
SENATE BILL 5524

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Smith, Johnson and C. Anderson

Read first time 01/25/95. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to penalties for driving without a driver's license
2 and negligent driving; amending RCW 46.61.525; reenacting and amending
3 RCW 46.20.021 and 46.63.020; and prescribing penalties.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.20.021 and 1991 c 293 s 3 and 1991 c 73 s 1 are
6 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

7 (1) No person, except as expressly exempted by this chapter, may
8 drive any motor vehicle upon a highway in this state unless the person
9 has a valid driver's license issued to Washington residents under the
10 provisions of this chapter. A violation of this subsection is ((a
11 misdemeanor and is a lesser included offense within the offenses
12 described in RCW 46.20.342(1) or 46.20.420)) an infraction and is
13 subject to penalties as set by the supreme court under RCW 46.63.110 or
14 community service.

15 (2) For the purposes of obtaining a valid driver's license, a
16 resident is a person who manifests an intent to live or be located in
17 this state on more than a temporary or transient basis. Evidence of
18 residency includes but is not limited to:

19 (a) Becoming a registered voter in this state; or

1 (b) Receiving benefits under one of the Washington public
2 assistance programs; or

3 (c) Declaring that he or she is a resident for the purpose of
4 obtaining a state license or tuition fees at resident rates.

5 (3) The term "Washington public assistance programs" referred to in
6 subsection (2)(b) of this section includes only public assistance
7 programs for which more than fifty percent of the combined costs of
8 benefits and administration are paid from state funds. Programs which
9 are not included within the term "Washington public assistance
10 programs" pursuant to the above criteria include, but are not limited
11 to the food stamp program under the federal food stamp act of 1964;
12 programs under the child nutrition act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. Secs. 1771
13 through 1788; and aid to families with dependent children, 42 U.S.C.
14 Secs. 601 through 606.

15 (4) No person shall receive a driver's license unless and until he
16 or she surrenders to the department all valid driver's licenses in his
17 or her possession issued to him or her by any other jurisdiction. The
18 department shall establish a procedure to invalidate the surrendered
19 photograph license and return it to the person. The invalidated
20 license, along with the valid temporary Washington driver's license
21 provided for in RCW 46.20.055(3), shall be accepted as proper
22 identification. The department shall notify the issuing department
23 that the licensee is now licensed in a new jurisdiction. No person
24 shall be permitted to have more than one valid driver's license at any
25 time.

26 (5) New Washington residents are allowed thirty days from the date
27 they become residents as defined in this section to procure a valid
28 Washington driver's license.

29 (6) Any person licensed as a driver under this chapter may exercise
30 the privilege thereby granted upon all streets and highways in this
31 state and shall not be required to obtain any other license to exercise
32 such privilege by any county, municipal or local board, or body having
33 authority to adopt local police regulations.

34 (7) If a person cited for a violation of subsection (1) of this
35 section appears in person before the court and provides written
36 evidence that at the time the person was cited, he or she had a valid
37 driver's license, the court shall dismiss the notice of infraction. In
38 lieu of personal appearance, a person cited for a violation of
39 subsection (1) of this section may, before the date scheduled for the

1 person's appearance before the court, submit by mail to the court
2 written evidence that at the time the person was cited, he or she had
3 a valid driver's license in which case the court shall dismiss the
4 notice of infraction. The court may assess court administrative costs
5 of twenty-five dollars at the time of dismissal.

6 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.61.525 and 1979 ex.s. c 136 s 86 are each amended
7 to read as follows:

8 It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motor vehicle in
9 a negligent manner. For the purpose of this section to "operate in a
10 negligent manner" shall be construed to mean the operation of a vehicle
11 in such a manner as to endanger or be likely to endanger any persons or
12 property: PROVIDED HOWEVER, That any person operating a motor vehicle
13 on private property with the consent of the owner in a manner
14 consistent with the owner's consent shall not be guilty of negligent
15 driving.

16 ~~((The offense of operating a vehicle in a negligent manner shall be~~
17 ~~considered to be a lesser offense than, but included in, the offense of~~
18 ~~operating a vehicle in a reckless manner, and any person charged with~~
19 ~~operating a vehicle in a reckless manner may be convicted of the lesser~~
20 ~~offense of operating a vehicle in a negligent manner. Any person~~
21 ~~violating the provisions of this section will be guilty of a~~
22 ~~misdemeanor: PROVIDED, That the director may not revoke any license~~
23 ~~under this section, and such offense is not punishable by imprisonment~~
24 ~~or by a fine exceeding two hundred fifty dollars)) A violation of this~~
25 section is an infraction and is subject to penalties as set by the
26 supreme court under RCW 46.63.110 or community service.

27 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.63.020 and 1994 c 275 s 33 and 1994 c 141 s 2 are
28 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

29 Failure to perform any act required or the performance of any act
30 prohibited by this title or an equivalent administrative regulation or
31 local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution relating to traffic
32 including parking, standing, stopping, and pedestrian offenses, is
33 designated as a traffic infraction and may not be classified as a
34 criminal offense, except for an offense contained in the following
35 provisions of this title or a violation of an equivalent administrative
36 regulation or local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution:

1 (1) RCW 46.09.120(2) relating to the operation of a nonhighway
2 vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a
3 controlled substance;
4 (2) RCW 46.09.130 relating to operation of nonhighway vehicles;
5 (3) RCW 46.10.090(2) relating to the operation of a snowmobile
6 while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics or
7 habit-forming drugs or in a manner endangering the person of another;
8 (4) RCW 46.10.130 relating to the operation of snowmobiles;
9 (5) Chapter 46.12 RCW relating to certificates of ownership and
10 registration;
11 (6) RCW 46.16.010 relating to initial registration of motor
12 vehicles;
13 (7) RCW 46.16.011 relating to permitting unauthorized persons to
14 drive;
15 (8) RCW 46.16.160 relating to vehicle trip permits;
16 (9) RCW 46.16.381 (6) or (9) relating to unauthorized use or
17 acquisition of a special placard or license plate for disabled persons'
18 parking;
19 (10) (~~RCW 46.20.021 relating to driving without a valid driver's~~
20 ~~license;~~
21 ~~(11)~~) RCW 46.20.336 relating to the unlawful possession and use of
22 a driver's license;
23 (~~(12)~~) (11) RCW 46.20.342 relating to driving with a suspended or
24 revoked license or status;
25 (~~(13)~~) (12) RCW 46.20.410 relating to the violation of
26 restrictions of an occupational driver's license;
27 (~~(14)~~) (13) RCW 46.20.420 relating to the operation of a motor
28 vehicle with a suspended or revoked license;
29 (~~(15)~~) (14) RCW 46.20.750 relating to assisting another person to
30 start a vehicle equipped with an ignition interlock device;
31 (~~(16)~~) (15) RCW 46.25.170 relating to commercial driver's
32 licenses;
33 (~~(17)~~) (16) Chapter 46.29 RCW relating to financial
34 responsibility;
35 (~~(18)~~) (17) RCW 46.30.040 relating to providing false evidence of
36 financial responsibility;
37 (~~(19)~~) (18) RCW 46.37.435 relating to wrongful installation of
38 sunscreening material;

1 ~~((20))~~ (19) RCW 46.44.180 relating to operation of mobile home
2 pilot vehicles;
3 ~~((21))~~ (20) RCW 46.48.175 relating to the transportation of
4 dangerous articles;
5 ~~((22))~~ (21) RCW 46.52.010 relating to duty on striking an
6 unattended car or other property;
7 ~~((23))~~ (22) RCW 46.52.020 relating to duty in case of injury to
8 or death of a person or damage to an attended vehicle;
9 ~~((24))~~ (23) RCW 46.52.090 relating to reports by repairmen,
10 storagemen, and appraisers;
11 ~~((25))~~ (24) RCW 46.52.100 relating to driving under the influence
12 of liquor or drugs;
13 ~~((26))~~ (25) RCW 46.52.130 relating to confidentiality of the
14 driving record to be furnished to an insurance company, an employer,
15 and an alcohol/drug assessment or treatment agency;
16 ~~((27))~~ (26) RCW 46.55.020 relating to engaging in the activities
17 of a registered tow truck operator without a registration certificate;
18 ~~((28))~~ (27) RCW 46.55.035 relating to prohibited practices by tow
19 truck operators;
20 ~~((29))~~ (28) RCW 46.61.015 relating to obedience to police
21 officers, flagmen, or fire fighters;
22 ~~((30))~~ (29) RCW 46.61.020 relating to refusal to give information
23 to or cooperate with an officer;
24 ~~((31))~~ (30) RCW 46.61.022 relating to failure to stop and give
25 identification to an officer;
26 ~~((32))~~ (31) RCW 46.61.024 relating to attempting to elude
27 pursuing police vehicles;
28 ~~((33))~~ (32) RCW 46.61.500 relating to reckless driving;
29 ~~((34))~~ (33) RCW 46.61.502, 46.61.504, 46.61.5051, 46.61.5052, and
30 46.61.5053 relating to persons under the influence of intoxicating
31 liquor or drugs;
32 ~~((35))~~ (34) RCW 46.61.520 relating to vehicular homicide by motor
33 vehicle;
34 ~~((36))~~ (35) RCW 46.61.522 relating to vehicular assault;
35 ~~((37))~~ RCW 46.61.525 relating to negligent driving;
36 ~~(38))~~ (36) RCW 46.61.527(4) relating to reckless endangerment of
37 roadway workers;
38 ~~((39))~~ (37) RCW 46.61.530 relating to racing of vehicles on
39 highways;

1 (~~(40)~~) (38) RCW 46.61.685 relating to leaving children in an
2 unattended vehicle with the motor running;
3 (~~(41)~~) (39) RCW 46.64.010 relating to unlawful cancellation of or
4 attempt to cancel a traffic citation;
5 (~~(42)~~) (40) RCW 46.64.048 relating to attempting, aiding,
6 abetting, coercing, and committing crimes;
7 (~~(43)~~) (41) Chapter 46.65 RCW relating to habitual traffic
8 offenders;
9 (~~(44)~~) (42) Chapter 46.70 RCW relating to unfair motor vehicle
10 business practices, except where that chapter provides for the
11 assessment of monetary penalties of a civil nature;
12 (~~(45)~~) (43) Chapter 46.72 RCW relating to the transportation of
13 passengers in for hire vehicles;
14 (~~(46)~~) (44) Chapter 46.80 RCW relating to motor vehicle wreckers;
15 (~~(47)~~) (45) Chapter 46.82 RCW relating to driver's training
16 schools;
17 (~~(48)~~) (46) RCW 46.87.260 relating to alteration or forgery of a
18 cab card, letter of authority, or other temporary authority issued
19 under chapter 46.87 RCW;
20 (~~(49)~~) (47) RCW 46.87.290 relating to operation of an
21 unregistered or unlicensed vehicle under chapter 46.87 RCW.

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