
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5238

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Senate Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senators Muzzall, Lovick, Saldaña, Shewmake, Trudeau, Wagoner, and C. Wilson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/03/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to reckless driving in cases involving excessive
2 speed; amending RCW 46.61.500; prescribing penalties; and providing
3 an effective date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.61.500 and 2020 c 330 s 14 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) (~~Any person who drives any vehicle in~~) (a) A person is
8 guilty of reckless driving if the person drives a vehicle:

9 (i) In willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or
10 property ((is guilty of reckless driving)); or

11 (ii) Intentionally more than 30 miles per hour over the posted
12 speed limit.

13 (b) Violation of the provisions of this section is a gross
14 misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for up to ((three hundred
15 sixty-four)) 364 days and by a fine of not more than ((five thousand
16 dollars)) \$5,000.

17 (2)(a) Subject to (b) of this subsection, the license or permit
18 to drive or any nonresident privilege of any person convicted of
19 reckless driving shall be suspended by the department for not less
20 than ((thirty)) 30 days.

1 (b) When a reckless driving conviction is a result of a charge
2 that was originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or
3 46.61.504, or an equivalent local ordinance, the department shall
4 grant credit on a day-for-day basis for any portion of a suspension,
5 revocation, or denial already served under an administrative action
6 arising out of the same incident. In the case of a person whose day-
7 for-day credit is for a period equal to or greater than the period of
8 suspension required under this section, the department shall provide
9 notice of full credit, shall provide for no further suspension under
10 this section, and shall impose no additional reissue fees for this
11 credit. During any period of suspension, revocation, or denial due to
12 a conviction for reckless driving as the result of a charge
13 originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, any
14 person who has obtained an ignition interlock driver's license under
15 RCW 46.20.385 may continue to drive a motor vehicle pursuant to the
16 provision of the ignition interlock driver's license without
17 obtaining a separate temporary restricted driver's license under RCW
18 46.20.391.

19 (3) (a) Except as provided under (b) of this subsection, a person
20 convicted of reckless driving who has one or more prior offenses as
21 defined in RCW 46.61.5055(14) within seven years shall be required,
22 under RCW 46.20.720, to install an ignition interlock device on all
23 vehicles operated by the person if the conviction is the result of a
24 charge that was originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.502,
25 46.61.504, or an equivalent local ordinance.

26 (b) A person convicted of reckless driving shall be required,
27 under RCW 46.20.720, to install an ignition interlock device on all
28 vehicles operated by the person if the conviction is the result of a
29 charge that was originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.520
30 committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any
31 drug or RCW 46.61.522 committed while under the influence of
32 intoxicating liquor or any drug.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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