
SENATE BILL 5462

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Senators Braun, Chapman, and J. Wilson

Read first time 01/23/25. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to addressing the current backlog of vehicle
2 inspections; amending RCW 46.12.560; adding a new section to chapter
3 46.09 RCW; and providing an effective date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.12.560 and 2024 c 301 s 22 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1)(a) (~~Before~~) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this
8 section, before accepting an application for a certificate of title,
9 the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed
10 by the director shall require an applicant to provide a certificate
11 of vehicle inspection completed by the Washington state patrol or
12 other authorized inspector if the vehicle:

13 (i) Was declared a total loss or salvage vehicle under the laws
14 of this state;

15 (ii) Has been rebuilt after the certificate of title was returned
16 to the department under RCW 46.12.600 and the vehicle was not kept by
17 the registered owner at the time of the vehicle's destruction or
18 declaration as a total loss; or

19 (iii) Is presented with documents from another state showing that
20 the vehicle was a total loss or salvage vehicle and has not been

1 reissued a valid registration certificate from that state after the
2 declaration of total loss or salvage.

3 (b) A vehicle presented for inspection must have all damaged
4 major component parts replaced or repaired to meet all requirements
5 in law and rule before the Washington state patrol will inspect the
6 vehicle. The inspection must verify that the vehicle identification
7 number is genuine and agrees with the number shown on the certificate
8 of title and registration certificate.

9 (c) A Washington state patrol vehicle identification number
10 specialist must ensure that all major component parts used for the
11 reconstruction of a salvage or rebuilt vehicle were obtained legally,
12 and must securely attach a marking at the driver's door latch pillar
13 indicating the vehicle was previously destroyed or declared a total
14 loss. It is a class C felony for a person to remove the marking
15 indicating that the vehicle was previously destroyed or declared a
16 total loss.

17 (2) A person presenting a vehicle for inspection under subsection
18 (1) of this section must provide original invoices for new and used
19 parts from:

20 (a) A vendor that is registered with the department of revenue or
21 a comparable agency in the jurisdiction where the major component
22 parts were purchased for the collection of retail sales or use taxes.
23 The invoices must include:

- 24 (i) The name and address of the business;
- 25 (ii) A description of the part or parts sold;
- 26 (iii) The date of sale; and
- 27 (iv) The amount of sale to include all taxes paid unless exempted
28 by the department of revenue or a comparable agency in the
29 jurisdiction where the major component parts were purchased;

30 (b) A vehicle wrecker licensed under chapter 46.80 RCW or a
31 comparable business in the jurisdiction outside Washington state
32 where the major component part was purchased; and

33 (c) Private individuals. The private individual must have the
34 certificate of title to the vehicle where the parts were taken from
35 unless the parts were obtained from a parts car owned by a collector.
36 Bills of sale for parts must be notarized and include:

- 37 (i) The names and addresses of the sellers and purchasers;
- 38 (ii) A description of the vehicle and the part or parts being
39 sold, including the make, model, year, and identification or serial
40 number;

1 (iii) The date of sale; and

2 (iv) The purchase price of the vehicle part or parts.

3 (3) A person presenting a vehicle for inspection under this
4 section who is unable to provide an acceptable release of interest or
5 proof of ownership for a vehicle or major component part as described
6 in this section shall apply for an ownership in doubt application
7 described in RCW 46.12.680.

8 (4) All-terrain vehicles, wheeled all-terrain vehicles, and
9 utility-type vehicles are exempt from the vehicle identification
10 number inspection required in subsections (1) through (3) of this
11 section.

12 (5)(a) Before accepting an application for a certificate of
13 title, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent
14 appointed by the director shall require an applicant to provide a
15 certificate of vehicle inspection completed by the Washington state
16 patrol or other authorized inspector when the application is for a
17 vehicle being titled for the first time as:

18 (i) Assembled;

19 (ii) Glider kit;

20 (iii) Homemade;

21 (iv) Kit vehicle;

22 (v) Street rod vehicle;

23 (vi) Custom vehicle; or

24 (vii) Subject to ownership in doubt under RCW 46.12.680.

25 (b) The inspection must verify that the vehicle identification
26 number is genuine and agrees with the number shown on the certificate
27 of title and registration certificate.

28 ~~((5))~~ (6)(a) Before accepting an application for a certificate
29 of title, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent
30 appointed by the director shall require an applicant to provide a
31 certificate of vehicle inspection completed by the Washington state
32 patrol when the application is for a vehicle with a vehicle
33 identification number that has been:

34 (i) Altered;

35 (ii) Defaced;

36 (iii) Obliterated;

37 (iv) Omitted;

38 (v) Removed; or

39 (vi) Otherwise absent.

1 (b) The application must include payment of the fee required in
2 RCW 46.17.135.

3 (c) The Washington state patrol shall assign a new vehicle
4 identification number to the vehicle and place or stamp the new
5 number in a conspicuous position on the vehicle.

6 (d) The department shall use the new vehicle identification
7 number assigned by the Washington state patrol as the official
8 vehicle identification number assigned to the vehicle.

9 ~~((6))~~ (7) The department may adopt rules as necessary to
10 implement this section.

11 ~~((7))~~ (8) Nothing in this section creates a requirement for the
12 Washington state patrol to inspect attached catalytic converters as
13 major component parts.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.09
15 RCW to read as follows:

16 Vehicles titled under this chapter are exempt from the vehicle
17 identification number inspection required in RCW 46.12.560.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect July 1, 2026.

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