

RCW 81.112.210 Fare payment—Fines and penalties established—Fare enforcement system—Enforcement. (1) (a) An authority is authorized to establish, by resolution, a schedule of fines and penalties for civil infractions established in RCW 81.112.220. Fines established by an authority shall not exceed those imposed for class 1 infractions under RCW 7.80.120.

(b) An authority is further authorized to establish, by resolution, an alternative fare enforcement system, which may include: (i) The issuance of notices of violation subject to fines not exceeding the amounts authorized in (a) of this subsection or nonmonetary sanctions or both, and (ii) resolve notices of violations and appeals, in addition to or as a replacement for the schedule of fines and penalties authorized by (a) of this subsection.

(2) (a) An authority may designate persons to monitor fare payment who are equivalent to and are authorized to exercise all the powers of an enforcement officer, defined in RCW 7.80.040. An authority is authorized to employ personnel to either monitor fare payment, or to contract for such services, or both.

(b) In addition to the specific powers granted to enforcement officers under RCW 7.80.050 and 7.80.060, persons designated to monitor fare payment also have the authority to take the following actions:

(i) Request proof of payment from passengers;
(ii) Request personal identification from a passenger who does not produce proof of payment when requested;
(iii) (A) Issue a notice of infraction for a civil infraction established in RCW 81.112.220.

(B) The notice of infraction form to be used for violations under this subsection must be approved by the administrative office of the courts and must not include vehicle information;

(iv) Issue a notice of violation of the alternative fare enforcement system authorized in subsection (1) (b) of this section; and

(v) Request that a passenger leave the authority facility when the passenger has not produced proof of payment after being asked to do so by a person designated to monitor fare payment.

(3) Authorities shall keep records of citations in the manner prescribed by RCW 7.80.150. All civil infractions established by chapter 20, Laws of 1999 shall be heard as provided in RCW 7.80.010 (1), (2), and (4). [2021 c 70 § 1; 2015 3rd sp.s. c 44 § 330; 2014 c 153 § 1; 2009 c 279 § 5; 1999 c 20 § 3.]

Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 44: See note following RCW 46.68.395.

Purpose—Intent—1999 c 20: "The purpose of this act is to facilitate ease of boarding of commuter trains and light rail trains operated by regional transit authorities by allowing for barrier free entry ways. This act provides regional transit authorities with the power to require proof of payment; to set a schedule of fines and penalties not to exceed those classified as class 1 infractions under RCW 7.80.120; to employ individuals to monitor fare payment or contract for such services; to issue citations for fare nonpayment or related activities; and to keep records regarding citations issued for the purpose of tracking violations and issuing citations consistent with established schedules. This act is intended to be consistent with

and implemented pursuant to chapter 7.80 RCW with regard to civil infractions, the issuance of citations, and the maintenance of citation records." [1999 c 20 § 1.]