

RCW 46.61.255 Pedestrians soliciting rides or business. (1) No person shall stand in or on a public roadway or alongside thereof at any place where a motor vehicle cannot safely stop off the main traveled portion thereof for the purpose of soliciting a ride for himself or herself or for another from the occupant of any vehicle.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any person to solicit a ride for himself or herself or another from within the right-of-way of any limited access facility except in such areas where permission to do so is given and posted by the highway authority of the state, county, city, or town having jurisdiction over the highway.

(3) The provisions of subsections (1) and (2) above shall not be construed to prevent a person upon a public highway from soliciting, or a driver of a vehicle from giving a ride where an emergency actually exists, nor to prevent a person from signaling or requesting transportation from a passenger carrier for the purpose of becoming a passenger thereon for hire.

(4) No person shall stand in a roadway for the purpose of soliciting employment or business from the occupant of any vehicle.

(5) No person shall stand on or in proximity to a street or highway for the purpose of soliciting the watching or guarding of any vehicle while parked or about to be parked on a street or highway.

(6) (a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, the state preempts the field of the regulation of hitchhiking in any form, and no county, city, or town shall take any action in conflict with the provisions of this section.

(b) A county, city, or town may regulate or prohibit hitchhiking in an area in which it has determined that prostitution is occurring and that regulating or prohibiting hitchhiking will help to reduce prostitution in the area. [2010 c 8 § 9068; 1989 c 288 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 38 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 38.]

Rules of court: Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.