
SENATE BILL 5198

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Senators Valdez and Holy; by request of Department of Licensing

Prefiled 01/09/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to training as an alternative to driver license
2 suspension for the accumulation of certain traffic infractions;
3 amending RCW 46.20.2892 and 46.20.311; and providing an effective
4 date.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.20.2892 and 2021 c 240 s 7 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (1) Whenever the official records of the department show that a
9 person has committed a traffic infraction for a moving violation on
10 three or more occasions within a one-year period, or on four or more
11 occasions within a two-year period, the department must suspend the
12 license of the driver for a period of 60 days and establish a period
13 of probation for one calendar year to begin when the suspension ends,
14 except as provided in subsection (2) of this section. Prior to
15 reinstatement of a license, the person must complete a safe driving
16 course as recommended by the department.

17 (2) At any time after the department provides notice of a pending
18 suspension under subsection (1) of this section, a person may
19 complete the safe driving course mandated under subsection (1) of
20 this section. The department must terminate a suspension prior to the
21 expiration of the 60-day period when the department receives notice

1 that the person has completed the safe driving course. The department
2 must establish a period of probation for one calendar year to begin
3 the day the suspension is terminated. A suspension may only be
4 terminated early once every five years under this subsection.

5 (3) During ((the)) a period of probation, the person must not be
6 convicted of any additional traffic infractions for moving
7 violations. Any traffic infraction for a moving violation committed
8 during the period of probation shall result in an additional 30-day
9 suspension to run consecutively with any suspension already being
10 served. A person is not eligible for early reinstatement under
11 subsection (2) of this section for a probation violation that occurs
12 during the period of probation.

13 ((+2)) (4) When a person has committed a traffic infraction for
14 a moving violation on two occasions within a one-year period or three
15 occasions within a two-year period, the department shall send the
16 person a notice that an additional infraction will result in
17 suspension of the person's license for a period of 60 days.

18 ((+3)) (5) The department may not charge a reissue fee at the
19 end of the term of suspension under this section.

20 ((+4)) (6) For purposes of this section, multiple traffic
21 infractions issued during or as the result of a single traffic stop
22 constitute one occasion.

23 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.20.311 and 2021 c 240 s 8 are each amended to
24 read as follows:

25 (1)(a) The department shall not suspend a driver's license or
26 privilege to drive a motor vehicle on the public highways for a fixed
27 period of more than one year, except as specifically permitted under
28 RCW 46.20.267, 46.20.342, or other provision of law.

29 (b) Except for a suspension under RCW 46.20.267, 46.20.289,
30 46.20.291(5), 46.61.740, or 74.20A.320, whenever the license or
31 driving privilege of any person is suspended by reason of a
32 conviction, a finding that a traffic infraction has been committed,
33 pursuant to chapter 46.29 RCW, or pursuant to RCW 46.20.291 or
34 46.20.308, the suspension shall remain in effect until the person
35 gives and thereafter maintains proof of financial responsibility for
36 the future as provided in chapter 46.29 RCW.

37 (c) If the suspension is the result of a nonfelony violation of
38 RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, the department shall determine the
39 person's eligibility for licensing based upon the reports provided by

1 the substance use disorder agency or probation department designated
2 under RCW 46.61.5056 and shall deny reinstatement until enrollment
3 and participation in an approved program has been established and the
4 person is otherwise qualified. If the suspension is the result of a
5 violation of RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), the department shall
6 determine the person's eligibility for licensing based upon the
7 reports provided by the substance use disorder agency required under
8 RCW 46.61.524 and shall deny reinstatement until satisfactory
9 progress in an approved program has been established and the person
10 is otherwise qualified. If the suspension is the result of a
11 violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, and the person is required
12 pursuant to RCW 46.20.720 to drive only a motor vehicle equipped with
13 a functioning ignition interlock, the department shall determine the
14 person's eligibility for licensing based upon written verification by
15 a company doing business in the state that it has installed the
16 required device on a vehicle owned or operated by the person seeking
17 reinstatement. The department may waive the requirement for written
18 verification under this subsection if it determines to its
19 satisfaction that a device previously verified as having been
20 installed on a vehicle owned or operated by the person is still
21 installed and functioning or as permitted by RCW 46.20.720(8). If,
22 based upon notification from the interlock provider or otherwise, the
23 department determines that an interlock required under RCW 46.20.720
24 is no longer installed or functioning as required, the department
25 shall suspend the person's license or privilege to drive. Whenever
26 the license or driving privilege of any person is suspended or
27 revoked as a result of noncompliance with an ignition interlock
28 requirement, the suspension shall remain in effect until the person
29 provides notice issued by a company doing business in the state that
30 a vehicle owned or operated by the person is equipped with a
31 functioning ignition interlock device.

32 (d) Whenever the license or driving privilege of any person is
33 suspended as a result of certification of noncompliance with a child
34 support order under chapter 74.20A RCW, the suspension shall remain
35 in effect until the person provides a release issued by the
36 department of social and health services stating that the person is
37 in compliance with the order.

38 (e)(i) Except as provided in RCW 46.20.2892(~~((3))~~)(5), the
39 department shall not issue to the person a new, duplicate, or renewal

1 license until the person pays a reissue fee of (~~seventy-five~~
2 ~~dollars~~) \$75.

3 (ii) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, if the
4 suspension is the result of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or
5 46.61.504, or is the result of administrative action under RCW
6 46.20.308, the reissue fee shall be (~~one hundred seventy dollars~~)
7 \$170.

8 (2)(a) Any person whose license or privilege to drive a motor
9 vehicle on the public highways has been revoked, unless the
10 revocation was for a cause which has been removed, is not entitled to
11 have the license or privilege renewed or restored until: (i) After
12 the expiration of one year from the date the license or privilege to
13 drive was revoked; (ii) after the expiration of the applicable
14 revocation period provided by RCW 46.20.3101 or 46.61.5055; (iii)
15 after the expiration of two years for persons convicted of vehicular
16 homicide; or (iv) after the expiration of the applicable revocation
17 period provided by RCW 46.20.265.

18 (b)(i) After the expiration of the appropriate period, the person
19 may make application for a new license as provided by law together
20 with a reissue fee in the amount of (~~seventy-five dollars~~) \$75.

21 (ii) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, if the
22 revocation is the result of a violation of RCW 46.20.308, 46.61.502,
23 or 46.61.504, the reissue fee shall be (~~one hundred seventy~~
24 ~~dollars~~) \$170. If the revocation is the result of a nonfelony
25 violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, the department shall
26 determine the person's eligibility for licensing based upon the
27 reports provided by the substance use disorder agency or probation
28 department designated under RCW 46.61.5056 and shall deny reissuance
29 of a license, permit, or privilege to drive until enrollment and
30 participation in an approved program has been established and the
31 person is otherwise qualified. If the suspension is the result of a
32 violation of RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), the department shall
33 determine the person's eligibility for licensing based upon the
34 reports provided by the substance use disorder agency required under
35 RCW 46.61.524 and shall deny reinstatement until satisfactory
36 progress in an approved program has been established and the person
37 is otherwise qualified. If the revocation is the result of a
38 violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, and the person is required
39 pursuant to RCW 46.20.720 to drive only a motor vehicle equipped with
40 a functioning ignition interlock or other biological or technical

1 device, the department shall determine the person's eligibility for
2 licensing based upon written verification by a company doing business
3 in the state that it has installed the required device on a vehicle
4 owned or operated by the person applying for a new license. The
5 department may waive the requirement for written verification under
6 this subsection if it determines to its satisfaction that a device
7 previously verified as having been installed on a vehicle owned or
8 operated by the person is still installed and functioning or as
9 permitted by RCW 46.20.720(8). If, following issuance of a new
10 license, the department determines, based upon notification from the
11 interlock provider or otherwise, that an interlock required under RCW
12 46.20.720 is no longer functioning, the department shall suspend the
13 person's license or privilege to drive until the department has
14 received written verification from an interlock provider that a
15 functioning interlock is installed.

16 (c) Except for a revocation under RCW 46.20.265, the department
17 shall not then issue a new license unless it is satisfied after
18 investigation of the driving ability of the person that it will be
19 safe to grant the privilege of driving a motor vehicle on the public
20 highways, and until the person gives and thereafter maintains proof
21 of financial responsibility for the future as provided in chapter
22 46.29 RCW. For a revocation under RCW 46.20.265, the department shall
23 not issue a new license unless it is satisfied after investigation of
24 the driving ability of the person that it will be safe to grant that
25 person the privilege of driving a motor vehicle on the public
26 highways.

27 (3) (a) Whenever the driver's license of any person is suspended
28 pursuant to Article IV of the nonresident violators compact or RCW
29 46.23.020 or 46.20.289 or 46.20.291(5), the department shall not
30 issue to the person any new or renewal license until the person pays
31 a reissue fee of (~~seventy-five dollars~~) \$75.

32 (b) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, if the
33 suspension is the result of a violation of the laws of this or any
34 other state, province, or other jurisdiction involving (i) the
35 operation or physical control of a motor vehicle upon the public
36 highways while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs,
37 or (ii) the refusal to submit to a chemical test of the driver's
38 blood alcohol content, the reissue fee shall be (~~one hundred seventy~~
39 ~~dollars~~) \$170.

1 (4) When the department reinstates a person's driver's license
2 following a suspension, revocation, or denial under RCW 46.20.3101 or
3 46.61.5055, and the person is entitled to full day-for-day credit
4 under RCW 46.20.3101(4) or 46.61.5055(9)(b)(ii) for an additional
5 restriction arising from the same incident, the department shall
6 impose no additional reissue fees under subsection (1)(e)(ii),
7 (2)(b)(ii), or (3)(b) of this section associated with the additional
8 restriction.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect April 1, 2026.

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