental, vehicle performance, and other outcomes.

18 (3) Local governments are authorized to participate in the
19 vehicle maintenance improvement program through:

20 (a) Disseminating program materials through online advertising,
21 social media, and other localized media channels;

22 (b) Holding vehicle maintenance workshops and other related
23 events to identify and promote the correction of deficiencies
24 attributable to normal vehicle wear;

25 (c) Applying to the state for matching grants from the department
26 of ecology or department of commerce;

27 (d) Engaging nonprofit organizations and other interested parties
28 as a stakeholder advisory committee for the purpose of guiding the
29 local government to implement the program strategically; and

30 (e) Partnering with participating vehicle maintenance facilities
31 and repair shops to promote vehicle maintenance and discount
32 necessary repairs.

33 (4) The departments of ecology and commerce may adopt rules to
34 implement this section.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The vehicle maintenance improvement
36 account is created in the state treasury. All receipts from local
37 governments and private sector stakeholder contributions related to
38 the vehicle maintenance improvement program must be deposited into
39 the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only after

1 appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for the
2 purposes of the vehicle maintenance improvement program established
3 in section 2 of this act, including grants to local governments for
4 the purposes of the program. Any grants must be matched by local
5 contributions.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** By December 31, 2020, and every four years
7 thereafter, the departments of ecology and commerce shall evaluate
8 the vehicle maintenance improvement program established in section 2
9 of this act and shall report to the governor and the environmental
10 and transportation committees of the legislature on the results of
11 the program to date. The evaluation must consider the behavioral
12 response to the program and impacts to the environment, the economy,
13 and vehicle performance and reliability.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The sum of six hundred thousand dollars,
15 or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the
16 fiscal biennium ending June 30, 2019, from the motor vehicle account
17 to the department of ecology for the purposes of the vehicle
18 maintenance improvement program established in section 2 of this act.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 4 and 7 of this act
20 constitute a new chapter in Title 46 RCW.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** This act takes effect July 1, 2018.

--- END ---