

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5444

69th Legislature
2025 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 25, 2025
Yeas 47 Nays 1

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 24, 2025
Yeas 96 Nays 2

**Speaker of the House of
Representatives**

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5444** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5444

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2025 Regular Session

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By Senate Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Cortes, Chapman, Lovick, Nobles, Riccelli, and C. Wilson)

READ FIRST TIME 04/08/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to special license plates and personalized
2 license plates; amending RCW 46.18.060, 44.04.300, 43.60A.140, and
3 46.17.210; reenacting and amending RCW 46.17.220, 46.18.200,
4 46.68.420, and 46.68.425; adding new sections to chapter 46.04 RCW;
5 adding a new section to chapter 46.18 RCW; creating new sections;
6 repealing RCW 43.388.040; providing an effective date; and providing
7 an expiration date.

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

9 "**Sec. 1.** RCW 46.18.060 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 25 s 40 are each
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (1) The department must review and either approve or reject
12 special license plate applications submitted by sponsoring
13 organizations. Except for special license plates created under this
14 act, the department may not issue any new special license plates
15 until January 1, 2029, and therefore no applications for any new
16 special license plates may be accepted until January 1, 2029. The
17 department must prominently display this special license plate
18 moratorium on its website.

19 (2) Duties of the department include, but are not limited to, the
20 following:

1 (a) Review and approve the annual financial reports submitted by
2 sponsoring organizations with active special license plate series and
3 present those annual financial reports to the joint transportation
4 committee;

5 (b) Report annually to the joint transportation committee on the
6 special license plate applications that were considered by the
7 department;

8 (c) Issue approval and rejection notification letters to
9 sponsoring organizations, the executive committee of the joint
10 transportation committee, and the legislative sponsors identified in
11 each application. The letters must be issued within seven days of
12 making a determination on the status of an application; and

13 (d) Review annually the number of plates sold for each special
14 license plate series created after January 1, 2003. The department
15 may submit a recommendation to discontinue a special plate series to
16 the executive committee of the joint transportation committee.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The high cost of implementing a new
18 special license plate series, coupled with the uncertainty of the
19 state's ability to recoup its costs, has led the legislature to delay
20 the implementation of new special license plates. In order to address
21 these issues, it is the intent of the legislature to create a
22 mechanism that will allow for the opportunity to review and evaluate
23 the special license plate process, to ensure efficacy of the program,
24 and to ensure this program does not result in undue costs to the
25 state of Washington.

26 (2)(a) The department of licensing must convene a special license
27 work group to conduct a comprehensive review of current provisions
28 associated with special license plates.

29 (b) The membership of the work group will be determined by the
30 department of licensing, but the interests represented must include
31 internal and external entities involved in the approval, reporting,
32 and issuance of special license plates.

33 (c) Each calendar year, the members of the joint transportation
34 committee must be invited to attend at least one of the work group
35 meetings.

36 (d) By December 1st of calendar years 2025 through 2026, the work
37 group must provide a status update and give a presentation to the
38 joint transportation committee.

1 (e) By November 15, 2027, the department of licensing must
2 provide a preliminary final report and give a presentation to the
3 joint transportation committee detailing its preliminary
4 recommendations as specified in subsection (3) of this section.

5 (f) Based on the direction and input provided by the joint
6 transportation committee, the department of licensing must then
7 submit a final report with draft legislation to the transportation
8 committees of the legislature by January 1, 2028.

9 (3) The special license work group must review, analyze, and make
10 recommendations on the following issues:

11 (a) Developing more active review and oversight of special
12 license plates by the joint transportation committee, including
13 reviewing information submitted pursuant to RCW 46.18.060;

14 (b) Increasing the signature and other application requirements
15 for creating special license plates;

16 (c) Removing the ability to create nonreviewed special license
17 plates without meeting the signature and other application
18 requirements;

19 (d) Modifying the current startup and other cost commitments to
20 create a new special license plate;

21 (e) Making information more readily available to potential
22 organizations sponsoring new special license plates of the average
23 and likely net revenues raised by proposed special license plates
24 before a sponsoring organization starts the application process;

25 (f) Improving the transparency and availability of financial and
26 use of special license plate proceeds information provided by special
27 license plate sponsoring organizations on an annual basis;

28 (g) Identifying metrics and methods by which the legislature and
29 the department of licensing must use for the discontinuation of low
30 performing special license plates; and

31 (h) Implementing other mechanisms to make the special license
32 plate application, creation process, and use of funds more rigorous
33 and accountable.

34 (4) This section expires January 15, 2028.

35 **Sec. 3.** RCW 44.04.300 and 2005 c 319 s 12 are each amended to
36 read as follows:

37 (1) The joint transportation committee is created. The executive
38 committee of the joint committee consists of the chairs and ranking
39 members of the house and senate transportation committees. The chairs

1 of the house and senate transportation committees shall serve as
2 cochairs of the joint committee. All members of the house and senate
3 standing committees on transportation are eligible for membership of
4 the joint committee and shall serve when appointed by the executive
5 committee.

6 (2) The joint transportation committee shall review and research
7 transportation programs and issues in order to educate and promote
8 the dissemination of transportation research to state and local
9 government policymakers, including legislators and associated staff.
10 All four members of the executive committee shall approve the annual
11 work plan. Membership of the committee may vary depending on the
12 subject matter of oversight and research projects. The committee may
13 also make recommendations for functional or performance audits to the
14 transportation performance audit board.

15 (3) The executive committee shall adopt rules and procedures for
16 its operations.

17 (4) By December 20, 2028, and at least every two years
18 thereafter, the joint transportation committee must hold a work
19 session on the implementation of special license plate process
20 improvements established as a result of this act and other relevant
21 issues as it may determine.

22 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.17.220 and 2022 c 239 s 1 and 2022 c 117 s 1 are
23 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

24 In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon
25 application for a vehicle registration in chapter 46.16A RCW, the
26 holder of a special license plate shall pay the appropriate special
27 license plate fee as listed in this section.

28	PLATE TYPE	INITIAL	RENEWAL	DISTRIBUTED
29		FEE	FEE	UNDER
30	(1) 4-H	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
31	(2) Amateur radio license	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
32	(3) Armed forces	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
33	(4) Breast cancer awareness	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
34	(5) Collector vehicle	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
35	(6) Collegiate	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.430
36	(7) <u>Donate life</u>	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>

1	(8) Endangered wildlife	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
2	((8)) (9) Firefighter	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>
3	<u>memorial</u>			
4	(10) Fred Hutch	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
5	((9)) (11) Gonzaga	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
6	University alumni			
7	association			
8	((10)) (12) Helping kids	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
9	speak			
10	((11)) (13) Historical	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>
11	<u>throwback</u>			
12	(14) Horseless carriage	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
13	((12)) (15) Keep kids safe	\$ 45.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
14	((13)) (16) Keep	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.425</u>
15	<u>Washington evergreen</u>			
16	(17) Law enforcement	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
17	memorial			
18	((14)) (18) LeMay-	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>
19	<u>America's Car</u>			
20	<u>Museum</u>			
21	(19) Military affiliate radio	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
22	system			
23	((15)) (20) Mount St.	<u>\$40.00</u>	<u>\$30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>
24	<u>Helens</u>			
25	(21) Music matters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
26	((16)) (22) Nautical	<u>\$40.00</u>	<u>\$30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>
27	<u>Northwest</u>			
28	(23) Patches pal, or	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
29	alternative name as			
30	designated by the			
31	department under			
32	RCW 46.04.383			
33	((17)) (24) Professional	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
34	firefighters and			
35	paramedics			
36	((18)) (25) Purple Heart	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425

1	((19)) <u>(26)</u> Ride share	\$ 25.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
2	((20)) <u>(27)</u> San Juan	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
3	Islands			
4	((21)) <u>(28)</u> Seattle	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
5	Mariners			
6	((22)) <u>(29)</u> Seattle NHL	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
7	hockey			
8	((23)) <u>(30)</u> Seattle Reign	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>
9	<u>FC</u>			
10	<u>(31)</u> Seattle Seahawks	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
11	((24)) <u>(32)</u> Seattle	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
12	Sounders FC			
13	((25)) <u>(33)</u> Seattle Storm	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
14	((26)) <u>(34)</u> Seattle	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
15	University			
16	((27)) <u>(35)</u> Share the road	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
17	((28)) <u>(36)</u> Ski & ride	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
18	Washington			
19	((29)) <u>(37)</u> Smokey Bear	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.425</u>
20	<u>(38)</u> Square dancer	\$ 40.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
21	((30)) <u>(39)</u> State flower	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
22	<u>(40)</u> State sport	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>
23	((31)) <u>(41)</u> United States	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.425</u>
24	<u>Naval Academy</u>			
25	<u>(42)</u> Volunteer firefighters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
26	((32)) <u>(43)</u> Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
27	apples			
28	((33)) <u>(44)</u> Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
29	farmers and ranchers			
30	((34)) <u>(45)</u> Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
31	lighthouses			
32	((35)) <u>(46)</u> Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
33	state aviation			

1	((36)) <u>(47) Washington</u>	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>
2	<u>state honey bees and</u>			
3	<u>pollinators</u>			
4	<u>(48) Washington state parks</u>	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
5	((37)) <u>(49) Washington</u>	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
6	<u>state wrestling</u>			
7	((38)) <u>(50) Washington</u>	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
8	<u>tennis</u>			
9	((39)) <u>(51) Washington</u>	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
10	<u>wine</u>			
11	((40)) <u>(52) Washington's</u>	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
12	<u>fish collection</u>			
13	((41)) <u>(53) Washington's</u>	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
14	<u>national parks</u>			
15	((42)) <u>(54) Washington's</u>	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
16	<u>wildlife collection</u>			
17	((43)) <u>(55) We love our</u>	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
18	<u>pets</u>			
19	((44)) <u>(56) Wild on</u>	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
20	<u>Washington</u>			
21	<u>(57) Working forests</u>	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>

22 **Sec. 5.** RCW 46.18.200 and 2022 c 239 s 2 and 2022 c 117 s 2 are
23 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

24 (1) Special license plate series reviewed and approved by the
25 department:

26 (a) May be issued in lieu of standard issue or personalized
27 license plates for vehicles required to display one and two license
28 plates unless otherwise specified;

29 (b) Must be issued under terms and conditions established by the
30 department;

31 (c) Must not be issued for vehicles registered under chapter
32 46.87 RCW; and

33 (d) Must display a symbol or artwork approved by the department.

34 (2) The department approves and shall issue the following special
35 license plates, subject to subsections (5) and (6) of this section:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35	LICENSE PLATE	DESCRIPTION, SYMBOL, OR ARTWORK
	4-H	Displays the "4-H" logo.
	Armed forces collection	Recognizes the contribution of veterans, active duty military personnel, reservists, and members of the national guard, and includes six separate designs, each containing a symbol representing a different branch of the armed forces to include army, navy, air force, marine corps, coast guard, and national guard.
	Breast cancer awareness	Displays a pink ribbon symbolizing breast cancer awareness.
	<u>Donate life</u>	<u>Displays the donate life logo.</u>
	Endangered wildlife	Displays a symbol or artwork symbolizing endangered wildlife in Washington state.
	<u>Firefighter memorial</u>	<u>Displays a Maltese cross with the words "never forget."</u>
	Fred Hutch	Displays the Fred Hutch logo.
	Gonzaga University alumni association	Recognizes the Gonzaga University alumni association.
	Helping kids speak	Recognizes an organization that supports programs that provide no-cost speech pathology programs to children.
	<u>Historical throwback</u>	<u>Displays white lettering on a black background in a style similar to historical license plates issued in the early 20th century.</u>
	Keep kids safe	Recognizes efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect.

1	<u>Keep Washington evergreen</u>	<u>Recognizes Washington as the</u>
2		<u>evergreen state and funds electric</u>
3		<u>charging stations. Displays green</u>
4		<u>lettering on a white background in</u>
5		<u>a style similar to the license plates</u>
6		<u>issued by the department in the</u>
7		<u>1970s, but includes the words</u>
8		<u>evergreen state along the bottom</u>
9		<u>of the plate.</u>
10	Law enforcement memorial	Honors law enforcement officers
11		in Washington killed in the line of
12		duty.
13	<u>LeMay-America's Car Museum</u>	<u>Displays the LeMay-America's</u>
14		<u>car museum logo, name, or</u>
15		<u>related image.</u>
16	<u>Mount St. Helens</u>	<u>Displays an image of Mount St.</u>
17		<u>Helens.</u>
18	Music matters	Displays the "Music Matters"
19		logo.
20	<u>Nautical Northwest</u>	<u>Displays a Northwest maritime</u>
21		<u>scene.</u>
22	Patches pal, or alternative name	Displays the likenesses of the J.P.
23	as designated by the department	Patches and Gertrude characters
24	under RCW 46.04.383	from the J.P. Patches show, or
25		characters otherwise identified in
26		accordance with RCW 46.04.383.
27	Professional firefighters and	Recognizes professional
28	paramedics	firefighters and paramedics who
29		are members of the Washington
30		state council of firefighters.
31	San Juan Islands	Displays a symbol or artwork
32		recognizing the San Juan Islands.
33	Seattle Mariners	Displays the "Seattle Mariners"
34		logo.
35	Seattle NHL hockey	Displays the logo of the Seattle
36		NHL hockey team.

1	<u>Seattle Reign FC</u>	<u>Displays the "Seattle Reign FC"</u>
2		<u>logo.</u>
3	Seattle Seahawks	Displays the "Seattle Seahawks"
4		logo.
5	Seattle Sounders FC	Displays the "Seattle Sounders
6		FC" logo.
7	Seattle Storm	Displays the "Seattle Storm" logo.
8	Seattle University	Recognizes Seattle University.
9	Share the road	Recognizes an organization that
10		promotes bicycle safety and
11		awareness education.
12	Ski & ride Washington	Recognizes the Washington
13		snowsports industry.
14	<u>Smokey Bear</u>	<u>Displays the name, image, and</u>
15		<u>likeness of Smokey Bear and</u>
16		<u>messages for wildfire prevention.</u>
17	State flower	Recognizes the Washington state
18		flower.
19	<u>State sport</u>	<u>Recognizes the Washington state</u>
20		<u>sport of pickleball.</u>
21	<u>United States Naval Academy</u>	<u>Displays a design related to the</u>
22		<u>United States Naval Academy.</u>
23	Volunteer firefighters	Recognizes volunteer firefighters.
24	Washington apples	Displays the Washington apple
25		logo that recognizes the state's
26		apple industry, the growers and
27		shippers who produce and pack
28		the world famous apples, and the
29		tree fruit community.
30	Washington farmers and ranchers	Recognizes farmers and ranchers
31		in Washington state.
32	Washington lighthouses	Recognizes an organization that
33		supports selected Washington
34		state lighthouses and provides
35		environmental education
36		programs.

1	Washington state aviation	Displays a Stearman biplane in
2		the foreground with an image of
3		Mount Rainier in the background.
4	<u>Washington state honey bees and</u>	<u>Displays honey bees and</u>
5	<u>pollinators</u>	<u>pollinators.</u>
6	Washington state parks	Recognizes Washington state
7		parks as premier destinations of
8		uncommon quality that preserve
9		significant natural, cultural,
10		historical, and recreational
11		resources.
12	Washington state wrestling	Promotes and supports college
13		wrestling in the state of
14		Washington.
15	Washington tennis	Builds awareness and year-round
16		opportunities for tennis in
17		Washington state. Displays a
18		symbol or artwork recognizing
19		tennis in Washington state.
20	Washington wine	Displays a landscape of
21		Washington's wine regions.
22	Washington's fish collection	Recognizes Washington's fish.
23	Washington's national park fund	Builds awareness of Washington's
24		national parks and supports
25		priority park programs and
26		projects in Washington's national
27		parks, such as enhancing visitor
28		experience, promoting
29		volunteerism, engaging
30		communities, and providing
31		educational opportunities related
32		to Washington's national parks.
33	Washington's wildlife collection	Recognizes Washington's
34		wildlife.

1	We love our pets	Recognizes an organization that
2		assists local member agencies of
3		the federation of animal welfare
4		and control agencies to promote
5		and perform spay/neuter surgery
6		on Washington state pets to
7		reduce pet overpopulation.
8	Wild on Washington	Symbolizes wildlife viewing in
9		Washington state.
10	<u>Working forests</u>	<u>Displays an image embodying</u>
11		<u>working forests.</u>

12 (3) Applicants for initial and renewal professional firefighters
13 and paramedics special license plates must show proof of eligibility
14 by providing a certificate of current membership from the Washington
15 state council of firefighters.

16 (4) Applicants for initial volunteer firefighters special license
17 plates must (a) have been a volunteer firefighter for at least
18 ((ten)) 10 years or be a volunteer firefighter for one or more years
19 and (b) have documentation of service from the district of the
20 appropriate fire service. If the volunteer firefighter leaves
21 firefighting service before ((ten)) 10 years of service have been
22 completed, the volunteer firefighter shall surrender the license
23 plates to the department on the registration renewal date. If the
24 volunteer firefighter stays in service for at least ((ten)) 10 years
25 and then leaves, the license plate may be retained by the former
26 volunteer firefighter and as long as the license plate is retained
27 for use the person will continue to pay the future registration
28 renewals. A qualifying volunteer firefighter may have no more than
29 one set of license plates per vehicle, and a maximum of two sets per
30 applicant, for their personal vehicles. If the volunteer firefighter
31 is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or a felony, the license
32 plates must be surrendered upon conviction.

33 (5) The department shall not issue the Seattle NHL hockey special
34 license plate until the department receives signature sheets
35 satisfying the requirements identified in RCW 46.18.110(2)(f).

36 (6) Except for special license plates created under this act and
37 as specified in this subsection, the department may not issue any new
38 special license plates until January 1, 2029.

1 (a) Beginning November 1, 2025, the department must begin the
2 phased issuance of any of the special license plates created under
3 this act for which the department has received signature sheets that
4 satisfy the requirements identified in RCW 46.18.110(2)(f) before
5 March 1, 2025, the keep Washington evergreen special license plate,
6 and the historical throwback special license plate.

7 (b) The department must then begin the phased issuance of any of
8 the special license plates created under this act for which the
9 department has received signature sheets after March 1, 2025, that
10 satisfy the requirements identified in RCW 46.18.110(2)(f), with the
11 order of implementation occurring based on the 3,500 signature
12 submission date and the department's ability to implement additional
13 special license plates.

14 **Sec. 6.** RCW 46.68.420 and 2022 c 239 s 3, 2022 c 117 s 3, and
15 2022 c 96 s 4 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

16 (1) The department shall:

17 (a) Collect special license plate fees established under RCW
18 46.17.220;

19 (b) Deduct an amount not to exceed (~~twelve dollars~~) \$12 for
20 initial issue and two dollars for renewal issue for administration
21 and collection expenses incurred by it; and

22 (c) Remit the remaining proceeds to the custody of the state
23 treasurer with a proper identifying detailed report.

24 (2) The state treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the motor
25 vehicle fund until the department determines that the state has been
26 reimbursed for the cost of implementing the special license plate.
27 Upon determination by the department that the state has been
28 reimbursed, the state treasurer shall credit the remaining special
29 license plate fee amounts for each special license plate to the
30 following appropriate account as created in this section in the
31 custody of the state treasurer:

ACCOUNT	CONDITIONS FOR USE OF FUNDS
4-H programs	Support Washington 4-H programs

1	<u>Donate life</u>	<u>Provides funds to life center</u>
2		<u>Northwest to build awareness for</u>
3		<u>organ donation and encourage a</u>
4		<u>positive, inclusive sentiment</u>
5		<u>around organ donation registration</u>
6	<u>Firefighter memorial</u>	<u>Provides funds first to the fallen</u>
7		<u>firefighter memorial account for</u>
8		<u>construction and maintenance of</u>
9		<u>the firefighter memorial on the</u>
10		<u>capitol campus with any amounts</u>
11		<u>in excess of what is needed for the</u>
12		<u>firefighter memorial to be</u>
13		<u>provided to the Washington state</u>
14		<u>council of firefighters memorial</u>
15		<u>account</u>
16	Fred Hutch	Support cancer research at the
17		Fred Hutchinson cancer research
18		center
19	Gonzaga University alumni	Scholarship funds to needy and
20	association	qualified students attending or
21		planning to attend Gonzaga
22		University
23	Helping kids speak	Provide free diagnostic and
24		therapeutic services to families of
25		children who suffer from a delay
26		in language or speech
27		development
28	<u>Historical throwback</u>	<u>Provide funds for expanding and</u>
29		<u>improving driver's education</u>
30		<u>programs and activities</u>

1	Law enforcement memorial	Provide support and assistance to
2		survivors and families of law
3		enforcement officers in
4		Washington killed in the line of
5		duty and to organize, finance,
6		fund, construct, utilize, and
7		maintain a memorial on the state
8		capitol grounds to honor those
9		fallen officers
10	<u>LeMay-America's Car Museum</u>	<u>Provide funds to promote,</u>
11		<u>encourage, and inspire students</u>
12		<u>and the community to understand</u>
13		<u>the role of automobiles in our</u>
14		<u>culture and economy through</u>
15		<u>education, interpretive programs,</u>
16		<u>and job training; to open doors to</u>
17		<u>learning through science,</u>
18		<u>technology, engineering, the arts,</u>
19		<u>and math (STEAM); and to</u>
20		<u>inspire a new generation of skilled</u>
21		<u>trade workers, engineers,</u>
22		<u>designers, artists, and enthusiasts</u>
23	Lighthouse environmental	Support selected Washington state
24	programs	lighthouses that are accessible to
25		the public and staffed by
26		volunteers; provide environmental
27		education programs; provide
28		grants for other Washington
29		lighthouses to assist in funding
30		infrastructure preservation and
31		restoration; encourage and support
32		interpretive programs by
33		lighthouse docents
34	<u>Mount St. Helens</u>	<u>Promote education, stewardship,</u>
35		<u>and science at Mount St. Helens</u>
36		<u>through the Mount St. Helens</u>
37		<u>institute</u>
38	Music matters awareness	Promote music education in
39		schools throughout Washington

1	<u>Nautical Northwest</u>	<u>Support historic resources of</u>
2		<u>Whidbey Island's maritime</u>
3		<u>communities</u>
4	Patches pal, or alternative name	Provide funds to the Seattle
5	as designated by the department	children's hospital strong against
6	under RCW 46.04.383	cancer program
7	San Juan Islands programs	Provide funds to the Madrona
8		institute
9	Seattle Mariners	Provide funds to the ((sports
10		mentoring program and to support
11		the Washington world fellows
12		program in the following manner:
13		(a) Seventy-five percent to the
14		Washington state leadership board
15		solely to administer the sports
16		mentoring program established
17		under RCW 43.388.040, to
18		encourage youth who have
19		economic needs or face
20		adversities to experience spectator
21		sports or get involved in youth
22		sports, and (b) up to twenty-five
23		percent to the Washington state
24		leadership board solely to
25		administer the Washington world
26		fellows program, an equity
27		focused program)) <u>Mariners care</u>
28		<u>foundation, or its successor</u>
29		<u>organization</u>

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Seattle NHL hockey

Provide funds to the NHL Seattle foundation and to support the boundless Washington program in the following manner: (a) ~~((Fifty))~~ 50 percent to the NHL Seattle foundation, or its successor organization, to help marginalized youth succeed in life through increased access to sports and other opportunities; (b) ~~((twenty-five))~~ 25 percent to the Washington state leadership board solely to administer the boundless Washington program to facilitate opportunities for young people with physical and sensory disabilities to enjoy and experience the outdoors; and (c) ~~((twenty-five))~~ 25 percent to the NHL Seattle foundation, or its successor organization, for providing financial support to allow youth to participate in hockey

Seattle Reign FC

Provide funds to the RAVE foundation to inspire youth in underserved communities using soccer as a vehicle

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Seattle Seahawks

Provide funds to ~~((InvestED and to support the Washington world fellows program in the following manner: (a) Seventy-five percent, to InvestED, to encourage secondary students who have economic needs to stay in school, return to school, or get involved within their learning community; and (b) twenty-five percent to the Washington state leadership board solely to administer the Washington world fellows program, including the provision of fellowships))~~ the Seattle Seahawks charitable foundation and to support the Washington state leadership board in the following manner: (a) Seventy-five percent to the Seattle Seahawks charitable foundation; and (b) 25 percent to the Washington state leadership board

Seattle Sounders FC

Provide funds to ~~((Washington state mentors and the Washington state leadership board in the following manner: (a) Seventy percent and the remaining proceeds, if any, to Washington state mentors, to increase the number of mentors in the state by offering mentoring grants throughout Washington state that foster positive youth development and academic success, with up to twenty percent of these proceeds authorized for program administration costs; and (b) up to thirty percent, not to exceed forty-thousand dollars annually as adjusted for inflation by the office of financial management, to the Washington state leadership board, to develop Washington state educational, veterans, international relations, and civics projects and to recognize the outstanding public service of individuals or groups in the state of Washington))~~ the RAVE foundation and to support the Washington state leadership board in the following manner: (a) 75 percent to the RAVE foundation; and (b) 25 percent to the Washington state leadership board

1	Seattle Storm	Provide funds to the Washington
2		state legislative youth advisory
3		council and the Washington state
4		leadership board in the following
5		manner: (Twenty-five thousand
6		dollars)) <u>\$25,000</u> per year of the
7		net proceeds to the legislative
8		youth advisory council, or its
9		successor organization; and the
10		remaining net proceeds on an
11		annual basis, to the Washington
12		state leadership board for the
13		purpose of providing grants to
14		support and enhance athletic,
15		recreational, and other
16		opportunities for women and girls,
17		and especially those with
18		disabilities
19	Seattle University	Fund scholarships for students
20		attending or planning to attend
21		Seattle University
22	Share the road	Promote bicycle safety and
23		awareness education in
24		communities throughout
25		Washington
26	Ski & ride Washington	Promote winter snowsports, such
27		as skiing and snowboarding, and
28		related programs, such as ski and
29		ride safety programs,
30		underprivileged youth ski and ride
31		programs, and active, healthy
32		lifestyle programs
33	State flower	Support Meerkerk Rhododendron
34		Gardens and provide for grants to
35		other qualified nonprofit
36		organizations' efforts to preserve
37		rhododendrons

1	<u>State sport</u>	<u>Provide funds to be placed in a</u>
2		<u>trust account managed by the</u>
3		<u>Seattle metro pickleball</u>
4		<u>association to be used exclusively</u>
5		<u>for the construction and</u>
6		<u>maintenance of dedicated</u>
7		<u>pickleball courts</u>
8	Volunteer firefighters	Receive and disseminate funds for
9		purposes on behalf of volunteer
10		firefighters, their families, and
11		others deemed in need
12	Washington apples	Provide scholarship funding to the
13		tree fruit industry's official
14		charity, the Washington apple
15		education foundation, which
16		provides financial support,
17		professional employment
18		preparedness training, and
19		mentorship to students with ties to
20		the apple industry pursuing a
21		higher education
22	Washington farmers and ranchers	Provide funds to the Washington
23		FFA Foundation for educational
24		programs in Washington state
25	Washington state aviation	Provide funds to the department
26		of transportation to support
27		infrastructure improvements at
28		public use airports in Washington
29		state
30	Washington state council of	Receive and disseminate funds for
31	firefighters benevolent fund	charitable purposes on behalf of
32		members of the Washington state
33		council of firefighters, their
34		families, and others deemed in
35		need

1	<u>Washington state honey bees and</u>	<u>Provide funds to the Washington</u>
2	<u>pollinators</u>	<u>state beekeepers association to</u>
3		<u>support research and educational</u>
4		<u>activities and materials about</u>
5		<u>honey bees and pollinators within</u>
6		<u>Washington state</u>
7	Washington state wrestling	Provide funds to the Washington
8		state wrestling foundation to fund
9		new and existing college
10		wrestling programs
11	Washington tennis	Provide funds to cities to assist in
12		the construction and maintenance
13		of a public tennis facility with at
14		least four indoor tennis courts. A
15		city is eligible for construction
16		funds if the city does not already
17		have a public or private facility
18		with at least four indoor tennis
19		courts. Funds for construction
20		must first be made available to the
21		most populous eligible city,
22		according to the most recent
23		census, for a time period not to
24		exceed five years after January 1,
25		2017. After the five-year time
26		period, the funds for construction
27		must be made available to the
28		next most populous eligible city.
29		Funds for the maintenance of a
30		public tennis facility with at least
31		four indoor tennis courts must
32		first be made available to the first
33		eligible city that utilizes funds for
34		construction provided by chapter
35		16, Laws of 2016
36	Washington wine	Provide funds to the state of
37		Washington tourism to promote
38		tourism throughout Washington
39		state

1 Washington's national park fund Build awareness of Washington's
2 national parks and support priority
3 park programs and projects in
4 Washington's national parks, such
5 as enhancing visitor experience,
6 promoting volunteerism, engaging
7 communities, and providing
8 educational opportunities related
9 to Washington's national parks

10 We love our pets Support and enable the
11 Washington federation of animal
12 welfare and control agencies to
13 promote and perform spay/neuter
14 surgery of Washington state pets
15 in order to reduce pet population

16 Working forests Provide funds to the Washington
17 tree farm program to support
18 small forest landowners to
19 sustainably manage over 400,000
20 acres of private forestland

21 (3) Except as otherwise provided in this section, only the
22 director or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from
23 the accounts described in subsection (2) of this section. The
24 accounts are subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW,
25 but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

26 (4) Except as otherwise provided in this section, funds in the
27 special license plate accounts described in subsection (2) of this
28 section must be disbursed subject to the conditions described in
29 subsection (2) of this section and under contract between the
30 department and qualified nonprofit organizations that provide the
31 services described in subsection (2) of this section.

32 (5) Funds from the Seattle Seahawks account may be provided to
33 the Washington state leadership board solely for the purpose of
34 administering the Washington world fellows program. Of the amounts
35 received by the Washington state leadership board under this
36 subsection, at least (~~ninety~~) 90 percent must be provided as
37 fellowships under the program.

38 (6) Beginning January 1, 2019, funds from the Seattle Mariners
39 account may be provided to the Washington state leadership board

1 solely for the purpose of administering the sports mentoring program.
2 Of the amounts received by the Washington state leadership board, at
3 least (~~ninety~~) 90 percent must be applied towards services directly
4 provided to youth participants.

5 (7) For the purposes of this section, a "qualified nonprofit
6 organization" means a not-for-profit corporation operating in
7 Washington that has received a determination of tax exempt status
8 under 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3). The qualified nonprofit organization
9 must meet all the requirements under RCW 46.18.100(1).

10 **Sec. 7.** RCW 46.68.425 and 2016 c 31 s 3 and 2016 c 30 s 4 are
11 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

12 (1) The department shall:

13 (a) Collect special license plate fees established under RCW
14 46.17.220;

15 (b) Deduct an amount not to exceed (~~twelve dollars~~) \$12 for
16 initial issue and (~~two dollars~~) \$2 for renewal issue for
17 administration and collection expenses incurred by it; and

18 (c) Remit the remaining proceeds to the custody of the state
19 treasurer with a proper identifying detailed report.

20 (2) The state treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the motor
21 vehicle fund until the department determines that the state has been
22 reimbursed for the cost of implementing the special license plate.
23 Upon determination by the department that the state has been
24 reimbursed, the state treasurer shall credit the remaining special
25 license plate fees to the following accounts by special license plate
26 type:

SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE TYPE	ACCOUNT	CONDITIONS FOR USE OF FUNDS
Armed forces	RCW 43.60A.140	As specified in RCW 43.60A.140(4)
Breast cancer awareness	RCW 43.70.327	Must be used only by the department of health for efforts consistent with the breast, cervical, and colon health program

1	Endangered wildlife	RCW 77.12.170	Must be used only
2			for the department of
3			fish and wildlife's
4			endangered wildlife
5			program activities
6	<u>Historical throwback</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.060</u>	<u>Provides funds for</u>
7			<u>expanding and</u>
8			<u>improving driver's</u>
9			<u>education programs</u>
10			<u>and activities</u>
11	Keep kids safe	RCW 43.121.100	As specified in RCW
12			43.121.100
13	<u>Keep Washington</u>	<u>RCW 82.44.200</u>	<u>Support of electric</u>
14	<u>evergreen</u>		<u>charging stations</u>
15			<u>throughout</u>
16			<u>Washington</u>
17	Purple Heart	RCW 43.60A.140	As specified in RCW
18			43.60A.140(4)
19	<u>Smokey Bear</u>	<u>RCW 76.04.511</u>	<u>Only for the</u>
20	<u>wildfire prevention</u>		<u>department of natural</u>
21			<u>resources to use for</u>
22			<u>wildfire prevention</u>
23			<u>programs</u>
24	<u>United States Naval</u>	<u>RCW 43.60A.140</u>	<u>As specified in RCW</u>
25	<u>Academy</u>		<u>43.60A.140(4)</u>
26	Washington state	RCW 79A.05.059	Provide public
27	parks		educational
28			opportunities and
29			enhancement of
30			Washington state
31			parks

1	Washington's fish	RCW 77.12.170	Only for the
2	collection		department of fish
3			and wildlife's use to
4			support steelhead
5			species management
6			activities including,
7			but not limited to,
8			activities supporting
9			conservation,
10			recovery, and
11			research to promote
12			healthy, fishable
13			steelhead
14	Washington's	RCW 77.12.170	Only for the
15	wildlife collection		department of fish
16			and wildlife's game
17			species management
18			activities
19	Wild on Washington	RCW 77.12.170	Dedicated to the
20			department of fish
21			and wildlife's
22			watchable wildlife
23			activities, as defined
24			in RCW 77.32.560

25 **Sec. 8.** RCW 43.60A.140 and 2023 c 327 s 2 are each amended to
26 read as follows:

27 (1) The veterans stewardship account is created in the custody of
28 the state treasurer. Disbursements of funds must be on the
29 authorization of the director or the director's designee, and only
30 for the purposes stated in subsection (4) of this section. In order
31 to maintain an effective expenditure and revenue control, funds are
32 subject in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is
33 required to permit expenditure of the funds.

34 (2) The department may request and accept nondedicated
35 contributions, grants, or gifts in cash or otherwise, including funds
36 generated by the issuance of the armed forces license plate
37 collection and the United States Naval Academy license plate under
38 chapter 46.18 RCW.

1 (3) All receipts from the sale of armed forces license plates,
2 United States Naval Academy license plates, and Purple Heart license
3 plates as required under RCW 46.68.425(2) must be deposited into the
4 veterans stewardship account.

5 (4) All moneys deposited into the veterans stewardship account
6 must be used by the department for activities that benefit veterans
7 or their families, including but not limited to, providing programs
8 and services for homeless veterans; establishing memorials honoring
9 veterans; and maintaining state veterans' cemeteries. Funds from the
10 account may not be used to supplant existing funds received by the
11 department.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 "Keep Washington evergreen license plate" means special license
15 plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display green lettering on a
16 white background in a style similar to the license plates issued by
17 the department in the 1970s.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** A new section is added to chapter 46.18
19 RCW to read as follows:

20 (1) The department shall create, design, and issue a keep
21 Washington evergreen license plate that may be used in lieu of
22 standard issue or personalized license plates for motor vehicles
23 required to display one or two license plates, excluding vehicles
24 registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions
25 established by the department.

26 (2) A registered owner may apply to the department, county
27 auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a
28 keep Washington evergreen license plate. The registered owner shall
29 pay the special license plate fee required under RCW 46.17.220(16),
30 in addition to any other fee or tax required by law.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 "LeMay-America's Car Museum license plates" means special license
34 plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display the LeMay-America's
35 car museum logo, name, or related image.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 "Mount St. Helens license plates" means special license plates
4 issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display an image of Mount St. Helens.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 "Nautical Northwest license plates" means special license plates
8 issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display a Northwest maritime scene.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 "Smokey Bear license plates" means special license plates issued
12 under RCW 46.18.200 that display the name, image, and likeness of
13 Smokey Bear promoting wildfire prevention and the state department of
14 natural resources' wildland wildfire program.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 "Working forests license plates" means special license plates
18 issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display images embodying working
19 forests.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 16.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
21 RCW to read as follows:

22 "State sport license plates" means special license plates issued
23 under RCW 46.18.200 that recognize the state sport of pickleball.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 17.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 "Seattle Reign FC license plates" means special license plates
27 issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display the logo of the Seattle Reign
28 FC.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 18.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
30 RCW to read as follows:

31 "Washington honey bees and pollinators license plates" means
32 special license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display images
33 of honey bees and pollinators.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 19.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 "Firefighter memorial license plates" means special license
4 plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display the Maltese cross with
5 the words "never forget."

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 20.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 "Donate life license plates" means special license plates issued
9 under RCW 46.18.200 that displays the donate life logo.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 21.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 "United States Naval Academy license plates" means special
13 license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display a design
14 related to the United States Naval Academy.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 22.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 "Historical throwback license plates" means special license
18 plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display white lettering on a
19 black background in a style similar to historical license plates
20 issued in the early 20th century.

21 **Sec. 23.** RCW 46.17.210 and 2013 c 329 s 6 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon
24 application for a vehicle registration under chapter 46.16A RCW, the
25 holder of a personalized license plate shall pay an initial fee of
26 ((fifty-two dollars)) \$52 and ((forty-two dollars)) \$52 for each
27 renewal. The personalized license plate fee must be distributed as
28 provided in RCW 46.68.435.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 24.** RCW 43.388.040 (Sports mentoring program)
30 and 2022 c 96 s 7 & 2018 c 67 s 3 are each repealed.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 25.** Sections 3 through 24 of this act take
32 effect November 1, 2025.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 26.** This act is known as Bill's bill act.

--- **END** ---