

## Chapter 7.90 RCW

# SEXUAL ASSAULT PROTECTION ORDER ACT

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**7.90.005 Legislative declaration.** Sexual assault is the most heinous crime against another person short of murder. Sexual assault inflicts humiliation, degradation, and terror on victims. According to the FBI, a woman is raped every six minutes in the United States. Rape is recognized as the most underreported crime; estimates suggest that only one in seven rapes is reported to authorities. Victims who do not report the crime still desire safety and protection from future interactions with the offender. Some cases in which the rape is reported are not prosecuted. In these situations, the victim should be able to seek a civil remedy requiring that the offender stay away from the victim. It is the intent of the legislature that the sexual assault protection order created by this chapter be a remedy for victims who do not qualify for a domestic violence order of protection. [2007 c 212 § 1; 2006 c 138 § 1.]

**7.90.010 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Nonconsensual" means a lack of freely given agreement.

(2) "Petitioner" means any named petitioner for the sexual assault protection order or any named victim of nonconsensual sexual conduct or nonconsensual sexual penetration on whose behalf the petition is brought.

(3) "Sexual assault protection order" means an ex parte temporary order or a final order granted under this chapter, which includes a remedy authorized by RCW 7.90.090.

(4) "Sexual conduct" means any of the following:

(a) Any intentional or knowing touching or fondling of the genitals, anus, or breasts, directly or indirectly, including through clothing;

(b) Any intentional or knowing display of the genitals, anus, or breasts for the purposes of arousal or sexual gratification of the respondent;

(c) Any intentional or knowing touching or fondling of the genitals, anus, or breasts, directly or indirectly, including through clothing, that the petitioner is forced to perform by another person or the respondent;

(d) Any forced display of the petitioner's genitals, anus, or breasts for the purposes of arousal or sexual gratification of the respondent or others;

(e) Any intentional or knowing touching of the clothed or unclothed body of a child under the age of thirteen, if done for the purpose of sexual gratification or arousal of the respondent or others; and

(f) Any coerced or forced touching or fondling by a child under the age of thirteen, directly or indirectly, including through clothing, of the genitals, anus, or breasts of the respondent or others.

(5) "Sexual penetration" means any contact, however slight, between the sex organ or anus of one person by an object, the sex organ, mouth, or anus of another person, or any intrusion, however slight, of any part of the body of one person or of any animal or object into the sex organ or anus of another person, including but not limited to cunnilingus, fellatio, or anal penetration. Evidence of emission of semen is not required to prove sexual penetration.

(6) "Nonphysical contact" includes, but is not limited to, telephone calls, mail, e-mail, fax, and written notes. [2006 c 138 § 2.]

**7.90.020 Petition for a sexual assault protection order—Creation—Contents—Administration.** There shall exist an action known as a petition for a sexual assault protection order.

(1) A petition for relief shall allege the existence of nonconsensual sexual conduct or nonconsensual sexual penetration, and shall be accompanied by an affidavit made under oath stating the specific statements or actions made at the same time of the sexual assault or subsequently thereafter, which give rise to a reasonable fear of future dangerous acts, for which relief is sought. Petitioner and respondent shall disclose the existence of any other litigation or of any other restraining, protection, or no-contact orders between the parties.

(2) A petition for relief may be made regardless of whether or not there is a pending lawsuit, complaint, petition, or other action between the parties.

(3) Within ninety days of receipt of the master copy from the administrative office of the courts, all court clerk's offices

shall make available the standardized forms, instructions, and informational brochures required by RCW 7.90.180 and shall fill in and keep current specific program names and telephone numbers for community resources. Any assistance or information provided by clerks under this section does not constitute the practice of law and clerks are not responsible for incorrect information contained in a petition.

(4) Forms and instructional brochures and the necessary number of certified copies shall be provided free of charge.

(5) A person is not required to post a bond to obtain relief in any proceeding under this section.

(6) If the petition states that disclosure of the petitioner's address would risk abuse of the petitioner or any member of the petitioner's family or household, that address may be omitted from all documents filed with the court. If the petitioner has not disclosed an address under this subsection, the petitioner shall designate an alternative address at which the respondent may serve notice of any motions. [2007 c 55 § 1; 2006 c 138 § 5.]

**7.90.030 Petition—Who may file.** (1) A petition for a sexual assault protection order may be filed by a person:

(a) Who does not qualify for a protection order under chapter 26.50 RCW and who is a victim of nonconsensual sexual conduct or nonconsensual sexual penetration, including a single incident of nonconsensual sexual conduct or nonconsensual sexual penetration; or

(b) On behalf of any of the following persons who is a victim of nonconsensual sexual conduct or nonconsensual sexual penetration and who does not qualify for a protection order under chapter 26.50 RCW:

(i) A minor child;

(ii) A vulnerable adult as defined in RCW 74.34.020 or \*74.34.021; or

(iii) Any other adult who, because of age, disability, health, or inaccessibility, cannot file the petition. [2007 c 212 § 2; 2006 c 138 § 3.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 74.34.021 was repealed by 2011 c 170 § 4.

**7.90.040 Petition—Additional requirements.** (1) Any person may seek relief under this chapter by filing a petition with a court alleging that the person has been the victim of nonconsensual sexual conduct or nonconsensual sexual penetration committed by the respondent.

(2) A person under eighteen years of age who is sixteen years of age or older may seek relief under this chapter and is not required to seek relief by a guardian or next friend.

(3) No guardian or guardian ad litem need be appointed on behalf of a respondent to an action under this chapter who is under eighteen years of age if such respondent is sixteen years of age or older.

(4) The court may, if it deems necessary, appoint a guardian ad litem for a petitioner or respondent who is a party to an action under this chapter.

(5) Jurisdiction of the courts over proceedings under this chapter shall be the same as jurisdiction over domestic violence protection orders under RCW 26.50.020(5).

(6) An action under this chapter shall be filed in the county or the municipality where the petitioner resides. [2006 c 138 § 4.]

**7.90.050 Petition—Hearings prior to issuance of protection order.** Upon receipt of the petition, the court shall order a hearing which shall be held not later than fourteen days from the date of the order. The court may schedule a hearing by telephone pursuant to local court rule, to reasonably accommodate a disability, or in exceptional circumstances to protect a petitioner from further nonconsensual sexual conduct or nonconsensual sexual penetration. The court shall require assurances of the petitioner's identity before conducting a telephonic hearing. Except as provided in RCW 7.90.110, personal service shall be made upon the respondent not less than five court days prior to the hearing. If timely personal service cannot be made, the court shall set a new hearing date and shall require additional attempts at obtaining personal service. The court may issue an ex parte temporary sexual assault order pending the hearing as provided in RCW 7.90.110. [2006 c 138 § 6.]

**7.90.055 Fees not permitted—Filing, service of process, certified copies.** No fees for filing or service of process may be charged by a public agency to petitioners seeking relief under this chapter. Petitioners shall be provided the necessary number of certified copies at no cost. [2007 c 55 § 2.]

**7.90.060 Sexual assault advocates.** Sexual assault advocates, as defined in RCW 5.60.060, shall be allowed to accompany the victim and confer with the victim, unless otherwise directed by the court. Court administrators shall allow sexual assault advocates to assist victims of nonconsensual sexual conduct or nonconsensual sexual penetration in the preparation of petitions for sexual assault protection orders. Sexual assault advocates are not engaged in the unauthorized practice of law when providing assistance of the types specified in this section. Communications between the petitioner and a sexual assault advocate are protected as provided by RCW 5.60.060. [2006 c 138 § 7.]

**7.90.070 Appointment of counsel.** The court may appoint counsel to represent the petitioner if the respondent is represented by counsel. [2006 c 138 § 8.]

**7.90.080 Evidence.** (1) In proceedings for a sexual assault protection order and prosecutions for violating a sexual assault protection order, the prior sexual activity or the reputation of the petitioner is inadmissible except:

(a) As evidence concerning the past sexual conduct of the petitioner with the respondent when this evidence is offered by the respondent upon the issue of whether the petitioner consented to the sexual conduct with respect to which the offense is alleged; or

(b) When constitutionally required to be admitted.

(2) No evidence admissible under this section may be introduced unless ruled admissible by the court after an offer of proof has been made at a hearing held in camera to determine whether the respondent has evidence to impeach the witness in the event that prior sexual activity with the respondent is denied. The offer of proof shall include reasonably specific information as to the date, time, and place of the past sexual conduct between the petitioner and the respondent. Unless the court finds that reasonably specific information as

to date, time, or place, or some combination thereof, has been offered as to prior sexual activity with the respondent, counsel for the respondent shall be ordered to refrain from inquiring into prior sexual activity between the petitioner and the respondent. The court may not admit evidence under this section unless it determines at the hearing that the evidence is relevant and the probative value of the evidence outweighs the danger of unfair prejudice. The evidence shall be admissible at trial to the extent an order made by the court specifies the evidence that may be admitted and areas with respect to which the petitioner may be examined or cross-examined. [2006 c 138 § 9.]

**7.90.090 Burden of proof—Issuance of protection order—Remedies—Violations.** (1)(a) If the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the petitioner has been a victim of nonconsensual sexual conduct or nonconsensual sexual penetration by the respondent, the court shall issue a sexual assault protection order; provided that the petitioner must also satisfy the requirements of RCW 7.90.110 for ex parte temporary orders or RCW 7.90.120 for final orders.

(b) The petitioner shall not be denied a sexual assault protection order because the petitioner or the respondent is a minor or because the petitioner did not report the assault to law enforcement. The court, when determining whether or not to issue a sexual assault protection order, may not require proof of physical injury on the person of the victim or proof that the petitioner has reported the sexual assault to law enforcement. Modification and extension of prior sexual assault protection orders shall be in accordance with this chapter.

(2) The court may provide relief as follows:

(a) Restrain the respondent from having any contact, including nonphysical contact, with the petitioner directly, indirectly, or through third parties regardless of whether those third parties know of the order;

(b) Exclude the respondent from the petitioner's residence, workplace, or school, or from the day care or school of a child, if the victim is a child;

(c) Prohibit the respondent from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance from a specified location; and

(d) Order any other injunctive relief as necessary or appropriate for the protection of the petitioner.

(3) In cases where the petitioner and the respondent are under the age of eighteen and attend the same public or private elementary, middle, or high school, the court, when issuing a protection order and providing relief, shall consider, among the other facts of the case, the severity of the act, any continuing physical danger or emotional distress to the petitioner, and the expense, difficulty, and educational disruption that would be caused by a transfer of the respondent to another school. The court may order that the person restrained in the order not attend the public or approved private elementary, middle, or high school attended by the person under the age of eighteen protected by the order. In the event the court orders a transfer of the restrained person to another school, the parents or legal guardians of the person restrained in the order are responsible for transportation and other costs associated with the change of school by the person restrained in the order. The court shall send notice of the

restriction on attending the same school as the person protected by the order to the public or approved private school the person restrained by the order will attend and to the school the person protected by the order attends.

(4) Denial of a remedy may not be based, in whole or in part, on evidence that:

(a) The respondent was voluntarily intoxicated;

(b) The petitioner was voluntarily intoxicated; or

(c) The petitioner engaged in limited consensual sexual touching.

(5) Monetary damages are not recoverable as a remedy.

(6) A knowing violation of a court order issued under this section is punishable under RCW 26.50.110. [2006 c 138 § 10.]

**7.90.100 Accountability for conduct of others.** For the purposes of issuing a sexual assault protection order, deciding what relief should be included in the order, and enforcing the order, RCW 9A.08.020 shall govern whether the respondent is legally accountable for the conduct of another person. [2006 c 138 § 11.]

**7.90.110 Ex parte temporary sexual assault protection orders—Issuance.** (1) An ex parte temporary sexual assault protection order shall issue if the petitioner satisfies the requirements of this subsection by a preponderance of the evidence. The petitioner shall establish that:

(a) The petitioner has been a victim of nonconsensual sexual conduct or nonconsensual sexual penetration by the respondent; and

(b) There is good cause to grant the remedy, regardless of the lack of prior service of process or of notice upon the respondent, because the harm which that remedy is intended to prevent would be likely to occur if the respondent were given any prior notice, or greater notice than was actually given, of the petitioner's efforts to obtain judicial relief.

(2) If the respondent appears in court for this hearing for an ex parte temporary order, he or she may elect to file a general appearance and testify. Any resulting order may be an ex parte temporary order, governed by this section.

(3) If the court declines to issue an ex parte temporary sexual assault protection order, the court shall state the particular reasons for the court's denial. The court's denial of a motion for an ex parte temporary order shall be filed with the court.

(4) A knowing violation of a court order issued under this section is punishable under RCW 26.50.110. [2007 c 212 § 3; 2006 c 138 § 12.]

**7.90.120 Ex parte orders—Duration.** (1)(a) An ex parte temporary sexual assault protection order shall be effective for a fixed period not to exceed fourteen days. A full hearing, as provided in this chapter, shall be set for not later than fourteen days from the issuance of the temporary order. Except as provided in RCW 7.90.050, the respondent shall be personally served with a copy of the ex parte temporary sexual assault protection order along with a copy of the petition and notice of the date set for the hearing.

(b) Any ex parte temporary order issued under this section shall contain the date and time of issuance and the expiration date and shall be entered into a statewide judicial infor-

mation system by the clerk of the court within one judicial day after issuance.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section or RCW 7.90.150, a final sexual assault protection order shall be effective for a fixed period of time, not to exceed two years.

(3) Any ex parte temporary or final sexual assault protection order may be renewed one or more times, as required. The petitioner may apply for renewal of the order by filing a petition for renewal at any time within the three months before the order expires. If the motion for renewal is uncontested and the petitioner seeks no modification of the order, the order may be renewed on the basis of the petitioner's motion or affidavit stating that there has been no material change in relevant circumstances since entry of the order and stating the reason for the requested renewal. Renewals may be granted only in open court.

(4) Any sexual assault protection order which would expire on a court holiday shall instead expire at the close of the next court business day.

(5) The practice of dismissing or suspending a criminal prosecution in exchange for the issuance of a sexual assault protection order undermines the purposes of this chapter. This section shall not be construed as encouraging that practice. [2006 c 138 § 13.]

#### **7.90.130 Sexual assault protection orders—Contents.**

(1) Any sexual assault protection order shall describe each remedy granted by the court, in reasonable detail and not by reference to any other document, so that the respondent may clearly understand what he or she must do or refrain from doing.

(2) A sexual assault protection order shall further state the following:

(a) The name of each petitioner that the court finds was the victim of nonconsensual sexual conduct or nonconsensual sexual penetration by the respondent;

(b) The date and time the sexual assault protection order was issued, whether it is an ex parte temporary or final order, and the duration of the order;

(c) The date, time, and place for any scheduled hearing for renewal of that sexual assault protection order or for another order of greater duration or scope;

(d) For each remedy in an ex parte temporary sexual assault protection order, the reason for entering that remedy without prior notice to the respondent or greater notice than was actually given;

(e) For ex parte temporary sexual assault protection orders, that the respondent may petition the court, to reopen the order if he or she did not receive actual prior notice of the hearing and if the respondent alleges that he or she had a meritorious defense to the order or that the order or its remedy is not authorized by this chapter.

(3) A sexual assault protection order shall include the following notice, printed in conspicuous type: "A knowing violation of this sexual assault protection order is a criminal offense under chapter 26.50 RCW and will subject a violator to arrest. You can be arrested even if any person protected by the order invites or allows you to violate the order's prohibitions. You have the sole responsibility to avoid or refrain from violating the order's provisions. Only the court can change the order." [2006 c 138 § 14.]

**7.90.140 Sexual assault protection orders—Service to respondent.** (1) An order issued under this chapter shall be personally served upon the respondent, except as provided in subsection (6) of this section.

(2) The sheriff of the county or the peace officers of the municipality in which the respondent resides shall serve the respondent personally unless the petitioner elects to have the respondent served by a private party.

(3) If service by a sheriff or municipal peace officer is to be used, the clerk of the court shall have a copy of any order issued under this chapter forwarded on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order for service upon the respondent. Service of an order issued under this chapter shall take precedence over the service of other documents unless they are of a similar emergency nature.

(4) If the sheriff or municipal peace officer cannot complete service upon the respondent within ten days, the sheriff or municipal peace officer shall notify the petitioner. The petitioner shall provide information sufficient to permit notification.

(5) Returns of service under this chapter shall be made in accordance with the applicable court rules.

(6) If an order entered by the court recites that the respondent appeared in person before the court, the necessity for further service is waived and proof of service of that order is not necessary. [2006 c 138 § 15.]

#### **7.90.150 Court initiated issuance of sexual assault protection orders—Terms, conditions, requirements, etc.**

(1)(a) When any person charged with or arrested for a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, a violation of RCW 9A.44.096, a violation of RCW 9.68A.090, or a gross misdemeanor that is, under chapter 9A.28 RCW, a criminal attempt, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy to commit an offense that is classified as a sex offense under RCW 9.94A.030, is released from custody before arraignment or trial on bail or personal recognizance, the court authorizing the release may prohibit that person from having any contact with the victim. The jurisdiction authorizing the release shall determine whether that person should be prohibited from having any contact with the victim. If there is no outstanding restraining or protective order prohibiting that person from having contact with the victim, the court authorizing release may issue, by telephone, a sexual assault protection order prohibiting the person charged or arrested from having contact with the victim or from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of a location.

(b) In issuing the order, the court shall consider the provisions of RCW 9.41.800.

(c) The sexual assault protection order shall also be issued in writing as soon as possible.

(2)(a) At the time of arraignment or whenever a motion is brought to modify the conditions of the defendant's release, the court shall determine whether a sexual assault protection order shall be issued or extended. If a sexual assault protection order is issued or extended, the court may also include in the conditions of release a requirement that the defendant submit to electronic monitoring. If electronic monitoring is ordered, the court shall specify who shall pro-

vide the monitoring services, and the terms under which the monitoring shall be performed. Upon conviction, the court may require as a condition of the sentence that the defendant reimburse the providing agency for the costs of the electronic monitoring.

(b) A sexual assault protection order issued by the court in conjunction with criminal charges shall terminate if the defendant is acquitted or the charges are dismissed, unless the victim files an independent action for a sexual assault protection order. If the victim files an independent action for a sexual assault protection order, the order may be continued by the court until a full hearing is conducted pursuant to RCW 7.90.050.

(3)(a) The written order releasing the person charged or arrested shall contain the court's directives and shall bear the legend: "Violation of this order is a criminal offense under chapter 26.50 RCW and will subject a violator to arrest. You can be arrested even if any person protected by the order invites or allows you to violate the order's prohibitions. You have the sole responsibility to avoid or refrain from violating the order's provisions. Only the court can change the order."

(b) A certified copy of the order shall be provided to the victim at no charge.

(4) If a sexual assault protection order has been issued prior to charging, that order shall expire at arraignment or within seventy-two hours if charges are not filed. Such orders need not be entered into the computer-based criminal intelligence information system in this state which is used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants.

(5) Whenever an order prohibiting contact is issued pursuant to subsection (2) of this section, the clerk of the court shall forward a copy of the order on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order. Upon receipt of the copy of the order, the law enforcement agency shall enter the order for one year or until the expiration date specified on the order into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. Entry into the computer-based criminal intelligence information system constitutes notice to all law enforcement agencies of the existence of the order. The order is fully enforceable in any jurisdiction in the state.

(6)(a) When a defendant is found guilty of a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, any violation of RCW 9A.44.096, or any violation of RCW 9.68A.090, or any gross misdemeanor that is, under chapter 9A.28 RCW, a criminal attempt, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy to commit an offense that is classified as a sex offense under RCW 9.94A.030, and a condition of the sentence restricts the defendant's ability to have contact with the victim, the condition shall be recorded as a sexual assault protection order.

(b) The written order entered as a condition of sentencing shall contain the court's directives and shall bear the legend: "Violation of this order is a criminal offense under chapter 26.50 RCW and will subject a violator to arrest. You can be arrested even if any person protected by the order invites or allows you to violate the order's prohibitions. You have the sole responsibility to avoid or refrain from violating the order's provisions. Only the court can change the order."

(c) A final sexual assault protection order entered in conjunction with a criminal prosecution shall remain in effect for

a period of two years following the expiration of any sentence of imprisonment and subsequent period of community supervision, conditional release, probation, or parole.

(d) A certified copy of the order shall be provided to the victim at no charge.

(7) A knowing violation of a court order issued under subsection (1), (2), or (6) of this section is punishable under RCW 26.50.110.

(8) Whenever a sexual assault protection order is issued, modified, or terminated under subsection (1), (2), or (6) of this section, the clerk of the court shall forward a copy of the order on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order. Upon receipt of the copy of the order, the law enforcement agency shall enter the order for one year or until the expiration date specified on the order into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. Entry into the computer-based criminal intelligence information system constitutes notice to all law enforcement agencies of the existence of the order. The order is fully enforceable in any jurisdiction in the state. Upon receipt of notice that an order has been terminated under subsection (2) of this section, the law enforcement agency shall remove the order from the computer-based criminal intelligence information system. [2006 c 138 § 16.]

**7.90.155 Sexual assault protection orders—Personal jurisdiction—Nonresident individuals.** (1) In a proceeding in which a petition for a sexual assault protection order is sought under this chapter, a court of this state may exercise personal jurisdiction over a nonresident individual if:

(a) The individual is personally served with a petition within this state;

(b) The individual submits to the jurisdiction of this state by consent, entering a general appearance, or filing a responsive document having the effect of waiving any objection to consent to personal jurisdiction;

(c) The act or acts of the individual or the individual's agent giving rise to the petition or enforcement of a sexual assault protection order occurred within this state;

(d)(i) The act or acts of the individual or the individual's agent giving rise to the petition or enforcement of a sexual assault protection order occurred outside this state and are part of an ongoing pattern of sexual assaults or stalking that has an adverse effect on the petitioner or a member of the petitioner's family or household and the petitioner resides in this state; or

(ii) As a result of acts of stalking or a sexual assault, the petitioner or a member of the petitioner's family or household has sought safety or protection in this state and currently resides in this state; or

(e) There is any other basis consistent with RCW 4.28.185 or with the constitutions of this state and the United States.

(2) For jurisdiction to be exercised under subsection (1)(d)(i) or (ii) of this section, the individual must have communicated with the petitioner or a member of the petitioner's family, directly or indirectly, or made known a threat to the safety of the petitioner or member of the petitioner's family while the petitioner or family member resides in this state.

For the purposes of subsection (1)(d)(i) or (ii) of this section, "communicated or made known" includes, but is not limited to, through the mail, telephonically, or a posting on an electronic communication site or medium. Communication on any electronic medium that is generally available to any individual residing in the state shall be sufficient to exercise jurisdiction under subsection (1)(d)(i) or (ii) of this section.

(3) For the purposes of this section, an act or acts that "occurred within this state" includes, but is not limited to, an oral or written statement made or published by a person outside of this state to any person in this state by means of the mail, interstate commerce, or foreign commerce. Oral or written statements sent by electronic mail or the internet are deemed to have "occurred within this state." [2010 c 274 § 307.]

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**7.90.160 Law enforcement agencies—Entry of protection order data.** (1) A copy of a sexual assault protection order granted under this chapter shall be forwarded by the clerk of the court on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order. Upon receipt of the order, the law enforcement agency shall immediately enter the order into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. The order shall remain in the computer for one year or until the expiration date specified on the order. Upon receipt of notice that an order has been terminated, the law enforcement agency shall remove the order from the computer-based criminal intelligence information system. The law enforcement agency shall only expunge from the computer-based criminal intelligence information system orders that are expired, vacated, terminated, or superseded. Entry into the law enforcement information system constitutes notice to all law enforcement agencies of the existence of the order. The order is fully enforceable in any county in the state.

(2) The information entered into the computer-based criminal intelligence information system shall include notice to law enforcement whether the order was personally served, served by publication, or served by mail. [2006 c 138 § 17.]

**7.90.170 Modification or termination of protection orders.** Upon application with notice to all parties and after a hearing, the court may modify the terms of an existing sexual assault protection order. In any situation where an order is terminated or modified before its expiration date, the clerk of the court shall forward on or before the next judicial day a true copy of the modified order or the termination order to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the modified or termination order. Upon receipt of the order, the law enforcement agency shall promptly enter it in the computer-based criminal intelligence information system, or if the order is terminated, remove the order from the computer-based criminal intelligence information system. [2006 c 138 § 18.]

**7.90.180 Administrative office of the courts—Court clerks—Instructional and informational material.** (1) The administrative office of the courts shall develop and prepare instructions and informational brochures required under

RCW 7.90.020, standard petition and order for protection forms, and a court staff handbook on sexual assault, and the protection order process. The standard petition and order for protection forms must be used after September 1, 2006, for all petitions filed and orders issued under this chapter. The instructions, brochures, forms, and handbook shall be prepared in consultation with interested persons, including a representative of the state sexual assault coalition, judges, and law enforcement personnel.

(a) The instructions shall be designed to assist petitioners in completing the petition, and shall include a sample of standard petition and order for protection forms.

(b) The informational brochure shall describe the use of and the process for obtaining, modifying, and terminating a protection order as provided under this chapter.

(c) The order for protection form shall include, in a conspicuous location, notice of criminal penalties resulting from violation of the order, and the following statement: "You can be arrested even if the person or persons who obtained the order invite or allow you to violate the order's prohibitions. The respondent has the sole responsibility to avoid or refrain from violating the order's provisions. Only the court can change the order upon written application."

(d) The court staff handbook shall allow for the addition of a community resource list by the court clerk.

(2) All court clerks shall obtain a community resource list from a sexual assault program serving the county in which the court is located. The community resource list shall include the names and telephone numbers of sexual assault programs serving the community in which the court is located, including law enforcement agencies, domestic violence agencies, sexual assault agencies, legal assistance programs, interpreters, multicultural programs, and batterers' treatment programs. The court shall make the community resource list available as part of or in addition to the informational brochures described in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) The administrative office of the courts shall distribute a master copy of the petition and order forms, instructions, and informational brochures to all court clerks and shall distribute a master copy of the petition and order forms to all superior, district, and municipal courts.

(4) For purposes of this section, "court clerks" means court administrators in courts of limited jurisdiction and elected court clerks.

(5) The administrative office of the courts shall determine the significant non-English-speaking or limited English-speaking populations in the state. The administrator shall then arrange for translation of the instructions and informational brochures required by this section, which shall contain a sample of the standard petition and order for protection forms, into the languages spoken by those significant non-English-speaking populations and shall distribute a master copy of the translated instructions and informational brochures to all court clerks by December 1, 2006.

(6) The administrative office of the courts shall update the instructions, brochures, standard petition and order for protection forms, and court staff handbook when changes in the law make an update necessary. [2006 c 138 § 19.]

**7.90.190 Admissibility of ex parte temporary orders in civil actions.** An ex parte temporary order issued under

this chapter shall not be admissible as evidence in any subsequent civil action for damages arising from the conduct alleged in the petition or the order. [2006 c 138 § 20.]

**7.90.900 Short title—2006 c 138.** This act may be cited as the sexual assault protection order act. [2006 c 138 § 28.]

# Title 9

## CRIMES AND PUNISHMENTS

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### Chapter 9.01 RCW GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### Sections

- 9.01.055 Citizen immunity if aiding officer, scope—When.
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**9.01.055 Citizen immunity if aiding officer, scope—When.** Private citizens aiding a police officer, or other officers of the law in the performance of their duties as police officers or officers of the law, shall have the same civil and criminal immunity as such officer, as a result of any act or commission for aiding or attempting to aid a police officer or other officer of the law, when such officer is in imminent danger of loss of life or grave bodily injury or when such officer requests such assistance and when such action was taken under emergency conditions and in good faith. [1969 c 37 § 1.]

*Immunity from liability for certain types of medical care: RCW 4.24.300.*

**9.01.110 Omission, when not punishable.** No person shall be punished for an omission to perform an act when such act has been performed by another acting in his or her behalf, and competent to perform it. [2011 c 336 § 285; 1909 c 249 § 23; RRS § 2275.]

**9.01.120 Civil remedies preserved.** The omission to specify or affirm in this act any liability to any damages, penalty, forfeiture or other remedy, imposed by law, and allowed to be recovered or enforced in any civil action or proceeding, for any act or omission declared punishable herein, shall not affect any right to recover or enforce the same. [1909 c 249 § 44; RRS § 2296.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)



**9.01.130 Sending letter, when complete.** Whenever any statute makes the sending of a letter criminal, the offense shall be deemed complete from the time it is deposited in any post office or other place, or delivered to any person, with intent that it shall be forwarded; and the sender may be proceeded against in the county wherein it was so deposited or delivered, or in which it was received by the person to whom it was addressed. [1909 c 249 § 22; RRS § 2274.]

**9.01.160 Application to existing civil rights.** Nothing in this act shall be deemed to affect any civil right or remedy existing at the time when it shall take effect, by virtue of the common law or of the provision of any statute. [1909 c 249 § 43; RRS § 2295.]

**Reviser's note:** For "this act," see note following RCW 9.01.120.

## Chapter 9.02 RCW ABORTION

### Sections

9.02.005	Transfer of duties to the department of health.
9.02.050	Concealing birth.
9.02.100	Reproductive privacy—Public policy.
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9.02.130	Defenses to prosecution.
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9.02.900	Construction—1992 c 1 (Initiative Measure No. 120).
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9.02.902	Short title—1992 c 1 (Initiative Measure No. 120).

*Advertising or selling means of abortion:* RCW 9.68.030.

*Health care facilities, interference with:* Chapter 9A.50 RCW.

*Right to medical treatment of infant born alive in the course of an abortion procedure:* RCW 18.71.240.

**9.02.005 Transfer of duties to the department of health.** The powers and duties of the state board of health under this chapter shall be performed by the department of health. [1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 202; 1985 c 213 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.02.050 Concealing birth.** Every person who shall endeavor to conceal the birth of a child by any disposition of its dead body, whether the child died before or after its birth, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1909 c 249 § 200; RRS § 2452.]

**9.02.100 Reproductive privacy—Public policy.** The sovereign people hereby declare that every individual possesses a fundamental right of privacy with respect to personal reproductive decisions.

Accordingly, it is the public policy of the state of Washington that:

(1) Every individual has the fundamental right to choose or refuse birth control;

(2) Every woman has the fundamental right to choose or refuse to have an abortion, except as specifically limited by RCW 9.02.100 through 9.02.170 and 9.02.900 through 9.02.902;

(3) Except as specifically permitted by RCW 9.02.100 through 9.02.170 and 9.02.900 through 9.02.902, the state

shall not deny or interfere with a woman's fundamental right to choose or refuse to have an abortion; and

(4) The state shall not discriminate against the exercise of these rights in the regulation or provision of benefits, facilities, services, or information. [1992 c 1 § 1 (Initiative Measure No. 120, approved November 5, 1991).]

**9.02.110 Right to have and provide.** The state may not deny or interfere with a woman's right to choose to have an abortion prior to viability of the fetus, or to protect her life or health.

A physician may terminate and a health care provider may assist a physician in terminating a pregnancy as permitted by this section. [1992 c 1 § 2 (Initiative Measure No. 120, approved November 5, 1991).]

**9.02.120 Unauthorized abortions—Penalty.** Unless authorized by RCW 9.02.110, any person who performs an abortion on another person shall be guilty of a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1992 c 1 § 3 (Initiative Measure No. 120, approved November 5, 1991).]

**9.02.130 Defenses to prosecution.** The good faith judgment of a physician as to viability of the fetus or as to the risk to life or health of a woman and the good faith judgment of a health care provider as to the duration of pregnancy shall be a defense in any proceeding in which a violation of this chapter is an issue. [1992 c 1 § 4 (Initiative Measure No. 120, approved November 5, 1991).]

**9.02.140 State regulation.** Any regulation promulgated by the state relating to abortion shall be valid only if:

(1) The regulation is medically necessary to protect the life or health of the woman terminating her pregnancy,

(2) The regulation is consistent with established medical practice, and

(3) Of the available alternatives, the regulation imposes the least restrictions on the woman's right to have an abortion as defined by RCW 9.02.100 through 9.02.170 and 9.02.900 through 9.02.902. [1992 c 1 § 5 (Initiative Measure No. 120, approved November 5, 1991).]

**9.02.150 Refusing to perform.** No person or private medical facility may be required by law or contract in any circumstances to participate in the performance of an abortion if such person or private medical facility objects to so doing. No person may be discriminated against in employment or professional privileges because of the person's participation or refusal to participate in the termination of a pregnancy. [1992 c 1 § 6 (Initiative Measure No. 120, approved November 5, 1991).]

**9.02.160 State-provided benefits.** If the state provides, directly or by contract, maternity care benefits, services, or information to women through any program administered or funded in whole or in part by the state, the state shall also provide women otherwise eligible for any such program with substantially equivalent benefits, services, or information to permit them to voluntarily terminate their pregnancies. [1992 c 1 § 7 (Initiative Measure No. 120, approved November 5, 1991).]

**9.02.170 Definitions.** For purposes of this chapter:

(1) "Viability" means the point in the pregnancy when, in the judgment of the physician on the particular facts of the case before such physician, there is a reasonable likelihood of the fetus's sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures.

(2) "Abortion" means any medical treatment intended to induce the termination of a pregnancy except for the purpose of producing a live birth.

(3) "Pregnancy" means the reproductive process beginning with the implantation of an embryo.

(4) "Physician" means a physician licensed to practice under chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW in the state of Washington.

(5) "Health care provider" means a physician or a person acting under the general direction of a physician.

(6) "State" means the state of Washington and counties, cities, towns, municipal corporations, and quasi-municipal corporations in the state of Washington.

(7) "Private medical facility" means any medical facility that is not owned or operated by the state. [1992 c 1 § 8 (Initiative Measure No. 120, approved November 5, 1991).]

**9.02.900 Construction—1992 c 1 (Initiative Measure No. 120).** RCW 9.02.100 through 9.02.170 and 9.02.900 through 9.02.902 shall not be construed to define the state's interest in the fetus for any purpose other than the specific provisions of RCW 9.02.100 through 9.02.170 and 9.02.900 through 9.02.902. [1992 c 1 § 10 (Initiative Measure No. 120, approved November 5, 1991).]

**9.02.901 Severability—1992 c 1 (Initiative Measure No. 120).** If any provision of RCW 9.02.100 through 9.02.170 and 9.02.900 through 9.02.902 or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of RCW 9.02.100 through 9.02.170 and 9.02.900 through 9.02.902 or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1992 c 1 § 11 (Initiative Measure No. 120, approved November 5, 1991).]

**9.02.902 Short title—1992 c 1 (Initiative Measure No. 120).** RCW 9.02.100 through 9.02.170 and 9.02.900 through 9.02.902 shall be known and may be cited as the Reproductive Privacy Act. [1992 c 1 § 12 (Initiative Measure No. 120, approved November 5, 1991).]

### Chapter 9.03 RCW

#### ABANDONED REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT

##### Sections

9.03.010	Abandoning, discarding refrigeration equipment.
9.03.020	Permitting unused equipment to remain on premises.
9.03.030	Violation of RCW 9.03.010 or 9.03.020.
9.03.040	Keeping or storing equipment for sale.

**9.03.010 Abandoning, discarding refrigeration equipment.** Any person who discards or abandons or leaves in any place accessible to children any refrigerator, icebox, or deep freeze locker having a capacity of one and one-half cubic feet or more, which is no longer in use, and which has not had the door removed or a portion of the latch mechanism

removed to prevent latching or locking of the door, is guilty of a misdemeanor. [1955 c 298 § 1.]

**9.03.020 Permitting unused equipment to remain on premises.** Any owner, lessee, or manager who knowingly permits such an unused refrigerator, icebox, or deep freeze locker to remain on the premises under his or her control without having the door removed or a portion of the latch mechanism removed to prevent latching or locking of the door is guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 286; 1955 c 298 § 2.]

**9.03.030 Violation of RCW 9.03.010 or 9.03.020.** Guilt of a violation of RCW 9.03.010 or 9.03.020 shall not, in itself, render one guilty of manslaughter, battery, or other crime against a person who may suffer death or injury from entrapment in such refrigerator, icebox, or deep freeze locker. [1955 c 298 § 3.]

**9.03.040 Keeping or storing equipment for sale.** Any person who keeps or stores refrigerators, iceboxes, or deep freeze lockers for the purpose of selling or offering them for sale shall not be guilty of a violation of this chapter if he or she takes reasonable precautions to effectively secure the door of any refrigerator, icebox, or deep freeze locker held for purpose of sale so as to prevent entrance of children small enough to fit into such articles. [2011 c 336 § 287; 1955 c 298 § 4.]

### Chapter 9.04 RCW

#### ADVERTISING, CRIMES RELATING TO

##### Sections

9.04.010	False advertising.
9.04.040	Advertising cures of lost sexual potency—Evidence.
9.04.050	False, misleading, deceptive advertising.
9.04.060	False, misleading, deceptive advertising—Action to restrain and prevent.
9.04.070	False, misleading, deceptive advertising—Penalty.
9.04.080	False, misleading, deceptive advertising—Assurance of discontinuance of unlawful practice.
9.04.090	Advertising fuel prices by service stations.

*Apple advertising: Chapter 15.24 RCW.*

*Attaching advertisements to utility poles—Penalty: RCW 70.54.090.*

*Attorneys-at-law, advertising: Rules of court: RPC 7.2.*

*Banks and trust companies:*

*advertising legal services: RCW 30.04.260.*

*using words indicating: RCW 30.04.020.*

*Buildings, placing advertising matter on: Chapter 9A.48 RCW.*

*Charitable solicitations, regulation, application of chapter 9.04 RCW: RCW 19.09.340.*

*Contraceptives or means of abortion, advertising: RCW 9.68.030.*

*Dentistry, advertising restrictions: RCW 18.32.665, 18.32.755.*

*Egg law, advertising violations: Chapter 69.25 RCW.*

*Elections, advertising violations:*

*initiative or referendum petition signers: RCW 29A.84.250.*

*recall petition signers: RCW 29A.84.220.*

*Employment agencies, false advertising: Chapter 19.31 RCW.*

*Food, drugs, and cosmetics: Chapter 69.04 RCW.*

*Hearing instrument dispensing, advertising, etc.—Application: RCW 18.35.180.*

*Indecent articles: RCW 9.68.030.*

*Insurance, unlawful advertising practices: Chapter 48.30 RCW.*

*Optometry advertising: RCW 18.53.140, 18.53.150.*  
*State parks, advertising prohibited: RCW 79A.05.165.*

**9.04.010 False advertising.** Any person, firm, corporation or association who, with intent to sell or in any wise dispose of merchandise, securities, service, or anything offered by such person, firm, corporation or association, directly or indirectly, to the public for sale or distribution, or with intent to increase the consumption thereof, or to induce the public in any manner to enter into any obligation relating thereto, or to acquire title thereto, or an interest therein, makes, publishes, disseminates, circulates, or places before the public, or causes, directly or indirectly, to be made, published, disseminated, circulated, or placed before the public in this state, in a newspaper or other publication, or in the form of a book, notice, hand-bill, poster, bill, circular, pamphlet, or letter, or in any other way, an advertisement of any sort regarding merchandise, securities, service, or anything so offered to the public, which advertisement contains any assertion, representation or statement of fact which is untrue, deceptive or misleading, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor: PROVIDED, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to any owner, publisher, agent, or employee of a newspaper for the publication of such advertisement published in good faith and without knowledge of the falsity thereof. [1913 c 34 § 1; RRS § 2622-1.]

**9.04.040 Advertising cures of lost sexual potency—Evidence.** Any advertisement in any newspaper, periodical, pamphlet, circular or other written or printed paper, containing the words, "lost manhood", "lost vitality", "lost vigor", "monthly regulators for women", or words synonymous therewith, shall be prima facie evidence of intent to violate \*RCW 9.04.030 and 9.04.040 by the person or persons so advertising, or causing to be advertised, or publishing or permitting to be published, or distributing, circulating and displaying or causing to be distributed, circulated or displayed, any such advertisement. [1921 c 168 § 2; RRS § 2462-1.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 9.04.030 was repealed by 1987 c 456 § 32.

**9.04.050 False, misleading, deceptive advertising.** It shall be unlawful for any person to publish, disseminate or display, or cause directly or indirectly, to be published, disseminated or displayed in any manner or by any means, including solicitation or dissemination by mail, telephone, electronic communication, or door-to-door contacts, any false, deceptive or misleading advertising, with knowledge of the facts which render the advertising false, deceptive or misleading, for any business, trade or commercial purpose or for the purpose of inducing, or which is likely to induce, directly or indirectly, the public to purchase, consume, lease, dispose of, utilize or sell any property or service, or to enter into any obligation or transaction relating thereto: PROVIDED, That nothing in this section shall apply to any radio or television broadcasting station which broadcasts, or to any publisher, printer or distributor of any newspaper, magazine, billboard or other advertising medium who publishes, prints or distributes, such advertising in good faith without knowledge of its false, deceptive or misleading character. [2000 c 33 § 1; 1961 c 189 § 1.]

*Blind made products, false advertising: RCW 19.06.030, 19.06.040.*

*Highway advertising control act of 1961, Scenic Vistas Act of 1971: Chapter 47.42 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.04.060 False, misleading, deceptive advertising—Action to restrain and prevent.** The attorney general or the prosecuting attorneys of the several counties may bring an action in the superior court to restrain and prevent any person from violating any provision of RCW 9.04.050 through 9.04.080. [1961 c 189 § 2.]

**9.04.070 False, misleading, deceptive advertising—Penalty.** Any person who violates any order or injunction issued pursuant to RCW 9.04.050 through 9.04.080 shall be subject to a fine of not more than five thousand dollars or imprisonment for not more than ninety days or both. [1999 c 143 § 1; 1961 c 189 § 3.]

**9.04.080 False, misleading, deceptive advertising—Assurance of discontinuance of unlawful practice.** In the enforcement of RCW 9.04.050 through 9.04.080 the official enforcing RCW 9.04.050 through 9.04.080 may accept an assurance of discontinuance of any act or practice deemed in violation of RCW 9.04.050 through 9.04.080, from any person engaging in, or who has engaged in such act or practice. Any such assurance shall be in writing and be filed with and subject to the approval of the superior court of the county in which the alleged violator resides or has his or her principal place of business, or in Thurston county. A violation of such assurance shall constitute prima facie proof of a violation of RCW 9.04.050 through 9.04.080: PROVIDED, That after commencement of any action by a prosecuting attorney, as provided herein, the attorney general may not accept an assurance of discontinuance without the consent of the prosecuting attorney. [2011 c 336 § 288; 1961 c 189 § 4.]

**9.04.090 Advertising fuel prices by service stations.** It is unlawful for any dealer or service station, as both are defined in \*RCW 82.36.010, to advertise by publication, dissemination, display, or whatever means:

(1) A price per unit of fuel that is expressed in a unit of measurement different from that employed by the pump or other device used to dispense the fuel, unless the price is advertised for both units of measurement in the same fashion; or

(2) A price per unit of fuel that is conditioned upon the purchase of another product, unless the conditional language, name, and price of the other product are clearly expressed in the advertisement in characters at least one-half the height of the characters used to advertise the fuel price.

Violation of this section is a misdemeanor and is subject to the provisions of RCW 9.04.060 through 9.04.080. [1983 c 114 § 1.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 82.36.010 was amended by 1998 c 176 § 6, deleting the definition of "service station." RCW 82.36.010 was subsequently amended by 2007 c 515 § 1, deleting the definition of "dealer."

## Chapter 9.05 RCW

### SABOTAGE

(Formerly: Anarchy and sabotage)

#### Sections

9.05.030	Assemblages of saboteurs.
9.05.060	Criminal sabotage defined—Penalty.
9.05.090	Provisions cumulative.

*Freedom of speech: State Constitution Art. 1 § 5.*

*Subversive activities: Chapter 9.81 RCW.*

*Treason: State Constitution Art. 1 § 27; chapter 9.82 RCW.*

**9.05.030 Assemblages of saboteurs.** Whenever two or more persons assemble for the purpose of committing criminal sabotage, as defined in RCW 9.05.060, such an assembly is unlawful, and every person voluntarily and knowingly participating therein by his or her presence, aid, or instigation, is guilty of a class B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than ten years, or by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars, or both. [2003 c 53 § 6; 1999 c 191 § 1; 1992 c 7 § 2; 1909 c 249 § 314; 1903 c 45 § 4; RRS § 2566.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.05.060 Criminal sabotage defined—Penalty.** (1) Whoever, with intent that his or her act shall, or with reason to believe that it may, injure, interfere with, interrupt, supplant, nullify, impair, or obstruct the owner's or operator's management, operation, or control of any agricultural, stock-raising, lumbering, mining, quarrying, fishing, manufacturing, transportation, mercantile, or building enterprise, or any other public or private business or commercial enterprise, wherein any person is employed for wage, shall willfully damage or destroy, or attempt or threaten to damage or destroy, any property whatsoever, or shall unlawfully take or retain, or attempt or threaten unlawfully to take or retain, possession or control of any property, instrumentality, machine, mechanism, or appliance used in such business or enterprise, shall be guilty of criminal sabotage.

(2) Criminal sabotage is a class B felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 7; 1999 c 191 § 2; 1919 c 173 § 1; RRS § 2563-3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Endangering life by breach of labor contract: RCW 49.44.080.*

*Excessive steam in boilers: RCW 70.54.080.*

*Malicious injury to railroad property: RCW 81.60.070.*

*Malicious mischief—Injury to property: Chapter 9A.48 RCW.*

*Sabotaging rolling stock: RCW 81.60.080.*

**9.05.090 Provisions cumulative.** RCW 9.05.030 and 9.05.060 shall not be construed to repeal or amend any existing penal statute. [1999 c 191 § 3; 1919 c 173 § 4; RRS § 2563-6.]

## Chapter 9.08 RCW

### ANIMALS, CRIMES RELATING TO

#### Sections

9.08.030	False certificate of registration of animals—False representation as to breed.
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9.08.065	Definitions.
9.08.070	Pet animals—Taking, concealing, injuring, killing, etc.—Penalty.
9.08.072	Transferring stolen pet animal to a research institution—Penalty.
9.08.074	Transferring stolen pet animal to a person who has previously sold a stolen pet animal to a research institution—Penalty.
9.08.076	Transferring stolen pet animal to a research institution by a U.S.D.A. licensed dealer—Penalty.
9.08.078	Illegal sale, receipt, or transfer of pet animals—Separate offenses.
9.08.080	Acts against animal facilities—Intent.
9.08.090	Acts against animal facilities.

#### *Accelerant detection dogs*

*harming: RCW 9A.76.200.*

*immunity of handler: RCW 4.24.410.*

*Animals and livestock: Title 16 RCW.*

*Bees: Chapter 15.60 RCW.*

*Brands and marks, generally: Chapter 9.16 RCW.*

*Bulls running at large: RCW 16.24.180 through 16.24.210.*

*Carrier or racing pigeons—Injury to: RCW 9.61.190 and 9.61.200.*

*"Coyote getters," use permitted: RCW 9.41.185.*

#### *Cruelty to*

*animals, generally: Chapter 16.52 RCW.*

*stock in transit: RCW 81.48.070.*

*Destroying animals in state parks: RCW 79A.05.165.*

*Disposal of dead animals: Chapter 16.68 RCW.*

*Dog law: Chapters 16.08, 16.10 RCW.*

#### *Dog licensing*

*control zones: Chapter 16.10 RCW.*

*counties: Chapter 36.49 RCW.*

*unclassified cities: RCW 35.30.010.*

*Game code: Title 77 RCW.*

*Guard animals, registration: RCW 43.44.120.*

*Guide dogs: Chapter 70.84 RCW.*

*Horses, mules, and asses running at large: Chapter 16.24 RCW.*

*Indictment or information in crimes involving animals: RCW 10.37.070.*

*Ladybugs, beneficial insects: Chapter 15.61 RCW.*

#### *Police dogs*

*harming: RCW 9A.76.200.*

*immunity of handler: RCW 4.24.410.*

*Police horses, harming: RCW 9A.76.200.*

*Quarantine of diseased domestic animals: Chapter 16.36 RCW.*

*Race horses: Chapter 67.16 RCW.*

*Service dogs: Chapter 70.84 RCW.*

*Stealing horses or cattle: Chapter 9A.56 RCW.*

*Transporting in unsafe manner: RCW 16.52.080.*

**9.08.030 False certificate of registration of animals—False representation as to breed.** Every person who, by color or aid of any false pretense, representation, token or writing shall obtain from any club, association, society or company for the improvement of the breed of cattle, horses, sheep, swine, fowls or other domestic animals or birds, a certificate of registration of any animal or bird in a herdbook, or other register of any such association, society or company, or a transfer of any such registration, and every person who shall knowingly represent an animal or bird for breeding purposes to be of a greater degree of any particular strain of blood than such animal actually possesses, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1909 c 249 § 341; RRS § 2593.]

**9.08.065 Definitions.** As used in RCW 9.08.070 through 9.08.078:

(1) "Pet animal" means a tamed or domesticated animal legally retained by a person and kept as a companion. "Pet animal" does not include livestock raised for commercial purposes.

(2) "Research institution" means a facility licensed by the United States department of agriculture to use animals in biomedical or product research.

(3) "U.S.D.A. licensed dealer" means a person who is licensed or required to be licensed by the United States department of agriculture to commercially buy, receive, sell, negotiate for sale, or transport animals. [2003 c 53 § 8; 1989 c 359 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.08.070 Pet animals—Taking, concealing, injuring, killing, etc.—Penalty.** (1) Any person who, with intent to deprive or defraud the owner thereof, does any of the following shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW and by a mandatory fine of not less than five hundred dollars per pet animal, except as provided by subsection (2) of this section:

(a) Takes, leads away, confines, secretes or converts any pet animal, except in cases in which the value of the pet animal exceeds two hundred fifty dollars;

(b) Conceals the identity of any pet animal or its owner by obscuring, altering, or removing from the pet animal any collar, tag, license, tattoo, or other identifying device or mark;

(c) Willfully or recklessly kills or injures any pet animal, unless excused by law.

(2) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a person from also being convicted of separate offenses under RCW 9A.56.030, 9A.56.040, or 9A.56.050 for theft or under RCW 9A.56.150, 9A.56.160, or 9A.56.170 for possession of stolen property. [2003 c 53 § 9; 1989 c 359 § 2; 1982 c 114 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Application of Consumer Protection Act: RCW 19.86.145.*

**9.08.072 Transferring stolen pet animal to a research institution—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to receive with intent to sell to a research institution in the state of Washington, or sell or otherwise directly transfer to a research institution in the state of Washington, a pet animal that the person knows or has reason to know has been stolen or fraudulently obtained. This section does not apply to U.S.D.A. licensed dealers.

(2) The first conviction under this section is a gross misdemeanor punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW and by a mandatory fine of not less than five hundred dollars per pet animal.

(3) A second or subsequent conviction under this section is a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW and by a mandatory fine of not less than one thousand dollars per pet animal.

(4) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a person from also being convicted of separate offenses under RCW 9A.56.030, 9A.56.040, or 9A.56.050 for theft or under RCW 9A.56.150, 9A.56.160, or 9A.56.170 for possession of stolen property. [2003 c 53 § 10.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.08.074 Transferring stolen pet animal to a person who has previously sold a stolen pet animal to a research institution—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for any person, who knows or has reason to know that a pet animal has been stolen or fraudulently obtained, to sell or otherwise transfer the pet animal to another who the person knows or has reason to know has previously sold a stolen or fraudulently obtained pet animal to a research institution in the state of Washington.

(2) A conviction under this section is a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW and by a mandatory fine of not less than one thousand dollars per pet animal. [2003 c 53 § 11.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.08.076 Transferring stolen pet animal to a research institution by a U.S.D.A. licensed dealer—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for a U.S.D.A. licensed dealer to receive with intent to sell, or sell or transfer directly or through a third party, to a research institution in the state of Washington, a pet animal that the dealer knows or has reason to know has been stolen or fraudulently obtained.

(2) A conviction under this section is a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW and by a mandatory fine of not less than one thousand dollars per pet animal. [2003 c 53 § 12.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.08.078 Illegal sale, receipt, or transfer of pet animals—Separate offenses.** (1) The sale, receipt, or transfer of each individual pet animal in violation of RCW 9.08.070 through 9.08.078 constitutes a separate offense.

(2) The provisions of RCW 9.08.070 through 9.08.078 shall not apply to the lawful acts of any employee, agent, or director of any humane society, animal control agency, or animal shelter operated by or on behalf of any government agency, operating under law. [2003 c 53 § 13.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.08.080 Acts against animal facilities—Intent.** There has been an increasing number of illegal acts committed against animal production and research facilities involving injury or loss of life to animals or humans, criminal trespass, and damage to property. These actions not only abridge the property rights of the owners, operators, and employees of the facility, they may also damage the public interest by jeopardizing crucial animal production or agricultural, scientific, or biomedical research. These actions may also threaten the public safety by exposing communities to public health concerns and creating traffic hazards. These actions substantially disrupt or damage research and result in the potential loss of physical and intellectual property. While the criminal code, particularly the malicious mischief crimes, adequately covers those who intentionally and without authority damage or destroy farm animals, the code does not adequately cover similar misconduct directed against research and educational facilities. Therefore, it is in the interest of the people of the

state of Washington to protect the welfare of humans and animals, as well as the productive use of private or public funds, to promote and protect scientific and medical research, foster education, and preserve and enhance agricultural production.

It is the intent of the legislature that the courts in deciding applications for injunctive relief under RCW 4.24.580 give full consideration to the constitutional rights of persons to speak freely, to picket, and to conduct other lawful activities. [1991 c 325 § 1.]

*Civil liability for acts against animal facilities: RCW 4.24.570 through 4.24.580.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.08.090 Acts against animal facilities.** A person is guilty of a class C felony: If he or she, without authorization, knowingly takes, releases, destroys, contaminates, or damages any animal or animals kept in a research or educational facility where the animal or animals are used or to be used for medical research purposes or other research purposes or for educational purposes; or if he or she, without authorization, knowingly destroys or damages any records, equipment, research product, or other thing pertaining to such animal or animals. [1991 c 325 § 2.]

*Civil liability for acts against animal facilities: RCW 4.24.570 through 4.24.580.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 9.12 RCW BARRATRY

### Sections

- 9.12.010 Barratry.  
9.12.020 Buying, demanding, or promising reward by district judge or deputy.

**9.12.010 Barratry.** Every person who brings on his or her own behalf, or instigates, incites, or encourages another to bring, any false suit at law or in equity in any court of this state, with intent thereby to distress or harass a defendant in the suit, or who serves or sends any paper or document purporting to be or resembling a judicial process, that is not in fact a judicial process, is guilty of a misdemeanor; and in case the person offending is an attorney, he or she may, in addition thereto be disbarred from practicing law within this state. [2001 c 310 § 3. Prior: 1995 c 285 § 27; 1915 c 165 § 1; 1909 c 249 § 118; Code 1881 § 901; 1873 p 204 § 100; 1854 p 92 § 91; RRS § 2370.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 310:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Attorneys-at-law: Chapter 2.44 RCW.*

*State bar act: Chapter 2.48 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.12.020 Buying, demanding, or promising reward by district judge or deputy.** Every district judge or deputy who shall, directly or indirectly, buy or be interested in buying anything in action for the purpose of commencing a suit thereon before a district judge, or who shall give or promise any valuable consideration to any person as an inducement to bring, or as a consideration for having brought, a suit before

a district judge, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1987 c 202 § 138; 1909 c 249 § 119; RRS § 2371.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

## Chapter 9.16 RCW BRANDS AND MARKS, CRIMES RELATING TO

### Sections

- 9.16.005 Definitions.  
9.16.010 Removing lawful brands.  
9.16.020 Imitating lawful brand.  
9.16.030 Counterfeit mark—Intellectual property.  
9.16.035 Counterfeiting—Penalties.  
9.16.041 Counterfeit items—Seizure and forfeiture.  
9.16.050 When deemed affixed.  
9.16.060 Fraudulent registration of trademark.  
9.16.070 Form and similitude defined.  
9.16.080 Petroleum products improperly labeled or graded—Penalty.  
9.16.100 Use of the words "sterling silver," etc.  
9.16.110 Use of words "coin silver," etc.  
9.16.120 Use of the word "sterling" on mounting.  
9.16.130 Use of the words "coin silver" on mounting.  
9.16.140 Unlawfully marking article made of gold.  
9.16.150 "Marked, stamped or branded" defined.

*Animals and livestock: Title 16 RCW.*

*Defacement of motor serial numbers: RCW 9A.56.180.*

*Egg law: Chapter 69.25 RCW.*

*Fertilizers, minerals, and limes, brand alteration, etc.: Chapter 15.54 RCW.*

*Food, drugs, and cosmetics: Chapter 69.04 RCW.*

*Forest products, marks and brands: Chapter 76.36 RCW.*

*Honey act, misbranding, etc.: Chapter 69.28 RCW.*

*Poisons, misbranding: Chapters 69.36, 69.40 RCW.*

*Trademark registration: Chapters 19.76, 19.77 RCW.*

*Watches, removal of serial number: Chapter 19.60 RCW.*

**9.16.005 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Counterfeit mark" means:

- (a) Any unauthorized reproduction or copy of intellectual property; or  
(b) Intellectual property affixed to any item knowingly sold, offered for sale, manufactured, or distributed, or identifying services offered or rendered, without the authority of the owner of the intellectual property.

(2) "Intellectual property" means any trademark, service mark, trade name, label, term, device, design, or work adopted or used by a person to identify such person's goods or services. Intellectual property does not have exclusive use rights to trade names registered under chapter 19.80 RCW.

(3) "Retail value" means the counterfeiter's regular selling price for the item or service bearing or identified by the counterfeit mark. In the case of items bearing a counterfeit mark which are components of a finished product, the retail value shall be the counterfeiter's regular selling price of the finished product on or in which the component would be utilized. [1999 c 322 § 1.]

**9.16.010 Removing lawful brands.** Every person who shall willfully deface, obliterate, remove, or alter any mark or brand placed by or with the authority of the owner thereof on any shingle bolt, log or stick of timber, or on any horse, mare, gelding, mule, cow, steer, bull, sheep, goat or hog, shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for

not more than five years, or by imprisonment in the county jail for up to three hundred sixty-four days, or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or by both fine and imprisonment. [2011 c 96 § 4; 1992 c 7 § 3; 1909 c 249 § 342; Code 1881 § 839; 1873 p 191 § 54; RRS § 2594.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

*Forest product brands and marks, falsifying, etc.: RCW 76.36.110, 76.36.120.*

**9.16.020 Imitating lawful brand.** Every person who, in any county, places upon any property, any brand or mark in the likeness or similitude of another brand or mark filed with the county auditor of such county by the owner thereof as a brand or mark for the designation or identification of a like kind of property, is:

(1) If done with intent to confuse or commingle such property with, or to appropriate to his or her own use, the property of such other owner, guilty of a felony, punishable by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than five years, or by imprisonment in the county jail for up to three hundred sixty-four days, or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or by both fine and imprisonment; or

(2) If done without such intent, guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 96 § 5; 1992 c 7 § 4; 1909 c 249 § 343; RRS § 2595.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

**9.16.030 Counterfeit mark—Intellectual property.** Any person who willfully and knowingly, and for financial gain, manufactures, uses, displays, advertises, distributes, offers for sale, sells or possesses with intent to sell or distribute any item, or offers any services, bearing or identified by a counterfeit mark, is guilty of the crime of counterfeiting.

Any state or federal certificate of registration of any intellectual property is prima facie evidence of the facts stated in the certificate. [1999 c 322 § 2; 1909 c 249 § 344; Code 1881 § 854; 1873 p 194 § 63; 1854 p 85 § 87; RRS § 2596.]

**9.16.035 Counterfeiting—Penalties.** (1) Counterfeiting is a misdemeanor, except as provided in subsections (2), (3) and (4) of this section.

(2) Counterfeiting is a gross misdemeanor if:

(a) The defendant has previously been convicted under RCW 9.16.030; or

(b) The violation involves more than one hundred but fewer than one thousand items bearing a counterfeit mark or the total retail value of all items bearing a counterfeit mark or the total retail value of all items bearing, or services identified by, a counterfeit mark is more than one thousand dollars but less than ten thousand dollars.

(3) Counterfeiting is a class C felony if:

(a) The defendant has been previously convicted of two or more offenses under RCW 9.16.030;

(b) The violation involves the manufacture or production of items bearing counterfeit marks; or

(c) The violation involves one thousand or more items bearing a counterfeit mark or the total retail value of all items bearing, or services identified by, a counterfeit mark is ten thousand dollars or more.

(4) Counterfeiting is a class C felony if:

(a) The violation involves the manufacture, production, or distribution of items bearing counterfeit marks; and

(b) The defendant knew or should have known that the counterfeit items, by their intended use, endangered the health or safety of others.

(5) For purposes of this section, the quantity or retail value of items or services shall include the aggregate quantity or retail value of all items bearing, or services identified by, every counterfeit mark the defendant manufactures, uses, displays, advertises, distributes, possesses, or possesses with intent to sell.

(6) A person guilty of counterfeiting shall be fined an amount up to three times the retail value of the items bearing, or services identified by, a counterfeit mark, unless extenuating circumstances are shown by the defendant.

(7) The penalties provided for in this section are cumulative and do not affect any other civil and criminal penalties provided by law. [1999 c 322 § 3.]

**9.16.041 Counterfeit items—Seizure and forfeiture.**

(1) Any items bearing a counterfeit mark, and all personal property employed or used in connection with counterfeiting, including but not limited to, any items, objects, tools, machines, equipment, instruments, or vehicles of any kind, shall be seized by any law enforcement officer.

All seized personal property referenced in this subsection shall be forfeited in accordance with RCW 10.105.010.

(2) Upon request of the intellectual property owner, all seized items bearing a counterfeit mark shall be released to the intellectual property owner for destruction or disposition.

(3) If the intellectual property owner does not request release of seized items bearing a counterfeit mark, such items shall be destroyed unless the intellectual property owner consents to another disposition. [1999 c 322 § 4.]

**9.16.050 When deemed affixed.** A label, trademark, term, design, device or form of advertisement shall be deemed to be affixed to any goods, wares, merchandise, mixture, preparation or compound whenever it is in any manner placed in or upon either the article itself, or the box, bale, barrel, bottle, case, cask or other vessel or package, or the cover, wrapper, stopper, brand, label or other thing in, by or with which the goods are packed, enclosed or otherwise prepared for sale or distribution. [1909 c 249 § 346; RRS § 2598.]

**9.16.060 Fraudulent registration of trademark.**

Every person who shall for himself or herself, or on behalf of any other person, corporation, association, or union, procure the filing of any label, trademark, term, design, device, or form of advertisement, with the secretary of state by any fraudulent means, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 289; 1909 c 249 § 347; RRS § 2599.]

*Trademark registration: Chapter 19.77 RCW.*

**9.16.070 Form and similitude defined.** A plate, label, trademark, term, design, device or form of advertisement is in the form and similitude of the genuine instrument imitated if the finished parts of the engraving thereupon shall resemble or conform to the similar parts of the genuine instrument. [1909 c 249 § 348; RRS § 2600.]

**9.16.080 Petroleum products improperly labeled or graded—Penalty.** (1) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation:

(a) To use, adopt, place upon, or permit to be used, adopted or placed upon, any barrel, tank, drum or other container of gasoline or lubricating oil for internal combustion engines, sold or offered for sale, or upon any pump or other device used in delivering the same, any trade name, trademark, designation or other descriptive matter, which is not the true and correct trade name, trademark, designation or other descriptive matter of the gasoline or lubricating oil so sold or offered for sale;

(b) To sell, or offer for sale, or have in his or her or its possession with intent to sell, any gasoline or lubricating oil, contained in, or taken from, or through any barrel, tank, drum, or other container or pump or other device, so unlawfully labeled or marked, as hereinabove provided;

(c) To sell, or offer for sale, or have in his or her or its possession with intent to sell any gasoline or lubricating oil for internal combustion engines and to represent to the purchaser, or prospective purchaser, that such gasoline or lubricating oil so sold or offered for sale, is of a quality, grade or standard, or the product of a particular gasoline or lubricating oil manufacturing, refining or distributing company or association, other than the true quality, grade, standard, or the product of a particular gasoline or oil manufacturing, refining or distributing company or association, of the gasoline or oil so offered for sale or sold.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, any person, firm, or corporation violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) A second and each subsequent violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 14; 1927 c 222 § 1; RRS § 2637-1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.16.100 Use of the words "sterling silver," etc.** Every person who shall make, sell or offer to sell or dispose of, or have in his or her possession with intent to sell or dispose of any metal article marked, stamped or branded with the words "sterling," "sterling silver," or "solid silver," unless nine hundred twenty-five one-thousandths of the component parts of the metal of which such article and all parts thereof is manufactured is pure silver, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 290; 1909 c 249 § 428; RRS § 2680.]

**9.16.110 Use of words "coin silver," etc.** Every person who shall make, sell or offer to sell or dispose of, or have in his or her possession with intent to dispose of any metal article marked, stamped or branded with the words "coin," or "coin silver," unless nine hundred one-thousandths of the component parts of the metal of which such article and all parts thereof is manufactured, is pure silver, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 291; 1909 c 249 § 429; RRS § 2681.]

**9.16.120 Use of the word "sterling" on mounting.** Every person who shall make, sell, offer to sell or dispose of, or have in his or her possession with intent to sell or dispose of, any article comprised of leather, shell, ivory, celluloid,

pearl, glass, porcelain, pottery, steel or wood, to which is applied or attached a metal mounting marked, stamped or branded with the words "sterling," or "sterling silver," unless nine hundred twenty-five one-thousandths of the component parts of the metal of which such metal mounting is manufactured is pure silver, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 292; 1909 c 249 § 430; RRS § 2682.]

**9.16.130 Use of the words "coin silver" on mounting.** Every person who shall make, sell, offer to sell or dispose of, or have in his or her possession with intent to sell or dispose of, any article comprised of leather, shell, ivory, celluloid, pearl, glass, porcelain, pottery, steel or wood, to which is applied or attached a metal mounting marked, stamped or branded with the words "coin" or "coin silver," unless nine hundred one-thousandths of the component parts of the metal of which such metal mounting is manufactured is pure silver, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 293; 1909 c 249 § 431; RRS § 2683.]

**9.16.140 Unlawfully marking article made of gold.** Every person who shall make, sell, offer to sell or dispose of, or have in his or her possession with intent to sell or dispose of, any article constructed wholly or in part of gold, or of an alloy of gold, and marked, stamped or branded in such manner as to indicate that the gold or alloy of gold in such article is of a greater degree or carat of fineness, by more than one carat, than the actual carat or fineness of such gold or alloy of gold, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 294; 1909 c 249 § 432; RRS § 2684.]

**9.16.150 "Marked, stamped or branded" defined.** An article shall be deemed to be "marked, stamped or branded" whenever such article, or any box, package, cover or wrapper in which the same is enclosed, encased or prepared for sale or delivery, or any card, label or placard with which the same may be exhibited or displayed, is so marked, stamped or branded. [1909 c 249 § 433; RRS § 2685.]

### Chapter 9.18 RCW BIDDING OFFENSES (Formerly: Bribery and grafting)

#### Sections

9.18.080	Offender a competent witness.
9.18.120	Suppression of competitive bidding.
9.18.130	Collusion to prevent competitive bidding—Penalty.
9.18.150	Agreements outside state.

**9.18.080 Offender a competent witness.** Every person offending against any of the provisions of law relating to bribery or corruption shall be a competent witness against another so offending and shall not be excused from giving testimony tending to criminate himself or herself. [2011 c 336 § 295; 1909 c 249 § 78; RRS § 2330. Cf. 1907 c 60 §§ 1, 2; RRS §§ 2149, 2150.]

*Bribery and corruption: Chapter 9A.68 RCW.*

*Incriminating testimony not to be used: RCW 10.52.090.*

*Rights of accused persons: State Constitution Art. 1 § 9.*

**9.18.120 Suppression of competitive bidding.** (1) When any competitive bid or bids are to be or have been



solicited, requested, or advertised for by the state of Washington, or any county, city, town or other municipal corporation therein, or any department of either thereof, for any work or improvement to be done or constructed for or by such state, county, city, town, or other municipal corporation, or any department of either thereof, it shall be unlawful for any person acting for himself or herself or as agent of another, or as agent for or as a member of any partnership, unincorporated firm or association, or as an officer or agent of any corporation, to offer, give, or promise to give, any money, check, draft, property, or other thing of value, to another or to any firm, association, or corporation for the purpose of inducing such other person, firm, association, or corporation, either to refrain from submitting any bids upon such public work or improvement, or to enter into any agreement, understanding or arrangement whereby full and unrestricted competition for the securing of such public work will be suppressed, prevented, or eliminated; and it shall be unlawful for any person to solicit, accept, or receive any money, check, draft, property, or other thing of value upon a promise or understanding, express or implied, that he or she individually or as an agent or officer of another person, persons, or corporation, will refrain from bidding upon such public work or improvement, or that he or she will on behalf of himself or herself or such others submit or permit another to submit for him or her any bid upon such public work or improvement in such sum as to eliminate full and unrestricted competition thereon.

(2) A person violating this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 15; 1921 c 12 § 1; RRS § 2333-1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

### 9.18.130 Collusion to prevent competitive bidding—

**Penalty.** (1) It shall be unlawful for any person for himself or herself or as an agent or officer of any other person, persons, or corporation to in any manner enter into collusion or an understanding with any other person, persons, or corporation to prevent or eliminate full and unrestricted competition upon any public work or improvement mentioned in RCW 9.18.120.

(2) A person violating this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 16; 1921 c 12 § 2; RRS § 2333-2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.18.150 Agreements outside state.** It shall be no defense to a prosecution under RCW 9.18.120 through 9.18.150 that a payment or promise of payment of any money, check, draft, or anything of value, or any other understanding or arrangement to eliminate unrestricted competitive bids was had or made outside of the state of Washington, if such work or improvement for which bids are called is to be done or performed within the state. [1921 c 12 § 4; RRS § 2333-4.]

## Chapter 9.24 RCW CORPORATIONS, CRIMES RELATING TO

### Sections

9.24.010	Fraud in stock subscription.
9.24.020	Fraudulent issue of stock, scrip, etc.
9.24.030	Insolvent bank receiving deposit.
9.24.040	Corporation doing business without license.
9.24.050	False report of corporation.

*Banks and trust companies, penalties:* RCW 30.04.020, 30.04.050, 30.04.060, 30.04.230, 30.04.240, 30.04.260, 30.12.090 through 30.12.120, 30.12.190, 30.16.010, 30.44.110, 30.44.120.

*Business corporations:* Title 23B RCW.

*Child labor:* RCW 26.28.060, 26.28.070, chapter 49.12 RCW.

*Common carriers:* Chapter 22.32 RCW.

*Conspiracy, forfeiture of right to do business:* RCW 9A.08.030, 9A.28.040.

*Corporations, criminal process against:* Chapter 10.01 RCW.

*Credit unions, penalties:* Chapter 31.12 RCW.

*Discrimination in employment:* Chapter 49.60 RCW.

*False statements in filings with secretary of state:* RCW 43.07.210.

*Fraud:* Chapter 9A.60 RCW.

*Hours of labor:* Chapter 49.28 RCW.

*Industrial welfare:* Chapter 49.12 RCW.

*Insurance companies, penalties:* RCW 48.01.080, 48.06.190, 48.07.060, 48.08.040, 48.08.050, 48.09.340, 48.17.480, 48.18.180, 48.30.110, 48.30.190, 48.30.210 through 48.30.230, 48.44.060.

### Labor

*conditions of:* Chapter 49.12 RCW.

*prohibited practices:* Chapter 49.44 RCW.

*Legal services, advertising of—Penalty:* RCW 30.04.260.

*Minors, wages, working conditions, permits:* RCW 49.12.121, 49.12.123.

*Mutual savings banks, penalties:* RCW 32.04.100 through 32.04.130, 32.24.080.

*Public service companies:* Title 80 RCW.

*Railroad rolling stock, penalties:* RCW 81.60.080.

*Savings and loan associations, prohibited acts:* Chapter 33.36 RCW.

*Trading stamps, penalties:* RCW 19.84.040.

*Transportation companies:* Title 81 RCW.

*Unemployment compensation, penalties:* Chapter 50.36 RCW.

*Uniform Fraudulent Conveyance Act:* Chapter 19.40 RCW.

*Wages—Payment—Collection:* Chapter 49.48 RCW.

*Warehouse operators:* Chapter 22.32 RCW.

*Workers' compensation, penalties:* RCW 51.16.140, chapter 51.48 RCW.

**9.24.010 Fraud in stock subscription.** Every person who shall sign the name of a fictitious person to any subscription for or any agreement to take stock in any corporation existing or proposed, and every person who shall sign to any such subscription or agreement the name of any person, knowing that such person does not intend in good faith to comply with the terms thereof, or upon any understanding or agreement that the terms of such subscription or agreement are not to be complied with or enforced, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1909 c 249 § 386; RRS § 2638. Formerly RCW 9.44.090.]

**9.24.020 Fraudulent issue of stock, scrip, etc.** Every officer, agent or other person in the service of a joint stock company or corporation, domestic or foreign, who, willfully and knowingly with intent to defraud:

(1) Sells, pledges, or issues, or causes to be sold, pledged, or issued, or signs or executes, or causes to be

signed or executed, with intent to sell, pledge, or issue, or cause to be sold, pledged, or issued, any certificate or instrument purporting to be a certificate or evidence of ownership of any share or shares of such company or corporation, or any conveyance or encumbrance of real or personal property, contract, bond, or evidence of debt, or writing purporting to be a conveyance or encumbrance of real or personal property, contract, bond or evidence of debt of such company or corporation, without being first duly authorized by such company or corporation, or contrary to the charter or laws under which such company or corporation exists, or in excess of the power of such company or corporation, or of the limit imposed by law or otherwise upon its power to create or issue stock or evidence of debt; or,

(2) Reissues, sells, pledges, disposes of, or causes to be reissued, sold, pledged, or disposed of, any surrendered or canceled certificate or other evidence of the transfer of ownership of any such share or shares is guilty of a class B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than ten years, or by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars, or by both. [2003 c 53 § 17; 1992 c 7 § 5; 1909 c 249 § 387; RRS § 2639. Formerly RCW 9.37.070.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.24.030 Insolvent bank receiving deposit.** Every owner, officer, stockholder, agent or employee of any person, firm, corporation or association engaged, wholly or in part, in the business of banking or receiving money or negotiable paper or securities on deposit or in trust, who shall accept or receive, with or without interest, any deposit, or who shall consent thereto or connive thereat, when he or she knows or has good reason to believe that such person, firm, corporation or association is unsafe or insolvent, is guilty of a class B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than ten years, or by a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars. [2003 c 53 § 18; 1992 c 7 § 6; 1909 c 249 § 388; 1893 c 111 § 1; RRS § 2640. Formerly RCW 9.45.140.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Application to mutual savings banks:* RCW 32.04.120.

*Receiving deposits by bank after insolvency:* State Constitution Art. 12 § 12, RCW 30.44.120.

**9.24.040 Corporation doing business without license.** Every corporation, whether domestic or foreign, and every person representing or pretending to represent such corporation as an officer, agent or employee thereof, who shall transact, solicit or advertise for any business in this state, before such corporation shall have obtained from the officer lawfully authorized to issue the same, a certificate that such corporation is authorized to transact business in this state, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1909 c 249 § 389; RRS § 2641. Formerly RCW 9.45.130.]

*Application to mutual savings banks:* RCW 32.04.120.

**9.24.050 False report of corporation.** Every director, officer or agent of any corporation or joint stock association, and every person engaged in organizing or promoting any

enterprise, who shall knowingly make or publish or concur in making or publishing any written prospectus, report, exhibit or statement of its affairs or pecuniary condition, containing any material statement that is false or exaggerated, is guilty of a class B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than ten years, or by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars. [2003 c 53 § 19; 1992 c 7 § 7; 1909 c 249 § 390; RRS § 2642. Formerly RCW 9.38.040.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Application to mutual savings banks:* RCW 32.04.120.

## Chapter 9.26A RCW

### TELECOMMUNICATIONS CRIME

(Formerly: Credit cards, crimes relating to)

#### Sections

9.26A.090	Telephone company credit cards—Prohibited acts.
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9.26A.110	Fraud in obtaining telecommunications service—Penalty.
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9.26A.900	Severability—1990 c 11.

*Civil cause of action:* RCW 9A.56.268.

*Telecommunications crimes:* RCW 9A.56.262 through 9A.56.266.

**9.26A.090 Telephone company credit cards—Prohibited acts.** Every person who sells, rents, lends, gives, advertises for sale or rental, or publishes the credit card number of an existing, canceled, revoked, expired, or nonexistent telephone company credit card, or the numbering or coding that is employed in the issuance of telephone company credit cards or access devices, with the intent that it be used or with knowledge or reason to believe that it will be used to avoid the payment of any lawful charge, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1990 c 11 § 3; 1974 ex.s. c 160 § 1.]

**9.26A.100 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Access device" shall have the same meaning as that contained in RCW 9A.56.010.

(2) "Computer" means an electronic, magnetic, optical, electrochemical, or other high speed data processing device performing logical, arithmetic, or storage functions, and includes any data storage facility or communications facility directly related to or operating in conjunction with such device, but does not mean an automated typewriter or typesetter, portable hand held calculator, or other similar device.

(3) "Computer trespass" shall have the same meaning as that contained in chapter 9A.52 RCW.

(4) "Credit card number" means the card number or coding appearing on a credit card or other form of authorization, including an identification card or plate issued to a person by any telecommunications provider that permits the person to whom it has been issued to obtain telecommunications service on credit. The term includes the number or description of

the card or plate, even if the card or plate itself is not produced at the time the telecommunications service is obtained.

(5) "Publish" means the communication or dissemination of information to any one or more persons: (a) Orally, in person, or by telephone, radio, or television; (b) in a writing of any kind, including without limitation a letter or memorandum, circular or handbill, newspaper or magazine article, or book; or (c) electronically, including by the use of recordings, computer networks, bulletin boards, or other means of electronic storage and retrieval.

(6) "Telecommunications" shall have the same meaning as that contained in RCW 80.04.010 and includes telecommunications service that originates, terminates, or both originates and terminates in this state.

(7) "Telecommunications company" shall have the same meaning as that contained in RCW 80.04.010.

(8) "Telecommunications device" means any operating procedure or code, instrument, apparatus, or equipment designed or adapted for a particular use, and which is intended or can be used in violation of this chapter, and includes, but is not limited to, computer hardware, software, and programs; electronic mail system; voice mail system; private branch exchange; or any other means of facilitating telecommunications service.

(9) "Telephone company" means any local exchange company, as defined in RCW 80.04.010. [1990 c 11 § 1.]

**9.26A.110 Fraud in obtaining telecommunications service—Penalty.** (1) Every person who, with intent to evade the provisions of any order or rule of the Washington utilities and transportation commission or of any tariff, price list, contract, or any other filing lawfully submitted to the commission by any telephone, telegraph, or telecommunications company, or with intent to defraud, obtains telephone, telegraph, or telecommunications service from any telephone, telegraph, or telecommunications company through: (a) The use of a false or fictitious name or telephone number; (b) the unauthorized use of the name or telephone number of another; (c) the physical or electronic installation of, rearrangement of, or tampering with any equipment, or use of a telecommunications device; (d) the commission of computer trespass; or (e) any other trick, deceit, or fraudulent device, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(2) If the value of the telephone, telegraph, or telecommunications service that any person obtains in violation of this section during a period of ninety days exceeds fifty dollars in the aggregate, then such person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(3) If the value of the telephone, telegraph, or telecommunications service that any person obtains in violation of this section during a period of ninety days exceeds two hundred fifty dollars in the aggregate, then such person is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(4) For any act that constitutes a violation of both this section and RCW 9.26A.115 the provisions of RCW 9.26A.115 shall be exclusive. [2003 c 53 § 20; 1990 c 11 § 2; 1981 c 252 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 42 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 160 § 2; 1972 ex.s. c 75 § 1; 1955 c 114 § 1. Formerly RCW 9.45.240.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Injunctive relief for violations: RCW 7.40.230.*

**9.26A.115 Fraud in obtaining telecommunications service—Use of telecommunications device—Penalty.** Every person is guilty of a class B felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW who:

(1) Makes, possesses, sells, gives, or otherwise transfers to another a telecommunications device with intent to use it or with knowledge or reason to believe it is intended to be used to avoid any lawful telephone or telegraph toll charge or to conceal the existence or place of origin or destination of any telephone or telegraph message; or

(2) Sells, gives, or otherwise transfers to another plans or instructions for making or assembling a telecommunications device described in subsection (1) of this section with knowledge or reason to believe that the plans may be used to make or assemble such device. [2003 c 53 § 21.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.26A.120 Fraud in operating coin-box telephone or other receptacle.** Any person who shall knowingly and wilfully operate, or cause to be operated, or who shall attempt to operate, or attempt to cause to be operated, [any] coin-box telephone or other receptacle designed to receive lawful coin of the United States of America in connection with the sale, use or enjoyment of property or service, by means of a slug or any false, counterfeited, mutilated, sweated or foreign coin, or by any means, method, trick or device whatsoever not lawfully authorized by the owner, lessee, or licensee of such machine, coin-box telephone or other receptacle designed to receive lawful coin of the United States of America in connection with the sale, use or enjoyment of property or service, any goods, wares, merchandise, gas, electric current, article of value, or the use or enjoyment of any telephone or telegraph facilities or service without depositing in and surrendering to such machine, coin-box telephone or receptacle lawful coin of the United States of America to the amount required therefor by the owner, lessee or licensee of such machine, coin-box telephone or receptacle, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1929 c 184 § 1; RRS § 5842-1. Formerly RCW 9.45.180.]

**9.26A.130 Penalty for manufacture or sale of slugs to be used for coin.** Any person who, with intent to cheat or defraud the owner, lessee, licensee or other person entitled to the contents of any coin-box telephone or other receptacle, depository or contrivance, designed to receive lawful coin of the United States of America in connection with the sale, use or enjoyment of property or service, or who, knowing or having cause to believe, that the same is intended for unlawful use, shall manufacture for sale, or sell or give away any slug, device, or substance whatsoever intended or calculated to be placed or deposited in any coin-box telephone or other such receptacle, depository or contrivance, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1929 c 184 § 2; RRS § 5842-2. Formerly RCW 9.45.190.]

**9.26A.140 Unauthorized sale or procurement of telephone records—Penalties—Definitions.** (1) A person is

guilty of the unauthorized sale or procurement of telephone records if the person:

(a) Intentionally sells the telephone record of any resident of this state without the authorization of the customer to whom the record pertains;

(b) By fraudulent, deceptive, or false means obtains the telephone record of any resident of this state to whom the record pertains;

(c) Knowingly purchases the telephone record of any resident of this state without the authorization of the customer to whom the record pertains; or

(d) Knowingly receives the telephone record of any resident of this state without the authorization of the customer to whom the record pertains.

(2) This section does not apply to:

(a) Any action by a government agency, or any officer, employee, or agent of such agency, to obtain telephone records in connection with the performance of the official duties of the agency;

(b) A telecommunications company that obtains, uses, discloses, or permits access to any telephone record, either directly or indirectly through its agents, that is:

(i) With the lawful consent of the customer or subscriber;

(ii) Authorized by law;

(iii) Necessarily incident to the rendition of the service or to the protection of the rights or property of the provider of that service, or to protect users of those services and other carriers from fraudulent, abusive, or unlawful use of, or subscription to, such services; or

(iv) In connection with the sale or transfer of all or part of its business, or the purchase or acquisition of a portion or all of a business, or the migration of a customer from one carrier to another.

(3) A violation of subsection (1)(a), (b), or (c) of this section is a class C felony. A violation of subsection (1)(d) of this section is a gross misdemeanor.

(4) A person who violates this section is subject to legal action for injunctive relief and either actual damages, including mental pain and suffering, or liquidated damages of five thousand dollars per violation, whichever is greater. Reasonable attorneys' fees and other costs of litigation are also recoverable.

(5) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(a) "Telecommunications company" has the meaning provided in RCW 9.26A.100 and includes "radio communications service companies" as defined in RCW 80.04.010.

(b) "Telephone record" means information retained by a telecommunications company that relates to the telephone number dialed by the customer or the incoming number or call directed to a customer, or other data related to such calls typically contained on a customer telephone bill such as the time the call started and ended, the duration of the call, the time of day the call was made, and any charges applied. "Telephone record" does not include any information collected and retained by customers using caller identification or other similar technologies.

(c) "Procure" means to obtain by any means, whether electronically, in writing, or in oral form, with or without consideration. [2006 c 193 § 1.]

**9.26A.900 Severability—1990 c 11.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1990 c 11 § 6.]

## Chapter 9.27 RCW INTERFERENCE WITH COURT

### Sections

9.27.015 Interference, obstruction of any court, building, or residence—Violations.

*Disturbing school or school meeting: RCW 28A.635.030.*

**9.27.015 Interference, obstruction of any court, building, or residence—Violations.** Whoever, interfering with, obstructing, or impeding the administration of justice, pickets or parades in or near a building housing a court of the state of Washington or any political subdivision thereof, or in or near a building or residence occupied or used by such judge, juror, witness, or court officer, or uses any sound-truck or similar device or resorts to any other demonstration in or near any such building or residence, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Nothing in this section shall interfere with or prevent the exercise by any court of the state of Washington or any political subdivision thereof of its power to punish for contempt. [1971 ex.s. c 302 § 16.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 9.31 RCW ESCAPED PRISONER RECAPTURED (Formerly: Escape)

### Sections

9.31.090 Escaped prisoner recaptured.

*Escape: RCW 9A.76.110 through 9A.76.130.*

*Limitation of action against officer for permitting escape: RCW 4.16.110.*

*Parole-revoked offender as escapee: RCW 9.95.130.*

*Prisoners—Correctional institutions: Chapter 9.94 RCW.*

**9.31.090 Escaped prisoner recaptured.** Every person in custody, under sentence of imprisonment for any crime, who shall escape from custody, may be recaptured and imprisoned for a term equal to the unexpired portion of the original term. [1909 c 249 § 89; RRS § 2341.]

*Indeterminate sentences: Chapter 9.95 RCW.*

## Chapter 9.35 RCW IDENTITY CRIMES

### Sections

9.35.001 Findings—Intent.  
9.35.005 Definitions.  
9.35.010 Improperly obtaining financial information.  
9.35.020 Identity theft.  
9.35.030 Soliciting undesired mail.  
9.35.040 Information available to victim.  
9.35.050 Incident reports.  
9.35.800 Application of Consumer Protection Act.  
9.35.900 Effective date—1999 c 368.  
9.35.901 Captions not law—1999 c 368.  
9.35.902 Severability—1999 c 368.

*Block of information appearing as result of identity theft: RCW 19.182.160.*

**9.35.001 Findings—Intent.** The legislature finds that means of identification and financial information are personal and sensitive information such that if unlawfully obtained, possessed, used, or transferred by others may result in significant harm to a person's privacy, financial security, and other interests. The legislature finds that unscrupulous persons find ever more clever ways, including identity theft, to improperly obtain, possess, use, and transfer another person's means of identification or financial information. The legislature intends to penalize for each unlawful act of improperly obtaining, possessing, using, or transferring means of identification or financial information of an individual person. The unit of prosecution for identity theft by use of a means of identification or financial information is each individual unlawful use of any one person's means of identification or financial information. Unlawfully obtaining, possessing, or transferring each means of identification or financial information of any individual person, with the requisite intent, is a separate unit of prosecution for each victim and for each act of obtaining, possessing, or transferring of the individual person's means of identification or financial information. [2008 c 207 § 3; 1999 c 368 § 1.]

**Finding—Intent—2008 c 207 §§ 3 and 4:** "The legislature enacts sections 3 and 4 of this act to expressly reject the interpretation of *State v. Leyda*, 157 Wn.2d 335, 138 P.3d 610 (2006), which holds that the unit of prosecution in identity theft is any one act of either knowingly obtaining, possessing, using, or transferring a single piece of another's identification or financial information, including all subsequent proscribed conduct with that single piece of identification or financial information, when the acts are taken with the requisite intent. The legislature finds that proportionality of punishment requires the need for charging and punishing for obtaining, using, possessing, or transferring any individual person's identification or financial information, with the requisite intent. The legislature specifically intends that each individual who obtains, possesses, uses, or transfers any individual person's identification or financial information, with the requisite intent, be classified separately and punished separately as provided in chapter 9.94A RCW." [2008 c 207 § 1.]

**9.35.005 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Financial information" means any of the following information identifiable to the individual that concerns the amount and conditions of an individual's assets, liabilities, or credit:

- (a) Account numbers and balances;
- (b) Transactional information concerning an account; and
- (c) Codes, passwords, social security numbers, tax identification numbers, driver's license or permit numbers, state identocard numbers issued by the department of licensing, and other information held for the purpose of account access or transaction initiation.

(2) "Financial information repository" means a person engaged in the business of providing services to customers who have a credit, deposit, trust, stock, or other financial account or relationship with the person.

(3) "Means of identification" means information or an item that is not describing finances or credit but is personal to or identifiable with an individual or other person, including: A current or former name of the person, telephone number, an electronic address, or identifier of the individual or a

member of his or her family, including the ancestor of the person; information relating to a change in name, address, telephone number, or electronic address or identifier of the individual or his or her family; a social security, driver's license, or tax identification number of the individual or a member of his or her family; and other information that could be used to identify the person, including unique biometric data.

(4) "Person" means a person as defined in RCW 9A.04.110.

(5) "Victim" means a person whose means of identification or financial information has been used or transferred with the intent to commit, or to aid or abet, any unlawful activity. [2001 c 217 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.35.010 Improperly obtaining financial information.** (1) No person may obtain or attempt to obtain, or cause to be disclosed or attempt to cause to be disclosed to any person, financial information from a financial information repository, financial services provider, merchant, corporation, trust, partnership, or unincorporated association:

(a) By knowingly making a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation to an officer, employee, or agent of a financial information repository with the intent to deceive the officer, employee, or agent into relying on that statement or representation for purposes of releasing the financial information;

(b) By knowingly making a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation to a customer of a financial information repository, financial services provider, merchant, corporation, trust, partnership, or unincorporated association with the intent to deceive the customer into releasing financial information or authorizing the release of such information;

(c) By knowingly providing any document to an officer, employee, or agent of a financial information repository, financial services provider, merchant, corporation, trust, partnership, or unincorporated association, knowing that the document is forged, counterfeit, lost, or stolen; was fraudulently obtained; or contains a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation, if the document is provided with the intent to deceive the officer, employee, or agent to release the financial information.

(2) No person may request another person to obtain financial information from a financial information repository, financial services provider, merchant, corporation, trust, partnership, or unincorporated association and knows or should have known that the person will obtain or attempt to obtain the information from the financial institution repository, financial services provider, merchant, corporation, trust, partnership, or unincorporated association in any manner described in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) No provision of this section shall be construed so as to prevent any action by a law enforcement agency, or any officer, employee, or agent of such agency, or any action of an agent of the financial information repository, financial services provider, merchant, corporation, trust, partnership, or unincorporated association when working in conjunction with a law enforcement agency.

(4) This section does not apply to:

(a) Efforts by the financial information repository to test security procedures or systems of the financial institution repository for maintaining the confidentiality of customer information;

(b) Investigation of alleged employee misconduct or negligence; or

(c) Efforts to recover financial or personal information of the financial institution obtained or received by another person in any manner described in subsection (1) or (2) of this section.

(5) Violation of this section is a class C felony.

(6) A person who violates this section is liable for five hundred dollars or actual damages, whichever is greater, and reasonable attorneys' fees. [2001 c 217 § 8; 1999 c 368 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.35.020 Identity theft.** (1) No person may knowingly obtain, possess, use, or transfer a means of identification or financial information of another person, living or dead, with the intent to commit, or to aid or abet, any crime.

(2) Violation of this section when the accused or an accomplice violates subsection (1) of this section and obtains credit, money, goods, services, or anything else of value in excess of one thousand five hundred dollars in value shall constitute identity theft in the first degree. Identity theft in the first degree is a class B felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(3) A person is guilty of identity theft in the second degree when he or she violates subsection (1) of this section under circumstances not amounting to identity theft in the first degree. Identity theft in the second degree is a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(4) Each crime prosecuted under this section shall be punished separately under chapter 9.94A RCW, unless it is the same criminal conduct as any other crime, under RCW 9.94A.589.

(5) Whenever any series of transactions involving a single person's means of identification or financial information which constitute identity theft would, when considered separately, constitute identity theft in the second degree because of value, and the series of transactions are a part of a common scheme or plan, then the transactions may be aggregated in one count and the sum of the value of all of the transactions shall be the value considered in determining the degree of identity theft involved.

(6) Every person who, in the commission of identity theft, shall commit any other crime may be punished therefor as well as for the identity theft, and may be prosecuted for each crime separately.

(7) A person who violates this section is liable for civil damages of one thousand dollars or actual damages, whichever is greater, including costs to repair the victim's credit record, and reasonable attorneys' fees as determined by the court.

(8) In a proceeding under this section, the crime will be considered to have been committed in any locality where the person whose means of identification or financial information was appropriated resides, or in which any part of the offense took place, regardless of whether the defendant was ever actually in that locality.

(9) The provisions of this section do not apply to any person who obtains another person's driver's license or other form of identification for the sole purpose of misrepresenting his or her age.

(10) In a proceeding under this section in which a person's means of identification or financial information was used without that person's authorization, and when there has been a conviction, the sentencing court may issue such orders as are necessary to correct a public record that contains false information resulting from a violation of this section. [2008 c 207 § 4; 2004 c 273 § 2; 2003 c 53 § 22; 2001 c 217 § 9; 1999 c 368 § 3.]

**Finding—Intent—2008 c 207 §§ 3 and 4:** See note following RCW 9.35.001.

**Finding—Purpose—2004 c 273:** "The legislature finds that identity theft and the other types of fraud is a significant problem in the state of Washington, costing our citizens and businesses millions each year. The most common method of accomplishing identity theft and other fraudulent activity is by securing a fraudulently issued driver's license. It is the purpose of this act to significantly reduce identity theft and other fraud by preventing the fraudulent issuance of driver's licenses and identicards." [2004 c 273 § 1.]

**Effective date—2004 c 273:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2004 c 273 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.35.030 Soliciting undesired mail.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to knowingly use a means of identification or financial information of another person to solicit undesired mail with the intent to annoy, harass, intimidate, torment, or embarrass that person.

(2) Violation of this section is a misdemeanor.

(3) Additionally, a person who violates this section is liable for civil damages of five hundred dollars or actual damages, including costs to repair the person's credit record, whichever is greater, and reasonable attorneys' fees as determined by the court. [2001 c 217 § 10; 2000 c 77 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.35.040 Information available to victim.** (1) A person, financial information repository, financial service provider, merchant, corporation, trust, partnership, or unincorporated association possessing information relating to an actual or potential violation of this chapter, and who may have entered into a transaction, provided credit, products, goods, or services, accepted payment, or otherwise done business with a person who has used the victim's means of identification, must, upon written request of the victim, provide copies of all relevant application and transaction information related to the transaction being alleged as a potential or actual violation of this chapter. Nothing in this section requires the information provider to disclose information that it is otherwise prohibited from disclosing by law, except that a law that prohibits disclosing a person's information to third parties shall not be used to deny disclosure of such information to the victim under this section.

(2) Unless the information provider is otherwise willing to verify the victim's identification, the victim shall provide the following as proof of positive identification:

(a) The showing of a government-issued photo identification card or, if providing proof by mail, a copy of a government-issued photo identification card;

(b) A copy of a filed police report evidencing the victim's claim; and

(c) A written statement from the state patrol showing that the state patrol has on file documentation of the victim's identity pursuant to the personal identification procedures in RCW 43.43.760.

(3) The provider may require compensation for the reasonable cost of providing the information requested.

(4) No person, financial information repository, financial service provider, merchant, corporation, trust, partnership, or unincorporated association may be held liable for an action taken in good faith to provide information regarding potential or actual violations of this chapter to other financial information repositories, financial service providers, merchants, law enforcement authorities, victims, or any persons alleging to be a victim who comply with subsection (2) of this section which evidences the alleged victim's claim for the purpose of identification and prosecution of violators of this chapter, or to assist a victim in recovery of fines, restitution, rehabilitation of the victim's credit, or such other relief as may be appropriate.

(5) A person, financial information repository, financial service provider, merchant, corporation, trust, partnership, or unincorporated association may decline to provide information pursuant to this section when, in the exercise of good faith and reasonable judgment, it believes this section does not require disclosure of the information.

(6) Nothing in this section creates an obligation on the part of a person, financial information repository, financial services provider, merchant, corporation, trust, partnership, or unincorporated association to retain or maintain information or records that they are not otherwise required to retain or maintain in the ordinary course of its business.

(7) The legislature finds that the practices covered by this section are matters vitally affecting the public interest for the purpose of applying the Consumer Protection Act, chapter 19.86 RCW. Violations of this section are not reasonable in relation to the development and preservation of business. It is an unfair or deceptive act in trade or commerce and an unfair method of competition for the purpose of applying the Consumer Protection Act, chapter 19.86 RCW. The burden of proof in an action alleging a violation of this section shall be by a preponderance of the evidence, and the applicable statute of limitation shall be as set forth in RCW 19.182.120. For purposes of a judgment awarded pursuant to an action by a consumer under chapter 19.86 RCW, the consumer shall be awarded actual damages. However, where there has been willful failure to comply with any requirement imposed under this section, the consumer shall be awarded actual damages, a monetary penalty of one thousand dollars, and the costs of the action together with reasonable attorneys' fees as determined by the court. [2001 c 217 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.35.050 Incident reports.** (1) A person who has learned or reasonably suspects that his or her financial information or means of identification has been unlawfully obtained, used by, or disclosed to another, as described in this chapter, may file an incident report with a law enforcement agency, by contacting the local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over his or her actual residence, place of busi-

ness, or place where the crime occurred. The law enforcement agency shall create a police incident report of the matter and provide the complainant with a copy of that report, and may refer the incident report to another law enforcement agency.

(2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a law enforcement agency to investigate reports claiming identity theft. An incident report filed under this section is not required to be counted as an open case for purposes of compiling open case statistics. [2008 c 207 § 2.]

#### **9.35.800 Application of Consumer Protection Act.**

The legislature finds that the practices covered by RCW 9.35.010 and 9.35.020 are matters vitally affecting the public interest for the purpose of applying the Consumer Protection Act, chapter 19.86 RCW. Violations of RCW 9.35.010 or 9.35.020 are not reasonable in relation to the development and preservation of business. A violation of RCW 9.35.010 or 9.35.020 is an unfair or deceptive act in trade or commerce and an unfair method of competition for the purpose of applying the Consumer Protection Act, chapter 19.86 RCW.

Nothing in RCW 9.35.010 or 9.35.020 limits a victim's ability to receive treble damages under RCW 19.86.090. [2001 c 217 § 7.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.35.900 Effective date—1999 c 368.** This act takes effect January 1, 2000. [1999 c 368 § 4.]

**9.35.901 Captions not law—1999 c 368.** Captions used in this chapter are not part of the law. [1999 c 368 § 5.]

**9.35.902 Severability—1999 c 368.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1999 c 368 § 6.]

### **Chapter 9.38 RCW FALSE REPRESENTATIONS**

#### Sections

9.38.010	False representation concerning credit.
9.38.015	False statement by deposit account applicant.
9.38.020	False representation concerning title.
9.38.060	Digital signature violations.

*Domestic insurers, corrupt practices:* RCW 48.06.190.

#### *Elections*

*falsification by voters:* Chapter 29A.84 RCW.  
*initiative and referendum petitions:* RCW 29A.84.230.  
*recall petitions:* Chapter 29A.56 RCW.

*Employment, obtaining by false recommendation:* RCW 49.44.040.

*Food, drugs, and cosmetics:* Chapter 69.04 RCW.

*Fraud:* Chapter 9A.60 RCW.

*Honey act, falsification:* RCW 69.28.180.

*Insurance, unfair practices:* Chapter 48.30 RCW.

*Liquor permit falsification:* RCW 66.20.200.

*Marriage affidavit:* RCW 26.04.210.

*Motor vehicles, certificates of title:* RCW 46.12.750.

*Pharmacy licensing:* RCW 18.64.250.

*Public assistance falsification:* RCW 74.08.055.

*Warehouse receipts and documents, falsifying: Chapter 22.32 RCW.*

**9.38.010 False representation concerning credit.**

Every person who, with intent thereby to obtain credit or financial rating, shall willfully make any false statement in writing of his or her assets or liabilities to any person with whom he or she may be either actually or prospectively engaged in any business transaction or to any commercial agency or other person engaged in the business of collecting or disseminating information concerning financial or commercial ratings, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 296; 1909 c 249 § 368; RRS § 2620.]

**9.38.015 False statement by deposit account applicant.** (1) It is a gross misdemeanor for a deposit account applicant to knowingly make any false statement to a financial institution regarding:

- (a) The applicant's identity;
- (b) Past convictions for crimes involving fraud or deception; or
- (c) Outstanding judgments on checks or drafts issued by the applicant.

(2) Each violation of subsection (1) of this section after the third violation is a class C felony punishable as provided in chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1995 c 186 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.38.020 False representation concerning title.** Every person who shall maliciously or fraudulently execute or file for record any instrument, or put forward any claim, by which the right or title of another to any real or personal property is, or purports to be transferred, encumbered or clouded, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2000 c 250 § 9A-821; 1909 c 249 § 369; RRS § 2621.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.38.060 Digital signature violations.** (1) A person shall not knowingly misrepresent the person's identity or authorization to obtain a public key certificate used to reference a private key for creating a digital signature.

(2) A person shall not knowingly forge a digital signature as defined in RCW 19.34.020(16).

(3) A person shall not knowingly present a public key certificate for which the person is not the owner of the corresponding private key in order to obtain unauthorized access to information or engage in an unauthorized transaction.

(4) The definitions in RCW 19.34.020 apply to this section.

(5) A person who violates this section is guilty of a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2001 c 39 § 1.]

**Chapter 9.40 RCW  
FIRE, CRIMES RELATING TO**

Sections

9.40.040	Operating engine or boiler without spark arrester.
9.40.100	Tampering with fire alarm or firefighting equipment—False alarm—Penalties.
9.40.105	Tampering with fire alarm or firefighting equipment—Intent to commit arson—Penalty.
9.40.110	Incendiary devices—Definitions.

9.40.120	Incendiary devices—Penalty.
9.40.130	Incendiary devices—Exceptions.

*Arson: Chapter 9A.48 RCW.*

*Burning without permit in fire protection district—Penalty: RCW 52.12.101, 52.12.105.*

*County fire regulations: RCW 36.43.040.*

*Doors of buildings used by public: RCW 70.54.070.*

*Explosives, crimes relating to: Chapter 70.74 RCW.*

*Forest fire protection: Chapter 76.04 RCW.*

*Fraudulent destruction of insured property: RCW 48.30.220.*

*Special rights of action: Chapter 4.24 RCW.*

*State parks, fire violations: RCW 79A.05.165.*

**9.40.040 Operating engine or boiler without spark arrester.** Every person who shall operate or permit to be operated in dangerous proximity to any brush, grass or other inflammable material, any spark-emitting engine or boiler which is not equipped with a modern spark-arrester, in good condition, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1929 c 172 § 1; 1909 c 249 § 272; RRS § 2524.]

**9.40.100 Tampering with fire alarm or firefighting equipment—False alarm—Penalties.** Any person who willfully and without cause tampers with, molests, injures or breaks any public or private fire alarm apparatus, emergency phone, radio, or other wire or signal, or any firefighting equipment, or who willfully and without having reasonable grounds for believing a fire exists, sends, gives, transmits, or sounds any false alarm of fire, by shouting in a public place or by means of any public or private fire alarm system or signal, or by telephone, is guilty of a misdemeanor. This provision shall not prohibit the testing of fire alarm systems by persons authorized to do so, by a fire department or the chief of the Washington state patrol, through the director of fire protection. [2003 c 53 § 23; 1995 c 369 § 3; 1990 c 177 § 1; 1986 c 266 § 80; 1967 c 204 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.40.105 Tampering with fire alarm or firefighting equipment—Intent to commit arson—Penalty.** Any person who willfully and without cause tampers with, molests, injures, or breaks any public or private fire alarm apparatus, emergency phone, radio, or other wire or signal, or any firefighting equipment with the intent to commit arson, is guilty of a class B felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 24.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.40.110 Incendiary devices—Definitions.** For the purposes of RCW 9.40.110 through 9.40.130, as now or hereafter amended, unless the context indicates otherwise:

(1) "Disposes of" means to give, give away, loan, offer, offer for sale, sell, or transfer.

(2) "Incendiary device" means any material, substance, device, or combination thereof which is capable of supplying the initial ignition and/or fuel for a fire and is designed to be used as an instrument of wilful destruction. However, no device commercially manufactured primarily for the purpose



of illumination shall be deemed to be an incendiary device for purposes of this section. [1971 ex.s. c 302 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 79 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.40.120 Incendiary devices—Penalty.** Every person who possesses, manufactures, or disposes of an incendiary device knowing it to be such is guilty of a class B felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW, and upon conviction, shall be punished by imprisonment in a state prison for a term of not more than ten years. [2003 c 53 § 25; 1999 c 352 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 302 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 79 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.40.130 Incendiary devices—Exceptions.** RCW 9.40.120, as now or hereafter amended, shall not prohibit the authorized use or possession of any material, substance, or device described therein by a member of the armed forces of the United States or by firefighters, or peace officers, nor shall these sections prohibit the use or possession of any material, substance, or device described therein when used solely for scientific research or educational purposes or for any lawful purpose. RCW 9.40.120, as now or hereafter amended, shall not prohibit the manufacture or disposal of an incendiary device for the parties or purposes described in this section. [2007 c 218 § 62; 1971 ex.s. c 302 § 5; 1969 ex.s. c 79 § 4.]

**Intent—Finding—2007 c 218:** See note following RCW 1.08.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 9.41 RCW

### FIREARMS AND DANGEROUS WEAPONS

#### Sections

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*Explosives: Chapter 70.74 RCW.*

*Possessing a stolen firearm: RCW 9A.56.310.*

*Shooting firearm from, across, or along public highway: RCW 77.15.460.*

*Theft of a firearm: RCW 9A.56.300.*

**9.41.010 Terms defined.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Antique firearm" means a firearm or replica of a firearm not designed or redesigned for using rim fire or conventional center fire ignition with fixed ammunition and manufactured in or before 1898, including any matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition system and also any firearm using fixed ammunition manufactured in or before 1898, for which ammunition is no longer manufactured in the United States and is not readily available in the ordinary channels of commercial trade.

(2) "Barrel length" means the distance from the bolt face of a closed action down the length of the axis of the bore to the crown of the muzzle, or in the case of a barrel with attachments to the end of any legal device permanently attached to the end of the muzzle.

(3) "Crime of violence" means:

(a) Any of the following felonies, as now existing or hereafter amended: Any felony defined under any law as a class A felony or an attempt to commit a class A felony, criminal solicitation of or criminal conspiracy to commit a class A felony, manslaughter in the first degree, manslaughter in the second degree, indecent liberties if committed by forcible compulsion, kidnapping in the second degree, arson in the second degree, assault in the second degree, assault of a child in the second degree, extortion in the first degree, burglary in the second degree, residential burglary, and robbery in the second degree;

(b) Any conviction for a felony offense in effect at any time prior to June 6, 1996, which is comparable to a felony classified as a crime of violence in (a) of this subsection; and

(c) Any federal or out-of-state conviction for an offense comparable to a felony classified as a crime of violence under (a) or (b) of this subsection.

(4) "Dealer" means a person engaged in the business of selling firearms at wholesale or retail who has, or is required to have, a federal firearms license under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 923(a). A person who does not have, and is not required to have, a federal firearms license under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 923(a), is not a dealer if that person makes only occasional sales, exchanges, or purchases of firearms for the enhancement of a personal collection or for a hobby, or sells all or part of his or her personal collection of firearms.

(5) "Family or household member" means "family" or "household member" as used in RCW 10.99.020.

(6) "Felony" means any felony offense under the laws of this state or any federal or out-of-state offense comparable to a felony offense under the laws of this state.

(7) "Firearm" means a weapon or device from which a projectile or projectiles may be fired by an explosive such as gunpowder.

(8) "Law enforcement officer" includes a general authority Washington peace officer as defined in RCW 10.93.020, or a specially commissioned Washington peace officer as defined in RCW 10.93.020. "Law enforcement officer" also includes a limited authority Washington peace officer as defined in RCW 10.93.020 if such officer is duly authorized by his or her employer to carry a concealed pistol.

(9) "Lawful permanent resident" has the same meaning afforded a person "lawfully admitted for permanent residence" in 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1101(a)(20).

(10) "Loaded" means:

(a) There is a cartridge in the chamber of the firearm;

(b) Cartridges are in a clip that is locked in place in the firearm;

(c) There is a cartridge in the cylinder of the firearm, if the firearm is a revolver;

(d) There is a cartridge in the tube or magazine that is inserted in the action; or

(e) There is a ball in the barrel and the firearm is capped or primed if the firearm is a muzzle loader.

(11) "Machine gun" means any firearm known as a machine gun, mechanical rifle, submachine gun, or any other mechanism or instrument not requiring that the trigger be pressed for each shot and having a reservoir clip, disc, drum, belt, or other separable mechanical device for storing, carrying, or supplying ammunition which can be loaded into the firearm, mechanism, or instrument, and fired therefrom at the rate of five or more shots per second.

(12) "Nonimmigrant alien" means a person defined as such in 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1101(a)(15).

(13) "Pistol" means any firearm with a barrel less than sixteen inches in length, or is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand.

(14) "Rifle" means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed metallic cartridge to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger.

(15) "Sell" refers to the actual approval of the delivery of a firearm in consideration of payment or promise of payment of a certain price in money.

(16) "Serious offense" means any of the following felonies or a felony attempt to commit any of the following felonies, as now existing or hereafter amended:

(a) Any crime of violence;

(b) Any felony violation of the uniform controlled substances act, chapter 69.50 RCW, that is classified as a class B felony or that has a maximum term of imprisonment of at least ten years;

(c) Child molestation in the second degree;

(d) Incest when committed against a child under age fourteen;

(e) Indecent liberties;

(f) Leading organized crime;

(g) Promoting prostitution in the first degree;

(h) Rape in the third degree;

(i) Drive-by shooting;

(j) Sexual exploitation;

(k) Vehicular assault, when caused by the operation or driving of a vehicle by a person while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug or by the operation or driving of a vehicle in a reckless manner;

(l) Vehicular homicide, when proximately caused by the driving of any vehicle by any person while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug as defined by RCW 46.61.502, or by the operation of any vehicle in a reckless manner;

(m) Any other class B felony offense with a finding of sexual motivation, as "sexual motivation" is defined under RCW 9.94A.030;

(n) Any other felony with a deadly weapon verdict under \*RCW 9.94A.602; or

(o) Any felony offense in effect at any time prior to June 6, 1996, that is comparable to a serious offense, or any federal or out-of-state conviction for an offense that under the laws of this state would be a felony classified as a serious offense.

(17) "Short-barreled rifle" means a rifle having one or more barrels less than sixteen inches in length and any weapon made from a rifle by any means of modification if such modified weapon has an overall length of less than twenty-six inches.

(18) "Short-barreled shotgun" means a shotgun having one or more barrels less than eighteen inches in length and any weapon made from a shotgun by any means of modification if such modified weapon has an overall length of less than twenty-six inches.

(19) "Shotgun" means a weapon with one or more barrels, designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed shotgun shell to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball shot or a single projectile for each single pull of the trigger. [2009 c 216 § 1; 2001 c 300 § 2; 1997 c 338 § 46; 1996 c 295 § 1. Prior: 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 401; 1994 c 121 § 1; prior: 1992 c 205 § 117; 1992 c 145 § 5; 1983 c 232 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 302 § 1; 1961 c 124 § 1; 1935 c 172 § 1; RRS § 2516-1.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 9.94A.602 was recodified as RCW 9.94A.825 pursuant to 2009 c 28 § 41.

(2) The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.040 Unlawful possession of firearms—Ownership, possession by certain persons—Restoration of right to possess—Penalties.** (1)(a) A person, whether an adult or juvenile, is guilty of the crime of unlawful possession of a firearm in the first degree, if the person owns, has in his or her possession, or has in his or her control any firearm after having previously been convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity in this state or elsewhere of any serious offense as defined in this chapter.

(b) Unlawful possession of a firearm in the first degree is a class B felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(2)(a) A person, whether an adult or juvenile, is guilty of the crime of unlawful possession of a firearm in the second degree, if the person does not qualify under subsection (1) of this section for the crime of unlawful possession of a firearm in the first degree and the person owns, has in his or her possession, or has in his or her control any firearm:

(i) After having previously been convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity in this state or elsewhere of any felony not specifically listed as prohibiting firearm possession under subsection (1) of this section, or any of the following crimes when committed by one family or household member against another, committed on or after July 1, 1993: Assault in the fourth degree, coercion, stalking, reckless endangerment, criminal trespass in the first degree, or violation of the provisions of a protection order or no-contact order restraining the person or excluding the person from a residence (RCW 26.50.060, 26.50.070, 26.50.130, or 10.99.040);

(ii) After having previously been involuntarily committed for mental health treatment under RCW 71.05.240, 71.05.320, 71.34.740, 71.34.750, chapter 10.77 RCW, or equivalent statutes of another jurisdiction, unless his or her right to possess a firearm has been restored as provided in RCW 9.41.047;

(iii) If the person is under eighteen years of age, except as provided in RCW 9.41.042; and/or

(iv) If the person is free on bond or personal recognizance pending trial, appeal, or sentencing for a serious offense as defined in RCW 9.41.010.

(b) Unlawful possession of a firearm in the second degree is a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(3) Notwithstanding RCW 9.41.047 or any other provisions of law, as used in this chapter, a person has been "convicted", whether in an adult court or adjudicated in a juvenile court, at such time as a plea of guilty has been accepted, or a verdict of guilty has been filed, notwithstanding the pendency of any future proceedings including but not limited to sentencing or disposition, post-trial or post-factfinding motions, and appeals. Conviction includes a dismissal entered after a period of probation, suspension or deferral of sentence, and also includes equivalent dispositions by courts in jurisdictions other than Washington state. A person shall not be pre-

cluded from possession of a firearm if the conviction has been the subject of a pardon, annulment, certificate of rehabilitation, or other equivalent procedure based on a finding of the rehabilitation of the person convicted or the conviction or disposition has been the subject of a pardon, annulment, or other equivalent procedure based on a finding of innocence. Where no record of the court's disposition of the charges can be found, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that the person was not convicted of the charge.

(4)(a) Notwithstanding subsection (1) or (2) of this section, a person convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of an offense prohibiting the possession of a firearm under this section other than murder, manslaughter, robbery, rape, indecent liberties, arson, assault, kidnapping, extortion, burglary, or violations with respect to controlled substances under RCW 69.50.401 and 69.50.410, who received a probationary sentence under RCW 9.95.200, and who received a dismissal of the charge under RCW 9.95.240, shall not be precluded from possession of a firearm as a result of the conviction or finding of not guilty by reason of insanity. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, if a person is prohibited from possession of a firearm under subsection (1) or (2) of this section and has not previously been convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of a sex offense prohibiting firearm ownership under subsection (1) or (2) of this section and/or any felony defined under any law as a class A felony or with a maximum sentence of at least twenty years, or both, the individual may petition a court of record to have his or her right to possess a firearm restored:

(i) Under RCW 9.41.047; and/or

(ii)(A) If the conviction or finding of not guilty by reason of insanity was for a felony offense, after five or more consecutive years in the community without being convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity or currently charged with any felony, gross misdemeanor, or misdemeanor crimes, if the individual has no prior felony convictions that prohibit the possession of a firearm counted as part of the offender score under RCW 9.94A.525; or

(B) If the conviction or finding of not guilty by reason of insanity was for a nonfelony offense, after three or more consecutive years in the community without being convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity or currently charged with any felony, gross misdemeanor, or misdemeanor crimes, if the individual has no prior felony convictions that prohibit the possession of a firearm counted as part of the offender score under RCW 9.94A.525 and the individual has completed all conditions of the sentence.

(b) An individual may petition a court of record to have his or her right to possess a firearm restored under (a) of this subsection (4) only at:

(i) The court of record that ordered the petitioner's prohibition on possession of a firearm; or

(ii) The superior court in the county in which the petitioner resides.

(5) In addition to any other penalty provided for by law, if a person under the age of eighteen years is found by a court to have possessed a firearm in a vehicle in violation of subsection (1) or (2) of this section or to have committed an offense while armed with a firearm during which offense a motor vehicle served an integral function, the court shall notify the department of licensing within twenty-four hours

and the person's privilege to drive shall be revoked under RCW 46.20.265.

(6) Nothing in chapter 129, Laws of 1995 shall ever be construed or interpreted as preventing an offender from being charged and subsequently convicted for the separate felony crimes of theft of a firearm or possession of a stolen firearm, or both, in addition to being charged and subsequently convicted under this section for unlawful possession of a firearm in the first or second degree. Notwithstanding any other law, if the offender is convicted under this section for unlawful possession of a firearm in the first or second degree and for the felony crimes of theft of a firearm or possession of a stolen firearm, or both, then the offender shall serve consecutive sentences for each of the felony crimes of conviction listed in this subsection.

(7) Each firearm unlawfully possessed under this section shall be a separate offense. [2011 c 193 § 1; 2009 c 293 § 1; 2005 c 453 § 1; 2003 c 53 § 26; 1997 c 338 § 47; 1996 c 295 § 2. Prior: 1995 c 129 § 16 (Initiative Measure No. 159); 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 402; prior: 1992 c 205 § 118; 1992 c 168 § 2; 1983 c 232 § 2; 1961 c 124 § 3; 1935 c 172 § 4; RRS § 2516-4.]

**Severability—2005 c 453:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2005 c 453 § 7.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.042 Children—Permissible firearm possession.** RCW 9.41.040(2)(a)(iii) shall not apply to any person under the age of eighteen years who is:

(1) In attendance at a hunter's safety course or a firearms safety course;

(2) Engaging in practice in the use of a firearm or target shooting at an established range authorized by the governing body of the jurisdiction in which such range is located or any other area where the discharge of a firearm is not prohibited;

(3) Engaging in an organized competition involving the use of a firearm, or participating in or practicing for a performance by an organized group that uses firearms as a part of the performance;

(4) Hunting or trapping under a valid license issued to the person under Title 77 RCW;

(5) In an area where the discharge of a firearm is permitted, is not trespassing, and the person either: (a) Is at least fourteen years of age, has been issued a hunter safety certificate, and is using a lawful firearm other than a pistol; or (b) is under the supervision of a parent, guardian, or other adult approved for the purpose by the parent or guardian;

(6) Traveling with any unloaded firearm in the person's possession to or from any activity described in subsection (1), (2), (3), (4), or (5) of this section;

(7) On real property under the control of his or her parent, other relative, or legal guardian and who has the permission of the parent or legal guardian to possess a firearm;

(8) At his or her residence and who, with the permission of his or her parent or legal guardian, possesses a firearm for the purpose of exercising the rights specified in RCW 9A.16.020(3); or

(9) Is a member of the armed forces of the United States, national guard, or organized reserves, when on duty. [2003 c 53 § 27; 1999 c 143 § 2; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 403.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.045 Possession by offenders.** As a sentence condition and requirement, offenders under the supervision of the department of corrections pursuant to chapter 9.94A RCW shall not own, use, or possess firearms or ammunition. In addition to any penalty imposed pursuant to RCW 9.41.040 when applicable, offenders found to be in actual or constructive possession of firearms or ammunition shall be subject to the appropriate violation process and sanctions as provided for in RCW 9.94A.633, 9.94A.716, or 9.94A.737. Firearms or ammunition owned, used, or possessed by offenders may be confiscated by community corrections officers and turned over to the Washington state patrol for disposal as provided in RCW 9.41.098. [2009 c 28 § 2; 1991 c 221 § 1.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**9.41.047 Restoration of possession rights.** (1)(a) At the time a person is convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of an offense making the person ineligible to possess a firearm, or at the time a person is committed by court order under RCW 71.05.240, 71.05.320, 71.34.740, 71.34.750, or chapter 10.77 RCW for mental health treatment, the convicting or committing court shall notify the person, orally and in writing, that the person must immediately surrender any concealed pistol license and that the person may not possess a firearm unless his or her right to do so is restored by a court of record. For purposes of this section a convicting court includes a court in which a person has been found not guilty by reason of insanity.

(b) The convicting or committing court shall forward within three judicial days after conviction or entry of the commitment order a copy of the person's driver's license or identicard, or comparable information, along with the date of conviction or commitment, to the department of licensing. When a person is committed by court order under RCW 71.05.240, 71.05.320, 71.34.740, 71.34.750, or chapter 10.77 RCW, for mental health treatment, the committing court also shall forward, within three judicial days after entry of the commitment order, a copy of the person's driver's license, or comparable information, along with the date of commitment, to the national instant criminal background check system index, denied persons file, created by the federal Brady hand-gun violence prevention act (P.L. 103-159).

(2) Upon receipt of the information provided for by subsection (1) of this section, the department of licensing shall

determine if the convicted or committed person has a concealed pistol license. If the person does have a concealed pistol license, the department of licensing shall immediately notify the license-issuing authority which, upon receipt of such notification, shall immediately revoke the license.

(3)(a) A person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm, by reason of having been involuntarily committed for mental health treatment under RCW 71.05.240, 71.05.320, 71.34.740, 71.34.750, chapter 10.77 RCW, or equivalent statutes of another jurisdiction may, upon discharge, petition the superior court to have his or her right to possess a firearm restored.

(b) The petition must be brought in the superior court that ordered the involuntary commitment or the superior court of the county in which the petitioner resides.

(c) Except as provided in (d) of this subsection, the court shall restore the petitioner's right to possess a firearm if the petitioner proves by a preponderance of the evidence that:

(i) The petitioner is no longer required to participate in court-ordered inpatient or outpatient treatment;

(ii) The petitioner has successfully managed the condition related to the commitment;

(iii) The petitioner no longer presents a substantial danger to himself or herself, or the public; and

(iv) The symptoms related to the commitment are not reasonably likely to recur.

(d) If a preponderance of the evidence in the record supports a finding that the person petitioning the court has engaged in violence and that it is more likely than not that the person will engage in violence after his or her right to possess a firearm is restored, the person shall bear the burden of proving by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence that he or she does not present a substantial danger to the safety of others.

(e) When a person's right to possess a firearm has been restored under this subsection, the court shall forward, within three judicial days after entry of the restoration order, notification that the person's right to possess a firearm has been restored to the department of licensing, the department of social and health services, and the national instant criminal background check system index, denied persons file.

(4) No person who has been found not guilty by reason of insanity may petition a court for restoration of the right to possess a firearm unless the person meets the requirements for the restoration of the right to possess a firearm under RCW 9.41.040(4). [2011 c 193 § 2; 2009 c 293 § 2; 2005 c 453 § 2; 1996 c 295 § 3. Prior: 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 404.]

**Severability—2005 c 453:** See note following RCW 9.41.040.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.050 Carrying firearms.** (1)(a) Except in the person's place of abode or fixed place of business, a person shall not carry a pistol concealed on his or her person without a license to carry a concealed pistol.

(b) Every licensee shall have his or her concealed pistol license in his or her immediate possession at all times that he or she is required by this section to have a concealed pistol license and shall display the same upon demand to any police officer or to any other person when and if required by law to do so. Any violation of this subsection (1)(b) shall be a class

1 civil infraction under chapter 7.80 RCW and shall be punished accordingly pursuant to chapter 7.80 RCW and the infraction rules for courts of limited jurisdiction.

(2)(a) A person shall not carry or place a loaded pistol in any vehicle unless the person has a license to carry a concealed pistol and: (i) The pistol is on the licensee's person, (ii) the licensee is within the vehicle at all times that the pistol is there, or (iii) the licensee is away from the vehicle and the pistol is locked within the vehicle and concealed from view from outside the vehicle.

(b) A violation of this subsection is a misdemeanor.

(3)(a) A person at least eighteen years of age who is in possession of an unloaded pistol shall not leave the unloaded pistol in a vehicle unless the unloaded pistol is locked within the vehicle and concealed from view from outside the vehicle.

(b) A violation of this subsection is a misdemeanor.

(4) Nothing in this section permits the possession of firearms illegal to possess under state or federal law. [2003 c 53 § 28; 1997 c 200 § 1; 1996 c 295 § 4; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 405; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 3; 1961 c 124 § 4; 1935 c 172 § 5; RRS § 2516-5.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.060 Exceptions to restrictions on carrying firearms.** The provisions of RCW 9.41.050 shall not apply to:

(1) Marshals, sheriffs, prison or jail wardens or their deputies, correctional personnel and community corrections officers as long as they are employed as such who have completed government-sponsored law enforcement firearms training and have been subject to a check through the national instant criminal background check system or an equivalent background check within the past five years, or other law enforcement officers of this state or another state. Correctional personnel and community corrections officers seeking the waiver provided for by this section are required to pay for any background check that is needed in order to exercise the waiver;

(2) Members of the armed forces of the United States or of the national guard or organized reserves, when on duty;

(3) Officers or employees of the United States duly authorized to carry a concealed pistol;

(4) Any person engaged in the business of manufacturing, repairing, or dealing in firearms, or the agent or representative of the person, if possessing, using, or carrying a pistol in the usual or ordinary course of the business;

(5) Regularly enrolled members of any organization duly authorized to purchase or receive pistols from the United States or from this state;

(6) Regularly enrolled members of clubs organized for the purpose of target shooting, when those members are at or are going to or from their places of target practice;

(7) Regularly enrolled members of clubs organized for the purpose of modern and antique firearm collecting, when those members are at or are going to or from their collector's gun shows and exhibits;

(8) Any person engaging in a lawful outdoor recreational activity such as hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, or horseback riding, only if, considering all of the attendant circumstances, including but not limited to whether the person has a valid hunting or fishing license, it is reasonable to conclude that the person is participating in lawful outdoor activities or is traveling to or from a legitimate outdoor recreation area;

(9) Any person while carrying a pistol unloaded and in a closed opaque case or secure wrapper; or

(10) Law enforcement officers retired for service or physical disabilities, except for those law enforcement officers retired because of mental or stress-related disabilities. This subsection applies only to a retired officer who has: (a) Obtained documentation from a law enforcement agency within Washington state from which he or she retired that is signed by the agency's chief law enforcement officer and that states that the retired officer was retired for service or physical disability; and (b) not been convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of a crime making him or her ineligible for a concealed pistol license. [2011 c 221 § 1; 2005 c 453 § 3; 1998 c 253 § 2; 1996 c 295 § 5; 1995 c 392 § 1; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 406; 1961 c 124 § 5; 1935 c 172 § 6; RRS § 2516-6.]

**Severability—2005 c 453:** See note following RCW 9.41.040.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.065 Correctional employees—Effect of exemption from firearms restrictions—Liability limited.** The exemptions from firearms restrictions in RCW 9.41.060 and 9.41.300 for correctional personnel and community corrections officers who complete government-sponsored law enforcement firearms training do not create a duty on the part of the state or local governmental entities with respect to the off-duty conduct of correctional personnel and community corrections officers involving the use or misuse of a firearm.

The state of Washington, local governmental entities, and their officers, employees, and agents are not liable for any civil damages caused by the use or misuse of a firearm by off-duty correctional personnel or community corrections officers based on any act or omission in the provision of government-sponsored firearms training to the correctional personnel or community corrections officers. [2011 c 221 § 3.]

**9.41.070 Concealed pistol license—Application—Fee—Renewal.** (1) The chief of police of a municipality or the sheriff of a county shall within thirty days after the filing of an application of any person, issue a license to such person to carry a pistol concealed on his or her person within this state for five years from date of issue, for the purposes of protection or while engaged in business, sport, or while traveling. However, if the applicant does not have a valid permanent Washington driver's license or Washington state identification card or has not been a resident of the state for the previous consecutive ninety days, the issuing authority shall have up to sixty days after the filing of the application to issue a license. The issuing authority shall not refuse to accept completed applications for concealed pistol licenses during regular business hours.

The applicant's constitutional right to bear arms shall not be denied, unless:

(a) He or she is ineligible to possess a firearm under the provisions of RCW 9.41.040 or 9.41.045, or is prohibited from possessing a firearm under federal law;

(b) The applicant's concealed pistol license is in a revoked status;

(c) He or she is under twenty-one years of age;

(d) He or she is subject to a court order or injunction regarding firearms pursuant to RCW 9A.46.080, 10.14.080, 10.99.040, 10.99.045, 26.09.050, 26.09.060, 26.10.040, 26.10.115, 26.26.130, 26.50.060, 26.50.070, or 26.26.590;

(e) He or she is free on bond or personal recognizance pending trial, appeal, or sentencing for a felony offense;

(f) He or she has an outstanding warrant for his or her arrest from any court of competent jurisdiction for a felony or misdemeanor; or

(g) He or she has been ordered to forfeit a firearm under RCW 9.41.098(1)(e) within one year before filing an application to carry a pistol concealed on his or her person.

No person convicted of a felony may have his or her right to possess firearms restored or his or her privilege to carry a concealed pistol restored, unless the person has been granted relief from disabilities by the attorney general under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 925(c), or RCW 9.41.040 (3) or (4) applies.

(2)(a) The issuing authority shall conduct a check through the national instant criminal background check system, the Washington state patrol electronic database, the department of social and health services electronic database, and with other agencies or resources as appropriate, to determine whether the applicant is ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 or 9.41.045 to possess a firearm, or is prohibited from possessing a firearm under federal law, and therefore ineligible for a concealed pistol license.

(b) The issuing authority shall deny a permit to anyone who is found to be prohibited from possessing a firearm under federal or state law.

(c) This subsection applies whether the applicant is applying for a new concealed pistol license or to renew a concealed pistol license.

(3) Any person whose firearms rights have been restricted and who has been granted relief from disabilities by the attorney general under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 925(c) or who is exempt under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 921(a)(20)(A) shall have his or her right to acquire, receive, transfer, ship, transport, carry, and possess firearms in accordance with Washington state law restored except as otherwise prohibited by this chapter.

(4) The license application shall bear the full name, residential address, telephone number at the option of the applicant, date and place of birth, race, gender, description, a complete set of fingerprints, and signature of the licensee, and the licensee's driver's license number or state identification card number if used for identification in applying for the license. A signed application for a concealed pistol license shall constitute a waiver of confidentiality and written request that the department of social and health services, mental health institutions, and other health care facilities release information relevant to the applicant's eligibility for a concealed pistol license to an inquiring court or law enforcement agency.

The application for an original license shall include two complete sets of fingerprints to be forwarded to the Washington state patrol.

The license and application shall contain a warning substantially as follows:

**CAUTION:** Although state and local laws do not differ, federal law and state law on the possession of firearms differ. If you are prohibited by federal law from possessing a firearm, you may be prosecuted in federal court. A state license is not a defense to a federal prosecution.

The license shall contain a description of the major differences between state and federal law and an explanation of the fact that local laws and ordinances on firearms are preempted by state law and must be consistent with state law.

The application shall contain questions about the applicant's eligibility under RCW 9.41.040 and federal law to possess a pistol, the applicant's place of birth, and whether the applicant is a United States citizen. If the applicant is not a United States citizen, the applicant must provide the applicant's country of citizenship, United States issued alien number or admission number, and the basis on which the applicant claims to be exempt from federal prohibitions on firearm possession by aliens. The applicant shall not be required to produce a birth certificate or other evidence of citizenship. A person who is not a citizen of the United States shall, if applicable, meet the additional requirements of RCW 9.41.173 and produce proof of compliance with RCW 9.41.173 upon application. The license may be in triplicate or in a form to be prescribed by the department of licensing.

The original thereof shall be delivered to the licensee, the duplicate shall within seven days be sent to the director of licensing and the triplicate shall be preserved for six years, by the authority issuing the license.

The department of licensing shall make available to law enforcement and corrections agencies, in an on-line format, all information received under this subsection.

(5) The nonrefundable fee, paid upon application, for the original five-year license shall be thirty-six dollars plus additional charges imposed by the federal bureau of investigation that are passed on to the applicant. No other state or local branch or unit of government may impose any additional charges on the applicant for the issuance of the license.

The fee shall be distributed as follows:

- (a) Fifteen dollars shall be paid to the state general fund;
  - (b) Four dollars shall be paid to the agency taking the fingerprints of the person licensed;
  - (c) Fourteen dollars shall be paid to the issuing authority for the purpose of enforcing this chapter; and
  - (d) Three dollars to the firearms range account in the general fund.
- (6) The nonrefundable fee for the renewal of such license shall be thirty-two dollars. No other branch or unit of government may impose any additional charges on the applicant for the renewal of the license.

The renewal fee shall be distributed as follows:

- (a) Fifteen dollars shall be paid to the state general fund;
- (b) Fourteen dollars shall be paid to the issuing authority for the purpose of enforcing this chapter; and
- (c) Three dollars to the firearms range account in the general fund.

(7) The nonrefundable fee for replacement of lost or damaged licenses is ten dollars to be paid to the issuing authority.

(8) Payment shall be by cash, check, or money order at the option of the applicant. Additional methods of payment may be allowed at the option of the issuing authority.

(9) A licensee may renew a license if the licensee applies for renewal within ninety days before or after the expiration date of the license. A license so renewed shall take effect on the expiration date of the prior license. A licensee renewing after the expiration date of the license must pay a late renewal penalty of ten dollars in addition to the renewal fee specified in subsection (6) of this section. The fee shall be distributed as follows:

(a) Three dollars shall be deposited in the state wildlife account and used exclusively first for the printing and distribution of a pamphlet on the legal limits of the use of firearms, firearms safety, and the preemptive nature of state law, and subsequently the support of volunteer instructors in the basic firearms safety training program conducted by the department of fish and wildlife. The pamphlet shall be given to each applicant for a license; and

(b) Seven dollars shall be paid to the issuing authority for the purpose of enforcing this chapter.

(10) Notwithstanding the requirements of subsections (1) through (9) of this section, the chief of police of the municipality or the sheriff of the county of the applicant's residence may issue a temporary emergency license for good cause pending review under subsection (1) of this section. However, a temporary emergency license issued under this subsection shall not exempt the holder of the license from any records check requirement. Temporary emergency licenses shall be easily distinguishable from regular licenses.

(11) A political subdivision of the state shall not modify the requirements of this section or chapter, nor may a political subdivision ask the applicant to voluntarily submit any information not required by this section.

(12) A person who knowingly makes a false statement regarding citizenship or identity on an application for a concealed pistol license is guilty of false swearing under RCW 9A.72.040. In addition to any other penalty provided for by law, the concealed pistol license of a person who knowingly makes a false statement shall be revoked, and the person shall be permanently ineligible for a concealed pistol license.

(13) A person may apply for a concealed pistol license:

- (a) To the municipality or to the county in which the applicant resides if the applicant resides in a municipality;
- (b) To the county in which the applicant resides if the applicant resides in an unincorporated area; or
- (c) Anywhere in the state if the applicant is a nonresident.

(14) Any person who, as a member of the armed forces, including the national guard and armed forces reserves, is unable to renew his or her license under subsections (6) and (9) of this section because of the person's assignment, reassignment, or deployment for out-of-state military service may renew his or her license within ninety days after the person returns to this state from out-of-state military service, if the person provides the following to the issuing authority no later than ninety days after the person's date of discharge or assignment, reassignment, or deployment back to this state:

(a) A copy of the person's original order designating the specific period of assignment, reassignment, or deployment for out-of-state military service, and (b) if appropriate, a copy of the person's discharge or amended or subsequent assignment, reassignment, or deployment order back to this state. A license so renewed under this subsection (14) shall take effect on the expiration date of the prior license. A licensee renewing after the expiration date of the license under this subsection (14) shall pay only the renewal fee specified in subsection (6) of this section and shall not be required to pay a late renewal penalty in addition to the renewal fee. [2011 c 294 § 1. Prior: 2009 c 216 § 5; 2009 c 59 § 1; 2002 c 302 § 703; 1999 c 222 § 2; 1996 c 295 § 6; 1995 c 351 § 1; prior: 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 407; 1994 c 190 § 2; 1992 c 168 § 1; 1990 c 195 § 6; prior: 1988 c 263 § 10; 1988 c 223 § 1; 1988 c 219 § 1; 1988 c 36 § 1; 1985 c 428 § 3; 1983 c 232 § 3; 1979 c 158 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 302 § 2; 1961 c 124 § 6; 1935 c 172 § 7; RRS § 2516-7.]

**Application—Construction—Short title—Severability—2002 c 302:** See RCW 26.26.903, 26.26.911, and 26.26.912.

**Finding—Hunter education program:** "The legislature finds that the hunter education program offers classes that all new hunters in the state are legally required to complete, but that budget reductions have limited the assistance that may be provided to the volunteers who conduct these classes. A portion of the funds for this program is provided by statute exclusively for printing and distributing the hunter safety pamphlet. While this pamphlet should remain the highest spending priority for these funds, there is a surplus in the account which could assist with other activities by the volunteers conducting the hunter education program." [1999 c 222 § 1.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9.41.073 Concealed pistol license—Reciprocity.**

(1)(a) A person licensed to carry a pistol in a state the laws of which recognize and give effect in that state to a concealed pistol license issued under the laws of the state of Washington is authorized to carry a concealed pistol in this state if:

(i) The licensing state does not issue concealed pistol licenses to persons under twenty-one years of age; and

(ii) The licensing state requires mandatory fingerprint-based background checks of criminal and mental health history for all persons who apply for a concealed pistol license.

(b) This section applies to a license holder from another state only while the license holder is not a resident of this state. A license holder from another state must carry the handgun in compliance with the laws of this state.

(2) The attorney general shall periodically publish a list of states the laws of which recognize and give effect in that state to a concealed pistol license issued under the laws of the state of Washington and which meet the requirements of subsection (1)(a)(i) and (ii) of this section. [2004 c 148 § 1.]

#### **9.41.075 Concealed pistol license—Revocation.**

(1) The license shall be revoked by the license-issuing authority immediately upon:

(a) Discovery by the issuing authority that the person was ineligible under RCW 9.41.070 for a concealed pistol license when applying for the license or license renewal;

(b) Conviction of the licensee, or the licensee being found not guilty by reason of insanity, of an offense, or commitment of the licensee for mental health treatment, that

makes a person ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 to possess a firearm;

(c) Conviction of the licensee for a third violation of this chapter within five calendar years; or

(d) An order that the licensee forfeit a firearm under RCW 9.41.098(1)(d).

(2)(a) Unless the person may lawfully possess a pistol without a concealed pistol license, an ineligible person to whom a concealed pistol license was issued shall, within fourteen days of license revocation, lawfully transfer ownership of any pistol acquired while the person was in possession of the license.

(b) Upon discovering a person issued a concealed pistol license was ineligible for the license, the issuing authority shall contact the department of licensing to determine whether the person purchased a pistol while in possession of the license. If the person did purchase a pistol while in possession of the concealed pistol license, if the person may not lawfully possess a pistol without a concealed pistol license, the issuing authority shall require the person to present satisfactory evidence of having lawfully transferred ownership of the pistol. The issuing authority shall require the person to produce the evidence within fifteen days of the revocation of the license.

(3) When a licensee is ordered to forfeit a firearm under RCW 9.41.098(1)(d), the issuing authority shall:

(a) On the first forfeiture, revoke the license for one year;

(b) On the second forfeiture, revoke the license for two years; or

(c) On the third or subsequent forfeiture, revoke the license for five years.

Any person whose license is revoked as a result of a forfeiture of a firearm under RCW 9.41.098(1)(d) may not reapply for a new license until the end of the revocation period.

(4) The issuing authority shall notify, in writing, the department of licensing of the revocation of a license. The department of licensing shall record the revocation. [2005 c 453 § 4; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 408.]

**Severability—2005 c 453:** See note following RCW 9.41.040.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.080 Delivery to ineligible persons.** No person may deliver a firearm to any person whom he or she has reasonable cause to believe is ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 to possess a firearm. Any person violating this section is guilty of a class C felony, punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 409; 1935 c 172 § 8; RRS § 2516-8.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.090 Dealer deliveries regulated—Hold on delivery.** (1) In addition to the other requirements of this chapter, no dealer may deliver a pistol to the purchaser thereof until:

(a) The purchaser produces a valid concealed pistol license and the dealer has recorded the purchaser's name, license number, and issuing agency, such record to be made in triplicate and processed as provided in subsection (5) of this section. For purposes of this subsection (1)(a), a "valid



concealed pistol license" does not include a temporary emergency license, and does not include any license issued before July 1, 1996, unless the issuing agency conducted a records search for disqualifying crimes under RCW 9.41.070 at the time of issuance;

(b) The dealer is notified in writing by the chief of police or the sheriff of the jurisdiction in which the purchaser resides that the purchaser is eligible to possess a pistol under RCW 9.41.040 and that the application to purchase is approved by the chief of police or sheriff; or

(c) Five business days, meaning days on which state offices are open, have elapsed from the time of receipt of the application for the purchase thereof as provided herein by the chief of police or sheriff designated in subsection (5) of this section, and, when delivered, the pistol shall be securely wrapped and shall be unloaded. However, if the purchaser does not have a valid permanent Washington driver's license or state identification card or has not been a resident of the state for the previous consecutive ninety days, the waiting period under this subsection (1)(c) shall be up to sixty days.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, in determining whether the purchaser meets the requirements of RCW 9.41.040, the chief of police or sheriff, or the designee of either, shall check with the national crime information center, the Washington state patrol electronic database, the department of social and health services electronic database, and with other agencies or resources as appropriate, to determine whether the applicant is ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 to possess a firearm.

(b) Once the system is established, a dealer shall use the state system and national instant criminal background check system, provided for by the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (18 U.S.C. Sec. 921 et seq.), to make criminal background checks of applicants to purchase firearms. However, a chief of police or sheriff, or a designee of either, shall continue to check the department of social and health services' electronic database and with other agencies or resources as appropriate, to determine whether applicants are ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 to possess a firearm.

(3) In any case under subsection (1)(c) of this section where the applicant has an outstanding warrant for his or her arrest from any court of competent jurisdiction for a felony or misdemeanor, the dealer shall hold the delivery of the pistol until the warrant for arrest is served and satisfied by appropriate court appearance. The local jurisdiction for purposes of the sale shall confirm the existence of outstanding warrants within seventy-two hours after notification of the application to purchase a pistol is received. The local jurisdiction shall also immediately confirm the satisfaction of the warrant on request of the dealer so that the hold may be released if the warrant was for an offense other than an offense making a person ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 to possess a pistol.

(4) In any case where the chief or sheriff of the local jurisdiction has reasonable grounds based on the following circumstances: (a) Open criminal charges, (b) pending criminal proceedings, (c) pending commitment proceedings, (d) an outstanding warrant for an offense making a person ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 to possess a pistol, or (e) an arrest for an offense making a person ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 to possess a pistol, if the records of disposition have not yet been reported or entered sufficiently to determine eli-

gibility to purchase a pistol, the local jurisdiction may hold the sale and delivery of the pistol beyond five days up to thirty days in order to confirm existing records in this state or elsewhere. After thirty days, the hold will be lifted unless an extension of the thirty days is approved by a local district court or municipal court for good cause shown. A dealer shall be notified of each hold placed on the sale by local law enforcement and of any application to the court for additional hold period to confirm records or confirm the identity of the applicant.

(5) At the time of applying for the purchase of a pistol, the purchaser shall sign in triplicate and deliver to the dealer an application containing his or her full name, residential address, date and place of birth, race, and gender; the date and hour of the application; the applicant's driver's license number or state identification card number; a description of the pistol including the make, model, caliber and manufacturer's number if available at the time of applying for the purchase of a pistol. If the manufacturer's number is not available, the application may be processed, but delivery of the pistol to the purchaser may not occur unless the manufacturer's number is recorded on the application by the dealer and transmitted to the chief of police of the municipality or the sheriff of the county in which the purchaser resides; and a statement that the purchaser is eligible to possess a pistol under RCW 9.41.040.

The application shall contain a warning substantially as follows:

**CAUTION:** Although state and local laws do not differ, federal law and state law on the possession of firearms differ. If you are prohibited by federal law from possessing a firearm, you may be prosecuted in federal court. State permission to purchase a firearm is not a defense to a federal prosecution.

The purchaser shall be given a copy of the department of fish and wildlife pamphlet on the legal limits of the use of firearms, firearms safety, and the fact that local laws and ordinances on firearms are preempted by state law and must be consistent with state law.

The dealer shall, by the end of the business day, sign and attach his or her address and deliver a copy of the application and such other documentation as required under subsection (1) of this section to the chief of police of the municipality or the sheriff of the county of which the purchaser is a resident. The triplicate shall be retained by the dealer for six years. The dealer shall deliver the pistol to the purchaser following the period of time specified in this section unless the dealer is notified of an investigative hold under subsection (4) of this section in writing by the chief of police of the municipality or the sheriff of the county, whichever is applicable, denying the purchaser's application to purchase and the grounds thereof. The application shall not be denied unless the purchaser is not eligible to possess a pistol under RCW 9.41.040 or 9.41.045, or federal law.

The chief of police of the municipality or the sheriff of the county shall retain or destroy applications to purchase a pistol in accordance with the requirements of 18 U.S.C. Sec. 922.

(6) A person who knowingly makes a false statement regarding identity or eligibility requirements on the applica-

tion to purchase a pistol is guilty of false swearing under RCW 9A.72.040.

(7) This section does not apply to sales to licensed dealers for resale or to the sale of antique firearms. [1996 c 295 § 8. Prior: 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 410; 1994 c 264 § 1; 1988 c 36 § 2; 1985 c 428 § 4; 1983 c 232 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 227 § 1; 1961 c 124 § 7; 1935 c 172 § 9; RRS § 2516-9.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.094 Waiver of confidentiality.** A signed application to purchase a pistol shall constitute a waiver of confidentiality and written request that the department of social and health services, mental health institutions, and other health care facilities release, to an inquiring court or law enforcement agency, information relevant to the applicant's eligibility to purchase a pistol to an inquiring court or law enforcement agency. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 411.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—Effective dates—Contingent expiration date—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**9.41.097 Supplying information on persons purchasing pistols or applying for concealed pistol licenses.** (1) The department of social and health services, mental health institutions, and other health care facilities shall, upon request of a court or law enforcement agency, supply such relevant information as is necessary to determine the eligibility of a person to possess a pistol or to be issued a concealed pistol license under RCW 9.41.070 or to purchase a pistol under RCW 9.41.090.

(2) Mental health information received by: (a) The department of licensing pursuant to RCW 9.41.047 or 9.41.173; (b) an issuing authority pursuant to RCW 9.41.047 or 9.41.070; (c) a chief of police or sheriff pursuant to RCW 9.41.090 or 9.41.173; (d) a court or law enforcement agency pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, shall not be disclosed except as provided in RCW 42.56.240(4). [2009 c 216 § 6; 2005 c 274 § 202; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 412; 1983 c 232 § 5.]

**Part headings not law—Effective date—2005 c 274:** See RCW 42.56.901 and 42.56.902.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—Effective dates—Contingent expiration date—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.0975 Officials and agencies—Immunity, writ of mandamus.** (1) The state, local governmental entities, any public or private agency, and the employees of any state or local governmental entity or public or private agency, acting in good faith, are immune from liability:

(a) For failure to prevent the sale or transfer of a firearm to a person whose receipt or possession of the firearm is unlawful;

(b) For preventing the sale or transfer of a firearm to a person who may lawfully receive or possess a firearm;

(c) For issuing a concealed pistol license or alien firearm license to a person ineligible for such a license;

(d) For failing to issue a concealed pistol license or alien firearm license to a person eligible for such a license;

(e) For revoking or failing to revoke an issued concealed pistol license or alien firearm license;

(f) For errors in preparing or transmitting information as part of determining a person's eligibility to receive or possess a firearm, or eligibility for a concealed pistol license or alien firearm license;

(g) For issuing a dealer's license to a person ineligible for such a license; or

(h) For failing to issue a dealer's license to a person eligible for such a license.

(2) An application may be made to a court of competent jurisdiction for a writ of mandamus:

(a) Directing an issuing agency to issue a concealed pistol license or alien firearm license wrongfully refused;

(b) Directing a law enforcement agency to approve an application to purchase wrongfully denied;

(c) Directing that erroneous information resulting either in the wrongful refusal to issue a concealed pistol license or alien firearm license or in the wrongful denial of a purchase application be corrected; or

(d) Directing a law enforcement agency to approve a dealer's license wrongfully denied.

The application for the writ may be made in the county in which the application for a concealed pistol license or alien firearm license or to purchase a pistol was made, or in Thurston county, at the discretion of the petitioner. A court shall provide an expedited hearing for an application brought under this subsection (2) for a writ of mandamus. A person granted a writ of mandamus under this subsection (2) shall be awarded reasonable attorneys' fees and costs. [2009 c 216 § 7; 1996 c 295 § 9; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 413.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.098 Forfeiture of firearms—Disposition—Confiscation.** (1) The superior courts and the courts of limited jurisdiction of the state may order forfeiture of a firearm which is proven to be:

(a) Found concealed on a person not authorized by RCW 9.41.060 or 9.41.070 to carry a concealed pistol: PROVIDED, That it is an absolute defense to forfeiture if the person possessed a valid Washington concealed pistol license within the preceding two years and has not become ineligible for a concealed pistol license in the interim. Before the firearm may be returned, the person must pay the past due renewal fee and the current renewal fee;

(b) Commercially sold to any person without an application as required by RCW 9.41.090;

(c) In the possession of a person prohibited from possessing the firearm under RCW 9.41.040 or 9.41.045;

(d) In the possession or under the control of a person at the time the person committed or was arrested for committing a felony or committing a nonfelony crime in which a firearm was used or displayed;

(e) In the possession of a person who is in any place in which a concealed pistol license is required, and who is under the influence of any drug or under the influence of intoxicating liquor, as defined in chapter 46.61 RCW;

(f) In the possession of a person free on bail or personal recognizance pending trial, appeal, or sentencing for a felony or for a nonfelony crime in which a firearm was used or dis-

played, except that violations of Title 77 RCW shall not result in forfeiture under this section;

(g) In the possession of a person found to have been mentally incompetent while in possession of a firearm when apprehended or who is thereafter committed pursuant to chapter 10.77 or 71.05 RCW;

(h) Used or displayed by a person in the violation of a proper written order of a court of general jurisdiction; or

(i) Used in the commission of a felony or of a nonfelony crime in which a firearm was used or displayed.

(2) Upon order of forfeiture, the court in its discretion may order destruction of any forfeited firearm. A court may temporarily retain forfeited firearms needed for evidence.

(a) Except as provided in (b), (c), and (d) of this subsection, firearms that are: (i) Judicially forfeited and no longer needed for evidence; or (ii) forfeited due to a failure to make a claim under RCW 63.32.010 or 63.40.010; may be disposed of in any manner determined by the local legislative authority. Any proceeds of an auction or trade may be retained by the legislative authority. This subsection (2)(a) applies only to firearms that come into the possession of the law enforcement agency after June 30, 1993.

By midnight, June 30, 1993, every law enforcement agency shall prepare an inventory, under oath, of every firearm that has been judicially forfeited, has been seized and may be subject to judicial forfeiture, or that has been, or may be, forfeited due to a failure to make a claim under RCW 63.32.010 or 63.40.010.

(b) Except as provided in (c) of this subsection, of the inventoried firearms a law enforcement agency shall destroy illegal firearms, may retain a maximum of ten percent of legal forfeited firearms for agency use, and shall either:

(i) Comply with the provisions for the auction of firearms in RCW 9.41.098 that were in effect immediately preceding May 7, 1993; or

(ii) Trade, auction, or arrange for the auction of, rifles and shotguns. In addition, the law enforcement agency shall either trade, auction, or arrange for the auction of, short firearms, or shall pay a fee of twenty-five dollars to the state treasurer for every short firearm neither auctioned nor traded, to a maximum of fifty thousand dollars. The fees shall be accompanied by an inventory, under oath, of every short firearm listed in the inventory required by (a) of this subsection, that has been neither traded nor auctioned. The state treasurer shall credit the fees to the firearms range account established in RCW 79A.25.210. All trades or auctions of firearms under this subsection shall be to licensed dealers. Proceeds of any auction less costs, including actual costs of storage and sale, shall be forwarded to the firearms range account established in RCW 79A.25.210.

(c) Antique firearms and firearms recognized as curios, relics, and firearms of particular historical significance by the United States treasury department \*bureau of alcohol, tobacco, and firearms are exempt from destruction and shall be disposed of by auction or trade to licensed dealers.

(d) Firearms in the possession of the Washington state patrol on or after May 7, 1993, that are judicially forfeited and no longer needed for evidence, or forfeited due to a failure to make a claim under RCW 63.35.020, must be disposed of as follows: (i) Firearms illegal for any person to possess must be destroyed; (ii) the Washington state patrol may retain

a maximum of ten percent of legal firearms for agency use; and (iii) all other legal firearms must be auctioned or traded to licensed dealers. The Washington state patrol may retain any proceeds of an auction or trade.

(3) The court shall order the firearm returned to the owner upon a showing that there is no probable cause to believe a violation of subsection (1) of this section existed or the firearm was stolen from the owner or the owner neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or omission involving the firearm which resulted in its forfeiture.

(4) A law enforcement officer of the state or of any county or municipality may confiscate a firearm found to be in the possession of a person under circumstances specified in subsection (1) of this section. After confiscation, the firearm shall not be surrendered except: (a) To the prosecuting attorney for use in subsequent legal proceedings; (b) for disposition according to an order of a court having jurisdiction as provided in subsection (1) of this section; or (c) to the owner if the proceedings are dismissed or as directed in subsection (3) of this section. [2003 c 39 § 5; 1996 c 295 § 10; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 414; 1993 c 243 § 1; 1989 c 222 § 8; 1988 c 223 § 2. Prior: 1987 c 506 § 91; 1987 c 373 § 7; 1986 c 153 § 1; 1983 c 232 § 6.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The bureau of alcohol, tobacco and firearms of the department of the treasury was transferred to the department of justice on November 25, 2002. See 6 U.S.C. Sec. 531, Public Law 107-296. The "bureau of alcohol, tobacco and firearms" was renamed the "bureau of alcohol, tobacco, firearms and explosives."

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**Legislative findings and intent—1987 c 506:** See note following RCW 77.04.020.

**Legislative finding, purpose—Severability—1987 c 373:** See notes following RCW 46.61.502.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9.41.100 Dealer licensing and registration required.**

Every dealer shall be licensed as provided in RCW 9.41.110 and shall register with the department of revenue as provided in chapters 82.04 and 82.32 RCW. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 415; 1935 c 172 § 10; RRS § 2516-10.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9.41.110 Dealer's licenses, by whom granted, conditions, fees—Employees, fingerprinting and background checks—Wholesale sales excepted—Permits prohibited.**

(1) No dealer may sell or otherwise transfer, or expose for sale or transfer, or have in his or her possession with intent to sell, or otherwise transfer, any pistol without being licensed as provided in this section.

(2) No dealer may sell or otherwise transfer, or expose for sale or transfer, or have in his or her possession with intent to sell, or otherwise transfer, any firearm other than a pistol without being licensed as provided in this section.

(3) No dealer may sell or otherwise transfer, or expose for sale or transfer, or have in his or her possession with intent to sell, or otherwise transfer, any ammunition without being licensed as provided in this section.

(4) The duly constituted licensing authorities of any city, town, or political subdivision of this state shall grant licenses

in forms prescribed by the director of licensing effective for not more than one year from the date of issue permitting the licensee to sell firearms within this state subject to the following conditions, for breach of any of which the license shall be forfeited and the licensee subject to punishment as provided in RCW 9.41.010 through 9.41.810. A licensing authority shall forward a copy of each license granted to the department of licensing. The department of licensing shall notify the department of revenue of the name and address of each dealer licensed under this section.

(5)(a) A licensing authority shall, within thirty days after the filing of an application of any person for a dealer's license, determine whether to grant the license. However, if the applicant does not have a valid permanent Washington driver's license or Washington state identification card, or has not been a resident of the state for the previous consecutive ninety days, the licensing authority shall have up to sixty days to determine whether to issue a license. No person shall qualify for a license under this section without first receiving a federal firearms license and undergoing fingerprinting and a background check. In addition, no person ineligible to possess a firearm under RCW 9.41.040 or ineligible for a concealed pistol license under RCW 9.41.070 shall qualify for a dealer's license.

(b) A dealer shall require every employee who may sell a firearm in the course of his or her employment to undergo fingerprinting and a background check. An employee must be eligible to possess a firearm, and must not have been convicted of a crime that would make the person ineligible for a concealed pistol license, before being permitted to sell a firearm. Every employee shall comply with requirements concerning purchase applications and restrictions on delivery of pistols that are applicable to dealers.

(6)(a) Except as otherwise provided in (b) of this subsection, the business shall be carried on only in the building designated in the license. For the purpose of this section, advertising firearms for sale shall not be considered the carrying on of business.

(b) A dealer may conduct business temporarily at a location other than the building designated in the license, if the temporary location is within Washington state and is the location of a gun show sponsored by a national, state, or local organization, or an affiliate of any such organization, devoted to the collection, competitive use, or other sporting use of firearms in the community. Nothing in this subsection (6)(b) authorizes a dealer to conduct business in or from a motorized or towed vehicle.

In conducting business temporarily at a location other than the building designated in the license, the dealer shall comply with all other requirements imposed on dealers by RCW 9.41.090, 9.41.100, and 9.41.110. The license of a dealer who fails to comply with the requirements of RCW 9.41.080 and 9.41.090 and subsection (8) of this section while conducting business at a temporary location shall be revoked, and the dealer shall be permanently ineligible for a dealer's license.

(7) The license or a copy thereof, certified by the issuing authority, shall be displayed on the premises in the area where firearms are sold, or at the temporary location, where it can easily be read.

(8)(a) No pistol may be sold: (i) In violation of any provisions of RCW 9.41.010 through 9.41.810; nor (ii) may a pistol be sold under any circumstances unless the purchaser is personally known to the dealer or shall present clear evidence of his or her identity.

(b) A dealer who sells or delivers any firearm in violation of RCW 9.41.080 is guilty of a class C felony. In addition to any other penalty provided for by law, the dealer is subject to mandatory permanent revocation of his or her dealer's license and permanent ineligibility for a dealer's license.

(c) The license fee for pistols shall be one hundred twenty-five dollars. The license fee for firearms other than pistols shall be one hundred twenty-five dollars. The license fee for ammunition shall be one hundred twenty-five dollars. Any dealer who obtains any license under subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section may also obtain the remaining licenses without payment of any fee. The fees received under this section shall be deposited in the state general fund.

(9)(a) A true record in triplicate shall be made of every pistol sold, in a book kept for the purpose, the form of which may be prescribed by the director of licensing and shall be personally signed by the purchaser and by the person effecting the sale, each in the presence of the other, and shall contain the date of sale, the caliber, make, model and manufacturer's number of the weapon, the name, address, occupation, and place of birth of the purchaser and a statement signed by the purchaser that he or she is not ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 to possess a firearm.

(b) One copy shall within six hours be sent by certified mail to the chief of police of the municipality or the sheriff of the county of which the purchaser is a resident; the duplicate the dealer shall within seven days send to the director of licensing; the triplicate the dealer shall retain for six years.

(10) Subsections (2) through (9) of this section shall not apply to sales at wholesale.

(11) The dealer's licenses authorized to be issued by this section are general licenses covering all sales by the licensee within the effective period of the licenses. The department shall provide a single application form for dealer's licenses and a single license form which shall indicate the type or types of licenses granted.

(12) Except as provided in RCW 9.41.090, every city, town, and political subdivision of this state is prohibited from requiring the purchaser to secure a permit to purchase or from requiring the dealer to secure an individual permit for each sale. [2009 c 479 § 10; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 416; 1979 c 158 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 227 § 4; 1963 c 163 § 1; 1961 c 124 § 8; 1935 c 172 § 11; RRS § 2516-11.]

**Effective date—2009 c 479:** See note following RCW 2.56.030.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.120 Firearms as loan security.** No person other than a duly licensed dealer shall make any loan secured by a mortgage, deposit or pledge of a pistol. Any licensed dealer receiving a pistol as a deposit or pledge for a loan shall keep such records and make such reports as are provided by law for pawnbrokers and secondhand dealers in cities of the first class. A duly licensed dealer may mortgage any pistol or

stock of pistols but shall not deposit or pledge the same with any other person. [1961 c 124 § 9; 1935 c 172 § 12; RRS § 2516-12.]

*Pawnbrokers and secondhand dealers: Chapter 19.60 RCW.*

**9.41.122 Out-of-state purchasing.** Residents of Washington may purchase rifles and shotguns in a state other than Washington: PROVIDED, That such residents conform to the applicable provisions of the federal Gun Control Act of 1968, Title IV, Pub. L. 90-351 as administered by the United States secretary of the treasury: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That such residents are eligible to purchase or possess such weapons in Washington and in the state in which such purchase is made. [1970 ex.s. c 74 § 1. Formerly RCW 19.70.010.]

**9.41.124 Purchasing by nonresidents.** Residents of a state other than Washington may purchase rifles and shotguns in Washington: PROVIDED, That such residents conform to the applicable provisions of the federal Gun Control Act of 1968, Title IV, Pub. L. 90-351 as administered by the United States secretary of the treasury: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That such residents are eligible to purchase or possess such weapons in Washington and in the state in which such persons reside. [1970 ex.s. c 74 § 2. Formerly RCW 19.70.020.]

**9.41.129 Recordkeeping requirements.** The department of licensing may keep copies or records of applications for concealed pistol licenses provided for in RCW 9.41.070, copies or records of applications for alien firearm licenses, copies or records of applications to purchase pistols provided for in RCW 9.41.090, and copies or records of pistol transfers provided for in RCW 9.41.110. The copies and records shall not be disclosed except as provided in RCW 42.56.240(4). [2005 c 274 § 203; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 417.]

**Part headings not law—Effective date—2005 c 274:** See RCW 42.56.901 and 42.56.902.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—Effective dates—Contingent expiration date—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**9.41.135 Verification of licenses and registration—Notice to federal government.** (1) At least once every twelve months, the department of licensing shall obtain a list of dealers licensed under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 923(a) with business premises in the state of Washington from the United States bureau of alcohol, tobacco, and firearms. The department of licensing shall verify that all dealers on the list provided by the bureau of alcohol, tobacco, and firearms are licensed and registered as required by RCW 9.41.100.

(2) At least once every twelve months, the department of licensing shall obtain from the department of revenue and the department of revenue shall transmit to the department of licensing a list of dealers registered with the department of revenue, and a list of dealers whose names and addresses were forwarded to the department of revenue by the department of licensing under RCW 9.41.110, who failed to register with the department of revenue as required by RCW 9.41.100.

(3) At least once every twelve months, the department of licensing shall notify the bureau of alcohol, tobacco, and fire-

arms of all dealers licensed under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 923(a) with business premises in the state of Washington who have not complied with the licensing or registration requirements of RCW 9.41.100. In notifying the bureau of alcohol, tobacco, and firearms, the department of licensing shall not specify whether a particular dealer has failed to comply with licensing requirements or has failed to comply with registration requirements. [1995 c 318 § 6; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 418.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—Effective dates—Contingent expiration date—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.140 Alteration of identifying marks—Exceptions.** No person may change, alter, remove, or obliterate the name of the maker, model, manufacturer's number, or other mark of identification on any firearm. Possession of any firearm upon which any such mark shall have been changed, altered, removed, or obliterated, shall be prima facie evidence that the possessor has changed, altered, removed, or obliterated the same. This section shall not apply to replacement barrels in old firearms, which barrels are produced by current manufacturers and therefore do not have the markings on the barrels of the original manufacturers who are no longer in business. This section also shall not apply if the changes do not make the firearm illegal for the person to possess under state or federal law. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 419; 1961 c 124 § 10; 1935 c 172 § 14; RRS § 2516-14.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.171 Alien possession of firearms—Requirements—Penalty.** It is a class C felony for any person who is not a citizen of the United States to carry or possess any firearm, unless the person: (1) Is a lawful permanent resident; (2) has obtained a valid alien firearm license pursuant to RCW 9.41.173; or (3) meets the requirements of RCW 9.41.175. [2009 c 216 § 2.]

**9.41.173 Alien possession of firearms—Alien firearm license—Political subdivisions may not modify requirements—Penalty for false statement.** (1) In order to obtain an alien firearm license, a nonimmigrant alien residing in Washington must apply to the sheriff of the county in which he or she resides.

(2) The sheriff of the county shall within sixty days after the filing of an application of a nonimmigrant alien residing in the state of Washington, issue an alien firearm license to such person to carry or possess a firearm for the purposes of hunting and sport shooting. The license shall be good for two years. The issuing authority shall not refuse to accept completed applications for alien firearm licenses during regular business hours. An application for a license may not be denied, unless the applicant's alien firearm license is in a revoked status, or the applicant:

(a) Is ineligible to possess a firearm under the provisions of RCW 9.41.040 or 9.41.045;

(b) Is subject to a court order or injunction regarding firearms pursuant to RCW 9A.46.080, 10.14.080, 10.99.040, 10.99.045, 26.09.050, 26.09.060, 26.10.040, 26.10.115, 26.26.130, 26.50.060, 26.50.070, or 26.26.590;

(c) Is free on bond or personal recognizance pending trial, appeal, or sentencing for a felony offense; or

(d) Has an outstanding warrant for his or her arrest from any court of competent jurisdiction for a felony or misdemeanor.

No license application shall be granted to a nonimmigrant alien convicted of a felony unless the person has been granted relief from disabilities by the attorney general under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 925(c), or unless RCW 9.41.040 (3) or (4) applies.

(3) The sheriff shall check with the national crime information center, the Washington state patrol electronic database, the department of social and health services electronic database, and with other agencies or resources as appropriate, to determine whether the applicant is ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 or 9.41.045 to possess a firearm.

(4) The license application shall bear the full name, residential address, telephone number at the option of the applicant, date and place of birth, race, gender, description, not more than two complete sets of fingerprints, and signature of the applicant, a copy of the applicant's passport and visa showing the applicant is in the country legally, and a valid Washington hunting license or documentation that the applicant is a member of a sport shooting club.

A signed application for an alien firearm license shall constitute a waiver of confidentiality and written request that the department of social and health services, mental health institutions, and other health care facilities release information relevant to the applicant's eligibility for an alien firearm license to an inquiring court or law enforcement agency.

The application for an original license shall include a complete set of fingerprints to be forwarded to the Washington state patrol.

The license and application shall contain a warning substantially as follows:

**CAUTION:** Although state and local laws do not differ, federal law and state law on the possession of firearms differ. If you are prohibited by federal law from possessing a firearm, you may be prosecuted in federal court. A state license is not a defense to a federal prosecution.

The license shall contain a description of the major differences between state and federal law and an explanation of the fact that local laws and ordinances on firearms are preempted by state law and must be consistent with state law. The application shall contain questions about the applicant's eligibility under RCW 9.41.040 to possess a firearm. The nonimmigrant alien applicant shall be required to produce a passport and visa as evidence of being in the country legally.

The license may be in triplicate or in a form to be prescribed by the department of licensing. The original thereof shall be delivered to the licensee, the duplicate shall within seven days be sent to the director of licensing and the triplicate shall be preserved for six years, by the authority issuing the license.

The department of licensing shall make available to law enforcement and corrections agencies, in an online format, all information received under this section.

(5) The sheriff has the authority to collect a nonrefundable fee, paid upon application, for the two-year license. The

fee shall be fifty dollars plus additional charges imposed by the Washington state patrol and the federal bureau of investigation that are passed on to the applicant. No other state or local branch or unit of government may impose any additional charges on the applicant for the issuance of the license. The fee shall be retained by the sheriff.

(6) Payment shall be by cash, check, or money order at the option of the applicant. Additional methods of payment may be allowed at the option of the sheriff.

(7) A political subdivision of the state shall not modify the requirements of this section, nor may a political subdivision ask the applicant to voluntarily submit any information not required by this section.

(8) A person who knowingly makes a false statement regarding citizenship or identity on an application for an alien firearm license is guilty of false swearing under RCW 9A.72.040. In addition to any other penalty provided for by law, the alien firearm license of a person who knowingly makes a false statement shall be revoked, and the person shall be permanently ineligible for an alien firearm license. [2009 c 216 § 3.]

**9.41.175 Alien possession of firearms—Possession without license—Conditions.** (1) A nonimmigrant alien, who is not a resident of Washington or a citizen of Canada, may carry or possess any firearm without having first obtained an alien firearm license if the nonimmigrant alien possesses:

(a) A valid passport and visa showing he or she is in the country legally;

(b) If required under federal law, an approved United States department of justice ATF-6 NIA application and permit for temporary importation of firearms and ammunition by nonimmigrant aliens; and

(c)(i) A valid hunting license issued by a state or territory of the United States; or

(ii) An invitation to participate in a trade show or sport shooting event being conducted in this state, another state, or another country that is contiguous with this state.

(2) A citizen of Canada may carry or possess any firearm so long as he or she possesses:

(a) Valid documentation as required for entry into the United States;

(b) If required under federal law, an approved United States department of justice ATF-6 NIA application and permit for temporary importation of firearms and ammunition by nonimmigrant aliens; and

(c)(i) A valid hunting license issued by a state or territory of the United States; or

(ii) An invitation to participate in a trade show or sport shooting event being conducted in this state, another state, or another country that is contiguous with this state.

(3) For purposes of subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the firearms may only be possessed for the purpose of using them in the hunting of game while such persons are in the act of hunting, or while on a hunting trip, or while such persons are competing in a bona fide trap or skeet shoot or any other organized contest where rifles, pistols, or shotguns are used. Nothing in this section shall be construed to allow aliens to hunt or fish in this state without first having obtained a regular hunting or fishing license. [2009 c 216 § 4.]

**9.41.185 Coyote getters.** The use of "coyote getters" or similar spring-triggered shell devices shall not constitute a violation of any of the laws of the state of Washington when the use of such "coyote getters" is authorized by the state department of agriculture and/or the state department of fish and wildlife in cooperative programs with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, for the purpose of controlling or eliminating coyotes harmful to livestock and game animals on range land or forest areas. [1999 c 143 § 3; 1988 c 36 § 3; 1965 c 46 § 1.]

**9.41.190 Unlawful firearms—Exceptions.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to manufacture, own, buy, sell, loan, furnish, transport, or have in possession or under control, any machine gun, short-barreled shotgun, or short-barreled rifle; or any part designed and intended solely and exclusively for use in a machine gun, short-barreled shotgun, or short-barreled rifle, or in converting a weapon into a machine gun, short-barreled shotgun, or short-barreled rifle; or to assemble or repair any machine gun, short-barreled shotgun, or short-barreled rifle.

(2) This section shall not apply to:

(a) Any peace officer in the discharge of official duty or traveling to or from official duty, or to any officer or member of the armed forces of the United States or the state of Washington in the discharge of official duty or traveling to or from official duty; or

(b) A person, including an employee of such person if the employee has undergone fingerprinting and a background check, who or which is exempt from or licensed under federal law, and engaged in the production, manufacture, repair, or testing of machine guns, short-barreled shotguns, or short-barreled rifles:

(i) To be used or purchased by the armed forces of the United States;

(ii) To be used or purchased by federal, state, county, or municipal law enforcement agencies; or

(iii) For exportation in compliance with all applicable federal laws and regulations.

(3) It shall be an affirmative defense to a prosecution brought under this section that the machine gun, short-barreled shotgun, or short-barreled rifle was acquired prior to July 1, 1994, and is possessed in compliance with federal law.

(4) Any person violating this section is guilty of a class C felony. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 420; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 2; 1933 c 64 § 1; RRS § 2518-1.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.220 Unlawful firearms and parts contraband.** All machine guns, short-barreled shotguns, or short-barreled rifles, or any part designed and intended solely and exclusively for use in a machine gun, short-barreled shotgun, or short-barreled rifle, or in converting a weapon into a machine gun, short-barreled shotgun, or short-barreled rifle, illegally held or illegally possessed are hereby declared to be contraband, and it shall be the duty of all peace officers, and/or any officer or member of the armed forces of the United States or the state of Washington, to seize said machine gun, short-bar-

reled shotgun, or short-barreled rifle, or parts thereof, wherever and whenever found. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 421; 1933 c 64 § 4; RRS § 2518-4.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.225 Use of machine gun in felony—Penalty.** It is unlawful for a person, in the commission or furtherance of a felony other than a violation of RCW 9.41.190, to discharge a machine gun or to menace or threaten with a machine gun, another person. A violation of this section shall be punished as a class A felony under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1989 c 231 § 3.]

**Intent—1989 c 231:** "The legislature is concerned about the increasing number of drug dealers, gang members, and other dangerous criminals who are increasingly being found in possession of machine guns. The legislature recognizes that possession of machine guns by dangerous criminals represents a serious threat to law enforcement officers and the general public. The use of a machine gun in furtherance of a felony is a particularly heinous crime because of the potential for great harm or death to a large number of people. It is the intent of the legislature to protect the public safety by deterring the illegal use of machine guns in the furtherance of a felony by creating a separate offense with severe penalties for such use of a machine gun." [1989 c 231 § 1.]

**9.41.230 Aiming or discharging firearms, dangerous weapons.** (1) For conduct not amounting to a violation of chapter 9A.36 RCW, any person who:

(a) Aims any firearm, whether loaded or not, at or towards any human being;

(b) Willfully discharges any firearm, air gun, or other weapon, or throws any deadly missile in a public place, or in any place where any person might be endangered thereby. A public place shall not include any location at which firearms are authorized to be lawfully discharged; or

(c) Except as provided in RCW 9.41.185, sets a so-called trap, spring pistol, rifle, or other dangerous weapon, although no injury results, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(2) If an injury results from a violation of subsection (1) of this section, the person violating subsection (1) of this section shall be subject to the applicable provisions of chapters 9A.32 and 9A.36 RCW. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 422; 1909 c 249 § 307; 1888 p 100 §§ 2, 3; RRS § 2559.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

*Discharging firearm at railroad rolling stock: RCW 81.60.070.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.240 Possession of pistol by person from eighteen to twenty-one.** Unless an exception under RCW 9.41.042, 9.41.050, or 9.41.060 applies, a person at least eighteen years of age, but less than twenty-one years of age, may possess a pistol only:

(1) In the person's place of abode;

(2) At the person's fixed place of business; or

(3) On real property under his or her control. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 423; 1971 c 34 § 1; 1909 c 249 § 308; 1883 p 67 § 1; RRS § 2560.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.250 Dangerous weapons—Penalty.** (1) Every person who:

(a) Manufactures, sells, or disposes of or possesses any instrument or weapon of the kind usually known as slung shot, sand club, or metal knuckles, or spring blade knife;

(b) Furtively carries with intent to conceal any dagger, dirk, pistol, or other dangerous weapon; or

(c) Uses any contrivance or device for suppressing the noise of any firearm unless the suppressor is legally registered and possessed in accordance with federal law, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(2) "Spring blade knife" means any knife, including a prototype, model, or other sample, with a blade that is automatically released by a spring mechanism or other mechanical device, or any knife having a blade which opens, or falls, or is ejected into position by the force of gravity, or by an outward, downward, or centrifugal thrust or movement. A knife that contains a spring, detent, or other mechanism designed to create a bias toward closure of the blade and that requires physical exertion applied to the blade by hand, wrist, or arm to overcome the bias toward closure to assist in opening the knife is not a spring blade knife. [2012 c 179 § 1; 2011 c 13 § 1; 2007 c 379 § 1; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 424; 1959 c 143 § 1; 1957 c 93 § 1; 1909 c 249 § 265; 1886 p 81 § 1; Code 1881 § 929; RRS § 2517.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.251 Dangerous weapons—Application of restrictions to law enforcement, firefighting, rescue, and military personnel.** (1) RCW 9.41.250 does not apply to:

(a) The possession or use of a spring blade knife by a general authority law enforcement officer, firefighter or rescue member, Washington state patrol officer, or military member, while the officer or member:

(i) Is on official duty; or

(ii) Is transporting a spring blade knife to or from the place where the knife is stored when the officer or member is not on official duty; or

(iii) Is storing a spring blade knife;

(b) The manufacture, sale, transportation, transfer, distribution, or possession of spring blade knives pursuant to contract with a general authority law enforcement agency, fire or rescue agency, Washington state patrol, or military service, or pursuant to a contract with another manufacturer or a commercial distributor of knives for use, sale, or other disposition by the manufacturer or commercial distributor;

(c) The manufacture, transportation, transfer, distribution, or possession of spring blade knives, with or without compensation and with or without a contract, solely for trial, test, or other provisional use for evaluation and assessment purposes, by a general authority law enforcement agency, fire or rescue agency, Washington state patrol, military service, or a manufacturer or commercial distributor of knives.

(2) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Military member" means an active member of the United States military or naval forces, or a Washington national guard member called to active duty or during training.

(b) "General law enforcement agency" means any agency, department, or division of a municipal corporation, political subdivision, or other unit of local government of this state or any other state, and any agency, department, or division of any state government, having as its primary function the detection and apprehension of persons committing infractions or violating the traffic or criminal laws in general.

(c) "General law enforcement officer" means any person who is commissioned and employed by an employer on a full-time, fully compensated basis to enforce the criminal laws of the state of Washington generally. No person who is serving in a position that is basically clerical or secretarial in nature, or who is not commissioned shall be considered a law enforcement officer.

(d) "Fire or rescue agency" means any agency, department, or division of a municipal corporation, political subdivision, or other unit of local government of this state or any other state, and any agency, department, or division of any state government, having as its primary function the prevention, control, or extinguishment of fire or provision of emergency medical services or rescue actions for persons.

(e) "Firefighter or rescue member" means any person who is serving on a full-time, fully compensated basis as a member of a fire or rescue agency to prevent, control, or extinguish fire or provide emergency medical services or rescue actions for persons. No person who is serving in a position that is basically clerical or secretarial in nature shall be considered a firefighter or rescue member.

(f) "Military service" means the active, reserve, or national guard components of the United States military, including the army, navy, air force, marines, and coast guard. [2012 c 179 § 2.]

**9.41.260 Dangerous exhibitions.** Every proprietor, lessee, or occupant of any place of amusement, or any plat of ground or building, who allows it to be used for the exhibition of skill in throwing any sharp instrument or in shooting any bow gun or firearm of any description, at or toward any human being, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 425; 1909 c 249 § 283; RRS § 2535.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

*Fireworks: Chapter 70.77 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.270 Weapons apparently capable of producing bodily harm—Unlawful carrying or handling—Penalty—Exceptions.** (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to carry, exhibit, display, or draw any firearm, dagger, sword, knife or other cutting or stabbing instrument, club, or any other weapon apparently capable of producing bodily harm, in a manner, under circumstances, and at a time and place that either manifests an intent to intimidate another or that warrants alarm for the safety of other persons.

(2) Any person violating the provisions of subsection (1) above shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. If any person is convicted of a violation of subsection (1) of this section, the person shall lose his or her concealed pistol license, if any. The court shall send notice of the revocation to the depart-



ment of licensing, and the city, town, or county which issued the license.

(3) Subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to or affect the following:

(a) Any act committed by a person while in his or her place of abode or fixed place of business;

(b) Any person who by virtue of his or her office or public employment is vested by law with a duty to preserve public safety, maintain public order, or to make arrests for offenses, while in the performance of such duty;

(c) Any person acting for the purpose of protecting himself or herself against the use of presently threatened unlawful force by another, or for the purpose of protecting another against the use of such unlawful force by a third person;

(d) Any person making or assisting in making a lawful arrest for the commission of a felony; or

(e) Any person engaged in military activities sponsored by the federal or state governments. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 426; 1969 c 8 § 1.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.280 Possessing dangerous weapons on school facilities—Penalty—Exceptions.** (1) It is unlawful for a person to carry onto, or to possess on, public or private elementary or secondary school premises, school-provided transportation, or areas of facilities while being used exclusively by public or private schools:

(a) Any firearm;

(b) Any other dangerous weapon as defined in RCW 9.41.250;

(c) Any device commonly known as "nun-chu-ka sticks", consisting of two or more lengths of wood, metal, plastic, or similar substance connected with wire, rope, or other means;

(d) Any device, commonly known as "throwing stars", which are multi-pointed, metal objects designed to embed upon impact from any aspect;

(e) Any air gun, including any air pistol or air rifle, designed to propel a BB, pellet, or other projectile by the discharge of compressed air, carbon dioxide, or other gas; or

(f)(i) Any portable device manufactured to function as a weapon and which is commonly known as a stun gun, including a projectile stun gun which projects wired probes that are attached to the device that emit an electrical charge designed to administer to a person or an animal an electric shock, charge, or impulse; or

(ii) Any device, object, or instrument which is used or intended to be used as a weapon with the intent to injure a person by an electric shock, charge, or impulse.

(2) Any such person violating subsection (1) of this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. If any person is convicted of a violation of subsection (1)(a) of this section, the person shall have his or her concealed pistol license, if any revoked for a period of three years. Anyone convicted under this subsection is prohibited from applying for a concealed pistol license for a period of three years. The court shall send notice of the revocation to the department of licensing, and the city, town, or county which issued the license.

Any violation of subsection (1) of this section by elementary or secondary school students constitutes grounds for expulsion from the state's public schools in accordance with RCW 28A.600.010. An appropriate school authority shall promptly notify law enforcement and the student's parent or guardian regarding any allegation or indication of such violation.

Upon the arrest of a person at least twelve years of age and not more than twenty-one years of age for violating subsection (1)(a) of this section, the person shall be detained or confined in a juvenile or adult facility for up to seventy-two hours. The person shall not be released within the seventy-two hours until after the person has been examined and evaluated by the designated mental health professional unless the court in its discretion releases the person sooner after a determination regarding probable cause or on probation bond or bail.

Within twenty-four hours of the arrest, the arresting law enforcement agency shall refer the person to the designated mental health professional for examination and evaluation under chapter 71.05 or 71.34 RCW and inform a parent or guardian of the person of the arrest, detention, and examination. The designated mental health professional shall examine and evaluate the person subject to the provisions of chapter 71.05 or 71.34 RCW. The examination shall occur at the facility in which the person is detained or confined. If the person has been released on probation, bond, or bail, the examination shall occur wherever is appropriate.

The designated mental health professional may determine whether to refer the person to the county-designated chemical dependency specialist for examination and evaluation in accordance with chapter 70.96A RCW. The county-designated chemical dependency specialist shall examine the person subject to the provisions of chapter 70.96A RCW. The examination shall occur at the facility in which the person is detained or confined. If the person has been released on probation, bond, or bail, the examination shall occur wherever is appropriate.

Upon completion of any examination by the designated mental health professional or the county-designated chemical dependency specialist, the results of the examination shall be sent to the court, and the court shall consider those results in making any determination about the person.

The designated mental health professional and county-designated chemical dependency specialist shall, to the extent permitted by law, notify a parent or guardian of the person that an examination and evaluation has taken place and the results of the examination. Nothing in this subsection prohibits the delivery of additional, appropriate mental health examinations to the person while the person is detained or confined.

If the designated mental health professional determines it is appropriate, the designated mental health professional may refer the person to the local regional support network for follow-up services or the department of social and health services or other community providers for other services to the family and individual.

(3) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to:

(a) Any student or employee of a private military academy when on the property of the academy;

(b) Any person engaged in military, law enforcement, or school district security activities. However, a person who is not a commissioned law enforcement officer and who provides school security services under the direction of a school administrator may not possess a device listed in subsection (1)(f) of this section unless he or she has successfully completed training in the use of such devices that is equivalent to the training received by commissioned law enforcement officers;

(c) Any person who is involved in a convention, showing, demonstration, lecture, or firearms safety course authorized by school authorities in which the firearms of collectors or instructors are handled or displayed;

(d) Any person while the person is participating in a firearms or air gun competition approved by the school or school district;

(e) Any person in possession of a pistol who has been issued a license under RCW 9.41.070, or is exempt from the licensing requirement by RCW 9.41.060, while picking up or dropping off a student;

(f) Any nonstudent at least eighteen years of age legally in possession of a firearm or dangerous weapon that is secured within an attended vehicle or concealed from view within a locked unattended vehicle while conducting legitimate business at the school;

(g) Any nonstudent at least eighteen years of age who is in lawful possession of an unloaded firearm, secured in a vehicle while conducting legitimate business at the school; or

(h) Any law enforcement officer of the federal, state, or local government agency.

(4) Subsections (1)(c) and (d) of this section do not apply to any person who possesses nun-chu-ka sticks, throwing stars, or other dangerous weapons to be used in martial arts classes authorized to be conducted on the school premises.

(5) Subsection (1)(f)(i) of this section does not apply to any person who possesses a device listed in subsection (1)(f)(i) of this section, if the device is possessed and used solely for the purpose approved by a school for use in a school authorized event, lecture, or activity conducted on the school premises.

(6) Except as provided in subsection (3)(b), (c), (f), and (h) of this section, firearms are not permitted in a public or private school building.

(7) "GUN-FREE ZONE" signs shall be posted around school facilities giving warning of the prohibition of the possession of firearms on school grounds. [2009 c 453 § 1; 1999 c 167 § 1; 1996 c 295 § 13; 1995 c 87 § 1; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 427; 1993 c 347 § 1; 1989 c 219 § 1; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 4.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.290 State preemption.** The state of Washington hereby fully occupies and preempts the entire field of firearms regulation within the boundaries of the state, including the registration, licensing, possession, purchase, sale, acquisition, transfer, discharge, and transportation of firearms, or any other element relating to firearms or parts thereof, including ammunition and reloader components. Cities, towns, and counties or other municipalities may enact only those laws and ordinances relating to firearms that are specifically

authorized by state law, as in RCW 9.41.300, and are consistent with this chapter. Such local ordinances shall have the same penalty as provided for by state law. Local laws and ordinances that are inconsistent with, more restrictive than, or exceed the requirements of state law shall not be enacted and are preempted and repealed, regardless of the nature of the code, charter, or home rule status of such city, town, county, or municipality. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 428; 1985 c 428 § 1; 1983 c 232 § 12.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.300 Weapons prohibited in certain places—Local laws and ordinances—Exceptions—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to enter the following places when he or she knowingly possesses or knowingly has under his or her control a weapon:

(a) The restricted access areas of a jail, or of a law enforcement facility, or any place used for the confinement of a person (i) arrested for, charged with, or convicted of an offense, (ii) held for extradition or as a material witness, or (iii) otherwise confined pursuant to an order of a court, except an order under chapter 13.32A or 13.34 RCW. Restricted access areas do not include common areas of egress or ingress open to the general public;

(b) Those areas in any building which are used in connection with court proceedings, including courtrooms, jury rooms, judge's chambers, offices and areas used to conduct court business, waiting areas, and corridors adjacent to areas used in connection with court proceedings. The restricted areas do not include common areas of ingress and egress to the building that is used in connection with court proceedings, when it is possible to protect court areas without restricting ingress and egress to the building. The restricted areas shall be the minimum necessary to fulfill the objective of this subsection (1)(b).

For purposes of this subsection (1)(b), "weapon" means any firearm, explosive as defined in RCW 70.74.010, or any weapon of the kind usually known as slung shot, sand club, or metal knuckles, or any knife, dagger, dirk, or other similar weapon that is capable of causing death or bodily injury and is commonly used with the intent to cause death or bodily injury.

In addition, the local legislative authority shall provide either a stationary locked box sufficient in size for pistols and key to a weapon owner for weapon storage, or shall designate an official to receive weapons for safekeeping, during the owner's visit to restricted areas of the building. The locked box or designated official shall be located within the same building used in connection with court proceedings. The local legislative authority shall be liable for any negligence causing damage to or loss of a weapon either placed in a locked box or left with an official during the owner's visit to restricted areas of the building.

The local judicial authority shall designate and clearly mark those areas where weapons are prohibited, and shall post notices at each entrance to the building of the prohibition against weapons in the restricted areas;

(c) The restricted access areas of a public mental health facility certified by the department of social and health ser-

vices for inpatient hospital care and state institutions for the care of the mentally ill, excluding those facilities solely for evaluation and treatment. Restricted access areas do not include common areas of egress and ingress open to the general public;

(d) That portion of an establishment classified by the state liquor control board as off-limits to persons under twenty-one years of age; or

(e) The restricted access areas of a commercial service airport designated in the airport security plan approved by the federal transportation security administration, including passenger screening checkpoints at or beyond the point at which a passenger initiates the screening process. These areas do not include airport drives, general parking areas and walkways, and shops and areas of the terminal that are outside the screening checkpoints and that are normally open to unscreened passengers or visitors to the airport. Any restricted access area shall be clearly indicated by prominent signs indicating that firearms and other weapons are prohibited in the area.

(2) Cities, towns, counties, and other municipalities may enact laws and ordinances:

(a) Restricting the discharge of firearms in any portion of their respective jurisdictions where there is a reasonable likelihood that humans, domestic animals, or property will be jeopardized. Such laws and ordinances shall not abridge the right of the individual guaranteed by Article I, section 24 of the state Constitution to bear arms in defense of self or others; and

(b) Restricting the possession of firearms in any stadium or convention center, operated by a city, town, county, or other municipality, except that such restrictions shall not apply to:

(i) Any pistol in the possession of a person licensed under RCW 9.41.070 or exempt from the licensing requirement by RCW 9.41.060; or

(ii) Any showing, demonstration, or lecture involving the exhibition of firearms.

(3)(a) Cities, towns, and counties may enact ordinances restricting the areas in their respective jurisdictions in which firearms may be sold, but, except as provided in (b) of this subsection, a business selling firearms may not be treated more restrictively than other businesses located within the same zone. An ordinance requiring the cessation of business within a zone shall not have a shorter grandfather period for businesses selling firearms than for any other businesses within the zone.

(b) Cities, towns, and counties may restrict the location of a business selling firearms to not less than five hundred feet from primary or secondary school grounds, if the business has a storefront, has hours during which it is open for business, and posts advertisements or signs observable to passersby that firearms are available for sale. A business selling firearms that exists as of the date a restriction is enacted under this subsection (3)(b) shall be grandfathered according to existing law.

(4) Violations of local ordinances adopted under subsection (2) of this section must have the same penalty as provided for by state law.

(5) The perimeter of the premises of any specific location covered by subsection (1) of this section shall be posted

at reasonable intervals to alert the public as to the existence of any law restricting the possession of firearms on the premises.

(6) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to:

(a) A person engaged in military activities sponsored by the federal or state governments, while engaged in official duties;

(b) Law enforcement personnel, except that subsection (1)(b) of this section does apply to a law enforcement officer who is present at a courthouse building as a party to an action under chapter 10.14, 10.99, or 26.50 RCW, or an action under Title 26 RCW where any party has alleged the existence of domestic violence as defined in RCW 26.50.010; or

(c) Security personnel while engaged in official duties.

(7) Subsection (1)(a), (b), (c), and (e) of this section does not apply to correctional personnel or community corrections officers, as long as they are employed as such, who have completed government-sponsored law enforcement firearms training, except that subsection (1)(b) of this section does apply to a correctional employee or community corrections officer who is present at a courthouse building as a party to an action under chapter 10.14, 10.99, or 26.50 RCW, or an action under Title 26 RCW where any party has alleged the existence of domestic violence as defined in RCW 26.50.010.

(8) Subsection (1)(a) of this section does not apply to a person licensed pursuant to RCW 9.41.070 who, upon entering the place or facility, directly and promptly proceeds to the administrator of the facility or the administrator's designee and obtains written permission to possess the firearm while on the premises or checks his or her firearm. The person may reclaim the firearms upon leaving but must immediately and directly depart from the place or facility.

(9) Subsection (1)(c) of this section does not apply to any administrator or employee of the facility or to any person who, upon entering the place or facility, directly and promptly proceeds to the administrator of the facility or the administrator's designee and obtains written permission to possess the firearm while on the premises.

(10) Subsection (1)(d) of this section does not apply to the proprietor of the premises or his or her employees while engaged in their employment.

(11) Government-sponsored law enforcement firearms training must be training that correctional personnel and community corrections officers receive as part of their job requirement and reference to such training does not constitute a mandate that it be provided by the correctional facility.

(12) Any person violating subsection (1) of this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(13) "Weapon" as used in this section means any firearm, explosive as defined in RCW 70.74.010, or instrument or weapon listed in RCW 9.41.250. [2011 c 221 § 2; 2008 c 33 § 1. Prior: 2004 c 116 § 1; 2004 c 16 § 1; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 429; 1993 c 396 § 1; 1985 c 428 § 2.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.310 Information pamphlet.** After a public hearing, the department of fish and wildlife shall publish a pamphlet on firearms safety and the legal limits of the use of firearms. The pamphlet shall include current information on fire-

arms laws and regulations and state preemption of local firearms laws. This pamphlet may be used in the department's hunter safety education program and shall be provided to the department of licensing for distribution to firearms dealers and persons authorized to issue concealed pistol licenses. The department of fish and wildlife shall reimburse the department of licensing for costs associated with distribution of the pamphlet. [1994 c 264 § 2; 1988 c 36 § 4; 1985 c 428 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.320 Fireworks.** Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit the possession, sale, or use of fireworks when possessed, sold, or used in compliance with chapter 70.77 RCW. [1994 c 133 § 16.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.800 Surrender of weapons or licenses—Prohibition on future possession or licensing.** (1) Any court when entering an order authorized under RCW 9A.46.080, 10.14.080, 10.99.040, 10.99.045, 26.09.050, 26.09.060, 26.10.040, 26.10.115, 26.26.130, 26.50.060, 26.50.070, or 26.26.590 shall, upon a showing by clear and convincing evidence, that a party has: Used, displayed, or threatened to use a firearm or other dangerous weapon in a felony, or previously committed any offense that makes him or her ineligible to possess a firearm under the provisions of RCW 9.41.040:

(a) Require the party to surrender any firearm or other dangerous weapon;

(b) Require the party to surrender any concealed pistol license issued under RCW 9.41.070;

(c) Prohibit the party from obtaining or possessing a firearm or other dangerous weapon;

(d) Prohibit the party from obtaining or possessing a concealed pistol license.

(2) Any court when entering an order authorized under RCW 9A.46.080, 10.14.080, 10.99.040, 10.99.045, 26.09.050, 26.09.060, 26.10.040, 26.10.115, 26.26.130, 26.50.060, 26.50.070, or 26.26.590 may, upon a showing by a preponderance of the evidence but not by clear and convincing evidence, that a party has: Used, displayed, or threatened to use a firearm or other dangerous weapon in a felony, or previously committed any offense that makes him or her ineligible to possess a pistol under the provisions of RCW 9.41.040:

(a) Require the party to surrender any firearm or other dangerous weapon;

(b) Require the party to surrender a concealed pistol license issued under RCW 9.41.070;

(c) Prohibit the party from obtaining or possessing a firearm or other dangerous weapon;

(d) Prohibit the party from obtaining or possessing a concealed pistol license.

(3) The court may order temporary surrender of a firearm or other dangerous weapon without notice to the other party if it finds, on the basis of the moving affidavit or other evidence, that irreparable injury could result if an order is not issued until the time for response has elapsed.

(4) In addition to the provisions of subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section, the court may enter an order requiring a party to comply with the provisions in subsection (1) of this

section if it finds that the possession of a firearm or other dangerous weapon by any party presents a serious and imminent threat to public health or safety, or to the health or safety of any individual.

(5) The requirements of subsections (1), (2), and (4) of this section may be for a period of time less than the duration of the order.

(6) The court may require the party to surrender any firearm or other dangerous weapon in his or her immediate possession or control or subject to his or her immediate possession or control to the sheriff of the county having jurisdiction of the proceeding, the chief of police of the municipality having jurisdiction, or to the restrained or enjoined party's counsel or to any person designated by the court. [2002 c 302 § 704; 1996 c 295 § 14; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 430.]

**Application—Construction—Short title—Severability—2002 c 302:** See RCW 26.26.903, 26.26.911, and 26.26.912.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.41.810 Penalty.** Any violation of any provision of this chapter, except as otherwise provided, shall be a misdemeanor and punishable accordingly. [1984 c 258 § 312; 1983 c 232 § 11; 1983 c 3 § 7; 1961 c 124 § 12; 1935 c 172 § 16; RRS § 2516-16. Formerly RCW 9.41.160.]

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.34.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 9.44 RCW PETITION MISCONDUCT

### Sections

9.44.080 Misconduct in signing a petition.

**9.44.080 Misconduct in signing a petition.** In a situation not covered by RCW 29A.84.220, 29A.84.230, 29A.84.240, or 29A.84.250, every person who shall willfully sign the name of another person or of a fictitious person, or for any consideration, gratuity or reward shall sign his or her own name to or withdraw his or her name from any referendum or other petition circulated in pursuance of any law of this state or any municipal ordinance; or in signing his or her name to such petition shall willfully subscribe to any false statement concerning his or her age, citizenship, residence or other qualifications to sign the same; or knowing that any such petition contains any such false or wrongful signature or statement, shall file the same, or put the same off with intent that it should be filed, as a true and genuine petition, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 297; 1999 c 143 § 4; 1909 c 249 § 337; RRS § 2589.]

*Forgery:* RCW 9A.60.020.

*Initiative and referendum petition forgery:* RCW 29A.84.230, 29A.84.250.

*Recall petition forgery:* RCW 29A.84.240, 29A.84.220.

## Chapter 9.45 RCW FRAUDS AND SWINDLES

### Sections

9.45.020 Substitution of child.

- 9.45.060 Encumbered, leased, or rented personal property—Construction.
- 9.45.070 Mock auctions.
- 9.45.080 Fraudulent removal of property.
- 9.45.090 Knowingly receiving fraudulent conveyance.
- 9.45.100 Fraud in assignment for benefit of creditors.
- 9.45.122 Measurement of commodities—Public policy.
- 9.45.124 Measurement of commodities—Measuring inaccurately—Altering measuring devices—Penalty.
- 9.45.126 Measurement of commodities—Inducing violations—Penalty.
- 9.45.160 Fraud in liquor warehouse receipts.
- 9.45.170 Penalty.
- 9.45.210 Altering sample or certificate of assay.
- 9.45.220 Making false sample or assay of ore.
- 9.45.260 Fire protection sprinkler system contractors—Wrongful acts.
- 9.45.270 Fraudulent filing of vehicle report of sale.

*Bank or trust company*

- falsification or destruction of records:* RCW 30.12.090, 30.12.100.
- preferential transfers:* RCW 30.44.110.
- receiving deposits when insolvent:* RCW 30.44.120.
- using name of unlawfully:* RCW 30.04.020.

*"Bushing" by motor vehicle dealers:* RCW 46.70.180(4).

*Cemeteries, representing fund as perpetual:* RCW 68.40.085.

*Cigarette tax fraud:* RCW 82.24.110.

*Domestic insurers, illegal or corrupt practices:* RCW 48.06.190, 48.07.060, 48.08.040.

*Election fraud:* Chapter 29A.84 RCW.

*Employment agent, fraud:* RCW 49.44.050.

*Falsification of books of credit union:* Chapter 31.12 RCW.

*Fish and wildlife, false or misleading information:* RCW 77.15.270.

*Food, drugs, and cosmetics:* RCW 69.04.040, 69.04.060, 69.04.070.

*Fraud:* Chapter 9A.60 RCW.

*Fraud by engraver of public bonds:* RCW 39.44.101.

*Fraudulent conveyances:* Chapter 19.40 RCW.

*Insurance*

- agent, etc., appropriating funds, etc.:* RCW 48.17.480.
- fraud and unfair practices:* Chapter 48.30 RCW.

*Insured property, fraudulent injury or destruction:* RCW 48.30.220.

*Intent to defraud:* RCW 10.58.040.

*Land registration fraud:* RCW 65.12.750.

*Motor vehicle*

- certificates of title, falsifying:* RCW 46.12.750.
- dealers:* RCW 46.70.180.
- fuel tax fraud:* RCW 82.36.330, 82.36.380 through 82.36.400.

*Mutual savings banks*

- falsification of books, etc.:* RCW 32.04.100.
- transfers due to insolvency:* RCW 32.24.080.

*Obtaining employment by false recommendation:* RCW 49.44.040.

*Ownership of property, proof of:* RCW 10.58.060.

*Public assistance fraud:* RCW 74.08.055, 74.08.331.

*Savings and loan associations*

- falsification of books, etc.:* RCW 33.36.040.
- illegal loans and purchasing at discount by employees:* RCW 33.36.010, 33.36.020.
- preferential transfers of property:* RCW 33.36.030.

*Sporting contest fraud:* RCW 67.24.010.

*State employees' retirement, falsification of statements, etc.:* RCW 41.40.055.

*State patrol retirement fund, falsifications:* RCW 43.43.320.

*Tax assessed property, removal to avoid payment:* RCW 84.56.120, 84.56.200.

*Teachers' retirement, falsification of statements, etc.:* RCW 41.32.055.

*Wages, rebating, etc., by employers:* RCW 49.52.050, 49.52.090.

*Warehouse operator or common carrier issuing false documents:* Chapter 22.32 RCW.

**9.45.020 Substitution of child.** Every person to whom a child has been confided for nursing, education or any other purpose, who, with intent to deceive a person, guardian or relative of such child, shall substitute or produce to such parent, guardian or relative, another child or person in the place of the child so confided, is guilty of a class B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than ten years. [2003 c 53 § 29; 1992 c 7 § 9; 1909 c 249 § 123; RRS § 2375.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.45.060 Encumbered, leased, or rented personal property—Construction.** Every person being in possession thereof, who shall sell, remove, conceal, convert to his or her own use, or destroy or connive at or consent to the sale, removal, conversion, concealment, or destruction of any personal property or any part thereof, upon which a security agreement, mortgage, lien, conditional sales contract, rental agreement, or lease exists, with intent to hinder, delay, or defraud the secured party of such security agreement, or the holder of such mortgage, lien, or conditional sales contract or the lessor under such lease or rentor under such rental agreement, or any assignee of such security agreement, mortgage, lien, conditional sales contract, rental agreement or lease shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

In any prosecution under this section any allegation containing a description of the security agreement, mortgage, lien, conditional sales contract, rental agreement, or lease by reference to the date thereof and names of the parties thereto, shall be sufficiently definite and certain.

The provisions of this section shall be cumulative and nonexclusive and shall not affect any other criminal provision. [2011 c 336 § 298; 1971 c 61 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 109 § 1; 1909 c 249 § 377; RRS § 2629.]

*Destruction or removal of fixtures, etc., from mortgaged real property:* RCW 61.12.030.

*Larceny, sale of mortgaged property:* Chapter 9A.56 RCW.

**9.45.070 Mock auctions.** Every person who shall obtain any money or property from another or shall obtain the signature of another to any writing the false making of which would be forgery, by color or aid of any false or fraudulent sale of property or pretended sale of property by auction, or by any of the practices known as mock auction, shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than five years or in the county jail for up to three hundred sixty-four days, or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or by both fine and imprisonment.

Every person who shall buy or sell or pretend to buy or sell any goods, wares or merchandise, exposed to sale by auction, if an actual sale, purchase and change of ownership therein does not thereupon take place, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 96 § 6; 1992 c 7 § 10; 1909 c 249 § 378; RRS § 2630.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

*Auctioneering without license:* RCW 36.71.070.

*Auctioneers:* Chapter 18.11 RCW.

**9.45.080 Fraudulent removal of property.** Every person who, with intent to defraud a prior or subsequent pur-

chaser thereof, or prevent any of his or her property being made liable for the payment of any of his or her debts, or levied upon by an execution or warrant of attachment, shall remove any of his or her property, or secrete, assign, convey, or otherwise dispose of the same, or with intent to defraud a creditor shall remove, secrete, assign, convey, or otherwise dispose of any of his or her books or accounts, vouchers or writings in any way relating to his or her business affairs, or destroy, obliterate, alter, or erase any of such books of account, accounts, vouchers, or writing or any entry, memorandum, or minute therein contained, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 299; 1909 c 249 § 379; RRS § 2631.]

**9.45.090 Knowingly receiving fraudulent conveyance.** Every person who shall receive any property or conveyance thereof from another, knowing that the same is transferred or delivered to him or her in violation of, or with the intent to violate RCW 9.45.080, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 300; 1909 c 249 § 380; RRS § 2632.]

**9.45.100 Fraud in assignment for benefit of creditors.** Every person who, having made, or being about to make, a general assignment of his or her property to pay his or her debts, shall by color or aid of any false or fraudulent representation, pretense, token, or writing induce any creditor to participate in the benefits of such assignments, or to give any release or discharge of his or her claim or any part thereof, or shall connive at the payment in whole or in part of any false, fraudulent or fictitious claim, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 301; 1909 c 249 § 381; RRS § 2633.]

*Assignment for benefit of creditors: Chapter 7.08 RCW.*

*Banks and trust companies, preferential transfers: RCW 30.44.110.*

*Mutual savings banks, transfer of assets due to insolvency: RCW 32.24.080.*

**9.45.122 Measurement of commodities—Public policy.** Because of the widespread importance to the marketing of goods, raw materials, and agricultural products such as, but not limited to, grains, timber, logs, wood chips, scrap metal, oil, gas, petroleum products, coal, fish and other commodities, that qualitative and quantitative measurements of such goods, materials and products be accurately and honestly made, it is declared to be the public policy of this state that certain conduct with respect to said measurement be declared unlawful. [1967 c 200 § 1.]

*Weights and measures: Chapter 19.94 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.45.124 Measurement of commodities—Measuring inaccurately—Altering measuring devices—Penalty.** Every person, corporation, or association whether profit or nonprofit, who shall ask or receive, or conspire to ask or receive, directly or indirectly, any compensation, gratuity, or reward or any promise thereof, on any agreement or understanding that he or she shall (1) intentionally make an inaccurate visual or mechanical measurement or an intentionally inaccurate recording of any visual or mechanical measurement of goods, raw materials, and agricultural products (whether severed or unsevered from the land) which he or she has or will have the duty to measure, or shall (2) intentionally change, alter or affect, for the purpose of making an inaccurate

measurement, any equipment or other device which is designed to measure, either qualitatively or quantitatively, such goods, raw materials, and agricultural products, or shall intentionally alter the recordation of such measurements, is guilty of a class B felony, punishable by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than ten years, or by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars, or both. [2003 c 53 § 30; 1992 c 7 § 11; 1967 c 200 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.45.126 Measurement of commodities—Inducing violations—Penalty.** Every person who shall give, offer or promise, or conspire to give, offer or promise, directly or indirectly, any compensation, gratuity or reward to any person, corporation, independent contractor, or agent, employee or servant thereof with intent to violate RCW 9.45.124, is guilty of a class B felony, punishable by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than ten years, or by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars, or both. [2003 c 53 § 31; 1992 c 7 § 12; 1967 c 200 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.45.160 Fraud in liquor warehouse receipts.** It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, association or corporation to make, utter, circulate, sell or offer for sale any certificate of any warehouse, distillery or depository for intoxicating liquors unless the identical liquor mentioned in such certificate is in the possession of the warehouse, distillery or depository mentioned in such certificate fully paid for, so that the owners and holder of such certificate will be entitled to obtain such intoxicating liquors without the payment of any additional sum except the tax of the government and the tax of the state, county and city in which such warehouse, distillery or depository may be located, and any storage charges. [1909 c 202 § 1. No RRS.]

**9.45.170 Penalty.** Any person violating any of the provisions of RCW 9.45.160, shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary for not more than five years nor less than one year, or imprisonment in the county jail for any length of time not exceeding one year. [1909 c 202 § 2. No RRS.]

**9.45.210 Altering sample or certificate of assay.** Any person who shall interfere with or in any manner change samples of ores or bullion produced for sampling, or change or alter samples or packages of ores or bullion which have been purchased for assaying, or who shall change or alter any certificate of sampling or assaying, with intent to cheat, wrong or defraud, is guilty of a class C felony, punishable by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not less than one year nor more than five years, or by a fine of not less than fifty nor more than one thousand dollars, or by both such fine and imprisonment. [2003 c 53 § 32; 1890 p 99 § 2; RRS § 2712.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.45.220 Making false sample or assay of ore.** Any person who shall, with intent to cheat, wrong or defraud, make or publish a false sample of ore or bullion, or who shall make or publish or cause to be published a false assay of ore or bullion, is guilty of a class C felony, punishable by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not less than one year nor more than five years, or by a fine of not less than fifty nor more than one thousand dollars, or by both such fine and imprisonment. [2003 c 53 § 33; 1890 p 99 § 3; RRS § 2713.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.45.260 Fire protection sprinkler system contractors—Wrongful acts.** Any fire protection sprinkler system contractor, defined under RCW 18.160.010, who willfully and maliciously constructs, installs, or maintains a fire protection sprinkler system in any structure so as to threaten the safety of any occupant or user of the structure in the event of a fire, is guilty of a class C felony. This section may not be construed to create any criminal liability for a prime contractor or an owner of a structure unless it is proved that the prime contractor or owner had actual knowledge of an illegal construction, installation, or maintenance of a fire protection sprinkler system by a fire protection sprinkler system contractor. [1992 c 116 § 1.]

*Fire protection sprinkler system contractors, licensing and regulation: Chapter 18.160 RCW.*

**9.45.270 Fraudulent filing of vehicle report of sale.** Every person who files a vehicle report of sale without the knowledge of the transferee shall be guilty of fraudulent filing of vehicle report of sale and shall be punished as follows:

(1) Where the victim incurred damages in an amount less than two hundred fifty dollars, the defendant is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(2) Where the victim incurred damages in an amount exceeding two hundred fifty dollars, the defendant is guilty of a class C felony.

(3) Where the victim incurred damages in an amount exceeding one thousand five hundred dollars, the defendant is guilty of a class B felony. [2006 c 291 § 1.]

### Chapter 9.46 RCW GAMBLING—1973 ACT

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*State lottery commission—Sale of tickets or shares—Other law inapplicable: RCW 67.70.210.*

**9.46.010 Legislative declaration.** The public policy of the state of Washington on gambling is to keep the criminal element out of gambling and to promote the social welfare of the people by limiting the nature and scope of gambling activities and by strict regulation and control.

It is hereby declared to be the policy of the legislature, recognizing the close relationship between professional gambling and organized crime, to restrain all persons from seeking profit from professional gambling activities in this state; to restrain all persons from patronizing such professional gambling activities; to safeguard the public against the evils induced by common gamblers and common gambling houses engaged in professional gambling; and at the same time, both to preserve the freedom of the press and to avoid restricting participation by individuals in activities and social pastimes, which activities and social pastimes are more for amusement rather than for profit, do not maliciously affect the public, and do not breach the peace.

The legislature further declares that the raising of funds for the promotion of bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations is in the public interest as is participation in such activities and social pastimes as are hereinafter in this chapter authorized.

The legislature further declares that the conducting of bingo, raffles, and amusement games and the operation of punchboards, pull-tabs, card games and other social pastimes, when conducted pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and any rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto, are hereby authorized, as are only such lotteries for which no valuable consideration has been paid or agreed to be paid as hereinafter in this chapter provided.

The legislature further declares that fishing derbies shall not constitute any form of gambling and shall not be consid-

ered as a lottery, a raffle, or an amusement game and shall not be subject to the provisions of this chapter or any rules and regulations adopted hereunder.

The legislature further declares that raffles authorized by the fish and wildlife commission involving hunting big game animals or wild turkeys shall not be subject to the provisions of this chapter or any rules and regulations adopted hereunder, with the exception of this section and RCW 9.46.400.

All factors incident to the activities authorized in this chapter shall be closely controlled, and the provisions of this chapter shall be liberally construed to achieve such end. [1996 c 101 § 2; 1994 c 218 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 259 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 155 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 135 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 1.]

**Findings—1996 c 101:** See note following RCW 77.32.530.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.0201 "Amusement game."** "Amusement game," as used in this chapter, means a game played for entertainment in which:

- (1) The contestant actively participates;
- (2) The outcome depends in a material degree upon the skill of the contestant;
- (3) Only merchandise prizes are awarded;
- (4) The outcome is not in the control of the operator;
- (5) The wagers are placed, the winners are determined, and a distribution of prizes or property is made in the presence of all persons placing wagers at such game; and
- (6) Said game is conducted or operated by any agricultural fair, person, association, or organization in such manner and at such locations as may be authorized by rules and regulations adopted by the commission pursuant to this chapter as now or hereafter amended.

Cake walks as commonly known and fish ponds as commonly known shall be treated as amusement games for all purposes under this chapter. [1987 c 4 § 2. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(1), part.]

**9.46.0205 "Bingo."** "Bingo," as used in this chapter, means a game conducted only in the county within which the organization is principally located in which prizes are awarded on the basis of designated numbers or symbols on a card conforming to numbers or symbols selected at random and in which no cards are sold except at the time and place of said game, when said game is conducted by a bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization, or if an agricultural fair authorized under chapters 15.76 and 36.37 RCW, which does not conduct bingo on more than twelve consecutive days in any calendar year, and except in the case of any agricultural fair as authorized under chapters 15.76 and 36.37 RCW, no person other than a bona fide member or an employee of said organization takes any part in the management or operation of said game, and no person who takes any part in the management or operation of said game takes any part in the management or operation of any game conducted by any other organization or any other branch of the same organization, unless approved by the commission, and no part of the proceeds thereof inure to the benefit of any person other than the organization conducting said game. For the purposes of this section, the organization shall be deemed to be principally located in the county within which it has its primary business



office. If the organization has no business office, the organization shall be deemed to be located in the county of principal residence of its chief executive officer: PROVIDED, That any organization which is conducting any licensed and established bingo game in any locale as of January 1, 1981, shall be exempt from the requirement that such game be conducted in the county in which the organization is principally located. [2002 c 369 § 1; 1987 c 4 § 3. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(2).]

**9.46.0209 "Bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization."** (1)(a) "Bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization," as used in this chapter, means:

(i) Any organization duly existing under the provisions of chapter 24.12, 24.20, or 24.28 RCW, any agricultural fair authorized under the provisions of chapters 15.76 or 36.37 RCW, or any nonprofit corporation duly existing under the provisions of chapter 24.03 RCW for charitable, benevolent, eleemosynary, educational, civic, patriotic, political, social, fraternal, athletic or agricultural purposes only, or any nonprofit organization, whether incorporated or otherwise, when found by the commission to be organized and operating for one or more of the aforesaid purposes only, all of which in the opinion of the commission have been organized and are operated primarily for purposes other than the operation of gambling activities authorized under this chapter; or

(ii) Any corporation which has been incorporated under Title 36 U.S.C. and whose principal purposes are to furnish volunteer aid to members of the armed forces of the United States and also to carry on a system of national and international relief and to apply the same in mitigating the sufferings caused by pestilence, famine, fire, floods, and other national calamities and to devise and carry on measures for preventing the same.

(b) An organization defined under (a) of this subsection must:

(i) Have been organized and continuously operating for at least twelve calendar months immediately preceding making application for any license to operate a gambling activity, or the operation of any gambling activity authorized by this chapter for which no license is required;

(ii) Have not less than fifteen bona fide active members each with the right to an equal vote in the election of the officers, or board members, if any, who determine the policies of the organization in order to receive a gambling license; and

(iii) Demonstrate to the commission that it has made significant progress toward the accomplishment of the purposes of the organization during the twelve consecutive month period preceding the date of application for a license or license renewal. The fact that contributions to an organization do not qualify for charitable contribution deduction purposes or that the organization is not otherwise exempt from payment of federal income taxes pursuant to the internal revenue code of 1954, as amended, shall constitute prima facie evidence that the organization is not a bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization for the purposes of this section.

(c) Any person, association or organization which pays its employees, including members, compensation other than is reasonable therefor under the local prevailing wage scale shall be deemed paying compensation based in part or whole upon receipts relating to gambling activities authorized under

this chapter and shall not be a bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization for the purposes of this chapter.

(2) For the purposes of RCW 9.46.0315 and 9.46.110, a bona fide nonprofit organization also includes:

(a) A credit union organized and operating under state or federal law. All revenue less prizes and expenses received from raffles conducted by credit unions must be devoted to purposes authorized under this section for charitable and nonprofit organizations; and

(b) A group of executive branch state employees that:

(i) Has requested and received revocable approval from the agency's chief executive official, or such official's designee, to conduct one or more raffles in compliance with this section;

(ii) Conducts a raffle solely to raise funds for either the state combined fund drive, created under RCW 41.04.033; an entity approved to receive funds from the state combined fund drive; or a charitable or benevolent entity, including but not limited to a person or family in need, as determined by a majority vote of the approved group of employees. No person or other entity may receive compensation in any form from the group for services rendered in support of this purpose;

(iii) Promptly provides such information about the group's receipts, expenditures, and other activities as the agency's chief executive official or designee may periodically require, and otherwise complies with this section and RCW 9.46.0315; and

(iv) Limits the participation in the raffle such that raffle tickets are sold only to, and winners are determined only from, the employees of the agency.

(3) For the purposes of RCW 9.46.0277, a bona fide nonprofit organization also includes a county, city, or town, provided that all revenue less prizes and expenses from raffles conducted by the county, city, or town must be used for community activities or tourism promotion activities. [2009 c 137 § 1; 2007 c 452 § 1; 2000 c 233 § 1; 1987 c 4 § 4. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(3).]

**9.46.0213 "Bookmaking."** "Bookmaking," as used in this chapter, means accepting bets, upon the outcome of future contingent events, as a business or in which the bettor is charged a fee or "vigorish" for the opportunity to place a bet. [1991 c 261 § 1; 1987 c 4 § 5. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(4).]

**9.46.0217 "Commercial stimulant."** "Commercial stimulant," as used in this chapter, means an activity is operated as a commercial stimulant, for the purposes of this chapter, only when it is an activity operated in connection with an established business, with the purpose of increasing the volume of sales of food or drink for consumption on that business premises. The commission may by rule establish guidelines and criteria for applying this definition to its applicants and licensees for gambling activities authorized by this chapter as commercial stimulants. [1994 c 120 § 1; 1987 c 4 § 6. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(5).]

**9.46.0221 "Commission."** "Commission," as used in this chapter, means the Washington state gambling commis-

sion created in RCW 9.46.040. [1987 c 4 § 7. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(6).]

**9.46.0225 "Contest of chance."** "Contest of chance," as used in this chapter, means any contest, game, gaming scheme, or gaming device in which the outcome depends in a material degree upon an element of chance, notwithstanding that skill of the contestants may also be a factor therein. [1987 c 4 § 8. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(7).]

**9.46.0229 "Fishing derby."** "Fishing derby," as used in this chapter, means a fishing contest, with or without the payment or giving of an entry fee or other consideration by some or all of the contestants, wherein prizes are awarded for the species, size, weight, or quality of fish caught in a bona fide fishing or recreational event. [1987 c 4 § 9. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(8).]

**9.46.0233 "Fund-raising event."** (1) "Fund-raising event," as used in this chapter, means a fund-raising event conducted during any seventy-two consecutive hours but exceeding twenty-four consecutive hours and not more than once in any calendar year or a fund-raising event conducted not more than twice each calendar year for not more than twenty-four consecutive hours each time by a bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization as defined in RCW 9.46.0209 other than any agricultural fair referred to thereunder, upon authorization therefor by the commission, which the legislature hereby authorizes to issue a license therefor, with or without fee, permitting the following activities, or any of them, during such event: Bingo, amusement games, contests of chance, lotteries, and raffles. However: (a) Gross wagers and bets or revenue generated from participants under subsection (2) of this section received by the organization less the amount of money paid by the organization as winnings, or as payment for services or equipment rental under subsection (2) of this section, and for the purchase cost of prizes given as winnings do not exceed ten thousand dollars during the total calendar days of such fund-raising event in the calendar year; (b) such activities shall not include any mechanical gambling or lottery device activated by the insertion of a coin or by the insertion of any object purchased by any person taking a chance by gambling in respect to the device; (c) only bona fide members of the organization who are not paid for such service or persons licensed or approved by the commission under subsection (2) of this section shall participate in the management or operation of the activities, and all income therefrom, after deducting the cost of prizes and other expenses, shall be devoted solely to the lawful purposes of the organization; and (d) such organization shall notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency of the time and place where such activities shall be conducted. The commission shall require an annual information report setting forth in detail the expenses incurred and the revenue received relative to the activities permitted.

(2) Bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations may hire a person or vendor, who is licensed or approved by the commission, to organize and conduct a fund-raising event on behalf of the sponsoring organization subject to the following restrictions:

(a) The person or vendor may not provide the facility for the event;

(b) The person or vendor may use paid personnel and may be compensated by a fixed fee determined prior to the event, but may not share in the proceeds of the event;

(c) All wagers must be made with scrip or chips having no cash value. At the end of the event, participants may be given the opportunity to purchase or otherwise redeem their scrip or chips for merchandise prizes;

(d) The value of all purchased prizes must not exceed ten percent of the gross revenue from the event; and

(e) Only members and guests of the sponsoring organization may participate in the event.

(3) Bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations holding a license to conduct a fund-raising event may join together to jointly conduct a fund-raising event if:

(a) Approval to do so is received from the commission; and

(b) The method of dividing the income and expenditures and the method of recording and handling of funds are disclosed to the commission in the application for approval of the joint fund-raising event and are approved by the commission.

The gross wagers and bets or revenue generated from participants under subsection (2) of this section received by the organizations less the amount of money paid by the organizations as winnings, or as payment for services or equipment rental under subsection (2) of this section, and for the purchase costs of prizes given as winnings may not exceed ten thousand dollars during the total calendar days of such event. The net receipts each organization receives shall count against the organization's annual limit stated in this subsection.

A joint fund-raising event shall count against only the lead organization or organizations receiving fifty percent or more of the net receipts for the purposes of the number of such events an organization may conduct each year.

The commission may issue a joint license for a joint fund-raising event and charge a license fee for such license according to a schedule of fees adopted by the commission which reflects the added cost to the commission of licensing more than one licensee for the event. [2000 c 178 § 1; 1987 c 4 § 24. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(23).]

**9.46.0237 "Gambling."** "Gambling," as used in this chapter, means staking or risking something of value upon the outcome of a contest of chance or a future contingent event not under the person's control or influence, upon an agreement or understanding that the person or someone else will receive something of value in the event of a certain outcome. Gambling does not include fishing derbies as defined by this chapter, parimutuel betting and handicapping contests as authorized by chapter 67.16 RCW, bona fide business transactions valid under the law of contracts, including, but not limited to, contracts for the purchase or sale at a future date of securities or commodities, and agreements to compensate for loss caused by the happening of chance, including, but not limited to, contracts of indemnity or guarantee and life, health, or accident insurance. In addition, a contest of chance which is specifically excluded from the definition

of lottery under this chapter shall not constitute gambling. [2005 c 351 § 1; 1987 c 4 § 10. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(9).]

**9.46.0241 "Gambling device."** "Gambling device," as used in this chapter, means: (1) Any device or mechanism the operation of which a right to money, credits, deposits or other things of value may be created, in return for a consideration, as the result of the operation of an element of chance, including, but not limited to slot machines, video pull-tabs, video poker, and other electronic games of chance; (2) any device or mechanism which, when operated for a consideration, does not return the same value or thing of value for the same consideration upon each operation thereof; (3) any device, mechanism, furniture, fixture, construction or installation designed primarily for use in connection with professional gambling; and (4) any subassembly or essential part designed or intended for use in connection with any such device, mechanism, furniture, fixture, construction or installation. In the application of this definition, a pinball machine or similar mechanical amusement device which confers only an immediate and unrecorded right of replay on players thereof, which does not contain any mechanism which varies the chance of winning free games or the number of free games which may be won or a mechanism or a chute for dispensing coins or a facsimile thereof, and which prohibits multiple winnings depending upon the number of coins inserted and requires the playing of five balls individually upon the insertion of a nickel or dime, as the case may be, to complete any one operation thereof, shall not be deemed a gambling device: PROVIDED, That owning, possessing, buying, selling, renting, leasing, financing, holding a security interest in, storing, repairing and transporting such pinball machines or similar mechanical amusement devices shall not be deemed engaging in professional gambling for the purposes of this chapter and shall not be a violation of this chapter: PROVIDED FURTHER, That any fee for the purchase or rental of any such pinball machines or similar amusement devices shall have no relation to the use to which such machines are put but be based only upon the market value of any such machine, regardless of the location of or type of premises where used, and any fee for the storing, repairing and transporting thereof shall have no relation to the use to which such machines are put, but be commensurate with the cost of labor and other expenses incurred in any such storing, repairing and transporting. [1994 c 218 § 8; 1987 c 4 § 11. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(10).]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.0245 "Gambling information."** "Gambling information," as used in this chapter, means any wager made in the course of and any information intended to be used for professional gambling. In the application of this definition, information as to wagers, betting odds and changes in betting odds shall be presumed to be intended for use in professional gambling. This section shall not apply to newspapers of general circulation or commercial radio and television stations licensed by the federal communications commission. [1987 c 4 § 12. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(11).]

**9.46.0249 "Gambling premises."** "Gambling premises," as used in this chapter, means any building, room,

enclosure, vehicle, vessel or other place used or intended to be used for professional gambling. In the application of this definition, any place where a gambling device is found shall be presumed to be intended to be used for professional gambling. [1987 c 4 § 13. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(12).]

**9.46.0253 "Gambling record."** "Gambling record," as used in this chapter, means any record, receipt, ticket, certificate, token, slip or notation given, made, used or intended to be used in connection with professional gambling. [1987 c 4 § 14. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(13).]

**9.46.0257 "Lottery."** "Lottery," as used in this chapter, means a scheme for the distribution of money or property by chance, among persons who have paid or agreed to pay a valuable consideration for the chance. [1987 c 4 § 15. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(14).]

**9.46.0261 "Member," "bona fide member."** "Member" and "bona fide member," as used in this chapter, mean a person accepted for membership in an organization eligible to be licensed by the commission under this chapter upon application, with such action being recorded in the official minutes of a regular meeting or who has held full and regular membership status in the organization for a period of not less than twelve consecutive months prior to participating in the management or operation of any gambling activity. Such membership must in no way be dependent upon, or in any way related to, the payment of consideration to participate in any gambling activity.

Member or bona fide member shall include only members of an organization's specific chapter or unit licensed by the commission or otherwise actively conducting the gambling activity: PROVIDED, That:

(1) Members of chapters or local units of a state, regional or national organization may be considered members of the parent organization for the purpose of a gambling activity conducted by the parent organization, if the rules of the parent organization so permit;

(2) Members of a bona fide auxiliary to a principal organization may be considered members of the principal organization for the purpose of a gambling activity conducted by the principal organization. Members of the principal organization may also be considered members of its auxiliary for the purpose of a gambling activity conducted by the auxiliary; and

(3) Members of any chapter or local unit within the jurisdiction of the next higher level of the parent organization, and members of a bona fide auxiliary to that chapter or unit, may assist any other chapter or local unit of that same organization licensed by the commission in the conduct of gambling activities.

No person shall be a member of any organization if that person's primary purpose for membership is to become, or continue to be, a participant in, or an operator or manager of, any gambling activity or activities. [1987 c 4 § 16. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(15).]

**9.46.0265 "Player."** "Player," as used in this chapter, means a natural person who engages, on equal terms with the other participants, and solely as a contestant or bettor, in any

form of gambling in which no person may receive or become entitled to receive any profit therefrom other than personal gambling winnings, and without otherwise rendering any material assistance to the establishment, conduct or operation of a particular gambling activity. A natural person who gambles at a social game of chance on equal terms with the other participants shall not be considered as rendering material assistance to the establishment, conduct or operation of the social game merely by performing, without fee or remuneration, acts directed toward the arrangement or facilitation of the game, such as inviting persons to play, permitting the use of premises for the game, or supplying cards or other equipment to be used in the games. A person who engages in "bookmaking" as defined in this chapter is not a "player." A person who pays a fee or "vigorish" enabling him or her to place a wager with a bookmaker, or pays a fee other than as authorized by this chapter to participate in a card game, contest of chance, lottery, or gambling activity, is not a player. [1997 c 118 § 2; 1991 c 261 § 2; 1987 c 4 § 17. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(16).]

**9.46.0269 "Professional gambling."** (1) A person is engaged in "professional gambling" for the purposes of this chapter when:

(a) Acting other than as a player or in the manner authorized by this chapter, the person knowingly engages in conduct which materially aids any form of gambling activity; or

(b) Acting other than in a manner authorized by this chapter, the person pays a fee to participate in a card game, contest of chance, lottery, or other gambling activity; or

(c) Acting other than as a player or in the manner authorized by this chapter, the person knowingly accepts or receives money or other property pursuant to an agreement or understanding with any other person whereby he or she participates or is to participate in the proceeds of gambling activity; or

(d) The person engages in bookmaking; or

(e) The person conducts a lottery; or

(f) The person violates RCW 9.46.039.

(2) Conduct under subsection (1)(a) of this section, except as exempted under this chapter, includes but is not limited to conduct directed toward the creation or establishment of the particular game, contest, scheme, device or activity involved, toward the acquisition or maintenance of premises, paraphernalia, equipment or apparatus therefor, toward the solicitation or inducement of persons to participate therein, toward the actual conduct of the playing phases thereof, toward the arrangement of any of its financial or recording phases, or toward any other phase of its operation. If a person having substantial proprietary or other authoritative control over any premises shall permit the premises to be used with the person's knowledge for the purpose of conducting gambling activity other than gambling activities authorized by this chapter, and acting other than as a player, and the person permits such to occur or continue or makes no effort to prevent its occurrence or continuation, the person shall be considered as being engaged in professional gambling: PROVIDED, That the proprietor of a bowling establishment who awards prizes obtained from player contributions, to players successfully knocking down pins upon the contingency of identifiable pins being placed in a specified

position or combination of positions, as designated by the posted rules of the bowling establishment, where the proprietor does not participate in the proceeds of the "prize fund" shall not be construed to be engaging in "professional gambling" within the meaning of this chapter: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the books and records of the games shall be open to public inspection. [1997 c 78 § 1; 1996 c 252 § 2; 1987 c 4 § 18. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(17).]

**9.46.0273 "Punchboards," "pull-tabs."** "Punchboards" and "pull-tabs," as used in this chapter, shall be given their usual and ordinary meaning as of July 16, 1973, except that such definition may be revised by the commission pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this chapter. [1987 c 4 § 19. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(18).]

**9.46.0277 "Raffle."** "Raffle," as used in this chapter, means a game in which tickets bearing an individual number are sold for not more than one hundred dollars each and in which a prize or prizes are awarded on the basis of a drawing from the tickets by the person or persons conducting the game, when the game is conducted by a bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization, no person other than a bona fide member of the organization takes any part in the management or operation of the game, and no part of the proceeds thereof inure to the benefit of any person other than the organization conducting the game. [2009 c 133 § 1; 1995 2nd sp.s. c 4 § 1; 1987 c 4 § 20. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(19).]

**9.46.0282 "Social card game."** "Social card game" as used in this chapter means a card game that constitutes gambling and is authorized by the commission under RCW 9.46.070. Authorized card games may include a house-banked or a player-funded banked card game. No one may participate in the card game or have an interest in the proceeds of the card game who is not a player or a person licensed by the commission to participate in social card games. There shall be two or more participants in the card game who are players or persons licensed by the commission. The card game must be played in accordance with the rules adopted by the commission under RCW 9.46.070, which shall include but not be limited to rules for the collection of fees, limitation of wagers, and management of player funds. The number of tables authorized shall be set by the commission but shall not exceed a total of fifteen separate tables per establishment. [1997 c 118 § 1.]

**9.46.0285 "Thing of value."** "Thing of value," as used in this chapter, means any money or property, any token, object or article exchangeable for money or property, or any form of credit or promise, directly or indirectly, contemplating transfer of money or property or of any interest therein, or involving extension of a service, entertainment or a privilege of playing at a game or scheme without charge. [1987 c 4 § 22. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(21).]

**9.46.0289 "Whoever," "person."** "Whoever" and "person," as used in this chapter, include natural persons, corporations and partnerships and associations of persons; and when any corporate officer, director or stockholder or any partner authorizes, participates in, or knowingly accepts ben-

efits from any violation of this chapter committed by his or her corporation or partnership, he or she shall be punishable for such violation as if it had been directly committed by him or her. [1987 c 4 § 23. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(22).]

**9.46.0305 Dice or coin contests for music, food, or beverage payment.** The legislature hereby authorizes the wagering on the outcome of the roll of dice or the flipping of or matching of coins on the premises of an establishment engaged in the business of selling food or beverages for consumption on the premises to determine which of the participants will pay for coin-operated music on the premises or certain items of food or beverages served or sold by such establishment and therein consumed. Such establishments are hereby authorized to possess dice and dice cups on their premises, but only for use in such limited wagering. Persons engaged in such limited form of wagering shall not be subject to the criminal or civil penalties otherwise provided for in this chapter. [2009 c 357 § 1; 1987 c 4 § 25. Formerly RCW 9.46.020(1), part.]

*Minors barred from gambling activities: RCW 9.46.228.*

**9.46.0311 Charitable, nonprofit organizations—Authorized gambling activities.** The legislature hereby authorizes bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations to conduct bingo games, raffles, amusement games, and fundraising events, and to utilize punchboards and pull-tabs and to allow their premises and facilities to be used by only members, their guests, and members of a chapter or unit organized under the same state, regional, or national charter or constitution, to play social card games authorized by the commission, when licensed, conducted or operated pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto. [1987 c 4 § 26. Formerly RCW 9.46.030(1).]

**9.46.0315 Raffles—No license required, when.** Bona fide charitable or bona fide nonprofit organizations organized primarily for purposes other than the conduct of raffles, are hereby authorized to conduct raffles without obtaining a license to do so from the commission when such raffles are held in accordance with all other requirements of this chapter, other applicable laws, and rules of the commission; when gross revenues from all such raffles held by the organization during the calendar year do not exceed five thousand dollars; and when tickets to such raffles are sold only to, and winners are determined only from among, the regular members of the organization conducting the raffle. The organization may provide unopened containers of beverages containing alcohol as raffle prizes if the appropriate permit has been obtained from the liquor control board: PROVIDED, That raffles that exceed five thousand dollars may also be conducted pursuant to the provisions of this section if the organization obtains a license from the commission: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the term members for this purpose shall mean only those persons who have become members prior to the commencement of the raffle and whose qualification for membership was not dependent upon, or in any way related to, the purchase of a ticket, or tickets, for such raffles. [2012 c 131 § 1; 1991 c 192 § 4; 1987 c 4 § 27. Formerly RCW 9.46.030(2).]

**9.46.0321 Bingo, raffles, amusement games—No license required, when.** Bona fide charitable or bona fide nonprofit organizations organized primarily for purposes other than the conduct of such activities are hereby authorized to conduct bingo, raffles, and amusement games, without obtaining a license to do so from the commission but only when:

(1) Such activities are held in accordance with all other requirements of this chapter, other applicable laws, and rules of the commission;

(2) Said activities are, alone or in any combination, conducted no more than twice each calendar year and over a period of no more than twelve consecutive days each time, notwithstanding the limitations of RCW 9.46.0205: PROVIDED, That a raffle conducted under this subsection may be conducted for a period longer than twelve days;

(3) Only bona fide members of that organization, who are not paid for such services, participate in the management or operation of the activities;

(4) Gross revenues to the organization from all the activities together do not exceed five thousand dollars during any calendar year;

(5) All revenue therefrom, after deducting the cost of prizes and other expenses of the activity, is devoted solely to the purposes for which the organization qualifies as a bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization;

(6) The organization gives notice at least five days in advance of the conduct of any of the activities to the local police agency of the jurisdiction within which the activities are to be conducted of the organization's intent to conduct the activities, the location of the activities, and the date or dates they will be conducted; and

(7) The organization conducting the activities maintains records for a period of one year from the date of the event which accurately show at a minimum the gross revenue from each activity, details of the expenses of conducting the activities, and details of the uses to which the gross revenue therefrom is put. [1987 c 4 § 28. Formerly RCW 9.46.030(3).]

**9.46.0325 Social card games, punchboards, pull-tabs authorized.** The legislature hereby authorizes any person, association or organization operating an established business primarily engaged in the selling of food or drink for consumption on the premises to conduct social card games and to utilize punchboards and pull-tabs as a commercial stimulant to such business when licensed and utilized or operated pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto. [1987 c 4 § 29. Formerly RCW 9.46.030(4).]

**9.46.0331 Amusement games authorized—Minimum rules.** The legislature hereby authorizes any person to conduct or operate amusement games when licensed and operated pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and rules and regulations adopted by the commission at such locations as the commission may authorize. The rules shall provide for at least the following:

(1) Persons other than bona fide charitable or bona fide nonprofit organizations shall conduct amusement games only after obtaining a special amusement game license from the commission.

(2) Amusement games may be conducted under such a license only as a part of, and upon the site of:

(a) Any agricultural fair as authorized under chapter 15.76 or 36.37 RCW; or

(b) A civic center of a county, city, or town; or

(c) A world's fair or similar exposition that is approved by the bureau of international expositions at Paris, France; or

(d) A community-wide civic festival held not more than once annually and sponsored or approved by the city, town, or county in which it is held; or

(e) A commercial exposition organized and sponsored by an organization or association representing the retail sales and service operators conducting business in a shopping center or other commercial area developed and operated for retail sales and service, but only upon a parking lot or similar area located in said shopping center or commercial area for a period of no more than seventeen consecutive days by any licensee during any calendar year; or

(f) An amusement park. An amusement park is a group of activities, at a permanent location, to which people go to be entertained through a combination of various mechanical or aquatic rides, theatrical productions, motion picture, and/or slide show presentations with food and drink service. The amusement park must include at least five different mechanical, or aquatic rides, three additional activities, and the gross receipts must be primarily from these amusement activities; or

(g) Within a regional shopping center. A regional shopping center is a shopping center developed and operated for retail sales and service by retail sales and service operators and consisting of more than six hundred thousand gross square feet not including parking areas. Amusement games conducted as a part of, and upon the site of, a regional shopping center shall not be subject to the prohibition on revenue sharing set forth in RCW 9.46.120(2); or

(h) A location that possesses a valid license from the Washington state liquor control board and prohibits minors on their premises; or

(i) Movie theaters, bowling alleys, miniature golf course facilities, and amusement centers. For the purposes of this section an amusement center shall be defined as a permanent location whose primary source of income is from the operation of ten or more amusement devices; or

(j) Any business whose primary activity is to provide food service for on premises consumption and who offers family entertainment which includes at least three of the following activities: Amusement devices; theatrical productions; mechanical rides; motion pictures; and slide show presentations; or

(k) Other locations as the commission may authorize.

(3) No amusement games may be conducted in any location except in conformance with local zoning, fire, health, and similar regulations. In no event may the licensee conduct any amusement games at any of the locations set out in subsection (2) of this section without first having obtained the written permission to do so from the person or organization owning the premises or an authorized agent thereof, and from the persons sponsoring the fair, exhibition, commercial exhibition, or festival, or from the city or town operating the civic center, in connection with which the games are to be operated.

(4) In no event may a licensee conduct any amusement games at the location described in subsection (2)(g) of this section, without, at the location of such games, providing adult supervision during all hours the licensee is open for business at such location, prohibiting school-age minors from entry during school hours, maintaining full-time personnel whose responsibilities include maintaining security and daily machine maintenance, and providing for hours for the close of business at such location that are no later than 10:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and on all other days that are the same as those of the regional shopping center in which the licensee is located.

(5) In no event may a licensee conduct any amusement game at a location described in subsection (2)(i) or (j) of this section, without, at the location of such games, providing adult supervision during all hours the licensee is open for business at such location, prohibiting school-age minors from playing licensed amusement games during school hours, maintaining full-time personnel whose responsibilities include maintaining security and daily machine maintenance, and prohibiting minors from playing the amusement games after 10:00 p.m. on any day. [2009 c 78 § 1; 1991 c 287 § 1; 1987 c 4 § 30. Formerly RCW 9.46.030(5).]

**9.46.0335 Sports pools authorized.** The legislature hereby authorizes any person, association, or organization to conduct sports pools without a license to do so from the commission but only when the outcome of which is dependent upon the score, or scores, of a certain athletic contest and which is conducted only in the following manner:

(1) A board or piece of paper is divided into one hundred equal squares, each of which constitutes a chance to win in the sports pool and each of which is offered directly to prospective contestants at one dollar or less;

(2) The purchaser of each chance or square signs his or her name on the face of each square or chance he or she purchases; and

(3) At some time not later than prior to the start of the subject athletic contest the pool is closed and no further chances in the pool are sold;

(4) After the pool is closed a prospective score is assigned by random drawing to each square;

(5) All money paid by entrants to enter the pool less taxes is paid out as the prize or prizes to those persons holding squares assigned the winning score or scores from the subject athletic contest;

(6) The sports pool board is available for inspection by any person purchasing a chance thereon, the commission, or by any law enforcement agency upon demand at all times prior to the payment of the prize;

(7) The person or organization conducting the pool is conducting no other sports pool on the same athletic event; and

(8) The sports pool conforms to any rules and regulations of the commission applicable thereto. [1987 c 4 § 31. Formerly RCW 9.46.030(6).]

**9.46.0341 Golfing sweepstakes authorized.** The legislature hereby authorizes bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations to conduct, without the necessity of obtaining a permit or license to do so from the commission, golfing

sweepstakes permitting wagers of money, and the same shall not constitute such gambling or lottery as otherwise prohibited in this chapter, or be subject to civil or criminal penalties thereunder, but this only when the outcome of such golfing sweepstakes is dependent upon the score, or scores, or the playing ability, or abilities, of a golfing contest between individual players or teams of such players, conducted in the following manner:

(1) Wagers are placed by buying tickets on any players in a golfing contest to "win," "place," or "show" and those holding tickets on the three winners may receive a payoff similar to the system of betting identified as parimutuel, such moneys placed as wagers to be used primarily as winners' proceeds, except moneys used to defray the expenses of such golfing sweepstakes or otherwise used to carry out the purposes of such organization; or

(2) Participants in any golfing contest(s) pay a like sum of money into a common fund on the basis of attaining a stated number of points ascertainable from the score of such participants, and those participants attaining such stated number of points share equally in the moneys in the common fund, without any percentage of such moneys going to the sponsoring organization; or

(3) An auction is held in which persons may bid on the players or teams of players in the golfing contest, and the person placing the highest bid on the player or team that wins the golfing contest receives the proceeds of the auction, except moneys used to defray the expenses of the golfing sweepstakes or otherwise used to carry out the purposes of the organizations; and

(4) Participation is limited to members of the sponsoring organization and their bona fide guests. [1997 c 38 § 1; 1987 c 4 § 32. Formerly RCW 9.46.030(7).]

**9.46.0345 Bowling sweepstakes authorized.** The legislature hereby authorizes bowling establishments to conduct, without the necessity of obtaining a permit or license to do so, as a commercial stimulant, a bowling activity which permits bowlers to purchase tickets from the establishment for a predetermined and posted amount of money, which tickets are then selected by the luck of the draw and the holder of the matching ticket so drawn has an opportunity to bowl a strike and if successful receives a predetermined and posted monetary prize: PROVIDED, That all sums collected by the establishment from the sale of tickets shall be returned to purchasers of tickets and no part of the proceeds shall inure to any person other than the participants winning in the game or a recognized charity. The tickets shall be sold, and accounted for, separately from all other sales of the establishment. The price of any single ticket shall not exceed one dollar. Accounting records shall be available for inspection during business hours by any person purchasing a chance thereon, by the commission or its representatives, or by any law enforcement agency. [1987 c 4 § 33. Formerly RCW 9.46.030(8).]

**9.46.0351 Social card, dice games—Use of premises of charitable, nonprofit organizations.** (1) The legislature hereby authorizes any bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization which is licensed pursuant to RCW 66.24.400, and its officers and employees, to allow the use of the premises,

furnishings, and other facilities not gambling devices of such organization by members of the organization, and members of a chapter or unit organized under the same state, regional, or national charter or constitution, who engage as players in the following types of gambling activities only:

(a) Social card games; and

(b) Social dice games, which shall be limited to contests of chance, the outcome of which are determined by one or more rolls of dice.

(2) Bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations shall not be required to be licensed by the commission in order to allow use of their premises in accordance with this section. However, the following conditions must be met:

(a) No organization, corporation, or person shall collect or obtain or charge any percentage of or shall collect or obtain any portion of the money or thing of value wagered or won by any of the players: PROVIDED, That a player may collect his or her winnings; and

(b) No organization, corporation, or person shall collect or obtain any money or thing of value from, or charge or impose any fee upon, any person which either enables him or her to play or results in or from his or her playing: PROVIDED, That this subsection shall not preclude collection of a membership fee which is unrelated to participation in gambling activities authorized under this section. [1999 c 143 § 5; 1987 c 4 § 34. Formerly RCW 9.46.030(9).]

**9.46.0356 Promotional contests of chance authorized.** (1) The legislature authorizes:

(a) A business to conduct a promotional contest of chance as defined in this section, in this state, or partially in this state, whereby the elements of prize and chance are present but in which the element of consideration is not present;

(b) A financial institution, as defined in RCW 30.22.040, to conduct a promotional contest of chance under this section in which: (i) A drawing for an annual prize is held that includes as eligible prize recipients only those persons who deposited funds at the financial institution in a savings account, certificate of deposit, or any other savings program and retained those funds for at least twelve months in the savings account, certificate of deposit, or other savings program; and (ii) drawings for other prizes are held from time to time that include as eligible prize recipients only those persons who deposited funds at the financial institution in a savings account, certificate of deposit, or other savings program. No such contest may be conducted, either wholly or partially, by means of the internet.

(2) Promotional contests of chance under this section are not gambling as defined in RCW 9.46.0237.

(3) Promotional contests of chance shall be conducted as advertising and promotional undertakings solely for the purpose of advertising or promoting the services, goods, wares, and merchandise of a business.

(4) No person eligible to receive a prize in a promotional contest of chance under subsection (1)(a) of this section may be required to:

(a) Pay any consideration to the promoter or operator of the business in order to participate in the contest; or

(b) Purchase any service, goods, wares, merchandise, or anything of value from the business, however, for other than contests entered through a direct mail solicitation, the pro-

moter or sponsor may give additional entries or chances upon purchase of service, goods, wares, or merchandise if the promoter or sponsor provides an alternate method of entry requiring no consideration.

(5) No person eligible to receive a prize in a promotional contest of chance under subsection (1)(b) of this section may be required to pay any consideration other than the deposit of funds, or purchase any service, goods, wares, merchandise, or anything of value from the financial institution.

(6)(a) As used in this section, "consideration" means anything of pecuniary value required to be paid to the promoter or sponsor in order to participate in a promotional contest. Such things as visiting a business location, placing or answering a telephone call, completing an entry form or customer survey, or furnishing a stamped, self-addressed envelope do not constitute consideration.

(b) Coupons or entry blanks obtained by purchase of a bona fide newspaper or magazine or in a program sold in conjunction with a regularly scheduled sporting event are not consideration.

(7) Unless authorized by the commission, equipment or devices made for use in a gambling activity are prohibited from use in a promotional contest.

(8) This section shall not be construed to permit noncompliance with chapter 19.170 RCW, promotional advertising of prizes, and chapter 19.86 RCW, unfair business practices. [2011 c 303 § 2; 2000 c 228 § 1.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 303:** "The legislature finds that consumer savings is essential, both for individuals seeking to obtain the American dream, and in order to rebuild a strong economy. The legislature further finds that for most of the last two decades, consumers have borrowed more than they have saved, with current United States savings rates under six percent. The legislature intends to encourage financial institutions to develop innovative products that create incentives to encourage consumer savings, particularly savings by low-income consumers." [2011 c 303 § 1.]

**9.46.0361 Turkey shoots authorized.** The legislature hereby authorizes bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations to conduct, without the necessity of obtaining a permit or license to do so from the commission, turkey shoots permitting wagers of money. Such contests shall not constitute such gambling or lottery as otherwise prohibited in this chapter, or be subject to civil or criminal penalties. Such organizations must be organized for purposes other than the conduct of turkey shoots.

Such turkey shoots shall be held in accordance with all other requirements of this chapter, other applicable laws, and rules that may be adopted by the commission. Gross revenues from all such turkey shoots held by the organization during the calendar year shall not exceed five thousand dollars. Turkey shoots conducted under this section shall meet the following requirements:

(1) The target shall be divided into one hundred or fewer equal sections, with each section constituting a chance to win. Each chance shall be offered directly to a prospective contestant for one dollar or less;

(2) The purchaser of each chance shall sign his or her name on the face of the section he or she purchases;

(3) The person shooting at the target shall not be a participant in the contest, but shall be a member of the organization conducting the contest;

(4) Participation in the contest shall be limited to members of the organization which is conducting the contest and their guests;

(5) The target shall contain the following information:

(a) Distance from the shooting position to the target;

(b) The gauge of the shotgun;

(c) The type of choke on the barrel;

(d) The size of shot that will be used; and

(e) The prize or prizes that are to be awarded in the contest;

(6) The targets, shotgun, and ammunition shall be available for inspection by any person purchasing a chance thereon, the commission, or by any law enforcement agency upon demand, at all times before the prizes are awarded;

(7) The turkey shoot shall award the prizes based upon the greatest number of shots striking a section;

(8) No turkey shoot may offer as a prize the right to advance or continue on to another turkey shoot or turkey shoot target; and

(9) Only bona fide members of the organization who are not paid for such service may participate in the management or operation of the turkey shoot, and all income therefrom, after deducting the cost of prizes and other expenses, shall be devoted solely to the lawful purposes of the organization. [1987 c 4 § 36. Formerly RCW 9.46.030(12).]

**9.46.039 Greyhound racing prohibited.** (1) A person may not hold, conduct, or operate live greyhound racing for public exhibition, parimutuel betting, or special exhibition events, if such activities are conducted for gambling purposes. A person may not transmit or receive intrastate or interstate simulcasting of greyhound racing for commercial, parimutuel, or exhibition purposes, if such activities are conducted for gambling purposes.

(2) A person who violates this section is guilty of a class B felony, under RCW 9.46.220, professional gambling in the first degree, and is subject to the penalty under RCW 9A.20.021. [1996 c 252 § 1.]

**9.46.040 Gambling commission—Members—Appointment—Vacancies, filling.** There shall be a commission, known as the "Washington state gambling commission", consisting of five members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. The members of the commission shall be appointed within thirty days of July 16, 1973 for terms beginning July 1, 1973, and expiring as follows: One member of the commission for a term expiring July 1, 1975; one member of the commission for a term expiring July 1, 1976; one member of the commission for a term expiring July 1, 1977; one member of the commission for a term expiring July 1, 1978; and one member of the commission for a term expiring July 1, 1979; each as the governor so determines. Their successors, all of whom shall be citizen members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate, upon being appointed and qualified, shall serve six year terms: PROVIDED, That no member of the commission who has served a full six year term shall be eligible for reappointment. In case of a vacancy, it shall be filled by appointment by the governor for the unexpired portion of the term in which said vacancy occurs. No vacancy in the membership of the commission shall impair the right of the remaining mem-



ber or members to act, except as in RCW 9.46.050(2) provided.

In addition to the members of the commission there shall be four ex officio members without vote from the legislature consisting of: (1) Two members of the senate, one from the majority political party and one from the minority political party, both to be appointed by the president of the senate; (2) two members of the house of representatives, one from the majority political party and one from the minority political party, both to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; such appointments shall be for the term of two years or for the period in which the appointee serves as a legislator, whichever expires first; members may be reappointed; vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments are made. Such ex officio members who shall collect data deemed essential to future legislative proposals and exchange information with the board shall be deemed engaged in legislative business while in attendance upon the business of the board and shall be limited to such allowances therefor as otherwise provided in RCW 44.04.120, the same to be paid from the "gambling revolving fund" as being expenses relative to commission business. [1974 ex.s. c 155 § 12; 1974 ex.s. c 135 § 12; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.050 Gambling commission—Chair—Quorum—Meetings—Compensation and travel expenses—Bond—Removal.** (1) Upon appointment of the initial membership the commission shall meet at a time and place designated by the governor and proceed to organize, electing one of such members as chair of the commission who shall serve until July 1, 1974; thereafter a chair shall be elected annually.

(2) A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum of the commission: PROVIDED, That all actions of the commission relating to the regulation of licensing under this chapter shall require an affirmative vote by three or more members of the commission.

(3) The principal office of the commission shall be at the state capitol, and meetings shall be held at least quarterly and at such other times as may be called by the chair or upon written request to the chair of a majority of the commission.

(4) Members shall be compensated in accordance with RCW 43.03.250 and shall receive reimbursement for travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

(5) Before entering upon the duties of his or her office, each of the members of the commission shall enter into a surety bond executed by a surety company authorized to do business in this state, payable to the state of Washington, to be approved by the governor, in the penal sum of fifty thousand dollars, conditioned upon the faithful performance of his or her duties, and shall take and subscribe to the oath of office prescribed for elective state officers, which oath and bond shall be filed with the secretary of state. The premium for said bond shall be paid by the commission.

(6) Any member of the commission may be removed for inefficiency, malfeasance, or misfeasance in office, upon specific written charges filed by the governor, who shall transmit such written charges to the member accused and to the chief justice of the supreme court. The chief justice shall

thereupon designate a tribunal composed of three judges of the superior court to hear and adjudicate the charges. Such tribunal shall fix the time of the hearing, which shall be public, and the procedure for the hearing, and the decision of such tribunal shall be final. Removal of any member of the commission by the tribunal shall disqualify such member for reappointment. [2011 c 336 § 302; 1984 c 287 § 9; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 34 § 7; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 5.]

**Legislative findings—Severability—Effective date—1984 c 287:** See notes following RCW 43.03.220.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.060 Gambling commission—Counsel—Audits—Payment for.** (1) The attorney general shall be general counsel for the state gambling commission and shall assign such assistants as may be necessary in carrying out the purposes and provisions of this chapter, which shall include instituting and prosecuting any actions and proceedings necessary thereto.

(2) The state auditor shall audit the books, records, and affairs of the commission annually. The commission shall pay to the state treasurer for the credit of the state auditor such funds as may be necessary to defray the costs of such audits. The commission may provide for additional audits by certified public accountants. All such audits shall be public records of the state.

The payment for legal services and audits as authorized in this section shall be paid upon authorization of the commission from moneys in the gambling revolving fund. [1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 6.]

**9.46.070 Gambling commission—Powers and duties.** The commission shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) To authorize and issue licenses for a period not to exceed one year to bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations approved by the commission meeting the requirements of this chapter and any rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto permitting said organizations to conduct bingo games, raffles, amusement games, and social card games, to utilize punchboards and pull-tabs in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and any rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto and to revoke or suspend said licenses for violation of any provisions of this chapter or any rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto: PROVIDED, That the commission shall not deny a license to an otherwise qualified applicant in an effort to limit the number of licenses to be issued: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the commission or director shall not issue, deny, suspend, or revoke any license because of considerations of race, sex, creed, color, or national origin: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That the commission may authorize the director to temporarily issue or suspend licenses subject to final action by the commission;

(2) To authorize and issue licenses for a period not to exceed one year to any person, association, or organization operating a business primarily engaged in the selling of items of food or drink for consumption on the premises, approved by the commission meeting the requirements of this chapter and any rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto permitting said person, association, or organization to utilize punchboards and pull-tabs and to conduct social card games as a commercial stimulant in accordance with the provisions

of this chapter and any rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto and to revoke or suspend said licenses for violation of any provisions of this chapter and any rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto: PROVIDED, That the commission shall not deny a license to an otherwise qualified applicant in an effort to limit the number of licenses to be issued: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the commission may authorize the director to temporarily issue or suspend licenses subject to final action by the commission;

(3) To authorize and issue licenses for a period not to exceed one year to any person, association, or organization approved by the commission meeting the requirements of this chapter and meeting the requirements of any rules and regulations adopted by the commission pursuant to this chapter as now or hereafter amended, permitting said person, association, or organization to conduct or operate amusement games in such manner and at such locations as the commission may determine. The commission may authorize the director to temporarily issue or suspend licenses subject to final action by the commission;

(4) To authorize, require, and issue, for a period not to exceed one year, such licenses as the commission may by rule provide, to any person, association, or organization to engage in the selling, distributing, or otherwise supplying or in the manufacturing of devices for use within this state for those activities authorized by this chapter. The commission may authorize the director to temporarily issue or suspend licenses subject to final action by the commission;

(5) To establish a schedule of annual license fees for carrying on specific gambling activities upon the premises, and for such other activities as may be licensed by the commission, which fees shall provide to the commission not less than an amount of money adequate to cover all costs incurred by the commission relative to licensing under this chapter and the enforcement by the commission of the provisions of this chapter and rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto: PROVIDED, That all licensing fees shall be submitted with an application therefor and such portion of said fee as the commission may determine, based upon its cost of processing and investigation, shall be retained by the commission upon the withdrawal or denial of any such license application as its reasonable expense for processing the application and investigation into the granting thereof: PROVIDED FURTHER, That if in a particular case the basic license fee established by the commission for a particular class of license is less than the commission's actual expenses to investigate that particular application, the commission may at any time charge to that applicant such additional fees as are necessary to pay the commission for those costs. The commission may decline to proceed with its investigation and no license shall be issued until the commission has been fully paid therefor by the applicant: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That the commission may establish fees for the furnishing by it to licensees of identification stamps to be affixed to such devices and equipment as required by the commission and for such other special services or programs required or offered by the commission, the amount of each of these fees to be not less than is adequate to offset the cost to the commission of the stamps and of administering their dispersal to licensees or the cost of administering such other special services, requirements or programs;

(6) To prescribe the manner and method of payment of taxes, fees and penalties to be paid to or collected by the commission;

(7) To require that applications for all licenses contain such information as may be required by the commission: PROVIDED, That all persons (a) having a managerial or ownership interest in any gambling activity, or the building in which any gambling activity occurs, or the equipment to be used for any gambling activity, or (b) participating as an employee in the operation of any gambling activity, shall be listed on the application for the license and the applicant shall certify on the application, under oath, that the persons named on the application are all of the persons known to have an interest in any gambling activity, building, or equipment by the person making such application: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the commission shall require fingerprinting and national criminal history background checks on any persons seeking licenses, certifications, or permits under this chapter or of any person holding an interest in any gambling activity, building, or equipment to be used therefor, or of any person participating as an employee in the operation of any gambling activity. All national criminal history background checks shall be conducted using fingerprints submitted to the United States department of justice-federal bureau of investigation. The commission must establish rules to delineate which persons named on the application are subject to national criminal history background checks. In identifying these persons, the commission must take into consideration the nature, character, size, and scope of the gambling activities requested by the persons making such applications;

(8) To require that any license holder maintain records as directed by the commission and submit such reports as the commission may deem necessary;

(9) To require that all income from bingo games, raffles, and amusement games be recorded and reported as established by rule or regulation of the commission to the extent deemed necessary by considering the scope and character of the gambling activity in such a manner that will disclose gross income from any gambling activity, amounts received from each player, the nature and value of prizes, and the fact of distributions of such prizes to the winners thereof;

(10) To regulate and establish maximum limitations on income derived from bingo. In establishing limitations pursuant to this subsection the commission shall take into account (a) the nature, character, and scope of the activities of the licensee; (b) the source of all other income of the licensee; and (c) the percentage or extent to which income derived from bingo is used for charitable, as distinguished from non-profit, purposes. However, the commission's powers and duties granted by this subsection are discretionary and not mandatory;

(11) To regulate and establish the type and scope of and manner of conducting the gambling activities authorized by this chapter, including but not limited to, the extent of wager, money, or other thing of value which may be wagered or contributed or won by a player in any such activities;

(12) To regulate the collection of and the accounting for the fee which may be imposed by an organization, corporation, or person licensed to conduct a social card game on a person desiring to become a player in a social card game in accordance with RCW 9.46.0282;

(13) To cooperate with and secure the cooperation of county, city, and other local or state agencies in investigating any matter within the scope of its duties and responsibilities;

(14) In accordance with RCW 9.46.080, to adopt such rules and regulations as are deemed necessary to carry out the purposes and provisions of this chapter. All rules and regulations shall be adopted pursuant to the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW;

(15) To set forth for the perusal of counties, city-counties, cities and towns, model ordinances by which any legislative authority thereof may enter into the taxing of any gambling activity authorized by this chapter;

(16)(a) To establish and regulate a maximum limit on salaries or wages which may be paid to persons employed in connection with activities conducted by bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations and authorized by this chapter, where payment of such persons is allowed, and to regulate and establish maximum limits for other expenses in connection with such authorized activities, including but not limited to rent or lease payments. However, the commissioner's powers and duties granted by this subsection are discretionary and not mandatory.

(b) In establishing these maximum limits the commission shall take into account the amount of income received, or expected to be received, from the class of activities to which the limits will apply and the amount of money the games could generate for authorized charitable or nonprofit purposes absent such expenses. The commission may also take into account, in its discretion, other factors, including but not limited to, the local prevailing wage scale and whether charitable purposes are benefited by the activities;

(17) To authorize, require, and issue for a period not to exceed one year such licenses or permits, for which the commission may by rule provide, to any person to work for any operator of any gambling activity authorized by this chapter in connection with that activity, or any manufacturer, supplier, or distributor of devices for those activities in connection with such business. The commission may authorize the director to temporarily issue or suspend licenses subject to final action by the commission. The commission shall not require that persons working solely as volunteers in an authorized activity conducted by a bona fide charitable or bona fide nonprofit organization, who receive no compensation of any kind for any purpose from that organization, and who have no managerial or supervisory responsibility in connection with that activity, be licensed to do such work. The commission may require that licensees employing such unlicensed volunteers submit to the commission periodically a list of the names, addresses, and dates of birth of the volunteers. If any volunteer is not approved by the commission, the commission may require that the licensee not allow that person to work in connection with the licensed activity;

(18) To publish and make available at the office of the commission or elsewhere to anyone requesting it a list of the commission licensees, including the name, address, type of license, and license number of each licensee;

(19) To establish guidelines for determining what constitutes active membership in bona fide nonprofit or charitable organizations for the purposes of this chapter;

(20) To renew the license of every person who applies for renewal within six months after being honorably dis-

charged, removed, or released from active military service in the armed forces of the United States upon payment of the renewal fee applicable to the license period, if there is no cause for denial, suspension, or revocation of the license;

(21) To issue licenses under subsections (1) through (4) of this section that are valid for a period of up to eighteen months, if it chooses to do so, in order to transition to the use of the business licensing services program through the department of revenue; and

(22) To perform all other matters and things necessary to carry out the purposes and provisions of this chapter. [2012 c 116 § 1; 2007 c 206 § 1; 2002 c 119 § 1; 1999 c 143 § 6; 1993 c 344 § 1; 1987 c 4 § 38; 1981 c 139 § 3. Prior: 1977 ex.s. c 326 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 76 § 2; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 87 § 4; 1975 1st ex.s. c 259 § 4; 1974 ex.s. c 155 § 4; 1974 ex.s. c 135 § 4; 1973 2nd ex.s. c 41 § 4; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 7.]

*Enforcement—Commission as a law enforcement agency: RCW 9.46.210.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.0701 Charitable or nonprofit organizations—Sharing facilities.** The commission may allow existing licensees under RCW 9.46.070(1) to share facilities at one location. [2002 c 369 § 2.]

**9.46.071 Information for pathological gamblers—Fee increases.** (1) The legislature recognizes that some individuals in this state are problem or pathological gamblers. Because the state promotes and regulates gambling through the activities of the state lottery commission, the Washington horse racing commission, and the Washington state gambling commission, the state has the responsibility to continue to provide resources for the support of services for problem and pathological gamblers. Therefore, the Washington state gambling commission, the Washington horse racing commission, and the state lottery commission shall jointly develop informational signs concerning problem and pathological gambling which include a toll-free hot line number for problem and pathological gamblers. The signs shall be placed in the establishments of gambling licensees, horse racing licensees, and lottery retailers. In addition, the Washington state gambling commission, the Washington horse racing commission, and the state lottery commission may also contract with other qualified entities to provide public awareness, training, and other services to ensure the intent of this section is fulfilled.

(2)(a) During any period in which RCW 82.04.285(2) is in effect, the commission may not increase fees payable by licensees under its jurisdiction for the purpose of funding services for problem and pathological gambling. Any fee imposed or increased by the commission, for the purpose of funding these services, before July 1, 2005, shall have no force and effect after July 1, 2005.

(b) During any period in which RCW 82.04.285(2) is not in effect:

(i) The commission, the Washington state horse racing commission, and the state lottery commission may contract for services, in addition to those authorized in subsection (1) of this section, to assist in providing for treatment of problem and pathological gambling; and

(ii) The commission may increase fees payable by licensees [licensees] under its jurisdiction for the purpose of

funding the services authorized in this section for problem and pathological gamblers. [2005 c 369 § 9; 2003 c 75 § 1; 1994 c 218 § 6.]

**Findings—Intent—Severability—Effective date—2005 c 369:** See notes following RCW 43.20A.890.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.072 Pathological gambling behavior—Warning.**

An entity licensed under RCW 9.46.070(1) which conducts or allows its premises to be used for conducting bingo on more than three occasions per week shall include the following statement in any advertising or promotion of gambling activity conducted by the licensee:

"CAUTION: Participation in gambling activity may result in pathological gambling behavior causing emotional and financial harm. For help, call 1-800-547-6133."

For purposes of this section, "advertising" includes print media, point-of-sale advertising, electronic media, billboards, and radio advertising. [2002 c 369 § 3.]

**9.46.075 Gambling commission—Denial, suspension, or revocation of license, permit—Other provisions not applicable.** The commission may deny an application, or suspend or revoke any license or permit issued by it, for any reason or reasons, it deems to be in the public interest. These reasons shall include, but not be limited to, cases wherein the applicant or licensee, or any person with any interest therein:

(1) Has violated, failed or refused to comply with the provisions, requirements, conditions, limitations or duties imposed by chapter 9.46 RCW and any amendments thereto, or any rules adopted by the commission pursuant thereto, or when a violation of any provision of chapter 9.46 RCW, or any commission rule, has occurred upon any premises occupied or operated by any such person or over which he or she has substantial control;

(2) Knowingly causes, aids, abets, or conspires with another to cause, any person to violate any of the laws of this state or the rules of the commission;

(3) Has obtained a license or permit by fraud, misrepresentation, concealment, or through inadvertence or mistake;

(4) Has been convicted of, or forfeited bond upon a charge of, or pleaded guilty to, forgery, larceny, extortion, conspiracy to defraud, wilful failure to make required payments or reports to a governmental agency at any level, or filing false reports therewith, or of any similar offense or offenses, or of bribing or otherwise unlawfully influencing a public official or employee of any state or the United States, or of any crime, whether a felony or misdemeanor involving any gambling activity or physical harm to individuals or involving moral turpitude;

(5) Denies the commission or its authorized representatives, including authorized local law enforcement agencies, access to any place where a licensed activity is conducted or who fails promptly to produce for inspection or audit any book, record, document or item required by law or commission rule;

(6) Shall fail to display its license on the premises where the licensed activity is conducted at all times during the operation of the licensed activity;

(7) Makes a misrepresentation of, or fails to disclose, a material fact to the commission;

(8) Fails to prove, by clear and convincing evidence, that he, she or it is qualified in accordance with the provisions of this chapter;

(9) Is subject to current prosecution or pending charges, or a conviction which is under appeal, for any of the offenses included under subsection (4) of this section: PROVIDED, That at the request of an applicant for an original license, the commission may defer decision upon the application during the pendency of such prosecution or appeal;

(10) Has pursued or is pursuing economic gain in an occupational manner or context which is in violation of the criminal or civil public policy of this state if such pursuit creates probable cause to believe that the participation of such person in gambling or related activities would be inimical to the proper operation of an authorized gambling or related activity in this state. For the purposes of this section, occupational manner or context shall be defined as the systematic planning, administration, management or execution of an activity for financial gain;

(11) Is a career offender or a member of a career offender cartel or an associate of a career offender or career offender cartel in such a manner which creates probable cause to believe that the association is of such a nature as to be inimical to the policy of this chapter or to the proper operation of the authorized gambling or related activities in this state. For the purposes of this section, career offender shall be defined as any person whose behavior is pursued in an occupational manner or context for the purpose of economic gain utilizing such methods as are deemed criminal violations of the public policy of this state. A career offender cartel shall be defined as any group of persons who operate together as career offenders.

For the purpose of reviewing any application for a license and for considering the denial, suspension or revocation of any license the gambling commission may consider any prior criminal conduct of the applicant or licensee and the provisions of RCW 9.95.240 and of chapter 9.96A RCW shall not apply to such cases. [1981 c 139 § 4; 1975 1st ex.s. c 166 § 12.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.077 Gambling commission—Vacation of certain suspensions upon payment of monetary penalty.** The commission, when suspending any license for a period of thirty days or less, may further provide in the order of suspension that such suspension shall be vacated upon payment to the commission of a monetary penalty in an amount then fixed by the commission. [1981 c 139 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.080 Gambling commission—Administrator—Staff—Rules and regulations—Service contracts.** The commission shall employ a full time director, who shall be the administrator for the commission in carrying out its powers and duties and who shall issue rules and regulations adopted by the commission governing the activities authorized hereunder and shall supervise commission employees in carrying out the purposes and provisions of this chapter. In addition, the director shall employ a deputy director, not

more than three assistant directors, together with such investigators and enforcement officers and such staff as the commission determines is necessary to carry out the purposes and provisions of this chapter. The director, the deputy director, the assistant directors, and personnel occupying positions requiring the performing of undercover investigative work shall be exempt from the provisions of chapter 41.06 RCW, as now law or hereafter amended. Neither the director nor any commission employee working therefor shall be an officer or manager of any bona fide charitable or bona fide non-profit organization, or of any organization which conducts gambling activity in this state.

The director, subject to the approval of the commission, is authorized to enter into agreements on behalf of the commission for mutual assistance and services, based upon actual costs, with any state or federal agency or with any city, town, or county, and such state or local agency is authorized to enter into such an agreement with the commission. If a needed service is not available from another agency of state government within a reasonable time, the director may obtain that service from private industry. [1994 c 218 § 14; 1981 c 139 § 6; 1977 ex.s. c 326 § 4; 1974 ex.s. c 155 § 7; 1974 ex.s. c 135 § 7; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 8.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.085 Gambling commission—Members and employees—Activities prohibited.** A member or employee of the gambling commission shall not:

- (1) Serve as an officer or manager of any corporation or organization which conducts a lottery or gambling activity;
- (2) Receive or share in, directly or indirectly, the gross profits of any gambling activity regulated by the commission;
- (3) Be beneficially interested in any contract for the manufacture or sale of gambling devices, the conduct of [a] gambling activity, or the provision of independent consultant services in connection with a gambling activity. [1986 c 4 § 1.]

**9.46.090 Gambling commission—Reports.** Subject to RCW 40.07.040, the commission shall, from time to time, make reports to the governor and the legislature covering such matters in connection with this chapter as the governor and the legislature may require. These reports shall be public documents and contain such general information and remarks as the commission deems pertinent thereto and any information requested by either the governor or members of the legislature: PROVIDED, That the commission appointed pursuant to RCW 9.46.040 may conduct a thorough study of the types of gambling activity permitted and the types of gambling activity prohibited by this chapter and may make recommendations to the legislature as to: (1) Gambling activity that ought to be permitted; (2) gambling activity that ought to be prohibited; (3) the types of licenses and permits that ought to be required; (4) the type and amount of tax that ought to be applied to each type of permitted gambling activity; (5) any changes which may be made to the law of this state which further the purposes and policies set forth in RCW 9.46.010 as now law or hereafter amended; and (6) any other matter that the commission may deem appropriate. Members of the commission and its staff may contact the legislature, or any of its members, at any time, to advise it of recommendations

of the commission. [1987 c 505 § 3; 1981 c 139 § 7; 1977 c 75 § 4; 1975 1st ex.s. c 166 § 4; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.095 Gambling commission—Proceedings against, jurisdiction—Immunity from liability.** No court of the state of Washington other than the superior court of Thurston county shall have jurisdiction over any action or proceeding against the commission or any member thereof for anything done or omitted to be done in or arising out of the performance of his or her duties under this title: PROVIDED, That an appeal from an adjudicative proceeding involving a final decision of the commission to deny, suspend, or revoke a license shall be governed by chapter 34.05 RCW, the Administrative Procedure Act.

Neither the commission nor any member or members thereof shall be personally liable in any action at law for damages sustained by any person because of any acts performed or done, or omitted to be done, by the commission or any member of the commission, or any employee of the commission, in the performance of his or her duties and in the administration of this title. [1989 c 175 § 41; 1981 c 139 § 17.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.100 Gambling revolving fund—Created—Receipts—Disbursements—Use.** There is hereby created the gambling revolving fund which shall consist of all moneys receivable for licensing, penalties, forfeitures, and all other moneys, income, or revenue received by the commission. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. All moneys received by the commission or any employee thereof, except for change funds and an amount of petty cash as fixed by rule or regulation of the commission, shall be deposited each day in a depository approved by the state treasurer and transferred to the state treasurer to be credited to the gambling revolving fund. Disbursements from the revolving fund shall be on authorization of the commission or a duly authorized representative thereof. In order to maintain an effective expenditure and revenue control the gambling revolving fund shall be subject in all respects to chapter 43.88 RCW but no appropriation shall be required to permit expenditures and payment of obligations from such fund. All expenses relative to commission business, including but not limited to salaries and expenses of the director and other commission employees shall be paid from the gambling revolving fund.

During the 2003-2005 fiscal biennium, the legislature may transfer from the gambling revolving fund to the problem gambling treatment account, contingent on enactment of chapter ..., Laws of 2004 (\*Second Substitute House Bill No. 2776, problem gambling treatment). Also during the 2003-2005 fiscal biennium, the legislature may transfer from the gambling revolving fund to the state general fund such amounts as reflect the excess nontribal fund balance of the fund. The commission shall not increase fees during the 2003-2005 fiscal biennium for the purpose of restoring the excess fund balance transferred under this section. [2004 c 276 § 903; 2002 c 371 § 901; 1991 sp.s. c 16 § 917; 1985 c 405 § 505; 1977 ex.s. c 326 § 5; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 10.]

\*Reviser's note: Second Substitute House Bill No. 2776 was not enacted during the 2004 legislative session.

**Severability—Effective date—2004 c 276:** See notes following RCW 43.330.167.

**Severability—2002 c 371:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2002 c 371 § 926.]

**Effective date—2002 c 371:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [April 5, 2002]." [2002 c 371 § 927.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.110 Taxation of gambling activities—Limitations—Restrictions on punchboards and pull-tabs—Lien.**

(1) The legislative authority of any county, city-county, city, or town, by local law and ordinance, and in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter, may provide for the taxing of any gambling activity authorized by this chapter within its jurisdiction, the tax receipts to go to the county, city-county, city, or town so taxing the activity. Any such tax imposed by a county alone shall not apply to any gambling activity within a city or town located in the county but the tax rate established by a county, if any, shall constitute the tax rate throughout the unincorporated areas of such county.

(2) The operation of punchboards and pull-tabs are subject to the following conditions:

(a) Chances may only be sold to adults;

(b) The price of a single chance may not exceed one dollar;

(c) No punchboard or pull-tab license may award as a prize upon a winning number or symbol being drawn the opportunity of taking a chance upon any other punchboard or pull-tab;

(d) All prizes available to be won must be described on an information flare. All merchandise prizes must be on display within the immediate area of the premises in which any such punchboard or pull-tab is located. Upon a winning number or symbol being drawn, a merchandise prize must be immediately removed from the display and awarded to the winner. All references to cash or merchandise prizes, with a value over twenty dollars, must be removed immediately from the information flare when won, or such omission shall be deemed a fraud for the purposes of this chapter; and

(e) When any person wins money or merchandise from any punchboard or pull-tab over an amount determined by the commission, every licensee shall keep a public record of the award for at least ninety days containing such information as the commission shall deem necessary.

(3)(a) Taxation of bingo and raffles shall never be in an amount greater than five percent of the gross receipts from a bingo game or raffle less the amount awarded as cash or merchandise prizes.

(b) Taxation of amusement games shall only be in an amount sufficient to pay the actual costs of enforcement of the provisions of this chapter by the county, city or town law enforcement agency and in no event shall such taxation exceed two percent of the gross receipts from the amusement game less the amount awarded as prizes.

(c) No tax shall be imposed under the authority of this chapter on bingo or amusement games when such activities or any combination thereof are conducted by any bona fide

charitable or nonprofit organization as defined in this chapter, which organization has no paid operating or management personnel and has gross receipts from bingo or amusement games, or a combination thereof, not exceeding five thousand dollars per year, less the amount awarded as cash or merchandise prizes.

(d) No tax shall be imposed on the first ten thousand dollars of gross receipts less the amount awarded as cash or merchandise prizes from raffles conducted by any bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization as defined in this chapter.

(e) Taxation of punchboards and pull-tabs for bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations is based on gross receipts from the operation of the games less the amount awarded as cash or merchandise prizes, and shall not exceed a rate of ten percent. At the option of the county, city-county, city, or town, the taxation of punchboards and pull-tabs for commercial stimulant operators may be based on gross receipts from the operation of the games, and may not exceed a rate of five percent, or may be based on gross receipts from the operation of the games less the amount awarded as cash or merchandise prizes, and may not exceed a rate of ten percent.

(f) Taxation of social card games may not exceed twenty percent of the gross revenue from such games.

(4) Taxes imposed under this chapter become a lien upon personal and real property used in the gambling activity in the same manner as provided for under RCW 84.60.010. The lien shall attach on the date the tax becomes due and shall relate back and have priority against real and personal property to the same extent as ad valorem taxes. [1999 c 221 § 1; 1997 c 394 § 4; 1994 c 301 § 2; 1991 c 161 § 1; 1987 c 4 § 39. Prior: 1985 c 468 § 2; 1985 c 172 § 1; 1981 c 139 § 8; 1977 ex.s. c 198 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 155 § 8; 1974 ex.s. c 135 § 8; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.113 Taxation of gambling activities—Disbursement.** Any county, city or town which collects a tax on gambling activities authorized pursuant to RCW 9.46.110 must use the revenue from such tax primarily for the purpose of public safety. [2010 c 127 § 6; 1975 1st ex.s. c 166 § 11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.116 Fees on pull-tab and punchboard sales.** The commission shall charge fees or increased fees on pull-tabs sold over-the-counter and on sales from punchboards and pull-tab devices at levels necessary to assure that the increased revenues are equal or greater to the amount of revenue lost by removing the special tax on coin-operated gambling devices by the 1984 repeal of \*RCW 9.46.115. [1985 c 7 § 2; 1984 c 135 § 2.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 9.46.115 was repealed by 1984 c 135 § 1, effective July 1, 1984.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.120 Restrictions on management or operation personnel—Restriction on leased premises.** (1) Except in the case of an agricultural fair as authorized under chapters 15.76 and 36.37 RCW, no person other than a member of a bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization (and their employees) or any other person, association or organization

(and their employees) approved by the commission, shall take any part in the management or operation of any gambling activity authorized under this chapter unless approved by the commission. No person who takes any part in the management or operation of any such gambling activity shall take any part in the management or operation of any gambling activity conducted by any other organization or any other branch of the same organization unless approved by the commission. No part of the proceeds of the activity shall inure to the benefit of any person other than the organization conducting such gambling activities or if such gambling activities be for the charitable benefit of any specific persons designated in the application for a license, then only for such specific persons as so designated.

(2) No bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization or any other person, association or organization shall conduct any gambling activity authorized under this chapter in any leased premises if rental for such premises is unreasonable or to be paid, wholly or partly, on the basis of a percentage of the receipts or profits derived from such gambling activity. [1997 c 394 § 3; 1987 c 4 § 40; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 12.]

**9.46.130 Inspection and audit of premises, paraphernalia, books, and records—Reports for the commission.**

The premises and paraphernalia, and all the books and records of any person, association, or organization conducting gambling activities authorized under this chapter and any person, association, or organization receiving profits therefrom or having any interest therein shall be subject to inspection and audit at any reasonable time, with or without notice, upon demand, by the commission or its designee, the attorney general or his or her designee, the chief of the Washington state patrol or his or her designee or the prosecuting attorney, sheriff, or director of public safety or their designees of the county wherein located, or the chief of police or his or her designee of any city or town in which said organization is located, for the purpose of determining compliance or non-compliance with the provisions of this chapter and any rules or regulations or local ordinances adopted pursuant thereto. A reasonable time for the purpose of this section shall be: (1) If the items or records to be inspected or audited are located anywhere upon a premises any portion of which is regularly open to the public or members and guests, then at any time when the premises are so open, or at which they are usually open; or (2) if the items or records to be inspected or audited are not located upon a premises set out in subsection (1) of this section, then any time between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The commission shall be provided at such reasonable intervals as the commission shall determine with a report, under oath, detailing all receipts and disbursements in connection with such gambling activities together with such other reasonable information as required in order to determine whether such activities comply with the purposes of this chapter or any local ordinances relating thereto. [2011 c 336 § 303; 1981 c 139 § 10; 1975 1st ex.s. c 166 § 7; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 13.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.140 Gambling commission—Investigations—Inspections—Hearing and subpoena power—Adminis-**

[Title 9 RCW—page 56]

**trative law judges.** (1) The commission or its authorized representative may:

(a) Make necessary public or private investigations within or outside of this state to determine whether any person has violated or is about to violate this chapter or any rule or order hereunder, or to aid in the enforcement of this chapter or in the prescribing of rules and forms hereunder; and

(b) Inspect the books, documents, and records of any person lending money to or in any manner financing any license holder or applicant for a license or receiving any income or profits from the use of such license for the purpose of determining compliance or noncompliance with the provisions of this chapter or the rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

(2) For the purpose of any investigation or proceeding under this chapter, the commission or an administrative law judge appointed under chapter 34.12 RCW may conduct hearings, administer oaths or affirmations, or upon the commission's or administrative law judge's motion or upon request of any party may subpoena witnesses, compel attendance, take depositions, take evidence, or require the production of any matter which is relevant to the investigation or proceeding, including but not limited to the existence, description, nature, custody, condition, or location of any books, documents, or other tangible things, or the identity or location of persons having knowledge or relevant facts, or any other matter reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of material evidence.

(3) Upon failure to obey a subpoena or to answer questions propounded by the administrative law judge and upon reasonable notice to all persons affected thereby, the director may apply to the superior court for an order compelling compliance.

(4) The administrative law judges appointed under chapter 34.12 RCW may conduct hearings respecting the suspension, revocation, or denial of licenses, who may administer oaths, admit or deny admission of evidence, compel the attendance of witnesses, issue subpoenas, issue orders, and exercise all other powers and perform all other functions set out in RCW 34.05.446, 34.05.449, and 34.05.452.

(5) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, all proceedings under this chapter shall be in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW. [1989 c 175 § 42; 1981 c 67 § 16; 1977 ex.s. c 326 § 7; 1975 1st ex.s. c 166 § 8; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 14.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.150 Injunctions—Voiding of licenses, permits, or certificates.**

(1) Any activity conducted in violation of any provision of this chapter may be enjoined in an action commenced by the commission through the attorney general or by the prosecuting attorney or legal counsel of any city or town in which the prohibited activity may occur.

(2) When a violation of any provision of this chapter or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant hereto has occurred on any property or premises for which one or more licenses, permits, or certificates issued by this state, or any political subdivision or public agency thereof are in effect, all such licenses, permits and certificates may be voided and no license, permit, or certificate so voided shall be issued or re-

sued for such property or premises for a period of up to sixty days thereafter. [1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 15.]

**9.46.153 Applicants and licensees—Responsibilities and duties—Waiver of liability—Investigation statement as privileged.** (1) It shall be the affirmative responsibility of each applicant and licensee to establish by clear and convincing evidence the necessary qualifications for licensure of each person required to be qualified under this chapter, as well as the qualifications of the facility in which the licensed activity will be conducted;

(2) All applicants and licensees shall consent to inspections, searches and seizures and the supplying of handwriting examples as authorized by this chapter and rules adopted hereunder;

(3) All licensees, and persons having any interest in licensees, including but not limited to employees and agents of licensees, and other persons required to be qualified under this chapter or rules of the commission shall have a duty to inform the commission or its staff of any action or omission which they believe would constitute a violation of this chapter or rules adopted pursuant thereto. No person who so informs the commission or the staff shall be discriminated against by an applicant or licensee because of the supplying of such information;

(4) All applicants, licensees, persons who are operators or directors thereof and persons who otherwise have a substantial interest therein shall have the continuing duty to provide any assistance or information required by the commission and to investigations conducted by the commission. If, upon issuance of a formal request to answer or produce information, evidence or testimony, any applicant, licensee or officer or director thereof or person with a substantial interest therein, refuses to comply, the applicant or licensee may be denied or revoked by the commission;

(5) All applicants and licensees shall waive any and all liability as to the state of Washington, its agencies, employees and agents for any damages resulting from any disclosure or publication in any manner, other than a wilfully unlawful disclosure or publication, of any information acquired by the commission during its licensing or other investigations or inquiries or hearings;

(6) Each applicant or licensee may be photographed for investigative and identification purposes in accordance with rules of the commission;

(7) An application to receive a license under this chapter or rules adopted pursuant thereto constitutes a request for determination of the applicant's and those person's with an interest in the applicant, general character, integrity and ability to engage or participate in, or be associated with, gambling or related activities impacting this state. Any written or oral statement made in the course of an official investigation, proceeding or process of the commission by any member, employee or agent thereof or by any witness, testifying under oath, which is relevant to the investigation, proceeding or process, is absolutely privileged and shall not impose any liability for slander, libel or defamation, or constitute any grounds for recovery in any civil action. [1981 c 139 § 14.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.155 Applicants and licensees—Bribes to public officials, employees, agents—Penalty.** (1) No applicant or licensee shall give or provide, or offer to give or provide, directly or indirectly, to any public official or employee or agent of this state, or any of its agencies or political subdivisions, any compensation or reward, or share of the money or property paid or received through gambling activities, in consideration for obtaining any license, authorization, permission or privilege to participate in any gaming operations except as authorized by this chapter or rules adopted pursuant thereto.

(2) Violation of this section is a class C felony for which a person, upon conviction, shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than five years or a fine of not more than one hundred thousand dollars, or both. [2003 c 53 § 34; 1981 c 139 § 15.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.158 Applicants, licensees, operators—Commission approval for hiring certain persons.** No applicant for a license from, nor licensee of, the commission, nor any operator of any gambling activity, shall, without advance approval of the commission, knowingly permit any person to participate in the management or operation of any activity for which a license from the commission is required or which is otherwise authorized by this chapter if that person:

(1) Has been convicted of, or forfeited bond upon a charge of, or pleaded guilty to, forgery, larceny, extortion, conspiracy to defraud, wilful failure to make required payments or reports to a governmental agency at any level, or filing false reports therewith, or of any similar offense or offenses, or of any crime, whether a felony or misdemeanor involving any gambling activity or physical harm to individuals or involving moral turpitude; or

(2) Has violated, failed, or refused to comply with provisions, requirements, conditions, limitations or duties imposed by this chapter, and any amendments thereto, or any rules adopted by the commission pursuant thereto, or has permitted, aided, abetted, caused, or conspired with another to cause, any person to violate any of the provisions of this chapter or rules of the commission. [1981 c 139 § 18.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.160 Conducting activity without license.** Any person who conducts any activity for which a license is required by this chapter, or by rule of the commission, without the required license issued by the commission shall be guilty of a class B felony. If any corporation conducts any activity for which a license is required by this chapter, or by rule of the commission, without the required license issued by the commission, it may be punished by forfeiture of its corporate charter, in addition to the other penalties set forth in this section. [1991 c 261 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 166 § 9; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 16.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.170 False or misleading entries or statements, refusal to produce records.** Whoever, in any application for a license or in any book or record required to be maintained



by the commission or in any report required to be submitted to the commission, shall make any false or misleading statement, or make any false or misleading entry or wilfully fail to maintain or make any entry required to be maintained or made, or who wilfully refuses to produce for inspection by the commission, or its designee, any book, record, or document required to be maintained or made by federal or state law, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor subject to the penalty set forth in RCW 9A.20.021. [1991 c 261 § 4; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 17.]

**9.46.180 Causing person to violate chapter.** Any person who knowingly causes, aids, abets, or conspires with another to cause any person to violate any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a class B felony subject to the penalty in RCW 9A.20.021. [1991 c 261 § 5; 1977 ex.s. c 326 § 8; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 18.]

**9.46.185 Causing person to violate rule or regulation.** Any person who knowingly causes, aids, abets, or conspires with another to cause any person to violate any rule or regulation adopted pursuant to this chapter shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor subject to the penalty set forth in RCW 9A.20.021. [1991 c 261 § 6; 1977 ex.s. c 326 § 9.]

**9.46.190 Violations relating to fraud or deceit.** Any person or association or organization operating any gambling activity who or which, directly or indirectly, shall in the course of such operation:

- (1) Employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud; or
- (2) Make any untrue statement of a material fact, or omit to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statement made not misleading, in the light of the circumstances under which said statement is made; or
- (3) Engage in any act, practice or course of operation as would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any person;

Shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor subject to the penalty set forth in RCW 9A.20.021. [1991 c 261 § 7; 1977 ex.s. c 326 § 10; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 19.]

**9.46.192 Cities and towns—Ordinance enacting certain sections of chapter—Limitations—Penalties.** Every city or town is authorized to enact as an ordinance of that city or town any or all of the sections of this chapter the violation of which constitutes a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor. The city or town may not modify the language of any section of this chapter in enacting such section except as necessary to put the section in the proper form of an ordinance or to provide for a sentence [to] be served in the appropriate detention facility. The ordinance must provide for the same maximum penalty for its violation as may be imposed under the section in this chapter. [1977 ex.s. c 326 § 11.]

**9.46.193 Cities and towns—Ordinance adopting certain sections of chapter—Jurisdiction of courts.** District courts operating under the provisions of chapters 3.30 through 3.74 RCW, except municipal departments of such courts operating under chapter 3.46 RCW and municipal courts operating under chapter 3.50 RCW, shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the superior court to hear, try, and determine misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor violations of this

chapter and violations of any ordinance passed under authority of this chapter by any city or town.

Municipal courts operating under chapters 35.20 or 3.50 RCW and municipal departments of the district court operating under chapter 3.46 RCW, shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the superior court to hear, try, and determine violations of any ordinance passed under authority of this chapter by the city or town in which the court is located.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each of these courts shall have the jurisdiction and power to impose up to the maximum penalties provided for the violation of the ordinances adopted under the authority of this chapter. Review of the judgments of these courts shall be as provided in other criminal actions. [1977 ex.s. c 326 § 12.]

**9.46.195 Obstruction of public servant—Penalty.** No person shall intentionally obstruct or attempt to obstruct a public servant in the administration or enforcement of this chapter by using or threatening to use physical force or by means of any unlawful act. Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1974 ex.s. c 155 § 11; 1974 ex.s. c 135 § 11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.196 Cheating—Defined.** "Cheating," as used in this chapter, means to:

- (1) Employ or attempt to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud any other participant or any operator;
- (2) Engage in any act, practice, or course of operation as would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any other participant or any operator;
- (3) Engage in any act, practice, or course of operation while participating in a gambling activity with the intent of cheating any other participant or the operator to gain an advantage in the game over the other participant or operator; or
- (4) Cause, aid, abet, or conspire with another person to cause any other person to violate subsections (1) through (3) of this section. [2002 c 253 § 1; 1991 c 261 § 8; 1977 ex.s. c 326 § 13.]

**9.46.1961 Cheating in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of cheating in the first degree if he or she engages in cheating and:

- (a) Knowingly causes, aids, abets, or conspires with another to engage in cheating; or
- (b) Holds a license or similar permit issued by the state of Washington to conduct, manage, or act as an employee in an authorized gambling activity.

(2) Cheating in the first degree is a class C felony subject to the penalty set forth in RCW 9A.20.021. In addition to any other penalties imposed by law for a conviction of a violation of this section the court may impose an additional penalty of up to twenty thousand dollars. [2002 c 253 § 2.]

**9.46.1962 Cheating in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of cheating in the second degree if he or she engages in cheating and his or her conduct does not constitute cheating in the first degree.

(2) Cheating in the second degree is a gross misdemeanor subject to the penalty set forth in RCW 9A.20.021. [2002 c 253 § 3.]

**9.46.198 Working in gambling activity without license as violation—Penalty.** Any person who works as an employee or agent or in a similar capacity for another person in connection with the operation of an activity for which a license is required under this chapter or by commission rule without having obtained the applicable license required by the commission under RCW 9.46.070(17) shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction, be punished by up to three hundred sixty-four days in the county jail or a fine of not more than five thousand dollars, or both. [2011 c 96 § 7; 1999 c 143 § 7; 1977 ex.s. c 326 § 14.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

**9.46.200 Action for money damages due to violations—Interest—Attorneys' fees—Evidence for exoneration.** In addition to any other penalty provided for in this chapter, every person, directly or indirectly controlling the operation of any gambling activity authorized by this chapter, including a director, officer, and/or manager of any association, organization, or corporation conducting the same, whether charitable, nonprofit, or profit, shall be liable, jointly and severally, for money damages suffered by any person because of any violation of this chapter, together with interest on any such amount of money damages at six percent per annum from the date of the loss, and reasonable attorneys' fees: PROVIDED, That if any such director, officer, and/or manager did not know any such violation was taking place and had taken all reasonable care to prevent any such violation from taking place, and if such director, officer, and/or manager shall establish by a preponderance of the evidence that he or she did not have such knowledge and that he or she had exercised all reasonable care to prevent the violations he or she shall not be liable hereunder. Any civil action under this section may be considered a class action. [2011 c 336 § 304; 1987 c 4 § 41; 1974 ex.s. c 155 § 10; 1974 ex.s. c 135 § 10; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 20.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.210 Enforcement—Commission as a law enforcement agency.** (1) It shall be the duty of all peace officers, law enforcement officers, and law enforcement agencies within this state to investigate, enforce, and prosecute all violations of this chapter.

(2) In addition to the authority granted by subsection (1) of this section law enforcement agencies of cities and counties shall investigate and report to the commission all violations of the provisions of this chapter and of the rules of the commission found by them and shall assist the commission in any of its investigations and proceedings respecting any such violations. Such law enforcement agencies shall not be deemed agents of the commission.

(3) In addition to its other powers and duties, the commission shall have the power to enforce the penal provisions of \*chapter 218, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and as it may be amended, and the penal laws of this state relating to the conduct of or participation in gambling activities and the manufacturing, importation, transportation, distribution, possession,

and sale of equipment or paraphernalia used or for use in connection therewith. The director, the deputy director, both assistant directors, and each of the commission's investigators, enforcement officers, and inspectors shall have the power, under the supervision of the commission, to enforce the penal provisions of \*chapter 218, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and as it may be amended, and the penal laws of this state relating to the conduct of or participation in gambling activities and the manufacturing, importation, transportation, distribution, possession, and sale of equipment or paraphernalia used or for use in connection therewith. They shall have the power and authority to apply for and execute all warrants and serve process of law issued by the courts in enforcing the penal provisions of \*chapter 218, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and as it may be amended, and the penal laws of this state relating to the conduct of or participation in gambling activities and the manufacturing, importation, transportation, distribution, possession, and sale of equipment or paraphernalia used or for use in connection therewith. They shall have the power to arrest without a warrant, any person or persons found in the act of violating any of the penal provisions of \*chapter 218, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and as it may be amended, and the penal laws of this state relating to the conduct of or participation in gambling activities and the manufacturing, importation, transportation, distribution, possession, and sale of equipment or paraphernalia used or for use in connection therewith. To the extent set forth above, the commission shall be a law enforcement agency of this state with the power to investigate for violations of and to enforce the provisions of this chapter, as now law or hereafter amended, and to obtain information from and provide information to all other law enforcement agencies.

(4) Criminal history record information that includes nonconviction data, as defined in RCW 10.97.030, may be disseminated by a criminal justice agency to the Washington state gambling commission for any purpose associated with the investigation for suitability for involvement in gambling activities authorized under this chapter. The Washington state gambling commission shall only disseminate nonconviction data obtained under this section to criminal justice agencies. [2000 c 46 § 1; 1981 c 139 § 11; 1977 ex.s. c 326 § 15; 1975 1st ex.s. c 166 § 10; 1974 ex.s. c 155 § 9; 1974 ex.s. c 135 § 9; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 21.]

**\*Reviser's note:** 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 consisted entirely of chapter 9.46 RCW and the repeal of various former laws regulating gambling.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.215 Ownership or interest in gambling device—Penalty—Exceptions.** (1) Whoever knowingly owns, manufactures, possesses, buys, sells, rents, leases, finances, holds a security interest in, stores, repairs, or transports any gambling device or offers or solicits any interest therein, whether through an agent or employee or otherwise, is guilty of a class C felony and shall be fined not more than one hundred thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

(2) This section does not apply to persons licensed by the commission, or who are otherwise authorized by this chapter, or by commission rule, to conduct gambling activities without a license, respecting devices that are to be used, or are being used, solely in that activity for which the license was

issued, or for which the person has been otherwise authorized if:

(a) The person is acting in conformance with this chapter and the rules adopted under this chapter; and

(b) The devices are a type and kind traditionally and usually employed in connection with the particular activity.

(3) This section also does not apply to any act or acts by the persons in furtherance of the activity for which the license was issued, or for which the person is authorized, when the activity is conducted in compliance with this chapter and in accordance with the rules adopted under this chapter.

(4) In the enforcement of this section direct possession of any such a gambling device is presumed to be knowing possession thereof. [2003 c 53 § 35; 1994 c 218 § 9.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9.46.217 Gambling records—Penalty—Exceptions.**

Whoever knowingly prints, makes, possesses, stores, or transports any gambling record, or buys, sells, offers, or solicits any interest therein, whether through an agent or employee or otherwise, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. However, this section does not apply to records relating to and kept for activities authorized by this chapter when the records are of the type and kind traditionally and usually employed in connection with the particular activity. This section also does not apply to any act or acts in furtherance of the activities when conducted in compliance with this chapter and in accordance with the rules adopted under this chapter. In the enforcement of this section direct possession of any such a gambling record is presumed to be knowing possession thereof. [1994 c 218 § 10.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9.46.220 Professional gambling in the first degree.**

(1) A person is guilty of professional gambling in the first degree if he or she engages in, or knowingly causes, aids, abets, or conspires with another to engage in professional gambling as defined in this chapter, and:

(a) Acts in concert with or conspires with five or more people; or

(b) Personally accepts wagers exceeding five thousand dollars during any thirty-day period on future contingent events; or

(c) The operation for whom the person works, or with which the person is involved, accepts wagers exceeding five thousand dollars during any thirty-day period on future contingent events; or

(d) Operates, manages, or profits from the operation of a premises or location where persons are charged a fee to participate in card games, lotteries, or other gambling activities that are not authorized by this chapter or licensed by the commission.

(2) However, this section shall not apply to those activities enumerated in RCW 9.46.0305 through 9.46.0361 or to any act or acts in furtherance of such activities when conducted in compliance with the provisions of this chapter and in accordance with the rules adopted pursuant to this chapter.

(3) Professional gambling in the first degree is a class B felony subject to the penalty set forth in RCW 9A.20.021.

[1997 c 78 § 2; 1994 c 218 § 11; 1991 c 261 § 10; 1987 c 4 § 42; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 22.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9.46.221 Professional gambling in the second degree.**

(1) A person is guilty of professional gambling in the second degree if he or she engages in or knowingly causes, aids, abets, or conspires with another to engage in professional gambling as defined in this chapter, and:

(a) Acts in concert with or conspires with less than five people; or

(b) Accepts wagers exceeding two thousand dollars during any thirty-day period on future contingent events; or

(c) The operation for whom the person works, or with which the person is involved, accepts wagers exceeding two thousand dollars during any thirty-day period on future contingent events; or

(d) Maintains a "gambling premises" as defined in this chapter; or

(e) Maintains gambling records as defined in RCW 9.46.0253.

(2) However, this section shall not apply to those activities enumerated in RCW 9.46.0305 through 9.46.0361 or to any act or acts in furtherance of such activities when conducted in compliance with the provisions of this chapter and in accordance with the rules adopted pursuant to this chapter.

(3) Professional gambling in the second degree is a class C felony subject to the penalty set forth in RCW 9A.20.021. [1997 c 78 § 3; 1994 c 218 § 12; 1991 c 261 § 11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9.46.222 Professional gambling in the third degree.**

(1) A person is guilty of professional gambling in the third degree if he or she engages in, or knowingly causes, aids, abets, or conspires with another to engage in professional gambling as defined in this chapter, and:

(a) His or her conduct does not constitute first or second degree professional gambling;

(b) He or she operates any of the unlicensed gambling activities authorized by this chapter in a manner other than as prescribed by this chapter; or

(c) He or she is directly employed in but not managing or directing any gambling operation.

(2) This section shall not apply to those activities enumerated in RCW 9.46.0305 through 9.46.0361 or to any acts in furtherance of such activities when conducted in compliance with the provisions of this chapter and the rules adopted pursuant to this chapter.

(3) Professional gambling in the third degree is a gross misdemeanor subject to the penalty established in RCW 9A.20.021. [1994 c 218 § 13; 1991 c 261 § 12.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9.46.225 Professional gambling—Penalties not applicable to authorized activities.**

The penalties provided for professional gambling in this chapter shall not apply to the activities authorized by this chapter when conducted in compliance with the provisions of this chapter and in accordance with the rules and regulations of the commission. [1987 c 4 § 37. Formerly RCW 9.46.030(11).]

**9.46.228 Gambling activities by persons under age eighteen prohibited—Penalties—Jurisdiction—In-house controlled purchase programs authorized.** (1) It is unlawful for any person under the age of eighteen to play in authorized gambling activities including, but not limited to, punchboards, pull-tabs, or card games, or to participate in fund-raising events. Persons under the age of eighteen may play bingo, raffles, and amusement game activities only as provided in commission rules.

(2) A person under the age of eighteen who violates subsection (1) of this section by engaging in, or attempting to engage in, prohibited gambling activities commits a class 2 civil infraction under chapter 7.80 RCW and is subject to a fine set out in chapter 7.80 RCW, up to four hours of community restitution, and any court imposed costs.

(3) The juvenile court divisions in superior courts within the state have jurisdiction for enforcement of this section.

(4)(a) An employer may conduct an in-house controlled purchase program authorized for the purposes of employee training and employer self-compliance checks.

(b) The civil infraction provisions of this section do not apply to a person under the age of eighteen who is participating in an in-house controlled purchase program authorized by the commission under rules adopted by the commission. Violations occurring under an in-house controlled purchase program authorized by the commission may not be used for criminal or administrative prosecution.

(c) An employer who conducts an in-house controlled purchase program authorized under this section shall provide his or her employees a written description of the employer's in-house controlled purchase program. The written description must include notice of actions an employer may take as a consequence of an employee's failure to comply with company policies regarding unauthorized persons engaging in gambling activities during a controlled purchase program authorized under this section.

(5) A person under the age of eighteen who violates subsection (1) of this section shall not collect any winnings or recover any losses arising as a result of unlawfully participating in any gambling activity. Additionally, any money or anything of value which has been obtained by, or is owed to, any person under the age of eighteen as a result of such participation shall be forfeited to the department of social and health services division of alcohol and substance abuse or its successor and used for a program related to youth problem gambling awareness, prevention, and/or education. Any person claiming any money or things of value subject to forfeiture under this subsection will receive notice and an opportunity for a hearing under RCW 9.46.231. [2009 c 357 § 2.]

**9.46.231 Gambling devices, real and personal property—Seizure and forfeiture.** (1) The following are subject to seizure and forfeiture and no property right exists in them:

(a) All gambling devices as defined in this chapter;

(b) All furnishings, fixtures, equipment, and stock, including without limitation furnishings and fixtures adaptable to nongambling uses and equipment and stock for printing, recording, computing, transporting, or safekeeping, used in connection with professional gambling or maintaining a gambling premises;

(c) All conveyances, including aircraft, vehicles, or vessels, that are used, or intended for use, in any manner to facilitate the sale, delivery, receipt, or operation of any gambling device, or the promotion or operation of a professional gambling activity, except that:

(i) A conveyance used by any person as a common carrier in the transaction of business as a common carrier is not subject to forfeiture under this section unless it appears that the owner or other person in charge of the conveyance is a consenting party or privy to a violation of this chapter;

(ii) A conveyance is not subject to forfeiture under this section by reason of any act or omission established by the owner thereof to have been committed or omitted without the owner's knowledge or consent;

(iii) A forfeiture of a conveyance encumbered by a bona fide security interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if the secured party neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or omission; and

(iv) If the owner of a conveyance has been arrested under this chapter the conveyance in which the person is arrested may not be subject to forfeiture unless it is seized or process is issued for its seizure within ten days of the owner's arrest;

(d) All books, records, and research products and materials, including formulas, microfilm, tapes, and electronic data that are used, or intended for use, in violation of this chapter;

(e) All moneys, negotiable instruments, securities, or other tangible or intangible property of value at stake or displayed in or in connection with professional gambling activity or furnished or intended to be furnished by any person to facilitate the promotion or operation of a professional gambling activity;

(f) All tangible or intangible personal property, proceeds, or assets acquired in whole or in part with proceeds traceable to professional gambling activity and all moneys, negotiable instruments, and securities used or intended to be used to facilitate any violation of this chapter. A forfeiture of money, negotiable instruments, securities, or other tangible or intangible property encumbered by a bona fide security interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if, at the time the security interest was created, the secured party neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or omission. Personal property may not be forfeited under this subsection (1)(f), to the extent of the interest of an owner, by reason of any act or omission that that owner establishes was committed or omitted without the owner's knowledge or consent; and

(g) All real property, including any right, title, and interest in the whole of any lot or tract of land, and any appurtenances or improvements that:

(i) Have been used with the knowledge of the owner for the manufacturing, processing, delivery, importing, or exporting of any illegal gambling equipment, or operation of a professional gambling activity that would constitute a felony violation of this chapter; or

(ii) Have been acquired in whole or in part with proceeds traceable to a professional gambling activity, if the activity is not less than a class C felony.

Real property forfeited under this chapter that is encumbered by a bona fide security interest remains subject to the interest of the secured party if the secured party, at the time the security interest was created, neither had knowledge of

nor consented to the act or omission. Property may not be forfeited under this subsection, to the extent of the interest of an owner, by reason of any act or omission committed or omitted without the owner's knowledge or consent.

(2)(a) A law enforcement officer of this state may seize real or personal property subject to forfeiture under this chapter upon process issued by any superior court having jurisdiction over the property. Seizure of real property includes the filing of a *lis pendens* by the seizing agency. Real property seized under this section may not be transferred or otherwise conveyed until ninety days after seizure or until a judgment of forfeiture is entered, whichever is later, but real property seized under this section may be transferred or conveyed to any person or entity who acquires title by foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure of a bona fide security interest.

(b) Seizure of personal property without process may be made if:

(i) The seizure is incident to an arrest or a search under a search warrant or an inspection under an administrative inspection warrant;

(ii) The property subject to seizure has been the subject of a prior judgment in favor of the state in a criminal injunction or forfeiture proceeding based upon this chapter;

(iii) A law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the property is directly or indirectly dangerous to health or safety; or

(iv) The law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used in violation of this chapter.

(3) In the event of seizure under subsection (2) of this section, proceedings for forfeiture are deemed commenced by the seizure. The law enforcement agency under whose authority the seizure was made shall cause notice to be served within fifteen days following the seizure on the owner of the property seized and the person in charge thereof and any person having any known right or interest therein, including any community property interest, of the seizure and intended forfeiture of the seized property. Service of notice of seizure of real property must be made according to the rules of civil procedure. However, the state may not obtain a default judgment with respect to real property against a party who is served by substituted service absent an affidavit stating that a good faith effort has been made to ascertain if the defaulted party is incarcerated within the state, and that there is no present basis to believe that the party is incarcerated within the state. Notice of seizure in the case of property subject to a security interest that has been perfected by filing a financing statement in accordance with chapter 62A.9A RCW, or a certificate of title, must be made by service upon the secured party or the secured party's assignee at the address shown on the financing statement or the certificate of title. The notice of seizure in other cases may be served by any method authorized by law or court rule including but not limited to service by certified mail with return receipt requested. Service by mail is deemed complete upon mailing within the fifteen-day period following the seizure.

(4) If no person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of items specified in subsection (1) of this section within forty-five days of the seizure in the case of personal property and ninety days in the case of real property,

the item seized is deemed forfeited. The community property interest in real property of a person whose spouse or domestic partner committed a violation giving rise to seizure of the real property may not be forfeited if the person did not participate in the violation.

(5) If any person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of items specified in subsection (1) of this section within forty-five days of the seizure in the case of personal property and ninety days in the case of real property, the person or persons must be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard as to the claim or right. The hearing must be before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency or the chief law enforcement officer's designee, except if the seizing agency is a state agency as defined in RCW 34.12.020(4), the hearing must be before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency or an administrative law judge appointed under chapter 34.12 RCW, except that any person asserting a claim or right may remove the matter to a court of competent jurisdiction. Removal of any matter involving personal property may only be accomplished according to the rules of civil procedure. The person seeking removal of the matter must serve process against the state, county, political subdivision, or municipality that operates the seizing agency, and any other party of interest, in accordance with RCW 4.28.080 or 4.92.020, within forty-five days after the person seeking removal has notified the seizing law enforcement agency of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession. The court to which the matter is to be removed must be the district court if the aggregate value of personal property is within the jurisdictional limit set forth in RCW 3.66.020. A hearing before the seizing agency and any appeal therefrom must be under Title 34 RCW. In a court hearing between two or more claimants to the article or articles involved, the prevailing party is entitled to a judgment for costs and reasonable attorneys' fees. In cases involving personal property, the burden of producing evidence is upon the person claiming to be the lawful owner or the person claiming to have the lawful right to possession of the property. In cases involving property seized under subsection (1)(a) of this section, the only issues to be determined by the tribunal are whether the item seized is a gambling device, and whether the device is an antique device as defined by RCW 9.46.235. In cases involving real property, the burden of producing evidence is upon the law enforcement agency. The burden of proof that the seized real property is subject to forfeiture is upon the law enforcement agency. The seizing law enforcement agency shall promptly return the article or articles to the claimant upon a final determination by the administrative law judge or court that the claimant is the present lawful owner or is lawfully entitled to possession thereof of items specified in subsection (1) of this section.

(6) If property is forfeited under this chapter the seizing law enforcement agency may:

(a) Retain it for official use or upon application by any law enforcement agency of this state release the property to the agency for training or use in enforcing this chapter;

(b) Sell that which is not required to be destroyed by law and which is not harmful to the public; or

(c) Destroy any articles that may not be lawfully possessed within the state of Washington, or that have a fair market value of less than one hundred dollars.

(7)(a) If property is forfeited, the seizing agency shall keep a record indicating the identity of the prior owner, if known, a description of the property, the disposition of the property, the value of the property at the time of seizure, and the amount of proceeds realized from disposition of the property. The net proceeds of forfeited property is the value of the forfeitable interest in the property after deducting the cost of satisfying any bona fide security interest to which the property is subject at the time of seizure, and in the case of sold property, after deducting the cost of sale, including reasonable fees or commissions paid to independent selling agents.

(b) Each seizing agency shall retain records of forfeited property for at least seven years.

(8) The seizing law enforcement agency shall retain forfeited property and net proceeds exclusively for the expansion and improvement of gambling-related law enforcement activity. Money retained under this section may not be used to supplant preexisting funding sources.

(9) Gambling devices that are possessed, transferred, sold, or offered for sale in violation of this chapter are contraband and must be seized and summarily forfeited to the state. Gambling equipment that is seized or comes into the possession of a law enforcement agency, the owners of which are unknown, are contraband and must be summarily forfeited to the state.

(10) Upon the entry of an order of forfeiture of real property, the court shall forward a copy of the order to the assessor of the county in which the property is located. The superior court shall enter orders for the forfeiture of real property, subject to court rules. The seizing agency shall file such an order in the county auditor's records in the county in which the real property is located.

(11)(a) A landlord may assert a claim against proceeds from the sale of assets seized and forfeited under subsection (6)(b) of this section, only if:

(i) A law enforcement officer, while acting in his or her official capacity, directly caused damage to the complaining landlord's property while executing a search of a tenant's residence; and

(ii) The landlord has applied any funds remaining in the tenant's deposit, to which the landlord has a right under chapter 59.18 RCW, to cover the damage directly caused by a law enforcement officer before asserting a claim under this section.

(A) Only if the funds applied under (a)(ii) of this subsection are insufficient to satisfy the damage directly caused by a law enforcement officer, may the landlord seek compensation for the damage by filing a claim against the governmental entity under whose authority the law enforcement agency operates within thirty days after the search; and

(B) Only if the governmental entity denies or fails to respond to the landlord's claim within sixty days of the date of filing, may the landlord collect damages under this subsection by filing within thirty days of denial or the expiration of the sixty-day period, whichever occurs first, a claim with the seizing law enforcement agency. The seizing law enforcement agency shall notify the landlord of the status of the claim by the end of the thirty-day period. This section does

not require the claim to be paid by the end of the sixty-day or thirty-day period.

(b) For any claim filed under (a)(ii) of this subsection, the law enforcement agency shall pay the claim unless the agency provides substantial proof that the landlord either:

(i) Knew or consented to actions of the tenant in violation of this chapter; or

(ii) Failed to respond to a notification of the illegal activity, provided by a law enforcement agency within seven days of receipt of notification of the illegal activity.

(12) The landlord's claim for damages under subsection (11) of this section may not include a claim for loss of business and is limited to:

(a) Damage to tangible property and clean-up costs;

(b) The lesser of the cost of repair or fair market value of the damage directly caused by a law enforcement officer;

(c) The proceeds from the sale of the specific tenant's property seized and forfeited under subsection (6)(b) of this section; and

(d) The proceeds available after the seizing law enforcement agency satisfies any bona fide security interest in the tenant's property and costs related to sale of the tenant's property as provided by subsection (7)(a) of this section.

(13) Subsections (11) and (12) of this section do not limit any other rights a landlord may have against a tenant to collect for damages. However, if a law enforcement agency satisfies a landlord's claim under subsection (11) of this section, the rights the landlord has against the tenant for damages directly caused by a law enforcement officer under the terms of the landlord and tenant's contract are subrogated to the law enforcement agency.

(14) Liability is not imposed by this section upon any authorized state, county, or municipal officer, including a commission special agent, in the lawful performance of his or her duties. [2008 c 6 § 629; 1997 c 128 § 1; 1994 c 218 § 7.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.235 Slot machines, antique—Defenses concerning—Presumption created.** (1) For purposes of a prosecution under RCW 9.46.215 or a seizure, confiscation, or destruction order under RCW 9.46.231, it shall be a defense that the gambling device involved is an antique slot machine and that the antique slot machine was not operated for gambling purposes while in the owner's or defendant's possession. Operation of an antique slot machine shall be only by free play or with coins provided at no cost by the owner. No slot machine, having been seized under this chapter, may be altered, destroyed, or disposed of without affording the owner thereof an opportunity to present a defense under this section. If the defense is applicable, the antique slot machine shall be returned to the owner or defendant, as the court may direct.

(2) RCW 9.46.231 shall have no application to any antique slot machine that has not been operated for gambling purposes while in the owner's possession.

(3) For the purposes of this section, a slot machine shall be conclusively presumed to be an antique slot machine if it is at least twenty-five years old.

(4) RCW 9.46.231 and 9.46.215 do not apply to gambling devices on board a passenger cruise ship which has been registered and bonded with the federal maritime commission, if the gambling devices are not operated for gambling purposes within the state. [1994 c 218 § 15; 1987 c 191 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 165 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.240 Gambling information, transmitting or receiving.** Whoever knowingly transmits or receives gambling information by telephone, telegraph, radio, semaphore, the internet, a telecommunications transmission system, or similar means, or knowingly installs or maintains equipment for the transmission or receipt of gambling information shall be guilty of a class C felony subject to the penalty set forth in RCW 9A.20.021. However, this section shall not apply to such information transmitted or received or equipment installed or maintained relating to activities authorized by this chapter or to any act or acts in furtherance thereof when conducted in compliance with the provisions of this chapter and in accordance with the rules adopted under this chapter. [2006 c 290 § 2; 1991 c 261 § 9; 1987 c 4 § 44; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 24.]

**State policy—2006 c 290:** "It is the policy of this state to prohibit all forms and means of gambling, except where carefully and specifically authorized and regulated. With the advent of the internet and other technologies and means of communication that were not contemplated when either the gambling act was enacted in 1973, or the lottery commission was created in 1982, it is appropriate for this legislature to reaffirm the policy prohibiting gambling that exploits such new technologies." [2006 c 290 § 1.]

**9.46.250 Gambling property or premises—Common nuisances, abatement—Termination of interests, licenses—Enforcement.** (1) All gambling premises are common nuisances and shall be subject to abatement by injunction or as otherwise provided by law. The plaintiff in any action brought under this subsection against any gambling premises, need not show special injury and may, in the discretion of the court, be relieved of all requirements as to giving security.

(2) When any property or premise held under a mortgage, contract, or leasehold is determined by a court having jurisdiction to be a gambling premises, all rights and interests of the holder therein shall terminate and the owner shall be entitled to immediate possession at his or her election: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That this subsection shall not apply to those premises in which activities authorized by this chapter or any act or acts in furtherance thereof are carried on when conducted in compliance with the provisions of this chapter and in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

(3) When any property or premises for which one or more licenses issued by the commission are in effect, is determined by a court having jurisdiction to be a gambling premise, all such licenses may be voided and no longer in effect, and no license so voided shall be issued or reissued for such property or premises for a period of up to sixty days thereafter. Enforcement of this subsection shall be the duty of all peace officers and all taxing and licensing officials of this state and its political subdivisions and other public agencies. This subsection shall not apply to property or premises in which activities authorized by this chapter, or any act or acts

in furtherance thereof, are carried on when conducted in compliance with the provisions of this chapter and in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto. [2011 c 336 § 305; 1987 c 4 § 45; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 25.]

**9.46.260 Proof of possession as evidence of knowledge of its character.** Proof of possession of any device used for professional gambling or any record relating to professional gambling specified in RCW 9.46.215 is prima facie evidence of possession thereof with knowledge of its character or contents. [1994 c 218 § 16; 1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 26.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.270 Taxing authority, exclusive.** This chapter shall constitute the exclusive legislative authority for the taxing by any city, town, city-county or county of any gambling activity and its application shall be strictly construed to those activities herein permitted and to those persons, associations or organizations herein permitted to engage therein. [1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 27.]

**9.46.285 Licensing and regulation authority, exclusive.** This chapter constitutes the exclusive legislative authority for the licensing and regulation of any gambling activity and the state preempts such licensing and regulatory functions, except as to the powers and duties of any city, town, city-county, or county which are specifically set forth in this chapter. Any ordinance, resolution, or other legislative act by any city, town, city-county, or county relating to gambling in existence on September 27, 1973 shall be as of that date null and void and of no effect. Any such city, town, city-county, or county may thereafter enact only such local law as is consistent with the powers and duties expressly granted to and imposed upon it by chapter 9.46 RCW and which is not in conflict with that chapter or with the rules of the commission. [1973 2nd ex.s. c 41 § 8.]

**9.46.291 State lottery exemption.** The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to the conducting, operating, participating, or selling or purchasing of tickets or shares in the "lottery" or "state lottery" as defined in RCW 67.70.010 when such conducting, operating, participating, or selling or purchasing is in conformity to the provisions of chapter 67.70 RCW and to the rules adopted thereunder. [1982 2nd ex.s. c 7 § 39.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.293 Fishing derbies exempted.** Any fishing derby, defined under RCW 9.46.0229, shall not be subject to any other provisions of this chapter or to any rules or regulations of the commission. [1989 c 8 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 166 § 13.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.295 Licenses, scope of authority—Exception.** (1) Any license to engage in any of the gambling activities authorized by this chapter as now exists or as hereafter amended, and issued under the authority thereof shall be legal authority to engage in the gambling activities for which issued throughout the incorporated and unincorporated area of any county, except that a city located therein with respect

to that city, or a county with respect to all areas within that county except for such cities, may absolutely prohibit, but may not change the scope of license, any or all of the gambling activities for which the license was issued.

(2)(a) A city or town with a prohibition on house-banked social card game licenses that annexes an area that is within a city, town, or county that permits house-banked social card games may allow a house-banked social card game business that was licensed by the commission as of July 26, 2009, to continue operating if the city or town is authorized to impose a tax under RCW 82.14.415 and can demonstrate that the continuation of the house-banked social card game business will reduce the credit against the state sales and use tax as provided in RCW 82.14.415(7).

(b) A city or town that allowed a house-banked social card game business in an annexed area to continue operating under (a) of this subsection before July 15, 2010, shall allow all social card game businesses in the annexed area that were operating and licensed by the commission as of January 1, 2011, to continue operating.

(c) A city or town that allows a social card game business in an annexed area to continue operating is not required to allow additional social card game businesses. [2011 c 134 § 1; 2009 c 550 § 2; 1974 ex.s. c 155 § 6; 1974 ex.s. c 135 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.300 Licenses and reports—Public inspection—Exceptions and requirements—Charges.** All applications for licenses made to the commission, with the exception of any portions of the applications describing the arrest or conviction record of any person, and all reports required by the commission to be filed by its licensees on a periodic basis concerning the operation of the licensed activity or concerning any organization, association, or business in connection with which a licensed activity is operated, in the commission files, shall be open to public inspection at the commission's offices upon a prior written request of the commission. The staff of the commission may decline to allow an inspection until such time as the inspection will not unduly interfere with the other duties of the staff. The commission may charge the person making a request for an inspection an amount necessary to offset the costs to the commission of providing the inspection and copies of any requested documents. [1977 ex.s. c 326 § 17.]

**9.46.310 Licenses for manufacture, sale, distribution, or supply of gambling devices.** No person shall manufacture, and no person shall sell, distribute, furnish or supply to any other person, any gambling device, including but not limited to punchboards and pull-tabs, in this state, or for use within this state, without first obtaining a license to do so from the commission under the provisions of this chapter.

Such licenses shall not be issued by the commission except respecting devices which are designed and permitted for use in connection with activities authorized under this chapter: PROVIDED, That this requirement for licensure shall apply only insofar as the commission has adopted, or may adopt, rules implementing it as to particular categories of gambling devices and related equipment. [1981 c 139 § 13.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.350 Civil action to collect fees, interest, penalties, or tax—Writ of attachment—Records as evidence.** At any time within five years after any amount of fees, interest, penalties, or tax which is imposed pursuant to this chapter, or rules adopted pursuant thereto, shall become due and payable, the attorney general, on behalf of the commission, may bring a civil action in the courts of this state, or any other state, or of the United States, to collect the amount delinquent, together with penalties and interest: PROVIDED, That where the tax is one imposed by a county, city or town under RCW 9.46.110, any such action shall be brought by that county, city or town on its own behalf. An action may be brought whether or not the person owing the amount is at such time a licensee pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

If such an action is brought in the courts of this state, a writ of attachment may be issued and no bond or affidavit prior to the issuance thereof shall be required. In all actions in this state, the records of the commission, or the appropriate county, city or town, shall be prima facie evidence of the determination of the tax due or the amount of the delinquency. [1981 c 139 § 16.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.360 Indian tribes—Compact negotiation process.** (1) The negotiation process for compacts with federally recognized Indian tribes for conducting class III gaming, as defined in the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, 25 U.S.C. Sec. 2701 et seq., on federal Indian lands is governed by this section.

(2) The gambling commission through the director or the director's designee shall negotiate compacts for class III gaming on behalf of the state with federally recognized Indian tribes in the state of Washington.

(3) When a tentative agreement with an Indian tribe on a proposed compact is reached, the director shall immediately transmit a copy of the proposed compact to all voting and ex officio members of the gambling commission and to the standing committees designated pursuant to subsection (5) of this section.

(4) Notwithstanding RCW 9.46.040, the four ex officio members of the gambling commission shall be deemed voting members of the gambling commission for the sole purpose of voting on proposed compacts submitted under this section.

(5) Within thirty days after receiving a proposed compact from the director, one standing committee from each house of the legislature shall hold a public hearing on the proposed compact and forward its respective comments to the gambling commission. The president of the senate shall designate the senate standing committee that is to carry out the duties of this section, and the speaker of the house of representatives shall designate the house standing committee that is to carry out the duties of this section. The designated committees shall continue to perform under this section until the president of the senate or the speaker of the house of representatives, as the case may be, designates a different standing committee.

(6) The gambling commission may hold public hearings on the proposed compact any time after receiving a copy of the compact from the director. Within forty-five days after



receiving the proposed compact from the director, the gambling commission, including the four ex officio members, shall vote on whether to return the proposed compact to the director with instructions for further negotiation or to forward the proposed compact to the governor for review and final execution.

(7) Notwithstanding provisions in this section to the contrary, if the director forwards a proposed compact to the gambling commission and the designated standing committees within ten days before the beginning of a regular session of the legislature, or during a regular or special session of the legislature, the thirty-day time limit set forth in subsection (5) of this section and the forty-five day limit set forth in subsection (6) of this section are each forty-five days and sixty days, respectively.

(8) Funding for the negotiation process under this section must come from the gambling revolving fund.

(9) In addition to the powers granted under this chapter, the commission, consistent with the terms of any compact, is authorized and empowered to enforce the provisions of any compact between a federally recognized Indian tribe and the state of Washington. [1992 c 172 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.46.36001 Tribal actions—Federal jurisdiction.** The state consents to the jurisdiction of the federal courts in actions brought by a tribe pursuant to the Indian gaming regulatory act of 1988 or seeking enforcement of a state/tribal compact adopted under the Indian gaming regulatory act, conditioned upon the tribe entering into such a compact and providing similar consent. This limited waiver of sovereign immunity shall not extend to actions other than those expressly set forth herein. [2007 c 321 § 1; 2001 c 236 § 1.]

**9.46.400 Wildlife raffle.** Any raffle authorized by the fish and wildlife commission involving hunting big game animals or wild turkeys shall not be subject to any provisions of this chapter other than RCW 9.46.010 and this section or to any rules or regulations of the gambling commission. [1996 c 101 § 3.]

**Findings—1996 c 101:** See note following RCW 77.32.530.

**9.46.410 Use of public assistance electronic benefit cards prohibited—Licensee to report violations—Suspension of license.** (1) Any licensee authorized under this chapter is prohibited from allowing the use of public assistance electronic benefit cards for the purpose of participating in any of the activities authorized under this chapter.

(2) Any licensee authorized under this chapter shall report to the department of social and health services any known violations of RCW 74.08.580.

(3) Any licensee authorized under this chapter is required to comply with RCW 74.08.580(2). If the licensee fails to comply with RCW 74.08.580(2), its license shall be immediately suspended until it complies with RCW 74.08.580(2). If the licensee remains otherwise eligible to be licensed, the commission may reinstate the license once the licensee has complied with RCW 74.08.580(2). [2011 1st sp.s. c 42 § 19; 2002 c 252 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 42:** See notes following RCW 74.08A.260.

[Title 9 RCW—page 66]

**Finding—2011 1st sp.s. c 42:** See note following RCW 74.04.004.

**9.46.420 RCW 9.46.410 to be negotiated with Indian tribes.** The commission shall consider the provisions of RCW 9.46.410 as elements to be negotiated with federally recognized Indian tribes as provided in RCW 9.46.360. [2002 c 252 § 3.]

**9.46.900 Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 218.** If any provision of this chapter, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1973 1st ex.s. c 218 § 31.]

**Reviser's note:** See note following RCW 9.46.010.

**9.46.901 Intent—1987 c 4.** The separation of definitions and authorized activities provisions of the state's gambling statutes into shorter sections is intended to improve the readability and facilitate the future amendment of these sections. This separation shall not change the meaning of any of the provisions involved. [1987 c 4 § 1.]

**9.46.902 Construction—1987 c 4.** This act shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired or liability or obligation incurred under the sections amended or repealed in this act or under any rule, regulation, or order adopted under those sections, nor as affecting any proceeding instituted under those sections. [1987 c 4 § 48.]

**9.46.903 Intent—1994 c 218.** The legislature intends with chapter 218, Laws of 1994 to clarify the state's public policy on gambling regarding the frequency of state lottery drawings, the means of addressing problem and compulsive gambling, and the enforcement of the state's gambling laws. Chapter 218, Laws of 1994 is intended to clarify the specific types of games prohibited in chapter 9.46 RCW and is not intended to add to existing law regarding prohibited activities. The legislature recognizes that slot machines, video pull-tabs, video poker, and other electronic games of chance have been considered to be gambling devices before April 1, 1994. [1994 c 218 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 9.47 RCW GAMBLING

### Sections

9.47.080	Bucket shop defined.
9.47.090	Maintaining bucket shop—Penalty.
9.47.100	Written statement to be furnished—Presumption.
9.47.120	Bunco steering.

### Action to recover

*leased premises used for gambling:* RCW 4.24.080.  
*money lost at gambling:* RCW 4.24.070, 4.24.090.

*Baseball, bribery and illegal practices:* RCW 67.04.010, 67.04.020, 67.04.050.

*Gaming apparatus, search and seizure:* RCW 10.79.015.

*Sporting contests, fraud:* RCW 67.24.010.

**9.47.080 Bucket shop defined.** A bucket shop is hereby defined to be a shed, tent, tenement, booth, building, float or vessel, or any part thereof, wherein may be made con-

tracts respecting the purchase or sale upon margin or credit of any commodities, securities, or property, or option for the purchase thereof, wherein both parties intend that such contract shall or may be terminated, closed and settled; either,

(1) Upon the basis of the market prices quoted or made on any board of trade or exchange upon which such commodities, securities, or property may be dealt in; or,

(2) When the market prices for such commodities, securities or property shall reach a certain figure in any such board of trade or exchange; or,

(3) On the basis of the difference in the market prices at which said commodities, securities or property are, or purport to be, bought and sold. [1909 c 249 § 223; RRS § 2475.]

*Securities and investments: Title 21 RCW.*

**9.47.090 Maintaining bucket shop—Penalty.** Every person, whether in his or her own behalf, or as agent, servant or employee of another person, within or outside of this state, who shall open, conduct or carry on any bucket shop, or make or offer to make any contract described in RCW 9.47.080, or with intent to make such a contract, or assist therein, shall receive, exhibit, or display any statement of market prices of any commodities, securities, or property, is guilty of a class C felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than five years. [2003 c 53 § 36; 1992 c 7 § 13; 1909 c 249 § 224; RRS § 2476.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.47.100 Written statement to be furnished—Presumption.** Every person, whether in his or her own behalf, or as the servant, agent, or employee of another person, within or outside of this state, who shall buy or sell for another, or execute any order for the purchase or sale of any commodities, securities, or property, upon margin or credit, whether for immediate or future delivery, shall, upon written demand therefor, furnish such principal or customer with a written statement containing the names of the persons from whom such property was bought, or to whom it has been sold, as the case may be, the time when, the place where, the amount of, and the price at which the same was either bought or sold; and if such person shall refuse or neglect to furnish such statement within forty-eight hours after such written demand, such refusal shall be prima facie evidence as against him or her that such purchase or sale was made in violation of RCW 9.47.090. [2011 c 336 § 306; 1909 c 249 § 225; RRS § 2477.]

**9.47.120 Bunco steering.** Every person who shall entice, or induce another, upon any pretense, to go to any place where any gambling game, scheme or device, or any trick, sleight of hand performance, fraud or fraudulent scheme, cards, dice or device, is being conducted or operated; or while in such place shall entice or induce another to bet, wager or hazard any money or property, or representative of either, upon any such game, scheme, device, trick, sleight of hand performance, fraud or fraudulent scheme, cards, dice, or device, or to execute any obligation for the payment of money, or delivery of property, or to lose, advance, or loan any money or property, or representative of either, is guilty of a class B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in a

state correctional facility for not more than ten years. [2003 c 53 § 37; 1992 c 7 § 14; 1909 c 249 § 227; RRS § 2479.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Swindling: Chapter 9A.60 RCW.*

## Chapter 9.47A RCW INHALING TOXIC FUMES (Formerly: Glue sniffing)

### Sections

9.47A.010	Definition.
9.47A.020	Unlawful inhalation—Exception.
9.47A.030	Possession of certain substances prohibited, when.
9.47A.040	Sale of certain substances prohibited, when.
9.47A.050	Penalty.

**9.47A.010 Definition.** As used in this chapter, the phrase "substance containing a solvent having the property of releasing toxic vapors or fumes" shall mean and include any substance containing one or more of the following chemical compounds:

- (1) Acetone;
- (2) Amylacetate;
- (3) Benzol or benzene;
- (4) Butyl acetate;
- (5) Butyl alcohol;
- (6) Carbon tetrachloride;
- (7) Chloroform;
- (8) Cyclohexanone;
- (9) Ethanol or ethyl alcohol;
- (10) Ethyl acetate;
- (11) Hexane;
- (12) Isopropanol or isopropyl alcohol;
- (13) Isopropyl acetate;
- (14) Methyl "cellosolve" acetate;
- (15) Methyl ethyl ketone;
- (16) Methyl isobutyl ketone;
- (17) Toluol or toluene;
- (18) Trichloroethylene;
- (19) Tricresyl phosphate;
- (20) Xylol or xylene; or
- (21) Any other solvent, material substance, chemical, or combination thereof, having the property of releasing toxic vapors. [1984 c 68 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 149 § 1.]

**9.47A.020 Unlawful inhalation—Exception.** It is unlawful for any person to intentionally smell or inhale the fumes of any type of substance as defined in RCW 9.47A.010 or to induce any other person to do so, for the purpose of causing a condition of, or inducing symptoms of intoxication, elation, euphoria, dizziness, excitement, irrational behavior, exhilaration, paralysis, stupefaction, or dulling of the senses of the nervous system, or for the purpose of, in any manner, changing, distorting, or disturbing the audio, visual, or mental processes. This section does not apply to the inhalation of any anesthesia for medical or dental purposes. [1984 c 68 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 149 § 2.]

**9.47A.030 Possession of certain substances prohibited, when.** No person may, for the purpose of violating RCW 9.47A.020, use, or possess for the purpose of so using,

any substance containing a solvent having the property of releasing toxic vapors or fumes. [1984 c 68 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 149 § 3.]

**9.47A.040 Sale of certain substances prohibited, when.** No person may sell, offer to sell, deliver, or give to any other person any container of a substance containing a solvent having the property of releasing toxic vapors or fumes, if he or she has knowledge that the product sold, offered for sale, delivered, or given will be used for the purpose set forth in RCW 9.47A.020. [2011 c 336 § 307; 1984 c 68 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 149 § 4.]

**9.47A.050 Penalty.** Any person who violates this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than thirty days, or by both. [1969 ex.s. c 149 § 5.]

### Chapter 9.51 RCW JURIES, CRIMES RELATING TO

#### Sections

9.51.010	Misconduct of officer drawing jury.
9.51.020	Soliciting jury duty.
9.51.030	Misconduct of officer in charge of jury.
9.51.040	Grand juror acting after challenge allowed.
9.51.050	Disclosing transaction of grand jury.
9.51.060	Disclosure of deposition returned by grand jury.

*Grand juries: Chapter 10.27 RCW.*

*Juries: Chapter 2.36 RCW.*

*Juror asking or receiving bribe: RCW 9A.72.100.*

#### Trial

*district courts: Chapter 12.12 RCW.  
generally: Chapter 4.44 RCW.*

**9.51.010 Misconduct of officer drawing jury.** Every person charged by law with the preparation of any jury list or list of names from which any jury is to be drawn, and every person authorized by law to assist at the drawing of a grand or petit jury to attend a court or term of court or to try any cause or issue, who shall—

(1) Place in any such list any name at the request or solicitation, direct or indirect, of any person; or

(2) Designedly put upon the list of jurors, as having been drawn, any name which was not lawfully drawn for that purpose; or

(3) Designedly omit to place upon such list any name which was lawfully drawn; or

(4) Designedly sign or certify a list of such jurors as having been drawn which were not lawfully drawn; or

(5) Designedly and wrongfully withdraw from the box or other receptacle for the ballots containing the names of such jurors any paper or ballot lawfully placed or belonging there and containing the name of a juror, or omit to place therein any name lawfully drawn or designated, or place therein a paper or ballot containing the name of a person not lawfully drawn and designated as a juror; or

(6) In drawing or impanelling such jury, do any act which is unfair, partial or improper in any respect;

Shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1909 c 249 § 75; Code 1881 § 922; 1854 p 94 § 107; RRS § 2327.]

[Title 9 RCW—page 68]

**9.51.020 Soliciting jury duty.** Every person who shall, directly or indirectly, solicit or request any person charged with the duty of preparing any jury list to put his or her name, or the name of any other person, on any such list, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 308; 1909 c 249 § 76; 1888 p 114 § 1; RRS § 2328.]

**9.51.030 Misconduct of officer in charge of jury.** Every person to whose charge a jury shall be committed by a court or magistrate, who shall knowingly, without leave of such court or magistrate, permit them or any one of them to receive any communication from any person, to make any communication to any person, to obtain or receive any book, paper or refreshment, or to leave the jury room, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1909 c 249 § 77; RRS § 2329.]

**9.51.040 Grand juror acting after challenge allowed.** Every grand juror who, with knowledge that a challenge interposed against him or her by a defendant has been allowed, shall be present at, or take part, or attempt to take part, in the consideration of the charge against the defendant who interposed such challenge, or the deliberations of the grand jury thereon, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 309; 1909 c 249 § 121; RRS § 2373.]

**9.51.050 Disclosing transaction of grand jury.** Every judge, grand juror, prosecuting attorney, clerk, stenographer, or other officer who, except in the due discharge of his or her official duty, shall disclose the fact that a presentment has been made or indictment found or ordered against any person, before such person shall be in custody; and every grand juror, clerk, or stenographer who, except when lawfully required by a court or officer, shall disclose any evidence adduced before the grand jury, or any proceeding, discussion, or vote of the grand jury or any member thereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 310; 1909 c 249 § 126; Code 1881 § 991; 1854 p 111 § 56; RRS § 2378.]

**9.51.060 Disclosure of deposition returned by grand jury.** Every clerk of any court or other officer who shall willfully permit any deposition, or the transcript of any testimony, returned by a grand jury and filed with such clerk or officer, to be inspected by any person except the court, the deputies or assistants of such clerk, and the prosecuting attorney and his or her deputies, until after the arrest of the defendant, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 311; 1909 c 249 § 127; RRS § 2379.]

### Chapter 9.54 RCW STOLEN PROPERTY RESTORATION

#### Sections

9.54.130 Restoration of stolen property—Duty of officers.

*Theft and robbery: Chapter 9A.56 RCW.*

**9.54.130 Restoration of stolen property—Duty of officers.** The officer arresting any person charged as principal or accessory in any robbery or larceny shall use reasonable diligence to secure the property alleged to have been stolen, and after seizure shall be answerable therefor while it

remains in his or her hands, and shall annex a schedule thereof to his or her return of the warrant.

Whenever the prosecuting attorney shall require such property for use as evidence upon the examination or trial, such officer, upon his or her demand, shall deliver it to him or her and take his or her receipt therefor, after which such prosecuting attorney shall be answerable for the same. [2011 c 336 § 312; 1909 c 249 § 357; RRS § 2609.]

### Chapter 9.55 RCW

#### LEGISLATURE, CRIMES RELATING TO

##### Sections

9.55.020 Witness refusing to attend legislature or committee or to testify.

**9.55.020 Witness refusing to attend legislature or committee or to testify.** Every person duly summoned to attend as a witness before either house of the legislature of this state, or any committee thereof authorized to summon witnesses, who shall refuse or neglect, without lawful excuse, to attend pursuant to such summons, or who shall willfully refuse to be sworn or to affirm or to answer any material or proper question or to produce, upon reasonable notice, any material or proper books, papers or documents in his or her possession or under his or her control, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 313; 1909 c 249 § 86; RRS § 2338.]

*Candidate buying liquor for another person on election day:* RCW 66.44.265.

*Legislative inquiry:* Chapter 44.16 RCW.

### Chapter 9.61 RCW

#### MALICIOUS MISCHIEF—INJURY TO PROPERTY

##### Sections

9.61.160 Threats to bomb or injure property—Penalty.  
 9.61.190 Carrier or racing pigeons—Injury to.  
 9.61.200 Carrier or racing pigeons—Removal or alteration of identification.  
 9.61.230 Telephone harassment.  
 9.61.240 Telephone harassment—Permitting telephone to be used.  
 9.61.250 Telephone harassment—Offense, where deemed committed.  
 9.61.260 Cyberstalking.

*Endangering life by breach of labor contract:* RCW 49.44.080.

*Explosives, endangering life or property:* RCW 70.74.270, 70.74.280, 70.74.310.

*Insured property, injury or destruction:* RCW 48.30.220.

*Malicious mischief:* RCW 9A.48.070 through 9A.48.100.

*Mutilation or destruction of property by school official:* RCW 28A.635.070.

*Nuisance:* Chapter 9.66 RCW.

*Ownership of property—Proof of:* RCW 10.58.060.

*Public library property, intentional injury:* RCW 27.12.330.

**9.61.160 Threats to bomb or injure property—Penalty.** (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to threaten to bomb or otherwise injure any public or private school building, any place of worship or public assembly, any governmental property, or any other building, common carrier, or structure, or any place used for human occupancy; or to communicate or repeat any information concerning such a threatened bombing or injury, knowing such information to be

false and with intent to alarm the person or persons to whom the information is communicated or repeated.

(2) It shall not be a defense to any prosecution under this section that the threatened bombing or injury was a hoax.

(3) A violation of this section is a class B felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 38; 1977 ex.s. c 231 § 1; 1959 c 141 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Explosives, endangering life or property:* RCW 70.74.270, 70.74.280, 70.74.310.

**9.61.190 Carrier or racing pigeons—Injury to.** It is a class 1 civil infraction for any person, other than the owner thereof or his or her authorized agent, to knowingly shoot, kill, maim, injure, molest, entrap, or detain any Antwerp Messenger or Racing Pigeon, commonly called "carrier or racing pigeons", having the name of its owner stamped upon its wing or tail or bearing upon its leg a band or ring with the name or initials of the owner or an identification or registration number stamped thereon. [2011 c 336 § 314; 1987 c 456 § 25; 1963 c 69 § 1.]

**Legislative finding—1987 c 456:** See RCW 7.80.005.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.61.200 Carrier or racing pigeons—Removal or alteration of identification.** It is a class 2 civil infraction for any person other than the owner thereof or his or her authorized agent to remove or alter any stamp, leg band, ring, or other mark of identification attached to any Antwerp Messenger or Racing Pigeon. [2011 c 336 § 315; 1987 c 456 § 26; 1963 c 69 § 2.]

**Legislative finding—1987 c 456:** See RCW 7.80.005.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.61.230 Telephone harassment.** (1) Every person who, with intent to harass, intimidate, torment or embarrass any other person, shall make a telephone call to such other person:

(a) Using any lewd, lascivious, profane, indecent, or obscene words or language, or suggesting the commission of any lewd or lascivious act; or

(b) Anonymously or repeatedly or at an extremely inconvenient hour, whether or not conversation ensues; or

(c) Threatening to inflict injury on the person or property of the person called or any member of his or her family or household;

is guilty of a gross misdemeanor, except as provided in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) The person is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW if either of the following applies:

(a) That person has previously been convicted of any crime of harassment, as defined in RCW 9A.46.060, with the same victim or member of the victim's family or household or any person specifically named in a no-contact or no-harassment order in this or any other state; or

(b) That person harasses another person under subsection (1)(c) of this section by threatening to kill the person threatened or any other person. [2003 c 53 § 39; 1992 c 186 § 6; 1985 c 288 § 11; 1967 c 16 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Communicating with child for immoral purposes:* RCW 9.68A.090.

*Interference with telephone message:* RCW 9A.48.070, 9A.48.080.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.61.240 Telephone harassment—Permitting telephone to be used.** Any person who knowingly permits any telephone under his or her control to be used for any purpose prohibited by RCW 9.61.230 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 316; 1967 c 16 § 2.]

**9.61.250 Telephone harassment—Offense, where deemed committed.** Any offense committed by use of a telephone as set forth in RCW 9.61.230 may be deemed to have been committed either at the place from which the telephone call or calls were made or at the place where the telephone call or calls were received. [1967 c 16 § 3.]

**9.61.260 Cyberstalking.** (1) A person is guilty of cyberstalking if he or she, with intent to harass, intimidate, torment, or embarrass any other person, and under circumstances not constituting telephone harassment, makes an electronic communication to such other person or a third party:

(a) Using any lewd, lascivious, indecent, or obscene words, images, or language, or suggesting the commission of any lewd or lascivious act;

(b) Anonymously or repeatedly whether or not conversation occurs; or

(c) Threatening to inflict injury on the person or property of the person called or any member of his or her family or household.

(2) Cyberstalking is a gross misdemeanor, except as provided in subsection (3) of this section.

(3) Cyberstalking is a class C felony if either of the following applies:

(a) The perpetrator has previously been convicted of the crime of harassment, as defined in RCW 9A.46.060, with the same victim or a member of the victim's family or household or any person specifically named in a no-contact order or no-harassment order in this or any other state; or

(b) The perpetrator engages in the behavior prohibited under subsection (1)(c) of this section by threatening to kill the person threatened or any other person.

(4) Any offense committed under this section may be deemed to have been committed either at the place from which the communication was made or at the place where the communication was received.

(5) For purposes of this section, "electronic communication" means the transmission of information by wire, radio, optical cable, electromagnetic, or other similar means. "Electronic communication" includes, but is not limited to, electronic mail, internet-based communications, pager service, and electronic text messaging. [2004 c 94 § 1.]

**Severability—2004 c 94:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2004 c 94 § 6.]

**Effective dates—2004 c 94:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately

[March 24, 2004], except for section 3 of this act, which takes effect July 1, 2004." [2004 c 94 § 7.]

## Chapter 9.62 RCW

### MALICIOUS PROSECUTION—ABUSE OF PROCESS

#### Sections

9.62.010	Malicious prosecution.
9.62.020	Instituting suit in name of another.

**9.62.010 Malicious prosecution.** Every person who shall, maliciously and without probable cause therefor, cause or attempt to cause another to be arrested or proceeded against for any crime of which he or she is innocent:

(1) If such crime be a felony, is guilty of a class C felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than five years; and

(2) If such crime be a gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 40; 1992 c 7 § 15; 1909 c 249 § 117; Code 1881 § 899; 1873 p 203 § 98; 1854 p 92 § 89; RRS § 2369.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.62.020 Instituting suit in name of another.** Every person who shall institute or prosecute any action or other proceeding in the name of another, without his or her consent and contrary to law, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 317; 1909 c 249 § 124; RRS § 2376.]

## Chapter 9.66 RCW NUISANCE

#### Sections

9.66.010	Public nuisance.
9.66.020	Unequal damage.
9.66.030	Maintaining or permitting nuisance.
9.66.040	Abatement of nuisance.
9.66.050	Deposit of unwholesome substance.

*Cemeteries established illegally:* RCW 68.56.040.

*Furnishing impure water:* RCW 70.54.020.

*Malicious mischief—Injury to property:* Chapters 9.61, 9A.48 RCW.

*Mausoleums and columbariums constructed illegally:* RCW 68.28.060.

*Nuisances:* Chapter 7.48 RCW.

*Poisoning food or water:* RCW 69.40.030.

*Sexually transmitted disease control, penalty:* RCW 70.24.080.

**9.66.010 Public nuisance.** A public nuisance is a crime against the order and economy of the state. Every place

(1) Wherein any fighting between people or animals or birds shall be conducted; or,

(2) Wherein any intoxicating liquors are kept for unlawful use, sale or distribution; or,

(3) Where vagrants resort; and

Every act unlawfully done and every omission to perform a duty, which act or omission

(1) Shall annoy, injure or endanger the safety, health, comfort, or repose of any considerable number of persons; or,

(2) Shall offend public decency; or,

(3) Shall unlawfully interfere with, befoul, obstruct, or tend to obstruct, or render dangerous for passage, a lake, navigable river, bay, stream, canal or basin, or a public park,

square, street, alley, highway, or municipal transit vehicle or station; or,

(4) Shall in any way render a considerable number of persons insecure in life or the use of property;

Shall be a public nuisance. [1994 c 45 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 280 § 22; 1909 c 249 § 248; 1895 c 14 § 1; Code 1881 § 1246; RRS § 2500.]

**Findings—Declaration—Severability—1994 c 45:** See notes following RCW 7.48.140.

*Boxing and wrestling regulated:* Chapter 67.08 RCW.

*Devices simulating traffic control signs declared public nuisance:* RCW 47.36.180.

*Highway obstructions:* Chapter 47.32 RCW.

*Navigation, obstructing:* Chapter 88.28 RCW.

*Parimutuel betting on horse races permitted:* RCW 67.16.060.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.66.020 Unequal damage.** An act which affects a considerable number of persons in any of the ways specified in RCW 9.66.010 is not less a public nuisance because the extent of the damage is unequal. [1909 c 249 § 249; Code 1881 § 1236; 1875 p 79 § 2; RRS § 2501.]

**9.66.030 Maintaining or permitting nuisance.** Every person who shall commit or maintain a public nuisance, for which no special punishment is prescribed; or who shall willfully omit or refuse to perform any legal duty relating to the removal of such nuisance; and every person who shall let, or permit to be used, any building or boat, or portion thereof, knowing that it is intended to be, or is being used, for committing or maintaining any such nuisance, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1909 c 249 § 250; Code 1881 § 1248; 1875 p 81 § 14; RRS § 2502.]

**9.66.040 Abatement of nuisance.** Any court or magistrate before whom there may be pending any proceeding for a violation of RCW 9.66.030, shall, in addition to any fine or other punishment which it may impose for such violation, order such nuisance abated, and all property unlawfully used in the maintenance thereof destroyed by the sheriff at the cost of the defendant: PROVIDED, That if the conviction was had in a district court, the district judge shall not issue the order and warrant of abatement, but on application therefor, shall transfer the cause to the superior court which shall proceed to try the issue of abatement in the same manner as if the action had been originally commenced therein. [1987 c 202 § 140; 1957 c 45 § 4; 1909 c 249 § 251; Code 1881 §§ 1244, 1245; 1875 p 80 §§ 10, 11; RRS § 2503.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

*Jurisdiction to abate a nuisance:* State Constitution Art. 4 § 6 (Amendment 28).

**9.66.050 Deposit of unwholesome substance.** Every person who shall deposit, leave or keep, on or near a highway or route of public travel, on land or water, any unwholesome substance; or who shall establish, maintain or carry on, upon or near a highway or route of public travel, on land or water, any business, trade or manufacture which is noisome or detrimental to the public health; or who shall deposit or cast into any lake, creek or river, wholly or partly in this state, the offal

from or the dead body of any animal, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1909 c 249 § 285; RRS § 2537.]

*Discharging ballast:* RCW 88.28.060.

*Disposal of dead animals:* Chapter 16.68 RCW.

*Water pollution:* Chapter 35.88 RCW, RCW 70.54.010 through 70.54.030, chapter 90.48 RCW.

## Chapter 9.68 RCW

### OBSCENITY AND PORNOGRAPHY

#### Sections

9.68.015	Obscene literature, shows, etc.—Exemptions.
9.68.030	Indecent articles, etc.
9.68.050	"Erotic material"—Definitions.
9.68.060	"Erotic material"—Determination by court—Labeling—Penalties.
9.68.070	Prosecution for violation of RCW 9.68.060—Defense.
9.68.080	Unlawful acts.
9.68.090	Civil liability of wholesaler or wholesaler-distributor.
9.68.100	Exceptions to RCW 9.68.050 through 9.68.120.
9.68.110	Motion picture operator or projectionist exempt, when.
9.68.120	Provisions of RCW 9.68.050 through 9.68.120 exclusive.
9.68.130	"Sexually explicit material"—Defined—Unlawful display.
9.68.140	Promoting pornography—Class C felony—Penalties.
9.68.900	Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.

*Indictment or information, obscene literature:* RCW 10.37.130.

*Injunctions, obscene materials:* Chapter 7.42 RCW.

*Public indecency:* Chapter 9A.88 RCW.

*Telephone calls using obscene language:* RCW 9.61.230 through 9.61.250.

**9.68.015 Obscene literature, shows, etc.—Exemptions.** Nothing in chapter 260, Laws of 1959 shall apply to the circulation of any such material by any recognized historical society or museum, the state law library, any county law library, the state library, the public library, any library of any college or university, or to any archive or library under the supervision and control of the state, county, municipality, or other political subdivision. [1959 c 260 § 2.]

**9.68.030 Indecent articles, etc.** Every person who shall expose for sale, loan or distribution, any instrument or article, or any drug or medicine, for causing unlawful abortion; or shall write, print, distribute or exhibit any card, circular, pamphlet, advertisement or notice of any kind, stating when, where, how or of whom such article or medicine can be obtained, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1971 ex.s. c 185 § 2; 1909 c 249 § 208; RRS § 2460.]

**9.68.050 "Erotic material"—Definitions.** For the purposes of RCW 9.68.050 through 9.68.120:

(1) "Minor" means any person under the age of eighteen years;

(2) "Erotic material" means printed material, photographs, pictures, motion pictures, sound recordings, and other material the dominant theme of which taken as a whole appeals to the prurient interest of minors in sex; which is patently offensive because it affronts contemporary community standards relating to the description or representation of sexual matters or sado-masochistic abuse; and is utterly without redeeming social value;

(3) "Person" means any individual, corporation, or other organization;

(4) "Dealers", "distributors", and "exhibitors" mean persons engaged in the distribution, sale, or exhibition of printed material, photographs, pictures, motion pictures, or sound recordings. [1992 c 5 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 256 § 13.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.68.060 "Erotic material"—Determination by court—Labeling—Penalties.** (1) When it appears that material which may be deemed erotic is being sold, distributed, or exhibited in this state, the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the sale, distribution, or exhibition is taking place may apply to the superior court for a hearing to determine the character of the material with respect to whether it is erotic material.

(2) Notice of the hearing shall immediately be served upon the dealer, distributor, or exhibitor selling or otherwise distributing or exhibiting the alleged erotic material. The superior court shall hold a hearing not later than five days from the service of notice to determine whether the subject matter is erotic material within the meaning of RCW 9.68.050.

(3) If the superior court rules that the subject material is erotic material, then, following such adjudication:

(a) If the subject material is written or printed, or is a sound recording, the court shall issue an order requiring that an "adults only" label be placed on the publication or sound recording, if such publication or sound recording is going to continue to be distributed. Whenever the superior court orders a publication or sound recording to have an "adults only" label placed thereon, such label shall be impressed on the front cover of all copies of such erotic publication or sound recording sold or otherwise distributed in the state of Washington. Such labels shall be in forty-eight point bold face type located in a conspicuous place on the front cover of the publication or sound recording. All dealers and distributors are hereby prohibited from displaying erotic publications or sound recordings in their store windows, on outside newsstands on public thoroughfares, or in any other manner so as to make an erotic publication or the contents of an erotic sound recording readily accessible to minors.

(b) If the subject material is a motion picture, the court shall issue an order requiring that such motion picture shall be labeled "adults only". The exhibitor shall prominently display a sign saying "adults only" at the place of exhibition, and any advertising of the motion picture shall contain a statement that it is for adults only. Such exhibitor shall also display a sign at the place where admission tickets are sold stating that it is unlawful for minors to misrepresent their age.

(4) Failure to comply with a court order issued under the provisions of this section shall subject the dealer, distributor, or exhibitor to contempt proceedings.

(5) Any person who, after the court determines material to be erotic, sells, distributes, or exhibits the erotic material to a minor shall be guilty of violating RCW 9.68.050 through 9.68.120, such violation to carry the following penalties:

(a) For the first offense a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned in the county jail not more than six months;

(b) For the second offense a gross misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not more than one thousand

dollars, or imprisoned for up to three hundred sixty-four days;

(c) For all subsequent offenses a class B felony and upon conviction shall be fined not more than five thousand dollars, or imprisoned not less than one year. [2011 c 96 § 8; 2003 c 53 § 41; 1992 c 5 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 256 § 14.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.68.070 Prosecution for violation of RCW 9.68.060—Defense.** In any prosecution for violation of RCW 9.68.060, it shall be a defense that:

(1) If the violation pertains to a motion picture or sound recording, the minor was accompanied by a parent, parent's spouse, or guardian; or

(2) Such minor exhibited to the defendant a draft card, driver's license, birth certificate, or other official or an apparently official document purporting to establish such minor was over the age of eighteen years; or

(3) Such minor was accompanied by a person who represented himself or herself to be a parent, or the spouse of a parent, or a guardian of such minor, and the defendant in good faith relied upon such representation. [2011 c 336 § 318; 1992 c 5 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 256 § 15.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.68.080 Unlawful acts.** (1) It shall be unlawful for any minor to misrepresent his or her true age or his or her true status as the child, stepchild, or ward of a person accompanying him or her, for the purpose of purchasing or obtaining access to any material described in RCW 9.68.050.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any person accompanying such minor to misrepresent his or her true status as parent, spouse of a parent, or guardian of any minor for the purpose of enabling such minor to purchase or obtain access to material described in RCW 9.68.050. [2011 c 336 § 319; 1969 ex.s. c 256 § 16.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.68.090 Civil liability of wholesaler or wholesaler-distributor.** No retailer, wholesaler, or exhibitor is to be deprived of service from a wholesaler or wholesaler-distributor of books, magazines, motion pictures, sound recordings, or other materials or subjected to loss of his or her franchise or right to deal or exhibit as a result of his or her attempts to comply with this statute. Any publisher, distributor, or other person, or combination of such persons, which withdraws or attempts to withdraw a franchise or other right to sell at retail, wholesale or exhibit materials on account of the retailer's, wholesaler's, or exhibitor's attempts to comply with RCW 9.68.050 through 9.68.120 shall incur civil liability to such retailer, wholesaler, or exhibitor for threefold the actual damages resulting from such withdrawal or attempted withdrawal. [2011 c 336 § 320; 1992 c 5 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 256 § 17.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.68.100 Exceptions to RCW 9.68.050 through 9.68.120.** Nothing in RCW 9.68.050 through 9.68.120 shall

apply to the circulation of any such material by any recognized historical society or museum, the state law library, any county law library, the state library, the public library, any library of any college or university, or to any archive or library under the supervision and control of the state, county, municipality, or other political subdivision. [1969 ex.s. c 256 § 18.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.68.110 Motion picture operator or projectionist exempt, when.** The provisions of RCW 9.68.050 through 9.68.120 shall not apply to acts done in the scope of his or her employment by a motion picture operator or projectionist employed by the owner or manager of a theatre or other place for the showing of motion pictures, unless the motion picture operator or projectionist has a financial interest in such theatre or place wherein he or she is so employed or unless he or she caused to be performed or exhibited such performance or motion picture without the knowledge and consent of the manager or owner of the theatre or other place of showing. [2011 c 336 § 321; 1969 ex.s. c 256 § 19.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.68.120 Provisions of RCW 9.68.050 through 9.68.120 exclusive.** The provisions of RCW 9.68.050 through 9.68.120 shall be exclusive. [1969 ex.s. c 256 § 20.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.68.130 "Sexually explicit material"—Defined—Unlawful display.** (1) A person is guilty of unlawful display of sexually explicit material if he or she knowingly exhibits such material on a viewing screen so that the sexually explicit material is easily visible from a public thoroughfare, park or playground or from one or more family dwelling units.

(2) "Sexually explicit material" as that term is used in this section means any pictorial material displaying direct physical stimulation of unclothed genitals, masturbation, sodomy (i.e. bestiality or oral or anal intercourse), flagellation or torture in the context of a sexual relationship, or emphasizing the depiction of adult human genitals: PROVIDED HOWEVER, That works of art or of anthropological significance shall not be deemed to be within the foregoing definition.

(3) Any person who violates subsection (1) of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 322; 1975 1st ex.s. c 156 § 1.]

**9.68.140 Promoting pornography—Class C felony—Penalties.** A person who, for profit-making purposes and with knowledge, sells, exhibits, displays, or produces any lewd matter as defined in RCW 7.48A.010 is guilty of promoting pornography. Promoting pornography is a class C felony and shall bear the punishment and fines prescribed for that class of felony. In imposing the criminal penalty, the court shall consider the wilfulness of the defendant's conduct and the profits made by the defendant attributable to the felony. All fines assessed under this chapter shall be paid into the general treasury of the state. [1985 c 235 § 3; 1982 c 184 § 8.]

*Class C felony—Authorized sentence: RCW 9A.20.020.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.68.900 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 19.]

### Chapter 9.68A RCW SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN (Formerly: Child pornography)

#### Sections

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9.68A.911	Severability—1989 c 32.
9.68A.912	Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.

**9.68A.001 Legislative findings, intent.** The legislature finds that the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse of children constitutes a government objective of surpassing importance. The care of children is a sacred trust and should not be abused by those who seek commercial gain or personal gratification based on the exploitation of children.

The legislature further finds that the protection of children from sexual exploitation can be accomplished without infringing on a constitutionally protected activity. The defi-



inition of "sexually explicit conduct" and other operative definitions demarcate a line between protected and prohibited conduct and should not inhibit legitimate scientific, medical, or educational activities.

The legislature further finds that children engaged in sexual conduct for financial compensation are frequently the victims of sexual abuse. Approximately eighty to ninety percent of children engaged in sexual activity for financial compensation have a history of sexual abuse victimization. It is the intent of the legislature to encourage these children to engage in prevention and intervention services and to hold those who pay to engage in the sexual abuse of children accountable for the trauma they inflict on children.

The legislature further finds that due to the changing nature of technology, offenders are now able to access child pornography in different ways and in increasing quantities. By amending current statutes governing depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, it is the intent of the legislature to ensure that intentional viewing of and dealing in child pornography over the internet is subject to a criminal penalty without limiting the scope of existing prohibitions on the possession of or dealing in child pornography, including the possession of electronic depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct. It is also the intent of the legislature to clarify, in response to *State v. Sutherby*, 204 P.3d 916 (2009), the unit of prosecution for the statutes governing possession of and dealing in depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct. It is the intent of the legislature that the first degree offenses under RCW 9.68A.050, 9.68A.060, and 9.68A.070 have a per depiction or image unit of prosecution, while the second degree offenses under RCW 9.68A.050, 9.68A.060, and 9.68A.070 have a per incident unit of prosecution as established in *State v. Sutherby*, 204 P.3d 916 (2009). Furthermore, it is the intent of the legislature to set a different unit of prosecution for the new offense of viewing of depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct such that each separate session of intentionally viewing over the internet of visual depictions or images of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct constitutes a separate offense.

The decisions of the Washington supreme court in *State v. Boyd*, 160 W.2d 424, 158 P.3d 54 (2007), and *State v. Grenning*, 169 Wn.2d 47, 234 P.3d 169 (2010), require prosecutors to duplicate and distribute depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct ("child pornography") as part of the discovery process in a criminal prosecution. The legislature finds that the importance of protecting children from repeat exploitation in child pornography is not being given sufficient weight under these decisions. The importance of protecting children from repeat exploitation in child pornography is based upon the following findings:

- (1) Child pornography is not entitled to protection under the First Amendment and thus may be prohibited;
- (2) The state has a compelling interest in protecting children from those who sexually exploit them, and this interest extends to stamping out the vice of child pornography at all levels in the distribution chain;
- (3) Every instance of viewing images of child pornography represents a renewed violation of the privacy of the victims and a repetition of their abuse;

(4) Child pornography constitutes prima facie contraband, and as such should not be distributed to, or copied by, child pornography defendants or their attorneys;

(5) It is imperative to prohibit the reproduction of child pornography in criminal cases so as to avoid repeated violation and abuse of victims, so long as the government makes reasonable accommodations for the inspection, viewing, and examination of such material for the purposes of mounting a criminal defense. The legislature is also aware that the Adam Walsh child protection and safety act, P.L. 109–248, 120 Stat. 587 (2006), codified at 18 U.S.C. Sec. 3509(m), prohibits the duplication and distribution of child pornography as part of the discovery process in federal prosecutions. This federal law has been in effect since 2006, and upheld repeatedly as constitutional. Courts interpreting the Walsh act have found that such limitations can be employed while still providing the defendant due process. The legislature joins congress, and the legislatures of other states that have passed similar provisions, in protecting these child victims so that our justice system does not cause repeat exploitation, while still providing due process to criminal defendants. [2012 c 135 § 1; 2010 c 227 § 1; 2007 c 368 § 1; 1984 c 262 § 1.]

**9.68A.005 Chapter not applicable to lawful conduct between spouses.** This chapter does not apply to lawful conduct between spouses. [2010 c 227 § 2.]

**9.68A.011 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) An "internet session" means a period of time during which an internet user, using a specific internet protocol address, visits or is logged into an internet site for an uninterrupted period of time.

(2) To "photograph" means to make a print, negative, slide, digital image, motion picture, or videotape. A "photograph" means anything tangible or intangible produced by photographing.

(3) "Visual or printed matter" means any photograph or other material that contains a reproduction of a photograph.

(4) "Sexually explicit conduct" means actual or simulated:

(a) Sexual intercourse, including genital-genital, oral-genital, anal-genital, or oral-anal, whether between persons of the same or opposite sex or between humans and animals;

(b) Penetration of the vagina or rectum by any object;

(c) Masturbation;

(d) Sadomasochistic abuse;

(e) Defecation or urination for the purpose of sexual stimulation of the viewer;

(f) Depiction of the genitals or unclothed pubic or rectal areas of any minor, or the unclothed breast of a female minor, for the purpose of sexual stimulation of the viewer. For the purposes of this subsection (4)(f), it is not necessary that the minor know that he or she is participating in the described conduct, or any aspect of it; and

(g) Touching of a person's clothed or unclothed genitals, pubic area, buttocks, or breast area for the purpose of sexual stimulation of the viewer.

(5) "Minor" means any person under eighteen years of age.

(6) "Live performance" means any play, show, skit, dance, or other exhibition performed or presented to or before an audience of one or more, with or without consideration. [2010 c 227 § 3; 2002 c 70 § 1; 1989 c 32 § 1; 1984 c 262 § 2.]

**9.68A.040 Sexual exploitation of a minor—Elements of crime—Penalty.** (1) A person is guilty of sexual exploitation of a minor if the person:

(a) Compels a minor by threat or force to engage in sexually explicit conduct, knowing that such conduct will be photographed or part of a live performance;

(b) Aids, invites, employs, authorizes, or causes a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct, knowing that such conduct will be photographed or part of a live performance; or

(c) Being a parent, legal guardian, or person having custody or control of a minor, permits the minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct, knowing that the conduct will be photographed or part of a live performance.

(2) Sexual exploitation of a minor is a class B felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1989 c 32 § 2; 1984 c 262 § 3.]

**9.68A.050 Dealing in depictions of minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct.** (1)(a) A person commits the crime of dealing in depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the first degree when he or she:

(i) Knowingly develops, duplicates, publishes, prints, disseminates, exchanges, finances, attempts to finance, or sells a visual or printed matter that depicts a minor engaged in an act of sexually explicit conduct as defined in RCW 9.68A.011(4) (a) through (e); or

(ii) Possesses with intent to develop, duplicate, publish, print, disseminate, exchange, or sell any visual or printed matter that depicts a minor engaged in an act of sexually explicit conduct as defined in RCW 9.68A.011(4) (a) through (e).

(b) Dealing in depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the first degree is a class B felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(c) For the purposes of determining the unit of prosecution under this subsection, each depiction or image of visual or printed matter constitutes a separate offense.

(2)(a) A person commits the crime of dealing in depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the second degree when he or she:

(i) Knowingly develops, duplicates, publishes, prints, disseminates, exchanges, finances, attempts to finance, or sells any visual or printed matter that depicts a minor engaged in an act of sexually explicit conduct as defined in RCW 9.68A.011(4) (f) or (g); or

(ii) Possesses with intent to develop, duplicate, publish, print, disseminate, exchange, or sell any visual or printed matter that depicts a minor engaged in an act of sexually explicit conduct as defined in RCW 9.68A.011(4) (f) or (g).

(b) Dealing in depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the second degree is a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(c) For the purposes of determining the unit of prosecution under this subsection, each incident of dealing in one or more depictions or images of visual or printed matter consti-

tutes a separate offense. [2010 c 227 § 4; 1989 c 32 § 3; 1984 c 262 § 4.]

**9.68A.060 Sending, bringing into state depictions of minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct.** (1)(a) A person commits the crime of sending or bringing into the state depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the first degree when he or she knowingly sends or causes to be sent, or brings or causes to be brought, into this state for sale or distribution, a visual or printed matter that depicts a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct as defined in RCW 9.68A.011(4) (a) through (e).

(b) Sending or bringing into the state depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the first degree is a class B felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(c) For the purposes of determining the unit of prosecution under this subsection, each depiction or image of visual or printed matter constitutes a separate offense.

(2)(a) A person commits the crime of sending or bringing into the state depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the second degree when he or she knowingly sends or causes to be sent, or brings or causes to be brought, into this state for sale or distribution, any visual or printed matter that depicts a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct as defined in RCW 9.68A.011(4) (f) or (g).

(b) Sending or bringing into the state depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the second degree is a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(c) For the purposes of determining the unit of prosecution under this subsection, each incident of sending or bringing into the state one or more depictions or images of visual or printed matter constitutes a separate offense. [2010 c 227 § 5; 1989 c 32 § 4; 1984 c 262 § 5.]

**9.68A.070 Possession of depictions of minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct.** (1)(a) A person commits the crime of possession of depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the first degree when he or she knowingly possesses a visual or printed matter depicting a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct as defined in RCW 9.68A.011(4) (a) through (e).

(b) Possession of depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the first degree is a class B felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(c) For the purposes of determining the unit of prosecution under this subsection, each depiction or image of visual or printed matter constitutes a separate offense.

(2)(a) A person commits the crime of possession of depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the second degree when he or she knowingly possesses any visual or printed matter depicting a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct as defined in RCW 9.68A.011(4) (f) or (g).

(b) Possession of depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the second degree is a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(c) For the purposes of determining the unit of prosecution under this subsection, each incident of possession of one or more depictions or images of visual or printed matter con-

stitutes a separate offense. [2010 c 227 § 6; 2006 c 139 § 3; 1990 c 155 § 1; 1989 c 32 § 5; 1984 c 262 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.68A.075 Viewing depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct.** (1) A person who intentionally views over the internet visual or printed matter depicting a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct as defined in RCW 9.68A.011(4) (a) through (e) is guilty of viewing depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the first degree, a class B felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(2) A person who intentionally views over the internet visual or printed matter depicting a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct as defined in RCW 9.68A.011(4) (f) or (g) is guilty of viewing depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in the second degree, a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(3) For the purposes of determining whether a person intentionally viewed over the internet a visual or printed matter depicting a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct in subsection (1) or (2) of this section, the trier of fact shall consider the title, text, and content of the visual or printed matter, as well as the internet history, search terms, thumbnail images, downloading activity, expert computer forensic testimony, number of visual or printed matter depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct, defendant's access to and control over the electronic device and its contents upon which the visual or printed matter was found, or any other relevant evidence. The state must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the viewing was initiated by the user of the computer where the viewing occurred.

(4) For the purposes of this section, each separate internet session of intentionally viewing over the internet visual or printed matter depicting a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct constitutes a separate offense. [2010 c 227 § 7.]

**9.68A.080 Reporting of depictions of minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct—Civil immunity.** (1) A person who, in the course of processing or producing visual or printed matter either privately or commercially, has reasonable cause to believe that the visual or printed matter submitted for processing or producing depicts a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct shall immediately report such incident, or cause a report to be made, to the proper law enforcement agency. Persons failing to do so are guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(2) If, in the course of repairing, modifying, or maintaining a computer that has been submitted either privately or commercially for repair, modification, or maintenance, a person has reasonable cause to believe that the computer stores visual or printed matter that depicts a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, the person performing the repair, modification, or maintenance may report such incident, or cause a report to be made, to the proper law enforcement agency.

(3) A person who makes a report in good faith under this section is immune from civil liability resulting from the report. [2002 c 70 § 2; 1989 c 32 § 6; 1984 c 262 § 7.]

**9.68A.090 Communication with minor for immoral purposes—Penalties.** (1) Except as provided in subsection

(2) of this section, a person who communicates with a minor for immoral purposes, or a person who communicates with someone the person believes to be a minor for immoral purposes, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(2) A person who communicates with a minor for immoral purposes is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW if the person has previously been convicted under this section or of a felony sexual offense under chapter 9.68A, 9A.44, or 9A.64 RCW or of any other felony sexual offense in this or any other state or if the person communicates with a minor or with someone the person believes to be a minor for immoral purposes through the sending of an electronic communication. [2006 c 139 § 1. Prior: 2003 c 53 § 42; 2003 c 26 § 1; 1989 c 32 § 7; 1986 c 319 § 2; 1984 c 262 § 8.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.68A.100 Commercial sexual abuse of a minor—Penalties.** (1) A person is guilty of commercial sexual abuse of a minor if:

(a) He or she pays a fee to a minor or a third person as compensation for a minor having engaged in sexual conduct with him or her;

(b) He or she pays or agrees to pay a fee to a minor or a third person pursuant to an understanding that in return therefore such minor will engage in sexual conduct with him or her; or

(c) He or she solicits, offers, or requests to engage in sexual conduct with a minor in return for a fee.

(2) Commercial sexual abuse of a minor is a class B felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(3) In addition to any other penalty provided under chapter 9A.20 RCW, a person guilty of commercial sexual abuse of a minor is subject to the provisions under RCW 9A.88.130 and 9A.88.140.

(4) For purposes of this section, "sexual conduct" means sexual intercourse or sexual contact, both as defined in chapter 9A.44 RCW. [2010 c 289 § 13; 2007 c 368 § 2; 1999 c 327 § 4; 1989 c 32 § 8; 1984 c 262 § 9.]

**Findings—Intent—1999 c 327:** See note following RCW 9A.88.130.

*Additional requirements: RCW 9A.88.130.*

*Vehicle impoundment: RCW 9A.88.140.*

**9.68A.101 Promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor—Penalty.** (1) A person is guilty of promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor if he or she knowingly advances commercial sexual abuse or a sexually explicit act of a minor or profits from a minor engaged in sexual conduct or a sexually explicit act.

(2) Promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor is a class A felony.

(3) For the purposes of this section:

(a) A person "advances commercial sexual abuse of a minor" if, acting other than as a minor receiving compensation for personally rendered sexual conduct or as a person engaged in commercial sexual abuse of a minor, he or she causes or aids a person to commit or engage in commercial sexual abuse of a minor, procures or solicits customers for commercial sexual abuse of a minor, provides persons or premises for the purposes of engaging in commercial sexual

abuse of a minor, operates or assists in the operation of a house or enterprise for the purposes of engaging in commercial sexual abuse of a minor, or engages in any other conduct designed to institute, aid, cause, assist, or facilitate an act or enterprise of commercial sexual abuse of a minor.

(b) A person "profits from commercial sexual abuse of a minor" if, acting other than as a minor receiving compensation for personally rendered sexual conduct, he or she accepts or receives money or other property pursuant to an agreement or understanding with any person whereby he or she participates or will participate in the proceeds of commercial sexual abuse of a minor.

(c) A person "advances a sexually explicit act of a minor" if he or she causes or aids a sexually explicit act of a minor, procures or solicits customers for a sexually explicit act of a minor, provides persons or premises for the purposes of a sexually explicit act of a minor, or engages in any other conduct designed to institute, aid, cause, assist, or facilitate a sexually explicit act of a minor.

(d) A "sexually explicit act" is a public, private, or live photographed, recorded, or videotaped act or show intended to arouse or satisfy the sexual desires or appeal to the prurient interests of patrons and for which something of value is given or received.

(e) A "patron" is a person who pays or agrees to pay a fee to another person as compensation for a sexually explicit act of a minor or who solicits or requests a sexually explicit act of a minor in return for a fee.

(4) For purposes of this section, "sexual conduct" means sexual intercourse or sexual contact, both as defined in chapter 9A.44 RCW. [2012 c 144 § 1; 2010 c 289 § 14; 2007 c 368 § 4.]

**9.68A.102 Promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse of a minor—Penalty.** (1) A person commits the offense of promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse of a minor if he or she knowingly sells or offers to sell travel services that include or facilitate travel for the purpose of engaging in what would be commercial sexual abuse of a minor or promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor, if occurring in this state.

(2) Promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse of a minor is a class C felony.

(3) For purposes of this section, "travel services" has the same meaning as defined in RCW 19.138.021. [2007 c 368 § 5.]

**9.68A.103 Permitting commercial sexual abuse of a minor—Penalty.** (1) A person is guilty of permitting commercial sexual abuse of a minor if, having possession or control of premises which he or she knows are being used for the purpose of commercial sexual abuse of a minor, he or she fails without lawful excuse to make reasonable effort to halt or abate such use and to make a reasonable effort to notify law enforcement of such use.

(2) Permitting commercial sexual abuse of a minor is a gross misdemeanor. [2007 c 368 § 7.]

**9.68A.104 Advertising commercial sexual abuse of a minor—Penalty.** (1) A person commits the offense of advertising commercial sexual abuse of a minor if he or she

knowingly publishes, disseminates, or displays, or causes directly or indirectly, to be published, disseminated, or displayed, any advertisement for a commercial sex act, which is to take place in the state of Washington and that includes the depiction of a minor.

(a) "Advertisement for a commercial sex act" means any advertisement or offer in electronic or print media, which includes either an explicit or implicit offer for a commercial sex act to occur in Washington.

(b) "Commercial sex act" means any act of sexual contact or sexual intercourse, both as defined in chapter 9A.44 RCW, for which something of value is given or received by any person.

(c) "Depiction" as used in this section means any photograph or visual or printed matter as defined in RCW 9.68A.011 (2) and (3).

(2) In a prosecution under this statute it is not a defense that the defendant did not know the age of the minor depicted in the advertisement. It is a defense, which the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence, that the defendant made a reasonable bona fide attempt to ascertain the true age of the minor depicted in the advertisement by requiring, prior to publication, dissemination, or display of the advertisement, production of a driver's license, marriage license, birth certificate, or other governmental or educational identification card or paper of the minor depicted in the advertisement and did not rely solely on oral or written representations of the minor's age, or the apparent age of the minor as depicted. In order to invoke the defense, the defendant must produce for inspection by law enforcement a record of the identification used to verify the age of the person depicted in the advertisement.

(3) Advertising commercial sexual abuse of a minor is a class C felony. [2012 c 138 § 2.]

**Findings—2012 c 138:** "The legislature finds it unacceptable that Washington's children are being sold for sex in advertisements. A 2008 Seattle human services department report estimated that there are three hundred to five hundred children being exploited for sex in the Seattle area alone each year. The legislature finds that the practice of escort services advertising includes minors who are being sold for sex, a form of sex trafficking and commercial sexual abuse of minors. According to the Seattle police department, since the beginning of 2010, at least twenty-two children have been advertised online in the Seattle area for commercial sex and were recovered by the police department. The legislature is committed to eliminating sex trafficking of minors in a manner consistent with federal laws prohibiting sexual exploitation of children." [2012 c 138 § 1.]

**Conflict with federal requirements—2012 c 138:** "If any part of this act is found to be in conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to the allocation of federal funds to the state, the conflicting part of this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict and with respect to the agencies directly affected, and this finding does not affect the operation of the remainder of this act in its application to the agencies concerned. Rules adopted under this act must meet federal requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt of federal funds by the state." [2012 c 138 § 3.]

**9.68A.105 Additional fee assessment.** (1)(a) In addition to penalties set forth in RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, and 9.68A.102, a person who is either convicted or given a deferred sentence or a deferred prosecution or who has entered into a statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreement as a result of an arrest for violating RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9.68A.102, or a comparable county or municipal ordinance shall be assessed a five thousand dollar fee.

(b) The court may not reduce, waive, or suspend payment of all or part of the fee assessed unless it finds, on the record, that the person does not have the ability to pay in which case it may reduce the fee by an amount up to two-thirds of the maximum allowable fee.

(c) When a minor has been adjudicated a juvenile offender or has entered into a statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreement for an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9.68A.102, or a comparable county or municipal ordinance, the court shall assess the fee under (a) of this subsection. The court may not reduce, waive, or suspend payment of all or part of the fee assessed unless it finds, on the record, that the minor does not have the ability to pay the fee in which case it may reduce the fee by an amount up to two-thirds of the maximum allowable fee.

(2) Fees assessed under this section shall be collected by the clerk of the court and remitted to the treasurer of the county where the offense occurred for deposit in the county general fund, except in cases in which the offense occurred in a city or town that provides for its own law enforcement, in which case these amounts shall be remitted to the treasurer of the city or town for deposit in the general fund of the city or town. Revenue from the fees must be used for local efforts to reduce the commercial sale of sex including, but not limited to, increasing enforcement of commercial sex laws.

(a) At least fifty percent of the revenue from fees imposed under this section must be spent on prevention, including education programs for offenders, such as john school, and rehabilitative services, such as mental health and substance abuse counseling, parenting skills, training, housing relief, education, vocational training, drop-in centers, and employment counseling.

(b) Revenues from these fees are not subject to the distribution requirements under RCW 3.50.100, 3.62.020, 3.62.040, 10.82.070, or 35.20.220.

(3) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreement" means an agreement under RCW 13.40.080 or any written agreement between a person accused of an offense listed in subsection (1) of this section and a court, county or city prosecutor, or designee thereof, whereby the person agrees to fulfill certain conditions in lieu of prosecution.

(b) "Deferred sentence" means a sentence that will not be carried out if the defendant meets certain requirements, such as complying with the conditions of probation. [2012 c 134 § 4; 2010 c 289 § 15; 2007 c 368 § 11; 1995 c 353 § 12.]

**9.68A.110 Certain defenses barred, permitted.** (1) In a prosecution under RCW 9.68A.040, it is not a defense that the defendant was involved in activities of law enforcement and prosecution agencies in the investigation and prosecution of criminal offenses. Law enforcement and prosecution agencies shall not employ minors to aid in the investigation of a violation of RCW 9.68A.090 or 9.68A.100 through 9.68A.102, except for the purpose of facilitating an investigation where the minor is also the alleged victim and the:

(a) Investigation is authorized pursuant to RCW 9.73.230(1)(b)(ii) or 9.73.210(1)(b); or

(b) Minor's aid in the investigation involves only telephone or electronic communication with the defendant.

(2) In a prosecution under RCW 9.68A.050, 9.68A.060, 9.68A.070, or 9.68A.080, it is not a defense that the defendant did not know the age of the child depicted in the visual or printed matter. It is a defense, which the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence, that at the time of the offense the defendant was not in possession of any facts on the basis of which he or she should reasonably have known that the person depicted was a minor.

(3) In a prosecution under RCW 9.68A.040, 9.68A.090, 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9.68A.102, it is not a defense that the defendant did not know the alleged victim's age. It is a defense, which the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence, that at the time of the offense, the defendant made a reasonable bona fide attempt to ascertain the true age of the minor by requiring production of a driver's license, marriage license, birth certificate, or other governmental or educational identification card or paper and did not rely solely on the oral allegations or apparent age of the minor.

(4) In a prosecution under RCW 9.68A.050, 9.68A.060, 9.68A.070, or 9.68A.075, it shall be an affirmative defense that the defendant was a law enforcement officer or a person specifically authorized, in writing, to assist a law enforcement officer and acting at the direction of a law enforcement officer in the process of conducting an official investigation of a sex-related crime against a minor, or that the defendant was providing individual case treatment as a recognized medical facility or as a psychiatrist or psychologist licensed under Title 18 RCW. Nothing in chapter 227, Laws of 2010 is intended to in any way affect or diminish the immunity afforded an electronic communication service provider, remote computing service provider, or domain name registrar acting in the performance of its reporting or preservation responsibilities under 18 U.S.C. Secs. 2258a, 2258b, or 2258c.

(5) In a prosecution under RCW 9.68A.050, 9.68A.060, 9.68A.070, or 9.68A.075, the state is not required to establish the identity of the alleged victim.

(6) In a prosecution under RCW 9.68A.070 or 9.68A.075, it shall be an affirmative defense that:

(a) The defendant was employed at or conducting research in partnership or in cooperation with any institution of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.07.020 or 28B.10.016, and:

(i) He or she was engaged in a research activity;

(ii) The research activity was specifically approved prior to the possession or viewing activity being conducted in writing by a person, or other such entity vested with the authority to grant such approval by the institution of higher education; and

(iii) Viewing or possessing the visual or printed matter is an essential component of the authorized research; or

(b) The defendant was an employee of the Washington state legislature engaged in research at the request of a member of the legislature and:

(i) The request for research is made prior to the possession or viewing activity being conducted in writing by a member of the legislature;

(ii) The research is directly related to a legislative activity; and

(iii) Viewing or possessing the visual or printed matter is an essential component of the requested research and legislative activity.

(7) Nothing in this section authorizes otherwise unlawful viewing or possession of visual or printed matter depicting a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct. [2011 c 241 § 4. Prior: 2010 c 289 § 17; 2010 c 227 § 8; 2007 c 368 § 3; 1992 c 178 § 1; 1989 c 32 § 9; 1986 c 319 § 3; 1984 c 262 § 10.]

**Findings—Effective date—2011 c 241:** See notes following RCW 9.73.230.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.68A.120 Seizure and forfeiture of property.** The following are subject to seizure and forfeiture:

(1) All visual or printed matter that depicts a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

(2) All raw materials, equipment, and other tangible personal property of any kind used or intended to be used to manufacture or process any visual or printed matter that depicts a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, and all conveyances, including aircraft, vehicles, or vessels that are used or intended for use to transport, or in any manner to facilitate the transportation of, visual or printed matter in violation of RCW 9.68A.050 or 9.68A.060, but:

(a) No conveyance used by any person as a common carrier in the transaction of business as a common carrier is subject to forfeiture under this section unless it appears that the owner or other person in charge of the conveyance is a consenting party or privy to a violation of this chapter;

(b) No property is subject to forfeiture under this section by reason of any act or omission established by the owner of the property to have been committed or omitted without the owner's knowledge or consent;

(c) A forfeiture of property encumbered by a bona fide security interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if the secured party neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or omission; and

(d) When the owner of a conveyance has been arrested under this chapter the conveyance may not be subject to forfeiture unless it is seized or process is issued for its seizure within ten days of the owner's arrest.

(3) All personal property, moneys, negotiable instruments, securities, or other tangible or intangible property furnished or intended to be furnished by any person in exchange for visual or printed matter depicting a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, or constituting proceeds traceable to any violation of this chapter.

(4) Property subject to forfeiture under this chapter may be seized by any law enforcement officer of this state upon process issued by any superior court having jurisdiction over the property. Seizure without process may be made if:

(a) The seizure is incident to an arrest or a search under a search warrant or an inspection under an administrative inspection warrant;

(b) The property subject to seizure has been the subject of a prior judgment in favor of the state in a criminal injunction or forfeiture proceeding based upon this chapter;

(c) A law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the property is directly or indirectly dangerous to health or safety; or

(d) The law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used in violation of this chapter.

(5) In the event of seizure under subsection (4) of this section, proceedings for forfeiture shall be deemed commenced by the seizure. The law enforcement agency under whose authority the seizure was made shall cause notice to be served within fifteen days following the seizure on the owner of the property seized and the person in charge thereof and any person having any known right or interest therein, of the seizure and intended forfeiture of the seized property. The notice may be served by any method authorized by law or court rule including but not limited to service by certified mail with return receipt requested. Service by mail shall be deemed complete upon mailing within the fifteen day period following the seizure.

(6) If no person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of seized items within forty-five days of the seizure, the item seized shall be deemed forfeited.

(7) If any person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of seized items within forty-five days of the seizure, the person or persons shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard as to the claim or right. The hearing shall be before an administrative law judge appointed under chapter 34.12 RCW, except that any person asserting a claim or right may remove the matter to a court of competent jurisdiction if the aggregate value of the article or articles involved is more than five hundred dollars. The hearing before an administrative law judge and any appeal therefrom shall be under Title 34 RCW. In a court hearing between two or more claimants to the article or articles involved, the prevailing party shall be entitled to a judgment for costs and reasonable attorney's fees. The burden of producing evidence shall be upon the person claiming to be the lawful owner or the person claiming to have the lawful right to possession of the seized items. The seizing law enforcement agency shall promptly return the article or articles to the claimant upon a determination by the administrative law judge or court that the claimant is lawfully entitled to possession thereof of the seized items.

(8) If property is sought to be forfeited on the ground that it constitutes proceeds traceable to a violation of this chapter, the seizing law enforcement agency must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the property constitutes proceeds traceable to a violation of this chapter.

(9) When property is forfeited under this chapter the seizing law enforcement agency may:

(a) Retain it for official use or upon application by any law enforcement agency of this state release the property to that agency for the exclusive use of enforcing this chapter;

(b) Sell that which is not required to be destroyed by law and which is not harmful to the public. The proceeds and all moneys forfeited under this chapter shall be used for payment of all proper expenses of the investigation leading to the seizure, including any money delivered to the subject of the investigation by the law enforcement agency, and of the proceedings for forfeiture and sale, including expenses of seizure, maintenance of custody, advertising, actual costs of the prosecuting or city attorney, and court costs. Fifty percent of

the money remaining after payment of these expenses shall be deposited in the state general fund and fifty percent shall be deposited in the general fund of the state, county, or city of the seizing law enforcement agency; or

(c) Request the appropriate sheriff or director of public safety to take custody of the property and remove it for disposition in accordance with law. [2009 c 479 § 12; 1999 c 143 § 8; 1984 c 262 § 11.]

**Effective date—2009 c 479:** See note following RCW 2.56.030.

**9.68A.130 Recovery of costs of suit by minor.** A minor prevailing in a civil action arising from violation of this chapter is entitled to recover the costs of the suit, including an award of reasonable attorneys' fees. [1984 c 262 § 12.]

**9.68A.150 Allowing minor on premises of live erotic performance—Definitions—Penalty.** (1) No person may knowingly allow a minor to be on the premises of a commercial establishment open to the public if there is a live performance containing matter which is erotic material.

(2) Any person who is convicted of violating this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(3) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Minor" means any person under the age of eighteen years.

(b) "Erotic materials" means live performance:

(i) Which the average person, applying contemporary community standards, would find, when considered as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest of minors; and

(ii) Which explicitly depicts or describes patently offensive representations or descriptions of sexually explicit conduct as defined in RCW 9.68A.011; and

(iii) Which, when considered as a whole, and in the context in which it is used, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for minors.

(c) "Live performance" means any play, show, skit, dance, or other exhibition performed or presented to, or before an audience of one or more, with or without consideration.

(d) "Person" means any individual, partnership, firm, association, corporation, or other legal entity. [2003 c 53 § 43; 1987 c 396 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.68A.170 Criminal proceedings—Depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct—Restrictions on access.** (1) In any criminal proceeding, any property or material that constitutes a depiction of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct shall remain in the care, custody, and control of either a law enforcement agency or the court.

(2) Despite any request by the defendant or prosecution, any property or material that constitutes a depiction of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct shall not be copied, photographed, duplicated, or otherwise reproduced, so long as the property or material is made reasonably available to the parties. Such property or material shall be deemed to be reasonably available to the parties if the prosecution, defense counsel, or any individual sought to be qualified to

furnish expert testimony at trial has ample opportunity for inspection, viewing, and examination of the property or material at a law enforcement facility or a neutral facility approved by the court upon petition by the defense.

(3) The defendant may view and examine the property and materials only while in the presence of his or her attorney. If the defendant is proceeding pro se, the court will appoint an individual to supervise the defendant while he or she examines the materials.

(4) The court may direct that a mirror image of a computer hard drive containing such depictions be produced for use by an expert only upon a showing that an expert has been retained and is prepared to conduct a forensic examination while the mirror imaged hard drive remains in the care, custody, and control of a law enforcement agency or the court. Upon a substantial showing that the expert's analysis cannot be accomplished while the mirror imaged hard drive is kept within the care, custody, and control of a law enforcement agency or the court, the court may order its release to the expert for analysis for a limited time. If release is granted, the court shall issue a protective order setting forth such terms and conditions as are necessary to protect the rights of the victims, to document the chain of custody, and to protect physical evidence. [2012 c 135 § 2.]

**9.68A.180 Criminal proceedings—Depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct—Sealing, storage, destruction of exhibits.** (1) Whenever a depiction of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, regardless of its format, is marked as an exhibit in a criminal proceeding, the prosecutor shall seek an order sealing the exhibit at the close of the trial. Any exhibits sealed under this section shall be sealed with evidence tape in a manner that prevents access to, or viewing of, the depiction of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct and shall be labeled so as to identify its contents. Anyone seeking to view such an exhibit must obtain permission from the superior court after providing at least ten days notice to the prosecuting attorney. Appellate attorneys for the defendant and the state shall be given access to the exhibit, which must remain in the care and custody of either a law enforcement agency or the court. Any other person moving to view such an exhibit must demonstrate to the court that his or her reason for viewing the exhibit is of sufficient importance to justify another violation of the victim's privacy.

(2) Whenever the clerk of the court receives an exhibit of a depiction of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, he or she shall store the exhibit in a secure location, such as a safe. The clerk may arrange for the transfer of such exhibits to a law enforcement agency evidence room for safekeeping provided the agency agrees not to destroy or dispose of the exhibits without an order of the court.

(3) If the criminal proceeding ends in a conviction, the clerk of the court shall destroy any exhibit containing a depiction of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct five years after the judgment is final, as determined by the provisions of RCW 10.73.090(3). Before any destruction, the clerk shall contact the prosecuting attorney and verify that there is no collateral attack on the judgment pending in any court. If the criminal proceeding ends in a mistrial, the clerk shall either maintain the exhibit or return it to the law

enforcement agency that investigated the criminal charges for safekeeping until the matter is set for retrial. If the criminal proceeding ends in an acquittal, the clerk shall return the exhibit to the law enforcement agency that investigated the criminal charges for either safekeeping or destruction. [2012 c 135 § 3.]

**9.68A.190 Criminal proceedings—Depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct—Depictions distributed to defense counsel or expert witnesses prior to June 7, 2012—Distribution of depictions under color of law not a defense.** Any depiction of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, in any format, distributed as discovery to defense counsel or an expert witness prior to June 7, 2012, shall either be returned to the law enforcement agency that investigated the criminal charges or destroyed, if the case is no longer pending in superior court. If the case is still pending, the depiction shall be returned to the superior court judge assigned to the case or the presiding judge. The court shall order either the destruction of the depiction or the safekeeping of the depiction if it will be used at trial.

It is not a defense to violations of this chapter for crimes committed after December 31, 2012, that the initial receipt of the depictions was done under the color of law through the discovery process. [2012 c 135 § 4.]

**9.68A.910 Severability—1984 c 262.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1984 c 262 § 15.]

**9.68A.911 Severability—1989 c 32.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1989 c 32 § 10.]

**9.68A.912 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 20.]

**Chapter 9.69 RCW  
DUTY OF WITNESSES**

Sections

9.69.100 Duty of witness of offense against child or any violent offense—Penalty.

2012

*Labor and industries officer, disobeying subpoena to appear before:* RCW 43.22.300.

*Legislative hearings, failure to obey subpoena or testify:* RCW 44.16.120 through 44.16.150.

*Obstructing governmental operation:* Chapter 9A.76 RCW.

*Wills, fraudulently failing to deliver:* RCW 11.20.010.

**9.69.100 Duty of witness of offense against child or any violent offense—Penalty.** (1) A person who witnesses the actual commission of:

(a) A violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 or preparations for the commission of such an offense;

(b) A sexual offense against a child or an attempt to commit such a sexual offense; or

(c) An assault of a child that appears reasonably likely to cause substantial bodily harm to the child, shall as soon as reasonably possible notify the prosecuting attorney, law enforcement, medical assistance, or other public officials.

(2) This section shall not be construed to affect privileged relationships as provided by law.

(3) The duty to notify a person or agency under this section is met if a person notifies or attempts to provide such notice by telephone or any other means as soon as reasonably possible.

(4) Failure to report as required by subsection (1) of this section is a gross misdemeanor. However, a person is not required to report under this section where that person has a reasonable belief that making such a report would place that person or another family or household member in danger of immediate physical harm. [1987 c 503 § 18; 1985 c 443 § 21; 1970 ex.s. c 49 § 8.]

*Abuse of children:* Chapter 26.44 RCW.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**Chapter 9.72 RCW  
PERJURY**

Sections

9.72.090 Committal of witness—Detention of documents.

*Banks and trust companies*

*false swearing in bank or trust company examinations:* RCW 30.04.060.  
*knowingly subscribing to false statement:* RCW 30.12.090.

*Elections*

*falsification by voter:* Chapter 29A.84 RCW.  
*initiative and referendum petition signer, false statement:* RCW 29A.84.230.  
*recall petition signer, false statement:* RCW 29A.84.240.  
*voting by mail, falsification of qualifications:* RCW 29A.84.680.

*Land registration falsification:* RCW 65.12.740.

*Marriage affidavit falsification:* RCW 26.04.210.

*Perjury and interference with official proceedings:* Chapter 9A.72 RCW.

*Public assistance, falsification of application:* RCW 74.08.055.

*Sufficiency of indictment or information charging perjury:* RCW 10.37.140.

*Taxation, false property listing:* RCW 84.40.120.

**9.72.090 Committal of witness—Detention of documents.** Whenever it shall appear probable to a judge, magistrate, or other officer lawfully authorized to conduct any hearing, proceeding or investigation, that a person who has testified before such judge, magistrate, or officer has committed perjury in any testimony so given, or offered any false



evidence, he or she may, by order or process for that purpose, immediately commit such person to jail or take a recognizance for such person's appearance to answer such charge. In such case such judge, magistrate, or officer may detain any book, paper, document, record or other instrument produced before him or her or direct it to be delivered to the prosecuting attorney. [1987 c 202 § 141; 1909 c 249 § 107; RRS § 2359.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

### Chapter 9.73 RCW PRIVACY, VIOLATING RIGHT OF

#### Sections

9.73.010	Divulging telegram.
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9.73.240	Intercepting, transmitting, or recording conversations concerning controlled substances—Concurrent power of attorney general to investigate and prosecute.
9.73.260	Pen registers, trap and trace devices.

**9.73.010 Divulging telegram.** Every person who shall wrongfully obtain or attempt to obtain, any knowledge of a telegraphic message, by connivance with the clerk, operator, messenger, or other employee of a telegraph company, and every clerk, operator, messenger, or other employee of such company who shall willfully divulge to any but the person for whom it was intended, any telegraphic message or dispatch intrusted to him or her for transmission or delivery, or the nature or contents thereof, or shall willfully refuse, neglect, or delay duly to transmit or deliver the same, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 323; 1909 c 249 § 410; Code 1881 § 2342; RRS § 2662.]

*Intercepting, delaying telegram:* RCW 9A.48.070, 9A.48.080.

**9.73.020 Opening sealed letter.** Every person who shall wilfully open or read, or cause to be opened or read, any

sealed message, letter or telegram intended for another person, or publish the whole or any portion of such a message, letter or telegram, knowing it to have been opened or read without authority, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1909 c 249 § 411; RRS § 2663.]

#### **9.73.030 Intercepting, recording, or divulging private communication—Consent required—Exceptions.**

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, it shall be unlawful for any individual, partnership, corporation, association, or the state of Washington, its agencies, and political subdivisions to intercept, or record any:

(a) Private communication transmitted by telephone, telegraph, radio, or other device between two or more individuals between points within or without the state by any device electronic or otherwise designed to record and/or transmit said communication regardless how such device is powered or actuated, without first obtaining the consent of all the participants in the communication;

(b) Private conversation, by any device electronic or otherwise designed to record or transmit such conversation regardless how the device is powered or actuated without first obtaining the consent of all the persons engaged in the conversation.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, wire communications or conversations (a) of an emergency nature, such as the reporting of a fire, medical emergency, crime, or disaster, or (b) which convey threats of extortion, blackmail, bodily harm, or other unlawful requests or demands, or (c) which occur anonymously or repeatedly or at an extremely inconvenient hour, or (d) which relate to communications by a hostage holder or barricaded person as defined in RCW 70.85.100, whether or not conversation ensues, may be recorded with the consent of one party to the conversation.

(3) Where consent by all parties is needed pursuant to this chapter, consent shall be considered obtained whenever one party has announced to all other parties engaged in the communication or conversation, in any reasonably effective manner, that such communication or conversation is about to be recorded or transmitted: PROVIDED, That if the conversation is to be recorded that said announcement shall also be recorded.

(4) An employee of any regularly published newspaper, magazine, wire service, radio station, or television station acting in the course of bona fide news gathering duties on a full-time or contractual or part-time basis, shall be deemed to have consent to record and divulge communications or conversations otherwise prohibited by this chapter if the consent is expressly given or if the recording or transmitting device is readily apparent or obvious to the speakers. Withdrawal of the consent after the communication has been made shall not prohibit any such employee of a newspaper, magazine, wire service, or radio or television station from divulging the communication or conversation. [1986 c 38 § 1; 1985 c 260 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 363 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 93 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1985 c 260 § 2 and by 1986 c 38 § 1, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.040 Intercepting private communication—Court order permitting interception—Grounds for issuance—Duration—Renewal.** (1) An ex parte order for the interception of any communication or conversation listed in RCW 9.73.030 may be issued by any superior court judge in the state upon verified application of either the state attorney general or any county prosecuting attorney setting forth fully facts and circumstances upon which the application is based and stating that:

(a) There are reasonable grounds to believe that national security is endangered, that a human life is in danger, that arson is about to be committed, or that a riot is about to be committed, and

(b) There are reasonable grounds to believe that evidence will be obtained essential to the protection of national security, the preservation of human life, or the prevention of arson or a riot, and

(c) There are no other means readily available for obtaining such information.

(2) Where statements are solely upon the information and belief of the applicant, the grounds for the belief must be given.

(3) The applicant must state whether any prior application has been made to obtain such communications on the same instrument or for the same person and if such prior application exists the applicant shall disclose the current status thereof.

(4) The application and any order issued under RCW 9.73.030 through 9.73.080 shall identify as fully as possible the particular equipment, lines or location from which the information is to be obtained and the purpose thereof.

(5) The court may examine upon oath or affirmation the applicant and any witness the applicant desires to produce or the court requires to be produced.

(6) Orders issued under this section shall be effective for fifteen days, after which period the court which issued the order may upon application of the officer who secured the original order renew or continue the order for an additional period not to exceed fifteen days.

(7) No order issued under this section shall authorize or purport to authorize any activity which would violate any laws of the United States. [1967 ex.s. c 93 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.050 Admissibility of intercepted communication in evidence.** Any information obtained in violation of RCW 9.73.030 or pursuant to any order issued under the provisions of RCW 9.73.040 shall be inadmissible in any civil or criminal case in all courts of general or limited jurisdiction in this state, except with the permission of the person whose rights have been violated in an action brought for damages under the provisions of RCW 9.73.030 through 9.73.080, or in a criminal action in which the defendant is charged with a crime, the commission of which would jeopardize national security. [1967 ex.s. c 93 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.060 Violating right of privacy—Civil action—Liability for damages.** Any person who, directly or by means of a detective agency or any other agent, violates the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to legal action for

damages, to be brought by any other person claiming that a violation of this statute has injured his or her business, his or her person, or his or her reputation. A person so injured shall be entitled to actual damages, including mental pain and suffering endured by him or her on account of violation of the provisions of this chapter, or liquidated damages computed at the rate of one hundred dollars a day for each day of violation, not to exceed one thousand dollars, and a reasonable attorney's fee and other costs of litigation. [2011 c 336 § 324; 1977 ex.s. c 363 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 93 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.070 Persons and activities excepted from chapter.** (1) The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to any activity in connection with services provided by a common carrier pursuant to its tariffs on file with the Washington utilities and transportation commission or the Federal Communication Commission and any activity of any officer, agent or employee of a common carrier who performs any act otherwise prohibited by this law in the construction, maintenance, repair and operations of the common carrier's communications services, facilities, or equipment or incident to the use of such services, facilities or equipment. Common carrier as used in this section means any person engaged as a common carrier or public service company for hire in intrastate, interstate or foreign communication by wire or radio or in intrastate, interstate or foreign radio transmission of energy.

(2) The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to:

(a) Any common carrier automatic number, caller, or location identification service that has been approved by the Washington utilities and transportation commission; or

(b) A 911 or enhanced 911 emergency service as defined in RCW 82.14B.020, for purposes of aiding public health or public safety agencies to respond to calls placed for emergency assistance. [1994 c 49 § 1. Prior: 1991 c 329 § 8; 1991 c 312 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 93 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.080 Penalties.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, any person who violates RCW 9.73.030 is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(2) Any person who knowingly alters, erases, or wrongfully discloses any recording in violation of RCW 9.73.090(1)(c) is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2000 c 195 § 3; 1989 c 271 § 209; 1967 ex.s. c 93 § 6.]

**Intent—2000 c 195:** See note following RCW 9.73.090.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.090 Certain emergency response personnel exempted from RCW 9.73.030 through 9.73.080—Standards—Court authorizations—Admissibility.** (1) The provisions of RCW 9.73.030 through 9.73.080 shall not apply to police, fire, emergency medical service, emergency communication center, and poison center personnel in the following instances:

(a) Recording incoming telephone calls to police and fire stations, licensed emergency medical service providers, emergency communication centers, and poison centers;

(b) Video and/or sound recordings may be made of arrested persons by police officers responsible for making arrests or holding persons in custody before their first appear-

ance in court. Such video and/or sound recordings shall conform strictly to the following:

(i) The arrested person shall be informed that such recording is being made and the statement so informing him or her shall be included in the recording;

(ii) The recording shall commence with an indication of the time of the beginning thereof and terminate with an indication of the time thereof;

(iii) At the commencement of the recording the arrested person shall be fully informed of his or her constitutional rights, and such statements informing him or her shall be included in the recording;

(iv) The recordings shall only be used for valid police or court activities;

(c) Sound recordings that correspond to video images recorded by video cameras mounted in law enforcement vehicles. All law enforcement officers wearing a sound recording device that makes recordings corresponding to videos recorded by video cameras mounted in law enforcement vehicles must be in uniform. A sound recording device that makes a recording pursuant to this subsection (1)(c) must be operated simultaneously with the video camera when the operating system has been activated for an event. No sound recording device may be intentionally turned off by the law enforcement officer during the recording of an event. Once the event has been captured, the officer may turn off the audio recording and place the system back into "pre-event" mode.

No sound or video recording made under this subsection (1)(c) may be duplicated and made available to the public by a law enforcement agency subject to this section until final disposition of any criminal or civil litigation which arises from the event or events which were recorded. Such sound recordings shall not be divulged or used by any law enforcement agency for any commercial purpose.

A law enforcement officer shall inform any person being recorded by sound under this subsection (1)(c) that a sound recording is being made and the statement so informing the person shall be included in the sound recording, except that the law enforcement officer is not required to inform the person being recorded if the person is being recorded under exigent circumstances. A law enforcement officer is not required to inform a person being recorded by video under this subsection (1)(c) that the person is being recorded by video.

(2) It shall not be unlawful for a law enforcement officer acting in the performance of the officer's official duties to intercept, record, or disclose an oral communication or conversation where the officer is a party to the communication or conversation or one of the parties to the communication or conversation has given prior consent to the interception, recording, or disclosure: PROVIDED, That prior to the interception, transmission, or recording the officer shall obtain written or telephonic authorization from a judge or magistrate, who shall approve the interception, recording, or disclosure of communications or conversations with a nonconsenting party for a reasonable and specified period of time, if there is probable cause to believe that the nonconsenting party has committed, is engaged in, or is about to commit a felony: PROVIDED HOWEVER, That if such authorization is given by telephone the authorization and officer's statement justifying such authorization must be electronically

recorded by the judge or magistrate on a recording device in the custody of the judge or magistrate at the time transmitted and the recording shall be retained in the court records and reduced to writing as soon as possible thereafter.

Any recording or interception of a communication or conversation incident to a lawfully recorded or intercepted communication or conversation pursuant to this subsection shall be lawful and may be divulged.

All recordings of communications or conversations made pursuant to this subsection shall be retained for as long as any crime may be charged based on the events or communications or conversations recorded.

(3) Communications or conversations authorized to be intercepted, recorded, or disclosed by this section shall not be inadmissible under RCW 9.73.050.

(4) Authorizations issued under subsection (2) of this section shall be effective for not more than seven days, after which period the issuing authority may renew or continue the authorization for additional periods not to exceed seven days.

(5) If the judge or magistrate determines that there is probable cause to believe that the communication or conversation concerns the unlawful manufacture, delivery, sale, or possession with intent to manufacture, deliver, or sell, controlled substances as defined in chapter 69.50 RCW, or legend drugs as defined in chapter 69.41 RCW, or imitation controlled substances as defined in chapter 69.52 RCW, the judge or magistrate may authorize the interception, transmission, recording, or disclosure of communications or conversations under subsection (2) of this section even though the true name of the nonconsenting party, or the particular time and place for the interception, transmission, recording, or disclosure, is not known at the time of the request, if the authorization describes the nonconsenting party and subject matter of the communication or conversation with reasonable certainty under the circumstances. Any such communication or conversation may be intercepted, transmitted, recorded, or disclosed as authorized notwithstanding a change in the time or location of the communication or conversation after the authorization has been obtained or the presence of or participation in the communication or conversation by any additional party not named in the authorization.

Authorizations issued under this subsection shall be effective for not more than fourteen days, after which period the issuing authority may renew or continue the authorization for an additional period not to exceed fourteen days. [2011 c 336 § 325; 2006 c 38 § 1; 2000 c 195 § 2; 1989 c 271 § 205; 1986 c 38 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 363 § 3; 1970 ex.s. c 48 § 1.]

**Intent—2000 c 195:** "The legislature intends, by the enactment of this act, to provide a very limited exception to the restrictions on disclosure of intercepted communications." [2000 c 195 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.095 Intercepting, recording, or divulging offender conversations—Conditions—Notice.** (1) RCW 9.73.030 through 9.73.080 and 9.73.260 shall not apply to employees of the department of corrections in the following instances: Intercepting, recording, or divulging any telephone calls from an offender or resident of a state correctional facility; or intercepting, recording, or divulging any monitored nontelephonic conversations in offender living units, cells, rooms, dormitories, and common spaces where

offenders may be present. For the purposes of this section, "state correctional facility" means a facility that is under the control and authority of the department of corrections, and used for the incarceration, treatment, or rehabilitation of convicted felons.

(2)(a) All personal calls made by offenders shall be made using a calling system approved by the secretary of corrections which is at least as secure as the system it replaces. In approving one or more calling systems, the secretary of corrections shall consider the safety of the public, the ability to reduce telephone fraud, and the ability of offender families to select a low-cost option.

(b) The calls shall be "operator announcement" type calls. The operator shall notify the receiver of the call that the call is coming from a prison offender, and that it will be recorded and may be monitored.

(3) The department of corrections shall adhere to the following procedures and restrictions when intercepting, recording, or divulging any telephone calls from an offender or resident of a state correctional facility as provided for by this section. The department shall also adhere to the following procedures and restrictions when intercepting, recording, or divulging any monitored nontelephonic conversations in offender living units, cells, rooms, dormitories, and common spaces where offenders may be present:

(a) Unless otherwise provided for in this section, after intercepting or recording any conversation, only the superintendent and his or her designee shall have access to that recording.

(b) The contents of any intercepted and recorded conversation shall be divulged only as is necessary to safeguard the orderly operation of the correctional facility, in response to a court order, or in the prosecution or investigation of any crime.

(c) All conversations that are recorded under this section, unless being used in the ongoing investigation or prosecution of a crime, or as is necessary to assure the orderly operation of the correctional facility, shall be destroyed one year after the intercepting and recording.

(4) So as to safeguard the sanctity of the attorney-client privilege, the department of corrections shall not intercept, record, or divulge any conversation between an offender or resident and an attorney. The department shall develop policies and procedures to implement this section. The department's policies and procedures implemented under this section shall also recognize the privileged nature of confessions made by an offender to a member of the clergy or a priest in his or her professional character, in the course of discipline enjoined by the church to which he or she belongs as provided in RCW 5.60.060(3).

(5) The department shall notify in writing all offenders, residents, and personnel of state correctional facilities that their nontelephonic conversations may be intercepted, recorded, or divulged in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(6) The department shall notify all visitors to state correctional facilities who may enter offender living units, cells, rooms, dormitories, or common spaces where offenders may be present, that their conversations may be intercepted, recorded, or divulged in accordance with the provisions of this section. The notice required under this subsection shall

be accomplished through a means no less conspicuous than a general posting in a location likely to be seen by visitors entering the facility. [2004 c 13 § 2; 1998 c 217 § 2; 1996 c 197 § 1; 1989 c 271 § 210.]

**Findings—Intent—2004 c 13:** "The legislature finds that the current telephone service for offender calls from department of corrections facilities is based on outdated technology that provides neither the most secure nor the most accountable system available and is provided at a high cost to the offenders' families. The legislature, in budget provisions, has required the secretary of corrections to investigate other systems as offender telephone service contracts came due for renewal. The legislature now finds that the current statute prevents the secretary of corrections from using systems that provide greater security, more offender accountability, and lower costs. Therefore, the legislature intends to remove this barrier while retaining the intent of the statute to provide safe, accountable, and affordable telephone services." [2004 c 13 § 1.]

*Local government reimbursement claims: RCW 4.92.280.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### **9.73.100 Recordings available to defense counsel.**

Video and/or sound recordings obtained by police personnel under the authority of RCW 9.73.090 and 9.73.100 shall be made available for hearing and/or viewing by defense counsel at the request of defense counsel whenever a criminal charge has been filed against the subject of the video and/or sound recordings. [1970 ex.s. c 48 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.110 Intercepting, recording, or disclosing private communications—Not unlawful for building owner—Conditions.** It shall not be unlawful for the owner or person entitled to use and possession of a building, as defined in RCW 9A.04.110(5), or the agent of such person, to intercept, record, or disclose communications or conversations which occur within such building if the persons engaged in such communication or conversation are engaged in a criminal act at the time of such communication or conversation by virtue of unlawful entry or remaining unlawfully in such building. [1977 ex.s. c 363 § 4.]

**9.73.120 Reports—Required, when, contents.** (1) Within thirty days after the expiration of an authorization or an extension or renewal thereof issued pursuant to RCW 9.73.090(2) as now or hereafter amended, the issuing or denying judge shall make a report to the administrator for the courts stating that:

- (a) An authorization, extension or renewal was applied for;
- (b) The kind of authorization applied for;
- (c) The authorization was granted as applied for, was modified, or was denied;
- (d) The period of recording authorized by the authorization and the number and duration of any extensions or renewals of the authorization;
- (e) The offense specified in the authorization or extension or renewal of authorization;
- (f) The identity of the person authorizing the application and of the investigative or law enforcement officer and agency for whom it was made;
- (g) Whether an arrest resulted from the communication which was the subject of the authorization; and
- (h) The character of the facilities from which or the place where the communications were to be recorded.

(2) In addition to reports required to be made by applicants pursuant to federal law, all judges of the superior court authorized to issue authority pursuant to this chapter shall make annual reports on the operation of this chapter to the administrator for the courts. The reports made under this subsection must include information on authorizations for the installation and use of pen registers and trap and trace devices under RCW 9.73.260. The reports by the judges shall contain (a) the number of applications made; (b) the number of authorizations issued; (c) the respective periods of such authorizations; (d) the number and duration of any renewals thereof; (e) the crimes in connection with which the communications or conversations were sought; (f) the names of the applicants; and (g) such other and further particulars as the administrator for the courts may require, except that the administrator for the courts shall not require the reporting of information that might lead to the disclosure of the identity of a confidential informant.

The chief justice of the supreme court shall annually report to the governor and the legislature on such aspects of the operation of this chapter as appropriate including any recommendations as to legislative changes or improvements to effectuate the purposes of this chapter and to assure and protect individual rights. [1998 c 217 § 3; 1989 c 271 § 207; 1977 ex.s. c 363 § 5.]

*Local government reimbursement claims: RCW 4.92.280.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.130 Recording private communications—Authorization—Application for, contents.** Each application for an authorization to record communications or conversations pursuant to RCW 9.73.090 as now or hereafter amended shall be made in writing upon oath or affirmation and shall state:

(1) The authority of the applicant to make such application;

(2) The identity and qualifications of the investigative or law enforcement officers or agency for whom the authority to record a communication or conversation is sought and the identity of whoever authorized the application;

(3) A particular statement of the facts relied upon by the applicant to justify his or her belief that an authorization should be issued, including:

(a) The identity of the particular person, if known, committing the offense and whose communications or conversations are to be recorded;

(b) The details as to the particular offense that has been, is being, or is about to be committed;

(c) The particular type of communication or conversation to be recorded and a showing that there is probable cause to believe such communication will be communicated on the wire communication facility involved or at the particular place where the oral communication is to be recorded;

(d) The character and location of the particular wire communication facilities involved or the particular place where the oral communication is to be recorded;

(e) A statement of the period of time for which the recording is required to be maintained, if the character of the investigation is such that the authorization for recording should not automatically terminate when the described type of communication or conversation has been first obtained, a

particular statement of facts establishing probable cause to believe that additional communications of the same type will occur thereafter;

(f) A particular statement of facts showing that other normal investigative procedures with respect to the offense have been tried and have failed or reasonably appear to be unlikely to succeed if tried or to be too dangerous to employ;

(4) Where the application is for the renewal or extension of an authorization, a particular statement of facts showing the results thus far obtained from the recording, or a reasonable explanation of the failure to obtain such results;

(5) A complete statement of the facts concerning all previous applications, known to the individual authorizing and to the individual making the application, made to any court for authorization to record a wire or oral communication involving any of the same facilities or places specified in the application or involving any person whose communication is to be intercepted, and the action taken by the court on each application; and

(6) Such additional testimony or documentary evidence in support of the application as the judge may require. [2011 c 336 § 326; 1977 ex.s. c 363 § 6.]

**9.73.140 Recording private communications—Authorization of or application for—Inventory, contents, service—Availability of recording, applications, and orders.** Within a reasonable time but not later than thirty days after the termination of the period of the authorization or of extensions or renewals thereof, or the date of the denial of an authorization applied for under RCW 9.73.090 as now or hereafter amended, the issuing authority shall cause to be served on the person named in the authorization or application for an authorization, and such other parties to the recorded communications as the judge may in his or her discretion determine to be in the interest of justice, an inventory which shall include:

(1) Notice of the entry of the authorization or the application for an authorization which has been denied under RCW 9.73.090 as now or hereafter amended;

(2) The date of the entry of the authorization or the denial of an authorization applied for under RCW 9.73.090 as now or hereafter amended;

(3) The period of authorized or disapproved recording; and

(4) The fact that during the period wire or oral communications were or were not recorded.

The issuing authority, upon the filing of a motion, may in its discretion make available to such person or his or her attorney for inspection such portions of the recorded communications, applications and orders as the court determines to be in the interest of justice. On an ex parte showing of good cause to the court the serving of the inventory required by this section may be postponed or dispensed with. [2011 c 336 § 327; 1977 ex.s. c 363 § 7.]

**9.73.200 Intercepting, transmitting, or recording conversations concerning controlled substances—Findings.** The legislature finds that the unlawful manufacturing, selling, and distributing of controlled substances is becoming increasingly prevalent and violent. Attempts by law enforcement officers to prevent the manufacture, sale, and distribu-

tion of drugs is resulting in numerous life-threatening situations since drug dealers are using sophisticated weapons and modern technological devices to deter the efforts of law enforcement officials to enforce the controlled substance statutes. Dealers of unlawful drugs are employing a wide variety of violent methods to realize the enormous profits of the drug trade.

Therefore, the legislature finds that conversations regarding illegal drug operations should be intercepted, transmitted, and recorded in certain circumstances without prior judicial approval in order to protect the life and safety of law enforcement personnel and to enhance prosecution of drug offenses, and that that interception and transmission can be done without violating the constitutional guarantees of privacy. [1989 c 271 § 201.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.210 Intercepting, transmitting, or recording conversations concerning controlled substances or commercial sexual abuse of a minor—Authorization—Monthly report—Admissibility—Destruction of information.** (1) If a police commander or officer above the rank of first line supervisor has reasonable suspicion that the safety of the consenting party is in danger, law enforcement personnel may, for the sole purpose of protecting the safety of the consenting party, intercept, transmit, or record a private conversation or communication concerning:

(a) The unlawful manufacture, delivery, sale, or possession with intent to manufacture, deliver, or sell, controlled substances as defined in chapter 69.50 RCW, or legend drugs as defined in chapter 69.41 RCW, or imitation controlled substances as defined in chapter 69.52 RCW; or

(b) Person(s) engaging in the commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.100, or promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.101, or promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.102.

(2) Before any interception, transmission, or recording of a private conversation or communication pursuant to this section, the police commander or officer making the determination required by subsection (1) of this section shall complete a written authorization which shall include (a) the date and time the authorization is given; (b) the persons, including the consenting party, expected to participate in the conversation or communication, to the extent known; (c) the expected date, location, and approximate time of the conversation or communication; and (d) the reasons for believing the consenting party's safety will be in danger.

(3) A monthly report shall be filed by the law enforcement agency with the administrator for the courts indicating the number of authorizations made under this section, the date and time of each authorization, and whether an interception, transmission, or recording was made with respect to each authorization.

(4) Any information obtained pursuant to this section is inadmissible in any civil or criminal case in all courts of general or limited jurisdiction in this state, except:

(a) With the permission of the person whose communication or conversation was intercepted, transmitted, or recorded without his or her knowledge;

(b) In a civil action for personal injury or wrongful death arising out of the same incident, where the cause of action is based upon an act of physical violence against the consenting party; or

(c) In a criminal prosecution, arising out of the same incident for a serious violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 in which a party who consented to the interception, transmission, or recording was a victim of the offense.

(5) Nothing in this section bars the admission of testimony of a participant in the communication or conversation unaided by information obtained pursuant to this section.

(6) The authorizing agency shall immediately destroy any written, transcribed, or recorded information obtained from an interception, transmission, or recording authorized under this section unless the agency determines there has been a personal injury or death or a serious violent offense which may give rise to a civil action or criminal prosecution in which the information may be admissible under subsection (4)(b) or (c) of this section.

(7) Nothing in this section authorizes the interception, recording, or transmission of a telephonic communication or conversation. [2011 c 241 § 3; 1989 c 271 § 202.]

**Findings—Effective date—2011 c 241:** See notes following RCW 9.73.230.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.220 Judicial authorizations—Availability of judge required.** In each superior court judicial district in a county with a population of two hundred ten thousand or more there shall be available twenty-four hours a day at least one superior court or district court judge or magistrate designated to receive telephonic requests for authorizations that may be issued pursuant to this chapter. The presiding judge of each such superior court in conjunction with the district court judges in that superior court judicial district shall establish a coordinated schedule of rotation for all of the superior and district court judges and magistrates in the superior court judicial district for purposes of ensuring the availability of at least one judge or magistrate at all times. During the period that each judge or magistrate is designated, he or she shall be equipped with an electronic paging device when not present at his or her usual telephone. It shall be the designated judge's or magistrate's responsibility to ensure that all attempts to reach him or her for purposes of requesting authorization pursuant to this chapter are forwarded to the electronic page number when the judge or magistrate leaves the place where he or she would normally receive such calls. [1991 c 363 § 9; 1989 c 271 § 203.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.230 Intercepting, transmitting, or recording conversations concerning controlled substances or commercial sexual abuse of a minor—Conditions—Written reports required—Judicial review—Notice—Admissibility—Penalties.** (1) As part of a bona fide criminal investigation, the chief law enforcement officer of a law enforcement agency or his or her designee above the rank of first line supervisor may authorize the interception, transmission, or

recording of a conversation or communication by officers under the following circumstances:

(a) At least one party to the conversation or communication has consented to the interception, transmission, or recording;

(b) Probable cause exists to believe that the conversation or communication involves:

(i) The unlawful manufacture, delivery, sale, or possession with intent to manufacture, deliver, or sell, controlled substances as defined in chapter 69.50 RCW, or legend drugs as defined in chapter 69.41 RCW, or imitation controlled substances as defined in chapter 69.52 RCW; or

(ii) A party engaging in the commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.100, or promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.101, or promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.102; and

(c) A written report has been completed as required by subsection (2) of this section.

(2) The agency's chief officer or designee authorizing an interception, transmission, or recording under subsection (1) of this section, shall prepare and sign a written report at the time of authorization indicating:

(a) The circumstances that meet the requirements of subsection (1) of this section;

(b) The names of the authorizing and consenting parties, except that in those cases where the consenting party is a confidential informant, the name of the confidential informant need not be divulged;

(c) The names of the officers authorized to intercept, transmit, and record the conversation or communication;

(d) The identity of the particular person or persons, if known, who may have committed or may commit the offense;

(e) The details of the particular offense or offenses that may have been or may be committed and the expected date, location, and approximate time of the conversation or communication; and

(f) Whether there was an attempt to obtain authorization pursuant to RCW 9.73.090(2) and, if there was such an attempt, the outcome of the attempt.

(3) An authorization under this section is valid in all jurisdictions within Washington state and for the interception of communications from additional persons if the persons are brought into the conversation or transaction by the nonconsenting party or if the nonconsenting party or such additional persons cause or invite the consenting party to enter another jurisdiction.

(4) The recording of any conversation or communication under this section shall be done in such a manner that protects the recording from editing or other alterations.

(5) An authorization made under this section is valid for no more than twenty-four hours from the time it is signed by the authorizing officer, and each authorization shall independently meet all of the requirements of this section. The authorizing officer shall sign the written report required under subsection (2) of this section, certifying the exact date and time of his or her signature. An authorization under this section may be extended not more than twice for an additional consecutive twenty-four hour period based upon the same probable cause regarding the same suspected transac-

tion. Each such extension shall be signed by the authorizing officer.

(6) Within fifteen days after the signing of an authorization that results in any interception, transmission, or recording of a conversation or communication pursuant to this section, the law enforcement agency which made the interception, transmission, or recording shall submit a report including the original authorization under subsection (2) of this section to a judge of a court having jurisdiction which report shall identify (a) the persons, including the consenting party, who participated in the conversation, and (b) the date, location, and approximate time of the conversation.

In those cases where the consenting party is a confidential informant, the name of the confidential informant need not be divulged.

A monthly report shall be filed by the law enforcement agency with the administrator for the courts indicating the number of authorizations granted, the date and time of each authorization, interceptions made, arrests resulting from an interception, and subsequent invalidations.

(7)(a) Within two judicial days of receipt of a report under subsection (6) of this section, the court shall make an ex parte review of the authorization and shall make a determination whether the requirements of subsection (1) of this section were met. Evidence obtained as a result of the interception, transmission, or recording need not be submitted to the court. If the court determines that any of the requirements of subsection (1) of this section were not met, the court shall order that any recording and any copies or transcriptions of the conversation or communication be destroyed. Destruction of recordings, copies, or transcriptions shall be stayed pending any appeal of a finding that the requirements of subsection (1) of this section were not met.

(b) Absent a continuation under (c) of this subsection, six months following a determination under (a) of this subsection that probable cause did not exist, the court shall cause a notice to be mailed to the last known address of any nonconsenting party to the conversation or communication that was the subject of the authorization. The notice shall indicate the date, time, and place of any interception, transmission, or recording made pursuant to the authorization. The notice shall also identify the agency that sought the authorization and shall indicate that a review under (a) of this subsection resulted in a determination that the authorization was made in violation of this section provided that, if the confidential informant was a minor at the time of the recording or an alleged victim of commercial child sexual abuse under RCW 9.68A.100 through 9.68A.102 or 9[A].40.100, no such notice shall be given.

(c) An authorizing agency may obtain six-month extensions to the notice requirement of (b) of this subsection in cases of active, ongoing criminal investigations that might be jeopardized by sending the notice.

(8) In any subsequent judicial proceeding, evidence obtained through the interception or recording of a conversation or communication pursuant to this section shall be admissible only if:

(a) The court finds that the requirements of subsection (1) of this section were met and the evidence is used in prosecuting an offense listed in subsection (1)(b) of this section; or

(b) The evidence is admitted with the permission of the person whose communication or conversation was intercepted, transmitted, or recorded; or

(c) The evidence is admitted in a prosecution for a "serious violent offense" as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 in which a party who consented to the interception, transmission, or recording was a victim of the offense; or

(d) The evidence is admitted in a civil suit for personal injury or wrongful death arising out of the same incident, in which a party who consented to the interception, transmission, or recording was a victim of a serious violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030.

Nothing in this subsection bars the admission of testimony of a party or eyewitness to the intercepted, transmitted, or recorded conversation or communication when that testimony is unaided by information obtained solely by violation of RCW 9.73.030.

(9) Any determination of invalidity of an authorization under this section shall be reported by the court to the administrative office of the courts.

(10) Any person who intentionally intercepts, transmits, or records or who intentionally authorizes the interception, transmission, or recording of a conversation or communication in violation of this section, is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(11) An authorizing agency is liable for twenty-five thousand dollars in exemplary damages, in addition to any other damages authorized by this chapter or by other law, to a person whose conversation or communication was intercepted, transmitted, or recorded pursuant to an authorization under this section if:

(a) In a review under subsection (7) of this section, or in a suppression of evidence proceeding, it has been determined that the authorization was made without the probable cause required by subsection (1)(b) of this section; and

(b) The authorization was also made without a reasonable suspicion that the conversation or communication would involve the unlawful acts identified in subsection (1)(b) of this section. [2011 c 241 § 2; 2005 c 282 § 17; 1989 c 271 § 204.]

**Findings—2011 c 241:** "The legislature finds increasing incidents of commercial sexual exploitation of children in our state, and further protection of victims require giving law enforcement agencies the tool to have a unified victim-centered police investigation approach to further protect victims by ensuring their safety by prosecuting traffickers. The one-party consent provision permitted for drug trafficking investigation passed in the comprehensive bill to facilitate police investigation and prosecution of drug trafficking crimes is a helpful tool to this end. The legislature also finds that exceptions should be allowed for minors employed for investigation when the minor is a victim and involves only electronic communication with the defendant." [2011 c 241 § 1.]

**Effective date—2011 c 241:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2011." [2011 c 241 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.240 Intercepting, transmitting, or recording conversations concerning controlled substances—Concurrent power of attorney general to investigate and prosecute.** (1) The attorney general shall have concurrent authority and power with the prosecuting attorneys to investigate violations of RCW 9.73.200 through 9.73.230 or RCW 9.73.090 and initiate and conduct prosecutions of any violations upon request of any of the following:

(a) The person who was the nonconsenting party to the intercepted, transmitted, or recorded conversation or communication; or

(b) The county prosecuting attorney of the jurisdiction in which the offense has occurred.

(2) The request shall be communicated in writing to the attorney general. [1989 c 271 § 206.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.73.260 Pen registers, trap and trace devices.** (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Wire communication" means any aural transfer made in whole or in part through the use of facilities for the transmission of communications by the aid of wire, cable, or other like connection between the point of origin and the point of reception, including the use of such connection in a switching station, furnished or operated by any person engaged in providing or operating such facilities for the transmission of intrastate, interstate, or foreign communications, and such term includes any electronic storage of such communication.

(b) "Electronic communication" means any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectronic, or photo-optical system, but does not include:

(i) Any wire or oral communication;

(ii) Any communication made through a tone-only paging device; or

(iii) Any communication from a tracking device.

(c) "Electronic communication service" means any service that provides to users thereof the ability to send or receive wire or electronic communications.

(d) "Pen register" means a device that records or decodes electronic or other impulses that identify the numbers dialed or otherwise transmitted on the telephone line to which such device is attached, but such term does not include any device used by a provider or customer of a wire or electronic communication service for billing, or recording as an incident to billing, for communications services provided by such provider or any device used by a provider or customer of a wire communication service for cost accounting or other like purposes in the ordinary course of its business.

(e) "Trap and trace device" means a device that captures the incoming electronic or other impulses that identify the originating number of an instrument or device from which a wire or electronic communication was transmitted.

(2) No person may install or use a pen register or trap and trace device without a prior court order issued under this section except as provided under subsection (6) of this section or RCW 9.73.070.

(3) A law enforcement officer may apply for and the superior court may issue orders and extensions of orders authorizing the installation and use of pen registers and trap and trace devices as provided in this section. The application shall be under oath and shall include the identity of the officer making the application and the identity of the law enforcement agency conducting the investigation. The applicant must certify that the information likely to be obtained is relevant to an ongoing criminal investigation being conducted by that agency.



(4) If the court finds that the information likely to be obtained by such installation and use is relevant to an ongoing criminal investigation and finds that there is probable cause to believe that the pen register or trap and trace device will lead to obtaining evidence of a crime, contraband, fruits of crime, things criminally possessed, weapons, or other things by means of which a crime has been committed or reasonably appears about to be committed, or will lead to learning the location of a person who is unlawfully restrained or reasonably believed to be a witness in a criminal investigation or for whose arrest there is probable cause, the court shall enter an ex parte order authorizing the installation and use of a pen register or a trap and trace device. The order shall specify:

(a) The identity, if known, of the person to whom is leased or in whose name is listed the telephone line to which the pen register or trap and trace device is to be attached;

(b) The identity, if known, of the person who is the subject of the criminal investigation;

(c) The number and, if known, physical location of the telephone line to which the pen register or trap and trace device is to be attached and, in the case of a trap and trace device, the geographic limits of the trap and trace order; and

(d) A statement of the offense to which the information likely to be obtained by the pen register or trap and trace device relates.

The order shall direct, if the applicant has requested, the furnishing of information, facilities, and technical assistance necessary to accomplish the installation of the pen register or trap and trace device. An order issued under this section shall authorize the installation and use of a pen register or a trap and trace device for a period not to exceed sixty days. An extension of the original order may only be granted upon: A new application for an order under subsection (3) of this section; and a showing that there is a probability that the information or items sought under this subsection are more likely to be obtained under the extension than under the original order. No extension beyond the first extension shall be granted unless: There is a showing that there is a high probability that the information or items sought under this subsection are much more likely to be obtained under the second or subsequent extension than under the original order; and there are extraordinary circumstances such as a direct and immediate danger of death or serious bodily injury to a law enforcement officer. The period of extension shall be for a period not to exceed sixty days.

An order authorizing or approving the installation and use of a pen register or a trap and trace device shall direct that the order be sealed until otherwise ordered by the court and that the person owning or leasing the line to which the pen register or trap and trace device is attached, or who has been ordered by the court to provide assistance to the applicant, not disclose the existence of the pen register or trap and trace device or the existence of the investigation to the listed subscriber or to any other person, unless or until otherwise ordered by the court.

(5) Upon the presentation of an order, entered under subsection (4) of this section, by an officer of a law enforcement agency authorized to install and use a pen register under this chapter, a provider of wire or electronic communication service, landlord, custodian, or other person shall furnish such

law enforcement officer forthwith all information, facilities, and technical assistance necessary to accomplish the installation of the pen register unobtrusively and with a minimum of interference with the services that the person so ordered by the court accords the party with respect to whom the installation and use is to take place, if such assistance is directed by a court order as provided in subsection (4) of this section.

Upon the request of an officer of a law enforcement agency authorized to receive the results of a trap and trace device under this chapter, a provider of a wire or electronic communication service, landlord, custodian, or other person shall install such device forthwith on the appropriate line and shall furnish such law enforcement officer all additional information, facilities, and technical assistance including installation and operation of the device unobtrusively and with a minimum of interference with the services that the person so ordered by the court accords the party with respect to whom the installation and use is to take place, if such installation and assistance is directed by a court order as provided in subsection (4) of this section. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, the results of the trap and trace device shall be furnished to the officer of a law enforcement agency, designated in the court order, at reasonable intervals during regular business hours for the duration of the order.

A provider of a wire or electronic communication service, landlord, custodian, or other person who furnishes facilities or technical assistance pursuant to this subsection shall be reasonably compensated by the law enforcement agency that requests the facilities or assistance for such reasonable expenses incurred in providing such facilities and assistance.

No cause of action shall lie in any court against any provider of a wire or electronic communication service, its officers, employees, agents, or other specified persons for providing information, facilities, or assistance in accordance with the terms of a court order under this section. A good faith reliance on a court order under this section, a request pursuant to this section, a legislative authorization, or a statutory authorization is a complete defense against any civil or criminal action brought under this chapter or any other law.

(6)(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a law enforcement officer and a prosecuting attorney or deputy prosecuting attorney who jointly and reasonably determine that there is probable cause to believe that an emergency situation exists that involves immediate danger of death or serious bodily injury to any person that requires the installation and use of a pen register or a trap and trace device before an order authorizing such installation and use can, with due diligence, be obtained, and there are grounds upon which an order could be entered under this chapter to authorize such installation and use, may have installed and use a pen register or trap and trace device if, within forty-eight hours after the installation has occurred, or begins to occur, an order approving the installation or use is issued in accordance with subsection (4) of this section. In the absence of an authorizing order, such use shall immediately terminate when the information sought is obtained, when the application for the order is denied or when forty-eight hours have lapsed since the installation of the pen register or trap and trace device, whichever is earlier. If an order approving the installation or use is not obtained within forty-eight hours, any information obtained is not admissible as evidence in any

legal proceeding. The knowing installation or use by any law enforcement officer of a pen register or trap and trace device pursuant to this subsection without application for the authorizing order within forty-eight hours of the installation shall constitute a violation of this chapter and be punishable as a gross misdemeanor. A provider of a wire or electronic service, landlord, custodian, or other person who furnished facilities or technical assistance pursuant to this subsection shall be reasonably compensated by the law enforcement agency that requests the facilities or assistance for such reasonable expenses incurred in providing such facilities and assistance.

(b) A law enforcement agency that authorizes the installation of a pen register or trap and trace device under this subsection (6) shall file a monthly report with the administrator for the courts. The report shall indicate the number of authorizations made, the date and time of each authorization, whether a court authorization was sought within forty-eight hours, and whether a subsequent court authorization was granted. [1998 c 217 § 1.]

*Local government reimbursement claims: RCW 4.92.280.*

### Chapter 9.81 RCW SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES

#### Sections

9.81.010	Definitions.
9.81.020	Subversive activities made felony—Penalty.
9.81.030	Membership in subversive organization is felony—Penalty.
9.81.040	Disqualification from voting or holding public office.
9.81.050	Dissolution of subversive organizations—Disposition of property.
9.81.060	Public employment—Subversive person ineligible.
9.81.070	Public employment—Determining eligibility—Inquiries—Oath.
9.81.080	Public employment—Inquiries may be dispensed with, when.
9.81.082	Membership in subversive organization described.
9.81.083	Communist party declared a subversive organization.
9.81.090	Public employees—Discharge of subversive persons—Procedure—Hearing—Appeal.
9.81.110	Misstatements are punishable as perjury—Penalty.
9.81.120	Constitutional rights—Censorship or infringement.

*Anarchy and sabotage: Chapter 9.05 RCW.*

*Freedom of speech: State Constitution Art. 1 § 5.*

*Treason: State Constitution Art. 1 § 27; chapter 9.82 RCW.*

**9.81.010 Definitions.** (1) "Organization" means an organization, corporation, company, partnership, association, trust, foundation, fund, club, society, committee, political party, or any group of persons, whether or not incorporated, permanently or temporarily associated together for joint action or advancement of views on any subject or subjects.

(2) "Subversive organization" means any organization which engages in or advocates, abets, advises, or teaches, or a purpose of which is to engage in or advocate, abet, advise, or teach activities intended to overthrow, destroy or alter, or to assist in the overthrow, destruction or alteration of, the constitutional form of the government of the United States, or of the state of Washington, or of any political subdivision of either of them, by revolution, force or violence.

(3) "Foreign subversive organization" means any organization directed, dominated or controlled directly or indirectly by a foreign government which engages in or advocates, abets, advises, or teaches, or a purpose of which is to engage in or to advocate, abet, advise, or teach, activities intended to

overthrow, destroy or alter, or to assist in the overthrow, destruction or alteration of the constitutional form of the government of the United States, or of the state of Washington, or of any political subdivision of either of them, and to establish in place thereof any form of government the direction and control of which is to be vested in, or exercised by or under, the domination or control of any foreign government, organization, or individual.

(4) "Foreign government" means the government of any country or nation other than the government of the United States of America or of one of the states thereof.

(5) "Subversive person" means any person who commits, attempts to commit, or aids in the commission, or advocates, abets, advises or teaches by any means any person to commit, attempt to commit, or aid in the commission of any act intended to overthrow, destroy or alter, or to assist in the overthrow, destruction or alteration of, the constitutional form of the government of the United States, or of the state of Washington, or any political subdivision of either of them by revolution, force, or violence; or who with knowledge that the organization is an organization as described in subsections (2) and (3) hereof, becomes or remains a member of a subversive organization or a foreign subversive organization. [1953 c 142 § 1; 1951 c 254 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9.81.020 Subversive activities made felony—Penalty.**

(1) It is a class B felony for any person knowingly and willfully to:

(a) Commit, attempt to commit, or aid in the commission of any act intended to overthrow, destroy or alter, or to assist in the overthrow, destruction or alteration of, the constitutional form of the government of the United States, or of the state of Washington or any political subdivision of either of them, by revolution, force or violence; or

(b) Advocate, abet, advise, or teach by any means any person to commit, attempt to commit, or assist in the commission of any such act under such circumstances as to constitute a clear and present danger to the security of the United States, or of the state of Washington or of any political subdivision of either of them; or

(c) Conspire with one or more persons to commit any such act; or

(d) Assist in the formation or participate in the management or to contribute to the support of any subversive organization or foreign subversive organization knowing the organization to be a subversive organization or a foreign subversive organization; or

(e) Destroy any books, records or files, or secrete any funds in this state of a subversive organization or a foreign subversive organization, knowing the organization to be such.

(2) Any person upon a plea of guilty or upon conviction of violating any of the provisions of this section shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars, or imprisoned for not more than ten years, or both, at the discretion of the court. [2003 c 53 § 44; 1951 c 254 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.81.030 Membership in subversive organization is felony—Penalty.** It is a class C felony for any person after June 1, 1951, to become, or after September 1, 1951, to remain a member of a subversive organization or a foreign subversive organization knowing the organization to be a subversive organization or foreign subversive organization. Any person upon a plea of guilty or upon conviction of violating this section shall be fined not more than five thousand dollars, or imprisoned for not more than five years, or both, at the discretion of the court. [2003 c 53 § 45; 1951 c 254 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.81.040 Disqualification from voting or holding public office.** Any person who shall be convicted or shall plead guilty of violating any of the provisions of RCW 9.81.020 and 9.81.030, in addition to all other penalties therein provided, shall from the date of such conviction be barred from

(1) Holding any office, elective or appointive, or any other position of profit or trust in, or employment by the government of the state of Washington or of any agency thereof or of any county, municipal corporation or other political subdivision of said state;

(2) Filing or standing for election to any public office in the state of Washington; or

(3) Voting in any election held in this state. [1951 c 254 § 4.]

**9.81.050 Dissolution of subversive organizations—Disposition of property.** It shall be unlawful for any subversive organization or foreign subversive organization to exist or function in the state of Washington and any organization which by a court of competent jurisdiction is found to have violated the provisions of this section shall be dissolved, and if it be a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Washington a finding by a court of competent jurisdiction that it has violated the provisions of this section shall constitute legal cause for forfeiture of its charter and its charter shall be forfeited and all funds, books, records and files of every kind and all other property of any organization found to have violated the provisions of this section shall be seized by and for the state of Washington, the funds to be deposited in the state treasury and the books, records, files and other property to be turned over to the attorney general of Washington. [1951 c 254 § 5.]

**9.81.060 Public employment—Subversive person ineligible.** No subversive person, as defined in this chapter, shall be eligible for employment in, or appointment to any office, or any position of trust or profit in the government, or in the administration of the business, of this state, or of any county, municipality, or other political subdivision of this state. [1951 c 254 § 11.]

**9.81.070 Public employment—Determining eligibility—Inquiries—Oath.** Every person and every board, commission, council, department, court or other agency of the state of Washington or any political subdivision thereof, who or which appoints or employs or supervises in any manner the appointment or employment of public officials or employees

shall establish by rules, regulations or otherwise, procedures designed to ascertain whether any person is a subversive person. In securing any facts necessary to ascertain the information herein required, the applicant shall be required to sign a written statement containing answers to such inquiries as may be material, which statement shall contain notice that it is subject to the penalties of perjury. Every such person, board, commission, council, department, court, or other agency shall require every employee or applicant for employment to state under oath whether or not he or she is a member of the Communist party or other subversive organization, and refusal to answer on any grounds shall be cause for immediate termination of such employee's employment or for refusal to accept his or her application for employment. [1955 c 377 § 1; 1951 c 254 § 12.]

*Application forms, licenses—Mention of race or religion prohibited—Penalty:* RCW 43.01.100.

*Discrimination in employment:* Chapter 49.60 RCW.

**9.81.080 Public employment—Inquiries may be dispensed with, when.** The inquiries prescribed in preceding sections, other than the written statement to be executed by an applicant for employment and the requirement set forth in RCW 9.81.070, relative to membership in the communist party or other subversive organization, shall not be required as a prerequisite to the employment of any persons in any case in which the employing authority may determine, and by rule or regulation specify the reasons why, the nature of the work to be performed is such that employment of such persons will not be dangerous to the health of the citizens or the security of the governments of the United States, the state of Washington, or any political subdivision thereof. [1955 c 377 § 2; 1951 c 254 § 13.]

**9.81.082 Membership in subversive organization described.** For the purpose of \*this act, membership in a subversive organization shall be membership in any organization after it has been placed on the list of organizations designated by the attorney general of the United States as being subversive pursuant to executive order No. 9835. [1955 c 377 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The term "this act" as used in RCW 9.81.082 appeared in 1955 c 377 § 3 which did not contain any language incorporating it as part of 1951 c 254 nor as part of chapter 9.81 RCW.

**9.81.083 Communist party declared a subversive organization.** The Communist party is a subversive organization within the purview of chapter 9.81 RCW and membership in the Communist party is a subversive activity thereunder. [1955 c 377 § 4.]

**9.81.090 Public employees—Discharge of subversive persons—Procedure—Hearing—Appeal.** Reasonable grounds on all the evidence to believe that any person is a subversive person, as defined in this chapter, shall be cause for discharge from any appointive office or other position of profit or trust in the government of or in the administration of the business of this state, or of any county, municipality or other political subdivision of this state, or any agency thereof. The attorney general and the personnel director, and the civil service commission of any county, city, or other political

subdivision of this state, shall, by appropriate rules or regulations, prescribe that persons charged with being subversive persons, as defined in this chapter, shall have the right of reasonable notice, date, time, and place of hearing, opportunity to be heard by himself or herself and witnesses on his or her behalf, to be represented by counsel, to be confronted by witnesses against him or her, the right to cross-examination, and such other rights which are in accordance with the procedures prescribed by law for the discharge of such person for other reasons. Every person and every board, commission, council, department, or other agency of the state of Washington or any political subdivision thereof having responsibility for the appointment, employment, or supervision of public employees not covered by the classified service in this section referred to, shall establish rules or procedures similar to those required herein for classified services for a hearing for any person charged with being a subversive person, as defined in this chapter, after notice and opportunity to be heard. Every employing authority discharging any person pursuant to any provision of this chapter, shall promptly report to the special assistant attorney general in charge of subversive activities the fact of and the circumstances surrounding such discharge. Any person discharged under the provisions of this chapter shall have the right within thirty days thereafter to appeal to the superior court of the county wherein said person may reside or wherein he or she may have been employed for determination by said court as to whether or not the discharge appealed from was justified under the provisions of this chapter. The court shall regularly hear and determine such appeals and the decision of the superior court may be appealed to the supreme court or the court of appeals of the state of Washington as in civil cases. Any person appealing to the superior court may be entitled to trial by jury if he or she so elects. [2011 c 336 § 328; 1971 c 81 § 44; 1951 c 254 § 15.]

**9.81.110 Misstatements are punishable as perjury—Penalty.** Every written statement made pursuant to this chapter by an applicant for appointment or employment, or by any employee, shall be deemed to have been made under oath if it contains a declaration preceding the signature of the maker to the effect that it is made under the penalties of perjury. Any person who wilfully makes a material misstatement of fact (1) in any such written statement, or (2) in any affidavit made pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, or (3) under oath in any hearing conducted by any agency of the state, or of any of its political subdivisions pursuant to this chapter, or (4) in any written statement by an applicant for appointment or employment or by an employee in any state aid or private institution of learning in this state, intended to determine whether or not such applicant or employee is a subversive person as defined in this chapter, which statement contains notice that it is subject to the penalties of perjury, shall be subject to the penalties of perjury, as prescribed in chapter 9.41 RCW. [1951 c 254 § 17.]

**9.81.120 Constitutional rights—Censorship or infringement.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to authorize, require or establish any military or civilian censorship or in any way to limit or infringe upon freedom of the press or freedom of speech or assembly within the meaning

and the manner as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States or of the state of Washington and no regulation shall be promulgated hereunder having that effect. [1951 c 254 § 19.]

### Chapter 9.82 RCW TREASON

#### Sections

9.82.010	Defined—Penalty.
9.82.020	Levying war.
9.82.030	Misprision of treason.

*Anarchy and sabotage:* Chapter 9.05 RCW.

*Subversive activities:* Chapter 9.81 RCW.

**9.82.010 Defined—Penalty.** (1) Treason against the people of the state consists in—

- (a) Levying war against the people of the state, or
- (b) Adhering to its enemies, or
- (c) Giving them aid and comfort.

(2) Treason is a class A felony and punishable by death.

(3) No person shall be convicted for treason unless upon the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act or by confession in open court. [2003 c 53 § 46; 1909 c 249 § 65; RRS § 2317.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Treason defined and evidence required:* State Constitution Art. 1 § 27.

**9.82.020 Levying war.** To constitute levying war against the state an actual act of war must be committed. To conspire to levy war is not enough. When persons arise in insurrection with intent to prevent, in general, by force and intimidation, the execution of a statute of this state, or to force its repeal, they shall be guilty of levying war. But an endeavor, although by numbers and force of arms, to resist the execution of a law in a single instance, and for a private purpose, is not levying war. [1909 c 249 § 66; RRS § 2318.]

**9.82.030 Misprision of treason.** Every person having knowledge of the commission of treason, who conceals the same, and does not, as soon as may be, disclose such treason to the governor or a justice of the supreme court or a judge of either the court of appeals or the superior court, shall be guilty of misprision of treason and punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than five years or in a county jail for up to three hundred sixty-four days. [2011 c 96 § 9; 1992 c 7 § 16; 1971 c 81 § 45; 1909 c 249 § 67; RRS § 2319.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

### Chapter 9.86 RCW FLAGS, CRIMES RELATING TO

#### Sections

9.86.010	"Flag," etc., defined.
9.86.020	Improper use of flag prohibited.
9.86.030	Desecration of flag.
9.86.040	Application of provisions.

*Display of flags:* RCW 1.20.015.

*Flag exercises in schools:* RCW 28A.230.140.

State flag: RCW 1.20.010.

**9.86.010 "Flag," etc., defined.** The words flag, standard, color, ensign or shield, as used in this chapter, shall include any flag, standard, color, ensign or shield, or copy, picture or representation thereof, made of any substance or represented or produced thereon, and of any size, evidently purporting to be such flag, standard, color, ensign or shield of the United States or of this state, or a copy, picture or representation thereof. [1919 c 107 § 1; RRS § 2675-1.]

**9.86.020 Improper use of flag prohibited.** (1) No person shall, in any manner, for exhibition or display:

(a) Place or cause to be placed any word, figure, mark, picture, design, drawing or advertisement of any nature upon any flag, standard, color, ensign or shield of the United States or of this state, or authorized by any law of the United States or of this state; or

(b) Expose to public view any such flag, standard, color, ensign or shield upon which shall have been printed, painted or otherwise produced, or to which shall have been attached, appended, affixed or annexed any such word, figure, mark, picture, design, drawing or advertisement; or

(c) Expose to public view for sale, manufacture, or otherwise, or to sell, give, or have in possession for sale, for gift or for use for any purpose, any substance, being an article of merchandise, or receptacle, or thing for holding or carrying merchandise, upon or to which shall have been produced or attached any such flag, standard, color, ensign or shield, in order to advertise, call attention to, decorate, mark or distinguish such article or substance.

(2) A violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 47; 1919 c 107 § 2; 1909 c 249 § 423; 1901 c 154 § 1; RRS § 2675-2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.86.030 Desecration of flag.** (1) No person shall knowingly cast contempt upon any flag, standard, color, ensign or shield, as defined in RCW 9.86.010, by publicly mutilating, defacing, defiling, burning, or trampling upon the flag, standard, color, ensign or shield.

(2) A violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 48; 1969 ex.s. c 110 § 1; 1919 c 107 § 3; 1909 c 249 § 423; RRS § 2675-3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.86.040 Application of provisions.** This chapter shall not apply to any act permitted by the statutes of the United States or of this state, or by the United States army and navy regulations, nor shall it apply to any printed or written document or production, stationery, ornament, picture or jewelry whereon shall be depicted said flag, standard, color, ensign or shield with no design or words thereon and disconnected with any advertisement. [1919 c 107 § 4; RRS § 2675-4.]

## Chapter 9.91 RCW MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES

### Sections

9.91.010	Denial of civil rights—Terms defined.
9.91.020	Operating railroad, steamboat, vehicle, etc., while intoxicated.
9.91.025	Unlawful transit conduct.
9.91.060	Leaving children unattended in parked automobile.
9.91.130	Disposal of trash in charity donation receptacle.
9.91.140	Food stamps—Unlawful sale.
9.91.142	Food stamps—Trafficking.
9.91.144	Food stamps—Unlawful redemption.
9.91.150	Tree spiking.
9.91.155	Tree spiking—Action for damages.
9.91.160	Personal protection spray devices.
9.91.170	Interfering with dog guide or service animal.
9.91.175	Interfering with search and rescue dog.
9.91.180	Violent video or computer games.

*Accountancy practice laws, penalty:* RCW 18.04.370.

*Aeronautics laws and rules, penalty:* RCW 47.68.240.

### Agriculture

*agricultural enabling act, penalties:* RCW 15.66.210.

*apple advertising laws and rules, penalty:* RCW 15.24.200.

*farm labor contractors, violations, penalty:* RCW 19.30.150.

*fertilizers, minerals, and limes, penalty:* RCW 15.54.470.

*honey, penalty for violation of law regulating:* RCW 69.28.180, 69.28.185.

*horticultural plants and certification act, prohibited acts:* Chapter 15.13 RCW.

*marketing act, penalties:* RCW 15.66.210.

*peaches, standards of grades and packs, inspections, penalty for violations:* RCW 15.17.290.

*soft tree fruits, penalty:* RCW 15.28.270.

*standards of grades and packs, penalties:* Chapter 15.17 RCW.

*Aircraft and airman licensing violations:* RCW 14.16.060.

*Airport zoning violations:* RCW 14.12.210.

*Alcoholic beverages, violations and penalties:* Chapter 66.44 RCW.

### All-terrain vehicles

*additional violations, penalty:* RCW 46.09.480.

*operating violations, penalty:* RCW 46.09.470, 46.09.490.

*Ambulances and drivers, first aid requirements, penalty:* RCW 70.54.060, 70.54.065.

*Animals:* Title 16 RCW.

*Antitrust, consumer protection:* Chapter 19.86 RCW.

*Architects licensing laws, penalty:* RCW 18.08.460.

*Auctioneering, county licensing laws, penalty:* RCW 36.71.070.

### Ballots (see also Elections)

*counterfeiting or unlawful possession, penalty:* RCW 29A.84.540.

*divulging ballot count, penalty:* RCW 29A.84.730.

*tampering with, penalty:* RCW 29A.84.420.

*unlawful printing or distribution of official ballots, penalty:* RCW 29A.84.410.

### Banks and trust companies

*advertising legal services, penalty:* RCW 30.04.260.

*certification of checks, penalty for violation of regulations:* RCW 30.16.010.

*commission, etc., to officer or employee to procure loan prohibited, penalty:* RCW 30.12.110.

*companies, commingling trust property, penalty:* RCW 30.04.240.

*examinations, penalty for falsification:* RCW 30.04.060.

*false entries or statements, penalty:* RCW 30.12.090.

*general penalties for violation of laws concerning:* RCW 30.12.190.

*general penalty for violation of rules and regulations:* RCW 30.04.050.

*holding companies regulations, penalty:* RCW 30.04.230.

*loans from trust funds prohibited, penalty:* RCW 30.12.120.

*preferential transfers in contemplation of insolvency, penalty:* RCW 30.44.110.

*receiving deposits when insolvent prohibited, penalty:* RCW 30.44.120.

*records, destroying or secreting, penalty:* RCW 30.12.100.

*unlawful use of words indicating, penalty:* RCW 30.04.020.

*Barbering licensing regulations, penalty:* RCW 18.16.210.

**Baseball**

minors, penalty for violations concerning: RCW 67.04.150.  
penalties for bribery or fraud concerning: RCW 67.04.010, 67.04.020, 67.04.050.

Beauty culture licensing laws, penalty: RCW 18.16.210.

Bicycles, bicycle paths, operation of vehicles on prohibited: RCW 35.75.020.

Bids on state purchases, interfering with: RCW 43.19.1939.

Birth centers licensing, penalty for unlicensed operation: RCW 18.46.120.

Blind made products, false advertising: RCW 19.06.030, 19.06.040.

Boarding homes' licensing act, violations of: Chapter 18.20 RCW.

Bodies (see Human remains)

Boilers or unfired pressure vessels, inspection certificate required, penalty: RCW 70.79.320.

Bonds issued by state, etc., fraud of engraver, penalty: RCW 39.44.101.

Boxing, wrestling, and martial arts, penalties for violations of provisions relating to: RCW 67.08.130, 67.08.140, 67.08.150.

Brands and marks on animals, obliteration, etc., penalty: RCW 16.57.120, 16.57.320, 16.57.360.

Building permit, issuance to person not complying with industrial insurance payroll estimate requirement: RCW 51.12.070.

**Buildings, public**

doors, safety requirements, penalty: RCW 70.54.070.  
earthquake standards for construction, penalty: RCW 70.86.040.

Capitol grounds traffic regulations, penalty for violations: RCW 46.08.170.

Caustic poisons act, penalty for violation: RCW 69.36.060.

**Cemeteries**

embalmers and funeral director laws, penalty: RCW 18.39.220.  
endowment care cemeteries, penalties: RCW 68.40.085, 68.40.090.  
establishment in violation of laws regulating, penalty: RCW 68.56.040.  
mausoleums and columbariums, penalty for violation of construction laws: RCW 68.28.060.  
property, penalties for violations concerning: RCW 68.24.130, 68.24.140, 68.24.150, 68.24.190, 68.56.010.

Charitable trusts, penalty for violations: RCW 11.110.140.

Children (see Minors)

Chiropractic licensing laws, penalty: RCW 18.25.090.

**Cities and towns**

budgets in cities over 300,000, penalty for violation of regulations: RCW 35.32A.090.  
cities of the first class, powers to prescribe crimes by ordinance: RCW 35.22.280.  
cities of the second class, powers to prescribe penalties for violation of ordinances: RCW 35.23.440.  
city firefighters, city police, civil service provisions, penalty for violations: RCW 41.08.210.  
commission form, free services to officers and employees prohibited, penalty: RCW 35.17.150.  
operation of vehicles, etc., on bicycle paths prohibited, penalty: RCW 35.75.020.  
pollution of water supply, penalty: RCW 35.88.040.  
towns, power to prescribe penalties for violation of ordinances: RCW 35.27.370.  
unclassified cities, powers to prescribe penalties for violation of ordinances: RCW 35.30.010.

Civil defense, enforcement of orders, rules, and regulations, penalty: RCW 38.52.150.

Civil service for sheriff's office employees, penalty: RCW 41.14.220.

Collection agency and out-of-state collection agency laws, penalty: RCW 19.16.430, 19.16.450.

**Colleges**

interfering by force or violence with any administrator, faculty member or student unlawful—Penalty: RCW 28B.10.570, 28B.10.572.  
intimidating any administrator, faculty member or student by threat of force or violence unlawful—Penalty: RCW 28B.10.571 and 28B.10.572.

Commercial feed law, crimes against: Chapter 15.53 RCW.

Commercial sprayers and dusters, violations, penalty: Chapter 17.21 RCW.

Commission merchants, violations, penalty: RCW 20.01.460.

Consumer protection, crimes and penalties relating to: Chapter 19.86 RCW.

Control of pet animals infested with diseases communicable to humans, violation, penalty: RCW 16.70.050.

Controlled atmosphere storage, penalty: RCW 15.30.250.

Controlled substances: Chapter 69.50 RCW.

Conveyances, fraudulent: Chapter 19.40 RCW.

Cosmetology laws, penalty: RCW 18.16.210.

**Counties**

budget laws, penalty for violation: RCW 36.40.240.  
building codes and fire regulations, penalty for violation: RCW 36.43.040.  
dog license tax violation, penalty: RCW 36.49.070.  
garbage disposal regulations, penalty for violations: RCW 36.58.020.  
hawkers and auctioneers, penalty for selling without license: RCW 36.71.060.  
officers failing to pay over fees, penalty: RCW 36.18.170.  
officers taking illegal fees, penalty: RCW 36.18.160.  
parks, playgrounds, or other recreational facilities, violation of rules and regulations adopted by county commissioners, penalty: RCW 36.68.080.  
roads and bridges  
general penalty for violation of provisions concerning: RCW 36.75.290.  
use of oil or other material restricted, penalty: RCW 36.86.060.  
trading stamp licenses, penalty: RCW 19.83.050.  
violation of regulations for taking of census for classification of counties: RCW 36.13.070.

Credit unions: Chapter 31.12 RCW.

Cruelty to animals, penalties: Chapter 16.52 RCW.

Dental hygienist licensing laws, penalties: RCW 18.29.100.

Dentistry practice laws, penalties: RCW 18.32.390, 18.32.675, 18.32.735, 18.32.745, 18.32.755.

Diking and drainage improvement districts, damaging improvements, penalty: RCW 85.08.690.

Discrimination, interference with human rights commission, penalty: RCW 49.60.310.

Diseased domestic animals, quarantine, penalty: RCW 16.36.110.

Diseases, dangerous, contagious, or infectious, penalty for violations concerning control of: RCW 70.05.120, 70.24.080, 70.54.050.

Disposal of dead animals, violations, penalty: RCW 16.68.180.

Dog law: Chapter 16.08 RCW.

Doors of buildings used by public, safety requirements, penalty: RCW 70.54.070.

Drugs: Chapters 69.41, 69.50 RCW.

Earthquake standards for construction for public buildings, penalty: RCW 70.86.040.

**Elections**

bribery or coercion of voters, penalty: RCW 29A.84.620.  
canvassing of votes law, penalty for violations: RCW 29A.60.200.  
counterfeiting or unlawful possession of ballots, penalty: RCW 29A.84.540.  
destroying or defacing election supplies and notices, etc., penalty: RCW 29A.84.550.  
divulging ballot count, penalty: RCW 29A.84.730.  
exit polling: RCW 29A.84.510.  
general penalty for violations: Chapter 29A.84 RCW.  
influencing voters to vote or not to vote by unlawful means, penalty: RCW 29A.84.630.  
initiative and referendum law, penalties for violations: RCW 29A.84.230, 29A.84.210, 29A.84.250.  
officer tampering with ballots, penalty: RCW 29A.84.420.  
printing or distributing official ballots unlawfully, penalty: RCW 29A.84.410.  
recall petition law, penalties for violations: RCW 29A.84.240, 29A.84.020, 29A.84.220.

- registration law violations, penalties: RCW 29A.84.110, 29A.84.130.*  
*repeating or voting twice, penalties concerning: RCW 29A.84.650, 29A.84.655.*  
*solicitation of bribe by voter in primary election, penalty: RCW 29A.84.640.*  
*unqualified voter voting, penalty: RCW 29A.84.660.*  
*violations by officers generally, penalty: RCW 29A.84.720.*  
*voting by mail law, penalty for violations: RCW 29A.84.680.*  
*voting machines, penalty for tampering with: RCW 29A.84.560.*
- Electrical construction, penalty: RCW 19.29.060.*  
*Electricians and electrical installation laws, schedule of penalties—Appeal: RCW 19.28.131.*  
*Embalmer and funeral director laws, penalty: RCW 18.39.220.*  
*Endowment care cemeteries, penalties for violations of laws: RCW 68.40.085, 68.40.090.*  
*Engineer and land surveyor laws, penalty: RCW 18.43.120.*  
*Escrow agent, unlicensed: RCW 18.44.171.*  
*Explosives and devices regulated, penalties: Chapter 70.74 RCW.*  
*Facsimile signatures and seals, fraud in use of: RCW 39.62.040.*  
*Family abandonment, penalty: RCW 26.20.030.*  
*Family nonsupport, penalty: RCW 26.20.035.*  
*Farm labor contractors regulations, penalty: RCW 19.30.150.*  
*Filing false or forged instruments, penalty: RCW 40.16.030.*  
*Fire department vehicles and firefighters' private cars lighting and identification, penalty: RCW 46.37.188.*  
*Fire protection districts, burning permits, penalty for violation: RCW 52.12.101, 52.12.105.*  
*Firearms in vehicle, penalty: RCW 77.15.460.*  
*Fires, actions for spreading and kindling: RCW 4.24.040, 4.24.050.*  
*Firewood on state lands, permit required to remove, penalty: RCW 79.15.440.*  
*Fireworks*  
*laws or rules, penalty: RCW 70.77.540.*  
*unlawful acts relating to: Chapter 70.77 RCW.*
- Fish, shellfish, and wildlife*  
*false or misleading information and reports, penalty: RCW 77.15.270.*  
*trafficking in, prohibited: RCW 77.15.260.*
- Flood control districts, interest in contracts, penalty: RCW 86.09.286.*  
*Food and beverage workers' permit required, penalty: RCW 69.06.060.*  
*Food, drugs, and cosmetics, penalties for violations of act: RCW 69.04.040, 69.04.060, 69.04.070.*  
*Food fish and shellfish*  
*commercial licenses and permits required—Exemption: RCW 77.65.010.*  
*fish guards required on diversion devices, penalties, remedies for failure: RCW 77.57.010.*  
*fishways required over dams, etc., penalties: RCW 77.57.030.*  
*hatchery or cultural facility to be provided if fishways impractical, penalty: RCW 77.57.050.*
- Forcible entry and detainer, penalty: RCW 59.12.230.*  
*Forest products, false or forged brands, etc., penalties: RCW 76.36.110, 76.36.120.*  
*Forest protection: Chapter 76.04 RCW.*  
*Fraudulent conveyances: Chapter 19.40 RCW.*  
*Gambling, civil action: RCW 4.24.070.*  
*Game and game fish, unlawful acts: Chapter 77.50 RCW.*  
*Gas or stink bombs, etc., prohibited, penalty: RCW 70.74.310.*  
*Girls' training school (see Maple Lane School)*  
*Grain and terminal warehouses, commodity inspections, laws and regulations, penalties for violations: RCW 22.09.310, 22.09.770, 22.09.890.*  
*Healing professions, rebating: RCW 19.68.010.*  
*Health care services, prohibited acts: Chapter 48.44 RCW.*  
*Highways*  
*closure violations, penalty: RCW 47.48.040.*  
*county or city road funds, illegal use of, penalty: RCW 47.08.110.*  
*limited access facilities, violations concerning, penalty: RCW 47.52.120.*  
*littering with glass, debris, etc., penalty, removal: RCW 46.61.645.*  
*permitting escape of load from vehicle: RCW 46.61.655.*  
*pipe lines, etc., across or on highways, penalties for construction without franchise or permit: RCW 47.44.060.*  
*removal of native flora, etc., penalty: RCW 47.40.080.*  
*traffic control devices violations: Chapter 47.36 RCW.*  
*traffic signs, etc., penalty for defacing, etc.: RCW 46.61.080.*
- Highways and toll bridges, general penalty for violations of title: RCW 47.04.090.*  
*Honey*  
*penalty for violation of law regulating: RCW 69.28.180.*  
*prohibited acts: RCW 69.28.080, 69.28.090.*
- Horse racing, penalty for violations of laws and regulations: RCW 67.16.060.*  
*Hospital licensing required, penalty: RCW 70.41.170.*  
*Hotels*  
*fraud in obtaining accommodations, etc., penalty: RCW 19.48.110.*  
*sanitation and safety requirements, penalty: RCW 70.62.280.*
- Human remains, penalties for violations concerning: RCW 68.64.150, 68.64.160.*  
*Individuals with mental illness, private establishments for, licensing violations: RCW 71.12.460.*  
*Industrial insurance, attorney's fees: RCW 51.52.120, 51.52.132.*  
*Initiative and referendum laws, penalties: RCW 29A.84.230, 29A.84.210, 29A.84.250.*  
*Insane (see Individuals with mental illness)*  
*Insect pest control rules, violations: RCW 17.24.100.*
- Insurance code*  
*destruction or injury of property to defraud or prejudice the insurer, penalty: RCW 48.30.220.*  
*domestic insurers*  
*corrupt practices as to votes relative to shareholders meetings, etc., penalty: RCW 48.07.060.*  
*illegal dividends or reductions, penalty: RCW 48.08.040.*  
*impairment of capital, penalty: RCW 48.08.050.*  
*penalty for exhibiting false account, etc.: RCW 48.06.190.*  
*solicitation permit required, penalty: RCW 48.06.030.*  
*false claims or proof, etc., penalty: RCW 48.30.230.*  
*fraud and unfair practices violations: Chapter 48.30 RCW.*  
*general penalty for violations: RCW 48.01.080.*  
*health care services, penalty for violation: RCW 48.44.060.*  
*illegal dealing in premiums, penalty: RCW 48.30.190.*  
*insurance producers, title insurance agents, and adjusters, license required: RCW 48.17.060.*  
*insurance producers, title insurance agents, and adjusters, reporting and accounting premiums, penalty: RCW 48.17.480.*  
*misrepresentation in application for insurance, penalty: RCW 48.30.210.*  
*mutual insurers, impairment of surplus, penalty: RCW 48.09.340.*  
*political contributions, penalty: RCW 48.30.110.*  
*premiums to be specified in the policy, penalty for violation: RCW 48.18.180.*
- Insurance, destruction, secretion, abandonment, etc., of property: RCW 48.30.220.*  
*Intoxicating liquor (see Liquor control)*  
*Ionizing radiation, prohibited acts: Chapter 70.98 RCW.*  
*Irrigation and rehabilitation districts, violation of rules: RCW 87.84.090.*  
*Judges or justices, addressing persons in unfit, etc., language, penalty: RCW 42.20.110.*
- Labor and industries*  
*disobeying subpoena to appear before officer, penalty: RCW 43.22.300.*  
*hotel inspections, penalty for falsifying or hindering, etc.: RCW 70.62.280.*  
*misuse of reports of employers, penalty: RCW 43.22.290.*  
*refusal of entry to factory, etc., penalty: RCW 43.22.310.*
- Labor disputes, obtaining out-of-state personnel for certain purposes: RCW 49.44.100.*  
*Labor laws*  
*blacklisting prohibited, penalty: RCW 49.44.010.*

- bribery of labor representative, penalties: RCW 49.44.020, 49.44.030.  
female and child labor, penalties for violations: RCW 26.28.070, 49.12.175.  
hours of labor, penalties for violations: Chapter 49.28 RCW.  
minimum wage and hours act violations, penalty: RCW 49.46.100.  
obtaining labor by false recommendation, penalty: RCW 49.44.040.  
prohibited practices, penalties for violations: Chapter 49.44 RCW.  
prosecution, etc., for forming or joining labor union, etc., prohibited: RCW 49.36.030.  
seasonal labor, fraud by employees to secure advances, penalty: RCW 49.40.030.  
underground workers safety and health, penalties: RCW 49.24.060, 49.24.380.  
wage payment and collection, penalties for violations: RCW 49.48.020, 49.48.040, 49.48.060, 49.52.050, 49.52.090.
- Land title registration, penalties for violations: RCW 65.12.730, 65.12.740, 65.12.750, 65.12.760.
- Legislative hearings, failure of subpoenaed witness to attend or testify, etc., penalties: RCW 44.16.120 through 44.16.150.
- Lie detector and similar tests as condition of employment—Penalty: RCW 49.44.120.
- Limited access facilities (see Highways)
- Liquor control  
consumption or serving in clubs, penalty: RCW 66.24.481.  
penalties for violations of laws or regulations: Chapter 66.44 RCW.  
purchase, attempt, by minor: RCW 66.44.280 through 66.44.292.  
records of sales confidential, penalty: RCW 66.16.090.  
transfer of identification card prohibited, penalties: RCW 66.20.200.
- Littering, depositing glass, debris, etc., on highways, beaches, waters, penalty, removal: RCW 46.61.645.
- Livestock—Removal from common range, duty, penalty: RCW 16.24.230.
- Logs, transporting without county log tolerance permit: RCW 46.44.047.
- Maple Lane School, unauthorized entrance to grounds or enticing girls away, etc., penalty: RCW 72.20.065.
- Marine biological preserve, penalty for violation: RCW 28B.20.320.
- Marriage  
certificates, penalty for failure to record: RCW 26.04.110.  
license requirements, penalty for violations: RCW 26.04.200, 26.04.210, 26.04.240.
- Mausoleums and columbariums, penalty for violation of laws concerning construction of: RCW 68.28.060.
- Military affairs offenses defined, penalties: Chapter 38.32 RCW, RCW 38.40.040, 38.40.050, 38.40.110, 38.40.120.
- Milk and milk products used for animal food, prohibited acts: Chapter 15.37 RCW.
- Mining leases and contracts, disclosure of information obtained through state's right of entry: RCW 79.14.440.
- Minors  
child labor prohibited, penalty: RCW 26.28.070 (see also Labor laws).  
enforcement of support for: RCW 74.20.060.  
firearms: RCW 9.41.040, 9.41.042, 9.41.240.  
juvenile offenders: Chapter 13.04 RCW.  
procuring or possessing tobacco, penalties: RCW 26.28.080, 70.155.080.
- Motor vehicles: RCW 46.63.020.
- Municipal corporations  
approving or paying false claim against: RCW 42.24.110.  
making false claim against: RCW 42.24.100.
- Municipal officers, violation of code of ethics, penalty: RCW 42.23.050.
- Mutual savings banks  
concealing or destroying evidence, penalty: RCW 32.04.110.  
falsification of books, etc., penalty: RCW 32.04.100.  
general penalty when penalty not specifically provided: RCW 32.04.130.  
specific penalties of RCW 9.24.030, 9.24.040, and 9.24.050 invoked: RCW 32.04.120.  
transfer of property or assets due to insolvency or in contemplation of insolvency, penalty for violation of regulation: RCW 32.24.080.
- Narcotic drugs: Chapter 69.50 RCW.
- Native flora on state lands or on land adjoining highways and parks, penalty for removal, etc.: RCW 47.40.080.
- Navigation  
Pilotage Act: RCW 88.16.120, 88.16.130, 88.16.150.  
violations generally: Chapter 88.08 RCW.
- Nuisances, civil remedies: Chapter 7.48 RCW.
- Nursing homes, penalty for unlicensed operation: RCW 18.51.150.
- Occupational motor vehicle operators' licenses, violation of restrictions: RCW 46.20.410.
- Offering false or forged instruments for filing: RCW 40.16.030.
- Oil and gas conservation, general penalty for violations of laws or regulations: RCW 78.52.550.
- Optometry laws, penalty for violations: RCW 18.53.150.
- Osteopathy violations, penalties: RCW 18.57.160.
- Parks and recreation, violations in parks specified, penalty: RCW 79A.05.165.
- Party line telephones, refusal to yield in emergency, penalty: RCW 70.85.020, 70.85.030.
- Patent medicine peddlers licensing, penalty for unlicensed sales: RCW 18.64.047.
- Pawnbrokers and secondhand dealers laws, penalties: RCW 19.60.066.
- Peaches, standards, inspection, penalty for violations: RCW 15.17.290.
- Peddlers, penalty for selling without license: RCW 36.71.060.
- Persons infected with disease, exposure to others, penalty: RCW 70.54.050.
- Pesticides, prohibited acts: Chapter 15.58 RCW.
- Pharmacy licensing laws and regulations, penalties: RCW 18.64.140, 18.64.250.
- Physical therapy practice regulations, penalties: RCW 18.74.090.
- Podiatric medicine and surgery, general penalty: RCW 18.22.220.
- Poisons: Chapters 69.36, 69.40 RCW.
- Pollution of water (see Water pollution)
- Pool tables or billiard tables or bowling alley for hire, license required, penalty: RCW 67.14.060.
- Port district regulations adopted by city or county, violations, penalty: RCW 53.08.220.
- Port districts, violations of rules relating to toll tunnels and bridges, penalty: RCW 53.34.190.
- Psychologists licensing and practice law, violations, penalty: RCW 18.83.180.
- Public assistance  
falsification of application, etc., penalty: RCW 74.08.055.  
fraudulent practices: RCW 74.08.331.  
records to be confidential, etc., penalty: RCW 74.04.060.
- Public libraries, penalties for injuring property or retaining books: RCW 27.12.330, 27.12.340.
- Public officers, misconduct, penalties: Chapter 42.20 RCW.
- Public records, etc., crimes concerning, penalties: Chapter 40.16 RCW.
- Public service companies  
auto and transport companies, penalty for violation: RCW 81.68.080.  
motor freight carriers, penalties for violations: RCW 81.80.230, 81.80.355.  
passengers for hire, failure to file bond or insurance policy, penalty: RCW 46.72.100.
- railroads  
employee requirements, penalties for violations: Chapter 81.40 RCW.  
equipment, penalties for violations: RCW 81.44.085.  
operating requirements, penalties for violations: RCW 81.48.020, 81.48.060.  
property damaged, sabotaged or stolen, penalties: RCW 81.60.070, 81.60.080.  
rights-of-way and crossings, etc., penalties: RCW 81.53.210, 81.54.030.  
regulatory fees, penalty: RCW 81.24.080.  
securities, penalty: RCW 81.08.120.  
street railways, penalties for violations: RCW 81.64.130, 81.64.150.  
transfers of property, penalty: RCW 81.12.060.  
violations of laws and regulations, general penalties: RCW 81.04.380, 81.04.390.



*Public utilities*

regulatory fees, penalty: RCW 80.24.050.  
 transfers of property, penalty: RCW 80.12.060.  
 violations of laws and regulations, general penalties: RCW 80.04.380,  
 80.04.390.

*Public works, falsification of records, etc.*, penalty: RCW 39.04.110,  
 39.12.050.

*Purchasing, state, interfering with bids*: RCW 43.19.1939.

*Real estate*

brokers and salesperson laws, penalty: RCW 18.85.411.  
 mortgages, removal of property from mortgaged premises, penalty: RCW  
 61.12.030.

*Rebating, etc., by practitioners of healing professions*, penalty: RCW  
 19.68.010.

*Recall petition laws, penalties*: RCW 29A.84.240, 29A.84.020, 29A.84.220.

*Recreational devices, inspection of*, penalty: RCW 79A.40.020, 79A.40.040.

*Referendum and initiative laws, penalties*: RCW 29A.84.230, 29A.84.210,  
 29A.84.250.

*Rules of the road*: Chapter 46.61 RCW.

*Savings and loan associations*

advertising as without license: RCW 33.08.010.  
 concealing facts or destroying evidence, etc., penalty: RCW 33.36.060.  
 false statements concerning financial standings, penalty: RCW 33.36.050.  
 falsification of books, etc., penalty: RCW 33.36.040.  
 making prohibited loans or investments, penalty: RCW 33.36.010.  
 preferential transfer of property due to insolvency, penalty: RCW  
 33.36.030.  
 purchase at discount prohibited to officers, etc., penalty: RCW 33.36.020.

*Schools*

compulsory attendance, penalties: RCW 28A.225.090.  
 disclosing examination questions, penalty: RCW 28A.635.040.  
 disturbing meetings, penalty: RCW 28A.635.030.  
 failure to deliver books, etc., to successor, penalty: RCW 28A.635.070.  
 grafting by school officials, penalty: RCW 28A.635.050.  
 interfering by force or violence with any administrator, faculty member, or  
 student unlawful—Penalty: RCW 28B.10.570, 28B.10.572.  
 intimidating any administrator, faculty member or student by threat of  
 force or violence unlawful—Penalty: RCW 28B.10.571 and  
 28B.10.572.

*Securities act violations*, penalty: RCW 21.20.400 through 21.20.420.

*Sexual psychopaths*: Chapter 71.06 RCW.

*Sexually transmitted diseases*, penalty for violation of control of: RCW  
 70.24.080.

*Shellfish, sanitary control*, penalties for violation of law regulating: RCW  
 69.30.140.

*Sheriff's office employees, civil service for*, penalty: RCW 41.14.220.

*Ski lifts and other recreational conveyances*: RCW 79A.40.040.

*Snowmobile act*

additional violations—Penalty: RCW 46.10.495.  
 operating violations, general penalty: RCW 46.10.490, 46.10.500.

*Solid waste collection, unlawful acts*: Chapter 81.77 RCW.

*Sporting contest, fraud*, penalty: RCW 67.24.010.

*State bonds, fraud by engraver*: RCW 39.44.101.

*State employees' retirement, falsification of statements, etc.*, penalty: RCW  
 41.40.055.

*State lands*

firewood removal, permit required, penalty: RCW 79.15.440.  
 removing flora, etc., penalty: RCW 47.40.080.  
 trespass, etc.: Chapter 79.02 RCW.

*State treasurer, penalty for embezzlement*: RCW 43.08.140.

*Steam boilers, safety requirements*, penalty: RCW 70.54.080.

*Stink or gas bombs prohibited*, penalty: RCW 70.74.310.

*Support of dependent children—Alternative method—1971 act*: Chapter  
 74.20A RCW.

*Swimming pools, violation of health laws and regulations*: RCW 70.90.205.

*Taxation*

cigarette tax, penalties: RCW 82.24.100, 82.24.110.

general penalties: RCW 82.32.290.

motor vehicle fuel tax, penalties: RCW 82.36.330, 82.36.380, 82.36.390,  
 82.36.400.

personal property, disclosure of information unlawful: RCW 84.40.340.

*property taxes*

listing of property: RCW 84.40.120.

removal of property to avoid collection of, penalties: RCW 84.56.120,  
 84.56.200.

retail sales tax, penalties: RCW 82.08.050, 82.08.120.

use tax, penalty: RCW 82.12.040.

*Teachers*

abuse of a misdemeanor: RCW 28A.635.010.

retirement, falsification of statements, etc., penalty: RCW 41.32.055.

*Telephones, party line, refusal to yield in emergency*, penalty: RCW  
 70.85.020, 70.85.030.

*Television reception improvement districts, penalty for false statement as to  
 tax exemption*: RCW 36.95.190.

*Tires*

pneumatic, passenger car, selling or offering for sale if under prescribed  
 standards, penalty: RCW 46.37.423.

regrooved, selling or offering for sale if under prescribed standards, pen-  
 alty: RCW 46.37.424.

selling or operating vehicle with tires not meeting standards of state  
 patrol, penalty: RCW 46.37.425.

*Tobacco, etc., minors procuring or possessing*, penalties: RCW 26.28.080,  
 70.155.080.

*Toll facilities, operation of motor vehicle on, prohibited acts*: RCW  
 46.61.690.

*Trading stamps and premiums*, penalty for violations: RCW 19.84.040.

*Unclaimed Property Act, penalties for violations*: RCW 63.29.340,  
 63.29.350.

*Unemployment compensation, penalties for violations*: Chapter 50.36 RCW.

*Use of lists of registered voters, violations relating to*, penalty: RCW  
 29A.08.720.

*Veterinarian laws and rules*, penalty: RCW 18.92.230, 18.92.240.

*Vital statistics requirements*, penalty for violation: RCW 70.58.280.

*Vouchers, public, false certification*, penalty: RCW 42.24.100.

*Wages (see Labor laws)*

*Warehouses, grain and terminal, commodity inspections, penalties for viola-  
 tion*: RCW 22.09.310, 22.09.340, 22.09.890.

*Warehousing deposits, general penalties*: Chapter 22.32 RCW.

*Washington Caustic Poison Act of 1929*: Chapter 69.36 RCW.

*Washington Criminal Code*: Title 9A RCW.

*Washington fresh fruit sales limitation act, violations*: RCW 15.21.060.

*Washington state patrol retirement fund, falsification of records, etc., to  
 defraud*, penalty: RCW 43.43.320.

*Water pollution*

control, penalty for violations: RCW 90.48.140.

drinking water pollution, etc.: Chapter 70.54 RCW.

pollution of water supply in cities and towns, penalty: RCW 35.88.040.

*Weed districts, prevention of agent's right of entry*, penalty: RCW  
 17.04.280.

*Weights and measures law and rules, penalties for violations*: RCW  
 19.94.490 through 19.94.510.

*Wills, failing to deliver*, penalty: RCW 11.20.010.

*Workers' compensation, penalties for violations of regulations concerning*:  
 Chapter 51.48 RCW, RCW 51.16.140.

*X-rays, use in shoe fitting prohibited*: RCW 70.98.170.

**9.91.010 Denial of civil rights—Terms defined.**

Terms used in this section shall have the following defini-  
 tions:

(1)(a) "Every person" shall be construed to include any  
 owner, lessee, proprietor, manager, agent or employee

whether one or more natural persons, partnerships, associations, organizations, corporations, cooperatives, legal representatives, trustees, receivers, of this state and its political subdivisions, boards and commissions, engaged in or exercising control over the operation of any place of public resort, accommodation, assemblage, or amusement.

(b) "Deny" is hereby defined to include any act which directly or indirectly, or by subterfuge, by a person or his or her agent or employee, results or is intended or calculated to result in whole or in part in any discrimination, distinction, restriction, or unequal treatment, or the requiring of any person to pay a larger sum than the uniform rates charged other persons, or the refusing or withholding from any person the admission, patronage, custom, presence, frequenting, dwelling, staying, or lodging in any place of public resort, accommodation, assemblage, or amusement except for conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to all persons, regardless of race, creed, or color.

(c) "Full enjoyment of" shall be construed to include the right to purchase any service, commodity, or article of personal property offered or sold on, or by, any establishment to the public, and the admission of any person to accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges of any place of public resort, accommodation, assemblage, or amusement, without acts directly or indirectly causing persons of any particular race, creed, or color, to be treated as not welcome, accepted, desired, or solicited.

(d) "Any place of public resort, accommodation, assemblage, or amusement" is hereby defined to include, but not to be limited to, any public place, licensed or unlicensed, kept for gain, hire or reward, or where charges are made for admission, service, occupancy or use of any property or facilities, whether conducted for the entertainment, housing, or lodging of transient guests, or for the benefit, use or accommodation of those seeking health, recreation, or rest, or for the sale of goods and merchandise, or for the rendering of personal services, or for public conveyance or transportation on land, water or in the air, including the stations and terminals thereof and the garaging of vehicles, or where food or beverages of any kind are sold for consumption on the premises, or where public amusement, entertainment, sports, or recreation of any kind is offered with or without charge, or where medical service or care is made available, or where the public gathers, congregates, or assembles for amusement, recreation or public purposes, or public halls, public elevators, and public washrooms of buildings and structures occupied by two or more tenants, or by the owner and one or more tenants, or any public library or any educational institution wholly or partially supported by public funds, or schools of special instruction, or nursery schools, or day care centers or children's camps; nothing herein contained shall be construed to include, or apply to, any institute, bona fide club, or place of accommodation, which is by its nature distinctly private provided that where public use is permitted that use shall be covered by this section; nor shall anything herein contained apply to any educational facility operated or maintained by a bona fide religious or sectarian institution; and the right of a natural parent in *loco parentis* to direct the education and upbringing of a child under his or her control is hereby affirmed.

(2) Every person who denies to any other person because of race, creed, or color, the full enjoyment of any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges of any place of public resort, accommodation, assemblage, or amusement, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 329; 1953 c 87 § 1; 1909 c 249 § 434; RRS § 2686.]

*Application forms, licenses—Mention of race or religion prohibited—Penalty: RCW 43.01.100.*

*Interference with board against discrimination: RCW 49.60.310.*

**9.91.020 Operating railroad, steamboat, vehicle, etc., while intoxicated.** Every person who, being employed upon any railway, as engineer, motorman, gripman, conductor, switch tender, fireman, bridge tender, flagger, or signalman, or having charge of stations, starting, regulating or running trains upon a railway, or being employed as captain, engineer or other officer of a vessel propelled by steam, or being the driver of any animal or vehicle upon any public highway, street, or other public place, is intoxicated while engaged in the discharge of any such duties, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2000 c 239 § 3; 1915 c 165 § 2; 1909 c 249 § 275; RRS § 2527.]

**Reviser's note:** Caption for 1915 c 165 § 2 reads as follows: "Section 2527 [Rem. & Bal.] Intoxication of employees." See *State v. Crothers*, 118 Wash. 226.

*Hunting while intoxicated—Penalty: RCW 77.15.675.*

*Operating vehicle under influence of intoxicants or drugs: RCW 46.20.285, 46.61.502.*

*Operating vessel in reckless manner or while under influence of alcohol or drugs: RCW 79A.60.040.*

*Railroads, employees, equipment, operations: Chapters 81.40, 81.44, 81.48 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.91.025 Unlawful transit conduct.** (1) A person is guilty of unlawful transit conduct if, while on or in a transit vehicle or in or at a transit station, he or she knowingly:

(a) Smokes or carries a lighted or smoldering pipe, cigar, or cigarette, unless he or she is smoking in an area designated and authorized by the transit authority;

(b) Discards litter other than in designated receptacles;

(c) Dumps or discards, or both, any materials on or at a transit facility including, but not limited to, hazardous substances and automotive fluids;

(d) Plays any radio, recorder, or other sound-producing equipment, except that nothing herein prohibits the use of the equipment when connected to earphones or an ear receiver that limits the sound to an individual listener. The use of public address systems or music systems that are authorized by a transit agency is permitted. The use of communications devices by transit employees and designated contractors or public safety officers in the line of duty is permitted, as is the use of private communications devices used to summon, notify, or communicate with other individuals, such as pagers and cellular phones;

(e) Spits, expectorates, urinates, or defecates, except in appropriate plumbing fixtures in restroom facilities;

(f) Carries any flammable liquid, explosive, acid, or other article or material likely to cause harm to others, except that nothing herein prevents a person from carrying a ciga-

rette, cigar, or pipe lighter or carrying a firearm or ammunition in a way that is not otherwise prohibited by law;

(g) Consumes an alcoholic beverage or is in possession of an open alcoholic beverage container, unless authorized by the transit authority and required permits have been obtained;

(h) Obstructs or impedes the flow of transit vehicles or passenger traffic, hinders or prevents access to transit vehicles or stations, or otherwise unlawfully interferes with the provision or use of public transportation services;

(i) Unreasonably disturbs others by engaging in loud, raucous, unruly, harmful, or harassing behavior;

(j) Destroys, defaces, or otherwise damages property in a transit vehicle or at a transit facility;

(k) Throws an object in a transit vehicle, at a transit facility, or at any person at a transit facility with intent to do harm;

(l) Possesses an unissued transfer or fare media or tenders an unissued transfer or fare media as proof of fare payment;

(m) Falsely claims to be a transit operator or other transit employee or through words, actions, or the use of clothes, insignia, or equipment resembling department-issued uniforms and equipment, creates a false impression that he or she is a transit operator or other transit employee;

(n) Engages in gambling or any game of chance for the winning of money or anything of value;

(o) Skates on roller skates or in-line skates, or rides in or upon or by any means a coaster, skateboard, toy vehicle, or any similar device. However, a person may walk while wearing skates or carry a skateboard while on or in a transit vehicle or in or at a transit station if that conduct is not otherwise prohibited by law; or

(p) Engages in other conduct that is inconsistent with the intended use and purpose of the transit facility, transit station, or transit vehicle and refuses to obey the lawful commands of an agent of the transit authority or a peace officer to cease such conduct.

(2) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Transit station" or "transit facility" means all passenger facilities, structures, stops, shelters, bus zones, properties, and rights-of-way of all kinds that are owned, leased, held, or used by a transit authority for the purpose of providing public transportation services.

(b) "Transit vehicle" means any motor vehicle, street car, train, trolley vehicle, ferry boat, or any other device, vessel, or vehicle that is owned or operated by a transit authority or an entity providing service on behalf of a transit authority that is used for the purpose of carrying passengers on a regular schedule.

(c) "Transit authority" means a city transit system under RCW 35.58.2721 or chapter 35.95A RCW, a county transportation authority under chapter 36.57 RCW, a metropolitan municipal corporation transit system under chapter 36.56 RCW, a public transportation benefit area under chapter 36.57A RCW, an unincorporated transportation benefit area under RCW 36.57.100, a regional transportation authority under chapter 81.112 RCW, or any special purpose district formed to operate a public transportation system.

(3) Any person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. [2009 c 279 § 3; 2004 c 118 § 1; 1994 c 45 § 4; 1992 c 77 § 1; 1984 c 167 § 1.]

**Findings—Declaration—Severability—1994 c 45:** See notes following RCW 7.48.140.

*Drinking in public conveyance:* RCW 66.44.250.

**9.91.060 Leaving children unattended in parked automobile.** Every person having the care and custody, whether temporary or permanent, of minor children under the age of twelve years, who shall leave such children in a parked automobile unattended by an adult while such person enters a tavern or other premises where vinous, spirituous, or malt liquors are dispensed for consumption on the premises shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1999 c 143 § 9; 1951 c 270 § 17.]

*Leaving children unattended in standing vehicle with motor running:* RCW 46.61.685.

**9.91.130 Disposal of trash in charity donation receptacle.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to throw, drop, deposit, discard, or otherwise dispose of any trash, including, but not limited to items that have deteriorated to the extent that they are no longer of monetary value or of use for the purpose they were intended; garbage, including any organic matter; or litter, in or around a receptacle provided by a charitable organization, as defined in RCW 19.09.020(2), for the donation of clothing, property, or other thing of monetary value to be used for the charitable purposes of such organization.

(2) Charitable organizations must post a clearly visible notice on the donation receptacles warning of the existence and content of this section and the penalties for violation of its provisions, as well as a general identification of the items which are appropriate to be deposited in the receptacle.

(3) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and the fine for such violation shall be not less than fifty dollars for each offense.

(4) Nothing in this section shall preclude a charitable organization which maintains the receptacle from pursuing a civil action and seeking whatever damages were sustained by reason of the violation of the provisions of this section. For a second or subsequent violation of this section, such person shall be liable for treble the amount of damages done by the person, but in no event less than two hundred dollars, and such damages may be recovered in a civil action before any district court judge. [1987 c 385 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.91.140 Food stamps—Unlawful sale.** A person who sells food stamps obtained through the program established under RCW 74.04.500 or food stamp benefits transferred electronically, or food purchased therewith, is guilty of the following:

(1) A gross misdemeanor if the value of the stamps, benefits, or food transferred exceeds one hundred dollars; or

(2) A misdemeanor if the value of the stamps, benefits, or food transferred is one hundred dollars or less. [2003 c 53 § 49; 1998 c 79 § 1; 1996 c 78 § 1; 1988 c 62 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.91.142 Food stamps—Trafficking.** A person who purchases, or who otherwise acquires and sells, or who traf-

tics in, food stamps as defined by the federal food stamp act, as amended, 7 U.S.C. Sec. 2011 et seq., or food stamp benefits transferred electronically, is guilty of the following:

(1) A class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW if the face value of the stamps or benefits exceeds one hundred dollars; or

(2) A gross misdemeanor if the face value of the stamps or benefits is one hundred dollars or less. [2003 c 53 § 50.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.91.144 Food stamps—Unlawful redemption.** A person who, in violation of 7 U.S.C. Sec. 2024(c), obtains and presents food stamps as defined by the federal food stamp act, as amended, 7 U.S.C. Sec. 2011 et seq., or food stamp benefits transferred electronically, for redemption or causes such stamps or benefits to be presented for redemption through the program established under RCW 74.04.500 is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 51.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.91.150 Tree spiking.** (1) Any person who maliciously drives or places in any tree, forest material, forest debris, or other wood material any iron, steel, ceramic, or other substance sufficiently hard to injure saws or wood processing or manufacturing equipment, for the purpose of hindering logging or timber harvesting activities, is guilty of a class C felony under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(2) Any person who, with the intent to use it in a violation of subsection (1) of this section, possesses any iron, steel, ceramic, or other substance sufficiently hard to injure saws or wood processing or manufacturing equipment is guilty of a gross misdemeanor under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(3) As used in this section the terms "forest debris" and "forest material" have the same meanings as under RCW 76.04.005. [1988 c 224 § 1.]

**9.91.155 Tree spiking—Action for damages.** Any person who is damaged by any act prohibited in RCW 9.91.150 may bring a civil action to recover damages sustained, including a reasonable attorney's fee. A party seeking civil damages under this section may recover upon proof of a violation of the provisions of RCW 9.91.150 by a preponderance of the evidence. [1988 c 224 § 2.]

**9.91.160 Personal protection spray devices.** (1) It is unlawful for a person under eighteen years old, unless the person is at least fourteen years old and has the permission of a parent or guardian to do so, to purchase or possess a personal protection spray device. A violation of this subsection is a misdemeanor.

(2) No town, city, county, special purpose district, quasi-municipal corporation or other unit of government may prohibit a person eighteen years old or older, or a person fourteen years old or older who has the permission of a parent or guardian to do so, from purchasing or possessing a personal protection spray device or from using such a device in a manner consistent with the authorized use of force under RCW 9A.16.020. No town, city, county, special purpose district,

quasi-municipal corporation, or other unit of government may prohibit a person eighteen years old or older from delivering a personal protection spray device to a person authorized to possess such a device.

(3) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Personal protection spray device" means a commercially available dispensing device designed and intended for use in self-defense and containing a nonlethal sternutator or lacrimator agent, including but not limited to:

(i) Tear gas, the active ingredient of which is either chloracetophenone (CN) or O-chlorobenzylidene malonotrile (CS); or

(ii) Other agent commonly known as mace, pepper mace, or pepper gas.

(b) "Delivering" means actual, constructive, or attempted transferring from one person to another.

(4) Nothing in this section authorizes the delivery, purchase, possession, or use of any device or chemical agent that is otherwise prohibited by state law. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 514.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**9.91.170 Interfering with dog guide or service animal.** (1)(a) Any person who has received notice that his or her behavior is interfering with the use of a dog guide or service animal who continues with reckless disregard to interfere with the use of a dog guide or service animal by obstructing, intimidating, or otherwise jeopardizing the safety of the dog guide or service animal user or his or her dog guide or service animal is guilty of a misdemeanor, except as provided in (b) of this subsection.

(b) A second or subsequent violation of this subsection is a gross misdemeanor.

(2)(a) Any person who, with reckless disregard, allows his or her dog to interfere with the use of a dog guide or service animal by obstructing, intimidating, or otherwise jeopardizing the safety of the dog guide or service animal user or his or her dog guide or service animal is guilty of a misdemeanor, except as provided in (b) of this subsection.

(b) A second or subsequent violation of this subsection is a gross misdemeanor.

(3) Any person who, with reckless disregard, injures, disables, or causes the death of a dog guide or service animal is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(4) Any person who, with reckless disregard, allows his or her dog to injure, disable, or cause the death of a dog guide or service animal is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(5) Any person who intentionally injures, disables, or causes the death of a dog guide or service animal is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(6) Any person who wrongfully obtains or exerts unauthorized control over a dog guide or service animal with the intent to deprive the dog guide or service animal user of his or her dog guide or service animal is guilty of theft in the first degree, RCW 9A.56.030.

(7)(a) In any case in which the defendant is convicted of a violation of this section, he or she shall also be ordered to make full restitution for all damages, including incidental and consequential expenses incurred by the dog guide or service

animal user and the dog guide or service animal which arise out of or are related to the criminal offense.

(b) Restitution for a conviction under this section shall include, but is not limited to:

(i) The value of the replacement of an incapacitated or deceased dog guide or service animal, the training of a replacement dog guide or service animal, or retraining of the affected dog guide or service animal and all related veterinary and care expenses; and

(ii) Medical expenses of the dog guide or service animal user, training of the dog guide or service animal user, and compensation for wages or earned income lost by the dog guide or service animal user.

(8) Nothing in this section shall affect any civil remedies available for violation of this section.

(9) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Dog guide" means a dog that is trained for the purpose of guiding blind persons or a dog trained for the purpose of assisting hearing impaired persons.

(b) "Service animal" means an animal that is trained for the purposes of assisting or accommodating a disabled person's sensory, mental, or physical disability.

(c) "Notice" means a verbal or otherwise communicated warning prescribing the behavior of another person and a request that the person stop their behavior.

(d) "Value" means the value to the dog guide or service animal user and does not refer to cost or fair market value. [2003 c 53 § 52; 2001 c 112 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### 9.91.175 Interfering with search and rescue dog.

(1)(a)(i) Any person who has received notice that his or her behavior is interfering with the use of an on-duty search and rescue dog who continues with reckless disregard to interfere with the use of an on-duty search and rescue dog by obstructing, intimidating, or otherwise jeopardizing the safety of the search and rescue dog user or his or her search and rescue dog is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW, except when (a)(ii) of this subsection applies.

(ii) A second or subsequent violation of (a)(i) of this subsection is a gross misdemeanor punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(b)(i) Any person who, with reckless disregard, allows his or her dog to interfere with the use of an on-duty search and rescue dog by obstructing, intimidating, or otherwise jeopardizing the safety of the search and rescue dog user or his or her search and rescue dog is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW, except when (b)(ii) of this subsection applies.

(ii) A second or subsequent violation of (b)(i) of this subsection is a gross misdemeanor punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(2)(a) Any person who, with reckless disregard, injures, disables, or causes the death of an on-duty search and rescue dog is guilty of a gross misdemeanor punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(b) Any person who, with reckless disregard, allows his or her dog to injure, disable, or cause the death of an on-duty

search and rescue dog is guilty of a gross misdemeanor punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(3) Any person who intentionally injures, disables, or causes the death of an on-duty search and rescue dog is guilty of a class C felony.

(4) Any person who wrongfully obtains or exerts unauthorized control over an on-duty search and rescue dog with the intent to deprive the dog user of his or her search and rescue dog is guilty of theft in the first degree under RCW 9A.56.030.

(5)(a) In any case in which the defendant is convicted of a violation of this section, he or she shall also be ordered to make full restitution for all damages, including incidental and consequential expenses incurred by the search and rescue dog user and the dog that arise out of, or are related to, the criminal offense.

(b) Restitution for a conviction under this section shall include, but is not limited to:

(i) The value of the replacement of an incapacitated or deceased dog, the training of a replacement search and rescue dog, or retraining of the affected dog and all related veterinary and care expenses; and

(ii) Medical expenses of the search and rescue dog user, training of the dog user, and compensation for any wages or earned income lost by the search and rescue dog user as a result of a violation of subsection (1), (2), (3), or (4) of this section.

(6) Nothing in this section affects any civil remedies available for violation of this section.

(7) For purposes of this section, "search and rescue dog" means a dog that is trained for the purpose of search and rescue of persons lost or missing. [2005 c 212 § 1.]

**9.91.180 Violent video or computer games.** (1) A person who sells, rents, or permits to be sold or rented, any video or computer game they know to be a violent video or computer game to any minor has committed a class 1 civil infraction as provided in RCW 7.80.120.

(2) "Minor" means a person under seventeen years of age.

(3) "Person" means a retailer engaged in the business of selling or renting video or computer games including any individual, partnership, corporation, or association who is subject to the tax on retailers under RCW 82.04.250.

(4) "Violent video or computer game" means a video or computer game that contains realistic or photographic-like depictions of aggressive conflict in which the player kills, injures, or otherwise causes physical harm to a human form in the game who is depicted, by dress or other recognizable symbols, as a public law enforcement officer. [2003 c 365 § 2.]

**Findings—2003 c 365:** "The legislature finds that there has been an increase in studies showing a correlation between exposure to violent video and computer games and various forms of hostile and antisocial behavior. The entertainment software industry's ratings and content descriptors of video and computer games reflect that some video and computer games are suitable only for adults due to graphic depictions of sex and/or violence. Furthermore, some video and computer games focus on violence specifically against public law enforcement officers such as police and firefighters. The legislature encourages retailers and parents to utilize the rating system.

In addition, the legislature finds there is a compelling interest to curb hostile and antisocial behavior in Washington's youth and to foster respect for public law enforcement officers." [2003 c 365 § 1.]

## Chapter 9.92 RCW PUNISHMENT

### Sections

9.92.005	Penalty assessments in addition to fine or bail forfeiture— Crime victims compensation account.
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9.92.020	Punishment of gross misdemeanor when not fixed by statute.
9.92.030	Punishment of misdemeanor when not fixed by statute.
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9.92.060	Suspending sentences.
9.92.062	Suspended sentence—Termination date—Application.
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9.92.066	Termination of suspended sentence—Restoration of civil rights—Vacation of conviction.
9.92.070	Payment of fine and costs in installments.
9.92.080	Sentence on two or more convictions or counts.
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*Excessive bail or fines, cruel punishment prohibited: State Constitution Art. 1 § 14.*

*Juvenile offenders—Commitment: Chapter 13.04 RCW.*

**9.92.005 Penalty assessments in addition to fine or bail forfeiture—Crime victims compensation account.** See RCW 7.68.035.

**9.92.010 Punishment of felony when not fixed by statute.** Every person convicted of a felony for which no maximum punishment is specially prescribed by any statutory provision in force at the time of conviction and sentence, shall be punished by confinement or fine which shall not exceed confinement in a state correctional institution for a term of ten years, or by a fine in an amount fixed by the court of not more than twenty thousand dollars, or by both such confinement and fine and the offense shall be classified as a class B felony. [1996 c 44 § 2; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 5; 1909 c 249 § 13; RRS § 2265.]

*Classification of crimes: Chapter 9A.20 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.92.020 Punishment of gross misdemeanor when not fixed by statute.** Every person convicted of a gross misdemeanor for which no punishment is prescribed in any statute in force at the time of conviction and sentence, shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for a maximum term fixed by the court of up to three hundred sixty-four days, or by a fine in an amount fixed by the court of not more than five thousand dollars, or by both such imprisonment and fine. [2011 c 96 § 10; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 6; 1909 c 249 § 15; RRS § 2267.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.92.030 Punishment of misdemeanor when not fixed by statute.** Every person convicted of a misdemeanor for which no punishment is prescribed by any statute in force at the time of conviction and sentence, shall be punished by

imprisonment in the county jail for a maximum term fixed by the court of not more than ninety days, or by a fine in an amount fixed by the court of not more than one thousand dollars or both such imprisonment and fine. [1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 7; 1909 c 249 § 14; Code 1881 § 785; RRS § 2266.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.92.040 Punishment for contempt.** A criminal act which at the same time constitutes contempt of court, and has been punished as such, may also be punished as a crime, but in such case the punishment for contempt may be considered in mitigation. [1909 c 249 § 21; RRS § 2273.]

*Contempt: Chapter 7.21 RCW.*

**9.92.060 Suspending sentences.** (1) Whenever any person is convicted of any crime except murder, burglary in the first degree, arson in the first degree, robbery, rape of a child, or rape, the superior court may, in its discretion, at the time of imposing sentence upon such person, direct that such sentence be stayed and suspended until otherwise ordered by the superior court, and, upon such terms as the superior court may determine, that the sentenced person be placed under the charge of:

(a) A community corrections officer employed by the department of corrections, if the person is subject to supervision under RCW 9.94A.501 or 9.94A.5011; or

(b) A probation officer employed or contracted for by the county, if the county has elected to assume responsibility for the supervision of superior court misdemeanor probationers.

(2) As a condition to suspension of sentence, the superior court shall require the payment of the penalty assessment required by RCW 7.68.035. In addition, the superior court may require the convicted person to make such monetary payments, on such terms as the superior court deems appropriate under the circumstances, as are necessary: (a) To comply with any order of the court for the payment of family support; (b) to make restitution to any person or persons who may have suffered loss or damage by reason of the commission of the crime in question or when the offender pleads guilty to a lesser offense or fewer offenses and agrees with the prosecutor's recommendation that the offender be required to pay restitution to a victim of an offense or offenses which are not prosecuted pursuant to a plea agreement; (c) to pay any fine imposed and not suspended and the court or other costs incurred in the prosecution of the case, including reimbursement of the state for costs of extradition if return to this state by extradition was required; and (d) to contribute to a county or interlocal drug fund.

(3) As a condition of the suspended sentence, the superior court may order the probationer to report to the secretary of corrections or such officer as the secretary may designate and as a condition of the probation to follow the instructions of the secretary. If the county legislative authority has elected to assume responsibility for the supervision of superior court misdemeanor probationers within its jurisdiction, the superior court misdemeanor probationer shall report to a probation officer employed or contracted for by the county. In cases where a superior court misdemeanor probationer is sentenced in one county, but resides within another county, there must be provisions for the probationer to report to the

agency having supervision responsibility for the probationer's county of residence.

(4) If restitution to the victim has been ordered under subsection (2)(b) of this section and the superior court has ordered supervision, the officer supervising the probationer shall make a reasonable effort to ascertain whether restitution has been made as ordered. If the superior court has ordered supervision and restitution has not been made, the officer shall inform the prosecutor of that violation of the terms of the suspended sentence not less than three months prior to the termination of the suspended sentence. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 5; 2005 c 362 § 2; 1996 c 298 § 5; 1995 1st sp.s. c 19 § 30; 1987 c 202 § 142; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 8; 1982 1st ex.s. c 8 § 4; 1979 c 29 § 1; 1967 c 200 § 7; 1957 c 227 § 1; 1949 c 76 § 1; 1921 c 69 § 1; 1909 c 249 § 28; 1905 c 24 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 2280.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 40 §§ 1-9, 42:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2005 c 362:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Findings—Purpose—Short title—Severability—Effective date—1995 1st sp.s. c 19:** See notes following RCW 72.09.450.

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**Intent—Reports—1982 1st ex.s. c 8:** See note following RCW 7.68.035.

*Probation: RCW 9.95.200 through 9.95.250.*

*Probation and parole services, provision by counties: RCW 36.01.070.*

*Restitution*

*alternative to fine: RCW 9A.20.030.*

*condition of probation: RCW 9.95.210.*

*disposition when victim not found or dead: RCW 7.68.290.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.92.062 Suspended sentence—Termination date—Application.** In all cases prior to August 9, 1971, wherein the execution of sentence has been suspended pursuant to RCW 9.92.060, such person may apply to the court by which he or she was convicted and sentenced to establish a definite termination date for the suspended sentence. The court shall set a date no later than the time the original sentence would have elapsed and may provide for an earlier termination of the suspended sentence. [2011 c 336 § 330; 1971 ex.s. c 188 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.92.064 Suspended sentence—Termination date, establishment—Modification of terms.** In the case of a person granted a suspended sentence under the provisions of RCW 9.92.060, the court shall establish a definite termination date for the suspended sentence. The court shall set a date no later than the time the original sentence would have elapsed and may provide for an earlier termination of the suspended sentence. Prior to the entry of an order formally terminating a suspended sentence the court may modify the terms and conditions of the suspension or extend the period of the suspended sentence. [1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 9; 1971 ex.s. c 188 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.92.066 Termination of suspended sentence—Restoration of civil rights—Vacation of conviction.** (1) Upon termination of any suspended sentence under RCW 9.92.060 or 9.95.210, such person may apply to the court for restoration of his or her civil rights not already restored by RCW 29A.08.520. Thereupon the court may in its discretion enter an order directing that such defendant shall thereafter be released from all penalties and disabilities resulting from the offense or crime of which he or she has been convicted.

(2)(a) Upon termination of a suspended sentence under RCW 9.92.060 or 9.95.210, the person may apply to the sentencing court for a vacation of the person's record of conviction under RCW 9.94A.640. The court may, in its discretion, clear the record of conviction if it finds the person has met the equivalent of the tests in RCW 9.94A.640(2) as those tests would be applied to a person convicted of a crime committed before July 1, 1984.

(b) The clerk of the court in which the vacation order is entered shall immediately transmit the order vacating the conviction to the Washington state patrol identification section and to the local police agency, if any, which holds criminal history information for the person who is the subject of the conviction. The Washington state patrol and any such local police agency shall immediately update their records to reflect the vacation of the conviction, and shall transmit the order vacating the conviction to the federal bureau of investigation. A conviction that has been vacated under this section may not be disseminated or disclosed by the state patrol or local law enforcement agency to any person, except other criminal justice enforcement agencies. [2009 c 325 § 2; 2003 c 66 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 188 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.92.070 Payment of fine and costs in installments.** Hereafter whenever any judge of any superior court or a district or municipal judge shall sentence any person to pay any fine and costs, the judge may, in the judge's discretion, provide that such fine and costs may be paid in certain designated installments, or within certain designated period or periods; and if such fine and costs shall be paid by the defendant in accordance with such order no commitment or imprisonment of the defendant shall be made for failure to pay such fine or costs. PROVIDED, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to any sentence given for the violation of any of the liquor laws of this state. [1987 c 3 § 4; 1923 c 15 § 1; RRS § 2280-1.]

*Collection and disposition of fines and costs: Chapter 10.82 RCW.*

*Payment of fine and costs in installments: RCW 10.01.170.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.92.080 Sentence on two or more convictions or counts.** (1) Whenever a person while under sentence of felony shall commit another felony and be sentenced to another term of imprisonment, such latter term shall not begin until the expiration of all prior terms: PROVIDED, That any person granted probation pursuant to the provisions of RCW 9.95.210 and/or 9.92.060 shall not be considered to be under sentence of a felony for the purposes of this subsection.

(2) Whenever a person is convicted of two or more offenses which arise from a single act or omission, the sentences imposed therefor shall run concurrently, unless the

court, in pronouncing sentence, expressly orders the service of said sentences to be consecutive.

(3) In all other cases, whenever a person is convicted of two or more offenses arising from separate and distinct acts or omissions, and not otherwise governed by the provisions of subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the sentences imposed therefor shall run consecutively, unless the court, in pronouncing the second or other subsequent sentences, expressly orders concurrent service thereof.

(4) The sentencing court may require the secretary of corrections, or his or her designee, to provide information to the court concerning the existence of all prior judgments against the defendant, the terms of imprisonment imposed, and the status thereof. [2011 c 336 § 331; 1981 c 136 § 35; 1971 ex.s. c 295 § 1; 1925 ex.s. c 109 § 2; 1909 c 249 § 33; RRS § 2285.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.92.090 Habitual criminals.** Every person convicted in this state of any crime of which fraud or intent to defraud is an element, or of petit larceny, or of any felony, who shall previously have been convicted, whether in this state or elsewhere, of any crime which under the laws of this state would amount to a felony, or who shall previously have been twice convicted, whether in this state or elsewhere, of petit larceny, or of any misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor of which fraud or intent to defraud is an element, shall be adjudged to be an habitual criminal and shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not less than ten years.

Every person convicted in this state of any crime of which fraud or intent to defraud is an element, or of petit larceny, or of any felony, who shall previously have been twice convicted, whether in this state or elsewhere, of any crime which under the laws of this state would amount to a felony, or who shall previously have been four times convicted, whether in this state or elsewhere, of petit larceny, or of any misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor of which fraud or intent to defraud is an element, shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for life. [1992 c 7 § 18; 1909 c 249 § 34; 1903 c 86 §§ 1, 2; RRS § 2286.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.92.100 Prevention of procreation.** Whenever any person shall be adjudged guilty of carnal abuse of a female person under the age of ten years, or of rape, or shall be adjudged to be an habitual criminal, the court may, in addition to such other punishment or confinement as may be imposed, direct an operation to be performed upon such person, for the prevention of procreation. [1909 c 249 § 35; RRS § 2287.]

**9.92.110 Convicts protected—Forfeitures abolished.** Every person sentenced to imprisonment in any penal institution shall be under the protection of the law, and any unauthorized injury to his or her person shall be punished in the same manner as if he or she were not so convicted or sentenced. A conviction of crime shall not work a forfeiture of any property, real or personal, or of any right or interest therein. All forfeitures in the nature of deodands, or in case of suicide or where a person flees from justice, are abolished. [2011 c 336 § 332; 1909 c 249 § 36; RRS § 2288.]

*Inheritance rights of slayers or abusers: Chapter 11.84 RCW.*

**9.92.120 Conviction of public officer forfeits trust.** The conviction of a public officer of any felony or malfeasance in office shall entail, in addition to such other penalty as may be imposed, the forfeiture of his or her office, and shall disqualify him or her from ever afterward holding any public office in this state. [2011 c 336 § 333; 1909 c 249 § 37; RRS § 2289.]

*Forfeiture or impeachment, rights preserved: RCW 42.04.040.*

*Misconduct of public officers: Chapter 42.20 RCW.*

*Vacancy of public office, causes: RCW 42.12.010.*

**9.92.130 City jail prisoners may be compelled to work.** When a person has been sentenced by any municipal or district judge in this state to a term of imprisonment in a city jail, whether in default of payment of a fine or otherwise, such person may be compelled on each day of such term, except Sundays, to perform eight hours' labor upon the streets, public buildings, and grounds of such city. [1987 c 202 § 144; Code 1881 § 2075; RRS § 10189.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**9.92.140 County jail prisoners may be compelled to work.** When a person has been sentenced by a district judge or a judge of the superior court to a term of imprisonment in the county jail, whether in default of payment of a fine, or costs or otherwise; such person may be compelled to work eight hours, each day of such term, in and about the county buildings, public roads, streets and grounds: PROVIDED, This section and RCW 9.92.130 shall not apply to persons committed in default of bail. [1987 c 202 § 145; Code 1881 § 2076; 1867 p 56 § 24; 1858 p 10 § 1; RRS § 10190.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

*Employment of prisoners: RCW 36.28.100.*

*Working out fine: Chapter 10.82 RCW.*

**9.92.151 Early release for good behavior.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the sentence of a prisoner confined in a county jail facility for a felony, gross misdemeanor, or misdemeanor conviction may be reduced by earned release credits in accordance with procedures that shall be developed and promulgated by the correctional agency having jurisdiction. The earned early release time shall be for good behavior and good performance as determined by the correctional agency having jurisdiction. Any program established pursuant to this section shall allow an offender to earn early release credits for presentence incarceration. The correctional agency shall not credit the offender with earned early release credits in advance of the offender actually earning the credits. In the case of an offender convicted of a serious violent offense or a sex offense that is a class A felony committed on or after July 1, 1990, the aggregate earned early release time may not exceed fifteen percent of the sentence. In no other case may the aggregate earned early release time exceed one-third of the total sentence.

(2) An offender serving a term of confinement imposed under RCW 9.94A.670(5)(a) is not eligible for earned release credits under this section. [2009 c 28 § 3; 2004 c 176 § 5; 1990 c 3 § 201; 1989 c 248 § 1.]



**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Severability—Effective date—2004 c 176:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.515.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.92.200 Chapter not to affect dispositions under juvenile justice act.** No provision of this chapter shall authorize a court to suspend or defer the imposition or the execution of a disposition under chapter 13.40 RCW, as now law or hereafter amended. [1981 c 299 § 21.]

**9.92.900 RCW \*9.92.050 through 9.92.090 inapplicable to felonies committed on or after July 1, 1984.** The following sections of law do not apply to any felony offense committed on or after July 1, 1984: RCW \*9.92.050, 9.92.060, 9.92.062, 9.92.064, 9.92.066, 9.92.070, 9.92.080, and 9.92.090. [1984 c 209 § 2; 1981 c 137 § 31.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 9.92.050 was repealed by 1992 c 7 § 64.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### Chapter 9.94 RCW

#### PRISONERS—CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

##### Sections

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9.94.070	Persistent prison misbehavior.

*Convict-made goods, restriction on sale of:* Chapter 72.60 RCW.

*Obstructing governmental operation:* Chapter 9A.76 RCW.

*State institutions:* Title 72 RCW.

**9.94.010 Prison riot—Penalty.** (1) Whenever two or more inmates of a correctional institution assemble for any purpose, and act in such a manner as to disturb the good order of the institution and contrary to the commands of the officers of the institution, by the use of force or violence, or the threat thereof, and whether acting in concert or not, they shall be guilty of prison riot.

(2) Every inmate of a correctional institution who is guilty of prison riot or of voluntarily participating therein by being present at, or by instigating, aiding, or abetting the same, is guilty of a class B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional institution for not less than one year nor more than ten years, which shall be in addition to the sentence being served. [2003 c 53 § 53; 1995 c 314 § 1; 1955 c 241 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9.94.030 Holding person hostage—Interference with officer's duties.** Whenever any inmate of a correctional institution shall hold, or participate in holding, any person as a hostage, by force or violence, or the threat thereof, or shall

prevent, or participate in preventing an officer of such institution from carrying out his or her duties, by force or violence, or the threat thereof, he or she shall be guilty of a class B felony and upon conviction shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional institution for not less than one year nor more than ten years. [2003 c 53 § 54; 1995 c 314 § 3; 1992 c 7 § 20; 1957 c 112 § 1; 1955 c 241 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Interfering with public officer:* Chapter 9A.76 RCW.

*Kidnapping:* Chapter 9A.40 RCW.

**9.94.040 Weapons—Possession, etc., by prisoner prohibited—Penalty.** (1) Every person serving a sentence in any state correctional institution who, without legal authorization, while in the institution or while being conveyed to or from the institution, or while under the custody or supervision of institution officials, officers, or employees, or while on any premises subject to the control of the institution, knowingly possesses or carries upon his or her person or has under his or her control any weapon, firearm, or any instrument which, if used, could produce serious bodily injury to the person of another, is guilty of a class B felony.

(2) Every person confined in a county or local correctional institution who, without legal authorization, while in the institution or while being conveyed to or from the institution, or while under the custody or supervision of institution officials, officers, or employees, or while on any premises subject to the control of the institution, knowingly possesses or has under his or her control any weapon, firearm, or any instrument that, if used, could produce serious bodily injury to the person of another, is guilty of a class C felony.

(3) The sentence imposed under this section shall be in addition to any sentence being served. [2005 c 361 § 1; 1995 c 314 § 4; 1979 c 121 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 43 § 1; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 18. Prior: 1955 c 241 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94.041 Narcotic drugs, controlled substances—Possession, etc., by prisoners—Penalty.** (1) Every person serving a sentence in any state correctional institution who, without legal authorization, while in the institution or while being conveyed to or from the institution, or while under the custody or supervision of institution officials, officers, or employees, or while on any premises subject to the control of the institution, knowingly possesses or carries upon his or her person or has under his or her control any narcotic drug or controlled substance as defined in chapter 69.50 RCW is guilty of a class C felony.

(2) Every person confined in a county or local correctional institution who, without legal authorization, while in the institution or while being conveyed to or from the institution, or while under the custody or supervision of institution officials, officers, or employees, or while on any premises subject to the control of the institution, knowingly possesses or has under his or her control any narcotic drug or controlled substance, as defined in chapter 69.50 RCW, is guilty of a class C felony.

(3) The sentence imposed under this section shall be in addition to any sentence being served. [1995 c 314 § 5; 1979 c 121 § 2.]

**9.94.043 Deadly weapons—Possession on premises by person not a prisoner—Penalty.** A person, other than a person serving a sentence in a penal institution of this state, is guilty of possession of contraband on the premises of a state correctional institution in the first degree if, without authorization to do so, the person knowingly possesses or has under his or her control a deadly weapon on or in the buildings or adjacent grounds subject to the care, control, or supervision of a state correctional institution. Deadly weapon is used as defined in RCW 9A.04.110: PROVIDED, That such correctional buildings, grounds, or property are properly posted pursuant to RCW 9.94.047, and such person has knowingly entered thereon: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the provisions of this section do not apply to a person licensed pursuant to RCW 9.41.070 who, upon entering the correctional institution premises, proceeds directly along an access road to the administration building and promptly checks his or her firearm(s) with the appropriate authorities. The person may reclaim his or her firearm(s) upon leaving, but he or she must immediately and directly depart from the premises.

Possession of contraband on the premises of a state correctional institution in the first degree is a class B felony. [1979 c 121 § 3.]

**9.94.045 Narcotic drugs or controlled substances—Possession by person not a prisoner—Penalty.** A person, other than a person serving a sentence in a penal institution of this state, is guilty of possession of contraband on the premises of a state correctional institution in the second degree if, without authorization to do so, the person knowingly possesses or has under his or her control any narcotic drug or controlled substance, as defined in chapter 69.50 RCW, on or in the buildings, grounds, or any other real property subject to the care, control, or supervision of a state correctional institution.

Possession of contraband on the premises of a state correctional institution in the second degree is a class C felony. [1979 c 121 § 4.]

**9.94.047 Posting of perimeter of premises of institutions covered by RCW 9.94.040 through 9.94.049.** The perimeter of the premises of correctional institutions covered by RCW 9.94.040 through 9.94.049 shall be posted at reasonable intervals to alert the public as to the existence of RCW 9.94.040 through 9.94.049. [1979 c 121 § 5.]

**9.94.049 "Correctional institution" and "state correctional institution" defined.** (1) For the purposes of this chapter, the term "correctional institution" means any place designated by law for the keeping of persons held in custody under process of law, or under lawful arrest, including state prisons, county and local jails, and other facilities operated by the department of corrections or local governmental units primarily for the purposes of punishment, correction, or rehabilitation following conviction of a criminal offense.

(2) For the purposes of RCW 9.94.043 and 9.94.045, "state correctional institution" means all state correctional facilities under the supervision of the secretary of the department of corrections used solely for the purpose of confinement of convicted felons. [1995 c 314 § 6; 1992 c 7 § 21; 1985 c 350 § 3; 1979 c 121 § 6.]

**9.94.050 Correctional employees.** Any correctional employee, while acting in the supervision and transportation of prisoners, and in the apprehension of prisoners who have escaped, shall have the powers and duties of a peace officer. [1992 c 7 § 22; 1955 c 241 § 5.]

**9.94.070 Persistent prison misbehavior.** (1) An inmate of a state correctional institution who is serving a sentence for an offense committed on or after August 1, 1995, commits the crime of persistent prison misbehavior if the inmate knowingly commits a serious infraction, that does not constitute a class A or class B felony, after losing all potential earned early release time credit.

(2) "Serious infraction" means misconduct that has been designated as a serious infraction by department of corrections rules adopted under RCW 72.09.130.

(3) "State correctional institution" has the same meaning as in RCW 9.94.049.

(4) The crime of persistent prison misbehavior is a class C felony punishable as provided in RCW 9A.20.021. The sentence imposed for this crime must be served consecutive to any sentence being served at the time the crime is committed. [1995 c 385 § 1.]

## Chapter 9.94A RCW SENTENCING REFORM ACT OF 1981

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**9.94A.010 Purpose.** The purpose of this chapter is to make the criminal justice system accountable to the public by developing a system for the sentencing of felony offenders which structures, but does not eliminate, discretionary decisions affecting sentences, and to:

(1) Ensure that the punishment for a criminal offense is proportionate to the seriousness of the offense and the offender's criminal history;

(2) Promote respect for the law by providing punishment which is just;

(3) Be commensurate with the punishment imposed on others committing similar offenses;

(4) Protect the public;

(5) Offer the offender an opportunity to improve himself or herself;

(6) Make frugal use of the state's and local governments' resources; and

(7) Reduce the risk of reoffending by offenders in the community. [2011 c 336 § 334; 1999 c 196 § 1; 1981 c 137 § 1.]

**Report on Sentencing Reform Act of 1981:** "The legislative budget committee shall prepare a report to be filed at the beginning of the 1987 session of the legislature. The report shall include a complete assessment of the impact of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1981. Such report shall include the effectiveness of the guidelines and impact on prison and jail populations and community correction programs." [1983 c 163 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.015 Finding—Intent—2000 c 28.** The sentencing reform act has been amended many times since its enactment in 1981. While each amendment promoted a valid public purpose, some sections of the act have become unduly lengthy and repetitive. The legislature finds that it is appropriate to adopt clarifying amendments to make the act easier to use and understand.

appropriate to adopt clarifying amendments to make the act easier to use and understand.

The legislature does not intend chapter 28, Laws of 2000 to make, and no provision of chapter 28, Laws of 2000 shall be construed as making, a substantive change in the sentencing reform act.

The legislature does intend to clarify that persistent offenders are not eligible for extraordinary medical placement. [2000 c 28 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.020 Short title.** This chapter may be known and cited as the sentencing reform act of 1981. [1981 c 137 § 2.]

**9.94A.030 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Board" means the indeterminate sentence review board created under chapter 9.95 RCW.

(2) "Collect," or any derivative thereof, "collect and remit," or "collect and deliver," when used with reference to the department, means that the department, either directly or through a collection agreement authorized by RCW 9.94A.760, is responsible for monitoring and enforcing the offender's sentence with regard to the legal financial obligation, receiving payment thereof from the offender, and, consistent with current law, delivering daily the entire payment to the superior court clerk without depositing it in a departmental account.

(3) "Commission" means the sentencing guidelines commission.

(4) "Community corrections officer" means an employee of the department who is responsible for carrying out specific duties in supervision of sentenced offenders and monitoring of sentence conditions.

(5) "Community custody" means that portion of an offender's sentence of confinement in lieu of earned release time or imposed as part of a sentence under this chapter and served in the community subject to controls placed on the offender's movement and activities by the department.

(6) "Community protection zone" means the area within eight hundred eighty feet of the facilities and grounds of a public or private school.

(7) "Community restitution" means compulsory service, without compensation, performed for the benefit of the community by the offender.

(8) "Confinement" means total or partial confinement.

(9) "Conviction" means an adjudication of guilt pursuant to Title 10 or 13 RCW and includes a verdict of guilty, a finding of guilty, and acceptance of a plea of guilty.

(10) "Crime-related prohibition" means an order of a court prohibiting conduct that directly relates to the circumstances of the crime for which the offender has been convicted, and shall not be construed to mean orders directing an offender affirmatively to participate in rehabilitative programs or to otherwise perform affirmative conduct. However, affirmative acts necessary to monitor compliance with the order of a court may be required by the department.

(11) "Criminal history" means the list of a defendant's prior convictions and juvenile adjudications, whether in this state, in federal court, or elsewhere.

(a) The history shall include, where known, for each conviction (i) whether the defendant has been placed on probation and the length and terms thereof; and (ii) whether the defendant has been incarcerated and the length of incarceration.

(b) A conviction may be removed from a defendant's criminal history only if it is vacated pursuant to RCW 9.96.060, 9.94A.640, 9.95.240, or a similar out-of-state statute, or if the conviction has been vacated pursuant to a governor's pardon.

(c) The determination of a defendant's criminal history is distinct from the determination of an offender score. A prior conviction that was not included in an offender score calculated pursuant to a former version of the sentencing reform act remains part of the defendant's criminal history.

(12) "Criminal street gang" means any ongoing organization, association, or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, having a common name or common identifying sign or symbol, having as one of its primary activities the commission of criminal acts, and whose members or associates individually or collectively engage in or have engaged in a pattern of criminal street gang activity. This definition does not apply to employees engaged in concerted activities for their mutual aid and protection, or to the activities of labor and bona fide nonprofit organizations or their members or agents.

(13) "Criminal street gang associate or member" means any person who actively participates in any criminal street gang and who intentionally promotes, furthers, or assists in any criminal act by the criminal street gang.

(14) "Criminal street gang-related offense" means any felony or misdemeanor offense, whether in this state or elsewhere, that is committed for the benefit of, at the direction of, or in association with any criminal street gang, or is committed with the intent to promote, further, or assist in any criminal conduct by the gang, or is committed for one or more of the following reasons:

(a) To gain admission, prestige, or promotion within the gang;

(b) To increase or maintain the gang's size, membership, prestige, dominance, or control in any geographical area;

(c) To exact revenge or retribution for the gang or any member of the gang;

(d) To obstruct justice, or intimidate or eliminate any witness against the gang or any member of the gang;

(e) To directly or indirectly cause any benefit, aggrandizement, gain, profit, or other advantage for the gang, its reputation, influence, or membership; or

(f) To provide the gang with any advantage in, or any control or dominance over any criminal market sector, including, but not limited to, manufacturing, delivering, or selling any controlled substance (chapter 69.50 RCW); arson (chapter 9A.48 RCW); trafficking in stolen property (chapter 9A.82 RCW); promoting prostitution (chapter 9A.88 RCW); human trafficking (RCW 9A.40.100); promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor (RCW 9.68A.101); or promoting pornography (chapter 9.68 RCW).

(15) "Day fine" means a fine imposed by the sentencing court that equals the difference between the offender's net daily income and the reasonable obligations that the offender has for the support of the offender and any dependents.

(16) "Day reporting" means a program of enhanced supervision designed to monitor the offender's daily activities and compliance with sentence conditions, and in which the offender is required to report daily to a specific location designated by the department or the sentencing court.

(17) "Department" means the department of corrections.

(18) "Determinate sentence" means a sentence that states with exactitude the number of actual years, months, or days of total confinement, of partial confinement, of community custody, the number of actual hours or days of community restitution work, or dollars or terms of a legal financial obligation. The fact that an offender through earned release can reduce the actual period of confinement shall not affect the classification of the sentence as a determinate sentence.

(19) "Disposable earnings" means that part of the earnings of an offender remaining after the deduction from those earnings of any amount required by law to be withheld. For the purposes of this definition, "earnings" means compensation paid or payable for personal services, whether denominated as wages, salary, commission, bonuses, or otherwise, and, notwithstanding any other provision of law making the payments exempt from garnishment, attachment, or other process to satisfy a court-ordered legal financial obligation, specifically includes periodic payments pursuant to pension or retirement programs, or insurance policies of any type, but does not include payments made under Title 50 RCW, except as provided in RCW 50.40.020 and 50.40.050, or Title 74 RCW.

(20) "Domestic violence" has the same meaning as defined in RCW 10.99.020 and 26.50.010.

(21) "Drug offender sentencing alternative" is a sentencing option available to persons convicted of a felony offense other than a violent offense or a sex offense and who are eligible for the option under RCW 9.94A.660.

(22) "Drug offense" means:

(a) Any felony violation of chapter 69.50 RCW except possession of a controlled substance (RCW 69.50.4013) or forged prescription for a controlled substance (RCW 69.50.403);

(b) Any offense defined as a felony under federal law that relates to the possession, manufacture, distribution, or transportation of a controlled substance; or

(c) Any out-of-state conviction for an offense that under the laws of this state would be a felony classified as a drug offense under (a) of this subsection.

(23) "Earned release" means earned release from confinement as provided in RCW 9.94A.728.

(24) "Escape" means:

(a) Sexually violent predator escape (RCW 9A.76.115), escape in the first degree (RCW 9A.76.110), escape in the second degree (RCW 9A.76.120), willful failure to return from furlough (\*RCW 72.66.060), willful failure to return from work release (\*RCW 72.65.070), or willful failure to be available for supervision by the department while in community custody (RCW 72.09.310); or

(b) Any federal or out-of-state conviction for an offense that under the laws of this state would be a felony classified as an escape under (a) of this subsection.

(25) "Felony traffic offense" means:

(a) Vehicular homicide (RCW 46.61.520), vehicular assault (RCW 46.61.522), eluding a police officer (RCW

46.61.024), felony hit-and-run injury-accident (RCW 46.52.020(4)), felony driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 46.61.502(6)), or felony physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 46.61.504(6)); or

(b) Any federal or out-of-state conviction for an offense that under the laws of this state would be a felony classified as a felony traffic offense under (a) of this subsection.

(26) "Fine" means a specific sum of money ordered by the sentencing court to be paid by the offender to the court over a specific period of time.

(27) "First-time offender" means any person who has no prior convictions for a felony and is eligible for the first-time offender waiver under RCW 9.94A.650.

(28) "Home detention" means a program of partial confinement available to offenders wherein the offender is confined in a private residence subject to electronic surveillance.

(29) "Homelessness" or "homeless" means a condition where an individual lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and who has a primary nighttime residence that is:

(a) A supervised, publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations;

(b) A public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; or

(c) A private residence where the individual stays as a transient invitee.

(30) "Legal financial obligation" means a sum of money that is ordered by a superior court of the state of Washington for legal financial obligations which may include restitution to the victim, statutorily imposed crime victims' compensation fees as assessed pursuant to RCW 7.68.035, court costs, county or interlocal drug funds, court-appointed attorneys' fees, and costs of defense, fines, and any other financial obligation that is assessed to the offender as a result of a felony conviction. Upon conviction for vehicular assault while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, RCW 46.61.522(1)(b), or vehicular homicide while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, RCW 46.61.520(1)(a), legal financial obligations may also include payment to a public agency of the expense of an emergency response to the incident resulting in the conviction, subject to RCW 38.52.430.

(31) "Minor child" means a biological or adopted child of the offender who is under age eighteen at the time of the offender's current offense.

(32) "Most serious offense" means any of the following felonies or a felony attempt to commit any of the following felonies:

(a) Any felony defined under any law as a class A felony or criminal solicitation of or criminal conspiracy to commit a class A felony;

(b) Assault in the second degree;

(c) Assault of a child in the second degree;

(d) Child molestation in the second degree;

(e) Controlled substance homicide;

(f) Extortion in the first degree;

(g) Incest when committed against a child under age fourteen;

(h) Indecent liberties;

(i) Kidnapping in the second degree;

(j) Leading organized crime;

(k) Manslaughter in the first degree;

(l) Manslaughter in the second degree;

(m) Promoting prostitution in the first degree;

(n) Rape in the third degree;

(o) Robbery in the second degree;

(p) Sexual exploitation;

(q) Vehicular assault, when caused by the operation or driving of a vehicle by a person while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug or by the operation or driving of a vehicle in a reckless manner;

(r) Vehicular homicide, when proximately caused by the driving of any vehicle by any person while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug as defined by RCW 46.61.502, or by the operation of any vehicle in a reckless manner;

(s) Any other class B felony offense with a finding of sexual motivation;

(t) Any other felony with a deadly weapon verdict under RCW 9.94A.825;

(u) Any felony offense in effect at any time prior to December 2, 1993, that is comparable to a most serious offense under this subsection, or any federal or out-of-state conviction for an offense that under the laws of this state would be a felony classified as a most serious offense under this subsection;

(v)(i) A prior conviction for indecent liberties under RCW 9A.44.100(1) (a), (b), and (c), chapter 260, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. as it existed until July 1, 1979, RCW 9A.44.100(1) (a), (b), and (c) as it existed from July 1, 1979, until June 11, 1986, and RCW 9A.44.100(1) (a), (b), and (d) as it existed from June 11, 1986, until July 1, 1988;

(ii) A prior conviction for indecent liberties under RCW 9A.44.100(1)(c) as it existed from June 11, 1986, until July 1, 1988, if: (A) The crime was committed against a child under the age of fourteen; or (B) the relationship between the victim and perpetrator is included in the definition of indecent liberties under RCW 9A.44.100(1)(c) as it existed from July 1, 1988, through July 27, 1997, or RCW 9A.44.100(1) (d) or (e) as it existed from July 25, 1993, through July 27, 1997;

(w) Any out-of-state conviction for a felony offense with a finding of sexual motivation if the minimum sentence imposed was ten years or more; provided that the out-of-state felony offense must be comparable to a felony offense under this title and Title 9A RCW and the out-of-state definition of sexual motivation must be comparable to the definition of sexual motivation contained in this section.

(33) "Nonviolent offense" means an offense which is not a violent offense.

(34) "Offender" means a person who has committed a felony established by state law and is eighteen years of age or older or is less than eighteen years of age but whose case is under superior court jurisdiction under RCW 13.04.030 or has been transferred by the appropriate juvenile court to a criminal court pursuant to RCW 13.40.110. In addition, for the purpose of community custody requirements under this chapter, "offender" also means a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor probationer ordered by a superior court to probation pursuant to RCW 9.92.060, 9.95.204, or 9.95.210 and supervised by the department pursuant to RCW 9.94A.501

and 9.94A.5011. Throughout this chapter, the terms "offender" and "defendant" are used interchangeably.

(35) "Partial confinement" means confinement for no more than one year in a facility or institution operated or utilized under contract by the state or any other unit of government, or, if home detention or work crew has been ordered by the court or home detention has been ordered by the department as part of the parenting program, in an approved residence, for a substantial portion of each day with the balance of the day spent in the community. Partial confinement includes work release, home detention, work crew, and a combination of work crew and home detention.

(36) "Pattern of criminal street gang activity" means:

(a) The commission, attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation of, or any prior juvenile adjudication of or adult conviction of, two or more of the following criminal street gang-related offenses:

(i) Any "serious violent" felony offense as defined in this section, excluding Homicide by Abuse (RCW 9A.32.055) and Assault of a Child 1 (RCW 9A.36.120);

(ii) Any "violent" offense as defined by this section, excluding Assault of a Child 2 (RCW 9A.36.130);

(iii) Deliver or Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (chapter 69.50 RCW);

(iv) Any violation of the firearms and dangerous weapon act (chapter 9.41 RCW);

(v) Theft of a Firearm (RCW 9A.56.300);

(vi) Possession of a Stolen Firearm (RCW 9A.56.310);

(vii) Malicious Harassment (RCW 9A.36.080);

(viii) Harassment where a subsequent violation or deadly threat is made (RCW 9A.46.020(2)(b));

(ix) Criminal Gang Intimidation (RCW 9A.46.120);

(x) Any felony conviction by a person eighteen years of age or older with a special finding of involving a juvenile in a felony offense under RCW 9.94A.833;

(xi) Residential Burglary (RCW 9A.52.025);

(xii) Burglary 2 (RCW 9A.52.030);

(xiii) Malicious Mischief 1 (RCW 9A.48.070);

(xiv) Malicious Mischief 2 (RCW 9A.48.080);

(xv) Theft of a Motor Vehicle (RCW 9A.56.065);

(xvi) Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle (RCW 9A.56.068);

(xvii) Taking a Motor Vehicle Without Permission 1 (RCW 9A.56.070);

(xviii) Taking a Motor Vehicle Without Permission 2 (RCW 9A.56.075);

(xix) Extortion 1 (RCW 9A.56.120);

(xx) Extortion 2 (RCW 9A.56.130);

(xxi) Intimidating a Witness (RCW 9A.72.110);

(xxii) Tampering with a Witness (RCW 9A.72.120);

(xxiii) Reckless Endangerment (RCW 9A.36.050);

(xxiv) Coercion (RCW 9A.36.070);

(xxv) Harassment (RCW 9A.46.020); or

(xxvi) Malicious Mischief 3 (RCW 9A.48.090);

(b) That at least one of the offenses listed in (a) of this subsection shall have occurred after July 1, 2008;

(c) That the most recent committed offense listed in (a) of this subsection occurred within three years of a prior offense listed in (a) of this subsection; and

(d) Of the offenses that were committed in (a) of this subsection, the offenses occurred on separate occasions or were committed by two or more persons.

(37) "Persistent offender" is an offender who:

(a)(i) Has been convicted in this state of any felony considered a most serious offense; and

(ii) Has, before the commission of the offense under (a) of this subsection, been convicted as an offender on at least two separate occasions, whether in this state or elsewhere, of felonies that under the laws of this state would be considered most serious offenses and would be included in the offender score under RCW 9.94A.525; provided that of the two or more previous convictions, at least one conviction must have occurred before the commission of any of the other most serious offenses for which the offender was previously convicted; or

(b)(i) Has been convicted of: (A) Rape in the first degree, rape of a child in the first degree, child molestation in the first degree, rape in the second degree, rape of a child in the second degree, or indecent liberties by forcible compulsion; (B) any of the following offenses with a finding of sexual motivation: Murder in the first degree, murder in the second degree, homicide by abuse, kidnapping in the first degree, kidnapping in the second degree, assault in the first degree, assault in the second degree, assault of a child in the first degree, assault of a child in the second degree, or burglary in the first degree; or (C) an attempt to commit any crime listed in this subsection (37)(b)(i); and

(ii) Has, before the commission of the offense under (b)(i) of this subsection, been convicted as an offender on at least one occasion, whether in this state or elsewhere, of an offense listed in (b)(i) of this subsection or any federal or out-of-state offense or offense under prior Washington law that is comparable to the offenses listed in (b)(i) of this subsection. A conviction for rape of a child in the first degree constitutes a conviction under (b)(i) of this subsection only when the offender was sixteen years of age or older when the offender committed the offense. A conviction for rape of a child in the second degree constitutes a conviction under (b)(i) of this subsection only when the offender was eighteen years of age or older when the offender committed the offense.

(38) "Predatory" means: (a) The perpetrator of the crime was a stranger to the victim, as defined in this section; (b) the perpetrator established or promoted a relationship with the victim prior to the offense and the victimization of the victim was a significant reason the perpetrator established or promoted the relationship; or (c) the perpetrator was: (i) A teacher, counselor, volunteer, or other person in authority in any public or private school and the victim was a student of the school under his or her authority or supervision. For purposes of this subsection, "school" does not include home-based instruction as defined in RCW 28A.225.010; (ii) a coach, trainer, volunteer, or other person in authority in any recreational activity and the victim was a participant in the activity under his or her authority or supervision; (iii) a pastor, elder, volunteer, or other person in authority in any church or religious organization, and the victim was a member or participant of the organization under his or her authority; or (iv) a teacher, counselor, volunteer, or other person in authority providing home-based instruction and the victim was a student receiving home-based instruction while under

his or her authority or supervision. For purposes of this subsection: (A) "Home-based instruction" has the same meaning as defined in RCW 28A.225.010; and (B) "teacher, counselor, volunteer, or other person in authority" does not include the parent or legal guardian of the victim.

(39) "Private school" means a school regulated under chapter 28A.195 or 28A.205 RCW.

(40) "Public school" has the same meaning as in RCW 28A.150.010.

(41) "Repetitive domestic violence offense" means any:

(a)(i) Domestic violence assault that is not a felony offense under RCW 9A.36.041;

(ii) Domestic violence violation of a no-contact order under chapter 10.99 RCW that is not a felony offense;

(iii) Domestic violence violation of a protection order under chapter 26.09, 26.10, 26.26, or 26.50 RCW that is not a felony offense;

(iv) Domestic violence harassment offense under RCW 9A.46.020 that is not a felony offense; or

(v) Domestic violence stalking offense under RCW 9A.46.110 that is not a felony offense; or

(b) Any federal, out-of-state, tribal court, military, county, or municipal conviction for an offense that under the laws of this state would be classified as a repetitive domestic violence offense under (a) of this subsection.

(42) "Restitution" means a specific sum of money ordered by the sentencing court to be paid by the offender to the court over a specified period of time as payment of damages. The sum may include both public and private costs.

(43) "Risk assessment" means the application of the risk instrument recommended to the department by the Washington state institute for public policy as having the highest degree of predictive accuracy for assessing an offender's risk of reoffense.

(44) "Serious traffic offense" means:

(a) Nonfelony driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 46.61.502), nonfelony actual physical control while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 46.61.504), reckless driving (RCW 46.61.500), or hit-and-run an attended vehicle (RCW 46.52.020(5)); or

(b) Any federal, out-of-state, county, or municipal conviction for an offense that under the laws of this state would be classified as a serious traffic offense under (a) of this subsection.

(45) "Serious violent offense" is a subcategory of violent offense and means:

(a)(i) Murder in the first degree;

(ii) Homicide by abuse;

(iii) Murder in the second degree;

(iv) Manslaughter in the first degree;

(v) Assault in the first degree;

(vi) Kidnapping in the first degree;

(vii) Rape in the first degree;

(viii) Assault of a child in the first degree; or

(ix) An attempt, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy to commit one of these felonies; or

(b) Any federal or out-of-state conviction for an offense that under the laws of this state would be a felony classified as a serious violent offense under (a) of this subsection.

(46) "Sex offense" means:

(a)(i) A felony that is a violation of chapter 9A.44 RCW other than RCW 9A.44.132;

(ii) A violation of RCW 9A.64.020;

(iii) A felony that is a violation of chapter 9.68A RCW other than RCW 9.68A.080;

(iv) A felony that is, under chapter 9A.28 RCW, a criminal attempt, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy to commit such crimes; or

(v) A felony violation of RCW 9A.44.132(1) (failure to register) if the person has been convicted of violating RCW 9A.44.132(1) (failure to register) on at least one prior occasion;

(b) Any conviction for a felony offense in effect at any time prior to July 1, 1976, that is comparable to a felony classified as a sex offense in (a) of this subsection;

(c) A felony with a finding of sexual motivation under RCW 9.94A.835 or 13.40.135; or

(d) Any federal or out-of-state conviction for an offense that under the laws of this state would be a felony classified as a sex offense under (a) of this subsection.

(47) "Sexual motivation" means that one of the purposes for which the defendant committed the crime was for the purpose of his or her sexual gratification.

(48) "Standard sentence range" means the sentencing court's discretionary range in imposing a nonappealable sentence.

(49) "Statutory maximum sentence" means the maximum length of time for which an offender may be confined as punishment for a crime as prescribed in chapter 9A.20 RCW, RCW 9.92.010, the statute defining the crime, or other statute defining the maximum penalty for a crime.

(50) "Stranger" means that the victim did not know the offender twenty-four hours before the offense.

(51) "Total confinement" means confinement inside the physical boundaries of a facility or institution operated or utilized under contract by the state or any other unit of government for twenty-four hours a day, or pursuant to RCW 72.64.050 and 72.64.060.

(52) "Transition training" means written and verbal instructions and assistance provided by the department to the offender during the two weeks prior to the offender's successful completion of the work ethic camp program. The transition training shall include instructions in the offender's requirements and obligations during the offender's period of community custody.

(53) "Victim" means any person who has sustained emotional, psychological, physical, or financial injury to person or property as a direct result of the crime charged.

(54) "Violent offense" means:

(a) Any of the following felonies:

(i) Any felony defined under any law as a class A felony or an attempt to commit a class A felony;

(ii) Criminal solicitation of or criminal conspiracy to commit a class A felony;

(iii) Manslaughter in the first degree;

(iv) Manslaughter in the second degree;

(v) Indecent liberties if committed by forcible compulsion;

(vi) Kidnapping in the second degree;

(vii) Arson in the second degree;

(viii) Assault in the second degree;



(ix) Assault of a child in the second degree;  
 (x) Extortion in the first degree;  
 (xi) Robbery in the second degree;  
 (xii) Drive-by shooting;  
 (xiii) Vehicular assault, when caused by the operation or driving of a vehicle by a person while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug or by the operation or driving of a vehicle in a reckless manner; and

(xiv) Vehicular homicide, when proximately caused by the driving of any vehicle by any person while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug as defined by RCW 46.61.502, or by the operation of any vehicle in a reckless manner;

(b) Any conviction for a felony offense in effect at any time prior to July 1, 1976, that is comparable to a felony classified as a violent offense in (a) of this subsection; and

(c) Any federal or out-of-state conviction for an offense that under the laws of this state would be a felony classified as a violent offense under (a) or (b) of this subsection.

(55) "Work crew" means a program of partial confinement consisting of civic improvement tasks for the benefit of the community that complies with RCW 9.94A.725.

(56) "Work ethic camp" means an alternative incarceration program as provided in RCW 9.94A.690 designed to reduce recidivism and lower the cost of corrections by requiring offenders to complete a comprehensive array of real-world job and vocational experiences, character-building work ethics training, life management skills development, substance abuse rehabilitation, counseling, literacy training, and basic adult education.

(57) "Work release" means a program of partial confinement available to offenders who are employed or engaged as a student in a regular course of study at school. [2012 c 143 § 1. Prior: 2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 8; 2011 c 87 § 2; prior: 2010 c 274 § 401; 2010 c 267 § 9; 2010 c 227 § 11; 2010 c 224 § 1; 2009 c 375 § 4; (2009 c 375 § 3 expired August 1, 2009); 2009 c 28 § 4; prior: 2008 c 276 § 309; 2008 c 231 § 23; 2008 c 230 § 2; 2008 c 7 § 1; prior: 2006 c 139 § 5; (2006 c 139 § 4 expired July 1, 2006); 2006 c 124 § 1; 2006 c 122 § 7; (2006 c 122 § 6 expired July 1, 2006); 2006 c 73 § 5; 2005 c 436 § 1; 2003 c 53 § 55; prior: 2002 c 175 § 5; 2002 c 107 § 2; prior: 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 301; 2001 c 300 § 3; 2001 c 7 § 2; prior: 2001 c 287 § 4; 2001 c 95 § 1; 2000 c 28 § 2; 1999 c 352 § 8; 1999 c 197 § 1; 1999 c 196 § 2; 1998 c 290 § 3; prior: 1997 c 365 § 1; 1997 c 340 § 4; 1997 c 339 § 1; 1997 c 338 § 2; 1997 c 144 § 1; 1997 c 70 § 1; prior: 1996 c 289 § 1; 1996 c 275 § 5; prior: 1995 c 268 § 2; 1995 c 108 § 1; 1995 c 101 § 2; 1994 c 261 § 16; prior: 1994 c 1 § 3 (Initiative Measure No. 593, approved November 2, 1993); 1993 c 338 § 2; 1993 c 251 § 4; 1993 c 164 § 1; prior: 1992 c 145 § 6; 1992 c 75 § 1; prior: 1991 c 348 § 4; 1991 c 290 § 3; 1991 c 181 § 1; 1991 c 32 § 1; 1990 c 3 § 602; prior: 1989 c 394 § 1; 1989 c 252 § 2; prior: 1988 c 157 § 1; 1988 c 154 § 2; 1988 c 153 § 1; 1988 c 145 § 11; prior: 1987 c 458 § 1; 1987 c 456 § 1; 1987 c 187 § 3; 1986 c 257 § 17; 1985 c 346 § 5; 1984 c 209 § 3; 1983 c 164 § 9; 1983 c 163 § 1; 1982 c 192 § 1; 1981 c 137 § 3.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 72.66.060 and 72.65.070 were repealed by 2001 c 264 § 7. Cf. 2001 c 264 § 8.

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 40 §§ 1-9, 42:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**Application—2010 c 267:** See note following RCW 9A.44.128.

**Expiration date—2009 c 375 §§ 1, 3, and 13:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Application—2009 c 375:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Severability—Part headings, subheadings not law—2008 c 276:** See notes following RCW 36.28A.200.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Delayed effective date—2008 c 230 §§ 1-3:** See note following RCW 9A.44.130.

**Short title—2008 c 7:** "This act may be known and cited as the Chelsea Harrison act." [2008 c 7 § 2.]

**Effective date—2006 c 139 § 5:** "Section 5 of this act takes effect July 1, 2006." [2006 c 139 § 7.]

**Expiration date—2006 c 139 § 4:** "Section 4 of this act expires July 1, 2006." [2006 c 139 § 6.]

**Effective date—2006 c 124:** "Except for section 2 of this act, this act takes effect July 1, 2006." [2006 c 124 § 5.]

**Effective date—2006 c 122 §§ 5 and 7:** See note following RCW 9.94A.507.

**Expiration date—2006 c 122 §§ 4 and 6:** See note following RCW 9.94A.507.

**Effective date—2006 c 122 §§ 1-4 and 6:** See note following RCW 9.94A.836.

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Finding—2002 c 107:** "The legislature considers the majority opinions in *State v. Cruz*, 139 Wn.2d 186 (1999), and *State v. Smith*, Cause No. 70683-2 (September 6, 2001), to be wrongly decided, since neither properly interpreted legislative intent. When the legislature enacted the sentencing reform act, chapter 9.94A RCW, and each time the legislature has amended the act, the legislature intended that an offender's criminal history and offender score be determined using the statutory provisions that were in effect on the day the current offense was committed.

Although certain prior convictions previously were not counted in the offender score or included in the criminal history pursuant to former versions of RCW 9.94A.525, or RCW 9.94A.030, those prior convictions need not be "revived" because they were never vacated. As noted in the minority opinions in *Cruz* and *Smith*, such application of the law does not involve retroactive application or violate ex postfacto prohibitions. Additionally, the Washington state supreme court has repeatedly held in the past that the provisions of the sentencing reform act act upon and punish only current conduct; the sentencing reform act does not act upon or alter the punishment for prior convictions. See *In re Personal Restraint Petition of Williams*, 111 Wn.2d 353, (1988). The legislature has never intended to create in an offender a vested right with respect to whether a prior conviction is excluded when calculating an offender score or with respect to how a prior conviction is counted in the offender score for a current offense." [2002 c 107 § 1.]

**Application—2002 c 107:** "RCW 9.94A.030(13) (b) and (c) and 9.94A.525(18) apply only to current offenses committed on or after June 13, 2002. No offender who committed his or her current offense prior to June 13, 2002, may be subject to resentencing as a result of this act." [2002 c 107 § 4.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

**Finding—Intent—2001 c 7:** "The legislature finds that an ambiguity may exist regarding whether out-of-state convictions or convictions under prior Washington law, for sex offenses that are comparable to current Washington offenses, count when determining whether an offender is a persistent offender. This act is intended to clarify the legislature's intent that out-of-state convictions for comparable sex offenses and prior Washington convic-

tions for comparable sex offenses shall be used to determine whether an offender meets the definition of a persistent offender." [2001 c 7 § 1.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—1996 c 275:** See note following RCW 9.94A.505.

**Purpose—1995 c 268:** "In order to eliminate a potential ambiguity over the scope of the term "sex offense," this act clarifies that for general purposes the definition of "sex offense" does not include any misdemeanors or gross misdemeanors. For purposes of the registration of sex offenders pursuant to RCW 9A.44.130, however, the definition of "sex offense" is expanded to include those gross misdemeanors that constitute attempts, conspiracies, and solicitations to commit class C felonies." [1995 c 268 § 1.]

**Finding—Intent—1994 c 261:** See note following RCW 16.52.011.

**Finding—Intent—1993 c 251:** See note following RCW 38.52.430.

**Purpose—1989 c 252:** "The purpose of this act is to create a system that: (1) Assists the courts in sentencing felony offenders regarding the offenders' legal financial obligations; (2) holds offenders accountable to victims, counties, cities, the state, municipalities, and society for the assessed costs associated with their crimes; and (3) provides remedies for an individual or other entities to recoup or at least defray a portion of the loss associated with the costs of felonious behavior." [1989 c 252 § 1.]

*State preemption of criminal street gang definitions: Chapter 9.101 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.035 Classification of felonies not in Title 9A RCW.** For a felony defined by a statute of this state that is not in Title 9A RCW, unless otherwise provided:

(1) If the maximum sentence of imprisonment authorized by law upon a first conviction of such felony is twenty years or more, such felony shall be treated as a class A felony for purposes of this chapter;

(2) If the maximum sentence of imprisonment authorized by law upon a first conviction of such felony is eight years or more, but less than twenty years, such felony shall be treated as a class B felony for purposes of this chapter;

(3) If the maximum sentence of imprisonment authorized by law upon a first conviction of such felony is less than eight years, such felony shall be treated as a class C felony for purposes of this chapter. [1996 c 44 § 1.]

**9.94A.171 Tolling of term of confinement, supervision.** (1) A term of confinement ordered in a sentence pursuant to this chapter shall be tolled by any period of time during which the offender has absented himself or herself from confinement without the prior approval of the entity in whose custody the offender has been placed. A term of partial confinement shall be tolled during any period of time spent in total confinement pursuant to a new conviction.

(2) Any term of community custody shall be tolled by any period of time during which the offender has absented himself or herself from supervision without prior approval of the entity under whose supervision the offender has been placed.

(3)(a) For offenders other than sex offenders serving a sentence for a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, any period of community custody shall be tolled during any period of time the offender is in confinement for any reason unless the offender is detained pursuant to RCW 9.94A.740 or 9.94A.631 for the period of time prior to the hearing or for confinement pursuant to sanctions imposed for violation of sentence conditions, in which case, the period of community custody shall not toll. However, sanctions that result in the imposition of the remaining sentence or the original sentence

will continue to toll the period of community custody. In addition, inpatient treatment ordered by the court in lieu of jail time shall not toll the period of community custody.

(b) For sex offenders serving a sentence for a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, any period of community custody shall be tolled during any period of time the sex offender is in confinement for any reason.

(4) For terms of confinement or community custody, the date for the tolling of the sentence shall be established by the entity responsible for the confinement or supervision.

(5) For the purposes of this section, "tolling" means the period of time in which community custody or confinement time is paused and for which the offender does not receive credit towards the term ordered. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 1; 2008 c 231 § 28; 2000 c 226 § 5. Prior: 1999 c 196 § 7; 1999 c 143 § 14; 1993 c 31 § 2; 1988 c 153 § 9; 1981 c 137 § 17. Formerly RCW 9.94A.625, 9.94A.170.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 40 §§ 1-9, 42:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—2000 c 226:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.505.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.190 Terms of more than one year or less than one year—Where served—Reimbursement of costs.** (1) A sentence that includes a term or terms of confinement totaling more than one year shall be served in a facility or institution operated, or utilized under contract, by the state, or in home detention pursuant to RCW 9.94A.6551. Except as provided in subsection (3) or (5) of this section, a sentence of not more than one year of confinement shall be served in a facility operated, licensed, or utilized under contract, by the county, or if home detention or work crew has been ordered by the court, in the residence of either the offender or a member of the offender's immediate family.

(2) If a county uses a state partial confinement facility for the partial confinement of a person sentenced to confinement for not more than one year, the county shall reimburse the state for the use of the facility as provided in this subsection. The office of financial management shall set the rate of reimbursement based upon the average per diem cost per offender in the facility. The office of financial management shall determine to what extent, if any, reimbursement shall be reduced or eliminated because of funds provided by the legislature to the department for the purpose of covering the cost of county use of state partial confinement facilities. The office of financial management shall reestablish reimbursement rates each even-numbered year.

(3) A person who is sentenced for a felony to a term of not more than one year, and who is committed or returned to incarceration in a state facility on another felony conviction, either under the indeterminate sentencing laws, chapter 9.95 RCW, or under this chapter shall serve all terms of confinement, including a sentence of not more than one year, in a facility or institution operated, or utilized under contract, by the state, consistent with the provisions of RCW 9.94A.589.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a sentence imposed pursuant to RCW 9.94A.660 which has a standard sentence range of over one year, regardless of length, shall be served in a facility or institution operated, or utilized under contract, by the state.

(5) Sentences imposed pursuant to RCW 9.94A.507 shall be served in a facility or institution operated, or utilized under contract, by the state. [2010 c 224 § 10; (2011 c 96 § 11 repealed by 2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 43); 2009 c 28 § 5; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 313; 2000 c 28 § 4; 1995 c 108 § 4; 1991 c 181 § 5; 1988 c 154 § 5; 1986 c 257 § 21; 1984 c 209 § 10; 1981 c 137 § 19.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.340 Equal application.** The sentencing guidelines and prosecuting standards apply equally to offenders in all parts of the state, without discrimination as to any element that does not relate to the crime or the previous record of the defendant. [1983 c 115 § 5.]

**9.94A.345 Timing.** Any sentence imposed under this chapter shall be determined in accordance with the law in effect when the current offense was committed. [2000 c 26 § 2.]

**Intent—2000 c 26:** "RCW 9.94A.345 is intended to cure any ambiguity that might have led to the Washington supreme court's decision in *State v. Cruz*, Cause No. 67147-8 (October 7, 1999). A decision as to whether a prior conviction shall be included in an individual's offender score should be determined by the law in effect on the day the current offense was committed. RCW 9.94A.345 is also intended to clarify the applicability of statutes creating new sentencing alternatives or modifying the availability of existing alternatives." [2000 c 26 § 1.]

## PROSECUTORIAL STANDARDS

**9.94A.401 Introduction.** These standards are intended solely for the guidance of prosecutors in the state of Washington. They are not intended to, do not and may not be relied upon to create a right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by a party in litigation with the state. [1983 c 115 § 14. Formerly RCW 9.94A.430.]

**9.94A.411 Evidentiary sufficiency.** (1) Decision not to prosecute.

**STANDARD:** A prosecuting attorney may decline to prosecute, even though technically sufficient evidence to prosecute exists, in situations where prosecution would serve no public purpose, would defeat the underlying purpose of the law in question or would result in decreased respect for the law.

### GUIDELINE/COMMENTARY:

#### Examples

The following are examples of reasons not to prosecute which could satisfy the standard.

(a) **Contrary to Legislative Intent** - It may be proper to decline to charge where the application of criminal sanctions would be clearly contrary to the intent of the legislature in enacting the particular statute.

(b) **Antiquated Statute** - It may be proper to decline to charge where the statute in question is antiquated in that:

(i) It has not been enforced for many years; and

(ii) Most members of society act as if it were no longer in existence; and

(iii) It serves no deterrent or protective purpose in today's society; and

(iv) The statute has not been recently reconsidered by the legislature.

This reason is not to be construed as the basis for declining cases because the law in question is unpopular or because it is difficult to enforce.

(c) **De Minimis Violation** - It may be proper to decline to charge where the violation of law is only technical or insubstantial and where no public interest or deterrent purpose would be served by prosecution.

(d) **Confinement on Other Charges** - It may be proper to decline to charge because the accused has been sentenced on another charge to a lengthy period of confinement; and

(i) Conviction of the new offense would not merit any additional direct or collateral punishment;

(ii) The new offense is either a misdemeanor or a felony which is not particularly aggravated; and

(iii) Conviction of the new offense would not serve any significant deterrent purpose.

(e) **Pending Conviction on Another Charge** - It may be proper to decline to charge because the accused is facing a pending prosecution in the same or another county; and

(i) Conviction of the new offense would not merit any additional direct or collateral punishment;

(ii) Conviction in the pending prosecution is imminent;

(iii) The new offense is either a misdemeanor or a felony which is not particularly aggravated; and

(iv) Conviction of the new offense would not serve any significant deterrent purpose.

(f) **High Disproportionate Cost of Prosecution** - It may be proper to decline to charge where the cost of locating or transporting, or the burden on, prosecution witnesses is highly disproportionate to the importance of prosecuting the offense in question. This reason should be limited to minor cases and should not be relied upon in serious cases.

(g) **Improper Motives of Complainant** - It may be proper to decline charges because the motives of the complainant are improper and prosecution would serve no public purpose, would defeat the underlying purpose of the law in question or would result in decreased respect for the law.

(h) **Immunity** - It may be proper to decline to charge where immunity is to be given to an accused in order to prosecute another where the accused's information or testimony will reasonably lead to the conviction of others who are responsible for more serious criminal conduct or who represent a greater danger to the public interest.

(i) **Victim Request** - It may be proper to decline to charge because the victim requests that no criminal charges be filed and the case involves the following crimes or situations:

(i) Assault cases where the victim has suffered little or no injury;

(ii) Crimes against property, not involving violence, where no major loss was suffered;

(iii) Where doing so would not jeopardize the safety of society.

Care should be taken to insure that the victim's request is freely made and is not the product of threats or pressure by the accused.

The presence of these factors may also justify the decision to dismiss a prosecution which has been commenced.

#### Notification

The prosecutor is encouraged to notify the victim, when practical, and the law enforcement personnel, of the decision not to prosecute.

#### (2) Decision to prosecute.

##### (a) STANDARD:

Crimes against persons will be filed if sufficient admissible evidence exists, which, when considered with the most plausible, reasonably foreseeable defense that could be raised under the evidence, would justify conviction by a reasonable and objective fact finder. With regard to offenses prohibited by RCW 9A.44.040, 9A.44.050, 9A.44.073, 9A.44.076, 9A.44.079, 9A.44.083, 9A.44.086, 9A.44.089, and 9A.64.020 the prosecutor should avoid prefilings agreements or diversions intended to place the accused in a program of treatment or counseling, so that treatment, if determined to be beneficial, can be provided pursuant to RCW 9.94A.670.

Crimes against property/other crimes will be filed if the admissible evidence is of such convincing force as to make it probable that a reasonable and objective fact finder would convict after hearing all the admissible evidence and the most plausible defense that could be raised.

See table below for the crimes within these categories.

### CATEGORIZATION OF CRIMES FOR PROSECUTING STANDARDS

#### CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

Aggravated Murder  
 1st Degree Murder  
 2nd Degree Murder  
 1st Degree Manslaughter  
 2nd Degree Manslaughter  
 1st Degree Kidnapping  
 2nd Degree Kidnapping  
 1st Degree Assault  
 2nd Degree Assault  
 3rd Degree Assault  
 1st Degree Assault of a Child  
 2nd Degree Assault of a Child  
 3rd Degree Assault of a Child  
 1st Degree Rape  
 2nd Degree Rape  
 3rd Degree Rape  
 1st Degree Rape of a Child  
 2nd Degree Rape of a Child  
 3rd Degree Rape of a Child  
 1st Degree Robbery  
 2nd Degree Robbery  
 1st Degree Arson  
 1st Degree Burglary  
 1st Degree Identity Theft  
 2nd Degree Identity Theft  
 1st Degree Extortion  
 2nd Degree Extortion  
 Indecent Liberties  
 Incest

Vehicular Homicide  
 Vehicular Assault  
 1st Degree Child Molestation  
 2nd Degree Child Molestation  
 3rd Degree Child Molestation  
 1st Degree Promoting Prostitution  
 Intimidating a Juror  
 Communication with a Minor  
 Intimidating a Witness  
 Intimidating a Public Servant  
 Bomb Threat (if against person)  
 Unlawful Imprisonment  
 Promoting a Suicide Attempt  
 Riot (if against person)  
 Stalking  
 Custodial Assault  
 Domestic Violence Court Order Violation (RCW 10.99.040, 10.99.050, 26.09.300, 26.10.220, 26.26.138, 26.50.110, 26.52.070, or 74.34.145)  
 Counterfeiting (if a violation of RCW 9.16.035(4))  
 Felony Driving a Motor Vehicle While Under the Influence of Intoxicating Liquor or Any Drug (RCW 46.61.502(6))  
 Felony Physical Control of a Motor Vehicle While Under the Influence of Intoxicating Liquor or Any Drug (RCW 46.61.504(6))

#### CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY/OTHER CRIMES

2nd Degree Arson  
 1st Degree Escape  
 2nd Degree Escape  
 2nd Degree Burglary  
 1st Degree Theft  
 2nd Degree Theft  
 1st Degree Perjury  
 2nd Degree Perjury  
 1st Degree Introducing Contraband  
 2nd Degree Introducing Contraband  
 1st Degree Possession of Stolen Property  
 2nd Degree Possession of Stolen Property  
 Bribery  
 Bribing a Witness  
 Bribe received by a Witness  
 Bomb Threat (if against property)  
 1st Degree Malicious Mischief  
 2nd Degree Malicious Mischief  
 1st Degree Reckless Burning  
 Taking a Motor Vehicle without Authorization  
 Forgery  
 2nd Degree Promoting Prostitution  
 Tampering with a Witness  
 Trading in Public Office  
 Trading in Special Influence  
 Receiving/Granting Unlawful Compensation  
 Bigamy  
 Eluding a Pursuing Police Vehicle  
 Willful Failure to Return from Furlough  
 Escape from Community Custody  
 Riot (if against property)  
 1st Degree Theft of Livestock  
 2nd Degree Theft of Livestock

## ALL OTHER UNCLASSIFIED FELONIES

## Selection of Charges/Degree of Charge

(i) The prosecutor should file charges which adequately describe the nature of defendant's conduct. Other offenses may be charged only if they are necessary to ensure that the charges:

(A) Will significantly enhance the strength of the state's case at trial; or

(B) Will result in restitution to all victims.

(ii) The prosecutor should not overcharge to obtain a guilty plea. Overcharging includes:

(A) Charging a higher degree;

(B) Charging additional counts.

This standard is intended to direct prosecutors to charge those crimes which demonstrate the nature and seriousness of a defendant's criminal conduct, but to decline to charge crimes which are not necessary to such an indication. Crimes which do not merge as a matter of law, but which arise from the same course of conduct, do not all have to be charged.

## (b) GUIDELINES/COMMENTARY:

## (i) Police Investigation

A prosecuting attorney is dependent upon law enforcement agencies to conduct the necessary factual investigation which must precede the decision to prosecute. The prosecuting attorney shall ensure that a thorough factual investigation has been conducted before a decision to prosecute is made. In ordinary circumstances the investigation should include the following:

(A) The interviewing of all material witnesses, together with the obtaining of written statements whenever possible;

(B) The completion of necessary laboratory tests; and

(C) The obtaining, in accordance with constitutional requirements, of the suspect's version of the events.

If the initial investigation is incomplete, a prosecuting attorney should insist upon further investigation before a decision to prosecute is made, and specify what the investigation needs to include.

## (ii) Exceptions

In certain situations, a prosecuting attorney may authorize filing of a criminal complaint before the investigation is complete if:

(A) Probable cause exists to believe the suspect is guilty; and

(B) The suspect presents a danger to the community or is likely to flee if not apprehended; or

(C) The arrest of the suspect is necessary to complete the investigation of the crime.

In the event that the exception to the standard is applied, the prosecuting attorney shall obtain a commitment from the law enforcement agency involved to complete the investigation in a timely manner. If the subsequent investigation does not produce sufficient evidence to meet the normal charging standard, the complaint should be dismissed.

## (iii) Investigation Techniques

The prosecutor should be fully advised of the investigatory techniques that were used in the case investigation including:

(A) Polygraph testing;

(B) Hypnosis;

(C) Electronic surveillance;

(D) Use of informants.

## (iv) Pre-Filing Discussions with Defendant

Discussions with the defendant or his/her representative regarding the selection or disposition of charges may occur prior to the filing of charges, and potential agreements can be reached.

## (v) Pre-Filing Discussions with Victim(s)

Discussions with the victim(s) or victims' representatives regarding the selection or disposition of charges may occur before the filing of charges. The discussions may be considered by the prosecutor in charging and disposition decisions, and should be considered before reaching any agreement with the defendant regarding these decisions. [2006 c 271 § 1; 2006 c 73 § 13. Prior: 2000 c 119 § 28; 2000 c 28 § 17; prior: 1999 c 322 § 6; 1999 c 196 § 11; 1996 c 93 § 2; 1995 c 288 § 3; prior: 1992 c 145 § 11; 1992 c 75 § 5; 1989 c 332 § 2; 1988 c 145 § 13; 1986 c 257 § 30; 1983 c 115 § 15. Formerly RCW 9.94A.440.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2006 c 73 § 13 and by 2006 c 271 § 1, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Technical correction bill—2000 c 28:** See note following RCW 9.94A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.421 Plea agreements—Discussions—Contents of agreements.** The prosecutor and the attorney for the defendant, or the defendant when acting pro se, may engage in discussions with a view toward reaching an agreement that, upon the entering of a plea to a charged offense or to a lesser or related offense, the prosecutor will do any of the following:

(1) Move for dismissal of other charges or counts;

(2) Recommend a particular sentence within the sentence range applicable to the offense or offenses to which the offender pled guilty;

(3) Recommend a particular sentence outside of the sentence range;

(4) Agree to file a particular charge or count;

(5) Agree not to file other charges or counts; or

(6) Make any other promise to the defendant, except that in no instance may the prosecutor agree not to allege prior convictions.

In a case involving a crime against persons as defined in RCW 9.94A.411, the prosecutor shall make reasonable efforts to inform the victim of the violent offense of the nature of and reasons for the plea agreement, including all offenses the prosecutor has agreed not to file, and ascertain any objections or comments the victim has to the plea agreement.

The court shall not participate in any discussions under this section. [1995 c 288 § 1; 1981 c 137 § 8. Formerly RCW 9.94A.080.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.431 Plea agreements—Information to court—Approval or disapproval—Sentencing judge not bound.**

(1) If a plea agreement has been reached by the prosecutor and the defendant pursuant to RCW 9.94A.421, they shall at

the time of the defendant's plea state to the court, on the record, the nature of the agreement and the reasons for the agreement. The prosecutor shall inform the court on the record whether the victim or victims of all crimes against persons, as defined in RCW 9.94A.411, covered by the plea agreement have expressed any objections to or comments on the nature of and reasons for the plea agreement. The court, at the time of the plea, shall determine if the agreement is consistent with the interests of justice and with the prosecuting standards. If the court determines it is not consistent with the interests of justice and with the prosecuting standards, the court shall, on the record, inform the defendant and the prosecutor that they are not bound by the agreement and that the defendant may withdraw the defendant's plea of guilty, if one has been made, and enter a plea of not guilty.

(2) The sentencing judge is not bound by any recommendations contained in an allowed plea agreement and the defendant shall be so informed at the time of plea. [1995 c 288 § 2; 1984 c 209 § 4; 1981 c 137 § 9. Formerly RCW 9.94A.090.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.441 Plea agreements—Criminal history.** The prosecuting attorney and the defendant shall each provide the court with their understanding of what the defendant's criminal history is prior to a plea of guilty pursuant to a plea agreement. All disputed issues as to criminal history shall be decided at the sentencing hearing. [1981 c 137 § 10. Formerly RCW 9.94A.100.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.450 Plea dispositions.** STANDARD: (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a defendant will normally be expected to plead guilty to the charge or charges which adequately describe the nature of his or her criminal conduct or go to trial.

(2) In certain circumstances, a plea agreement with a defendant in exchange for a plea of guilty to a charge or charges that may not fully describe the nature of his or her criminal conduct may be necessary and in the public interest. Such situations may include the following:

- (a) Evidentiary problems which make conviction on the original charges doubtful;
- (b) The defendant's willingness to cooperate in the investigation or prosecution of others whose criminal conduct is more serious or represents a greater public threat;
- (c) A request by the victim when it is not the result of pressure from the defendant;
- (d) The discovery of facts which mitigate the seriousness of the defendant's conduct;
- (e) The correction of errors in the initial charging decision;
- (f) The defendant's history with respect to criminal activity;
- (g) The nature and seriousness of the offense or offenses charged;
- (h) The probable effect on witnesses. [1983 c 115 § 16.]

**9.94A.460 Sentence recommendations.** STANDARD:

The prosecutor may reach an agreement regarding sentence recommendations.

The prosecutor shall not agree to withhold relevant information from the court concerning the plea agreement. [1983 c 115 § 17.]

**9.94A.470 Armed offenders.** Notwithstanding the current placement or listing of crimes in categories or classifications of prosecuting standards for deciding to prosecute under RCW 9.94A.411(2), any and all felony crimes involving any deadly weapon special verdict under \*RCW 9.94A.602, any deadly weapon enhancements under RCW 9.94A.533 (3) or (4), or both, and any and all felony crimes as defined in RCW 9.94A.533 (3)(f) or (4)(f), or both, which are excluded from the deadly weapon enhancements shall all be treated as crimes against a person and subject to the prosecuting standards for deciding to prosecute under RCW 9.94A.411(2) as crimes against persons. [2002 c 290 § 14; 1995 c 129 § 4 (Initiative Measure No. 159).]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 9.94A.602 was recodified as RCW 9.94A.825 pursuant to 2009 c 28 § 41.

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

**9.94A.475 Plea agreements and sentences for certain offenders—Public records.** Any and all recommended sentencing agreements or plea agreements and the sentences for any and all felony crimes shall be made and retained as public records if the felony crime involves:

- (1) Any violent offense as defined in this chapter;
- (2) Any most serious offense as defined in this chapter;
- (3) Any felony with a deadly weapon special verdict under RCW 9.94A.825;
- (4) Any felony with any deadly weapon enhancements under RCW 9.94A.533 (3) or (4), or both;
- (5) The felony crimes of possession of a machine gun, possessing a stolen firearm, drive-by shooting, theft of a firearm, unlawful possession of a firearm in the first or second degree, and/or use of a machine gun in a felony; or
- (6) The felony crime of driving a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug as defined in RCW 46.61.502, and felony physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug as defined in RCW 46.61.504. [2012 c 183 § 2; 2002 c 290 § 15; 1997 c 338 § 48; 1995 c 129 § 5 (Initiative Measure No. 159). Formerly RCW 9.94A.103.]

**Effective date—2012 c 183:** See note following RCW 2.28.175.

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.480 Judgment and sentence document—Delivery to caseload forecast council.** (1) A current, newly cre-

ated or reworked judgment and sentence document for each felony sentencing shall record any and all recommended sentencing agreements or plea agreements and the sentences for any and all felony crimes kept as public records under RCW 9.94A.475 shall contain the clearly printed name and legal signature of the sentencing judge. The judgment and sentence document as defined in this section shall also provide additional space for the sentencing judge's reasons for going either above or below the presumptive sentence range for any and all felony crimes covered as public records under RCW 9.94A.475. Both the sentencing judge and the prosecuting attorney's office shall each retain or receive a completed copy of each sentencing document as defined in this section for their own records.

(2) The caseload forecast council shall be sent a completed copy of the judgment and sentence document upon conviction for each felony sentencing under subsection (1) of this section.

(3) If any completed judgment and sentence document as defined in subsection (1) of this section is not sent to the caseload forecast council as required in subsection (2) of this section, the caseload forecast council shall have the authority and shall undertake reasonable and necessary steps to assure that all past, current, and future sentencing documents as defined in subsection (1) of this section are received by the caseload forecast council. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 27; 2002 c 290 § 16; 1997 c 338 § 49; 1995 c 129 § 6 (Initiative Measure No. 159). Formerly RCW 9.94A.105.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## SENTENCING

**9.94A.500 Sentencing hearing—Presentencing procedures—Disclosure of mental health services information.** (1) Before imposing a sentence upon a defendant, the court shall conduct a sentencing hearing. The sentencing hearing shall be held within forty court days following conviction. Upon the motion of either party for good cause shown, or on its own motion, the court may extend the time period for conducting the sentencing hearing.

Except in cases where the defendant shall be sentenced to a term of total confinement for life without the possibility of release or, when authorized by RCW 10.95.030 for the crime of aggravated murder in the first degree, sentenced to death, the court may order the department to complete a risk assessment report. If available before sentencing, the report shall be provided to the court.

Unless specifically waived by the court, the court shall order the department to complete a chemical dependency screening report before imposing a sentence upon a defendant who has been convicted of a violation of the uniform controlled substances act under chapter 69.50 RCW, a criminal

solicitation to commit such a violation under chapter 9A.28 RCW, or any felony where the court finds that the offender has a chemical dependency that has contributed to his or her offense. In addition, the court shall, at the time of plea or conviction, order the department to complete a presentence report before imposing a sentence upon a defendant who has been convicted of a felony sexual offense. The department of corrections shall give priority to presentence investigations for sexual offenders. If the court determines that the defendant may be a mentally ill person as defined in RCW 71.24.025, although the defendant has not established that at the time of the crime he or she lacked the capacity to commit the crime, was incompetent to commit the crime, or was insane at the time of the crime, the court shall order the department to complete a presentence report before imposing a sentence.

The court shall consider the risk assessment report and presentence reports, if any, including any victim impact statement and criminal history, and allow arguments from the prosecutor, the defense counsel, the offender, the victim, the survivor of the victim, or a representative of the victim or survivor, and an investigative law enforcement officer as to the sentence to be imposed.

A criminal history summary relating to the defendant from the prosecuting authority or from a state, federal, or foreign governmental agency shall be prima facie evidence of the existence and validity of the convictions listed therein. If the court is satisfied by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant has a criminal history, the court shall specify the convictions it has found to exist. All of this information shall be part of the record. Copies of all risk assessment reports and presentence reports presented to the sentencing court and all written findings of facts and conclusions of law as to sentencing entered by the court shall be sent to the department by the clerk of the court at the conclusion of the sentencing and shall accompany the offender if the offender is committed to the custody of the department. Court clerks shall provide, without charge, certified copies of documents relating to criminal convictions requested by prosecuting attorneys.

(2) To prevent wrongful disclosure of information related to mental health services, as defined in RCW \*71.05.445 and 71.34.345, a court may take only those steps necessary during a sentencing hearing or any hearing in which the department presents information related to mental health services to the court. The steps may be taken on motion of the defendant, the prosecuting attorney, or on the court's own motion. The court may seal the portion of the record relating to information relating to mental health services, exclude the public from the hearing during presentation or discussion of information relating to mental health services, or grant other relief to achieve the result intended by this subsection, but nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the subsequent release of information related to mental health services as authorized by RCW \*71.05.445, 71.34.345, or 72.09.585. Any person who otherwise is permitted to attend any hearing pursuant to chapter 7.69 or 7.69A RCW shall not be excluded from the hearing solely because the department intends to disclose or discloses information related to mental health services. [2008 c 231 § 2; 2006 c 339 § 303; 2000 c 75 § 8. Prior: 1999 c 197 § 3;

1999 c 196 § 4; 1998 c 260 § 2; 1988 c 60 § 1; 1986 c 257 § 34; 1985 c 443 § 6; 1984 c 209 § 5; 1981 c 137 § 11. Formerly RCW 9.94A.110.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 71.05.445 was amended by 2009 c 320 § 4, deleting the definition of "information related to mental health services."

**Intent—2008 c 231 §§ 2-4:** "It is the legislature's intent to ensure that offenders receive accurate sentences that are based on their actual, complete criminal history. Accurate sentences further the sentencing reform act's goals of:

- (1) Ensuring that the punishment for a criminal offense is proportionate to the seriousness of the offense and the offender's criminal history;
- (2) Ensuring punishment that is just; and
- (3) Ensuring that sentences are commensurate with the punishment imposed on others for committing similar offenses.

Given the decisions in *In re Cadwallader*, 155 Wn.2d 867 (2005); *State v. Lopez*, 147 Wn.2d 515 (2002); *State v. Ford*, 137 Wn.2d 472 (1999); and *State v. McCorkle*, 137 Wn.2d 490 (1999), the legislature finds it is necessary to amend the provisions in RCW 9.94A.500, 9.94A.525, and 9.94A.530 in order to ensure that sentences imposed accurately reflect the offender's actual, complete criminal history, whether imposed at sentencing or upon resentencing. These amendments are consistent with the United States supreme court holding in *Monge v. California*, 524 U.S. 721 (1998), that double jeopardy is not implicated at resentencing following an appeal or collateral attack." [2008 c 231 § 1.]

**Application—2008 c 231 §§ 2 and 3:** "Sections 2 and 3 of this act apply to all sentencings and resentencings commenced before, on, or after June 12, 2008." [2008 c 231 § 5.]

**Severability—2008 c 231:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2008 c 231 § 62.]

**Intent—Part headings not law—2006 c 339:** See notes following RCW 70.96A.325.

**Intent—2000 c 75:** See note following RCW 71.05.445.

**Intent—1998 c 260:** "It is the intent of the legislature to decrease the likelihood of recidivism and reincarceration by mentally ill offenders under correctional supervision in the community by authorizing:

- (1) The courts to request presentence reports from the department of corrections when a relationship between mental illness and criminal behavior is suspected, and to order a mental status evaluation and treatment for offenders whose criminal behavior is influenced by a mental illness; and
- (2) Community corrections officers to work with community mental health providers to support participation in treatment by mentally ill offenders on community placement or community supervision." [1998 c 260 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.501 Department must supervise specified offenders—Risk assessment of felony offenders.** (1) The department shall supervise the following offenders who are sentenced to probation in superior court, pursuant to RCW 9.92.060, 9.95.204, or 9.95.210:

- (a) Offenders convicted of:
  - (i) Sexual misconduct with a minor second degree;
  - (ii) Custodial sexual misconduct second degree;
  - (iii) Communication with a minor for immoral purposes; and
  - (iv) Violation of RCW 9A.44.132(2) (failure to register); and
- (b) Offenders who have:
  - (i) A current conviction for a repetitive domestic violence offense where domestic violence has been plead and proven after August 1, 2011; and
  - (ii) A prior conviction for a repetitive domestic violence offense or domestic violence felony offense where domestic violence has been plead and proven after August 1, 2011.

(2) Misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor offenders supervised by the department pursuant to this section shall be placed on community custody.

(3) The department shall supervise every felony offender sentenced to community custody pursuant to RCW 9.94A.701 or 9.94A.702 whose risk assessment classifies the offender as one who is at a high risk to reoffend.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the department shall supervise an offender sentenced to community custody regardless of risk classification if the offender:

(a) Has a current conviction for a sex offense or a serious violent offense and was sentenced to a term of community custody pursuant to RCW 9.94A.701, 9.94A.702, or 9.94A.507;

(b) Has been identified by the department as a dangerous mentally ill offender pursuant to RCW 72.09.370;

(c) Has an indeterminate sentence and is subject to parole pursuant to RCW 9.95.017;

(d) Has a current conviction for violating RCW 9A.44.132(1) (failure to register) and was sentenced to a term of community custody pursuant to RCW 9.94A.701;

(e) Has a current conviction for a domestic violence felony offense where domestic violence has been plead and proven after August 1, 2011, and a prior conviction for a repetitive domestic violence offense or domestic violence felony offense where domestic violence has been plead and proven after August 1, 2011;

(f) Was sentenced under RCW 9.94A.650, 9.94A.655, 9.94A.660, or 9.94A.670; or

(g) Is subject to supervision pursuant to RCW 9.94A.745.

(5) The department is not authorized to, and may not, supervise any offender sentenced to a term of community custody or any probationer unless the offender or probationer is one for whom supervision is required under this section or RCW 9.94A.5011.

(6) The department shall conduct a risk assessment for every felony offender sentenced to a term of community custody who may be subject to supervision under this section or RCW 9.94A.5011. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 2. Prior: 2010 c 267 § 10; 2010 c 224 § 3; 2009 c 376 § 2; (2009 c 376 § 1 expired August 1, 2009); 2009 c 375 § 2; (2009 c 375 § 1 expired August 1, 2009); 2008 c 231 § 24; 2005 c 362 § 1; 2003 c 379 § 3.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** "(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the provisions of this act apply to persons convicted before, on, or after June 15, 2011.

(2) By January 1, 2012, consistent with RCW 9.94A.171, 9.94A.501, and section 3 of this act, the department of corrections shall recalculate the term of community custody for offenders currently in confinement or serving a term of community custody. The department of corrections shall reset the date that community custody will end for those offenders. The recalculation shall not extend a term of community custody beyond that to which an offender is currently subject.

(3) By January 1, 2012, consistent with the provisions of RCW 9.94A.650, the department of corrections shall recalculate the term of community custody for each offender sentenced to a first-time offender waiver under RCW 9.94A.650 and currently in confinement or serving a term of community custody. The department of corrections shall reset the date that community custody will end for those offenders. The recalculation shall not extend a term of community custody beyond that to which an offender is currently subject." [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 42.]



**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 40 §§ 1-9, 42:** "Sections 1 through 9 and 42 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect immediately [June 15, 2011]." [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 44.]

**Application—2010 c 267:** See note following RCW 9A.44.128.

**Expiration date—2009 c 376 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act expires August 1, 2009." [2009 c 376 § 4.]

**Expiration date—2009 c 375 §§ 1, 3, and 13:** "Sections 1, 3, and 13 of this act expire August 1, 2009." [2009 c 375 § 19.]

**Application—2009 c 375:** "This act applies retroactively and prospectively regardless of whether the offender is currently on community custody or probation with the department, currently incarcerated with a term of community custody or probation with the department, or sentenced after July 26, 2009." [2009 c 375 § 20.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Effective date—2005 c 362:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 10, 2005]." [2005 c 362 § 5.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2003 c 379:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.728.

*Conditions of probation: RCW 9.95.210.*

*Misdemeanant probation services—County supervision: RCW 9.95.204.*

*Suspending sentences: RCW 9.92.060.*

**9.94A.5011 Supervision of specified offenders. (Expires August 1, 2014.)** (1) The department shall supervise every offender convicted prior to August 2, 2011, of a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor offense who is sentenced to probation in superior court, pursuant to RCW 9.92.060, 9.95.204, or 9.95.210, for an offense as provided in this subsection. The superior court shall order probation for offenders who have:

(a) A current conviction for fourth degree assault or violation of a domestic violence court order pursuant to RCW 10.99.040, 10.99.050, 26.09.300, 26.10.220, 26.26.138, 26.50.110, 26.52.070, or 74.34.145; and

(b) A prior conviction for one or more of the following:

(i) A violent offense;

(ii) A sex offense;

(iii) A crime against a person as provided in RCW 9.94A.411;

(iv) Fourth degree assault; or

(v) Violation of a domestic violence court order.

(2) This section expires August 1, 2014. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 3.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 40 §§ 1-9, 42:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**9.94A.505 Sentences.** (1) When a person is convicted of a felony, the court shall impose punishment as provided in this chapter.

(2)(a) The court shall impose a sentence as provided in the following sections and as applicable in the case:

(i) Unless another term of confinement applies, a sentence within the standard sentence range established in RCW 9.94A.510 or 9.94A.517;

(ii) RCW 9.94A.701 and 9.94A.702, relating to community custody;

(iii) RCW 9.94A.570, relating to persistent offenders;

(iv) RCW 9.94A.540, relating to mandatory minimum terms;

(v) RCW 9.94A.650, relating to the first-time offender waiver;

(vi) RCW 9.94A.660, relating to the drug offender sentencing alternative;

(vii) RCW 9.94A.670, relating to the special sex offender sentencing alternative;

(viii) RCW 9.94A.655, relating to the parenting sentencing alternative;

(ix) RCW 9.94A.507, relating to certain sex offenses;

(x) RCW 9.94A.535, relating to exceptional sentences;

(xi) RCW 9.94A.589, relating to consecutive and concurrent sentences;

(xii) RCW 9.94A.603, relating to felony driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug and felony physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug.

(b) If a standard sentence range has not been established for the offender's crime, the court shall impose a determinate sentence which may include not more than one year of confinement; community restitution work; a term of community custody under RCW 9.94A.702 not to exceed one year; and/or other legal financial obligations. The court may impose a sentence which provides more than one year of confinement and a community custody term under RCW 9.94A.701 if the court finds reasons justifying an exceptional sentence as provided in RCW 9.94A.535.

(3) If the court imposes a sentence requiring confinement of thirty days or less, the court may, in its discretion, specify that the sentence be served on consecutive or intermittent days. A sentence requiring more than thirty days of confinement shall be served on consecutive days. Local jail administrators may schedule court-ordered intermittent sentences as space permits.

(4) If a sentence imposed includes payment of a legal financial obligation, it shall be imposed as provided in RCW 9.94A.750, 9.94A.753, 9.94A.760, and 43.43.7541.

(5) Except as provided under RCW 9.94A.750(4) and 9.94A.753(4), a court may not impose a sentence providing for a term of confinement or community custody that exceeds the statutory maximum for the crime as provided in chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(6) The sentencing court shall give the offender credit for all confinement time served before the sentencing if that confinement was solely in regard to the offense for which the offender is being sentenced.

(7) The court shall order restitution as provided in RCW 9.94A.750 and 9.94A.753.

(8) As a part of any sentence, the court may impose and enforce crime-related prohibitions and affirmative conditions as provided in this chapter.

(9) In any sentence of partial confinement, the court may require the offender to serve the partial confinement in work release, in a program of home detention, on work crew, or in a combined program of work crew and home detention. [2010 c 224 § 4; 2009 c 389 § 1; 2009 c 28 § 6; 2008 c 231 § 25; 2006 c 73 § 6. Prior: 2002 c 290 § 17; 2002 c 289 § 6;

2002 c 175 § 6; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 312; 2001 c 10 § 2; prior: 2000 c 226 § 2; 2000 c 43 § 1; 2000 c 28 § 5; prior: 1999 c 324 § 2; 1999 c 197 § 4; 1999 c 196 § 5; 1999 c 147 § 3; 1998 c 260 § 3; prior: 1997 c 340 § 2; 1997 c 338 § 4; 1997 c 144 § 2; 1997 c 121 § 2; 1997 c 69 § 1; prior: 1996 c 275 § 2; 1996 c 215 § 5; 1996 c 199 § 1; 1996 c 93 § 1; 1995 c 108 § 3; prior: 1994 c 1 § 2 (Initiative Measure No. 593, approved November 2, 1993); 1993 c 31 § 3; prior: 1992 c 145 § 7; 1992 c 75 § 2; 1992 c 45 § 5; prior: 1991 c 221 § 2; 1991 c 181 § 3; 1991 c 104 § 3; 1990 c 3 § 705; 1989 c 252 § 4; prior: 1988 c 154 § 3; 1988 c 153 § 2; 1988 c 143 § 21; prior: 1987 c 456 § 2; 1987 c 402 § 1; prior: 1986 c 301 § 4; 1986 c 301 § 3; 1986 c 257 § 20; 1984 c 209 § 6; 1983 c 163 § 2; 1982 c 192 § 4; 1981 c 137 § 12. Formerly RCW 9.94A.120.]

**Effective date—2009 c 389 §§ 1 and 3-5:** "Sections 1 and 3 through 5 of this act take effect August 1, 2009." [2009 c 389 § 8.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

**Severability—Effective date—2002 c 289:** See notes following RCW 43.43.753.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

**Intent—2001 c 10:** "It is the intent of the legislature to incorporate into the reorganization of chapter 9.94A RCW adopted by chapter 28, Laws of 2000 amendments adopted to RCW 9.94A.120 during the 2000 legislative session that did not take cognizance of the reorganization. In addition, it is the intent of the legislature to correct any additional incorrect cross-references and to simplify the codification of provisions within chapter 9.94A RCW.

The legislature does not intend to make, and no provision of this act may be construed as making, a substantive change in the sentencing reform act." [2001 c 10 § 1.]

**Finding—Intent—2000 c 226:** "The legislature finds that supervision of offenders in the community and an offender's payment of restitution enhances public safety, improves offender accountability, is an important component of providing justice to victims, and strengthens the community. The legislature intends that all terms and conditions of an offender's supervision in the community, including the length of supervision and payment of legal financial obligations, not be curtailed by an offender's absence from supervision for any reason including confinement in any correctional institution. The legislature, through this act, revises the results of *In re Sappenfield*, 980 P.2d 1271 (1999) and declares that an offender's absence from supervision or subsequent incarceration acts to toll the jurisdiction of the court or department over an offender for the purpose of enforcing legal financial obligations." [2000 c 226 § 1.]

**Drug offender options—Report:** "The Washington state institute for public policy, in consultation with the sentencing guidelines commission shall evaluate the impact of implementing the drug offender options provided for in RCW 9.94A.120(6). The commission shall submit a final report to the legislature by December 1, 2004. The report shall describe the changes in sentencing practices related to the use of punishment options for drug offenders and include the impact of sentencing alternatives on state prison populations, the savings in state resources, the effectiveness of drug treatment services, and the impact on recidivism rates." [1999 c 197 § 12.]

**Intent—1998 c 260:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—1996 c 275:** "The legislature finds that improving the supervision of convicted sex offenders in the community upon release from incar-

ceration is a substantial public policy goal, in that effective supervision accomplishes many purposes including protecting the community, supporting crime victims, assisting offenders to change, and providing important information to decision makers." [1996 c 275 § 1.]

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### 9.94A.506 Standard sentence ranges—Limitations.

The standard sentence ranges of total and partial confinement under this chapter, except as provided in RCW 9.94A.517, are subject to the following limitations:

(1) If the maximum term in the range is one year or less, the minimum term in the range shall be no less than one-third of the maximum term in the range, except that if the maximum term in the range is ninety days or less, the minimum term may be less than one-third of the maximum;

(2) If the maximum term in the range is greater than one year, the minimum term in the range shall be no less than seventy-five percent of the maximum term in the range, except that for murder in the second degree in seriousness level XIV under RCW 9.94A.510, the minimum term in the range shall be no less than fifty percent of the maximum term in the range; and

(3) The maximum term of confinement in a range may not exceed the statutory maximum for the crime as provided in RCW 9A.20.021. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 26.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**9.94A.507 Sentencing of sex offenders.** (1) An offender who is not a persistent offender shall be sentenced under this section if the offender:

(a) Is convicted of:

(i) Rape in the first degree, rape in the second degree, rape of a child in the first degree, child molestation in the first degree, rape of a child in the second degree, or indecent liberties by forcible compulsion;

(ii) Any of the following offenses with a finding of sexual motivation: Murder in the first degree, murder in the second degree, homicide by abuse, kidnapping in the first degree, kidnapping in the second degree, assault in the first degree, assault in the second degree, assault of a child in the first degree, assault of a child in the second degree, or burglary in the first degree; or

(iii) An attempt to commit any crime listed in this subsection (1)(a); or

(b) Has a prior conviction for an offense listed in \*RCW 9.94A.030(31)(b), and is convicted of any sex offense other than failure to register.

(2) An offender convicted of rape of a child in the first or second degree or child molestation in the first degree who was seventeen years of age or younger at the time of the offense shall not be sentenced under this section.

(3)(a) Upon a finding that the offender is subject to sentencing under this section, the court shall impose a sentence to a maximum term and a minimum term.

(b) The maximum term shall consist of the statutory maximum sentence for the offense.

(c)(i) Except as provided in (c)(ii) of this subsection, the minimum term shall be either within the standard sentence range for the offense, or outside the standard sentence range

pursuant to RCW 9.94A.535, if the offender is otherwise eligible for such a sentence.

(ii) If the offense that caused the offender to be sentenced under this section was rape of a child in the first degree, rape of a child in the second degree, or child molestation in the first degree, and there has been a finding that the offense was predatory under RCW 9.94A.836, the minimum term shall be either the maximum of the standard sentence range for the offense or twenty-five years, whichever is greater. If the offense that caused the offender to be sentenced under this section was rape in the first degree, rape in the second degree, indecent liberties by forcible compulsion, or kidnapping in the first degree with sexual motivation, and there has been a finding that the victim was under the age of fifteen at the time of the offense under RCW 9.94A.837, the minimum term shall be either the maximum of the standard sentence range for the offense or twenty-five years, whichever is greater. If the offense that caused the offender to be sentenced under this section is rape in the first degree, rape in the second degree with forcible compulsion, indecent liberties with forcible compulsion, or kidnapping in the first degree with sexual motivation, and there has been a finding under RCW 9.94A.838 that the victim was, at the time of the offense, developmentally disabled, mentally disordered, or a frail elder or vulnerable adult, the minimum sentence shall be either the maximum of the standard sentence range for the offense or twenty-five years, whichever is greater.

(d) The minimum terms in (c)(ii) of this subsection do not apply to a juvenile tried as an adult pursuant to RCW 13.04.030(1)(e) (i) or (v). The minimum term for such a juvenile shall be imposed under (c)(i) of this subsection.

(4) A person sentenced under subsection (3) of this section shall serve the sentence in a facility or institution operated, or utilized under contract, by the state.

(5) When a court sentences a person to the custody of the department under this section, the court shall, in addition to the other terms of the sentence, sentence the offender to community custody under the supervision of the department and the authority of the board for any period of time the person is released from total confinement before the expiration of the maximum sentence.

(6)(a) As part of any sentence under this section, the court shall also require the offender to comply with any conditions imposed by the board under RCW 9.95.420 through 9.95.435.

(b) An offender released by the board under RCW 9.95.420 is subject to the supervision of the department until the expiration of the maximum term of the sentence. The department shall monitor the offender's compliance with conditions of community custody imposed by the court, department, or board, and promptly report any violations to the board. Any violation of conditions of community custody established or modified by the board are subject to the provisions of RCW 9.95.425 through 9.95.440. [2008 c 231 § 33. Prior: 2006 c 124 § 3; (2006 c 124 § 2 expired July 1, 2006); 2006 c 122 § 5; (2006 c 122 § 4 expired July 1, 2006); 2005 c 436 § 2; 2004 c 176 § 3; prior: 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 303. Formerly RCW 9.94A.712.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) The reference to RCW 9.94A.030(31)(b) was apparently in error. The reference should be to RCW 9.94A.030(34)(b). RCW 9.94A.030 was subsequently amended by 2010 c 224 § 1 and by 2010

c 274 § 401, changing subsection (34) to subsection (35). RCW 9.94A.030 was subsequently amended by 2011 c 87 § 2, changing subsection (35) to subsection (36).

(2) This section was recodified pursuant to the direction found in section 56(4), chapter 231, Laws of 2008.

(3) 2005 c 436 § 6 (an expiration date section) was repealed by 2006 c 131 § 2.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Expiration date—2006 c 124 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act expires July 1, 2006." [2006 c 124 § 4.]

**Effective date—2006 c 124:** See note following RCW 9.94A.030.

**Effective date—2006 c 122 §§ 5 and 7:** "Sections 5 and 7 of this act take effect July 1, 2006." [2006 c 122 § 9.]

**Expiration date—2006 c 122 §§ 4 and 6:** "Sections 4 and 6 of this act expire July 1, 2006." [2006 c 122 § 8.]

**Effective date—2006 c 122 §§ 1-4 and 6:** See note following RCW 9.94A.836.

**Severability—Effective date—2004 c 176:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.510 Table 1—Sentencing grid.**

TABLE 1

Sentencing Grid

SERIOUSNESS LEVEL	OFFENDER SCORE									
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 or more
XVII Life Sentence without Parole/Death Penalty										
XV 23y4m	24y4m	25y4m	26y4m	27y4m	28y4m	30y4m	32y10m36y	40y		
240-320	250-333	261-347	271-361	281-374	291-388	312-416	338-450	370-493	411-548	
XIV 14y4m	15y4m	16y2m	17y	17y11m	18y9m	20y5m	22y2m	25y7m	29y	
123-220	134-234	144-244	154-254	165-265	175-275	195-295	216-316	257-357	298-397	
XIII 12y	13y	14y	15y	16y	17y	19y	21y	25y	29y	
123-164	134-178	144-192	154-205	165-219	175-233	195-260	216-288	257-342	298-397	
XII 9y	9y11m	10y9m	11y8m	12y6m	13y5m	15y9m	17y3m	20y3m	23y3m	
93-123	102-136	111-147	120-160	129-171	138-184	162-216	178-236	209-277	240-318	
XI 7y6m	8y4m	9y2m	9y11m	10y9m	11y7m	14y2m	15y5m	17y11m	20y5m	
78-102	86-114	95-125	102-136	111-147	120-158	146-194	159-211	185-245	210-280	
X 5y	5y6m	6y	6y6m	7y	7y6m	9y6m	10y6m	12y6m	14y6m	
51-68	57-75	62-82	67-89	72-96	77-102	98-130	108-144	129-171	149-198	
IX 3y	3y6m	4y	4y6m	5y	5y6m	7y6m	8y6m	10y6m	12y6m	
31-41	36-48	41-54	46-61	51-68	57-75	77-102	87-116	108-144	129-171	
VIII 2y	2y6m	3y	3y6m	4y	4y6m	6y6m	7y6m	8y6m	10y6m	
21-27	26-34	31-41	36-48	41-54	46-61	67-89	77-102	87-116	108-144	
VII 18m	2y	2y6m	3y	3y6m	4y	5y6m	6y6m	7y6m	8y6m	
15-20	21-27	26-34	31-41	36-48	41-54	57-75	67-89	77-102	87-116	
VI 13m	18m	2y	2y6m	3y	3y6m	4y6m	5y6m	6y6m	7y6m	
12+-14	15-20	21-27	26-34	31-41	36-48	46-61	57-75	67-89	77-102	
V 9m	13m	15m	18m	2y2m	3y2m	4y	5y	6y	7y	

	6-	12+-	13-	15-	22-	33-	41-	51-	62-	72-
	12	14	17	20	29	43	54	68	82	96
IV	6m	9m	13m	15m	18m	2y2m	3y2m	4y2m	5y2m	6y2m
	3-	6-	12+-	13-	15-	22-	33-	43-	53-	63-
	9	12	14	17	20	29	43	57	70	84
III	2m	5m	8m	11m	14m	20m	2y2m	3y2m	4y2m	5y
	1-	3-	4-	9-	12+-	17-	22-	33-	43-	51-
	3	8	12	12	16	22	29	43	57	68
II		4m	6m	8m	13m	16m	20m	2y2m	3y2m	4y2m
	0-90	2-	3-	4-	12+-	14-	17-	22-	33-	43-
	Days	6	9	12	14	18	22	29	43	57
I			3m	4m	5m	8m	13m	16m	20m	2y2m
	0-60	0-90	2-	2-	3-	4-	12+-	14-	17-	22-
	Days	Days	5	6	8	12	14	18	22	29

Numbers in the first horizontal row of each seriousness category represent sentencing midpoints in years(y) and months(m). Numbers in the second and third rows represent standard sentence ranges in months, or in days if so designated. 12+ equals one year and one day. [2002 c 290 § 10. Prior: 2000 c 132 § 2; 2000 c 28 § 11; prior: 1999 c 352 § 2; 1999 c 324 § 3; prior: 1998 c 235 § 1; 1998 c 211 § 3; prior: 1997 c 365 § 3; 1997 c 338 § 50; 1996 c 205 § 5; 1995 c 129 § 2 (Initiative Measure No. 159); (1994 sp.s. c 7 § 512 repealed by 1995 c 129 § 19 (Initiative Measure No. 159)); 1992 c 145 § 9; 1991 c 32 § 2; 1990 c 3 § 701; prior: 1989 c 271 § 101; 1989 c 124 § 1; 1988 c 218 § 1; 1986 c 257 § 22; 1984 c 209 § 16; 1983 c 115 § 2. Formerly RCW 9.94A.310.]

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Findings and intent—1995 c 129:** "(1) The people of the state of Washington find and declare that:

(a) Armed criminals pose an increasing and major threat to public safety and can turn any crime into serious injury or death.

(b) Criminals carry deadly weapons for several key reasons including: Forcing the victim to comply with their demands; injuring or killing anyone who tries to stop the criminal acts; and aiding the criminal in escaping.

(c) Current law does not sufficiently stigmatize the carrying and use of deadly weapons by criminals, and far too often there are no deadly weapon enhancements provided for many felonies, including murder, arson, manslaughter, and child molestation and many other sex offenses including child luring.

(d) Current law also fails to distinguish between gun-carrying criminals and criminals carrying knives or clubs.

(2) By increasing the penalties for carrying and using deadly weapons by criminals and closing loopholes involving armed criminals, the people intend to:

(a) Stigmatize the carrying and use of any deadly weapons for all felonies with proper deadly weapon enhancements.

(b) Reduce the number of armed offenders by making the carrying and use of the deadly weapon not worth the sentence received upon conviction.

(c) Distinguish between the gun predators and criminals carrying other deadly weapons and provide greatly increased penalties for gun predators and for those offenders committing crimes to acquire firearms.

(d) Bring accountability and certainty into the sentencing system by tracking individual judges and holding them accountable for their sentencing practices in relation to the state's sentencing guidelines for serious crimes." [1995 c 129 § 1 (Initiative Measure No. 159).]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—Effective dates—Contingent expiration date—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.515 Table 2—Crimes included within each seriousness level (as amended by 2012 c 162).**

TABLE 2

CRIMES INCLUDED WITHIN EACH SERIOUSNESS LEVEL

- XVI Aggravated Murder 1 (RCW 10.95.020)
- XV Homicide by abuse (RCW 9A.32.055)
- Malicious explosion 1 (RCW 70.74.280(1))
- Murder 1 (RCW 9A.32.030)
- XIV Murder 2 (RCW 9A.32.050)
- Trafficking 1 (RCW 9A.40.100(1))
- XIII Malicious explosion 2 (RCW 70.74.280(2))
- Malicious placement of an explosive 1 (RCW 70.74.270(1))
- XII Assault 1 (RCW 9A.36.011)
- Assault of a Child 1 (RCW 9A.36.120)
- Malicious placement of an imitation device 1 (RCW 70.74.272(1)(a))
- Promoting Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor (RCW 9.68A.101)
- Rape 1 (RCW 9A.44.040)
- Rape of a Child 1 (RCW 9A.44.073)
- Trafficking 2 (RCW 9A.40.100(2))
- XI Manslaughter 1 (RCW 9A.32.060)
- Rape 2 (RCW 9A.44.050)
- Rape of a Child 2 (RCW 9A.44.076)
- Vehicle Homicide, by being under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 46.61.520)
- X Child Molestation 1 (RCW 9A.44.083)
- Criminal Mistreatment 1 (RCW 9A.42.020)
- Indecent Liberties (with forcible compulsion) (RCW 9A.44.100(1)(a))
- Kidnapping 1 (RCW 9A.40.020)
- Leading Organized Crime (RCW 9A.82.060(1)(a))
- Malicious explosion 3 (RCW 70.74.280(3))
- Sexually Violent Predator Escape (RCW 9A.76.115)
- IX Abandonment of Dependent Person 1 (RCW 9A.42.060)
- Assault of a Child 2 (RCW 9A.36.130)
- Explosive devices prohibited (RCW 70.74.180)
- Hit and Run—Death (RCW 46.52.020(4)(a))
- Homicide by Watercraft, by being under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 79A.60.050)
- Inciting Criminal Profiteering (RCW 9A.82.060(1)(b))

- Malicious placement of an explosive 2 (RCW 70.74.270(2))
- Robbery 1 (RCW 9A.56.200)
- Sexual Exploitation (RCW 9.68A.040)
- ((Vehicular Homicide, by being under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 46.61.520)))
- VIII Arson 1 (RCW 9A.48.020)
- Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor (RCW 9.68A.100)
- Homicide by Watercraft, by the operation of any vessel in a reckless manner (RCW 79A.60.050)
- Manslaughter 2 (RCW 9A.32.070)
- Promoting Prostitution 1 (RCW 9A.88.070)
- Theft of Ammonia (RCW 69.55.010)
- Vehicular Homicide, by the operation of any vehicle in a reckless manner (RCW 46.61.520)
- VII Burglary 1 (RCW 9A.52.020)
- Child Molestation 2 (RCW 9A.44.086)
- Civil Disorder Training (RCW 9A.48.120)
- Dealing in depictions of minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct 1 (RCW 9.68A.050(1))
- Drive-by Shooting (RCW 9A.36.045)
- Homicide by Watercraft, by disregard for the safety of others (RCW 79A.60.050)
- Indecent Liberties (without forcible compulsion) (RCW 9A.44.100(1)(b) and (c))
- Introducing Contraband 1 (RCW 9A.76.140)
- Malicious placement of an explosive 3 (RCW 70.74.270(3))
- Negligently Causing Death By Use of a Signal Preemption Device (RCW 46.37.675)
- Sending, bringing into state depictions of minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct 1 (RCW 9.68A.060(1))
- Unlawful Possession of a Firearm in the first degree (RCW 9A.41.040(1))
- Use of a Machine Gun in Commission of a Felony (RCW 9A.41.225)
- Vehicular Homicide, by disregard for the safety of others (RCW 46.61.520)
- VI Bail Jumping with Murder 1 (RCW 9A.76.170(3)(a))
- Bribery (RCW 9A.68.010)
- Incest 1 (RCW 9A.64.020(1))
- Intimidating a Judge (RCW 9A.72.160)
- Intimidating a Juror/Witness (RCW 9A.72.110, 9A.72.130)
- Malicious placement of an imitation device 2 (RCW 70.74.272(1)(b))
- Possession of Depictions of a Minor Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 1 (RCW 9.68A.070(1))
- Rape of a Child 3 (RCW 9A.44.079)
- Theft of a Firearm (RCW 9A.56.300)
- Unlawful Storage of Ammonia (RCW 69.55.020)
- V Abandonment of Dependent Person 2 (RCW 9A.42.070)
- Advancing money or property for extortionate extension of credit (RCW 9A.82.030)
- Bail Jumping with class A Felony (RCW 9A.76.170(3)(b))
- Child Molestation 3 (RCW 9A.44.089)
- Criminal Mistreatment 2 (RCW 9A.42.030)
- Custodial Sexual Misconduct 1 (RCW 9A.44.160)
- Dealing in Depictions of Minor Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 2 (RCW 9.68A.050(2))
- Domestic Violence Court Order Violation (RCW 10.99.040, 10.99.050, 26.09.300, 26.10.220, 26.26.138, 26.50.110, 26.52.070, or 74.34.145)
- Driving While Under the Influence (RCW 46.61.502(6))
- Extortion 1 (RCW 9A.56.120)
- Extortionate Extension of Credit (RCW 9A.82.020)
- Extortionate Means to Collect Extensions of Credit (RCW 9A.82.040)
- Incest 2 (RCW 9A.64.020(2))
- Kidnapping 2 (RCW 9A.40.030)
- Perjury 1 (RCW 9A.72.020)
- Persistent prison misbehavior (RCW 9.94.070)
- Physical Control of a Vehicle While Under the Influence (RCW 46.61.504(6))
- Possession of a Stolen Firearm (RCW 9A.56.310)
- Rape 3 (RCW 9A.44.060)
- Rendering Criminal Assistance 1 (RCW 9A.76.070)

- Sending, Bringing into State Depictions of Minor Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 2 (RCW 9.68A.060(2))
- Sexual Misconduct with a Minor 1 (RCW 9A.44.093)
- Sexually Violating Human Remains (RCW 9A.44.105)
- Stalking (RCW 9A.46.110)
- Taking Motor Vehicle Without Permission 1 (RCW 9A.56.070)
- IV Arson 2 (RCW 9A.48.030)
- Assault 2 (RCW 9A.36.021)
- Assault 3 (of a Peace Officer with a Projectile Stun Gun) (RCW 9A.36.031(1)(h))
- Assault by Watercraft (RCW 79A.60.060)
- Bribing a Witness/Bribe Received by Witness (RCW 9A.72.090, 9A.72.100)
- Cheating 1 (RCW 9.46.1961)
- Commercial Bribery (RCW 9A.68.060)
- Counterfeiting (RCW 9.16.035(4))
- Endangerment with a Controlled Substance (RCW 9A.42.100)
- Escape 1 (RCW 9A.76.110)
- Hit and Run—Injury (RCW 46.52.020(4)(b))
- Hit and Run with Vessel—Injury Accident (RCW 79A.60.200(3))
- Identity Theft 1 (RCW 9.35.020(2))
- Indecent Exposure to Person Under Age Fourteen (subsequent sex offense) (RCW 9A.88.010)
- Influencing Outcome of Sporting Event (RCW 9A.82.070)
- Malicious Harassment (RCW 9A.36.080)
- Possession of Depictions of a Minor Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 2 (RCW 9.68(~~(A)~~) A.070(2))
- Residential Burglary (RCW 9A.52.025)
- Robbery 2 (RCW 9A.56.210)
- Theft of Livestock 1 (RCW 9A.56.080)
- Threats to Bomb (RCW 9.61.160)
- Trafficking in Stolen Property 1 (RCW 9A.82.050)
- Unlawful factoring of a credit card or payment card transaction (RCW 9A.56.290(4)(b))
- Unlawful transaction of health coverage as a health care service contractor (RCW 48.44.016(3))
- Unlawful transaction of health coverage as a health maintenance organization (RCW 48.46.033(3))
- Unlawful transaction of insurance business (RCW 48.15.023(3))
- Unlicensed practice as an insurance professional (RCW 48.17.063(2))
- Use of Proceeds of Criminal Profiteering (RCW 9A.82.080 (1) and (2))
- Vehicular Assault, by being under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or by the operation or driving of a vehicle in a reckless manner (RCW 46.61.522)
- Viewing of Depictions of a Minor Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 1 (RCW 9.68A.075(1))
- Willful Failure to Return from Furlough (\*RCW 72.66.060)
- III Animal Cruelty 1 (Sexual Conduct or Contact) (RCW 16.52.205(3))
- Assault 3 (Except Assault 3 of a Peace Officer With a Projectile Stun Gun) (RCW 9A.36.031 except subsection (1)(h))
- Assault of a Child 3 (RCW 9A.36.140)
- Bail Jumping with class B or C Felony (RCW 9A.76.170(3)(c))
- Burglary 2 (RCW 9A.52.030)
- Communication with a Minor for Immoral Purposes (RCW 9.68A.090)
- Criminal Gang Intimidation (RCW 9A.46.120)
- Custodial Assault (RCW 9A.36.100)
- Cyberstalking (subsequent conviction or threat of death) (RCW 9.61.260(3))
- Escape 2 (RCW 9A.76.120)
- Extortion 2 (RCW 9A.56.130)
- Harassment (RCW 9A.46.020)
- Intimidating a Public Servant (RCW 9A.76.180)
- Introducing Contraband 2 (RCW 9A.76.150)
- Malicious Injury to Railroad Property (RCW 81.60.070)
- Mortgage Fraud (RCW 19.144.080)
- Negligently Causing Substantial Bodily Harm By Use of a Signal Preemption Device (RCW 46.37.674)

- Organized Retail Theft 1 (RCW 9A.56.350(2))
- Perjury 2 (RCW 9A.72.030)
- Possession of Incendiary Device (RCW 9.40.120)
- Possession of Machine Gun or Short-Barreled Shotgun or Rifle (RCW 9.41.190)
- Promoting Prostitution 2 (RCW 9A.88.080)
- Retail Theft with Extenuating Circumstances 1 (RCW 9A.56.360(2))
- Securities Act violation (RCW 21.20.400)
- Tampering with a Witness (RCW 9A.72.120)
- Telephone Harassment (subsequent conviction or threat of death) (RCW 9.61.230(2))
- Theft of Livestock 2 (RCW 9A.56.083)
- Theft with the Intent to Resell 1 (RCW 9A.56.340(2))
- Trafficking in Stolen Property 2 (RCW 9A.82.055)
- Unlawful Imprisonment (RCW 9A.40.040)
- Unlawful possession of firearm in the second degree (RCW 9.41.040(2))
- Vehicular Assault, by the operation or driving of a vehicle with disregard for the safety of others (RCW 46.61.522)
- Willful Failure to Return from Work Release (\*RCW 72.65.070)
- II Computer Trespass 1 (RCW 9A.52.110)
- Counterfeiting (RCW 9.16.035(3))
- Escape from Community Custody (RCW 72.09.310)
- Failure to Register as a Sex Offender (second or subsequent offense) (RCW ((9A.44.130(1)(a))) 9A.44.132)
- Health Care False Claims (RCW 48.80.030)
- Identity Theft 2 (RCW 9.35.020(3))
- Improperly Obtaining Financial Information (RCW 9.35.010)
- Malicious Mischief 1 (RCW 9A.48.070)
- Organized Retail Theft 2 (RCW 9A.56.350(3))
- Possession of Stolen Property 1 (RCW 9A.56.150)
- Possession of a Stolen Vehicle (RCW 9A.56.068)
- Retail Theft with Extenuating Circumstances 2 (RCW 9A.56.360(3))
- Theft 1 (RCW 9A.56.030)
- Theft of a Motor Vehicle (RCW 9A.56.065)
- Theft of Rental, Leased, or Lease-purchased Property (valued at one thousand five hundred dollars or more) (RCW 9A.56.096(5)(a))
- Theft with the Intent to Resell 2 (RCW 9A.56.340(3))
- Trafficking in Insurance Claims (RCW 48.30A.015)
- Unlawful factoring of a credit card or payment card transaction (RCW 9A.56.290(4)(a))
- Unlawful Practice of Law (RCW 2.48.180)
- Unlicensed Practice of a Profession or Business (RCW 18.130.190(7))
- Voyeurism (RCW 9A.44.115)
- I Attempting to Elude a Pursuing Police Vehicle (RCW 46.61.024)
- False Verification for Welfare (RCW 74.08.055)
- Forgery (RCW 9A.60.020)
- Fraudulent Creation or Revocation of a Mental Health Advance Directive (RCW 9A.60.060)
- Malicious Mischief 2 (RCW 9A.48.080)
- Mineral Trespass (RCW 78.44.330)
- Possession of Stolen Property 2 (RCW 9A.56.160)
- Reckless Burning 1 (RCW 9A.48.040)
- Taking Motor Vehicle Without Permission 2 (RCW 9A.56.075)
- Theft 2 (RCW 9A.56.040)
- Theft of Rental, Leased, or Lease-purchased Property (valued at two hundred fifty dollars or more but less than one thousand five hundred dollars) (RCW 9A.56.096(5)(b))
- Transaction of insurance business beyond the scope of licensure (RCW 48.17.063)
- Unlawful Issuance of Checks or Drafts (RCW 9A.56.060)
- Unlawful Possession of Fictitious Identification (RCW 9A.56.320)
- Unlawful Possession of Instruments of Financial Fraud (RCW 9A.56.320)
- Unlawful Possession of Payment Instruments (RCW 9A.56.320)

Unlawful Possession of a Personal Identification Device (RCW 9A.56.320)  
 Unlawful Production of Payment Instruments (RCW 9A.56.320)  
 Unlawful Trafficking in Food Stamps (RCW 9.91.142)  
 Unlawful Use of Food Stamps (RCW 9.91.144)  
 Vehicle Prowl 1 (RCW 9A.52.095)

[2012 c 162 § 1. Prior: 2010 c 289 § 11; 2010 c 227 § 9; prior: 2008 c 108 § 23; 2008 c 38 § 1; prior: 2007 c 368 § 14; 2007 c 199 § 10; prior: 2006 c 277 § 6; 2006 c 228 § 9; 2006 c 191 § 2; 2006 c 139 § 2; 2006 c 128 § 3; 2006 c 73 § 12; prior: (2006 c 125 § 5 repealed by 2006 c 126 § 7); 2005 c 458 § 2; 2005 c 183 § 9; prior: 2004 c 176 § 2; 2004 c 94 § 3; (2004 c 94 § 2 expired July 1, 2004); prior: 2003 c 335 § 5; (2003 c 335 § 4 expired July 1, 2004); 2003 c 283 § 33; (2003 c 283 § 32 expired July 1, 2004); 2003 c 267 § 3; (2003 c 267 § 2 expired July 1, 2004); 2003 c 250 § 14; (2003 c 250 § 13 expired July 1, 2004); 2003 c 119 § 8; (2003 c 119 § 7 expired July 1, 2004); 2003 c 53 § 56; 2003 c 52 § 4; (2003 c 52 § 3 expired July 1, 2004); prior: 2002 c 340 § 2; 2002 c 324 § 2; 2002 c 290 § 7; (2002 c 290 § 2 expired July 1, 2003); 2002 c 253 § 4; 2002 c 229 § 2; 2002 c 134 § 2; 2002 c 133 § 4; prior: 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 361; 2001 c 300 § 4; 2001 c 217 § 12; 2001 c 17 § 1; prior: 2001 c 310 § 4; 2001 c 287 § 3; 2001 c 224 § 3; 2001 c 222 § 24; 2001 c 207 § 3; 2000 c 225 § 5; 2000 c 119 § 17; 2000 c 66 § 2; prior: 1999 c 352 § 3; 1999 c 322 § 5; 1999 c 45 § 4; prior: 1998 c 290 § 4; 1998 c 219 § 4; 1998 c 82 § 1; 1998 c 78 § 1; prior: 1997 c 365 § 4; 1997 c 346 § 3; 1997 c 340 § 1; 1997 c 338 § 51; 1997 c 266 § 15; 1997 c 120 § 5; prior: 1996 c 302 § 6; 1996 c 205 § 3; 1996 c 36 § 2; prior: 1995 c 385 § 2; 1995 c 285 § 28; 1995 c 129 § 3 (Initiative Measure No. 159); prior: (1994 sp.s. c 7 § 510 repealed by 1995 c 129 § 19 (Initiative Measure No. 159)); 1994 c 275 § 20; 1994 c 53 § 2; prior: 1992 c 145 § 4; 1992 c 75 § 3; 1991 c 32 § 3; 1990 c 3 § 702; prior: 1989 2nd ex.s. c 1 § 3; 1989 c 412 § 3; 1989 c 405 § 1; 1989 c 271 § 102; 1989 c 99 § 1; prior: 1988 c 218 § 2; 1988 c 145 § 12; 1988 c 62 § 2; prior: 1987 c 224 § 1; 1987 c 187 § 4; 1986 c 257 § 23; 1984 c 209 § 17; 1983 c 115 § 3. Formerly RCW 9.94A.320.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 72.66.060 and 72.65.070 were repealed by 2001 c 264 § 7. Cf. 2001 c 264 § 8.

**9.94A.515 Table 2—Crimes included within each seriousness level (as amended by 2012 c 176).**

TABLE 2	
CRIMES INCLUDED WITHIN EACH SERIOUSNESS LEVEL	
XVI	Aggravated Murder 1 (RCW 10.95.020)
XV	Homicide by abuse (RCW 9A.32.055)
	Malicious explosion 1 (RCW 70.74.280(1))
	Murder 1 (RCW 9A.32.030)
XIV	Murder 2 (RCW 9A.32.050)

	Trafficking 1 (RCW 9A.40.100(1))
XIII	Malicious explosion 2 (RCW 70.74.280(2))
	Malicious placement of an explosive 1 (RCW 70.74.270(1))
XII	Assault 1 (RCW 9A.36.011)
	Assault of a Child 1 (RCW 9A.36.120)
	Malicious placement of an imitation device 1 (RCW 70.74.272(1)(a))
	Promoting Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor (RCW 9.68A.101)
	Rape 1 (RCW 9A.44.040)
	Rape of a Child 1 (RCW 9A.44.073)
	Trafficking 2 (RCW 9A.40.100(2))
XI	Manslaughter 1 (RCW 9A.32.060)
	Rape 2 (RCW 9A.44.050)
	Rape of a Child 2 (RCW 9A.44.076)
X	Child Molestation 1 (RCW 9A.44.083)
	Criminal Mistreatment 1 (RCW 9A.42.020)
	Indecent Liberties (with forcible compulsion) (RCW 9A.44.100(1)(a))
	Kidnapping 1 (RCW 9A.40.020)
	Leading Organized Crime (RCW 9A.82.060(1)(a))
	Malicious explosion 3 (RCW 70.74.280(3))
	Sexually Violent Predator Escape (RCW 9A.76.115)
IX	Abandonment of Dependent Person 1 (RCW 9A.42.060)
	Assault of a Child 2 (RCW 9A.36.130)
	Explosive devices prohibited (RCW 70.74.180)
	Hit and Run—Death (RCW 46.52.020(4)(a))
	Homicide by Watercraft, by being under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 79A.60.050)
	Inciting Criminal Profiteering (RCW 9A.82.060(1)(b))
	Malicious placement of an explosive 2 (RCW 70.74.270(2))
	Robbery 1 (RCW 9A.56.200)
	Sexual Exploitation (RCW 9.68A.040)
	Vehicular Homicide, by being under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 46.61.520)
VIII	Arson 1 (RCW 9A.48.020)
	Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor (RCW 9.68A.100)



- Homicide by Watercraft, by the operation of any vessel in a reckless manner (RCW 79A.60.050)
- Manslaughter 2 (RCW 9A.32.070)
- Promoting Prostitution 1 (RCW 9A.88.070)
- Theft of Ammonia (RCW 69.55.010)
- Vehicular Homicide, by the operation of any vehicle in a reckless manner (RCW 46.61.520)
- VII Burglary 1 (RCW 9A.52.020)
- Child Molestation 2 (RCW 9A.44.086)
- Civil Disorder Training (RCW 9A.48.120)
- Dealing in depictions of minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct 1 (RCW 9.68A.050(1))
- Drive-by Shooting (RCW 9A.36.045)
- Homicide by Watercraft, by disregard for the safety of others (RCW 79A.60.050)
- Indecent Liberties (without forcible compulsion) (RCW 9A.44.100(1)(b) and (c))
- Introducing Contraband 1 (RCW 9A.76.140)
- Malicious placement of an explosive 3 (RCW 70.74.270(3))
- Negligently Causing Death By Use of a Signal Preemption Device (RCW 46.37.675)
- Sending, bringing into state depictions of minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct 1 (RCW 9.68A.060(1))
- Unlawful Possession of a Firearm in the first degree (RCW 9A.41.040(1))
- Use of a Machine Gun in Commission of a Felony (RCW 9A.41.225)
- Vehicular Homicide, by disregard for the safety of others (RCW 46.61.520)
- VI Bail Jumping with Murder 1 (RCW 9A.76.170(3)(a))
- Bribery (RCW 9A.68.010)
- Incest 1 (RCW 9A.64.020(1))
- Intimidating a Judge (RCW 9A.72.160)
- Intimidating a Juror/Witness (RCW 9A.72.110, 9A.72.130)
- Malicious placement of an imitation device 2 (RCW 70.74.272(1)(b))
- Possession of Depictions of a Minor Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 1 (RCW 9.68A.070(1))
- Rape of a Child 3 (RCW 9A.44.079)
- Theft of a Firearm (RCW 9A.56.300)
- Unlawful Storage of Ammonia (RCW 69.55.020)
- V Abandonment of Dependent Person 2 (RCW 9A.42.070)
- Advancing money or property for extortionate extension of credit (RCW 9A.82.030)
- Bail Jumping with class A Felony (RCW 9A.76.170(3)(b))
- Child Molestation 3 (RCW 9A.44.089)
- Criminal Mistreatment 2 (RCW 9A.42.030)
- Custodial Sexual Misconduct 1 (RCW 9A.44.160)
- Dealing in Depictions of Minor Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 2 (RCW 9.68A.050(2))
- Domestic Violence Court Order Violation (RCW 10.99.040, 10.99.050, 26.09.300, 26.10.220, 26.26.138, 26.50.110, 26.52.070, or 74.34.145)
- Driving While Under the Influence (RCW 46.61.502(6))
- Extortion 1 (RCW 9A.56.120)
- Extortionate Extension of Credit (RCW 9A.82.020)
- Extortionate Means to Collect Extensions of Credit (RCW 9A.82.040)
- Incest 2 (RCW 9A.64.020(2))
- Kidnapping 2 (RCW 9A.40.030)
- Perjury 1 (RCW 9A.72.020)
- Persistent prison misbehavior (RCW 9.94.070)
- Physical Control of a Vehicle While Under the Influence (RCW 46.61.504(6))
- Possession of a Stolen Firearm (RCW 9A.56.310)
- Rape 3 (RCW 9A.44.060)
- Rendering Criminal Assistance 1 (RCW 9A.76.070)
- Sending, Bringing into State Depictions of Minor Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 2 (RCW 9.68A.060(2))
- Sexual Misconduct with a Minor 1 (RCW 9A.44.093)
- Sexually Violating Human Remains (RCW 9A.44.105)
- Stalking (RCW 9A.46.110)

- Taking Motor Vehicle Without Permission 1 (RCW 9A.56.070)
- IV Arson 2 (RCW 9A.48.030)
- Assault 2 (RCW 9A.36.021)
- Assault 3 (of a Peace Officer with a Projectile Stun Gun) (RCW 9A.36.031(1)(h))
- Assault by Watercraft (RCW 79A.60.060)
- Bribing a Witness/Bribe Received by Witness (RCW 9A.72.090, 9A.72.100)
- Cheating 1 (RCW 9.46.1961)
- Commercial Bribery (RCW 9A.68.060)
- Counterfeiting (RCW 9.16.035(4))
- Endangerment with a Controlled Substance (RCW 9A.42.100)
- Escape 1 (RCW 9A.76.110)
- Hit and Run—Injury (RCW 46.52.020(4)(b))
- Hit and Run with Vessel—Injury Accident (RCW 79A.60.200(3))
- Identity Theft 1 (RCW 9.35.020(2))
- Indecent Exposure to Person Under Age Fourteen (subsequent sex offense) (RCW 9A.88.010)
- Influencing Outcome of Sporting Event (RCW 9A.82.070)
- Malicious Harassment (RCW 9A.36.080)
- Possession of Depictions of a Minor Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 2 (RCW 9.68((F+)) A.070(2))
- Residential Burglary (RCW 9A.52.025)
- Robbery 2 (RCW 9A.56.210)
- Theft of Livestock 1 (RCW 9A.56.080)
- Threats to Bomb (RCW 9.61.160)
- Trafficking in Stolen Property 1 (RCW 9A.82.050)
- Unlawful factoring of a credit card or payment card transaction (RCW 9A.56.290(4)(b))
- Unlawful transaction of health coverage as a health care service contractor (RCW 48.44.016(3))
- Unlawful transaction of health coverage as a health maintenance organization (RCW 48.46.033(3))
- Unlawful transaction of insurance business (RCW 48.15.023(3))
- Unlicensed practice as an insurance professional (RCW 48.17.063(2))
- Use of Proceeds of Criminal Profiteering (RCW 9A.82.080 (1) and (2))
- Vehicular Assault, by being under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or by the operation or driving of a vehicle in a reckless manner (RCW 46.61.522)
- Viewing of Depictions of a Minor Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct 1 (RCW 9.68A.075(1))
- Willful Failure to Return from Furlough (\*RCW 72.66.060)
- III Animal Cruelty 1 (Sexual Conduct or Contact) (RCW 16.52.205(3))
- Assault 3 (Except Assault 3 of a Peace Officer With a Projectile Stun Gun) (RCW 9A.36.031 except subsection (1)(h))
- Assault of a Child 3 (RCW 9A.36.140)
- Bail Jumping with class B or C Felony (RCW 9A.76.170(3)(c))
- Burglary 2 (RCW 9A.52.030)
- Communication with a Minor for Immoral Purposes (RCW 9.68A.090)
- Criminal Gang Intimidation (RCW 9A.46.120)
- Custodial Assault (RCW 9A.36.100)
- Cyberstalking (subsequent conviction or threat of death) (RCW 9.61.260(3))
- Escape 2 (RCW 9A.76.120)
- Extortion 2 (RCW 9A.56.130)
- Harassment (RCW 9A.46.020)
- Intimidating a Public Servant (RCW 9A.76.180)
- Introducing Contraband 2 (RCW 9A.76.150)
- Malicious Injury to Railroad Property (RCW 81.60.070)
- Mortgage Fraud (RCW 19.144.080)
- Negligently Causing Substantial Bodily Harm By Use of a Signal Preemption Device (RCW 46.37.674)
- Organized Retail Theft 1 (RCW 9A.56.350(2))
- Perjury 2 (RCW 9A.72.030)
- Possession of Incendiary Device (RCW 9.40.120)
- Possession of Machine Gun or Short-Barreled Shotgun or Rifle (RCW 9.41.190)
- Promoting Prostitution 2 (RCW 9A.88.080)

- Retail Theft with Extenuating Circumstances 1 (RCW 9A.56.360(2))
- Securities Act violation (RCW 21.20.400)
- Tampering with a Witness (RCW 9A.72.120)
- Telephone Harassment (subsequent conviction or threat of death) (RCW 9.61.230(2))
- Theft of Livestock 2 (RCW 9A.56.083)
- Theft with the Intent to Resell 1 (RCW 9A.56.340(2))
- Trafficking in Stolen Property 2 (RCW 9A.82.055)
- Unlawful Hunting of Big Game 1 (RCW 77.15.410(3)(b))
- Unlawful Imprisonment (RCW 9A.40.040)
- Unlawful possession of firearm in the second degree (RCW 9.41.040(2))
- Unlawful Taking of Endangered Fish or Wildlife 1 (RCW 77.15.120(3)(b))
- Unlawful Trafficking in Fish, Shellfish, or Wildlife 1 (RCW 77.15.260(3)(b))
- Unlawful Use of a Nondesignated Vessel (RCW 77.15.530(4))
- Vehicular Assault, by the operation or driving of a vehicle with disregard for the safety of others (RCW 46.61.522)
- Willful Failure to Return from Work Release (\*RCW 72.65.070)
- II Commercial Fishing Without a License 1 (RCW 77.15.500(3)(b))
- Computer Trespass 1 (RCW 9A.52.110)
- Counterfeiting (RCW 9.16.035(3))
- Engaging in Fish Dealing Activity Unlicensed 1 (RCW 77.15.620(3))
- Escape from Community Custody (RCW 72.09.310)
- Failure to Register as a Sex Offender (second or subsequent offense) ((RCW 9A.44.130(1)(a))) (RCW 9A.44.132(1)(b))
- Health Care False Claims (RCW 48.80.030)
- Identity Theft 2 (RCW 9.35.020(3))
- Improperly Obtaining Financial Information (RCW 9.35.010)
- Malicious Mischief 1 (RCW 9A.48.070)
- Organized Retail Theft 2 (RCW 9A.56.350(3))
- Possession of Stolen Property 1 (RCW 9A.56.150)
- Possession of a Stolen Vehicle (RCW 9A.56.068)
- Retail Theft with Extenuating Circumstances 2 (RCW 9A.56.360(3))
- Theft 1 (RCW 9A.56.030)
- Theft of a Motor Vehicle (RCW 9A.56.065)
- Theft of Rental, Leased, or Lease-purchased Property (valued at one thousand five hundred dollars or more) (RCW 9A.56.096(5)(a))
- Theft with the Intent to Resell 2 (RCW 9A.56.340(3))
- Trafficking in Insurance Claims (RCW 48.30A.015)
- Unlawful factoring of a credit card or payment card transaction (RCW 9A.56.290(4)(a))
- Unlawful Participation of Non-Indians in Indian Fishery (RCW 77.15.570(2))
- Unlawful Practice of Law (RCW 2.48.180)
- Unlicensed Practice of a Profession or Business (RCW 18.130.190(7))
- Unlawful Purchase or Use of a License (RCW 77.15.650(3)(b))
- Unlawful Trafficking in Fish, Shellfish, or Wildlife 2 (RCW 77.15.260(3)(a))
- Voyeurism (RCW 9A.44.115)
- I Attempting to Elude a Pursuing Police Vehicle (RCW 46.61.024)
- False Verification for Welfare (RCW 74.08.055)
- Forgery (RCW 9A.60.020)
- Fraudulent Creation or Revocation of a Mental Health Advance Directive (RCW 9A.60.060)
- Malicious Mischief 2 (RCW 9A.48.080)
- Mineral Trespass (RCW 78.44.330)
- Possession of Stolen Property 2 (RCW 9A.56.160)
- Reckless Burning 1 (RCW 9A.48.040)
- Spotlighting Big Game 1 (RCW 77.15.450(3)(b))
- Suspension of Department Privileges 1 (RCW 77.15.670(3)(b))
- Taking Motor Vehicle Without Permission 2 (RCW 9A.56.075)
- Theft 2 (RCW 9A.56.040)
- Theft of Rental, Leased, or Lease-purchased Property (valued at two hundred fifty dollars or more but less than one thousand five hundred dollars) (RCW 9A.56.096(5)(b))

Transaction of insurance business beyond the scope of licensure (RCW 48.17.063)

Unlawful Fish and Shellfish Catch Accounting (RCW 77.15.630(3)(b))

Unlawful Issuance of Checks or Drafts (RCW 9A.56.060)

Unlawful Possession of Fictitious Identification (RCW 9A.56.320)

Unlawful Possession of Instruments of Financial Fraud (RCW 9A.56.320)

Unlawful Possession of Payment Instruments (RCW 9A.56.320)

Unlawful Possession of a Personal Identification Device (RCW 9A.56.320)

Unlawful Production of Payment Instruments (RCW 9A.56.320)

Unlawful Release of Deleterious Exotic Wildlife (RCW 77.15.250(2)(b))

Unlawful Trafficking in Food Stamps (RCW 9.91.142)

Unlawful Use of Food Stamps (RCW 9.91.144)

Unlawful Use of Net to Take Fish 1 (RCW 77.15.580(3)(b))

Unlawful Use of Prohibited Aquatic Animal Species (RCW 77.15.253(3))

Vehicle Prowl 1 (RCW 9A.52.095)

Violating Commercial Fishing Area or Time 1 (RCW 77.15.550(3)(b))

[2012 c 176 § 3. Prior: 2010 c 289 § 11; 2010 c 227 § 9; prior: 2008 c 108 § 23; 2008 c 38 § 1; prior: 2007 c 368 § 14; 2007 c 199 § 10; prior: 2006 c 277 § 6; 2006 c 228 § 9; 2006 c 191 § 2; 2006 c 139 § 2; 2006 c 128 § 3; 2006 c 73 § 12; prior: (2006 c 125 § 5 repealed by 2006 c 126 § 7); 2005 c 458 § 2; 2005 c 183 § 9; prior: 2004 c 176 § 2; 2004 c 94 § 3; (2004 c 94 § 2 expired July 1, 2004); prior: 2003 c 335 § 5; (2003 c 335 § 4 expired July 1, 2004); 2003 c 283 § 33; (2003 c 283 § 32 expired July 1, 2004); 2003 c 267 § 3; (2003 c 267 § 2 expired July 1, 2004); 2003 c 250 § 14; (2003 c 250 § 13 expired July 1, 2004); 2003 c 119 § 8; (2003 c 119 § 7 expired July 1, 2004); 2003 c 53 § 56; 2003 c 52 § 4; (2003 c 52 § 3 expired July 1, 2004); prior: 2002 c 340 § 2; 2002 c 324 § 2; 2002 c 290 § 7; (2002 c 290 § 2 expired July 1, 2003); 2002 c 253 § 4; 2002 c 229 § 2; 2002 c 134 § 2; 2002 c 133 § 4; prior: 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 361; 2001 c 300 § 4; 2001 c 217 § 12; 2001 c 17 § 1; prior: 2001 c 310 § 4; 2001 c 287 § 3; 2001 c 224 § 3; 2001 c 222 § 24; 2001 c 207 § 3; 2000 c 225 § 5; 2000 c 119 § 17; 2000 c 66 § 2; prior: 1999 c 352 § 3; 1999 c 322 § 5; 1999 c 45 § 4; prior: 1998 c 290 § 4; 1998 c 219 § 4; 1998 c 82 § 1; 1998 c 78 § 1; prior: 1997 c 365 § 4; 1997 c 346 § 3; 1997 c 340 § 1; 1997 c 338 § 51; 1997 c 266 § 15; 1997 c 120 § 5; prior: 1996 c 302 § 6; 1996 c 205 § 3; 1996 c 36 § 2; prior: 1995 c 385 § 2; 1995 c 285 § 28; 1995 c 129 § 3 (Initiative Measure No. 159); prior: (1994 sp.s. c 7 § 510 repealed by 1995 c 129 § 19 (Initiative Measure No. 159)); 1994 c 275 § 20; 1994 c 53 § 2; prior: 1992 c

145 § 4; 1992 c 75 § 3; 1991 c 32 § 3; 1990 c 3 § 702; prior: 1989 2nd ex.s. c 1 § 3; 1989 c 412 § 3; 1989 c 405 § 1; 1989 c 271 § 102; 1989 c 99 § 1; prior: 1988 c 218 § 2; 1988 c 145 § 12; 1988 c 62 § 2; prior: 1987 c 224 § 1; 1987 c 187 § 4; 1986 c 257 § 23; 1984 c 209 § 17; 1983 c 115 § 3. Formerly RCW 9.94A.320.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 72.66.060 and 72.65.070 were repealed by 2001 c 264 § 7. Cf. 2001 c 264 § 8.

(2) RCW 9.94A.515 was amended twice during the 2012 legislative session, each without reference to the other. For rule of construction concerning sections amended more than once during the same legislative session, see RCW 1.12.025.

**Findings—2008 c 108:** See RCW 19.144.005.

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Intent—Severability—Effective date—2006 c 125:** See notes following RCW 9A.44.190.

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Severability—2004 c 176:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2004 c 176 § 8.]

**Effective date—2004 c 176:** "Sections 2 through 6 of this act take effect July 1, 2005." [2004 c 176 § 9.]

**Expiration date—2004 c 94 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act expires July 1, 2004." [2004 c 94 § 8.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2004 c 94:** See notes following RCW 9.61.260.

**Effective date—2003 c 335 § 5:** "Section 5 of this act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2003 c 335 § 8.]

**Expiration date—2003 c 335 § 4:** "Section 4 of this act expires July 1, 2004." [2003 c 335 § 7.]

**Effective date—2003 c 283 § 33:** "Section 33 of this act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2003 c 283 § 37.]

**Expiration date—2003 c 283 § 32:** "Section 32 of this act expires July 1, 2004." [2003 c 283 § 36.]

**Severability—Part headings not law—2003 c 283:** See RCW 71.32.900 and 71.32.901.

**Effective date—2003 c 267 § 3:** "Section 3 of this act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2003 c 267 § 9.]

**Expiration date—2003 c 267 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act expires July 1, 2004." [2003 c 267 § 8.]

**Effective date—2003 c 250 § 14:** "Section 14 of this act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2003 c 250 § 17.]

**Expiration date—2003 c 250 § 13:** "Section 13 of this act expires July 1, 2004." [2003 c 250 § 16.]

**Severability—2003 c 250:** See note following RCW 48.01.080.

**Effective date—2003 c 119 § 8:** "Section 8 of this act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2003 c 119 § 10.]

**Expiration date—2003 c 119 § 7:** "Section 7 of this act expires July 1, 2004." [2003 c 119 § 9.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Effective date—2003 c 52 § 4:** "Section 4 of this act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2003 c 52 § 6.]

**Expiration date—2003 c 52 § 3:** "Section 3 of this act expires July 1, 2004." [2003 c 52 § 5.]

**Study and report—2002 c 324:** See note following RCW 9A.56.070.

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** "Sections 7 through 11 and 14 through 23 of this act take effect July 1, 2003." [2002 c 379 § 10; 2002 c 290 § 31.]

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 2 and 3:** "Sections 2 and 3 of this act take effect July 1, 2002, and apply to crimes committed on or after July 1, 2002." [2002 c 290 § 29.]

**Expiration date—2002 c 290 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act expires July 1, 2003." [2003 c 379 § 9; 2002 c 290 § 30.]

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

**Effective date—2002 c 229:** See note following RCW 9A.42.100.

**Effective date—2002 c 134:** See note following RCW 69.50.440.

**Effective date—2002 c 133:** See note following RCW 69.55.010.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 310:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 224:** See notes following RCW 9A.68.060.

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 207:** See notes following RCW 18.130.190.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Findings—Intent—Severability—1997 c 266:** See notes following RCW 28A.600.455.

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—Effective dates—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**Finding—Intent—1989 c 271 §§ 102, 109, and 110:** See note following RCW 9A.36.050.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.517 Table 3—Drug offense sentencing grid.**

(1)

TABLE 3

DRUG OFFENSE SENTENCING GRID

Seriousness Level	Offender Score 0 to 2	Offender Score 3 to 5	Offender Score 6 to 9 or more
III	51 to 68 months	68+ to 100 months	100+ to 120 months
II	12+ to 20 months	20+ to 60 months	60+ to 120 months
I	0 to 6 months	6+ to 18 months	12+ to 24 months

References to months represent the standard sentence ranges. 12+ equals one year and one day.

(2) The court may utilize any other sanctions or alternatives as authorized by law, including but not limited to the special drug offender sentencing alternative under RCW 9.94A.660 or drug court under RCW 2.28.170.

(3) Nothing in this section creates an entitlement for a criminal defendant to any specific sanction, alternative, sentence option, or substance abuse treatment. [2002 c 290 § 8.]

**Intent—2002 c 290:** "It is the intent of the legislature to increase the use of effective substance abuse treatment for defendants and offenders in Washington in order to make frugal use of state and local resources, thus reducing recidivism and increasing the likelihood that defendants and offenders will become productive and law-abiding persons. The legislature recognizes that substance abuse treatment can be effective if it is well planned and involves adequate monitoring, and that substance abuse and addiction is a public safety and public health issue that must be more effectively addressed if recidivism is to be reduced. The legislature intends that sentences for drug offenses accurately reflect the adverse impact of substance abuse and addiction on public safety, that the public must have protection from violent offenders, and further intends that such sentences be based on policies that are supported by research and public policy goals established by the legislature." [2002 c 290 § 1.]

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**9.94A.518 Table 4—Drug offenses seriousness level.**

TABLE 4

DRUG OFFENSES INCLUDED WITHIN EACH SERIOUSNESS LEVEL

- III Any felony offense under chapter 69.50 RCW with a deadly weapon special verdict under \*RCW 9.94A.602 Controlled Substance Homicide (RCW 69.50.415) Delivery of imitation controlled substance by person eighteen or over to person under eighteen (RCW 69.52.030(2)) Involving a minor in drug dealing (RCW 69.50.4015) Manufacture of methamphetamine (RCW 69.50.401(2)(b)) Over 18 and deliver heroin, methamphetamine, a narcotic from Schedule I or II, or flunitrazepam from Schedule IV to someone under 18 (RCW 69.50.406) Over 18 and deliver narcotic from Schedule III, IV, or V or a nonnarcotic, except flunitrazepam or methamphetamine, from Schedule I-V to someone under 18 and 3 years junior (RCW 69.50.406) Possession of Ephedrine, Pseudoephedrine, or Anhydrous Ammonia with intent to manufacture methamphetamine (\*\*RCW 69.50.440) Selling for profit (controlled or counterfeit) any controlled substance (RCW 69.50.410)
- II Create, deliver, or possess a counterfeit controlled substance (RCW 69.50.4011) Deliver or possess with intent to deliver methamphetamine (RCW 69.50.401(2)(b)) Delivery of a material in lieu of a controlled substance (RCW 69.50.4012) Maintaining a Dwelling or Place for Controlled Substances (RCW 69.50.402(1)(f)) Manufacture, deliver, or possess with intent to deliver amphetamine (RCW 69.50.401(2)(b))

- Manufacture, deliver, or possess with intent to deliver narcotics from Schedule I or II or flunitrazepam from Schedule IV (RCW 69.50.401(2)(a))
- Manufacture, deliver, or possess with intent to deliver narcotics from Schedule III, IV, or V or nonnarcotics from Schedule I-V (except marijuana, amphetamine, methamphetamines, or flunitrazepam) (RCW 69.50.401(2) (c) through (e))
- Manufacture, distribute, or possess with intent to distribute an imitation controlled substance (RCW 69.52.030(1))
- I Forged Prescription (RCW 69.41.020)
- Forged Prescription for a Controlled Substance (RCW 69.50.403)
- Manufacture, deliver, or possess with intent to deliver marijuana (RCW 69.50.401(2)(c))
- Possess Controlled Substance that is a Narcotic from Schedule III, IV, or V or Nonnarcotic from Schedule I-V (RCW 69.50.4013)
- Possession of Controlled Substance that is either heroin or narcotics from Schedule I or II (RCW 69.50.4013)
- Unlawful Use of Building for Drug Purposes (RCW 69.53.010)

[2003 c 53 § 57; 2002 c 290 § 9.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 9.94A.602 was recodified as RCW 9.94A.825 pursuant to 2009 c 28 § 41.

\*\*\*(2) cf. 2002 c 134 § 1.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

**9.94A.520 Offense seriousness level.** The offense seriousness level is determined by the offense of conviction. [1990 c 3 § 703; 1983 c 115 § 6. Formerly RCW 9.94A.350.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.525 Offender score.** The offender score is measured on the horizontal axis of the sentencing grid. The offender score rules are as follows:

The offender score is the sum of points accrued under this section rounded down to the nearest whole number.

(1) A prior conviction is a conviction which exists before the date of sentencing for the offense for which the offender score is being computed. Convictions entered or sentenced on the same date as the conviction for which the offender score is being computed shall be deemed "other current offenses" within the meaning of RCW 9.94A.589.

(2)(a) Class A and sex prior felony convictions shall always be included in the offender score.

(b) Class B prior felony convictions other than sex offenses shall not be included in the offender score, if since the last date of release from confinement (including full-time residential treatment) pursuant to a felony conviction, if any, or entry of judgment and sentence, the offender had spent ten consecutive years in the community without committing any crime that subsequently results in a conviction.

(c) Except as provided in (e) of this subsection, class C prior felony convictions other than sex offenses shall not be included in the offender score if, since the last date of release from confinement (including full-time residential treatment) pursuant to a felony conviction, if any, or entry of judgment and sentence, the offender had spent five consecutive years in the community without committing any crime that subsequently results in a conviction.

(d) Except as provided in (e) of this subsection, serious traffic convictions shall not be included in the offender score if, since the last date of release from confinement (including full-time residential treatment) pursuant to a felony conviction, if any, or entry of judgment and sentence, the offender spent five years in the community without committing any crime that subsequently results in a conviction.

(e) If the present conviction is felony driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 46.61.502(6)) or felony physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 46.61.504(6)), prior convictions of felony driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, felony physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, and serious traffic offenses shall be included in the offender score if: (i) The prior convictions were committed within five years since the last date of release from confinement (including full-time residential treatment) or entry of judgment and sentence; or (ii) the prior convictions would be considered "prior offenses within ten years" as defined in RCW 46.61.5055.

(f) Prior convictions for a repetitive domestic violence offense, as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, shall not be included in the offender score if, since the last date of release from confinement or entry of judgment and sentence, the offender had spent ten consecutive years in the community without committing any crime that subsequently results in a conviction.

(g) This subsection applies to both adult and juvenile prior convictions.

(3) Out-of-state convictions for offenses shall be classified according to the comparable offense definitions and sentences provided by Washington law. Federal convictions for offenses shall be classified according to the comparable offense definitions and sentences provided by Washington law. If there is no clearly comparable offense under Washington law or the offense is one that is usually considered subject to exclusive federal jurisdiction, the offense shall be scored as a class C felony equivalent if it was a felony under the relevant federal statute.

(4) Score prior convictions for felony anticipatory offenses (attempts, criminal solicitations, and criminal conspiracies) the same as if they were convictions for completed offenses.

(5)(a) In the case of multiple prior convictions, for the purpose of computing the offender score, count all convictions separately, except:

(i) Prior offenses which were found, under RCW 9.94A.589(1)(a), to encompass the same criminal conduct, shall be counted as one offense, the offense that yields the highest offender score. The current sentencing court shall determine with respect to other prior adult offenses for which sentences were served concurrently or prior juvenile offenses for which sentences were served consecutively, whether those offenses shall be counted as one offense or as separate offenses using the "same criminal conduct" analysis found in RCW 9.94A.589(1)(a), and if the court finds that they shall be counted as one offense, then the offense that yields the highest offender score shall be used. The current sentencing court may presume that such other prior offenses were not the same criminal conduct from sentences imposed on separate dates, or in separate counties or jurisdictions, or in separate complaints, indictments, or informations;

(ii) In the case of multiple prior convictions for offenses committed before July 1, 1986, for the purpose of computing the offender score, count all adult convictions served concurrently as one offense, and count all juvenile convictions entered on the same date as one offense. Use the conviction for the offense that yields the highest offender score.

(b) As used in this subsection (5), "served concurrently" means that: (i) The latter sentence was imposed with specific reference to the former; (ii) the concurrent relationship of the sentences was judicially imposed; and (iii) the concurrent timing of the sentences was not the result of a probation or parole revocation on the former offense.

(6) If the present conviction is one of the anticipatory offenses of criminal attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy, count each prior conviction as if the present conviction were for a completed offense. When these convictions are used as criminal history, score them the same as a completed crime.

(7) If the present conviction is for a nonviolent offense and not covered by subsection (11), (12), or (13) of this section, count one point for each adult prior felony conviction and one point for each juvenile prior violent felony conviction and 1/2 point for each juvenile prior nonviolent felony conviction.

(8) If the present conviction is for a violent offense and not covered in subsection (9), (10), (11), (12), or (13) of this section, count two points for each prior adult and juvenile violent felony conviction, one point for each prior adult nonviolent felony conviction, and 1/2 point for each prior juvenile nonviolent felony conviction.

(9) If the present conviction is for a serious violent offense, count three points for prior adult and juvenile convictions for crimes in this category, two points for each prior adult and juvenile violent conviction (not already counted), one point for each prior adult nonviolent felony conviction, and 1/2 point for each prior juvenile nonviolent felony conviction.

(10) If the present conviction is for Burglary 1, count prior convictions as in subsection (8) of this section; however count two points for each prior adult Burglary 2 or residential burglary conviction, and one point for each prior juvenile Burglary 2 or residential burglary conviction.

(11) If the present conviction is for a felony traffic offense count two points for each adult or juvenile prior conviction for Vehicular Homicide or Vehicular Assault; for each felony offense count one point for each adult and 1/2 point for each juvenile prior conviction; for each serious traffic offense, other than those used for an enhancement pursuant to RCW 46.61.520(2), count one point for each adult and 1/2 point for each juvenile prior conviction; count one point for each adult and 1/2 point for each juvenile prior conviction for operation of a vessel while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug.

(12) If the present conviction is for homicide by watercraft or assault by watercraft count two points for each adult or juvenile prior conviction for homicide by watercraft or assault by watercraft; for each felony offense count one point for each adult and 1/2 point for each juvenile prior conviction; count one point for each adult and 1/2 point for each juvenile prior conviction for driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or operation of a vessel while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug.

(13) If the present conviction is for manufacture of methamphetamine count three points for each adult prior manufacture of methamphetamine conviction and two points for each juvenile manufacture of methamphetamine offense. If the present conviction is for a drug offense and the offender has a criminal history that includes a sex offense or serious violent offense, count three points for each adult prior felony drug offense conviction and two points for each juvenile drug offense. All other adult and juvenile felonies are scored as in subsection (8) of this section if the current drug offense is violent, or as in subsection (7) of this section if the current drug offense is nonviolent.

(14) If the present conviction is for Escape from Community Custody, RCW 72.09.310, count only prior escape convictions in the offender score. Count adult prior escape convictions as one point and juvenile prior escape convictions as 1/2 point.

(15) If the present conviction is for Escape 1, RCW 9A.76.110, or Escape 2, RCW 9A.76.120, count adult prior convictions as one point and juvenile prior convictions as 1/2 point.

(16) If the present conviction is for Burglary 2 or residential burglary, count priors as in subsection (7) of this section; however, count two points for each adult and juvenile prior Burglary 1 conviction, two points for each adult prior Burglary 2 or residential burglary conviction, and one point for each juvenile prior Burglary 2 or residential burglary conviction.

(17) If the present conviction is for a sex offense, count priors as in subsections (7) through (11) and (13) through (16) of this section; however count three points for each adult and juvenile prior sex offense conviction.

(18) If the present conviction is for failure to register as a sex offender under RCW \*9A.44.130 or 9A.44.132, count priors as in subsections (7) through (11) and (13) through (16) of this section; however count three points for each adult and juvenile prior sex offense conviction, excluding prior convictions for failure to register as a sex offender under

RCW \*9A.44.130 or 9A.44.132, which shall count as one point.

(19) If the present conviction is for an offense committed while the offender was under community custody, add one point. For purposes of this subsection, community custody includes community placement or postrelease supervision, as defined in chapter 9.94B RCW.

(20) If the present conviction is for Theft of a Motor Vehicle, Possession of a Stolen Vehicle, Taking a Motor Vehicle Without Permission 1, or Taking a Motor Vehicle Without Permission 2, count priors as in subsections (7) through (18) of this section; however count one point for prior convictions of Vehicle Prowling 2, and three points for each adult and juvenile prior Theft 1 (of a motor vehicle), Theft 2 (of a motor vehicle), Possession of Stolen Property 1 (of a motor vehicle), Possession of Stolen Property 2 (of a motor vehicle), Theft of a Motor Vehicle, Possession of a Stolen Vehicle, Taking a Motor Vehicle Without Permission 1, or Taking a Motor Vehicle Without Permission 2 conviction.

(21) If the present conviction is for a felony domestic violence offense where domestic violence as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 was plead and proven, count priors as in subsections (7) through (20) of this section; however, count points as follows:

(a) Count two points for each adult prior conviction where domestic violence as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 was plead and proven after August 1, 2011, for the following offenses: A violation of a no-contact order that is a felony offense, a violation of a protection order that is a felony offense, a felony domestic violence harassment offense, a felony domestic violence stalking offense, a domestic violence Burglary 1 offense, a domestic violence Kidnapping 1 offense, a domestic violence Kidnapping 2 offense, a domestic violence unlawful imprisonment offense, a domestic violence Robbery 1 offense, a domestic violence Robbery 2 offense, a domestic violence Assault 1 offense, a domestic violence Assault 2 offense, a domestic violence Assault 3 offense, a domestic violence Arson 1 offense, or a domestic violence Arson 2 offense;

(b) Count one point for each second and subsequent juvenile conviction where domestic violence as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 was plead and proven after August 1, 2011, for the offenses listed in (a) of this subsection; and

(c) Count one point for each adult prior conviction for a repetitive domestic violence offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, where domestic violence as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, was plead and proven after August 1, 2011.

(22) The fact that a prior conviction was not included in an offender's offender score or criminal history at a previous sentencing shall have no bearing on whether it is included in the criminal history or offender score for the current offense. Prior convictions that were not counted in the offender score or included in criminal history under repealed or previous versions of the sentencing reform act shall be included in criminal history and shall count in the offender score if the current version of the sentencing reform act requires including or counting those convictions. Prior convictions that were not included in criminal history or in the offender score shall be included upon any resentencing to ensure imposition of an accurate sentence. [2011 c 166 § 3; 2010 c 274 § 403;

2008 c 231 § 3. Prior: 2007 c 199 § 8; 2007 c 116 § 1; prior: 2006 c 128 § 6; 2006 c 73 § 7; prior: 2002 c 290 § 3; 2002 c 107 § 3; 2001 c 264 § 5; 2000 c 28 § 15; prior: 1999 c 352 § 10; 1999 c 331 § 1; 1998 c 211 § 4; 1997 c 338 § 5; prior: 1995 c 316 § 1; 1995 c 101 § 1; prior: 1992 c 145 § 10; 1992 c 75 § 4; 1990 c 3 § 706; 1989 c 271 § 103; prior: 1988 c 157 § 3; 1988 c 153 § 12; 1987 c 456 § 4; 1986 c 257 § 25; 1984 c 209 § 19; 1983 c 115 § 7. Formerly RCW 9.94A.360.]

**\*Reviser's note:** 2010 c 267 removed from RCW 9A.44.130 provisions relating to the crime of "failure to register" as a sex offender or kidnapping offender, and placed similar provisions in RCW 9A.44.132.

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**Intent—2008 c 231 §§ 2-4:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Application—2008 c 231 §§ 2 and 3:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Effective date—2007 c 116:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2007." [2007 c 116 § 2.]

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 2 and 3:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

**Finding—Application—2002 c 107:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.530 Standard sentence range.** (1) The intersection of the column defined by the offender score and the row defined by the offense seriousness score determines the standard sentence range (see RCW 9.94A.510, (Table 1) and RCW 9.94A.517, (Table 3)). The additional time for deadly weapon findings or for other adjustments as specified in RCW 9.94A.533 shall be added to the entire standard sentence range. The court may impose any sentence within the range that it deems appropriate. All standard sentence ranges are expressed in terms of total confinement.

(2) In determining any sentence other than a sentence above the standard range, the trial court may rely on no more information than is admitted by the plea agreement, or admitted, acknowledged, or proved in a trial or at the time of sentencing, or proven pursuant to RCW 9.94A.537. Acknowledgment includes not objecting to information stated in the presentence reports and not objecting to criminal history presented at the time of sentencing. Where the defendant disputes material facts, the court must either not consider the fact or grant an evidentiary hearing on the point. The facts shall be deemed proved at the hearing by a preponderance of the evidence, except as otherwise specified in RCW 9.94A.537. On remand for resentencing following appeal or collateral attack, the parties shall have the opportunity to present and the court to consider all relevant evidence regarding criminal history, including criminal history not previously presented.

(3) In determining any sentence above the standard sentence range, the court shall follow the procedures set forth in RCW 9.94A.537. Facts that establish the elements of a more



serious crime or additional crimes may not be used to go outside the standard sentence range except upon stipulation or when specifically provided for in RCW 9.94A.535(3)(d), (e), (g), and (h). [2008 c 231 § 4; 2005 c 68 § 2; 2002 c 290 § 18; 2000 c 28 § 12; 1999 c 143 § 16; 1996 c 248 § 1; 1989 c 124 § 2; 1987 c 131 § 1; 1986 c 257 § 26; 1984 c 209 § 20; 1983 c 115 § 8. Formerly RCW 9.94A.370.]

**Intent—2008 c 231 §§ 2-4:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Intent—Severability—Effective date—2005 c 68:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.537.

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### 9.94A.533 Adjustments to standard sentences. (1)

The provisions of this section apply to the standard sentence ranges determined by RCW 9.94A.510 or 9.94A.517.

(2) For persons convicted of the anticipatory offenses of criminal attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy under chapter 9A.28 RCW, the standard sentence range is determined by locating the sentencing grid sentence range defined by the appropriate offender score and the seriousness level of the completed crime, and multiplying the range by seventy-five percent.

(3) The following additional times shall be added to the standard sentence range for felony crimes committed after July 23, 1995, if the offender or an accomplice was armed with a firearm as defined in RCW 9.41.010 and the offender is being sentenced for one of the crimes listed in this subsection as eligible for any firearm enhancements based on the classification of the completed felony crime. If the offender is being sentenced for more than one offense, the firearm enhancement or enhancements must be added to the total period of confinement for all offenses, regardless of which underlying offense is subject to a firearm enhancement. If the offender or an accomplice was armed with a firearm as defined in RCW 9.41.010 and the offender is being sentenced for an anticipatory offense under chapter 9A.28 RCW to commit one of the crimes listed in this subsection as eligible for any firearm enhancements, the following additional times shall be added to the standard sentence range determined under subsection (2) of this section based on the felony crime of conviction as classified under RCW 9A.28.020:

(a) Five years for any felony defined under any law as a class A felony or with a statutory maximum sentence of at least twenty years, or both, and not covered under (f) of this subsection;

(b) Three years for any felony defined under any law as a class B felony or with a statutory maximum sentence of ten years, or both, and not covered under (f) of this subsection;

(c) Eighteen months for any felony defined under any law as a class C felony or with a statutory maximum sentence of five years, or both, and not covered under (f) of this subsection;

(d) If the offender is being sentenced for any firearm enhancements under (a), (b), and/or (c) of this subsection and the offender has previously been sentenced for any deadly weapon enhancements after July 23, 1995, under (a), (b), and/or (c) of this subsection or subsection (4)(a), (b), and/or

(c) of this section, or both, all firearm enhancements under this subsection shall be twice the amount of the enhancement listed;

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all firearm enhancements under this section are mandatory, shall be served in total confinement, and shall run consecutively to all other sentencing provisions, including other firearm or deadly weapon enhancements, for all offenses sentenced under this chapter. However, whether or not a mandatory minimum term has expired, an offender serving a sentence under this subsection may be granted an extraordinary medical placement when authorized under RCW 9.94A.728(3);

(f) The firearm enhancements in this section shall apply to all felony crimes except the following: Possession of a machine gun, possessing a stolen firearm, drive-by shooting, theft of a firearm, unlawful possession of a firearm in the first and second degree, and use of a machine gun in a felony;

(g) If the standard sentence range under this section exceeds the statutory maximum sentence for the offense, the statutory maximum sentence shall be the presumptive sentence unless the offender is a persistent offender. If the addition of a firearm enhancement increases the sentence so that it would exceed the statutory maximum for the offense, the portion of the sentence representing the enhancement may not be reduced.

(4) The following additional times shall be added to the standard sentence range for felony crimes committed after July 23, 1995, if the offender or an accomplice was armed with a deadly weapon other than a firearm as defined in RCW 9.41.010 and the offender is being sentenced for one of the crimes listed in this subsection as eligible for any deadly weapon enhancements based on the classification of the completed felony crime. If the offender is being sentenced for more than one offense, the deadly weapon enhancement or enhancements must be added to the total period of confinement for all offenses, regardless of which underlying offense is subject to a deadly weapon enhancement. If the offender or an accomplice was armed with a deadly weapon other than a firearm as defined in RCW 9.41.010 and the offender is being sentenced for an anticipatory offense under chapter 9A.28 RCW to commit one of the crimes listed in this subsection as eligible for any deadly weapon enhancements, the following additional times shall be added to the standard sentence range determined under subsection (2) of this section based on the felony crime of conviction as classified under RCW 9A.28.020:

(a) Two years for any felony defined under any law as a class A felony or with a statutory maximum sentence of at least twenty years, or both, and not covered under (f) of this subsection;

(b) One year for any felony defined under any law as a class B felony or with a statutory maximum sentence of ten years, or both, and not covered under (f) of this subsection;

(c) Six months for any felony defined under any law as a class C felony or with a statutory maximum sentence of five years, or both, and not covered under (f) of this subsection;

(d) If the offender is being sentenced under (a), (b), and/or (c) of this subsection for any deadly weapon enhancements and the offender has previously been sentenced for any deadly weapon enhancements after July 23, 1995, under (a), (b), and/or (c) of this subsection or subsection (3)(a), (b),

and/or (c) of this section, or both, all deadly weapon enhancements under this subsection shall be twice the amount of the enhancement listed;

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all deadly weapon enhancements under this section are mandatory, shall be served in total confinement, and shall run consecutively to all other sentencing provisions, including other firearm or deadly weapon enhancements, for all offenses sentenced under this chapter. However, whether or not a mandatory minimum term has expired, an offender serving a sentence under this subsection may be granted an extraordinary medical placement when authorized under RCW 9.94A.728(3);

(f) The deadly weapon enhancements in this section shall apply to all felony crimes except the following: Possession of a machine gun, possessing a stolen firearm, drive-by shooting, theft of a firearm, unlawful possession of a firearm in the first and second degree, and use of a machine gun in a felony;

(g) If the standard sentence range under this section exceeds the statutory maximum sentence for the offense, the statutory maximum sentence shall be the presumptive sentence unless the offender is a persistent offender. If the addition of a deadly weapon enhancement increases the sentence so that it would exceed the statutory maximum for the offense, the portion of the sentence representing the enhancement may not be reduced.

(5) The following additional times shall be added to the standard sentence range if the offender or an accomplice committed the offense while in a county jail or state correctional facility and the offender is being sentenced for one of the crimes listed in this subsection. If the offender or an accomplice committed one of the crimes listed in this subsection while in a county jail or state correctional facility, and the offender is being sentenced for an anticipatory offense under chapter 9A.28 RCW to commit one of the crimes listed in this subsection, the following additional times shall be added to the standard sentence range determined under subsection (2) of this section:

(a) Eighteen months for offenses committed under RCW 69.50.401(2) (a) or (b) or 69.50.410;

(b) Fifteen months for offenses committed under RCW 69.50.401(2) (c), (d), or (e);

(c) Twelve months for offenses committed under RCW 69.50.4013.

For the purposes of this subsection, all of the real property of a state correctional facility or county jail shall be deemed to be part of that facility or county jail.

(6) An additional twenty-four months shall be added to the standard sentence range for any ranked offense involving a violation of chapter 69.50 RCW if the offense was also a violation of RCW 69.50.435 or 9.94A.827. All enhancements under this subsection shall run consecutively to all other sentencing provisions, for all offenses sentenced under this chapter.

(7) An additional two years shall be added to the standard sentence range for vehicular homicide committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug as defined by RCW 46.61.502 for each prior offense as defined in RCW 46.61.5055. All enhancements under this subsection

shall be mandatory, shall be served in total confinement, and shall run consecutively to all other sentencing provisions.

(8)(a) The following additional times shall be added to the standard sentence range for felony crimes committed on or after July 1, 2006, if the offense was committed with sexual motivation, as that term is defined in RCW 9.94A.030. If the offender is being sentenced for more than one offense, the sexual motivation enhancement must be added to the total period of total confinement for all offenses, regardless of which underlying offense is subject to a sexual motivation enhancement. If the offender committed the offense with sexual motivation and the offender is being sentenced for an anticipatory offense under chapter 9A.28 RCW, the following additional times shall be added to the standard sentence range determined under subsection (2) of this section based on the felony crime of conviction as classified under RCW 9A.28.020:

(i) Two years for any felony defined under the law as a class A felony or with a statutory maximum sentence of at least twenty years, or both;

(ii) Eighteen months for any felony defined under any law as a class B felony or with a statutory maximum sentence of ten years, or both;

(iii) One year for any felony defined under any law as a class C felony or with a statutory maximum sentence of five years, or both;

(iv) If the offender is being sentenced for any sexual motivation enhancements under (i), (ii), and/or (iii) of this subsection and the offender has previously been sentenced for any sexual motivation enhancements on or after July 1, 2006, under (i), (ii), and/or (iii) of this subsection, all sexual motivation enhancements under this subsection shall be twice the amount of the enhancement listed;

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all sexual motivation enhancements under this subsection are mandatory, shall be served in total confinement, and shall run consecutively to all other sentencing provisions, including other sexual motivation enhancements, for all offenses sentenced under this chapter. However, whether or not a mandatory minimum term has expired, an offender serving a sentence under this subsection may be granted an extraordinary medical placement when authorized under RCW 9.94A.728(3);

(c) The sexual motivation enhancements in this subsection apply to all felony crimes;

(d) If the standard sentence range under this subsection exceeds the statutory maximum sentence for the offense, the statutory maximum sentence shall be the presumptive sentence unless the offender is a persistent offender. If the addition of a sexual motivation enhancement increases the sentence so that it would exceed the statutory maximum for the offense, the portion of the sentence representing the enhancement may not be reduced;

(e) The portion of the total confinement sentence which the offender must serve under this subsection shall be calculated before any earned early release time is credited to the offender;

(f) Nothing in this subsection prevents a sentencing court from imposing a sentence outside the standard sentence range pursuant to RCW 9.94A.535.

(9) An additional one-year enhancement shall be added to the standard sentence range for the felony crimes of RCW 9A.44.073, 9A.44.076, 9A.44.079, 9A.44.083, 9A.44.086, or 9A.44.089 committed on or after July 22, 2007, if the offender engaged, agreed, or offered to engage the victim in the sexual conduct in return for a fee. If the offender is being sentenced for more than one offense, the one-year enhancement must be added to the total period of total confinement for all offenses, regardless of which underlying offense is subject to the enhancement. If the offender is being sentenced for an anticipatory offense for the felony crimes of RCW 9A.44.073, 9A.44.076, 9A.44.079, 9A.44.083, 9A.44.086, or 9A.44.089, and the offender attempted, solicited another, or conspired to engage, agree, or offer to engage the victim in the sexual conduct in return for a fee, an additional one-year enhancement shall be added to the standard sentence range determined under subsection (2) of this section. For purposes of this subsection, "sexual conduct" means sexual intercourse or sexual contact, both as defined in chapter 9A.44 RCW.

(10)(a) For a person age eighteen or older convicted of any criminal street gang-related felony offense for which the person compensated, threatened, or solicited a minor in order to involve the minor in the commission of the felony offense, the standard sentence range is determined by locating the sentencing grid sentence range defined by the appropriate offender score and the seriousness level of the completed crime, and multiplying the range by one hundred twenty-five percent. If the standard sentence range under this subsection exceeds the statutory maximum sentence for the offense, the statutory maximum sentence is the presumptive sentence unless the offender is a persistent offender.

(b) This subsection does not apply to any criminal street gang-related felony offense for which involving a minor in the commission of the felony offense is an element of the offense.

(c) The increased penalty specified in (a) of this subsection is unavailable in the event that the prosecution gives notice that it will seek an exceptional sentence based on an aggravating factor under RCW 9.94A.535.

(11) An additional twelve months and one day shall be added to the standard sentence range for a conviction of attempting to elude a police vehicle as defined by RCW 46.61.024, if the conviction included a finding by special allegation of endangering one or more persons under RCW 9.94A.834.

(12) An additional twelve months shall be added to the standard sentence range for an offense that is also a violation of RCW 9.94A.831.

(13) An additional twelve months shall be added to the standard sentence range for vehicular homicide committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug as defined by RCW 46.61.520 or for vehicular assault committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug as defined by RCW 46.61.522, or for any felony driving under the influence (RCW 46.61.502(6)) or felony physical control under the influence (RCW 46.61.504(6)) for each child passenger under the age of sixteen who is an occupant in the defendant's vehicle. These enhancements shall be mandatory, shall be served in total confinement, and shall run consecutively to all other sentencing provisions. If the addi-

tion of a minor child enhancement increases the sentence so that it would exceed the statutory maximum for the offense, the portion of the sentence representing the enhancement may not be reduced. [2012 c 42 § 3; 2011 c 293 § 9; 2009 c 141 § 2. Prior: 2008 c 276 § 301; 2008 c 219 § 3; 2007 c 368 § 9; prior: 2006 c 339 § 301; 2006 c 123 § 1; 2003 c 53 § 58; 2002 c 290 § 11.]

**Effective date—2011 c 293 §§ 1-9:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Severability—Part headings, subheadings not law—2008 c 276:** See notes following RCW 36.28A.200.

**Short title—2008 c 219:** See note following RCW 9.94A.834.

**Intent—Part headings not law—2006 c 339:** See notes following RCW 70.96A.325.

**Effective date—2006 c 123:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2006." [2006 c 123 § 4.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

**9.94A.535 Departures from the guidelines.** The court may impose a sentence outside the standard sentence range for an offense if it finds, considering the purpose of this chapter, that there are substantial and compelling reasons justifying an exceptional sentence. Facts supporting aggravated sentences, other than the fact of a prior conviction, shall be determined pursuant to the provisions of RCW 9.94A.537.

Whenever a sentence outside the standard sentence range is imposed, the court shall set forth the reasons for its decision in written findings of fact and conclusions of law. A sentence outside the standard sentence range shall be a determinate sentence.

If the sentencing court finds that an exceptional sentence outside the standard sentence range should be imposed, the sentence is subject to review only as provided for in RCW 9.94A.585(4).

A departure from the standards in RCW 9.94A.589 (1) and (2) governing whether sentences are to be served consecutively or concurrently is an exceptional sentence subject to the limitations in this section, and may be appealed by the offender or the state as set forth in RCW 9.94A.585 (2) through (6).

**(1) Mitigating Circumstances - Court to Consider**

The court may impose an exceptional sentence below the standard range if it finds that mitigating circumstances are established by a preponderance of the evidence. The following are illustrative only and are not intended to be exclusive reasons for exceptional sentences.

(a) To a significant degree, the victim was an initiator, willing participant, aggressor, or provoker of the incident.

(b) Before detection, the defendant compensated, or made a good faith effort to compensate, the victim of the criminal conduct for any damage or injury sustained.

(c) The defendant committed the crime under duress, coercion, threat, or compulsion insufficient to constitute a complete defense but which significantly affected his or her conduct.

(d) The defendant, with no apparent predisposition to do so, was induced by others to participate in the crime.

(e) The defendant's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of his or her conduct, or to conform his or her conduct to the requirements of the law, was significantly impaired. Voluntary use of drugs or alcohol is excluded.

(f) The offense was principally accomplished by another person and the defendant manifested extreme caution or sincere concern for the safety or well-being of the victim.

(g) The operation of the multiple offense policy of RCW 9.94A.589 results in a presumptive sentence that is clearly excessive in light of the purpose of this chapter, as expressed in RCW 9.94A.010.

(h) The defendant or the defendant's children suffered a continuing pattern of physical or sexual abuse by the victim of the offense and the offense is a response to that abuse.

(i) The defendant was making a good faith effort to obtain or provide medical assistance for someone who is experiencing a drug-related overdose.

(j) The current offense involved domestic violence, as defined in RCW 10.99.020, and the defendant suffered a continuing pattern of coercion, control, or abuse by the victim of the offense and the offense is a response to that coercion, control, or abuse.

**(2) Aggravating Circumstances - Considered and Imposed by the Court**

The trial court may impose an aggravated exceptional sentence without a finding of fact by a jury under the following circumstances:

(a) The defendant and the state both stipulate that justice is best served by the imposition of an exceptional sentence outside the standard range, and the court finds the exceptional sentence to be consistent with and in furtherance of the interests of justice and the purposes of the sentencing reform act.

(b) The defendant's prior unscored misdemeanor or prior unscored foreign criminal history results in a presumptive sentence that is clearly too lenient in light of the purpose of this chapter, as expressed in RCW 9.94A.010.

(c) The defendant has committed multiple current offenses and the defendant's high offender score results in some of the current offenses going unpunished.

(d) The failure to consider the defendant's prior criminal history which was omitted from the offender score calculation pursuant to RCW 9.94A.525 results in a presumptive sentence that is clearly too lenient.

**(3) Aggravating Circumstances - Considered by a Jury - Imposed by the Court**

Except for circumstances listed in subsection (2) of this section, the following circumstances are an exclusive list of factors that can support a sentence above the standard range. Such facts should be determined by procedures specified in RCW 9.94A.537.

(a) The defendant's conduct during the commission of the current offense manifested deliberate cruelty to the victim.

(b) The defendant knew or should have known that the victim of the current offense was particularly vulnerable or incapable of resistance.

(c) The current offense was a violent offense, and the defendant knew that the victim of the current offense was pregnant.

(d) The current offense was a major economic offense or series of offenses, so identified by a consideration of any of the following factors:

(i) The current offense involved multiple victims or multiple incidents per victim;

(ii) The current offense involved attempted or actual monetary loss substantially greater than typical for the offense;

(iii) The current offense involved a high degree of sophistication or planning or occurred over a lengthy period of time; or

(iv) The defendant used his or her position of trust, confidence, or fiduciary responsibility to facilitate the commission of the current offense.

(e) The current offense was a major violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, chapter 69.50 RCW (VUCSA), related to trafficking in controlled substances, which was more onerous than the typical offense of its statutory definition: The presence of ANY of the following may identify a current offense as a major VUCSA:

(i) The current offense involved at least three separate transactions in which controlled substances were sold, transferred, or possessed with intent to do so;

(ii) The current offense involved an attempted or actual sale or transfer of controlled substances in quantities substantially larger than for personal use;

(iii) The current offense involved the manufacture of controlled substances for use by other parties;

(iv) The circumstances of the current offense reveal the offender to have occupied a high position in the drug distribution hierarchy;

(v) The current offense involved a high degree of sophistication or planning, occurred over a lengthy period of time, or involved a broad geographic area of disbursement; or

(vi) The offender used his or her position or status to facilitate the commission of the current offense, including positions of trust, confidence or fiduciary responsibility (e.g., pharmacist, physician, or other medical professional).

(f) The current offense included a finding of sexual motivation pursuant to RCW 9.94A.835.

(g) The offense was part of an ongoing pattern of sexual abuse of the same victim under the age of eighteen years manifested by multiple incidents over a prolonged period of time.

(h) The current offense involved domestic violence, as defined in RCW 10.99.020, and one or more of the following was present:

(i) The offense was part of an ongoing pattern of psychological, physical, or sexual abuse of a victim or multiple victims manifested by multiple incidents over a prolonged period of time;

(ii) The offense occurred within sight or sound of the victim's or the offender's minor children under the age of eighteen years; or

(iii) The offender's conduct during the commission of the current offense manifested deliberate cruelty or intimidation of the victim.

(i) The offense resulted in the pregnancy of a child victim of rape.

(j) The defendant knew that the victim of the current offense was a youth who was not residing with a legal custo-

dian and the defendant established or promoted the relationship for the primary purpose of victimization.

(k) The offense was committed with the intent to obstruct or impair human or animal health care or agricultural or forestry research or commercial production.

(l) The current offense is trafficking in the first degree or trafficking in the second degree and any victim was a minor at the time of the offense.

(m) The offense involved a high degree of sophistication or planning.

(n) The defendant used his or her position of trust, confidence, or fiduciary responsibility to facilitate the commission of the current offense.

(o) The defendant committed a current sex offense, has a history of sex offenses, and is not amenable to treatment.

(p) The offense involved an invasion of the victim's privacy.

(q) The defendant demonstrated or displayed an egregious lack of remorse.

(r) The offense involved a destructive and foreseeable impact on persons other than the victim.

(s) The defendant committed the offense to obtain or maintain his or her membership or to advance his or her position in the hierarchy of an organization, association, or identifiable group.

(t) The defendant committed the current offense shortly after being released from incarceration.

(u) The current offense is a burglary and the victim of the burglary was present in the building or residence when the crime was committed.

(v) The offense was committed against a law enforcement officer who was performing his or her official duties at the time of the offense, the offender knew that the victim was a law enforcement officer, and the victim's status as a law enforcement officer is not an element of the offense.

(w) The defendant committed the offense against a victim who was acting as a good samaritan.

(x) The defendant committed the offense against a public official or officer of the court in retaliation of the public official's performance of his or her duty to the criminal justice system.

(y) The victim's injuries substantially exceed the level of bodily harm necessary to satisfy the elements of the offense. This aggravator is not an exception to RCW 9.94A.530(2).

(z)(i)(A) The current offense is theft in the first degree, theft in the second degree, possession of stolen property in the first degree, or possession of stolen property in the second degree; (B) the stolen property involved is metal property; and (C) the property damage to the victim caused in the course of the theft of metal property is more than three times the value of the stolen metal property, or the theft of the metal property creates a public hazard.

(ii) For purposes of this subsection, "metal property" means commercial metal property, private metal property, or nonferrous metal property, as defined in RCW 19.290.010.

(aa) The defendant committed the offense with the intent to directly or indirectly cause any benefit, aggrandizement, gain, profit, or other advantage to or for a criminal street gang as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, its reputation, influence, or membership.

(bb) The current offense involved paying to view, over the internet in violation of RCW 9.68A.075, depictions of a minor engaged in an act of sexually explicit conduct as defined in RCW 9.68A.011(4) (a) through (g).

(cc) The offense was intentionally committed because the defendant perceived the victim to be homeless, as defined in RCW 9.94A.030. [2011 c 87 § 1. Prior: 2010 c 274 § 402; 2010 c 227 § 10; 2010 c 9 § 4; prior: 2008 c 276 § 303; 2008 c 233 § 9; 2007 c 377 § 10; 2005 c 68 § 3; 2003 c 267 § 4; 2002 c 169 § 1; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 314; 2000 c 28 § 8; 1999 c 330 § 1; 1997 c 52 § 4; prior: 1996 c 248 § 2; 1996 c 121 § 1; 1995 c 316 § 2; 1990 c 3 § 603; 1989 c 408 § 1; 1987 c 131 § 2; 1986 c 257 § 27; 1984 c 209 § 24; 1983 c 115 § 10. Formerly RCW 9.94A.390.]

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**Intent—2010 c 9:** See note following RCW 69.50.315.

**Severability—Part headings, subheadings not law—2008 c 276:** See notes following RCW 36.28A.200.

**Captions not law—Severability—2007 c 377:** See RCW 19.290.900 and 19.290.901.

**Intent—Severability—Effective date—2005 c 68:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.537.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.537 Aggravating circumstances—Sentences above standard range.** (1) At any time prior to trial or entry of the guilty plea if substantial rights of the defendant are not prejudiced, the state may give notice that it is seeking a sentence above the standard sentencing range. The notice shall state aggravating circumstances upon which the requested sentence will be based.

(2) In any case where an exceptional sentence above the standard range was imposed and where a new sentencing hearing is required, the superior court may impanel a jury to consider any alleged aggravating circumstances listed in RCW 9.94A.535(3), that were relied upon by the superior court in imposing the previous sentence, at the new sentencing hearing.

(3) The facts supporting aggravating circumstances shall be proved to a jury beyond a reasonable doubt. The jury's verdict on the aggravating factor must be unanimous, and by special interrogatory. If a jury is waived, proof shall be to the court beyond a reasonable doubt, unless the defendant stipulates to the aggravating facts.

(4) Evidence regarding any facts supporting aggravating circumstances under RCW 9.94A.535(3) (a) through (y) shall be presented to the jury during the trial of the alleged crime, unless the jury has been impaneled solely for resentencing, or unless the state alleges the aggravating circumstances listed in RCW 9.94A.535(3) (e)(iv), (h)(i), (o), or (t). If one of these aggravating circumstances is alleged, the trial court may conduct a separate proceeding if the evidence supporting the aggravating fact is not part of the res geste of the charged crime, if the evidence is not otherwise admissible in trial of the charged crime, and if the court finds that the probative value of the evidence to the aggravated fact is substantially outweighed by its prejudicial effect on the jury's ability to determine guilt or innocence for the underlying crime.

(5) If the superior court conducts a separate proceeding to determine the existence of aggravating circumstances listed in RCW 9.94A.535(3) (e)(iv), (h)(i), (o), or (t), the proceeding shall immediately follow the trial on the underlying conviction, if possible. If any person who served on the jury is unable to continue, the court shall substitute an alternate juror.

(6) If the jury finds, unanimously and beyond a reasonable doubt, one or more of the facts alleged by the state in support of an aggravated sentence, the court may sentence the offender pursuant to RCW 9.94A.535 to a term of confinement up to the maximum allowed under RCW 9A.20.021 for the underlying conviction if it finds, considering the purposes of this chapter, that the facts found are substantial and compelling reasons justifying an exceptional sentence. [2007 c 205 § 2; 2005 c 68 § 4.]

**Intent—2007 c 205:** "In *State v. Pillatos*, 150 P.3d 1130 (2007), the Washington supreme court held that the changes made to the sentencing reform act concerning exceptional sentences in chapter 68, Laws of 2005 do not apply to cases where the trials had already begun or guilty pleas had already been entered prior to the effective date of the act on April 15, 2005. The legislature intends that the superior courts shall have the authority to impanel juries to find aggravating circumstances in all cases that come before the courts for trial or sentencing, regardless of the date of the original trial or sentencing." [2007 c 205 § 1.]

**Effective date—2007 c 205:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [April 27, 2007]." [2007 c 205 § 3.]

**Intent—2005 c 68:** "The legislature intends to conform the sentencing reform act, chapter 9.94A RCW, to comply with the ruling in *Blakely v. Washington*, 542 U.S. ... (2004). In that case, the United States supreme court held that a criminal defendant has a Sixth Amendment right to have a jury determine beyond a reasonable doubt any aggravating fact, other than the fact of a prior conviction, that is used to impose greater punishment than the standard range or standard conditions. The legislature intends that aggravating facts, other than the fact of a prior conviction, will be placed before the jury. The legislature intends that the sentencing court will then decide whether or not the aggravating fact is a substantial and compelling reason to impose greater punishment. The legislature intends to create a new criminal procedure for imposing greater punishment than the standard range or conditions and to codify existing common law aggravating factors, without expanding or restricting existing statutory or common law aggravating circumstances. The legislature does not intend the codification of common law aggravating factors to expand or restrict currently available statutory or common law aggravating circumstances. The legislature does not intend to alter how mitigating facts are to be determined under the sentencing reform act, and thus intends that mitigating facts will be found by the sentencing court by a preponderance of the evidence.

While the legislature intends to bring the sentencing reform act into compliance as previously indicated, the legislature recognizes the need to restore the judicial discretion that has been limited as a result of the *Blakely* decision." [2005 c 68 § 1.]

**Severability—2005 c 68:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2005 c 68 § 6.]

**Effective date—2005 c 68:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [April 15, 2005]." [2005 c 68 § 7.]

**9.94A.540 Mandatory minimum terms.** (1) Except to the extent provided in subsection (3) of this section, the following minimum terms of total confinement are mandatory and shall not be varied or modified under RCW 9.94A.535:

(a) An offender convicted of the crime of murder in the first degree shall be sentenced to a term of total confinement not less than twenty years.

(b) An offender convicted of the crime of assault in the first degree or assault of a child in the first degree where the offender used force or means likely to result in death or intended to kill the victim shall be sentenced to a term of total confinement not less than five years.

(c) An offender convicted of the crime of rape in the first degree shall be sentenced to a term of total confinement not less than five years.

(d) An offender convicted of the crime of sexually violent predator escape shall be sentenced to a minimum term of total confinement not less than sixty months.

(2) During such minimum terms of total confinement, no offender subject to the provisions of this section is eligible for community custody, earned release time, furlough, home detention, partial confinement, work crew, work release, or any other form of early release authorized under RCW 9.94A.728, or any other form of authorized leave of absence from the correctional facility while not in the direct custody of a corrections officer. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply: (a) In the case of an offender in need of emergency medical treatment; (b) for the purpose of commitment to an inpatient treatment facility in the case of an offender convicted of the crime of rape in the first degree; or (c) for an extraordinary medical placement when authorized under \*RCW 9.94A.728(4).

(3)(a) Subsection (1) of this section shall not be applied in sentencing of juveniles tried as adults pursuant to RCW 13.04.030(1)(e)(i).

(b) This subsection (3) applies only to crimes committed on or after July 24, 2005. [2005 c 437 § 2; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 315; 2000 c 28 § 7. Formerly RCW 9.94A.590.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9.94A.728 was amended by 2009 c 455 § 2, changing subsection (4) to subsection (3).

**Findings—Intent—2005 c 437:** "(1) The legislature finds that emerging research on brain development indicates that adolescent brains, and thus adolescent intellectual and emotional capabilities, differ significantly from those of mature adults. It is appropriate to take these differences into consideration when sentencing juveniles tried as adults. The legislature further finds that applying mandatory minimum sentences for juveniles tried as adults prevents trial court judges from taking these differences into consideration in appropriate circumstances.

(2) The legislature intends to eliminate the application of mandatory minimum sentences under RCW 9.94A.540 to juveniles tried as adults, and to continue to apply all other adult sentencing provisions to juveniles tried as adults." [2005 c 437 § 1.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.550 Fines.** Unless otherwise provided by a statute of this state, on all sentences under this chapter the court may impose fines according to the following ranges:

Class A felonies	\$0 - 50,000
Class B felonies	\$0 - 20,000
Class C felonies	\$0 - 10,000

[2003 c 53 § 59; 1984 c 209 § 23. Formerly RCW 9.94A.386.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.555 Findings and intent—1994 c 1.** (1) The people of the state of Washington find and declare that:

(a) Community protection from persistent offenders is a priority for any civilized society.

(b) Nearly fifty percent of the criminals convicted in Washington state have active prior criminal histories.

(c) Punishments for criminal offenses should be proportionate to both the seriousness of the crime and the prior criminal history.

(d) The public has the right and the responsibility to determine when to impose a life sentence.

(2) By sentencing three-time, most serious offenders to prison for life without the possibility of parole, the people intend to:

(a) Improve public safety by placing the most dangerous criminals in prison.

(b) Reduce the number of serious, repeat offenders by tougher sentencing.

(c) Set proper and simplified sentencing practices that both the victims and persistent offenders can understand.

(d) Restore public trust in our criminal justice system by directly involving the people in the process. [1994 c 1 § 1 (Initiative Measure No. 593, approved November 2, 1993). Formerly RCW 9.94A.392.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.561 Offender notification and warning.** A sentencing judge, law enforcement agency, or state or local correctional facility may, but is not required to, give offenders who have been convicted of an offense that is a most serious offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 either written or oral notice, or both, of the sanctions imposed upon persistent offenders. General notice of these sanctions and the conditions under which they may be imposed may, but need not, be given in correctional facilities maintained by state or local agencies. This section is enacted to provide authority, but not requirement, for the giving of such notice in every conceivable way without incurring liability to offenders or third parties. [1994 c 1 § 4 (Initiative Measure No. 593, approved November 2, 1993). Formerly RCW 9.94A.393.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.562 Court-ordered treatment—Required notices.** When any person is convicted in a superior court, the judgment and sentence shall include a statement that if the offender is or becomes subject to court-ordered mental health or chemical dependency treatment, the offender must notify the department and the offender's treatment information must be shared with the department of corrections for the duration of the offender's incarceration and supervision. Upon a petition by an offender who does not have a history of one or more violent acts, as defined in RCW 71.05.020, the court may, for good cause, find that public safety is not enhanced by the sharing of this offender's information. [2004 c 166 § 11.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2004 c 166:** See notes following RCW 71.05.040.

**9.94A.565 Governor's powers.** (1) Nothing in chapter 1, Laws of 1994 shall ever be interpreted or construed as to reduce or eliminate the power of the governor to grant a pardon or clemency to any offender on an individual case-by-case basis. However, the people recommend that any offender subject to total confinement for life without the possibility of parole not be considered for release until the offender has reached the age of at least sixty years old and has been judged to be no longer a threat to society. The people further recommend that sex offenders be held to the utmost scrutiny under this subsection regardless of age.

(2) Nothing in this section shall ever be interpreted or construed to grant any release for the purpose of reducing prison overcrowding. Furthermore, the governor shall provide twice yearly reports on the activities and progress of offenders subject to total confinement for life without the possibility of parole who are released through executive action during his or her tenure. These reports shall continue for not less than ten years after the release of the offender or upon the death of the released offender. [1994 c 1 § 5 (Initiative Measure No. 593, approved November 2, 1993). Formerly RCW 9.94A.394.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.570 Persistent offenders.** Notwithstanding the statutory maximum sentence or any other provision of this chapter, a persistent offender shall be sentenced to a term of total confinement for life without the possibility of release or, when authorized by RCW 10.95.030 for the crime of aggravated murder in the first degree, sentenced to death. In addition, no offender subject to this section may be eligible for community custody, earned release time, furlough, home detention, partial confinement, work crew, work release, or any other form of release as defined under \*RCW 9.94A.728 (1), (2), (3), (4), (6), (8), or (9), or any other form of authorized leave from a correctional facility while not in the direct custody of a corrections officer or officers, except: (1) In the case of an offender in need of emergency medical treatment; or (2) for the purpose of commitment to an inpatient treatment facility in the case of an offender convicted of the crime of rape in the first degree. [2000 c 28 § 6. Formerly RCW 9.94A.560.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9.94A.728 was amended by 2009 c 455 § 2, deleting subsections (1) and (2) and changing subsections (3), (4), (6), (8), and (9) to subsections (2), (3), (5), (7), and (8), respectively.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.575 Power to defer or suspend sentences abolished—Exceptions.** The power to defer or suspend the imposition or execution of sentence is hereby abolished in respect to sentences prescribed for felonies committed after June 30, 1984, except for offenders sentenced under RCW 9.94A.670, the special sex offender sentencing alternative, whose sentence may be suspended. [2000 c 28 § 9; 1999 c 143 § 12; 1984 c 209 § 7; 1981 c 137 § 13. Formerly RCW 9.94A.130.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.580 Specialized training.** The department is authorized to determine whether any person subject to the confines of a correctional facility would substantially benefit

from successful participation in: (1) Literacy training, (2) employment skills training, or (3) educational efforts to identify and control sources of anger and, upon a determination that the person would, may require such successful participation as a condition for eligibility to obtain early release from the confines of a correctional facility.

The department shall adopt rules and procedures to administer this section. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 533. Formerly RCW 9.94A.132.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**9.94A.585 Which sentences appealable—Procedure—Grounds for reversal—Written opinions.** (1) A sentence within the standard sentence range, under RCW 9.94A.510 or 9.94A.517, for an offense shall not be appealed. For purposes of this section, a sentence imposed on a first-time offender under RCW 9.94A.650 shall also be deemed to be within the standard sentence range for the offense and shall not be appealed.

(2) A sentence outside the standard sentence range for the offense is subject to appeal by the defendant or the state. The appeal shall be to the court of appeals in accordance with rules adopted by the supreme court.

(3) Pending review of the sentence, the sentencing court or the court of appeals may order the defendant confined or placed on conditional release, including bond.

(4) To reverse a sentence which is outside the standard sentence range, the reviewing court must find: (a) Either that the reasons supplied by the sentencing court are not supported by the record which was before the judge or that those reasons do not justify a sentence outside the standard sentence range for that offense; or (b) that the sentence imposed was clearly excessive or clearly too lenient.

(5) A review under this section shall be made solely upon the record that was before the sentencing court. Written briefs shall not be required and the review and decision shall be made in an expedited manner according to rules adopted by the supreme court.

(6) The court of appeals shall issue a written opinion in support of its decision whenever the judgment of the sentencing court is reversed and may issue written opinions in any other case where the court believes that a written opinion would provide guidance to sentencing courts and others in implementing this chapter and in developing a common law of sentencing within the state.

(7) The department may petition for a review of a sentence committing an offender to the custody or jurisdiction of the department. The review shall be limited to errors of law. Such petition shall be filed with the court of appeals no later than ninety days after the department has actual knowledge of terms of the sentence. The petition shall include a certification by the department that all reasonable efforts to resolve the dispute at the superior court level have been exhausted. [2002 c 290 § 19; 2000 c 28 § 10; 1989 c 214 § 1; 1984 c 209 § 13; 1982 c 192 § 7; 1981 c 137 § 21. Formerly RCW 9.94A.210.]

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.589 Consecutive or concurrent sentences.**

(1)(a) Except as provided in (b) or (c) of this subsection, whenever a person is to be sentenced for two or more current offenses, the sentence range for each current offense shall be determined by using all other current and prior convictions as if they were prior convictions for the purpose of the offender score: PROVIDED, That if the court enters a finding that some or all of the current offenses encompass the same criminal conduct then those current offenses shall be counted as one crime. Sentences imposed under this subsection shall be served concurrently. Consecutive sentences may only be imposed under the exceptional sentence provisions of RCW 9.94A.535. "Same criminal conduct," as used in this subsection, means two or more crimes that require the same criminal intent, are committed at the same time and place, and involve the same victim. This definition applies in cases involving vehicular assault or vehicular homicide even if the victims occupied the same vehicle.

(b) Whenever a person is convicted of two or more serious violent offenses arising from separate and distinct criminal conduct, the standard sentence range for the offense with the highest seriousness level under RCW 9.94A.515 shall be determined using the offender's prior convictions and other current convictions that are not serious violent offenses in the offender score and the standard sentence range for other serious violent offenses shall be determined by using an offender score of zero. The standard sentence range for any offenses that are not serious violent offenses shall be determined according to (a) of this subsection. All sentences imposed under (b) of this subsection shall be served consecutively to each other and concurrently with sentences imposed under (a) of this subsection.

(c) If an offender is convicted under RCW 9.41.040 for unlawful possession of a firearm in the first or second degree and for the felony crimes of theft of a firearm or possession of a stolen firearm, or both, the standard sentence range for each of these current offenses shall be determined by using all other current and prior convictions, except other current convictions for the felony crimes listed in this subsection (1)(c), as if they were prior convictions. The offender shall serve consecutive sentences for each conviction of the felony crimes listed in this subsection (1)(c), and for each firearm unlawfully possessed.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, whenever a person while under sentence for conviction of a felony commits another felony and is sentenced to another term of confinement, the latter term shall not begin until expiration of all prior terms.

(b) Whenever a second or later felony conviction results in community supervision with conditions not currently in effect, under the prior sentence or sentences of community supervision the court may require that the conditions of community supervision contained in the second or later sentence begin during the immediate term of community supervision and continue throughout the duration of the consecutive term of community supervision.

(3) Subject to subsections (1) and (2) of this section, whenever a person is sentenced for a felony that was committed while the person was not under sentence for conviction of a felony, the sentence shall run concurrently with any felony sentence which has been imposed by any court in this or



another state or by a federal court subsequent to the commission of the crime being sentenced unless the court pronouncing the current sentence expressly orders that they be served consecutively.

(4) Whenever any person granted probation under RCW 9.95.210 or 9.92.060, or both, has the probationary sentence revoked and a prison sentence imposed, that sentence shall run consecutively to any sentence imposed pursuant to this chapter, unless the court pronouncing the subsequent sentence expressly orders that they be served concurrently.

(5) In the case of consecutive sentences, all periods of total confinement shall be served before any partial confinement, community restitution, community supervision, or any other requirement or conditions of any of the sentences. Except for exceptional sentences as authorized under RCW 9.94A.535, if two or more sentences that run consecutively include periods of community supervision, the aggregate of the community supervision period shall not exceed twenty-four months. [2002 c 175 § 7; 2000 c 28 § 14; 1999 c 352 § 11; 1998 c 235 § 2; 1996 c 199 § 3; 1995 c 167 § 2; 1990 c 3 § 704. Prior: 1988 c 157 § 5; 1988 c 143 § 24; 1987 c 456 § 5; 1986 c 257 § 28; 1984 c 209 § 25; 1983 c 115 § 11. Formerly RCW 9.94A.400.]

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.595 Anticipatory offenses.** For persons convicted of the anticipatory offenses of criminal attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy under chapter 9A.28 RCW, the presumptive sentence is determined by locating the sentencing grid sentence range defined by the appropriate offender score and the seriousness level of the crime, and multiplying the range by 75 percent. [2000 c 28 § 16; 1986 c 257 § 29; 1984 c 209 § 26; 1983 c 115 § 12. Formerly RCW 9.94A.410.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.599 Presumptive ranges that exceed the statutory maximum.** If the presumptive sentence duration given in the sentencing grid exceeds the statutory maximum sentence for the offense, the statutory maximum sentence shall be the presumptive sentence. If the addition of a firearm or deadly weapon enhancement increases the sentence so that it would exceed the statutory maximum for the offense, the portion of the sentence representing the enhancement may not be reduced. [1998 c 235 § 3; 1983 c 115 § 13. Formerly RCW 9.94A.420.]

**9.94A.603 Felony alcohol violators—Treatment during incarceration—Conditions.** (1) When sentencing an offender convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), the court, in addition to imposing the provisions of this chapter, shall order the offender to undergo alcohol or chemical dependency treatment services during incarceration. The offender shall be liable for the cost of treatment unless the court finds the offender indigent and no third-party insurance coverage is available.

(2) The provisions under \*RCW 46.61.5055 (8) and (9) regarding the suspension, revocation, or denial of the offender's license, permit, or nonresident privilege to drive shall apply to an offender convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6).

(3) The provisions under RCW 46.20.720 and \*46.61.5055(5) regarding ignition interlock devices shall apply to an offender convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6). [2006 c 73 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 46.61.5055 was amended by 2008 c 282 § 14, changing subsections (5), (8), and (9) to subsections (6), (9), and (10), respectively, effective January 1, 2009.

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**9.94A.607 Chemical dependency.** (1) Where the court finds that the offender has a chemical dependency that has contributed to his or her offense, the court may, as a condition of the sentence and subject to available resources, order the offender to participate in rehabilitative programs or otherwise to perform affirmative conduct reasonably related to the circumstances of the crime for which the offender has been convicted and reasonably necessary or beneficial to the offender and the community in rehabilitating the offender.

(2) This section applies to sentences which include any term other than, or in addition to, a term of total confinement, including suspended sentences. [1999 c 197 § 2. Formerly RCW 9.94A.129.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.631 Violation of condition or requirement of sentence—Security searches authorized—Arrest by community corrections officer—Confinement in county jail.**

(1) If an offender violates any condition or requirement of a sentence, a community corrections officer may arrest or cause the arrest of the offender without a warrant, pending a determination by the court or by the department. If there is reasonable cause to believe that an offender has violated a condition or requirement of the sentence, a community corrections officer may require an offender to submit to a search and seizure of the offender's person, residence, automobile, or other personal property.

(2) For the safety and security of department staff, an offender may be required to submit to pat searches, or other limited security searches, by community corrections officers, correctional officers, and other agency approved staff, without reasonable cause, when in or on department premises, grounds, or facilities, or while preparing to enter department premises, grounds, facilities, or vehicles. Pat searches of offenders shall be conducted only by staff who are the same gender as the offender, except in emergency situations.

(3) A community corrections officer may also arrest an offender for any crime committed in his or her presence. The facts and circumstances of the conduct of the offender shall be reported by the community corrections officer, with recommendations, to the court, local law enforcement, or local prosecution for consideration of new charges. The community corrections officer's report shall serve as the notice that the department will hold the offender for not more than three days from the time of such notice for the new crime, except if the offender's underlying offense is a felony offense listed in RCW 9.94A.737(5), in which case the department will hold the offender for thirty days from the time of arrest or until a prosecuting attorney charges the offender with a crime, whichever occurs first. This does not affect the department's authority under RCW 9.94A.737.

If a community corrections officer arrests or causes the arrest of an offender under this section, the offender shall be confined and detained in the county jail of the county in which the offender was taken into custody, and the sheriff of that county shall receive and keep in the county jail, where room is available, all prisoners delivered to the jail by the community corrections officer, and such offenders shall not be released from custody on bail or personal recognizance, except upon approval of the court or authorized department staff, pursuant to a written order. [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 1; 2009 c 390 § 1; 1984 c 209 § 11. Formerly RCW 9.94A.195.]

**Effective date—2012 1st sp.s. c 6 §§ 1, 3 through 9, and 11 through 14:** "Sections 1, 3 through 9, and 11 through 14 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect June 1, 2012." [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 15.]

**Implementation—2012 1st sp.s. c 6:** "(1)(a) Research shows that traditional mechanisms of surveillance-based supervision and sanctioning are ineffective in reducing recidivism or improving public safety. The legislature is persuaded by recent studies showing that swift and certain sanctions, in combination with treatment-based interventions that address chemical dependency and criminogenic behaviors, are a more effective and efficient use of public resources to affect future crime.

(b) Notwithstanding, this is a new approach for Washington. It is imperative to the success of the state's system of offender supervision that the department of corrections be vigilant in:

(i) Monitoring the quality and consistency of applying swift and certain sanctions across the state;

(ii) Ensuring that sanctions are commensurate with identified behaviors and, to the extent possible, produce satisfactory results;

(iii) Applying evidence-based treatment and evaluation principles to address offenders' criminogenic and chemical dependency needs and therefore pairing the offender with the appropriate treatment; and

(iv) Maintaining good relations and open communication with law enforcement to assist in identifying offenders that pose the greatest risk to public safety.

(2) In implementing the provisions of this act, the department of corrections is directed to:

(a) Form stakeholder groups, that may include but are not limited to local community corrections officers, law enforcement, prosecuting attorneys, superior court judges, chemical dependency treatment and other community providers, and victim advocates;

(b) Within available resources, provide inpatient or outpatient chemical dependency treatment to offenders initially assessed as in need of treatment based on an evaluation of the offender's needs by a certified staff or chemical dependency provider utilizing evidence-based tools for evaluation;

(c) Perform outreach to the criminal justice training commission and local law enforcement agencies to ensure law enforcement is informed of changes in procedures for holding offenders pending the filing of charges for a new crime and establish ongoing channels of communication with local law enforcement for conveying information about individual offenders who have committed new crimes;

(d) Survey community corrections officers on a periodic basis to gather input and suggestions.

(3) The department shall report to the governor, appropriate committees of the legislature, and the stakeholder groups as identified in subsection (2)(a) of this section on its progress and activities in implementing this act, steps taken to improve the efficacy of chemical dependency treatment, evidence of outcomes achieved as reported by providers through submission of performance measure data, and including any recommended changes in legislation, no later than December 1, 2012, and December 1, 2013.

(4) This section expires December 31, 2013." [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 11.]

**Application—2012 1st sp.s. c 6:** "This act applies retroactively and prospectively regardless of the date of an offender's underlying offense." [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 12.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.633 Violation of condition or requirement—Offender charged with new offense—Sanctions—Procedures.** (1)(a) An offender who violates any condition or requirement of a sentence may be sanctioned by the court

with up to sixty days' confinement for each violation or by the department with up to thirty days' confinement as provided in RCW 9.94A.737.

(b) In lieu of confinement, an offender may be sanctioned with work release, home detention with electronic monitoring, work crew, community restitution, inpatient treatment, daily reporting, curfew, educational or counseling sessions, supervision enhanced through electronic monitoring, or any other community-based sanctions.

(2) If an offender was under community custody pursuant to one of the following statutes, the offender may be sanctioned as follows:

(a) If the offender was transferred to community custody in lieu of earned early release in accordance with RCW 9.94A.728, the offender may be transferred to a more restrictive confinement status to serve up to the remaining portion of the sentence, less credit for any period actually spent in community custody or in detention awaiting disposition of an alleged violation.

(b) If the offender was sentenced under the drug offender sentencing alternative set out in RCW 9.94A.660, the offender may be sanctioned in accordance with that section.

(c) If the offender was sentenced under the parenting sentencing alternative set out in RCW 9.94A.655, the offender may be sanctioned in accordance with that section.

(d) If the offender was sentenced under the special sex offender sentencing alternative set out in RCW 9.94A.670, the suspended sentence may be revoked and the offender committed to serve the original sentence of confinement.

(e) If the offender was sentenced to a work ethic camp pursuant to RCW 9.94A.690, the offender may be reclassified to serve the unexpired term of his or her sentence in total confinement.

(f) If a sex offender was sentenced pursuant to RCW 9.94A.507, the offender may be transferred to a more restrictive confinement status to serve up to the remaining portion of the sentence, less credit for any period actually spent in community custody or in detention awaiting disposition of an alleged violation.

(3) If a probationer is being supervised by the department pursuant to RCW 9.92.060, 9.95.204, or 9.95.210, the probationer may be sanctioned pursuant to subsection (1) of this section. The department shall have authority to issue a warrant for the arrest of an offender who violates a condition of community custody, as provided in RCW 9.94A.716. Any sanctions shall be imposed by the department pursuant to RCW 9.94A.737. Nothing in this subsection is intended to limit the power of the sentencing court to respond to a probationer's violation of conditions.

(4) The parole or probation of an offender who is charged with a new felony offense may be suspended and the offender placed in total confinement pending disposition of the new criminal charges if:

(a) The offender is on parole pursuant to RCW 9.95.110(1); or

(b) The offender is being supervised pursuant to RCW 9.94A.745 and is on parole or probation pursuant to the laws of another state. [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 2. Prior: 2010 c 258 § 1; 2010 c 224 § 12; 2009 c 375 § 12; 2009 c 28 § 7; 2008 c 231 § 15.]

**Effective date—2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 2, 2012]." [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 14.]

**Implementation—Application—2012 1st sp.s. c 6:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Application—2010 c 258 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act applies to all offenders who committed their crimes before, on, or after June 10, 2010." [2010 c 258 § 2.]

**Application—2009 c 375:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.6331 Sanctions—Where served.** (1) If a sanction of confinement is imposed by the court, the following applies:

(a) If the sanction was imposed pursuant to RCW 9.94A.633(1), the sanction shall be served in a county facility.

(b) If the sanction was imposed pursuant to RCW 9.94A.633(2), the sanction shall be served in a state facility.

(2) If a sanction of confinement is imposed by the department, and if the offender is an inmate as defined by RCW 72.09.015, no more than eight days of the sanction, including any credit for time served, may be served in a county facility. The balance of the sanction shall be served in a state facility. In computing the eight-day period, weekends and holidays shall be excluded. The department may negotiate with local correctional authorities for an additional period of detention.

(3) If a sanction of confinement is imposed by the board, it shall be served in a state facility.

(4) Sanctions imposed pursuant to RCW 9.94A.670(3) shall be served in a county facility.

(5) As used in this section, "county facility" means a facility operated, licensed, or utilized under contract by the county, and "state facility" means a facility operated, licensed, or utilized under contract by the state. [2008 c 231 § 17.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.6332 Sanctions—Which entity imposes.** The procedure for imposing sanctions for violations of sentence conditions or requirements is as follows:

(1) If the offender was sentenced under the drug offender sentencing alternative, any sanctions shall be imposed by the department or the court pursuant to RCW 9.94A.660.

(2) If the offender was sentenced under the special sex offender sentencing alternative, any sanctions shall be imposed by the department or the court pursuant to RCW 9.94A.670.

(3) If the offender was sentenced under the parenting sentencing alternative, any sanctions shall be imposed by the department or by the court pursuant to RCW 9.94A.655.

(4) If a sex offender was sentenced pursuant to RCW 9.94A.507, any sanctions shall be imposed by the board pursuant to RCW 9.95.435.

(5) In any other case, if the offender is being supervised by the department, any sanctions shall be imposed by the department pursuant to RCW 9.94A.737. If a probationer is being supervised by the department pursuant to RCW 9.92.060, 9.95.204, or 9.95.210, upon receipt of a violation hearing report from the department, the court retains any authority that those statutes provide to respond to a probationer's violation of conditions.

(6) If the offender is not being supervised by the department, any sanctions shall be imposed by the court pursuant to RCW 9.94A.6333. [2010 c 224 § 11; 2009 c 375 § 14; 2009 c 28 § 8; 2008 c 231 § 18.]

**Application—2009 c 375:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.6333 Sanctions—Modification of sentence—Noncompliance hearing.** (1) If an offender violates any condition or requirement of a sentence, and the offender is not being supervised by the department, the court may modify its order of judgment and sentence and impose further punishment in accordance with this section.

(2) If an offender fails to comply with any of the conditions or requirements of a sentence the following provisions apply:

(a) The court, upon the motion of the state, or upon its own motion, shall require the offender to show cause why the offender should not be punished for the noncompliance. The court may issue a summons or a warrant of arrest for the offender's appearance;

(b) The state has the burden of showing noncompliance by a preponderance of the evidence;

(c) If the court finds that a violation has been proved, it may impose the sanctions specified in RCW 9.94A.633(1). Alternatively, the court may:

(i) Convert a term of partial confinement to total confinement;

(ii) Convert community restitution obligation to total or partial confinement; or

(iii) Convert monetary obligations, except restitution and the crime victim penalty assessment, to community restitution hours at the rate of the state minimum wage as established in RCW 49.46.020 for each hour of community restitution;

(d) If the court finds that the violation was not willful, the court may modify its previous order regarding payment of legal financial obligations and regarding community restitution obligations; and

(e) If the violation involves a failure to undergo or comply with a mental health status evaluation and/or outpatient mental health treatment, the court shall seek a recommendation from the treatment provider or proposed treatment provider. Enforcement of orders concerning outpatient mental health treatment must reflect the availability of treatment and must pursue the least restrictive means of promoting participation in treatment. If the offender's failure to receive care essential for health and safety presents a risk of serious physical harm or probable harmful consequences, the civil detention and commitment procedures of chapter 71.05 RCW shall

be considered in preference to incarceration in a local or state correctional facility.

(3) Any time served in confinement awaiting a hearing on noncompliance shall be credited against any confinement ordered by the court.

(4) Nothing in this section prohibits the filing of escape charges if appropriate. [2008 c 231 § 19.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.637 Discharge upon completion of sentence—Certificate of discharge—Issuance, effect of no-contact order—Obligations, counseling after discharge.** (1)(a) When an offender has completed all requirements of the sentence, including any and all legal financial obligations, and while under the custody and supervision of the department, the secretary or the secretary's designee shall notify the sentencing court, which shall discharge the offender and provide the offender with a certificate of discharge by issuing the certificate to the offender in person or by mailing the certificate to the offender's last known address.

(b)(i) When an offender has reached the end of his or her supervision with the department and has completed all the requirements of the sentence except his or her legal financial obligations, the secretary's designee shall provide the county clerk with a notice that the offender has completed all nonfinancial requirements of the sentence.

(ii) When the department has provided the county clerk with notice that an offender has completed all the requirements of the sentence and the offender subsequently satisfies all legal financial obligations under the sentence, the county clerk shall notify the sentencing court, including the notice from the department, which shall discharge the offender and provide the offender with a certificate of discharge by issuing the certificate to the offender in person or by mailing the certificate to the offender's last known address.

(c) When an offender who is subject to requirements of the sentence in addition to the payment of legal financial obligations either is not subject to supervision by the department or does not complete the requirements while under supervision of the department, it is the offender's responsibility to provide the court with verification of the completion of the sentence conditions other than the payment of legal financial obligations. When the offender satisfies all legal financial obligations under the sentence, the county clerk shall notify the sentencing court that the legal financial obligations have been satisfied. When the court has received both notification from the clerk and adequate verification from the offender that the sentence requirements have been completed, the court shall discharge the offender and provide the offender with a certificate of discharge by issuing the certificate to the offender in person or by mailing the certificate to the offender's last known address.

(2)(a) For purposes of this subsection (2), a no-contact order is not a requirement of the offender's sentence. An offender who has completed all requirements of the sentence, including any and all legal financial obligations, is eligible for a certificate of discharge even if the offender has an existing no-contact order that excludes or prohibits the offender

from having contact with a specified person or business or coming within a set distance of any specified location.

(b) In the case of an eligible offender who has a no-contact order as part of the judgment and sentence, the offender may petition the court to issue a certificate of discharge and a separate no-contact order by filing a petition in the sentencing court and paying the appropriate filing fee associated with the petition for the separate no-contact order. This filing fee does not apply to an offender seeking a certificate of discharge when the offender has a no-contact order separate from the judgment and sentence.

(i)(A) The court shall issue a certificate of discharge and a separate no-contact order under this subsection (2) if the court determines that the offender has completed all requirements of the sentence, including all legal financial obligations. The court shall reissue the no-contact order separately under a new civil cause number for the remaining term and under the same conditions as contained in the judgment and sentence.

(B) The clerk of the court shall send a copy of the new no-contact order to the individuals protected by the no-contact order, along with an explanation of the reason for the change, if there is an address available in the court file. If no address is available, the clerk of the court shall forward a copy of the order to the prosecutor, who shall send a copy of the no-contact order with an explanation of the reason for the change to the last known address of the protected individuals.

(ii) Whenever an order under this subsection (2) is issued, the clerk of the court shall forward a copy of the order to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order on or before the next judicial day. The clerk shall also include a cover sheet that indicates the case number of the judgment and sentence that has been discharged. Upon receipt of the copy of the order and cover sheet, the law enforcement agency shall enter the order into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. The order shall remain in this system until it expires. The new order, and case number of the discharged judgment and sentence, shall be linked in the criminal intelligence information system for purposes of enforcing the no-contact order.

(iii) A separately issued no-contact order may be enforced under chapter 26.50 RCW.

(iv) A separate no-contact order issued under this subsection (2) is not a modification of the offender's sentence.

(3) Every signed certificate and order of discharge shall be filed with the county clerk of the sentencing county. In addition, the court shall send to the department a copy of every signed certificate and order of discharge for offender sentences under the authority of the department. The county clerk shall enter into a database maintained by the administrator for the courts the names of all felons who have been issued certificates of discharge, the date of discharge, and the date of conviction and offense.

(4) An offender who is not convicted of a violent offense or a sex offense and is sentenced to a term involving community supervision may be considered for a discharge of sentence by the sentencing court prior to the completion of community supervision, provided that the offender has completed

at least one-half of the term of community supervision and has met all other sentence requirements.

(5) The discharge shall have the effect of restoring all civil rights not already restored by RCW 29A.08.520, and the certificate of discharge shall so state. Nothing in this section prohibits the use of an offender's prior record for purposes of determining sentences for later offenses as provided in this chapter. Nothing in this section affects or prevents use of the offender's prior conviction in a later criminal prosecution either as an element of an offense or for impeachment purposes. A certificate of discharge is not based on a finding of rehabilitation.

(6) Unless otherwise ordered by the sentencing court, a certificate of discharge shall not terminate the offender's obligation to comply with an order that excludes or prohibits the offender from having contact with a specified person or coming within a set distance of any specified location that was contained in the judgment and sentence. An offender who violates such an order after a certificate of discharge has been issued shall be subject to prosecution according to the chapter under which the order was originally issued.

(7) Upon release from custody, the offender may apply to the department for counseling and help in adjusting to the community. This voluntary help may be provided for up to one year following the release from custody. [2009 c 325 § 3; 2009 c 288 § 2; 2007 c 171 § 1; 2004 c 121 § 2; 2003 c 379 § 19; 2002 c 16 § 2; 2000 c 119 § 3; 1994 c 271 § 901; 1984 c 209 § 14; 1981 c 137 § 22. Formerly RCW 9.94A.220.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2009 c 288 § 2 and by 2009 c 325 § 3, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Findings—2009 c 288:** "The legislature finds that restoration of the right to vote and serve on a jury, for individuals who have satisfied every other obligation of their sentence, best serves to reintegrate them into society, even if a no-contact order exists. Therefore, the legislature further finds clarification of the existing statute is desirable to provide clarity to the courts that a certificate of discharge shall be issued, while the no-contact order remains in effect, once other obligations are completed." [2009 c 288 § 1.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2003 c 379:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.728.

**Intent—Purpose—2003 c 379 §§ 13-27:** See note following RCW 9.94A.760.

**Intent—2002 c 16:** "The legislature recognizes that an individual's right to vote is a hallmark of a free and inclusive society and that it is in the best interests of society to provide reasonable opportunities and processes for an offender to regain the right to vote after completion of all of the requirements of his or her sentence. The legislature intends to clarify the method by which the court may fulfill its already existing direction to provide discharged offenders with their certificates of discharge." [2002 c 16 § 1.]

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.640 Vacation of offender's record of conviction.** (1) Every offender who has been discharged under RCW 9.94A.637 may apply to the sentencing court for a vacation of the offender's record of conviction. If the court finds the offender meets the tests prescribed in subsection (2) of this section, the court may clear the record of conviction by: (a) Permitting the offender to withdraw the offender's plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty; or (b) if the offender has been convicted after a plea of not guilty, by the

court setting aside the verdict of guilty; and (c) by the court dismissing the information or indictment against the offender.

(2) An offender may not have the record of conviction cleared if: (a) There are any criminal charges against the offender pending in any court of this state or another state, or in any federal court; (b) the offense was a violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030; (c) the offense was a crime against persons as defined in RCW 43.43.830; (d) the offender has been convicted of a new crime in this state, another state, or federal court since the date of the offender's discharge under RCW 9.94A.637; (e) the offense is a class B felony and less than ten years have passed since the date the applicant was discharged under RCW 9.94A.637; (f) the offense was a class C felony, other than a class C felony described in RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), and less than five years have passed since the date the applicant was discharged under RCW 9.94A.637; or (g) the offense was a class C felony described in RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6).

(3) Once the court vacates a record of conviction under subsection (1) of this section, the fact that the offender has been convicted of the offense shall not be included in the offender's criminal history for purposes of determining a sentence in any subsequent conviction, and the offender shall be released from all penalties and disabilities resulting from the offense. For all purposes, including responding to questions on employment applications, an offender whose conviction has been vacated may state that the offender has never been convicted of that crime. Nothing in this section affects or prevents the use of an offender's prior conviction in a later criminal prosecution. [2012 c 183 § 3; 2006 c 73 § 8; 1987 c 486 § 7; 1981 c 137 § 23. Formerly RCW 9.94A.230.]

**Effective date—2012 c 183:** See note following RCW 2.28.175.

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## SENTENCING ALTERNATIVES

**9.94A.650 First-time offender waiver.** (1) This section applies to offenders who have never been previously convicted of a felony in this state, federal court, or another state, and who have never participated in a program of deferred prosecution for a felony, and who are convicted of a felony that is not:

(a) Classified as a violent offense or a sex offense under this chapter;

(b) Manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver a controlled substance classified in Schedule I or II that is a narcotic drug or flunitrazepam classified in Schedule IV;

(c) Manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to deliver a methamphetamine, its salts, isomers, and salts of its isomers as defined in RCW 69.50.206(d)(2);

(d) The selling for profit of any controlled substance or counterfeit substance classified in Schedule I, RCW 69.50.204, except leaves and flowering tops of marijuana; or

(e) Felony driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug or felony physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug.

(2) In sentencing a first-time offender the court may waive the imposition of a sentence within the standard sentence range and impose a sentence which may include up to ninety days of confinement in a facility operated or utilized under contract by the county and a requirement that the offender refrain from committing new offenses.

(3) The court may impose up to six months of community custody unless treatment is ordered, in which case the period of community custody may include up to the period of treatment, but shall not exceed one year.

(4) As a condition of community custody, in addition to any conditions authorized in RCW 9.94A.703, the court may order the offender to pay all court-ordered legal financial obligations and/or perform community restitution work. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 9; 2008 c 231 § 29; 2006 c 73 § 9; 2002 c 175 § 9; 2000 c 28 § 18.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 40 §§ 1-9, 42:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.655 Parenting sentencing alternative.** (1) An offender is eligible for the parenting sentencing alternative if:

(a) The high end of the standard sentence range for the current offense is greater than one year;

(b) The offender has no prior or current conviction for a felony that is a sex offense or a violent offense;

(c) The offender has not been found by the United States attorney general to be subject to a deportation detainer or order and does not become subject to a deportation order during the period of the sentence;

(d) The offender signs any release of information waivers required to allow information regarding current or prior child welfare cases to be shared with the department and the court; and

(e) The offender has physical custody of his or her minor child or is a legal guardian or custodian with physical custody of a child under the age of eighteen at the time of the current offense.

(2) To assist the court in making its determination, the court may order the department to complete either a risk assessment report or a chemical dependency screening report as provided in RCW 9.94A.500, or both reports prior to sentencing.

(3) If the court is considering this alternative, the court shall request that the department contact the children's administration of the Washington state department of social and health services to determine if the agency has an open child welfare case or prior substantiated referral of abuse or neglect involving the offender or if the agency is aware of any substantiated case of abuse or neglect with a tribal child welfare agency involving the offender.

(a) If the offender has an open child welfare case, the department will provide the release of information waiver and request that the children's administration or the tribal

child welfare agency provide a report to the court. The children's administration shall provide a report within seven business days of the request that includes, at the minimum, the following:

(i) Legal status of the child welfare case;

(ii) Length of time the children's administration has been involved with the offender;

(iii) Legal status of the case and permanent plan;

(iv) Any special needs of the child;

(v) Whether or not the offender has been cooperative with services ordered by a juvenile court under a child welfare case; and

(vi) If the offender has been convicted of a crime against a child.

(b) If a report is required from a tribal child welfare agency, the department shall attempt to obtain information that is similar to what is required for the report provided by the children's administration in a timely manner.

(c) If the offender does not have an open child welfare case with the children's administration or with a tribal child welfare agency but has prior involvement, the department will obtain information from the children's administration on the number and type of past substantiated referrals of abuse or neglect and report that information to the court. If the children's administration has never had any substantiated referrals or an open case with the offender, the department will inform the court.

(4) If the sentencing court determines that the offender is eligible for a sentencing alternative under this section and that the sentencing alternative is appropriate and should be imposed, the court shall waive imposition of a sentence within the standard sentence range and impose a sentence consisting of twelve months of community custody. The court shall consider the offender's criminal history when determining if the alternative is appropriate.

(5) When a court imposes a sentence of community custody under this section:

(a) The court may impose conditions as provided in RCW 9.94A.703 and may impose other affirmative conditions as the court considers appropriate.

(b) The department may impose conditions as authorized in RCW 9.94A.704 that may include, but are not limited to:

(i) Parenting classes;

(ii) Chemical dependency treatment;

(iii) Mental health treatment;

(iv) Vocational training;

(v) Offender change programs;

(vi) Life skills classes.

(c) The department shall report to the court if the offender commits any violations of his or her sentence conditions.

(6) The department shall provide the court with quarterly progress reports regarding the offender's progress in required programming, treatment, and other supervision conditions. When an offender has an open child welfare case, the department will seek to coordinate services with the children's administration.

(7)(a) The court may bring any offender sentenced under this section back into court at any time during the period of community custody on its own initiative to evaluate the

offender's progress in treatment, or to determine if any violations of the conditions of the sentence have occurred.

(b) If the offender is brought back to court, the court may modify the conditions of community custody or impose sanctions under (c) of this subsection.

(c) The court may order the offender to serve a term of total confinement within the standard range of the offender's current offense at any time during the period of community custody, if the offender violates the conditions or requirements of the sentence or if the offender is failing to make satisfactory progress in treatment.

(d) An offender ordered to serve a term of total confinement under (c) of this subsection shall receive credit for any time previously served in confinement under this section. [2010 c 224 § 2.]

**9.94A.6551 Partial confinement as a part of a parenting program.** For offenders not sentenced under RCW 9.94A.655, but otherwise eligible under this section, no more than the final twelve months of the offender's term of confinement may be served in partial confinement as home detention as part of the parenting program developed by the department.

(1) The secretary may transfer an offender from a correctional facility to home detention in the community if it is determined that the parenting program is an appropriate placement and when all of the following conditions exist:

(a) The offender is serving a sentence in which the high end of the range is greater than one year;

(b) The offender has no current conviction for a felony that is a sex offense or a violent offense;

(c) The offender has not been found by the United States attorney general to be subject to a deportation detainer or order and does not become subject to a deportation order during the period of the sentence;

(d) The offender signs any release of information waivers required to allow information regarding current or prior child welfare cases to be shared with the department and the court;

(e) The offender:

(i) Has physical or legal custody of a minor child;

(ii) Has a proven, established, ongoing, and substantial relationship with his or her minor child that existed prior to the commission of the current offense; or

(iii) Is a legal guardian of a child that was under the age of eighteen at the time of the current offense; and

(f) The department determines that such a placement is in the best interests of the child.

(2) When the department is considering partial confinement as part of the parenting program for an offender, the department shall inquire of the individual and the children's administration with the Washington state department of social and health services whether the agency has an open child welfare case or prior substantiated referral for abuse or neglect involving the offender. If the children's administration or a tribal jurisdiction has an open child welfare case, the department will seek input from the children's administration or the involved tribal jurisdiction as to: (a) The status of the child welfare case; and (b) recommendations regarding placement of the offender and services required of the department and the court governing the individual's child welfare

case. The department and its officers, agents, and employees are not liable for the acts of offenders participating in the parenting program unless the department or its officers, agents, and employees acted with willful and wanton disregard.

(3) All offenders placed on home detention as part of the parenting program shall provide an approved residence and living arrangement prior to transfer to home detention.

(4) While in the community on home detention as part of the parenting program, the department shall:

(a) Require the offender to be placed on electronic home monitoring;

(b) Require the offender to participate in programming and treatment that the department determines is needed;

(c) Assign a community corrections officer who will monitor the offender's compliance with conditions of partial confinement and programming requirements; and

(d) If the offender has an open child welfare case with the children's administration, collaborate and communicate with the identified social worker in the provision of services.

(5) The department has the authority to return any offender serving partial confinement in the parenting program to total confinement if the offender is not complying with sentence requirements. [2010 c 224 § 8.]

**9.94A.660 Drug offender sentencing alternative—Prison-based or residential alternative.** (1) An offender is eligible for the special drug offender sentencing alternative if:

(a) The offender is convicted of a felony that is not a violent offense or sex offense and the violation does not involve a sentence enhancement under RCW 9.94A.533 (3) or (4);

(b) The offender is convicted of a felony that is not a felony driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug under RCW 46.61.502(6) or felony physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug under RCW 46.61.504(6);

(c) The offender has no current or prior convictions for a sex offense at any time or violent offense within ten years before conviction of the current offense, in this state, another state, or the United States;

(d) For a violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act under chapter 69.50 RCW or a criminal solicitation to commit such a violation under chapter 9A.28 RCW, the offense involved only a small quantity of the particular controlled substance as determined by the judge upon consideration of such factors as the weight, purity, packaging, sale price, and street value of the controlled substance;

(e) The offender has not been found by the United States attorney general to be subject to a deportation detainer or order and does not become subject to a deportation order during the period of the sentence;

(f) The end of the standard sentence range for the current offense is greater than one year; and

(g) The offender has not received a drug offender sentencing alternative more than once in the prior ten years before the current offense.

(2) A motion for a special drug offender sentencing alternative may be made by the court, the offender, or the state.

(3) If the sentencing court determines that the offender is eligible for an alternative sentence under this section and that the alternative sentence is appropriate, the court shall waive

imposition of a sentence within the standard sentence range and impose a sentence consisting of either a prison-based alternative under RCW 9.94A.662 or a residential chemical dependency treatment-based alternative under RCW 9.94A.664. The residential chemical dependency treatment-based alternative is only available if the midpoint of the standard range is twenty-four months or less.

(4) To assist the court in making its determination, the court may order the department to complete either or both a risk assessment report and a chemical dependency screening report as provided in RCW 9.94A.500.

(5)(a) If the court is considering imposing a sentence under the residential chemical dependency treatment-based alternative, the court may order an examination of the offender by the department. The examination shall, at a minimum, address the following issues:

- (i) Whether the offender suffers from drug addiction;
- (ii) Whether the addiction is such that there is a probability that criminal behavior will occur in the future;
- (iii) Whether effective treatment for the offender's addiction is available from a provider that has been licensed or certified by the division of alcohol and substance abuse of the department of social and health services; and
- (iv) Whether the offender and the community will benefit from the use of the alternative.

(b) The examination report must contain:

- (i) A proposed monitoring plan, including any requirements regarding living conditions, lifestyle requirements, and monitoring by family members and others; and
- (ii) Recommended crime-related prohibitions and affirmative conditions.

(6) When a court imposes a sentence of community custody under this section:

(a) The court may impose conditions as provided in RCW 9.94A.703 and may impose other affirmative conditions as the court considers appropriate. In addition, an offender may be required to pay thirty dollars per month while on community custody to offset the cost of monitoring for alcohol or controlled substances.

(b) The department may impose conditions and sanctions as authorized in RCW 9.94A.704 and 9.94A.737.

(7)(a) The court may bring any offender sentenced under this section back into court at any time on its own initiative to evaluate the offender's progress in treatment or to determine if any violations of the conditions of the sentence have occurred.

(b) If the offender is brought back to court, the court may modify the conditions of the community custody or impose sanctions under (c) of this subsection.

(c) The court may order the offender to serve a term of total confinement within the standard range of the offender's current offense at any time during the period of community custody if the offender violates the conditions or requirements of the sentence or if the offender is failing to make satisfactory progress in treatment.

(d) An offender ordered to serve a term of total confinement under (c) of this subsection shall receive credit for any time previously served under this section.

(8) In serving a term of community custody imposed upon failure to complete, or administrative termination from, the special drug offender sentencing alternative program, the

offender shall receive no credit for time served in community custody prior to termination of the offender's participation in the program.

(9) An offender sentenced under this section shall be subject to all rules relating to earned release time with respect to any period served in total confinement.

(10) Costs of examinations and preparing treatment plans under a special drug offender sentencing alternative may be paid, at the option of the county, from funds provided to the county from the criminal justice treatment account under RCW 70.96A.350. [2009 c 389 § 3; (2009 c 389 § 2 expired August 1, 2009); 2008 c 231 § 30; 2006 c 339 § 302; 2006 c 73 § 10; 2005 c 460 § 1. Prior: 2002 c 290 § 20; 2002 c 175 § 10; 2001 c 10 § 4; 2000 c 28 § 19.]

**Effective date—2009 c 389 §§ 1 and 3-5:** See note following RCW 9.94A.505.

**Effective date—2009 c 389 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 7, 2009]." [2009 c 389 § 7.]

**Expiration date—2009 c 389 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act expires August 1, 2009." [2009 c 389 § 9.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Intent—Part headings not law—2006 c 339:** See notes following RCW 70.96A.325.

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Application—2005 c 460:** "This act applies to sentences imposed on or after October 1, 2005." [2005 c 460 § 2.]

**Effective date—2005 c 460:** "This act takes effect October 1, 2005." [2005 c 460 § 3.]

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Intent—Effective date—2001 c 10:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.505.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.662 Prison-based drug offender sentencing alternative.** (1) A sentence for a prison-based special drug offender sentencing alternative shall include:

(a) A period of total confinement in a state facility for one-half the midpoint of the standard sentence range or twelve months, whichever is greater;

(b) One-half the midpoint of the standard sentence range as a term of community custody, which must include appropriate substance abuse treatment in a program that has been approved by the division of alcohol and substance abuse of the department of social and health services;

(c) Crime-related prohibitions, including a condition not to use illegal controlled substances;

(d) A requirement to submit to urinalysis or other testing to monitor that status; and

(e) A term of community custody pursuant to RCW 9.94A.701 to be imposed upon the failure to complete or administrative termination from the special drug offender sentencing alternative program.

(2) During incarceration in the state facility, offenders sentenced under this section shall undergo a comprehensive substance abuse assessment and receive, within available



resources, treatment services appropriate for the offender. The treatment services shall be designed by the division of alcohol and substance abuse of the department of social and health services, in cooperation with the department of corrections.

(3) If the department finds that conditions of community custody have been willfully violated, the offender may be reclassified to serve the remaining balance of the original sentence. An offender who fails to complete the program or who is administratively terminated from the program shall be reclassified to serve the unexpired term of his or her sentence as ordered by the sentencing court.

(4) If an offender sentenced to the prison-based alternative under this section is found by the United States attorney general to be subject to a deportation order, a hearing shall be held by the department unless waived by the offender, and, if the department finds that the offender is subject to a valid deportation order, the department may administratively terminate the offender from the program and reclassify the offender to serve the remaining balance of the original sentence. [2009 c 389 § 4.]

**Effective date—2009 c 389 §§ 1 and 3-5:** See note following RCW 9.94A.505.

**9.94A.664 Residential chemical dependency treatment-based alternative.** (1) A sentence for a residential chemical dependency treatment-based alternative shall include a term of community custody equal to one-half the midpoint of the standard sentence range or two years, whichever is greater, conditioned on the offender entering and remaining in residential chemical dependency treatment certified under chapter 70.96A RCW for a period set by the court between three and six months.

(2)(a) The court shall impose, as conditions of community custody, treatment and other conditions as proposed in the examination report completed pursuant to RCW 9.94A.660.

(b) If the court imposes a term of community custody, the department shall, within available resources, make chemical dependency assessment and treatment services available to the offender during the term of community custody.

(3)(a) If the court imposes a sentence under this section, the treatment provider must send the treatment plan to the court within thirty days of the offender's arrival to the residential chemical dependency treatment program.

(b) Upon receipt of the plan, the court shall schedule a progress hearing during the period of residential chemical dependency treatment, and schedule a treatment termination hearing for three months before the expiration of the term of community custody.

(c) Before the progress hearing and treatment termination hearing, the treatment provider and the department shall submit written reports to the court and parties regarding the offender's compliance with treatment and monitoring requirements, and recommendations regarding termination from treatment.

(4) At a progress hearing or treatment termination hearing, the court may:

(a) Authorize the department to terminate the offender's community custody status on the expiration date determined under subsection (1) of this section;

(b) Continue the hearing to a date before the expiration date of community custody, with or without modifying the conditions of community custody; or

(c) Impose a term of total confinement equal to one-half the midpoint of the standard sentence range, followed by a term of community custody under RCW 9.94A.701.

(5) If the court imposes a term of total confinement, the department shall, within available resources, make chemical dependency assessment and treatment services available to the offender during the term of total confinement and subsequent term of community custody. [2009 c 389 § 5.]

**Effective date—2009 c 389 §§ 1 and 3-5:** See note following RCW 9.94A.505.

**9.94A.670 Special sex offender sentencing alternative.** (1) Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this subsection apply to this section only.

(a) "Sex offender treatment provider" or "treatment provider" means a certified sex offender treatment provider or a certified affiliate sex offender treatment provider as defined in RCW 18.155.020.

(b) "Substantial bodily harm" means bodily injury that involves a temporary but substantial disfigurement, or that causes a temporary but substantial loss or impairment of the function of any body part or organ, or that causes a fracture of any body part or organ.

(c) "Victim" means any person who has sustained emotional, psychological, physical, or financial injury to person or property as a result of the crime charged. "Victim" also means a parent or guardian of a victim who is a minor child unless the parent or guardian is the perpetrator of the offense.

(2) An offender is eligible for the special sex offender sentencing alternative if:

(a) The offender has been convicted of a sex offense other than a violation of RCW 9A.44.050 or a sex offense that is also a serious violent offense. If the conviction results from a guilty plea, the offender must, as part of his or her plea of guilty, voluntarily and affirmatively admit he or she committed all of the elements of the crime to which the offender is pleading guilty. This alternative is not available to offenders who plead guilty to the offense charged under *North Carolina v. Alford*, 400 U.S. 25, 91 S.Ct. 160, 27 L.Ed.2d 162 (1970) and *State v. Newton*, 87 Wash.2d 363, 552 P.2d 682 (1976);

(b) The offender has no prior convictions for a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 or any other felony sex offenses in this or any other state;

(c) The offender has no prior adult convictions for a violent offense that was committed within five years of the date the current offense was committed;

(d) The offense did not result in substantial bodily harm to the victim;

(e) The offender had an established relationship with, or connection to, the victim such that the sole connection with the victim was not the commission of the crime; and

(f) The offender's standard sentence range for the offense includes the possibility of confinement for less than eleven years.

(3) If the court finds the offender is eligible for this alternative, the court, on its own motion or the motion of the state

or the offender, may order an examination to determine whether the offender is amenable to treatment.

(a) The report of the examination shall include at a minimum the following:

(i) The offender's version of the facts and the official version of the facts;

(ii) The offender's offense history;

(iii) An assessment of problems in addition to alleged deviant behaviors;

(iv) The offender's social and employment situation; and

(v) Other evaluation measures used.

The report shall set forth the sources of the examiner's information.

(b) The examiner shall assess and report regarding the offender's amenability to treatment and relative risk to the community. A proposed treatment plan shall be provided and shall include, at a minimum:

(i) Frequency and type of contact between offender and therapist;

(ii) Specific issues to be addressed in the treatment and description of planned treatment modalities;

(iii) Monitoring plans, including any requirements regarding living conditions, lifestyle requirements, and monitoring by family members and others;

(iv) Anticipated length of treatment; and

(v) Recommended crime-related prohibitions and affirmative conditions, which must include, to the extent known, an identification of specific activities or behaviors that are precursors to the offender's offense cycle, including, but not limited to, activities or behaviors such as viewing or listening to pornography or use of alcohol or controlled substances.

(c) The court on its own motion may order, or on a motion by the state shall order, a second examination regarding the offender's amenability to treatment. The examiner shall be selected by the party making the motion. The offender shall pay the cost of any second examination ordered unless the court finds the defendant to be indigent in which case the state shall pay the cost.

(4) After receipt of the reports, the court shall consider whether the offender and the community will benefit from use of this alternative, consider whether the alternative is too lenient in light of the extent and circumstances of the offense, consider whether the offender has victims in addition to the victim of the offense, consider whether the offender is amenable to treatment, consider the risk the offender would present to the community, to the victim, or to persons of similar age and circumstances as the victim, and consider the victim's opinion whether the offender should receive a treatment disposition under this section. The court shall give great weight to the victim's opinion whether the offender should receive a treatment disposition under this section. If the sentence imposed is contrary to the victim's opinion, the court shall enter written findings stating its reasons for imposing the treatment disposition. The fact that the offender admits to his or her offense does not, by itself, constitute amenability to treatment. If the court determines that this alternative is appropriate, the court shall then impose a sentence or, pursuant to RCW 9.94A.507, a minimum term of sentence, within the standard sentence range. If the sentence imposed is less than eleven years of confinement, the court may suspend the execution of the sentence as provided in this section.

(5) As conditions of the suspended sentence, the court must impose the following:

(a) A term of confinement of up to twelve months or the maximum term within the standard range, whichever is less. The court may order the offender to serve a term of confinement greater than twelve months or the maximum term within the standard range based on the presence of an aggravating circumstance listed in RCW 9.94A.535(3). In no case shall the term of confinement exceed the statutory maximum sentence for the offense. The court may order the offender to serve all or part of his or her term of confinement in partial confinement. An offender sentenced to a term of confinement under this subsection is not eligible for earned release under RCW 9.92.151 or 9.94A.728.

(b) A term of community custody equal to the length of the suspended sentence, the length of the maximum term imposed pursuant to RCW 9.94A.507, or three years, whichever is greater, and require the offender to comply with any conditions imposed by the department under RCW 9.94A.703.

(c) Treatment for any period up to five years in duration. The court, in its discretion, shall order outpatient sex offender treatment or inpatient sex offender treatment, if available. A community mental health center may not be used for such treatment unless it has an appropriate program designed for sex offender treatment. The offender shall not change sex offender treatment providers or treatment conditions without first notifying the prosecutor, the community corrections officer, and the court. If any party or the court objects to a proposed change, the offender shall not change providers or conditions without court approval after a hearing.

(d) Specific prohibitions and affirmative conditions relating to the known precursor activities or behaviors identified in the proposed treatment plan under subsection (3)(b)(v) of this section or identified in an annual review under subsection (8)(b) of this section.

(6) As conditions of the suspended sentence, the court may impose one or more of the following:

(a) Crime-related prohibitions;

(b) Require the offender to devote time to a specific employment or occupation;

(c) Require the offender to remain within prescribed geographical boundaries and notify the court or the community corrections officer prior to any change in the offender's address or employment;

(d) Require the offender to report as directed to the court and a community corrections officer;

(e) Require the offender to pay all court-ordered legal financial obligations as provided in RCW 9.94A.030;

(f) Require the offender to perform community restitution work; or

(g) Require the offender to reimburse the victim for the cost of any counseling required as a result of the offender's crime.

(7) At the time of sentencing, the court shall set a treatment termination hearing for three months prior to the anticipated date for completion of treatment.

(8)(a) The sex offender treatment provider shall submit quarterly reports on the offender's progress in treatment to the court and the parties. The report shall reference the treatment plan and include at a minimum the following: Dates of

attendance, offender's compliance with requirements, treatment activities, the offender's relative progress in treatment, and any other material specified by the court at sentencing.

(b) The court shall conduct a hearing on the offender's progress in treatment at least once a year. At least fourteen days prior to the hearing, notice of the hearing shall be given to the victim. The victim shall be given the opportunity to make statements to the court regarding the offender's supervision and treatment. At the hearing, the court may modify conditions of community custody including, but not limited to, crime-related prohibitions and affirmative conditions relating to activities and behaviors identified as part of, or relating to precursor activities and behaviors in, the offender's offense cycle or revoke the suspended sentence.

(9) At least fourteen days prior to the treatment termination hearing, notice of the hearing shall be given to the victim. The victim shall be given the opportunity to make statements to the court regarding the offender's supervision and treatment. Prior to the treatment termination hearing, the treatment provider and community corrections officer shall submit written reports to the court and parties regarding the offender's compliance with treatment and monitoring requirements, and recommendations regarding termination from treatment, including proposed community custody conditions. The court may order an evaluation regarding the advisability of termination from treatment by a sex offender treatment provider who may not be the same person who treated the offender under subsection (5) of this section or any person who employs, is employed by, or shares profits with the person who treated the offender under subsection (5) of this section unless the court has entered written findings that such evaluation is in the best interest of the victim and that a successful evaluation of the offender would otherwise be impractical. The offender shall pay the cost of the evaluation. At the treatment termination hearing the court may: (a) Modify conditions of community custody, and either (b) terminate treatment, or (c) extend treatment in two-year increments for up to the remaining period of community custody.

(10)(a) If a violation of conditions other than a second violation of the prohibitions or affirmative conditions relating to precursor behaviors or activities imposed under subsection (5)(d) or (8)(b) of this section occurs during community custody, the department shall either impose sanctions as provided for in RCW 9.94A.633(1) or refer the violation to the court and recommend revocation of the suspended sentence as provided for in subsections (7) and (9) of this section.

(b) If a second violation of the prohibitions or affirmative conditions relating to precursor behaviors or activities imposed under subsection (5)(d) or (8)(b) of this section occurs during community custody, the department shall refer the violation to the court and recommend revocation of the suspended sentence as provided in subsection (11) of this section.

(11) The court may revoke the suspended sentence at any time during the period of community custody and order execution of the sentence if: (a) The offender violates the conditions of the suspended sentence, or (b) the court finds that the offender is failing to make satisfactory progress in treatment. All confinement time served during the period of community custody shall be credited to the offender if the suspended sentence is revoked.

(12) If the offender violates a requirement of the sentence that is not a condition of the suspended sentence pursuant to subsection (5) or (6) of this section, the department may impose sanctions pursuant to RCW 9.94A.633(1).

(13) The offender's sex offender treatment provider may not be the same person who examined the offender under subsection (3) of this section or any person who employs, is employed by, or shares profits with the person who examined the offender under subsection (3) of this section, unless the court has entered written findings that such treatment is in the best interests of the victim and that successful treatment of the offender would otherwise be impractical. Examinations and treatment ordered pursuant to this subsection shall only be conducted by certified sex offender treatment providers or certified affiliate sex offender treatment providers under chapter 18.155 RCW unless the court finds that:

(a) The offender has already moved to another state or plans to move to another state for reasons other than circumventing the certification requirements; or

(b)(i) No certified sex offender treatment providers or certified affiliate sex offender treatment providers are available for treatment within a reasonable geographical distance of the offender's home; and

(ii) The evaluation and treatment plan comply with this section and the rules adopted by the department of health.

(14) If the offender is less than eighteen years of age when the charge is filed, the state shall pay for the cost of initial evaluation and treatment. [2009 c 28 § 9; 2008 c 231 § 31; 2006 c 133 § 1. Prior: 2004 c 176 § 4; 2004 c 38 § 9; 2002 c 175 § 11; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 316; 2000 c 28 § 20.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Severability—Effective date—2004 c 176:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Effective date—2004 c 38:** See note following RCW 18.155.075.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.680 Alternatives to total confinement.** Alternatives to total confinement are available for offenders with sentences of one year or less. These alternatives include the following sentence conditions that the court may order as substitutes for total confinement:

(1) One day of partial confinement may be substituted for one day of total confinement;

(2) In addition, for offenders convicted of nonviolent offenses only, eight hours of community restitution may be substituted for one day of total confinement, with a maximum conversion limit of two hundred forty hours or thirty days. Community restitution hours must be completed within the period of community supervision or a time period specified by the court, which shall not exceed twenty-four months, pursuant to a schedule determined by the department; and

(3) For offenders convicted of nonviolent and nonsex offenses, the court may credit time served by the offender before the sentencing in an available county supervised community option and may authorize county jails to convert jail

confinement to an available county supervised community option, may authorize the time spent in the community option to be reduced by earned release credit consistent with local correctional facility standards, and may require the offender to perform affirmative conduct pursuant to RCW 9.94A.607.

For sentences of nonviolent offenders for one year or less, the court shall consider and give priority to available alternatives to total confinement and shall state its reasons in writing on the judgment and sentence form if the alternatives are not used. [2009 c 227 § 1; 2002 c 175 § 12; 1999 c 197 § 6. Prior: 1988 c 157 § 4; 1988 c 155 § 3; 1984 c 209 § 21; 1983 c 115 § 9. Formerly RCW 9.94A.380.]

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.685 Alien offenders.** (1) Subject to the limitations of this section, any alien offender committed to the custody of the department under the sentencing reform act of 1981, chapter 9.94A RCW, who has been found by the United States attorney general to be subject to a final order of deportation or exclusion, may be placed on conditional release status and released to the immigration and customs enforcement agency for deportation at any time prior to the expiration of the offender's term of confinement. Conditional release shall continue until the expiration of the statutory maximum sentence provided by law for the crime or crimes of which the offender was convicted. If the offender has multiple current convictions, the statutory maximum sentence allowed by law for each crime shall run concurrently.

(2) No offender may be released under this section unless the secretary or the secretary's designee has reached an agreement with the immigration and customs enforcement agency that the alien offender placed on conditional release status will be detained in total confinement at a facility operated by the immigration and customs enforcement agency pending the offender's return to the country of origin or other location designated in the final deportation or exclusion order.

No offender may be released under this section who is serving a sentence for a violent offense or sex offense, as defined in RCW 9.94A.030.

(3) The unserved portion of the term of confinement of any offender released under this section shall be tolled at the time the offender is released to the immigration and customs enforcement agency for deportation. Upon the release of an offender to the immigration and customs enforcement agency, the department shall issue a warrant for the offender's arrest within the United States. This warrant shall remain in effect indefinitely.

(4) Upon arrest of an offender, the department may seek extradition as necessary and the offender may be returned to the department for completion of the unserved portion of the offender's term of total confinement. If returned, the offender shall also be required to fully comply with all the terms and conditions of the sentence.

(5) Alien offenders released to the immigration and customs enforcement agency for deportation under this section are not thereby relieved of their obligation to pay restitution or other legal financial obligations ordered by the sentencing court.

(6) Any offender released pursuant to this section who returns illegally to the United States may not thereafter be released again pursuant to this section.

(7) The secretary is authorized to take all reasonable actions to implement this section and shall assist federal authorities in prosecuting alien offenders who may illegally reenter the United States and enter the state of Washington.

(8) The provisions of this section apply to persons convicted before, on, or after April 29, 2011. [2011 c 206 § 1; 1993 c 419 § 1. Formerly RCW 9.94A.280.]

**Effective date—2011 c 206:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [April 29, 2011]." [2011 c 206 § 4.]

**9.94A.690 Work ethic camp program—Eligibility—Sentencing.** (1)(a) An offender is eligible to be sentenced to a work ethic camp if the offender:

(i) Is sentenced to a term of total confinement of not less than twelve months and one day or more than thirty-six months;

(ii) Has no current or prior convictions for any sex offenses or for violent offenses; and

(iii) Is not currently subject to a sentence for, or being prosecuted for, a violation of felony driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 46.61.502(6)), a violation of physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 46.61.504(6)), a violation of the uniform controlled substances act, or a criminal solicitation to commit such a violation under chapter 9A.28 or 69.50 RCW.

(b) The length of the work ethic camp shall be at least one hundred twenty days and not more than one hundred eighty days.

(2) If the sentencing court determines that the offender is eligible for the work ethic camp and is likely to qualify under subsection (3) of this section, the judge shall impose a sentence within the standard sentence range and may recommend that the offender serve the sentence at a work ethic camp. In sentencing an offender to the work ethic camp, the court shall specify: (a) That upon completion of the work ethic camp the offender shall be released on community custody for any remaining time of total confinement; (b) the applicable conditions of community custody as authorized by RCW 9.94A.703; and (c) that violation of the conditions may result in a return to total confinement for the balance of the offender's remaining time of confinement.

(3) The department shall place the offender in the work ethic camp program, subject to capacity, unless: (a) The department determines that the offender has physical or mental impairments that would prevent participation and completion of the program; (b) the department determines that the offender's custody level prevents placement in the program; (c) the offender refuses to agree to the terms and conditions of the program; (d) the offender has been found by the United States attorney general to be subject to a deportation detainer or order; or (e) the offender has participated in the work ethic camp program in the past.

(4) An offender who fails to complete the work ethic camp program, who is administratively terminated from the program, or who otherwise violates any conditions of super-

vision, as defined by the department, shall be reclassified to serve the unexpired term of his or her sentence as ordered by the sentencing court and shall be subject to all rules relating to earned release time.

(5) During the last two weeks prior to release from the work ethic camp program the department shall provide the offender with comprehensive transition training. [2008 c 231 § 32; 2006 c 73 § 11; 2000 c 28 § 21; 1999 c 197 § 5; 1995 1st sp.s. c 19 § 20; 1993 c 338 § 4. Formerly RCW 9.94A.137.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Findings—Purpose—Short title—Severability—Effective date—1995 1st sp.s. c 19:** See notes following RCW 72.09.450.

**Findings—Intent—1993 c 338:** See RCW 72.09.400.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## SUPERVISION OF OFFENDERS IN THE COMMUNITY

**9.94A.701 Community custody—Offenders sentenced to the custody of the department.** (1) If an offender is sentenced to the custody of the department for one of the following crimes, the court shall, in addition to the other terms of the sentence, sentence the offender to community custody for three years:

(a) A sex offense not sentenced under RCW 9.94A.507; or

(b) A serious violent offense.

(2) A court shall, in addition to the other terms of the sentence, sentence an offender to community custody for eighteen months when the court sentences the person to the custody of the department for a violent offense that is not considered a serious violent offense.

(3) A court shall, in addition to the other terms of the sentence, sentence an offender to community custody for one year when the court sentences the person to the custody of the department for:

(a) Any crime against persons under RCW 9.94A.411(2);

(b) An offense involving the unlawful possession of a firearm under RCW 9.41.040, where the offender is a criminal street gang member or associate;

(c) A felony offense under chapter 69.50 or 69.52 RCW, committed on or after July 1, 2000; or

(d) A felony violation of RCW 9A.44.132(1) (failure to register) that is the offender's first violation for a felony failure to register.

(4) If an offender is sentenced under the drug offender sentencing alternative, the court shall impose community custody as provided in RCW 9.94A.660.

(5) If an offender is sentenced under the special sex offender sentencing alternative, the court shall impose community custody as provided in RCW 9.94A.670.

(6) If an offender is sentenced to a work ethic camp, the court shall impose community custody as provided in RCW 9.94A.690.

(7) If an offender is sentenced under the parenting sentencing alternative, the court shall impose a term of community custody as provided in RCW 9.94A.655.

(8) If a sex offender is sentenced as a nonpersistent offender pursuant to RCW 9.94A.507, the court shall impose community custody as provided in that section.

(9) The term of community custody specified by this section shall be reduced by the court whenever an offender's standard range term of confinement in combination with the term of community custody exceeds the statutory maximum for the crime as provided in RCW 9A.20.021. [2010 c 267 § 11; 2010 c 224 § 5; 2009 c 375 § 5; 2009 c 28 § 10; 2008 c 231 § 7.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2010 c 224 § 5 and by 2010 c 267 § 11, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Application—2010 c 267:** See note following RCW 9A.44.128.

**Application—2009 c 375:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—2008 c 231:** "The existing sentencing reform act contains numerous provisions for supervision of different types of offenders. This duplication has caused great confusion for judges, lawyers, offenders, and the department of corrections, and often results in inaccurate sentences. The clarifications in this act are intended to support continued discussions by the sentencing guidelines commission with the courts and the criminal justice community to identify and propose policy changes that will further simplify and improve the sentencing reform act relating to the supervision of offenders. The sentencing guidelines commission shall submit policy change proposals to the legislature on or before December 1, 2008.

Sections 7 through 58 of this act are intended to simplify the supervision provisions of the sentencing reform act and increase the uniformity of its application. These sections are not intended to either increase or decrease the authority of sentencing courts or the department relating to supervision, except for those provisions instructing the court to apply the provisions of the current community custody law to offenders sentenced after July 1, 2009, but who committed their crime prior to August 1, 2009, to the extent that such application is constitutionally permissible.

This will effect a change for offenders who committed their crimes prior to the offender accountability act, chapter 196, Laws of 1999. These offenders will be ordered to a term of community custody rather than community placement or community supervision. To the extent constitutionally permissible, the terms of the offender's supervision will be as provided in current law. With the exception of this change, the legislature does not intend to make, and no provision of sections 7 through 58 of this act may be construed as making, a substantive change to the supervision provisions of the sentencing reform act." [2009 c 375 § 10; 2008 c 231 § 6.]

**Application—2008 c 231 §§ 6-58:** "(1) Sections 6 through 58 of this act apply to all sentences imposed or reimposed on or after August 1, 2009, for any crime committed on or after August 1, 2009.

(2) Sections 6 through 58 of this act also apply to all sentences imposed or reimposed on or after August 1, 2009, for crimes committed prior to August 1, 2009, to the extent that such application is constitutionally permissible.

(3) To the extent that application of sections 6 through 58 of this act is not constitutionally permissible with respect to any offender, the sentence for such offender shall be governed by the law as it existed before August 1, 2009, or on such prior date as may be constitutionally required, notwithstanding any amendment or repeal of provisions of such law.

(4) If application of sections 6 through 58 of this act is not constitutionally permissible with respect to any offender, the judgment and sentence shall specify the particular sentencing provisions that will not apply to such offender. Whenever practical, the judgment and sentence shall use the terminology set out in this act.

(5) The sentencing guidelines commission shall prepare a summary of the circumstances under which application of sections 6 through 58 of this act is not constitutionally permissible. The summary should include recommendations of conditions that could be included in judgments and sentences in order to prevent unconstitutional application of the act. This summary shall be incorporated into the *Adult Sentencing Guidelines Manual*.

(6) Sections 6 through 58 of this act shall not affect the enforcement of any sentence that was imposed prior to August 1, 2009, unless the offender is resentenced after that date." [2008 c 231 § 55.]

**Application of repealers—2008 c 231 § 57:** "The repealers in section 57 of this act shall not affect the validity of any sentence that was imposed prior to August 1, 2009, or the authority of the department of corrections to supervise any offender pursuant to such sentence." [2008 c 231 § 58.]

**Effective date—2008 c 231 §§ 6-60:** "Sections 6 through 60 of this act take effect August 1, 2009." [2008 c 231 § 61.]

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.702 Community custody—Offenders sentenced for one year or less.** (1) If an offender is sentenced to a term of confinement for one year or less for one of the following offenses, the court may impose up to one year of community custody:

- (a) A sex offense;
- (b) A violent offense;
- (c) A crime against a person under RCW 9.94A.411;
- (d) A felony violation of chapter 69.50 or 69.52 RCW, or an attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit such a crime; or
- (e) A felony violation of RCW 9A.44.132(1) (failure to register).

(2) If an offender is sentenced to a first-time offender waiver, the court may impose community custody as provided in RCW 9.94A.650. [2010 c 267 § 12; 2008 c 231 § 8.]

**Application—2010 c 267:** See note following RCW 9A.44.128.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.703 Community custody—Conditions.** When a court sentences a person to a term of community custody, the court shall impose conditions of community custody as provided in this section.

(1) **Mandatory conditions.** As part of any term of community custody, the court shall:

- (a) Require the offender to inform the department of court-ordered treatment upon request by the department;
- (b) Require the offender to comply with any conditions imposed by the department under RCW 9.94A.704;
- (c) If the offender was sentenced under RCW 9.94A.507 for an offense listed in RCW 9.94A.507(1)(a), and the victim of the offense was under eighteen years of age at the time of the offense, prohibit the offender from residing in a community protection zone;
- (d) If the offender was sentenced under RCW 9A.36.120, prohibit the offender from serving in any paid or volunteer capacity where he or she has control or supervision of minors under the age of thirteen.

(2) **Waivable conditions.** Unless waived by the court, as part of any term of community custody, the court shall order an offender to:

- (a) Report to and be available for contact with the assigned community corrections officer as directed;
- (b) Work at department-approved education, employment, or community restitution, or any combination thereof;
- (c) Refrain from possessing or consuming controlled substances except pursuant to lawfully issued prescriptions;
- (d) Pay supervision fees as determined by the department; and
- (e) Obtain prior approval of the department for the offender's residence location and living arrangements.

(3) **Discretionary conditions.** As part of any term of community custody, the court may order an offender to:

- (a) Remain within, or outside of, a specified geographical boundary;
- (b) Refrain from direct or indirect contact with the victim of the crime or a specified class of individuals;
- (c) Participate in crime-related treatment or counseling services;
- (d) Participate in rehabilitative programs or otherwise perform affirmative conduct reasonably related to the circumstances of the offense, the offender's risk of reoffending, or the safety of the community;
- (e) Refrain from consuming alcohol; or
- (f) Comply with any crime-related prohibitions.

(4) **Special conditions.**

(a) In sentencing an offender convicted of a crime of domestic violence, as defined in RCW 10.99.020, if the offender has a minor child, or if the victim of the offense for which the offender was convicted has a minor child, the court may order the offender to participate in a domestic violence perpetrator program approved under RCW 26.50.150.

(b)(i) In sentencing an offender convicted of an alcohol or drug-related traffic offense, the court shall require the offender to complete a diagnostic evaluation by an alcohol or drug dependency agency approved by the department of social and health services or a qualified probation department, defined under RCW 46.61.516, that has been approved by the department of social and health services. If the offense was pursuant to chapter 46.61 RCW, the report shall be forwarded to the department of licensing. If the offender is found to have an alcohol or drug problem that requires treatment, the offender shall complete treatment in a program approved by the department of social and health services under chapter 70.96A RCW. If the offender is found not to have an alcohol or drug problem that requires treatment, the offender shall complete a course in an information school approved by the department of social and health services under chapter 70.96A RCW. The offender shall pay all costs for any evaluation, education, or treatment required by this section, unless the offender is eligible for an existing program offered or approved by the department of social and health services.

(ii) For purposes of this section, "alcohol or drug-related traffic offense" means the following: Driving while under the influence as defined by RCW 46.61.502, actual physical control while under the influence as defined by RCW 46.61.504, vehicular homicide as defined by RCW 46.61.520(1)(a), vehicular assault as defined by RCW 46.61.522(1)(b), homicide by watercraft as defined by RCW 79A.60.050, or assault by watercraft as defined by RCW 79A.60.060.

(iii) This subsection (4)(b) does not require the department of social and health services to add new treatment or assessment facilities nor affect its use of existing programs and facilities authorized by law. [2009 c 214 § 3; 2009 c 28 § 11; 2008 c 231 § 9.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2009 c 28 § 11 and by 2009 c 214 § 3, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Short title—2009 c 214:** "This act shall be known as the Eryk Woodruff public safety act of 2009." [2009 c 214 § 1.]

**Effective date—2009 c 214:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2009." [2009 c 214 § 4.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.704 Community custody—Supervision by the department—Conditions.** (1) Every person who is sentenced to a period of community custody shall report to and be placed under the supervision of the department, subject to RCW 9.94A.501.

(2)(a) The department shall assess the offender's risk of reoffense and may establish and modify additional conditions of community custody based upon the risk to community safety.

(b) Within the funds available for community custody, the department shall determine conditions on the basis of risk to community safety, and shall supervise offenders during community custody on the basis of risk to community safety and conditions imposed by the court. The secretary shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of this subsection (2)(b).

(3) If the offender is supervised by the department, the department shall at a minimum instruct the offender to:

(a) Report as directed to a community corrections officer;

(b) Remain within prescribed geographical boundaries;

(c) Notify the community corrections officer of any change in the offender's address or employment;

(d) Pay the supervision fee assessment; and

(e) Disclose the fact of supervision to any mental health or chemical dependency treatment provider, as required by RCW 9.94A.722.

(4) The department may require the offender to participate in rehabilitative programs, or otherwise perform affirmative conduct, and to obey all laws.

(5) If the offender was sentenced pursuant to a conviction for a sex offense, the department may impose electronic monitoring. Within the resources made available by the department for this purpose, the department shall carry out any electronic monitoring using the most appropriate technology given the individual circumstances of the offender. As used in this section, "electronic monitoring" means the monitoring of an offender using an electronic offender tracking system including, but not limited to, a system using radio frequency or active or passive global positioning system technology.

(6) The department may not impose conditions that are contrary to those ordered by the court and may not contravene or decrease court-imposed conditions.

(7)(a) The department shall notify the offender in writing of any additional conditions or modifications.

(b) By the close of the next business day after receiving notice of a condition imposed or modified by the department, an offender may request an administrative review under rules adopted by the department. The condition shall remain in effect unless the reviewing officer finds that it is not reason-

ably related to the crime of conviction, the offender's risk of reoffending, or the safety of the community.

(8) The department shall notify the offender in writing upon community custody intake of the department's violation process.

(9) The department may require offenders to pay for special services rendered including electronic monitoring, day reporting, and telephone reporting, dependent on the offender's ability to pay. The department may pay for these services for offenders who are not able to pay.

(10)(a) When a sex offender has been sentenced pursuant to RCW 9.94A.507, the department shall assess the offender's risk of recidivism and shall recommend to the board any additional or modified conditions based upon the offender's risk to community safety and may recommend affirmative conduct or electronic monitoring consistent with subsections (4) through (6) of this section.

(b) The board may impose conditions in addition to court-ordered conditions. The board must consider and may impose department-recommended conditions.

(c) By the close of the next business day, after receiving notice of a condition imposed by the board or the department, an offender may request an administrative hearing under rules adopted by the board. The condition shall remain in effect unless the hearing examiner finds that it is not reasonably related to any of the following:

(i) The crime of conviction;

(ii) The offender's risk of reoffending;

(iii) The safety of the community.

(d) If the department finds that an emergency exists requiring the immediate imposition of additional conditions in order to prevent the offender from committing a crime, the department may impose such conditions. The department may not impose conditions that are contrary to those set by the board or the court and may not contravene or decrease court-imposed or board-imposed conditions. Conditions imposed under this subsection shall take effect immediately after notice to the offender by personal service, but shall not remain in effect longer than seven working days unless approved by the board.

(11) In setting, modifying, and enforcing conditions of community custody, the department shall be deemed to be performing a quasi-judicial function. [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 3; 2009 c 375 § 6; 2009 c 28 § 12; 2008 c 231 § 10.]

**Effective date—2012 1st sp.s. c 6 §§ 1, 3 through 9, and 11 through 14:** See note following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Implementation—Application—2012 1st sp.s. c 6:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Application—2009 c 375:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.706 Community custody—Possession of firearms, ammunition, or explosives prohibited.** (1) No offender sentenced to a term of community custody under the supervision of the department may own, use, or possess firearms, ammunition, or explosives. An offender's actual or constructive possession of firearms, ammunition, or explosives shall be reported to local law enforcement or local pros-

ecution for consideration of new charges and subject to sanctions under RCW 9.94A.633 or 9.94A.737.

(2) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Constructive possession" means the power and intent to control the firearm, ammunition, or explosives.

(b) "Explosives" has the same definition as in RCW 46.04.170.

(c) "Firearm" has the same definition as in RCW 9.41.010. [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 4; 2008 c 231 § 11.]

**Effective date—2012 1st sp.s. c 6 §§ 1, 3 through 9, and 11 through 14:** See note following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Implementation—Application—2012 1st sp.s. c 6:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.707 Community custody—Commencement—Conditions.** (1) Community custody shall begin: (a) Upon completion of the term of confinement; or (b) at the time of sentencing if no term of confinement is ordered.

(2) When an offender is sentenced to community custody, the offender is subject to the conditions of community custody as of the date of sentencing, unless otherwise ordered by the court. [2009 c 375 § 7; 2008 c 231 § 12.]

**Application—2009 c 375:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.708 Community custody—Mental health information—Access by department.** (1) When an offender is under community custody, the community corrections officer may obtain information from the offender's mental health treatment provider on the offender's status with respect to evaluation, application for services, registration for services, and compliance with the supervision plan, without the offender's consent, as described under RCW 71.05.630.

(2) An offender under community custody who is civilly detained under chapter 71.05 RCW, and subsequently discharged or conditionally released to the community, shall be under the supervision of the department for the duration of his or her period of community custody. During any period of inpatient mental health treatment that falls within the period of community custody, the inpatient treatment provider and the supervising community corrections officer shall notify each other about the offender's discharge, release, and legal status, and shall share other relevant information. [2008 c 231 § 13.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.709 Community custody—Sex offenders—Conditions.** (1) At any time prior to the completion or termination of a sex offender's term of community custody, if the court finds that public safety would be enhanced, the court may impose and enforce an order extending any or all of the conditions of community custody for a period up to the maximum allowable sentence for the crime as it is classified in

chapter 9A.20 RCW, regardless of the expiration of the offender's term of community custody.

(2) If a violation of a condition extended under this section occurs after the expiration of the offender's term of community custody, it shall be deemed a violation of the sentence for the purposes of RCW 9.94A.631 and may be punishable as contempt of court as provided for in RCW 7.21.040.

(3) If the court extends a condition beyond the expiration of the term of community custody, the department is not responsible for supervision of the offender's compliance with the condition. [2008 c 231 § 14.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.714 Community custody—Violations—Electronic monitoring program—Immunity from civil liability.** (1) The department may work with the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs to establish and operate an electronic monitoring program for offenders who violate the terms of their community custody.

(2) Local governments, their subdivisions and employees, the department and its employees, and the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs and its employees are immune from civil liability for damages arising from incidents involving offenders who are placed on electronic monitoring unless it is shown that an employee acted with gross negligence or bad faith. [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 5; 2008 c 231 § 16.]

**Effective date—2012 1st sp.s. c 6 §§ 1, 3 through 9, and 11 through 14:** See note following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Implementation—Application—2012 1st sp.s. c 6:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.716 Community custody—Violations—Arrest.** (1) The secretary may issue warrants for the arrest of any offender who violates a condition of community custody. The arrest warrants shall authorize any law enforcement or peace officer or community corrections officer of this state or any other state where such offender may be located, to arrest the offender and place him or her in total confinement pending disposition of the alleged violation pursuant to RCW 9.94A.633.

(2) A community corrections officer, if he or she has reasonable cause to believe an offender has violated a condition of community custody, may suspend the person's community custody status and arrest or cause the arrest and detention in total confinement of the offender, pending the determination of the secretary as to whether the violation has occurred. The community corrections officer shall report to the secretary all facts and circumstances and the reasons for the action of suspending community custody status.

(3) If an offender has been arrested by the department for a new felony offense while under community custody, the facts and circumstances of the conduct of the offender shall be reported by the community corrections officer to local law enforcement or local prosecution for consideration of new charges. The community corrections officer's report shall



serve as notice that the department will hold the offender in total confinement for not more than three days from the time of such notice for the new crime, except if the offender's underlying offense is a felony offense listed in RCW 9.94A.737(5), in which case the department will hold the offender for thirty days from the time of arrest or until a prosecuting attorney charges the offender with a crime, whichever occurs first. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as to permit the department to hold an offender past his or her maximum term of total confinement if the offender has not completed the maximum term of total confinement or to permit the department to hold an offender past the offender's term of community custody.

(4) A violation of a condition of community custody shall be deemed a violation of the sentence for purposes of RCW 9.94A.631. The authority granted to community corrections officers under this section shall be in addition to that set forth in RCW 9.94A.631. [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 6; 2008 c 231 § 21.]

**Effective date—2012 1st sp.s. c 6 §§ 1, 3 through 9, and 11 through 14:** See note following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Implementation—Application—2012 1st sp.s. c 6:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94A.722 Court-ordered treatment—Required disclosures.** When an offender receiving court-ordered mental health or chemical dependency treatment or treatment ordered by the department of corrections presents for treatment from a mental health or chemical dependency treatment provider, the offender must disclose to the mental health or chemical dependency treatment provider whether he or she is subject to supervision by the department of corrections. If an offender has received relief from disclosure pursuant to RCW 9.94A.562, 70.96A.155, or 71.05.132, the offender must provide the mental health or chemical dependency treatment provider with a copy of the order granting the relief. [2004 c 166 § 9.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2004 c 166:** See notes following RCW 71.05.040.

**9.94A.723 Court-ordered treatment—Offender's failure to inform.** An offender's failure to inform the department of court-ordered treatment upon request by the department is a violation of the conditions of supervision if the offender is in the community and an infraction if the offender is in confinement, and the violation or infraction is subject to sanctions. [2004 c 166 § 7.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2004 c 166:** See notes following RCW 71.05.040.

**9.94A.725 Offender work crews.** Participation in a work crew is conditioned upon the offender's acceptance into the program, abstinence from alcohol and controlled substances as demonstrated by urinalysis and breathalyzer monitoring, with the cost of monitoring to be paid by the offender, unless indigent; and upon compliance with the rules of the program, which rules require the offender to work to the best of his or her abilities and provide the program with accurate,

verified residence information. Work crew may be imposed simultaneously with electronic home detention.

Where work crew is imposed as part of a sentence of nine months or more, the offender must serve a minimum of thirty days of total confinement before being eligible for work crew.

Work crew tasks shall be performed for a minimum of thirty-five hours per week. Only those offenders sentenced to a facility operated or utilized under contract by a county or the state, or sanctioned under RCW 9.94A.737, are eligible to participate on a work crew. Offenders sentenced for a sex offense are not eligible for the work crew program.

An offender who has successfully completed four weeks of work crew at thirty-five hours per week shall thereafter receive credit toward the work crew sentence for hours worked at approved, verified employment. Such employment credit may be earned for up to twenty-four hours actual employment per week provided, however, that every such offender shall continue active participation in work crew projects according to a schedule approved by a work crew supervisor until the work crew sentence has been served.

The hours served as part of a work crew sentence may include substance abuse counseling and/or job skills training.

The civic improvement tasks performed by offenders on work crew shall be unskilled labor for the benefit of the community as determined by the head of the county executive branch or his or her designee. Civic improvement tasks shall not be done on private property unless it is owned or operated by a nonprofit entity, except that, for emergency purposes only, work crews may perform snow removal on any private property. The civic improvement tasks shall have minimal negative impact on existing private industries or the labor force in the county where the service or labor is performed. The civic improvement tasks shall not affect employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities contracted through sheltered workshops as defined in RCW 82.04.385. In case any dispute arises as to a civic improvement task having more than minimum negative impact on existing private industries or labor force in the county where their service or labor is performed, the matter shall be referred by an interested party, as defined in RCW 39.12.010(4), for arbitration to the director of the department of labor and industries of the state.

Whenever an offender receives credit against a work crew sentence for hours of approved, verified employment, the offender shall pay to the agency administering the program the monthly assessment of an amount not less than ten dollars per month nor more than fifty dollars per month. This assessment shall be considered payment of the costs of providing the work crew program to an offender. The court may exempt a person from the payment of all or any part of the assessment based upon any of the following factors:

(1) The offender has diligently attempted but has been unable to obtain employment that provides the offender sufficient income to make such payment.

(2) The offender is a student in a school, college, university, or a course of vocational or technical training designed to fit the student for gainful employment.

(3) The offender has an employment handicap, as determined by an examination acceptable to or ordered by the court.

(4) The offender is responsible for the support of dependents and the payment of the assessment constitutes an undue hardship.

(5) Other extenuating circumstances as determined by the court. [2000 c 28 § 27; 1991 c 181 § 2. Formerly RCW 9.94A.135.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.728 Release prior to expiration of sentence.**

No person serving a sentence imposed pursuant to this chapter and committed to the custody of the department shall leave the confines of the correctional facility or be released prior to the expiration of the sentence except as follows:

(1) An offender may earn early release time as authorized by RCW 9.94A.729;

(2) An offender may leave a correctional facility pursuant to an authorized furlough or leave of absence. In addition, offenders may leave a correctional facility when in the custody of a corrections officer or officers;

(3)(a) The secretary may authorize an extraordinary medical placement for an offender when all of the following conditions exist:

(i) The offender has a medical condition that is serious and is expected to require costly care or treatment;

(ii) The offender poses a low risk to the community because he or she is currently physically incapacitated due to age or the medical condition or is expected to be so at the time of release; and

(iii) It is expected that granting the extraordinary medical placement will result in a cost savings to the state.

(b) An offender sentenced to death or to life imprisonment without the possibility of release or parole is not eligible for an extraordinary medical placement.

(c) The secretary shall require electronic monitoring for all offenders in extraordinary medical placement unless the electronic monitoring equipment interferes with the function of the offender's medical equipment or results in the loss of funding for the offender's medical care, in which case, an alternative type of monitoring shall be utilized. The secretary shall specify who shall provide the monitoring services and the terms under which the monitoring shall be performed.

(d) The secretary may revoke an extraordinary medical placement under this subsection at any time.

(e) Persistent offenders are not eligible for extraordinary medical placement;

(4) The governor, upon recommendation from the clemency and pardons board, may grant an extraordinary release for reasons of serious health problems, senility, advanced age, extraordinary meritorious acts, or other extraordinary circumstances;

(5) No more than the final six months of the offender's term of confinement may be served in partial confinement designed to aid the offender in finding work and reestablishing himself or herself in the community or no more than the final twelve months of the offender's term of confinement may be served in partial confinement as part of the parenting program in RCW 9.94A.6551. This is in addition to that period of earned early release time that may be exchanged for partial confinement pursuant to RCW 9.94A.729(5)(d);

(6) The governor may pardon any offender;

(7) The department may release an offender from confinement any time within ten days before a release date calculated under this section;

(8) An offender may leave a correctional facility prior to completion of his or her sentence if the sentence has been reduced as provided in RCW 9.94A.870; and

(9) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, an offender sentenced for a felony crime listed in RCW 9.94A.540 as subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of total confinement shall not be released from total confinement before the completion of the listed mandatory minimum sentence for that felony crime of conviction unless allowed under RCW 9.94A.540. [2010 c 224 § 6. Prior: 2009 c 455 § 2; (2009 c 455 § 1 expired August 1, 2009); 2009 c 441 § 1; 2009 c 399 § 1; 2008 c 231 § 34; 2007 c 483 § 304; 2004 c 176 § 6; 2003 c 379 § 1; prior: 2002 c 290 § 21; 2002 c 50 § 2; 2000 c 28 § 28; prior: 1999 c 324 § 1; 1999 c 37 § 1; 1996 c 199 § 2; 1995 c 129 § 7 (Initiative Measure No. 159); 1992 c 145 § 8; 1990 c 3 § 202; 1989 c 248 § 2; prior: 1988 c 153 § 3; 1988 c 3 § 1; 1984 c 209 § 8; 1982 c 192 § 6; 1981 c 137 § 15. Formerly RCW 9.94A.150.]

**Effective date—2009 c 455 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act takes effect August 1, 2009." [2009 c 455 § 5.]

**Expiration date—2009 c 455 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act expires August 1, 2009." [2009 c 455 § 6.]

**Effective date—2009 c 441:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2009." [2009 c 441 § 2.]

**Effective date—2009 c 399:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2009." [2009 c 399 § 2.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Findings—Part headings not law—Severability—2007 c 483:** See RCW 72.78.005, 72.78.900, and 72.78.901.

**Severability—Effective date—2004 c 176:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Severability—2003 c 379:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2003 c 379 § 28.]

**Effective dates—2003 c 379:** "(1) Sections 1 through 12, 20, and 28 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect July 1, 2003.

(2) Sections 13 through 19 and 21 through 27 of this act take effect October 1, 2003." [2003 c 379 § 29.]

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

**Intent—2002 c 50:** "The legislature has determined in RCW 9.94A.728(2) that the department of corrections may transfer offenders to community custody status in lieu of earned release time in accordance with a program developed by the department of corrections. It is the legislature's intent, in response to: *In re: Capello 106 Wn.App. 576 (2001)*, to clarify the law to reflect that the secretary of the department has, and has had since enactment of the community placement act of 1988, the authority to require all offenders, eligible for release to community custody status in lieu of earned release, to provide a release plan that includes an approved residence and living arrangement prior to any transfer to the community." [2002 c 50 § 1.]

**Application—2002 c 50:** "This act applies to all offenders with community placement or community custody terms currently incarcerated either before, on, or after March 14, 2002." [2002 c 50 § 3.]

**Severability—2002 c 50:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the

application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2002 c 50 § 4.]

**Effective date—2002 c 50:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 14, 2002]." [2002 c 50 § 5.]

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.7281 Legislative declaration—Earned release time not an entitlement.** The legislature declares that the changes to the maximum percentages of earned release time in chapter 379, Laws of 2003 do not create any expectation that the percentage of earned release time cannot be revised and offenders have no reason to conclude that the maximum percentage of earned release time is an entitlement or creates any liberty interest. The legislature retains full control over the right to revise the percentages of earned release time available to offenders at any time. This section applies to persons convicted on or after July 1, 2003. [2003 c 379 § 2.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2003 c 379:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.728.

**9.94A.729 Earned release time—Risk assessments.**

(1)(a) The term of the sentence of an offender committed to a correctional facility operated by the department may be reduced by earned release time in accordance with procedures that shall be developed and adopted by the correctional agency having jurisdiction in which the offender is confined. The earned release time shall be for good behavior and good performance, as determined by the correctional agency having jurisdiction. The correctional agency shall not credit the offender with earned release credits in advance of the offender actually earning the credits.

(b) Any program established pursuant to this section shall allow an offender to earn early release credits for pre-sentence incarceration. If an offender is transferred from a county jail to the department, the administrator of a county jail facility shall certify to the department the amount of time spent in custody at the facility and the amount of earned release time. The department may approve a jail certification from a correctional agency that calculates earned release time based on the actual amount of confinement time served by the offender before sentencing when an erroneous calculation of confinement time served by the offender before sentencing appears on the judgment and sentence.

(2) An offender who has been convicted of a felony committed after July 23, 1995, that involves any applicable deadly weapon enhancements under RCW 9.94A.533 (3) or (4), or both, shall not receive any good time credits or earned release time for that portion of his or her sentence that results from any deadly weapon enhancements.

(3) An offender may earn early release time as follows:

(a) In the case of an offender convicted of a serious violent offense, or a sex offense that is a class A felony, committed on or after July 1, 1990, and before July 1, 2003, the aggregate earned release time may not exceed fifteen percent of the sentence.

(b) In the case of an offender convicted of a serious violent offense, or a sex offense that is a class A felony, commit-

ted on or after July 1, 2003, the aggregate earned release time may not exceed ten percent of the sentence.

(c) An offender is qualified to earn up to fifty percent of aggregate earned release time if he or she:

(i) Is not classified as an offender who is at a high risk to reoffend as provided in subsection (4) of this section;

(ii) Is not confined pursuant to a sentence for:

(A) A sex offense;

(B) A violent offense;

(C) A crime against persons as defined in RCW 9.94A.411;

(D) A felony that is domestic violence as defined in RCW 10.99.020;

(E) A violation of RCW 9A.52.025 (residential burglary);

(F) A violation of, or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to violate, RCW 69.50.401 by manufacture or delivery or possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine; or

(G) A violation of, or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to violate, RCW 69.50.406 (delivery of a controlled substance to a minor);

(iii) Has no prior conviction for the offenses listed in (c)(ii) of this subsection;

(iv) Participates in programming or activities as directed by the offender's individual reentry plan as provided under RCW 72.09.270 to the extent that such programming or activities are made available by the department; and

(v) Has not committed a new felony after July 22, 2007, while under community custody.

(d) In no other case shall the aggregate earned release time exceed one-third of the total sentence.

(4) The department shall perform a risk assessment of each offender who may qualify for earned early release under subsection (3)(c) of this section utilizing the risk assessment tool recommended by the Washington state institute for public policy. Subsection (3)(c) of this section does not apply to offenders convicted after July 1, 2010.

(5)(a) A person who is eligible for earned early release as provided in this section and who will be supervised by the department pursuant to RCW 9.94A.501 or 9.94A.5011, shall be transferred to community custody in lieu of earned release time;

(b) The department shall, as a part of its program for release to the community in lieu of earned release, require the offender to propose a release plan that includes an approved residence and living arrangement. All offenders with community custody terms eligible for release to community custody in lieu of earned release shall provide an approved residence and living arrangement prior to release to the community;

(c) The department may deny transfer to community custody in lieu of earned release time if the department determines an offender's release plan, including proposed residence location and living arrangements, may violate the conditions of the sentence or conditions of supervision, place the offender at risk to violate the conditions of the sentence, place the offender at risk to reoffend, or present a risk to victim safety or community safety. The department's authority under this section is independent of any court-ordered condition of sentence or statutory provision regarding conditions for community custody;

(d) If the department is unable to approve the offender's release plan, the department may do one or more of the following:

(i) Transfer an offender to partial confinement in lieu of earned early release for a period not to exceed three months. The three months in partial confinement is in addition to that portion of the offender's term of confinement that may be served in partial confinement as provided in RCW 9.94A.728(5);

(ii) Provide rental vouchers to the offender for a period not to exceed three months if rental assistance will result in an approved release plan. The voucher must be provided in conjunction with additional transition support programming or services that enable an offender to participate in services including, but not limited to, substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, sex offender treatment, educational programming, or employment programming;

(e) For each offender who is the recipient of a rental voucher, the department shall include, concurrent with the data that the department otherwise obtains and records, the housing status of the offender for the duration of the offender's supervision.

(6) An offender serving a term of confinement imposed under RCW 9.94A.670(5)(a) is not eligible for earned release credits under this section. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 4; 2010 c 224 § 7; 2009 c 455 § 3.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 40 §§ 1-9, 42:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2009 c 455 § 3:** "Section 3 of this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 11, 2009]." [2009 c 455 § 7.]

**9.94A.731 Term of partial confinement, work release, home detention.** (1) An offender sentenced to a term of partial confinement shall be confined in the facility for at least eight hours per day or, if serving a work crew sentence shall comply with the conditions of that sentence as set forth in RCW 9.94A.030 and 9.94A.725. The offender shall be required as a condition of partial confinement to report to the facility at designated times. During the period of partial confinement, an offender may be required to comply with crime-related prohibitions and affirmative conditions imposed by the court or the department pursuant to this chapter.

(2) An offender in a county jail ordered to serve all or part of a term of less than one year in work release, work crew, or a program of home detention who violates the rules of the work release facility, work crew, or program of home detention or fails to remain employed or enrolled in school may be transferred to the appropriate county detention facility without further court order but shall, upon request, be notified of the right to request an administrative hearing on the issue of whether or not the offender failed to comply with the order and relevant conditions. Pending such hearing, or in the absence of a request for the hearing, the offender shall serve the remainder of the term of confinement as total confinement. This subsection shall not affect transfer or placement of offenders committed to the department.

(3) Participation in work release shall be conditioned upon the offender attending work or school at regularly defined hours and abiding by the rules of the work release facility. [2009 c 28 § 13; 2003 c 254 § 2; 2000 c 28 § 29; 1999 c 143 § 15; 1991 c 181 § 4; 1988 c 154 § 4; 1987 c 456 § 3; 1981 c 137 § 18. Formerly RCW 9.94A.180.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.734 Home detention—Conditions.** (1) Home detention may not be imposed for offenders convicted of the following offenses, unless imposed as partial confinement in the department's parenting program under RCW 9.94A.6551:

- (a) A violent offense;
- (b) Any sex offense;
- (c) Any drug offense;
- (d) Reckless burning in the first or second degree as defined in RCW 9A.48.040 or 9A.48.050;
- (e) Assault in the third degree as defined in RCW 9A.36.031;
- (f) Assault of a child in the third degree;
- (g) Unlawful imprisonment as defined in RCW 9A.40.040; or
- (h) Harassment as defined in RCW 9A.46.020.

Home detention may be imposed for offenders convicted of possession of a controlled substance under RCW 69.50.4013 or forged prescription for a controlled substance under RCW 69.50.403 if the offender fulfills the participation conditions set forth in this section and is monitored for drug use by a treatment alternatives to street crime program or a comparable court or agency-referred program.

(2) Home detention may be imposed for offenders convicted of burglary in the second degree as defined in RCW 9A.52.030 or residential burglary conditioned upon the offender:

- (a) Successfully completing twenty-one days in a work release program;
- (b) Having no convictions for burglary in the second degree or residential burglary during the preceding two years and not more than two prior convictions for burglary or residential burglary;
- (c) Having no convictions for a violent felony offense during the preceding two years and not more than two prior convictions for a violent felony offense;
- (d) Having no prior charges of escape; and
- (e) Fulfilling the other conditions of the home detention program.

(3) Home detention may be imposed for offenders convicted of taking a motor vehicle without permission in the second degree as defined in RCW 9A.56.075, theft of a motor vehicle as defined under RCW 9A.56.065, or possession of a stolen motor vehicle as defined under RCW 9A.56.068 conditioned upon the offender:

- (a) Having no convictions for taking a motor vehicle without permission, theft of a motor vehicle or possession of a stolen motor vehicle during the preceding five years and not more than two prior convictions for taking a motor vehicle without permission, theft of a motor vehicle or possession of a stolen motor vehicle;

(b) Having no convictions for a violent felony offense during the preceding two years and not more than two prior convictions for a violent felony offense;

(c) Having no prior charges of escape; and

(d) Fulfilling the other conditions of the home detention program.

(4) Participation in a home detention program shall be conditioned upon:

(a) The offender obtaining or maintaining current employment or attending a regular course of school study at regularly defined hours, or the offender performing parental duties to offspring or minors normally in the custody of the offender;

(b) Abiding by the rules of the home detention program; and

(c) Compliance with court-ordered legal financial obligations. The home detention program may also be made available to offenders whose charges and convictions do not otherwise disqualify them if medical or health-related conditions, concerns or treatment would be better addressed under the home detention program, or where the health and welfare of the offender, other inmates, or staff would be jeopardized by the offender's incarceration. Participation in the home detention program for medical or health-related reasons is conditioned on the offender abiding by the rules of the home detention program and complying with court-ordered restitution. [2010 c 224 § 9; 2007 c 199 § 9; 2003 c 53 § 62; 2000 c 28 § 30; 1995 c 108 § 2. Formerly RCW 9.94A.185.]

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.737 Community custody—Violations—Disciplinary proceedings—Structured violation process—Sanctions.** (1) If an offender is accused of violating any condition or requirement of community custody, the department shall address the violation behavior. The department may hold offender disciplinary proceedings not subject to chapter 34.05 RCW. The department shall notify the offender in writing of the violation process.

(2)(a) The offender's violation behavior shall determine the sanction the department imposes. The department shall adopt rules creating a structured violation process that includes presumptive sanctions, aggravating and mitigating factors, and definitions for low level violations and high level violations.

(b) After an offender has committed and been sanctioned for five low level violations, all subsequent violations committed by that offender shall automatically be considered high level violations.

(c)(i) The department must define aggravating factors that indicate the offender may present a current and ongoing foreseeable risk and which therefore, elevate an offender's behavior to a high level violation process.

(ii) The state and its officers, agents, and employees may not be held criminally or civilly liable for a decision to elevate or not to elevate an offender's behavior to a high level violation process under this subsection unless the state or its officers, agents, and employees acted with reckless disregard.

(3) The department may intervene when an offender commits a low level violation as follows:

(a) For a first low level violation, the department may sanction the offender to one or more nonconfinement sanctions.

(b) For a second or subsequent low level violation, the department may sanction the offender to not more than three days in total confinement.

(i) The department shall develop rules to ensure that each offender subject to a short-term confinement sanction is provided the opportunity to respond to the alleged violation prior to imposition of total confinement.

(ii) The offender may appeal the short-term confinement sanction to a panel of three reviewing officers designated by the secretary or by the secretary's designee. The offender's appeal must be in writing and hand-delivered to department staff, or postmarked, within seven days after the sanction is imposed.

(4) If an offender is accused of committing a high level violation, the department may sanction the offender to not more than thirty days in total confinement per hearing.

(a) The offender is entitled to a hearing prior to the imposition of sanctions; and

(b) The offender may be held in total confinement pending a sanction hearing. Prehearing time served must be credited to the offender's sanction time.

(5) If the offender's underlying offense is one of the following felonies and the violation behavior constitutes a new misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor or felony, the offender shall be held in total confinement pending a sanction hearing, and until the sanction expires or until if a prosecuting attorney files new charges against the offender, whichever occurs first:

(a) Assault in the first degree, as defined in RCW 9A.36.011;

(b) Assault of a child in the first degree, as defined in RCW 9A.36.120;

(c) Assault of a child in the second degree, as defined in RCW 9A.36.130;

(d) Burglary in the first degree, as defined in RCW 9A.52.020;

(e) Child molestation in the first degree, as defined in RCW 9A.44.083;

(f) Commercial sexual abuse of a minor, as defined in RCW 9.68A.100;

(g) Dealing in depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, as defined in RCW 9.68A.050;

(h) Homicide by abuse, as defined in RCW 9A.32.055;

(i) Indecent liberties with forcible compulsion, as defined in RCW 9A.44.100(1)(a);

(j) Indecent liberties with a person capable of consent, as defined in RCW 9A.44.100(1)(b);

(k) Kidnapping in the first degree, as defined in RCW 9A.40.020;

(l) Murder in the first degree, as defined in RCW 9A.32.030;

(m) Murder in the second degree, as defined in RCW 9A.32.050;

(n) Promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor, as defined in RCW 9.68A.101;

(o) Rape in the first degree, as defined in RCW 9A.44.040;

(p) Rape in the second degree, as defined in RCW 9A.44.050;

(q) Rape of a child in the first degree, as defined in RCW 9A.44.073;

(r) Rape of a child in the second degree, as defined in RCW 9A.44.076;

(s) Robbery in the first degree, as defined in RCW 9A.56.200;

(t) Sexual exploitation of a minor, as defined in RCW 9.68A.040; or

(u) Vehicular homicide while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, as defined in RCW 46.61.520(1)(a).

(6) The department shall adopt rules creating hearing procedures for high level violations. The hearings are offender disciplinary proceedings and are not subject to chapter 34.05 RCW. The procedures shall include the following:

(a) The department shall provide the offender with written notice of the alleged violation and the evidence supporting it. The notice must include a statement of the rights specified in this subsection, and the offender's right to file a personal restraint petition under court rules after the final decision;

(b) Unless the offender waives the right to a hearing, the department shall hold a hearing, and shall record it electronically. For offenders not in total confinement, the department shall hold a hearing within fifteen business days, but not less than twenty-four hours, after written notice of the alleged violation. For offenders in total confinement, the department shall hold a hearing within five business days, but not less than twenty-four hours, after written notice of the alleged violation;

(c) The offender shall have the right to: (i) Be present at the hearing; (ii) have the assistance of a person qualified to assist the offender in the hearing, appointed by the hearing officer if the offender has a language or communications barrier; (iii) testify or remain silent; (iv) call witnesses and present documentary evidence; (v) question witnesses who appear and testify; and (vi) receive a written summary of the reasons for the hearing officer's decision; and

(d) The sanction shall take effect if affirmed by the hearing officer. The offender may appeal the sanction to a panel of three reviewing officers designated by the secretary or by the secretary's designee. The offender's appeal must be in writing and hand-delivered to department staff, or post-marked, within seven days after the sanction was imposed. The appeals panel shall affirm, reverse, modify, vacate, or remand based on its findings. If a majority of the panel finds that the sanction was not reasonably related to any of the following: (i) The crime of conviction; (ii) the violation committed; (iii) the offender's risk of reoffending; or (iv) the safety of the community, then the panel will reverse, vacate, remand, or modify the sanction.

(7) For purposes of this section, the hearings officer may not rely on unconfirmed or unconfirmable allegations to find that the offender violated a condition.

(8) Hearing officers shall report through a chain of command separate from that of community corrections officers. [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 7; 2008 c 231 § 20; (2009 c 375 § 13

expired August 1, 2009); 2007 c 483 § 305; 2005 c 435 § 3; 2002 c 175 § 15; 1999 c 196 § 8; 1996 c 275 § 3; 1988 c 153 § 4. Formerly RCW 9.94A.205.]

**Effective date—2012 1st sp.s. c 6 §§ 1, 3 through 9, and 11 through 14:** See note following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Implementation—Application—2012 1st sp.s. c 6:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Expiration date—2009 c 375 §§ 1, 3, and 13:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Application—2009 c 375:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Findings—Part headings not law—Severability—2007 c 483:** See RCW 72.78.005, 72.78.900, and 72.78.901.

**Finding—Intent—2005 c 435:** "The legislature believes that electronic monitoring, as an alternative to incarceration, is a proper and cost-effective method of punishment and supervision for many criminal offenders. The legislature further finds that advancements in electronic monitoring technology have made the technology more common and acceptable to criminal justice system personnel, policymakers, and the general public.

In an effort to reduce prison and jail populations, many states are increasing their utilization of electronic monitoring. However, Washington state's use of electronic monitoring has been relatively stagnant.

The intent of this act is to determine what electronic monitoring policies and programs have been implemented in the other forty-nine states, in order that Washington state can learn from the other states' experiences." [2005 c 435 § 1.]

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Finding—1996 c 275:** See note following RCW 9.94A.505.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.740 Community custody violators—Arrest, detention, financial responsibility.** (1) When an offender is arrested pursuant to RCW 9.94A.631 or 9.94A.716, the department shall compensate the local jurisdiction at the office of financial management's adjudicated rate, in accordance with RCW 70.48.440, until the department releases its detainer.

(2) Inmates, as defined in RCW 72.09.015, who have been transferred to community custody and who are detained in a local correctional facility are the financial responsibility of the department of corrections, except as provided in subsection (3) of this section.

(3) For confinement sanctions imposed by the department under RCW 9.94A.670, the local correctional facility shall be financially responsible.

(4) The department, in consultation with the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs and those counties in which the sheriff does not operate a correctional facility, shall establish a methodology for determining the department's local correctional facilities bed utilization rate, for each county in calendar year 1998, for offenders being held for violations of conditions of community custody.

(5) Except as provided in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the local correctional facility shall continue to be financially responsible to the extent of the calendar year 1998 bed utilization rate for confinement sanctions imposed by the department pursuant to RCW 9.94A.737. If the department's use of bed space in local correctional facilities of any county for such confinement sanctions exceeds the 1998 bed utilization rate for the county, the department shall compensate the county for the excess use at the per diem rate equal to the

lowest rate charged by the county under its contract with a municipal government during the year in which the use occurs. [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 8; 2008 c 231 § 22; 1999 c 196 § 9; 1996 c 275 § 4; 1988 c 153 § 5. Formerly RCW 9.94A.207.]

**Effective date—2012 1st sp.s. c 6 §§ 1, 3 through 9, and 11 through 14:** See note following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Implementation—Application—2012 1st sp.s. c 6:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Finding—1996 c 275:** See note following RCW 9.94A.505.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.745 Interstate compact for adult offender supervision.** The interstate compact for adult offender supervision is hereby entered into and enacted into law with all jurisdictions legally joining therein, in the form substantially as follows:

#### ARTICLE I PURPOSE

(a) The compacting states to this interstate compact recognize that each state is responsible for the supervision of adult offenders in the community who are authorized pursuant to the bylaws and rules of this compact to travel across state lines both to and from each compacting state in such a manner as to track the location of offenders, transfer supervision authority in an orderly and efficient manner, and, when necessary, return offenders to the originating jurisdictions. The compacting states also recognize that congress, by enacting the crime control act, 4 U.S.C. Sec. 112 (1965), has authorized and encouraged compacts for cooperative efforts and mutual assistance in the prevention of crime.

(b) It is the purpose of this compact and the interstate commission created hereunder, through means of joint and cooperative action among the compacting states: To provide the framework for the promotion of public safety and protect the rights of victims through the control and regulation of the interstate movement of offenders in the community; to provide for the effective tracking, supervision, and rehabilitation of these offenders by the sending and receiving states; and to equitably distribute the costs, benefits and obligations of the compact among the compacting states.

(c) In addition, this compact will: Create an interstate commission which will establish uniform procedures to manage the movement between states of adults placed under community supervision and released to the community under the jurisdiction of courts, paroling authorities, corrections, or other criminal justice agencies which will promulgate rules to achieve the purpose of this compact; ensure an opportunity for input and timely notice to victims and to jurisdictions where defined offenders are authorized to travel or to relocate across state lines; establish a system of uniform data collection, access to information on active cases by authorized criminal justice officials, and regular reporting of compact activities to heads of state councils, state executive, judicial, and legislative branches and criminal justice administrators; monitor compliance with rules governing interstate movement of offenders and initiate interventions to address and

correct noncompliance; and coordinate training and education regarding regulations of interstate movement of offenders for officials involved in such activity.

(d) The compacting states recognize that there is no "right" of any offender to live in another state and that duly accredited officers of a sending state may at all times enter a receiving state and there apprehend and retake any offender under supervision subject to the provisions of this compact and bylaws and rules promulgated hereunder. It is the policy of the compacting states that the activities conducted by the interstate commission created herein are the formation of public policies and are therefore public business.

#### ARTICLE II DEFINITIONS

As used in this compact, unless the context clearly requires a different construction:

(a) "Adult" means both individuals legally classified as adults and juveniles treated as adults by court order, statute, or operation of law.

(b) "Bylaws" means those bylaws established by the interstate commission for its governance, or for directing or controlling the interstate commission's actions or conduct.

(c) "Compact administrator" means the individual in each compacting state appointed pursuant to the terms of this compact responsible for the administration and management of the state's supervision and transfer of offenders subject to the terms of this compact, the rules adopted by the interstate commission and policies adopted by the state council under this compact.

(d) "Compacting state" means any state which has enacted the enabling legislation for this compact.

(e) "Commissioner" means the voting representative of each compacting state appointed pursuant to article III of this compact.

(f) "Interstate commission" means the interstate commission for adult offender supervision established by this compact.

(g) "Member" means the commissioner of a compacting state or designee, who shall be a person officially connected with the commissioner.

(h) "Noncompacting state" means any state which has not enacted the enabling legislation for this compact.

(i) "Offender" means an adult placed under, or subject, to supervision as the result of the commission of a criminal offense and released to the community under the jurisdiction of courts, paroling authorities, corrections, or other criminal justice agencies.

(j) "Person" means any individual, corporation, business enterprise, or other legal entity, either public or private.

(k) "Rules" means acts of the interstate commission, duly promulgated pursuant to article VIII of this compact, substantially affecting interested parties in addition to the interstate commission, which shall have the force and effect of law in the compacting states.

(l) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia and any other territorial possessions of the United States.

(m) "State council" means the resident members of the state council for interstate adult offender supervision created by each state under article IV of this compact.

(n) "Victim" means a person who has sustained emotional, psychological, physical, or financial injury to person or property as a result of criminal conduct against the person or a member of the person's family.

### ARTICLE III THE COMPACT COMMISSION

(a) The compacting states hereby create the "interstate commission for adult offender supervision." The interstate commission shall be a body corporate and joint agency of the compacting states. The interstate commission shall have all the responsibilities, powers and duties set forth herein; including the power to sue and be sued, and such additional powers as may be conferred upon it by subsequent action of the respective legislatures of the compacting states in accordance with the terms of this compact.

(b) The interstate commission shall consist of commissioners selected and appointed by resident members of a state council for interstate adult offender supervision for each state. In addition to the commissioners who are the voting representatives of each state, the interstate commission shall include individuals who are not commissioners but who are members of interested organizations. Such noncommissioner members must include a member of the national organizations of governors, legislators, state chief justices, attorneys general and crime victims. All noncommissioner members of the interstate commission shall be ex officio, nonvoting members. The interstate commission may provide in its bylaws for such additional, ex officio, nonvoting members as it deems necessary.

(c) Each compacting state represented at any meeting of the interstate commission is entitled to one vote. A majority of the compacting states shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, unless a larger quorum is required by the bylaws of the interstate commission.

(d) The interstate commission shall meet at least once each calendar year. The chairperson may call additional meetings and, upon the request of twenty-seven or more compacting states, shall call additional meetings. Public notice shall be given of all meetings and meetings shall be open to the public.

(e) The interstate commission shall establish an executive committee which shall include commission officers, members and others as shall be determined by the bylaws. The executive committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the interstate commission during periods when the interstate commission is not in session, with the exception of rulemaking and/or amendment to the compact. The executive committee oversees the day-to-day activities managed by the executive director and interstate commission staff; administers enforcement and compliance with the provisions of the compact, its bylaws and as directed by the interstate commission and performs other duties as directed by the commission or set forth in the bylaws.

### ARTICLE IV THE STATE COUNCIL

(a) Each member state shall create a state council for interstate adult offender supervision which shall be responsible for the appointment of the commissioner who shall serve on the interstate commission from that state. Each state coun-

cil shall appoint as its commissioner the compact administrator from that state to serve on the interstate commission in such capacity under or pursuant to applicable law of the member state. While each member state may determine the membership of its own state council, its membership must include at least one representative from the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of government, victims' groups, and compact administrators.

(b) Each compacting state retains the right to determine the qualifications of the compact administrator who shall be appointed by the state council or by the governor in consultation with the legislature and the judiciary.

(c) In addition to appointment of its commissioner to the national interstate commission, each state council shall exercise oversight and advocacy concerning its participation in interstate commission activities and other duties as may be determined by each member state including, but not limited to, development of policy concerning operations and procedures of the compact within that state.

### ARTICLE V POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

The interstate commission shall have the following powers:

(a) To adopt a seal and suitable bylaws governing the management and operation of the interstate commission;

(b) To promulgate rules which shall have the force and effect of statutory law and shall be binding in the compacting states to the extent and in the manner provided in this compact;

(c) To oversee, supervise and coordinate the interstate movement of offenders subject to the terms of this compact and any bylaws adopted and rules promulgated by the compact commission;

(d) To enforce compliance with compact provisions, interstate commission rules, and bylaws, using all necessary and proper means, including, but not limited to, the use of judicial process;

(e) To establish and maintain offices;

(f) To purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;

(g) To borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel, including, but not limited to, members and their staffs;

(h) To establish and appoint committees and hire staff which it deems necessary for the carrying out of its functions including, but not limited to, an executive committee as required by article III of this compact which shall have the power to act on behalf of the interstate commission in carrying out its powers and duties hereunder;

(i) To elect or appoint such officers, attorneys, employees, agents, or consultants, and to fix their compensation, define their duties and determine their qualifications; and to establish the interstate commission's personnel policies and programs relating to, among other things, conflicts of interest, rates of compensation, and qualifications of personnel;

(j) To accept any and all donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services, and to receive, utilize, and dispose of same;

(k) To lease, purchase, accept contributions or donations of, or otherwise to own, hold, improve or use any property, real, personal, or mixed;



(l) To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property, real, personal, or mixed;

(m) To establish a budget and make expenditures and levy dues as provided in article X of this compact;

(n) To sue and be sued;

(o) To provide for dispute resolution among compacting states;

(p) To perform such functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this compact;

(q) To report annually to the legislatures, governors, judiciary, and state councils of the compacting states concerning the activities of the interstate commission during the preceding year. Such reports shall also include any recommendations that may have been adopted by the interstate commission;

(r) To coordinate education, training and public awareness regarding the interstate movement of offenders for officials involved in such activity;

(s) To establish uniform standards for the reporting, collecting, and exchanging of data.

#### ARTICLE VI ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

(a) **Bylaws.** The interstate commission shall, by a majority of the members, within twelve months of the first interstate commission meeting, adopt bylaws to govern its conduct as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of the compact, including, but not limited to:

(1) Establishing the fiscal year of the interstate commission;

(2) Establishing an executive committee and such other committees as may be necessary, providing reasonable standards and procedures:

(i) For the establishment of committees, and

(ii) Governing any general or specific delegation of any authority or function of the interstate commission;

(3) Providing reasonable procedures for calling and conducting meetings of the interstate commission, and ensuring reasonable notice of each such meeting;

(4) Establishing the titles and responsibilities of the officers of the interstate commission;

(5) Providing reasonable standards and procedures for the establishment of the personnel policies and programs of the interstate commission. Notwithstanding any civil service or other similar laws of any compacting state, the bylaws shall exclusively govern the personnel policies and programs of the interstate commission;

(6) Providing a mechanism for winding up the operations of the interstate commission and the equitable return of any surplus funds that may exist upon the termination of the compact after the payment and/or reserving of all of its debts and obligations;

(7) Providing transition rules for "start up" administration of the compact;

(8) Establishing standards and procedures for compliance and technical assistance in carrying out the compact.

(b) **Officers and staff.** (1) The interstate commission shall, by a majority of the members, elect from among its members a chairperson and a vice chairperson, each of whom

shall have such authorities and duties as may be specified in the bylaws. The chairperson or, in his or her absence or disability, the vice chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the interstate commission. The officers so elected shall serve without compensation or remuneration from the interstate commission: PROVIDED, That subject to the availability of budgeted funds, the officers shall be reimbursed for any actual and necessary costs and expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties and responsibilities as officers of the interstate commission.

(2) The interstate commission shall, through its executive committee, appoint or retain an executive director for such period, upon such terms and conditions and for such compensation as the interstate commission may deem appropriate. The executive director shall serve as secretary to the interstate commission, and hire and supervise such other staff as may be authorized by the interstate commission, but shall not be a member.

(c) **Corporate records of the interstate commission.** The interstate commission shall maintain its corporate books and records in accordance with the bylaws.

(d) **Qualified immunity, defense and indemnification.** (1) The members, officers, executive director and employees of the interstate commission shall be immune from suit and liability, either personally or in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission that occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties or responsibilities: PROVIDED, That nothing in this subsection (d)(1) shall be construed to protect any such person from suit and/or liability for any damage, loss, injury or liability caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of any such person.

(2) The interstate commission shall defend the commissioner of a compacting state, or his or her representatives or employees, or the interstate commission's representatives or employees in any civil action seeking to impose liability, arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission that occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties or responsibilities, or that the defendant had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties or responsibilities: PROVIDED, That the actual or alleged act, error or omission did not result from intentional wrongdoing on the part of such person.

(3) The interstate commission shall indemnify and hold the commissioner of a compacting state, the appointed designee or employees, or the interstate commission's representatives or employees harmless in the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against such persons arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission that occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties or responsibilities, or that such persons had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties or responsibilities, provided, that the actual or alleged act, error or omission did not result from gross negligence or intentional wrongdoing on the part of such person.

ARTICLE VII  
ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

(a) The interstate commission shall meet and take such actions as are consistent with the provisions of this compact.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this compact and unless a greater percentage is required by the bylaws, in order to constitute an act of the interstate commission, such act shall have been taken at a meeting of the interstate commission and shall have received an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present.

(c) Each member of the interstate commission shall have the right and power to cast a vote to which that compacting state is entitled and to participate in the business and affairs of the interstate commission. A member shall vote in person on behalf of the state and shall not delegate a vote to another member state. However, a state council shall appoint another authorized representative, in the absence of the commissioner from that state, to cast a vote on behalf of the member state at a specified meeting. The bylaws may provide for members' participation in meetings by telephone or other means of telecommunication or electronic communication. Any voting conducted by telephone or other means of telecommunication or electronic communication shall be subject to the same quorum requirements of meetings where members are present in person.

(d) The interstate commission shall meet at least once during each calendar year. The chairperson of the interstate commission may call additional meetings at any time and, upon the request of a majority of the members, shall call additional meetings.

(e) The interstate commission's bylaws shall establish conditions and procedures under which the interstate commission shall make its information and official records available to the public for inspection or copying. The interstate commission may exempt from disclosure any information or official records to the extent they would adversely affect personal privacy rights or proprietary interests. In promulgating such rules, the interstate commission may make available to law enforcement agencies records and information otherwise exempt from disclosure, and may enter into agreements with law enforcement agencies to receive or exchange information or records subject to nondisclosure and confidentiality provisions.

(f) Public notice shall be given of all meetings and all meetings shall be open to the public, except as set forth in the rules or as otherwise provided in the compact. The interstate commission shall promulgate rules consistent with the principles contained in the "government in sunshine act," 5 U.S.C. Sec. 552(b), as may be amended. The interstate commission and any of its committees may close a meeting to the public where it determines by two-thirds vote that an open meeting would be likely to:

(1) Relate solely to the interstate commission's internal personnel practices and procedures;

(2) Disclose matters specifically exempted from disclosure by statute;

(3) Disclose trade secrets or commercial or financial information which is privileged or confidential;

(4) Involve accusing any person of a crime, or formally censuring any person;

(5) Disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(6) Disclose investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes;

(7) Disclose information contained in or related to examination, operating or condition reports prepared by, or on behalf of or for the use of, the interstate commission with respect to a regulated entity for the purpose of regulation or supervision of such entity;

(8) Disclose information, the premature disclosure of which would significantly endanger the life of a person or the stability of a regulated entity;

(9) Specifically relate to the interstate commission's issuance of a subpoena, or its participation in a civil action or proceeding.

(g) For every meeting closed pursuant to this provision, the interstate commission's chief legal officer shall publicly certify that, in his or her opinion, the meeting may be closed to the public, and shall reference each relevant provision authorizing closure of the meeting. The interstate commission shall keep minutes which shall fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in any meeting and shall provide a full and accurate summary of any actions taken, and the reasons therefor, including a description of each of the views expressed on any item and the record of any roll call vote (reflected in the vote of each member on the question). All documents considered in connection with any action shall be identified in such minutes.

(h) The interstate commission shall collect standardized data concerning the interstate movement of offenders as directed through its bylaws and rules which shall specify the data to be collected, the means of collection and data exchange and reporting requirements.

ARTICLE VIII  
RULEMAKING FUNCTIONS OF THE  
INTERSTATE COMMISSION

(a) The interstate commission shall promulgate rules in order to effectively and efficiently achieve the purposes of the compact including transition rules governing administration of the compact during the period in which it is being considered and enacted by the states.

(b) Rulemaking shall occur pursuant to the criteria set forth in this article and the bylaws and rules adopted pursuant thereto. Such rulemaking shall substantially conform to the principles of the federal administrative procedure act, 5 U.S.C. Sec. 551 et seq., and the federal advisory committee act, 5 U.S.C.S. app. 2, section 1 et seq., as may be amended (hereinafter "APA"). All rules and amendments shall become binding as of the date specified in each rule or amendment.

(c) If a majority of the legislatures of the compacting states rejects a rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the compact, then such rule shall have no further force and effect in any compacting state.

(d) When promulgating a rule, the interstate commission shall:

(1) Publish the proposed rule stating with particularity the text of the rule which is proposed and the reason for the proposed rule;

(2) Allow persons to submit written data, facts, opinions and arguments, which information shall be publicly available;

(3) Provide an opportunity for an informal hearing; and

(4) Promulgate a final rule and its effective date, if appropriate, based on the rulemaking record. Not later than sixty days after a rule is promulgated, any interested person may file a petition in the United States district court for the District of Columbia or in the federal district court where the interstate commission's principal office is located for judicial review of such rule. If the court finds that the interstate commission's action is not supported by substantial evidence, (as defined in the APA), in the rulemaking record, the court shall hold the rule unlawful and set it aside.

(e) Subjects to be addressed within twelve months after the first meeting must at a minimum include:

(1) Notice to victims and opportunity to be heard;

(2) Offender registration and compliance;

(3) Violations/returns;

(4) Transfer procedures and forms;

(5) Eligibility for transfer;

(6) Collection of restitution and fees from offenders;

(7) Data collection and reporting;

(8) The level of supervision to be provided by the receiving state;

(9) Transition rules governing the operation of the compact and the interstate commission during all or part of the period between the effective date of the compact and the date on which the last eligible state adopts the compact;

(10) Mediation, arbitration and dispute resolution.

(f) The existing rules governing the operation of the previous compact superseded by this act shall be null and void twelve months after the first meeting of the interstate commission created hereunder.

(g) Upon determination by the interstate commission that an emergency exists, it may promulgate an emergency rule which shall become effective immediately upon adoption, provided that the usual rulemaking procedures provided hereunder shall be retroactively applied to said rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event later than ninety days after the effective date of the rule.

#### ARTICLE IX

##### OVERSIGHT, ENFORCEMENT, AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION BY THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

(a) **Oversight.** (1) The interstate commission shall oversee the interstate movement of adult offenders in the compacting states and shall monitor such activities being administered in noncompacting states which may significantly affect compacting states.

(2) The courts and executive agencies in each compacting state shall enforce this compact and shall take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes and intent. In any judicial or administrative proceeding in a compacting state pertaining to the subject matter of this compact which may affect the powers, responsibilities or actions of the interstate commission, the interstate commission shall be entitled to receive all service of process in any such proceeding, and shall have standing to intervene in the proceeding for all purposes.

(b) **Dispute resolution.** (1) The compacting states shall report to the interstate commission on issues or activities of concern to them, and cooperate with and support the interstate commission in the discharge of its duties and responsibilities.

(2) The interstate commission shall attempt to resolve any disputes or other issues which are subject to the compact and which may arise among compacting states and noncompacting states.

The interstate commission shall enact a bylaw or promulgate a rule providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes among the compacting states.

(c) **Enforcement.** The interstate commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the provisions of this compact using any or all means set forth in article XII(b) of this compact.

#### ARTICLE X FINANCE

(a) The interstate commission shall pay or provide for the payment of the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization and ongoing activities.

(b) The interstate commission shall levy on and collect an annual assessment from each compacting state to cover the cost of the internal operations and activities of the interstate commission and its staff which must be in a total amount sufficient to cover the interstate commission's annual budget as approved each year. The aggregate annual assessment amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined by the interstate commission, taking into consideration the population of the state and the volume of interstate movement of offenders in each compacting state and shall promulgate a rule binding upon all compacting states which governs said assessment.

(c) The interstate commission shall not incur any obligations of any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the interstate commission pledge the credit of any of the compacting states, except by and with the authority of the compacting state.

(d) The interstate commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the interstate commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the interstate commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant and the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the interstate commission.

#### ARTICLE XI COMPACTING STATES, EFFECTIVE DATE AND AMENDMENT

(a) Any state, as defined in article II of this compact, is eligible to become a compacting state.

(b) The compact shall become effective and binding upon legislative enactment of the compact into law by no less than thirty-five of the states. The initial effective date shall be the later of July 1, 2001, or upon enactment into law by the thirty-fifth jurisdiction. Thereafter it shall become effective and binding, as to any other compacting state, upon enactment of the compact into law by that state. The governors of

nonmember states or their designees will be invited to participate in interstate commission activities on a nonvoting basis prior to adoption of the compact by all states and territories of the United States.

(c) Amendments to the compact may be proposed by the interstate commission for enactment by the compacting states. No amendment shall become effective and binding upon the interstate commission and the compacting states unless and until it is enacted into law by unanimous consent of the compacting states.

## ARTICLE XII WITHDRAWAL, DEFAULT, TERMINATION, AND JUDICIAL ENFORCEMENT

(a) **Withdrawal.** (1) Once effective, the compact shall continue in force and remain binding upon each and every compacting state: PROVIDED, That a compacting state may withdraw from the compact ("withdrawing state") by enacting a statute specifically repealing the statute which enacted the compact into law.

(2) The effective date of withdrawal is the effective date of the repeal.

(3) The withdrawing state shall immediately notify the chairperson of the interstate commission in writing upon the introduction of legislation repealing this compact in the withdrawing state. The interstate commission shall notify the other compacting states of the withdrawing state's intent to withdraw within sixty days of its receipt thereof.

(4) The withdrawing state is responsible for all assessments, obligations and liabilities incurred through the effective date of withdrawal, including any obligations, the performance of which extend beyond the effective date of withdrawal.

(5) Reinstatement following withdrawal of any compacting state shall occur upon the withdrawing state reenacting the compact or upon such later date as determined by the interstate commission.

(b) **Default.** (1) If the interstate commission determines that any compacting state has at any time defaulted ("defaulting state") in the performance of any of its obligations or responsibilities under this compact, the bylaws or any duly promulgated rules, the interstate commission may impose any or all of the following penalties:

(i) Fines, fees and costs in such amounts as are deemed to be reasonable as fixed by the interstate commission;

(ii) Remedial training and technical assistance as directed by the interstate commission;

(iii) Suspension and termination of membership in the compact. Suspension shall be imposed only after all other reasonable means of securing compliance under the bylaws and rules have been exhausted. Immediate notice of suspension shall be given by the interstate commission to the governor, the chief justice or chief judicial officer of the state, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and the state council.

(2) The grounds for default include, but are not limited to, failure of a compacting state to perform such obligations or responsibilities imposed upon it by this compact, interstate commission bylaws, or duly promulgated rules. The interstate commission shall immediately notify the defaulting state in writing of the penalty imposed by the interstate com-

mission on the defaulting state pending a cure of the default. The interstate commission shall stipulate the conditions and the time period within which the defaulting state must cure its default. If the defaulting state fails to cure the default within the time period specified by the interstate commission, in addition to any other penalties imposed herein, the defaulting state may be terminated from the compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the compacting states and all rights, privileges and benefits conferred by this compact shall be terminated from the effective date of suspension. Within sixty days of the effective date of termination of a defaulting state, the interstate commission shall notify the governor, the chief justice or chief judicial officer and the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature and the state council of such termination.

(3) The defaulting state is responsible for all assessments, obligations and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination including any obligations, the performance of which extends beyond the effective date of termination.

(4) The interstate commission shall not bear any costs relating to the defaulting state unless otherwise mutually agreed upon between the interstate commission and the defaulting state. Reinstatement following termination of any compacting state requires both a reenactment of the compact by the defaulting state and the approval of the interstate commission pursuant to the rules.

(c) **Judicial enforcement.** The interstate commission may, by majority vote of the members, initiate legal action in the United States district court for the District of Columbia or, at the discretion of the interstate commission, in the federal district where the interstate commission has its offices to enforce compliance with the provisions of the compact, its duly promulgated rules and bylaws, against any compacting state in default. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation including reasonable attorneys' fees.

(d) **Dissolution of compact.** (1) The compact dissolves effective upon the date of the withdrawal or default of the compacting state which reduces membership in the compact to one compacting state.

(2) Upon the dissolution of this compact, the compact becomes null and void and shall be of no further force or effect, and the business and affairs of the interstate commission shall be wound up and any surplus funds shall be distributed in accordance with the bylaws.

## ARTICLE XIII SEVERABILITY AND CONSTRUCTION

(a) The provisions of this compact shall be severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision is deemed unenforceable, the remaining provisions of the compact shall be enforceable.

(b) The provisions of this compact shall be liberally construed to effectuate its purposes.

## ARTICLE XIV BINDING EFFECT OF COMPACT AND OTHER LAWS

(a) **Other laws.** (1) Nothing herein prevents the enforcement of any other law of a compacting state that is not inconsistent with this compact.

(2) All compacting states' laws conflicting with this compact are superseded to the extent of the conflict.

(b) **Binding effect of the compact.** (1) All lawful actions of the interstate commission, including all rules and bylaws promulgated by the interstate commission, are binding upon the compacting states.

(2) All agreements between the interstate commission and the compacting states are binding in accordance with their terms.

(3) Upon the request of a party to a conflict over meaning or interpretation of interstate commission actions, and upon a majority vote of the compacting states, the interstate commission may issue advisory opinions regarding such meaning or interpretation.

(4) In the event any provision of this compact exceeds the constitutional limits imposed on the legislature of any compacting state, the obligations, duties, powers or jurisdiction sought to be conferred by such provision upon the interstate commission shall be ineffective and such obligations, duties, powers or jurisdiction shall remain in the compacting state and shall be exercised by the agency thereof to which such obligations, duties, powers or jurisdiction are delegated by law in effect at the time this compact becomes effective. [2001 c 35 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The interstate compact was enacted and signed into law by the thirty-fifth state on June 19, 2002.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.74501 State council.** (1) The department of corrections shall serve as the state council for interstate adult offender supervision as required under article IV of RCW 9.94A.745, the interstate compact for adult offender supervision. The department of corrections may form a subcommittee, including members representing the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of state government, and victims' groups to perform the functions of the state council. Any such subcommittee shall include representation of both houses and at least two of the four largest political caucuses in the legislature.

(2) The department or a subcommittee if formed for that purpose, shall:

(a) Review department operations and procedures under RCW 9.94A.745, and recommend policies to the compact administrator, including policies to be pursued in the administrator's capacity as the state's representative on the interstate commission created under article III of RCW 9.94A.745; and

(b) Report annually to the legislature on interstate supervision operations and procedures under RCW 9.94A.745, including recommendations for policy changes.

(3) The secretary shall appoint an employee of the department, or a subcommittee if formed for that purpose shall appoint one of its members, to represent the state at meetings of the interstate commission created under article III of RCW 9.94A.745 when the compact administrator cannot attend. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 31; 2001 c 35 § 3.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**9.94A.74502 Compact administrator.** The secretary of corrections, or an employee of the department designated

by the secretary, shall serve as the compact administrator under article IV of RCW 9.94A.745, the interstate compact for adult offender supervision. The legislature intends that the compact administrator, representing the state on the interstate commission created under article III of RCW 9.94A.745, will take an active role to assure that the interstate compact operates to protect the safety of the people and communities of the state. [2001 c 35 § 4.]

**9.94A.74503 Other compacts and agreements—Withdrawal from current compact.** (1) The state shall continue to meet its obligations under RCW 9.95.270, the interstate compact for the supervision of parolees and probationers, to those states which continue to meet their obligations to the state of Washington under the interstate compact for the supervision of parolees and probationers, and have not approved the interstate compact for adult offender supervision after July 1, 2001.

(2) If a state withdraws from the interstate compact for adult offender supervision under article XII(a) of RCW 9.94A.745, the state council for interstate adult offender supervision created by RCW 9.94A.74501 shall seek to negotiate an agreement with the withdrawing state fulfilling the purposes of RCW 9.94A.745, subject to the approval of the legislature.

(3) Nothing in chapter 35, Laws of 2001 limits the secretary's authority to enter into agreements with other jurisdictions for supervision of offenders. [2001 c 35 § 5.]

**9.94A.74504 Supervision of transferred offenders—Processing transfer applications.** (1) The department may supervise nonfelony offenders transferred to Washington pursuant to RCW 9.94A.745, the interstate compact for adult offender supervision, and shall supervise these offenders according to the provisions of this chapter.

(2) The department shall process applications for interstate transfer of felony and nonfelony offenders requesting transfer of supervision out-of-state pursuant to RCW 9.94A.745, the interstate compact for adult offender supervision, and may charge offenders a reasonable fee for processing the application.

(3) The department shall adopt a rule prescribing the amount of the interstate transfer application fee. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 14; 2005 c 400 § 1.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Application—2005 c 400:** "This act applies to offenders sentenced before, on, or after July 1, 2005." [2005 c 400 § 8.]

**Effective date—2005 c 400:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2005." [2005 c 400 § 9.]

**9.94A.74505 Review of obligations under compact—Report to legislature.** (1) The department shall identify the states from which it receives adult offenders who need supervision and examine the feasibility and cost of establishing memoranda of understanding with the states that send the highest number of offenders for supervision to Washington state with the goal of achieving more balanced and equitable obligations under the interstate compact for adult offender supervision.

(2) At the next meeting of the interstate compact commission, Washington's representatives on the commission shall seek a resolution by the commission regarding:

(a) Any inequitable distribution of costs, benefits, and obligations affecting Washington under the interstate compact; and

(b) The scope of the mandatory acceptance policy and the authority of the receiving state to determine when it is no longer able to supervise an offender.

(3) The department shall examine the feasibility and cost of withdrawal from the interstate compact for adult offender supervision.

(4) The department shall report to the legislature no later than December 1, 2010, regarding:

(a) The development of memoranda of understanding with states that send the highest numbers of offenders to Washington state for supervision;

(b) The outcome of the resolution process with the interstate commission; and

(c) The feasibility and cost of withdrawal from the interstate compact for adult offender supervision. [2010 c 258 § 4.]

**Purpose—2010 c 258 § 4:** "The legislature has determined that it is necessary to examine patterns related to the exchange of out-of-state offenders needing supervision. The examination must assess the past action and behavior of other states that send offenders to the state of Washington for supervision to assure that the interstate compact for adult offender supervision operates to protect the safety of the people and communities of Washington and other individual states." [2010 c 258 § 3.]

**Effective date—2010 c 258 §§ 3 and 4:** "Sections 3 and 4 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect June 1, 2010." [2010 c 258 § 5.]

## RESTITUTION AND LEGAL FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

**9.94A.750 Restitution.** This section applies to offenses committed on or before July 1, 1985.

(1) If restitution is ordered, the court shall determine the amount of restitution due at the sentencing hearing or within one hundred eighty days. The court may continue the hearing beyond the one hundred eighty days for good cause. The court shall then set a minimum monthly payment that the offender is required to make towards the restitution that is ordered. The court should take into consideration the total amount of the restitution owed, the offender's present, past, and future ability to pay, as well as any assets that the offender may have.

(2) During the period of supervision, the community corrections officer may examine the offender to determine if there has been a change in circumstances that warrants an amendment of the monthly payment schedule. The community corrections officer may recommend a change to the schedule of payment and shall inform the court of the recommended change and the reasons for the change. The sentencing court may then reset the monthly minimum payments based on the report from the community corrections officer of the change in circumstances.

(3) Except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, restitution ordered by a court pursuant to a criminal conviction shall be based on easily ascertainable damages for injury

to or loss of property, actual expenses incurred for treatment for injury to persons, and lost wages resulting from injury. Restitution shall not include reimbursement for damages for mental anguish, pain and suffering, or other intangible losses, but may include the costs of counseling reasonably related to the offense. The amount of restitution shall not exceed double the amount of the offender's gain or the victim's loss from the commission of the offense.

(4) For the purposes of this section, the offender shall remain under the court's jurisdiction for a term of ten years following the offender's release from total confinement or ten years subsequent to the entry of the judgment and sentence, whichever period is longer. Prior to the expiration of the initial ten-year period, the superior court may extend jurisdiction under the criminal judgment an additional ten years for payment of restitution. The portion of the sentence concerning restitution may be modified as to amount, terms and conditions during either the initial ten-year period or subsequent ten-year period if the criminal judgment is extended, regardless of the expiration of the offender's term of community supervision and regardless of the statutory maximum sentence for the crime. The court may not reduce the total amount of restitution ordered because the offender may lack the ability to pay the total amount. The offender's compliance with the restitution shall be supervised by the department only during any period which the department is authorized to supervise the offender in the community under RCW 9.94A.728, 9.94A.501, or in which the offender is in confinement in a state correctional institution or a correctional facility pursuant to a transfer agreement with the department, and the department shall supervise the offender's compliance during any such period. The department is responsible for supervision of the offender only during confinement and authorized supervision and not during any subsequent period in which the offender remains under the court's jurisdiction. The county clerk is authorized to collect unpaid restitution at any time the offender remains under the jurisdiction of the court for purposes of his or her legal financial obligations.

(5) Restitution may be ordered whenever the offender is convicted of an offense which results in injury to any person or damage to or loss of property or as provided in subsection (6) of this section. In addition, restitution may be ordered to pay for an injury, loss, or damage if the offender pleads guilty to a lesser offense or fewer offenses and agrees with the prosecutor's recommendation that the offender be required to pay restitution to a victim of an offense or offenses which are not prosecuted pursuant to a plea agreement.

(6) Restitution for the crime of rape of a child in the first, second, or third degree, in which the victim becomes pregnant, shall include: (a) All of the victim's medical expenses that are associated with the rape and resulting pregnancy; and (b) child support for any child born as a result of the rape if child support is ordered pursuant to a proceeding in superior court or administrative order for support for that child. The clerk must forward any restitution payments made on behalf of the victim's child to the Washington state child support registry under chapter 26.23 RCW. Identifying information about the victim and child shall not be included in the order. The offender shall receive a credit against any obligation owing under the administrative or superior court order for support of the victim's child. For the purposes of this subsection

tion, the offender shall remain under the court's jurisdiction until the offender has satisfied support obligations under the superior court or administrative order but not longer than a maximum term of twenty-five years following the offender's release from total confinement or twenty-five years subsequent to the entry of the judgment and sentence, whichever period is longer. The court may not reduce the total amount of restitution ordered because the offender may lack the ability to pay the total amount. The department shall supervise the offender's compliance with the restitution ordered under this subsection.

(7) In addition to any sentence that may be imposed, an offender who has been found guilty of an offense involving fraud or other deceptive practice or an organization which has been found guilty of any such offense may be ordered by the sentencing court to give notice of the conviction to the class of persons or to the sector of the public affected by the conviction or financially interested in the subject matter of the offense by mail, by advertising in designated areas or through designated media, or by other appropriate means.

(8) This section does not limit civil remedies or defenses available to the victim or offender including support enforcement remedies for support ordered under subsection (6) of this section for a child born as a result of a rape of a child victim. The court shall identify in the judgment and sentence the victim or victims entitled to restitution and what amount is due each victim. The state or victim may enforce the court-ordered restitution in the same manner as a judgment in a civil action. Restitution collected through civil enforcement must be paid through the registry of the court and must be distributed proportionately according to each victim's loss when there is more than one victim. [2003 c 379 § 15; 2000 c 28 § 32. Prior: 1997 c 121 § 3; 1997 c 52 § 1; 1995 c 231 § 1; 1994 c 271 § 601; 1989 c 252 § 5; 1987 c 281 § 3; 1982 c 192 § 5; 1981 c 137 § 14. Formerly RCW 9.94A.140.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2003 c 379:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.728.

**Intent—Purpose—2003 c 379 §§ 13-27:** See note following RCW 9.94A.760.

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.753 Restitution—Application dates.** This section applies to offenses committed after July 1, 1985.

(1) When restitution is ordered, the court shall determine the amount of restitution due at the sentencing hearing or within one hundred eighty days except as provided in subsection (7) of this section. The court may continue the hearing beyond the one hundred eighty days for good cause. The court shall then set a minimum monthly payment that the offender is required to make towards the restitution that is ordered. The court should take into consideration the total amount of the restitution owed, the offender's present, past, and future ability to pay, as well as any assets that the offender may have.

(2) During the period of supervision, the community corrections officer may examine the offender to determine if there has been a change in circumstances that warrants an

amendment of the monthly payment schedule. The community corrections officer may recommend a change to the schedule of payment and shall inform the court of the recommended change and the reasons for the change. The sentencing court may then reset the monthly minimum payments based on the report from the community corrections officer of the change in circumstances.

(3) Except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, restitution ordered by a court pursuant to a criminal conviction shall be based on easily ascertainable damages for injury to or loss of property, actual expenses incurred for treatment for injury to persons, and lost wages resulting from injury. Restitution shall not include reimbursement for damages for mental anguish, pain and suffering, or other intangible losses, but may include the costs of counseling reasonably related to the offense. The amount of restitution shall not exceed double the amount of the offender's gain or the victim's loss from the commission of the crime.

(4) For the purposes of this section, for an offense committed prior to July 1, 2000, the offender shall remain under the court's jurisdiction for a term of ten years following the offender's release from total confinement or ten years subsequent to the entry of the judgment and sentence, whichever period ends later. Prior to the expiration of the initial ten-year period, the superior court may extend jurisdiction under the criminal judgment an additional ten years for payment of restitution. For an offense committed on or after July 1, 2000, the offender shall remain under the court's jurisdiction until the obligation is completely satisfied, regardless of the statutory maximum for the crime. The portion of the sentence concerning restitution may be modified as to amount, terms, and conditions during any period of time the offender remains under the court's jurisdiction, regardless of the expiration of the offender's term of community supervision and regardless of the statutory maximum sentence for the crime. The court may not reduce the total amount of restitution ordered because the offender may lack the ability to pay the total amount. The offender's compliance with the restitution shall be supervised by the department only during any period which the department is authorized to supervise the offender in the community under RCW 9.94A.728, 9.94A.501, or in which the offender is in confinement in a state correctional institution or a correctional facility pursuant to a transfer agreement with the department, and the department shall supervise the offender's compliance during any such period. The department is responsible for supervision of the offender only during confinement and authorized supervision and not during any subsequent period in which the offender remains under the court's jurisdiction. The county clerk is authorized to collect unpaid restitution at any time the offender remains under the jurisdiction of the court for purposes of his or her legal financial obligations.

(5) Restitution shall be ordered whenever the offender is convicted of an offense which results in injury to any person or damage to or loss of property or as provided in subsection (6) of this section unless extraordinary circumstances exist which make restitution inappropriate in the court's judgment and the court sets forth such circumstances in the record. In addition, restitution shall be ordered to pay for an injury, loss, or damage if the offender pleads guilty to a lesser offense or fewer offenses and agrees with the prosecutor's recommen-

dation that the offender be required to pay restitution to a victim of an offense or offenses which are not prosecuted pursuant to a plea agreement.

(6) Restitution for the crime of rape of a child in the first, second, or third degree, in which the victim becomes pregnant, shall include: (a) All of the victim's medical expenses that are associated with the rape and resulting pregnancy; and (b) child support for any child born as a result of the rape if child support is ordered pursuant to a civil superior court or administrative order for support for that child. The clerk must forward any restitution payments made on behalf of the victim's child to the Washington state child support registry under chapter 26.23 RCW. Identifying information about the victim and child shall not be included in the order. The offender shall receive a credit against any obligation owing under the administrative or superior court order for support of the victim's child. For the purposes of this subsection, the offender shall remain under the court's jurisdiction until the offender has satisfied support obligations under the superior court or administrative order for the period provided in RCW 4.16.020 or a maximum term of twenty-five years following the offender's release from total confinement or twenty-five years subsequent to the entry of the judgment and sentence, whichever period is longer. The court may not reduce the total amount of restitution ordered because the offender may lack the ability to pay the total amount. The department shall supervise the offender's compliance with the restitution ordered under this subsection.

(7) Regardless of the provisions of subsections (1) through (6) of this section, the court shall order restitution in all cases where the victim is entitled to benefits under the crime victims' compensation act, chapter 7.68 RCW. If the court does not order restitution and the victim of the crime has been determined to be entitled to benefits under the crime victims' compensation act, the department of labor and industries, as administrator of the crime victims' compensation program, may petition the court within one year of entry of the judgment and sentence for entry of a restitution order. Upon receipt of a petition from the department of labor and industries, the court shall hold a restitution hearing and shall enter a restitution order.

(8) In addition to any sentence that may be imposed, an offender who has been found guilty of an offense involving fraud or other deceptive practice or an organization which has been found guilty of any such offense may be ordered by the sentencing court to give notice of the conviction to the class of persons or to the sector of the public affected by the conviction or financially interested in the subject matter of the offense by mail, by advertising in designated areas or through designated media, or by other appropriate means.

(9) This section does not limit civil remedies or defenses available to the victim, survivors of the victim, or offender including support enforcement remedies for support ordered under subsection (6) of this section for a child born as a result of a rape of a child victim. The court shall identify in the judgment and sentence the victim or victims entitled to restitution and what amount is due each victim. The state or victim may enforce the court-ordered restitution in the same manner as a judgment in a civil action. Restitution collected through civil enforcement must be paid through the registry of the court and must be distributed proportionately accord-

ing to each victim's loss when there is more than one victim. [2003 c 379 § 16. Prior: 2000 c 226 § 3; 2000 c 28 § 33; prior: 1997 c 121 § 4; 1997 c 52 § 2; prior: 1995 c 231 § 2; 1995 c 33 § 4; 1994 c 271 § 602; 1989 c 252 § 6; 1987 c 281 § 4; 1985 c 443 § 10. Formerly RCW 9.94A.142.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2003 c 379:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.728.

**Intent—Purpose—2003 c 379 §§ 13-27:** See note following RCW 9.94A.760.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—2000 c 226:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.505.

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.760 Legal financial obligations.** (1) Whenever a person is convicted in superior court, the court may order the payment of a legal financial obligation as part of the sentence. The court must on either the judgment and sentence or on a subsequent order to pay, designate the total amount of a legal financial obligation and segregate this amount among the separate assessments made for restitution, costs, fines, and other assessments required by law. On the same order, the court is also to set a sum that the offender is required to pay on a monthly basis towards satisfying the legal financial obligation. If the court fails to set the offender monthly payment amount, the department shall set the amount if the department has active supervision of the offender, otherwise the county clerk shall set the amount. Upon receipt of an offender's monthly payment, restitution shall be paid prior to any payments of other monetary obligations. After restitution is satisfied, the county clerk shall distribute the payment proportionally among all other fines, costs, and assessments imposed, unless otherwise ordered by the court.

(2) If the court determines that the offender, at the time of sentencing, has the means to pay for the cost of incarceration, the court may require the offender to pay for the cost of incarceration at a rate of fifty dollars per day of incarceration, if incarcerated in a prison, or the court may require the offender to pay the actual cost of incarceration per day of incarceration, if incarcerated in a county jail. In no case may the court require the offender to pay more than one hundred dollars per day for the cost of incarceration. Payment of other court-ordered financial obligations, including all legal financial obligations and costs of supervision shall take precedence over the payment of the cost of incarceration ordered by the court. All funds recovered from offenders for the cost of incarceration in the county jail shall be remitted to the county and the costs of incarceration in a prison shall be remitted to the department.

(3) The court may add to the judgment and sentence or subsequent order to pay a statement that a notice of payroll deduction is to be issued immediately. If the court chooses not to order the immediate issuance of a notice of payroll deduction at sentencing, the court shall add to the judgment and sentence or subsequent order to pay a statement that a notice of payroll deduction may be issued or other income-withholding action may be taken, without further notice to the offender if a monthly court-ordered legal financial obliga-



tion payment is not paid when due, and an amount equal to or greater than the amount payable for one month is owed.

If a judgment and sentence or subsequent order to pay does not include the statement that a notice of payroll deduction may be issued or other income-withholding action may be taken if a monthly legal financial obligation payment is past due, the department or the county clerk may serve a notice on the offender stating such requirements and authorizations. Service shall be by personal service or any form of mail requiring a return receipt.

(4) Independent of the department or the county clerk, the party or entity to whom the legal financial obligation is owed shall have the authority to use any other remedies available to the party or entity to collect the legal financial obligation. These remedies include enforcement in the same manner as a judgment in a civil action by the party or entity to whom the legal financial obligation is owed. Restitution collected through civil enforcement must be paid through the registry of the court and must be distributed proportionately according to each victim's loss when there is more than one victim. The judgment and sentence shall identify the party or entity to whom restitution is owed so that the state, party, or entity may enforce the judgment. If restitution is ordered pursuant to RCW 9.94A.750(6) or 9.94A.753(6) to a victim of rape of a child or a victim's child born from the rape, the Washington state child support registry shall be identified as the party to whom payments must be made. Restitution obligations arising from the rape of a child in the first, second, or third degree that result in the pregnancy of the victim may be enforced for the time periods provided under RCW 9.94A.750(6) and 9.94A.753(6). All other legal financial obligations for an offense committed prior to July 1, 2000, may be enforced at any time during the ten-year period following the offender's release from total confinement or within ten years of entry of the judgment and sentence, whichever period ends later. Prior to the expiration of the initial ten-year period, the superior court may extend the criminal judgment an additional ten years for payment of legal financial obligations including crime victims' assessments. All other legal financial obligations for an offense committed on or after July 1, 2000, may be enforced at any time the offender remains under the court's jurisdiction. For an offense committed on or after July 1, 2000, the court shall retain jurisdiction over the offender, for purposes of the offender's compliance with payment of the legal financial obligations, until the obligation is completely satisfied, regardless of the statutory maximum for the crime. The department may only supervise the offender's compliance with payment of the legal financial obligations during any period in which the department is authorized to supervise the offender in the community under RCW 9.94A.728, 9.94A.501, or in which the offender is confined in a state correctional institution or a correctional facility pursuant to a transfer agreement with the department, and the department shall supervise the offender's compliance during any such period. The department is not responsible for supervision of the offender during any subsequent period of time the offender remains under the court's jurisdiction. The county clerk is authorized to collect unpaid legal financial obligations at any time the offender remains under the jurisdiction

of the court for purposes of his or her legal financial obligations.

(5) In order to assist the court in setting a monthly sum that the offender must pay during the period of supervision, the offender is required to report to the department for purposes of preparing a recommendation to the court. When reporting, the offender is required, under oath, to respond truthfully and honestly to all questions concerning present, past, and future earning capabilities and the location and nature of all property or financial assets. The offender is further required to bring all documents requested by the department.

(6) After completing the investigation, the department shall make a report to the court on the amount of the monthly payment that the offender should be required to make towards a satisfied legal financial obligation.

(7)(a) During the period of supervision, the department may make a recommendation to the court that the offender's monthly payment schedule be modified so as to reflect a change in financial circumstances. If the department sets the monthly payment amount, the department may modify the monthly payment amount without the matter being returned to the court. During the period of supervision, the department may require the offender to report to the department for the purposes of reviewing the appropriateness of the collection schedule for the legal financial obligation. During this reporting, the offender is required under oath to respond truthfully and honestly to all questions concerning earning capabilities and the location and nature of all property or financial assets. The offender shall bring all documents requested by the department in order to prepare the collection schedule.

(b) Subsequent to any period of supervision, or if the department is not authorized to supervise the offender in the community, the county clerk may make a recommendation to the court that the offender's monthly payment schedule be modified so as to reflect a change in financial circumstances. If the county clerk sets the monthly payment amount, or if the department set the monthly payment amount and the department has subsequently turned the collection of the legal financial obligation over to the county clerk, the clerk may modify the monthly payment amount without the matter being returned to the court. During the period of repayment, the county clerk may require the offender to report to the clerk for the purpose of reviewing the appropriateness of the collection schedule for the legal financial obligation. During this reporting, the offender is required under oath to respond truthfully and honestly to all questions concerning earning capabilities and the location and nature of all property or financial assets. The offender shall bring all documents requested by the county clerk in order to prepare the collection schedule.

(8) After the judgment and sentence or payment order is entered, the department is authorized, for any period of supervision, to collect the legal financial obligation from the offender. Subsequent to any period of supervision or, if the department is not authorized to supervise the offender in the community, the county clerk is authorized to collect unpaid legal financial obligations from the offender. Any amount collected by the department shall be remitted daily to the county clerk for the purpose of disbursements. The depart-

ment and the county clerks are authorized, but not required, to accept credit cards as payment for a legal financial obligation, and any costs incurred related to accepting credit card payments shall be the responsibility of the offender.

(9) The department or any obligee of the legal financial obligation may seek a mandatory wage assignment for the purposes of obtaining satisfaction for the legal financial obligation pursuant to RCW 9.94A.7701. Any party obtaining a wage assignment shall notify the county clerk. The county clerks shall notify the department, or the administrative office of the courts, whichever is providing the monthly billing for the offender.

(10) The requirement that the offender pay a monthly sum towards a legal financial obligation constitutes a condition or requirement of a sentence and the offender is subject to the penalties for noncompliance as provided in RCW 9.94B.040, 9.94A.737, or 9.94A.740.

(11)(a) The administrative office of the courts shall mail individualized periodic billings to the address known by the office for each offender with an unsatisfied legal financial obligation.

(b) The billing shall direct payments, other than outstanding cost of supervision assessments under RCW 9.94A.780, parole assessments under RCW 72.04A.120, and cost of probation assessments under RCW 9.95.214, to the county clerk, and cost of supervision, parole, or probation assessments to the department.

(c) The county clerk shall provide the administrative office of the courts with notice of payments by such offenders no less frequently than weekly.

(d) The county clerks, the administrative office of the courts, and the department shall maintain agreements to implement this subsection.

(12) The department shall arrange for the collection of unpaid legal financial obligations during any period of supervision in the community through the county clerk. The department shall either collect unpaid legal financial obligations or arrange for collections through another entity if the clerk does not assume responsibility or is unable to continue to assume responsibility for collection pursuant to subsection (4) of this section. The costs for collection services shall be paid by the offender.

(13) The county clerk may access the records of the employment security department for the purposes of verifying employment or income, seeking any assignment of wages, or performing other duties necessary to the collection of an offender's legal financial obligations.

(14) Nothing in this chapter makes the department, the state, the counties, or any state or county employees, agents, or other persons acting on their behalf liable under any circumstances for the payment of these legal financial obligations or for the acts of any offender who is no longer, or was not, subject to supervision by the department for a term of community custody, and who remains under the jurisdiction of the court for payment of legal financial obligations. [2011 c 106 § 3; 2008 c 231 § 35; 2005 c 263 § 1; 2004 c 121 § 3; 2003 c 379 § 14; 2001 c 10 § 3. Prior: 2000 c 226 § 4; 2000 c 28 § 31; 1999 c 196 § 6; prior: 1997 c 121 § 5; 1997 c 52 § 3; 1995 c 231 § 3; 1991 c 93 § 2; 1989 c 252 § 3. Formerly RCW 9.94A.145.]

**Finding—2011 c 106:** See note following RCW 10.82.090.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Intent—Purpose—2003 c 379 §§ 13-27:** "The legislature intends to revise and improve the processes for billing and collecting legal financial obligations. The purpose of sections 13 through 27, chapter 379, Laws of 2003 is to respond to suggestions and requests made by county government officials, and in particular county clerks, to assume the collection of such obligations in cooperation and coordination with the department of corrections and the administrative office for [of] the courts. The legislature undertakes this effort following a collaboration between local officials, the department of corrections, and the administrative office for [of] the courts. The intent of sections 13 through 27, chapter 379, Laws of 2003 is to promote an increased and more efficient collection of legal financial obligations and, as a result, improve the likelihood that the affected agencies will increase the collections which will provide additional benefits to all parties and, in particular, crime victims whose restitution is dependent upon the collections." [2003 c 379 § 13.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2003 c 379:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.728.

**Intent—Effective date—2001 c 10:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.505.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—2000 c 226:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.505.

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.7601 "Earnings," "disposable earnings," and "obligee" defined.** As used in this chapter, the term "earnings" means compensation paid or payable for personal services, whether denominated as wages, salary, commission, hours, or otherwise, and notwithstanding any other provision of law making such payments exempt from garnishment, attachment, or other process to satisfy court-ordered legal financial obligations, specifically includes periodic payments pursuant to pension or retirement programs, or insurance policies of any type. Earnings shall specifically include all gain derived from capital, from labor, or from both, not including profit gained through sale or conversion of capital assets. The term "disposable earnings" means that part of the earnings of any individual remaining after the deduction from those earnings of any amount required by law to be withheld. The term "obligee" means the department, party, or entity to whom the legal financial obligation is owed, or the department, party, or entity to whom the right to receive or collect support has been assigned. [1991 c 93 § 1. Formerly RCW 9.94A.200005.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.7602 Legal financial obligation—Notice of payroll deduction—Issuance and content.** (1) The department may issue a notice of payroll deduction in a criminal action if:

(a) The court at sentencing orders its immediate issuance; or

(b) The offender is more than thirty days past due in monthly payments in an amount equal to or greater than the amount payable for one month, provided:

(i) The judgment and sentence or subsequent order to pay contains a statement that a notice of payroll deduction may be issued without further notice to the offender; or

(ii) The department has served a notice on the offender stating such requirements and authorization. Service of such

notice shall be made by personal service or any form of mail requiring a return receipt.

(2) The notice of payroll deduction is to be in writing and include:

(a) The name, social security number, and identifying court case number of the offender/employee;

(b) The amount to be deducted from the offender/employee's disposable earnings each month, or alternative amounts and frequencies as may be necessary to facilitate processing of the payroll deduction by the employer;

(c) A statement that the total amount withheld on all payroll deduction notices for payment of court-ordered legal financial obligations combined shall not exceed twenty-five percent of the offender/employee's disposable earnings; and

(d) The address to which the payments are to be mailed or delivered.

(3) An informational copy of the notice of payroll deduction shall be mailed to the offender's last known address by regular mail or shall be personally served.

(4) Neither the department nor any agents of the department shall be held liable for actions taken under RCW 9.94A.760 and 9.94A.7601 through 9.94A.761. [1991 c 93 § 3. Formerly RCW 9.94A.200010.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.7603 Legal financial obligations—Payroll deductions—Maximum amounts withheld, apportionment.** (1) The total amount to be withheld from the offender/employee's earnings each month, or from each earnings disbursement, shall not exceed twenty-five percent of the disposable earnings of the offender.

(2) If the offender is subject to two or more notices of payroll deduction for payment of a court-ordered legal financial obligation from different obligees, the employer or entity shall, if the nonexempt portion of the offender's earnings is not sufficient to respond fully to all notices of payroll deduction, apportion the offender's nonexempt disposable earnings between or among the various obligees equally. [1991 c 93 § 4. Formerly RCW 9.94A.200015.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.7604 Legal financial obligations—Notice of payroll deduction—Employer or entity rights and responsibilities.** (1) An employer or entity upon whom a notice of payroll deduction is served, shall make an answer to the department within twenty days after the date of service. The answer shall confirm compliance and institution of the payroll deduction or explain the circumstances if no payroll deduction is in effect. The answer shall also state whether the offender is employed by or receives earnings from the employer or entity, whether the employer or entity anticipates paying earnings, and the amount of earnings. If the offender is no longer employed, or receiving earnings from the employer or entity, the answer shall state the present employer or entity's name and address, if known.

(2) Service of a notice of payroll deduction upon an employer or entity requires an employer or entity to immediately make a mandatory payroll deduction from the offender/employee's unpaid disposable earnings. The employer or entity shall thereafter at each pay period deduct

the amount stated in the notice divided by the number of pay periods per month. The employer or entity must remit the proper amounts to the appropriate clerk of the court on each date the offender/employee is due to be paid.

(3) The employer or entity may combine amounts withheld from the earnings of more than one employee in a single payment to the clerk of the court, listing separately the amount of the payment that is attributable to each individual employee.

(4) The employer or entity may deduct a processing fee from the remainder of the employee's earnings after withholding under the notice of payroll deduction, even if the remainder is exempt under RCW 9.94A.761. The processing fee may not exceed:

(a) Ten dollars for the first disbursement made by the employer to the clerk of the court; and

(b) One dollar for each subsequent disbursement made under the notice of payroll deduction.

(5) The notice of payroll deduction shall remain in effect until released by the department or the court enters an order terminating the notice.

(6) An employer shall be liable to the obligee for the amount of court-ordered legal financial obligation moneys that should have been withheld from the offender/employee's earnings, if the employer:

(a) Fails or refuses, after being served with a notice of payroll deduction, to deduct and promptly remit from unpaid earnings the amounts of money required in the notice; or

(b) Fails or refuses to submit an answer to the notice of payroll deduction after being served. In such cases, liability may be established in superior court. Awards in superior court shall include costs, interest under RCW 19.52.020 and 4.56.110, reasonable attorney fees, and staff costs as part of the award.

(7) No employer who complies with a notice of payroll deduction under this chapter may be liable to the employee for wrongful withholding.

(8) No employer may discipline or discharge an employee or refuse to hire a person by reason of an action authorized in this chapter. If an employer disciplines or discharges an employee or refuses to hire a person in violation of this section, the employee or person shall have a cause of action against the employer. The employer shall be liable for double the amount of lost wages and any other damages suffered as a result of the violation and for costs and reasonable attorney fees, and shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than two thousand five hundred dollars for each violation. The employer may also be ordered to hire, rehire, or reinstate the aggrieved individual. [1991 c 93 § 5. Formerly RCW 9.94A.200020.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.7605 Motion to quash, modify, or terminate payroll deduction—Grounds for relief.** (1) The offender subject to a payroll deduction under this chapter, may file a motion in superior court to quash, modify, or terminate the payroll deduction. The court may grant relief if:

(a) It is demonstrated that the payroll deduction causes extreme hardship or substantial injustice; or

(b) In cases where the court did not immediately order the issuance of a notice of payroll deduction at sentencing,

that a court-ordered legal financial obligation payment was not more than thirty days past due in an amount equal to or greater than the amount payable for one month.

(2) Satisfactions by the offender of all past-due payments subsequent to the issuance of the notice of payroll deduction is not grounds to quash, modify, or terminate the notice of payroll deduction. If a notice of payroll deduction has been in operation for twelve consecutive months and the offender's payment towards a court-ordered legal financial obligation is current, upon motion of the offender, the court may order the department to terminate the payroll deduction, unless the department can show good cause as to why the notice of payroll deduction should remain in effect. [1991 c 93 § 6. Formerly RCW 9.94A.200025.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.7606 Legal financial obligations—Order to withhold and deliver—Issuance and contents.** (1) The department or county clerk may issue to any person or entity, except to the department, an order to withhold and deliver property of any kind, including but not restricted to, earnings that are due, owing, or belonging to the offender, if the department or county clerk has reason to believe that there is in the possession of such person or entity, property that is due, owing, or belonging to the offender. Such order to withhold and deliver may be issued when a court-ordered legal financial obligation payment is past due:

(a) If an offender's judgment and sentence or a subsequent order to pay includes a statement that other income-withholding action under this chapter may be taken without further notice to the offender.

(b) If a judgment and sentence or a subsequent order to pay does not include the statement that other income-withholding action under this chapter may be taken without further notice to the offender but the department or county clerk has served a notice on the offender stating such requirements and authorizations. The service shall have been made by personal service or any form of mail requiring a return receipt.

(2) The order to withhold and deliver shall:

(a) Include the amount of the court-ordered legal financial obligation;

(b) Contain a summary of moneys that may be exempt from the order to withhold and deliver and a summary of the civil liability upon failure to comply with the order; and

(c) Be served by personal service or by any form of mail requiring a return receipt.

(3) The department or county clerk shall also, on or before the date of service of the order to withhold and deliver, mail or cause to be mailed by any form of mail requiring a return receipt, a copy of the order to withhold and deliver to the offender at the offender's last known post office address, or, in the alternative, a copy of the order shall be personally served on the offender on or before the date of service of the order or within two days thereafter. The copy of the order shall be mailed or served together with an explanation of the right to petition for judicial review. If the copy is not mailed or served as this section provides, or if any irregularity appears with respect to the mailing or service, the superior court, in its discretion on motion of the offender promptly made and supported by affidavit showing that the offender has suffered substantial injury due to the failure to mail the

copy, may set aside the order to withhold and deliver. [2011 c 106 § 5; 1991 c 93 § 7. Formerly RCW 9.94A.200030.]

**Finding—2011 c 106:** See note following RCW 10.82.090.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.7607 Legal financial obligations—Order to withhold and deliver—Duties and rights of person or entity served.** (1) A person or entity upon whom service has been made is hereby required to:

(a) Answer the order to withhold and deliver within twenty days, exclusive of the day of service, under oath and in writing, and shall make true answers to the matters inquired of in the order; and

(b) Provide further and additional answers when requested by the department or county clerk.

(2) Any person or entity in possession of any property that may be subject to the order to withhold and deliver shall:

(a)(i) Immediately withhold such property upon receipt of the order to withhold and deliver;

(ii) Deliver the property to the appropriate clerk of the court as soon as the twenty-day answer period expires;

(iii) Continue to withhold earnings payable to the offender at each succeeding disbursement interval and deliver amounts withheld from earnings to the appropriate clerk of the court within ten days of the date earnings are payable to the offender;

(iv) Inform the department or county clerk of the date the amounts were withheld as requested under this section; or

(b) Furnish the appropriate clerk of the court a good and sufficient bond, satisfactory to the clerk, conditioned upon final determination of liability.

(3) Where money is due and owing under any contract of employment, expressed or implied, or other employment arrangement, or is held by any person or entity subject to withdrawal by the offender, the money shall be delivered by remittance payable to the order of the appropriate clerk of the court.

(4) Delivery to the appropriate clerk of the court of the money or other property held or claimed shall satisfy the requirement and serve as full acquittance of the order to withhold and deliver.

(5) The person or entity required to withhold and deliver the earnings of a debtor under this action may deduct a processing fee from the remainder of the offender's earnings, even if the remainder would otherwise be exempt under RCW 9.94A.761. The processing fee may not exceed:

(a) Ten dollars for the first disbursement to the appropriate clerk of the court; and

(b) One dollar for each subsequent disbursement.

(6) A person or entity shall be liable to the obligee in an amount equal to one hundred percent of the value of the court-ordered legal financial obligation that is the basis of the order to withhold and deliver, or the amount that should have been withheld, whichever amount is less, together with costs, interest, and reasonable attorneys' fees if that person or entity fails or refuses to deliver property under the order.

The department or county clerk is authorized to issue a notice of debt pursuant to and to take appropriate action to collect the debt under this chapter if a judgment has been entered as the result of an action by the court against a person or entity based on a violation of this section.

(7) Persons or entities delivering money or property to the appropriate clerk of the court under this chapter shall not be held liable for wrongful delivery.

(8) Persons or entities withholding money or property under this chapter shall not be held liable for wrongful withholding. [2011 c 106 § 6; 1991 c 93 § 8. Formerly RCW 9.94A.200035.]

**Finding—2011 c 106:** See note following RCW 10.82.090.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.7608 Legal financial obligations—Financial institutions—Service on main office or branch, effect—Collection actions against community bank account, court hearing.** An order to withhold and deliver or any other income-withholding action authorized by this chapter may be served on the main office of a bank, savings and loan association, or credit union or on a branch office of the financial institution. Service on the main office shall be effective to attach the deposits of an offender in the financial institution and compensation payable for personal services due the offender from the financial institution. Service on a branch office shall be effective to attach the deposits, accounts, credits, or other personal property of the offender, excluding compensation payable for personal services, in the possession or control of the particular branch served.

Notwithstanding any other provision of RCW 9.94A.760 and 9.94A.7601 through 9.94A.761, if the department or county clerk initiates collection action against a joint bank account, with or without the right of survivorship, or any other funds which are subject to the community property laws of this state, notice shall be given to all affected parties that the account or funds are subject to potential withholding. Such notice shall be by first-class mail, return receipt required, or by personal service and be given at least twenty calendar days before withholding is made. Upon receipt of such notice, the nonobligated person shall have ten calendar days to file a petition with the department or the superior court contesting the withholding of his or her interest in the account or funds. The department or county clerk shall provide notice of the right of the filing of the petition with the notice provided in this paragraph. If the petition is not filed within the period provided for herein, the department or county clerk is authorized to proceed with the collection action. [2011 c 106 § 7; 1991 c 93 § 9. Formerly RCW 9.94A.200040.]

**Finding—2011 c 106:** See note following RCW 10.82.090.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.7609 Legal financial obligations—Notice of debt—Service or mailing—Contents—Action on, when.**

(1) The department or county clerk may issue a notice of debt in order to enforce and collect a court-ordered legal financial obligation debt through either a notice of payroll deduction or an order to withhold and deliver.

(2) The notice of debt may be personally served upon the offender or be mailed to the offender at his or her last known address by any form of mail requiring a return receipt, demanding payment within twenty days of the date of receipt.

(3) The notice of debt shall include:

(a) A statement of the total court-ordered legal financial obligation and the amount to be paid each month.

(b) A statement that earnings are subject to a notice of payroll deduction.

(c) A statement that earnings or property, or both, are subject to an order to withhold and deliver.

(d) A statement that the net proceeds will be applied to the satisfaction of the court-ordered legal financial obligation.

(4) Action to collect a court-ordered legal financial obligation by notice of payroll deduction or an order to withhold and deliver shall be lawful after twenty days from the date of service upon the offender or twenty days from the receipt or refusal by the offender of the notice of debt.

(5) The notice of debt will take effect only if the offender's monthly court-ordered legal financial obligation payment is not paid when due, and an amount equal to or greater than the amount payable for one month is owned.

(6) The department or county clerk shall not be required to issue or serve the notice of debt in order to enforce and collect a court-ordered legal financial obligation debt through either a notice of payroll deduction or an order to withhold and deliver if either the offender's judgment and sentence or a subsequent order to pay includes a statement that income-withholding action under this chapter may be taken without further notice to the offender. [2011 c 106 § 8; 1991 c 93 § 10. Formerly RCW 9.94A.200045.]

**Finding—2011 c 106:** See note following RCW 10.82.090.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.761 Legal financial obligations—Exemption from notice of payroll deduction or order to withhold and deliver.** Whenever a notice of payroll deduction or order to withhold and deliver is served upon a person or entity asserting a court-ordered legal financial obligation debt against earnings and there is in the possession of the person or entity any of the earnings, RCW 6.27.150 shall not apply, but seventy-five percent of the disposable earnings shall be exempt and may be disbursed to the offender whether such earnings are paid, or to be paid weekly, monthly, or at other intervals and whether there is due the offender earnings for one week or for a longer period. The notice of payroll deduction or order to withhold and deliver shall continue to operate and require said person or entity to withhold the nonexempt portion of earnings, at each succeeding earnings disbursement interval until the entire amount of the court-ordered legal financial obligation debt has been withheld. [1991 c 93 § 11. Formerly RCW 9.94A.200050.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.7701 Legal financial obligations—Wage assignments—Petition or motion.**

A petition or motion seeking a mandatory wage assignment in a criminal action may be filed by the department or any obligee if the offender is more than thirty days past due in monthly payments in an amount equal to or greater than the amount payable for one month. The petition or motion shall include a sworn statement by the secretary or designee, or if filed solely by an obligee, by such obligee, stating the facts authorizing the issuance of the wage assignment order, including: (1) That the offender, stating his or her name and last known residence, is more than thirty days past due in payments in an amount equal to or greater than the amount payable for one month;

(2) a description of the terms of the judgment and sentence and/or payment order requiring payment of a court-ordered legal financial obligation, the total amount remaining unpaid, and the amount past due; (3) the name and address of the offender's employer; (4) that notice by personal service, or any form of mail requiring a return receipt, has been provided to the offender at least fifteen days prior to the filing of a mandatory wage assignment, unless the judgment and sentence or the order for payment states that the department or obligee may seek a mandatory wage assignment without notice to the defendant. A copy of the judgment and sentence or payment order shall be attached to the petition or motion seeking the wage assignment. [1989 c 252 § 9. Formerly RCW 9.94A.2001.]

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

**9.94A.7702 Legal financial obligations—Wage assignments—Answer.** Upon receipt of a petition or motion seeking a mandatory wage assignment that complies with RCW 9.94A.7701, the court shall issue a wage assignment order as provided in RCW 9.94A.7704 and including the information required in RCW 9.94A.7701, directed to the employer, and commanding the employer to answer the order on the forms served with the order that comply with RCW 9.94A.7706 within twenty days after service of the order upon the employer. [1989 c 252 § 10. Formerly RCW 9.94A.2002.]

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

**9.94A.7703 Legal financial obligations—Wage assignments—Amounts to be withheld.** (1) The wage assignment order in RCW 9.94A.7702 shall include: (a) The maximum amount or current amount owed on a court-ordered legal financial obligation, if any, to be withheld from the defendant's earnings each month, or from each earnings disbursement; and (b) the total amount of the arrearage or reimbursement judgment previously entered by the court, if any, together with interest, if any.

(2) The total amount to be withheld from the defendant's earnings each month, or from each earnings disbursement, shall not exceed twenty-five percent of the disposable earnings of the defendant. If the amounts to be paid toward the arrearage are specified in the payment order, then the maximum amount to be withheld is the sum of the current amount owed and the amount ordered to be paid toward the arrearage, or twenty-five percent of the disposable earnings of the defendant, whichever is less.

(3) If the defendant is subject to two or more attachments for payment of a court-ordered legal financial obligation on account of different obligees, the employer shall, if the nonexempt portion of the defendant's earnings is not sufficient to respond fully to all the attachments, apportion the defendant's nonexempt disposable earnings between or among the various obligees equally. Any obligee may seek a court order reapportioning the defendant's nonexempt disposable earnings upon notice to all interested parties. Notice shall be by personal service, or in the manner provided by the civil rules of superior court or applicable statute. [1989 c 252 § 11. Formerly RCW 9.94A.2003.]

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

**9.94A.7704 Legal financial obligations—Wage assignments—Rules.** The department shall develop a form and adopt rules for the wage assignment order. [1989 c 252 § 12. Formerly RCW 9.94A.2004.]

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

**9.94A.7705 Legal financial obligations—Wage assignments—Employer responsibilities.** (1) An employer upon whom service of a wage assignment order has been made shall answer the order by sworn affidavit within twenty days after the date of service. The answer shall state whether the offender is employed by or receives earnings from the employer, whether the employer will honor the wage assignment order, and whether there are multiple attachments against the offender.

(2) If the employer possesses any earnings due and owing to the offender, the earnings subject to the wage assignment order shall be withheld immediately upon receipt of the wage assignment order. The employer shall deliver the withheld earnings to the clerk of the court pursuant to the wage assignment order. The employer shall make the first delivery no sooner than twenty days after receipt of the wage assignment order.

(3) The employer shall continue to withhold the ordered amounts from nonexempt earnings of the offender until notified that the wage assignment has been modified or terminated. The employer shall promptly notify the clerk of the court who entered the order when the employee is no longer employed.

(4) The employer may deduct a processing fee from the remainder of the employee's earnings after withholding under the wage assignment order, even if the remainder is exempt under RCW 9.94A.7703. The processing fee may not exceed: (a) Ten dollars for the first disbursement made by the employer to the clerk of the court; and (b) one dollar for each subsequent disbursement made under the wage assignment order.

(5) An employer who fails to withhold earnings as required by a wage assignment order issued under this chapter may be held liable for the amounts disbursed to the offender in violation of the wage assignment order, and may be found by the court to be in contempt of court and may be punished as provided by law.

(6) No employer who complies with a wage assignment order issued under this chapter may be liable to the employee for wrongful withholding.

(7) No employer may discharge, discipline, or refuse to hire an employee because of the entry or service of a wage assignment order issued and executed under this chapter. A person who violates this subsection may be found by the court to be in contempt of court and may be punished as provided by law.

(8) An employer shall deliver a copy of the wage assignment order to the obligor as soon as is reasonably possible. [1989 c 252 § 13. Formerly RCW 9.94A.2005.]

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

**9.94A.7706 Legal financial obligations—Wage assignments—Form and rules.** The department shall develop a form and adopt rules for the wage assignment answer, and instructions for employers for preparing such answer. [1989 c 252 § 14. Formerly RCW 9.94A.2006.]

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

**9.94A.7707 Legal financial obligations—Wage assignments—Service.** (1) Service of the wage assignment order on the employer is invalid unless it is served with five answer forms in substantial conformance with RCW 9.94A.7706, together with stamped envelopes addressed to, respectively, the clerk of the court where the order was issued, the obligee's attorney, the petitioner, the department, and the obligor. The petitioner shall also include an extra copy of the wage assignment order for the employer to deliver to the obligor. Service on the employer shall be in person or by any form of mail requiring a return receipt.

(2) On or before the date of service of the wage assignment order on the employer, the petitioner shall mail or cause to be mailed by certified mail a copy of the wage assignment order to the obligor at the obligor's last known post office address; or, in the alternative, a copy of the wage assignment order shall be served on the obligor in the same manner as a summons in a civil action on, before, or within two days after the date of service of the order on the employer. This requirement is not jurisdictional, but if the copy is not mailed or served as this subsection provides, or if any irregularity appears with respect to the mailing of service, the superior court, in its discretion, may quash the wage assignment order, upon motion of the obligor promptly made and supported by an affidavit showing that the defendant has suffered substantial injury due to the failure to mail or serve the copy. [1989 c 252 § 15. Formerly RCW 9.94A.2007.]

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

**9.94A.7708 Legal financial obligations—Wage assignments—Hearing—Scope of relief.** In a hearing to quash, modify, or terminate the wage assignment order, the court may grant relief only upon a showing that the wage assignment order causes extreme hardship or substantial injustice. Satisfaction by the defendant of all past-due payments subsequent to the issuance of the wage assignment order is not grounds to quash, modify, or terminate the wage assignment order. If a wage assignment order has been in operation for twelve consecutive months and the obligor's payment towards a court-ordered legal financial obligation is current, the court may terminate the order upon motion of the obligor unless the obligee or the department can show good cause as to why the wage assignment order should remain in effect. The department shall notify the employer of any modification or termination of the wage assignment order. [1989 c 252 § 16. Formerly RCW 9.94A.2008.]

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

**9.94A.7709 Legal financial obligations—Wage assignments—Recovery of costs, attorneys' fees.** In any action to enforce legal financial obligations under this chapter, the prevailing party is entitled to a recovery of costs,

including an award for reasonable attorneys' fees. An obligor may not be considered a prevailing party under this section unless the obligee has acted in bad faith in connection with the proceeding in question. [1989 c 252 § 17. Formerly RCW 9.94A.2009.]

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

**9.94A.772 Legal financial obligations—Monthly payment, starting dates—Construction.** Notwithstanding any other provision of state law, monthly payment or starting dates set by the court, the county clerk, or the department before or after October 1, 2003, shall not be construed as a limitation on the due date or amount of legal financial obligations, which may be immediately collected by civil means and shall not be construed as a limitation for purposes of credit reporting. Monthly payments and commencement dates are to be construed to be applicable solely as a limitation upon the deprivation of an offender's liberty for nonpayment. [2004 c 121 § 4; 2003 c 379 § 22.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2003 c 379:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.728.

**Intent—Purpose—2003 c 379 §§ 13-27:** See note following RCW 9.94A.760.

**9.94A.775 Legal financial obligations—Termination of supervision—Monitoring of payments.** If an offender with an unsatisfied legal financial obligation is not subject to supervision by the department for a term of community custody, or has not completed payment of all legal financial obligations included in the sentence at the expiration of his or her term of community custody, the department shall notify the administrative office of the courts of the termination of the offender's supervision and provide information to the administrative office of the courts to enable the county clerk to monitor payment of the remaining obligations. The county clerk is authorized to monitor payment after such notification. The secretary of corrections and the administrator for the courts shall enter into an interagency agreement to facilitate the electronic transfer of information about offenders, unpaid obligations, and payees to carry out the purposes of this section. [2008 c 231 § 36; 2003 c 379 § 17.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Severability—Effective dates—2003 c 379:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.728.

**Intent—Purpose—2003 c 379 §§ 13-27:** See note following RCW 9.94A.760.

**9.94A.777 Legal financial obligations—Defendants with mental health conditions.** (1) Before imposing any legal financial obligations upon a defendant who suffers from a mental health condition, other than restitution or the victim penalty assessment under RCW 7.68.035, a judge must first determine that the defendant, under the terms of this section, has the means to pay such additional sums.

(2) For the purposes of this section, a defendant suffers from a mental health condition when the defendant has been diagnosed with a mental disorder that prevents the defendant from participating in gainful employment, as evidenced by a determination of mental disability as the basis for the defen-

dant's enrollment in a public assistance program, a record of involuntary hospitalization, or by competent expert evaluation. [2010 c 280 § 6.]

#### SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT

##### **9.94A.780 Offender supervision intake fees.** (1)

Whenever a punishment imposed under this chapter requires supervision services to be provided, the offender shall pay to the department of corrections the supervision intake fee, prescribed under subsection (2) of this section, which shall be considered as payment or part payment of the cost of establishing supervision to the offender. The department may exempt or defer a person from the payment of all or any part of the intake fee based upon any of the following factors:

(a) The offender has diligently attempted but has been unable to obtain employment that provides the offender sufficient income to make such a payment.

(b) The offender is a student in a school, college, university, or a course of vocational or technical training designed to fit the student for gainful employment.

(c) The offender has an employment handicap, as determined by an examination acceptable to or ordered by the department.

(d) The offender's age prevents him or her from obtaining employment.

(e) The offender is responsible for the support of dependents and the payment of the intake fee constitutes an undue hardship on the offender.

(f) Other extenuating circumstances as determined by the department.

(2) The department of corrections shall adopt a rule prescribing the amount of the assessment. The supervision intake fee shall be imposed after the determination of eligibility for supervision has been completed. For offenders whose crime was committed on or after October 1, 2011, the intake fee prescribed shall be not less than four hundred dollars or more than six hundred dollars, and shall be assessed for each judgment and sentence imposed by the superior court in which supervision by the department is required.

(3) For offenders whose offense date was before October 1, 2011, the monthly rate shall be converted to a one-time fee. The amount due shall be based upon the most recent monthly fee amount by the months of supervision left to serve, but in no case shall exceed six hundred dollars.

(4) Nothing in chapter 40, Laws of 2011 1st sp. sess. shall affect the amount or dates payments are due for any prior balances owed by an offender for the cost of supervision.

(5) All amounts required to be paid under this section shall be collected by the department of corrections and deposited by the department in the dedicated fund established pursuant to RCW 72.11.040.

(6) This section shall not apply to probation services provided under an interstate compact pursuant to chapter 9.95 RCW or to probation services provided for persons placed on probation prior to June 10, 1982.

(7) If a county clerk assumes responsibility for collection of unpaid legal financial obligations under RCW 9.94A.760, or under any agreement with the department under that section, whether before or after the completion of any period of

community custody, the clerk may impose a monthly or annual assessment for the cost of collections. The amount of the assessment shall not exceed the actual cost of collections. The county clerk may exempt or defer payment of all or part of the assessment based upon any of the factors listed in subsection (1) of this section. The offender shall pay the assessment under this subsection to the county clerk who shall apply it to the cost of collecting legal financial obligations under RCW 9.94A.760. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 10; 2008 c 231 § 37; 2003 c 379 § 18; 1991 c 104 § 1; 1989 c 252 § 8; 1984 c 209 § 15; 1982 c 207 § 2. Formerly RCW 9.94A.270.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Severability—Effective dates—2003 c 379:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.728.

**Intent—Purpose—2003 c 379 §§ 13-27:** See note following RCW 9.94A.760.

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.810 Transition and relapse prevention strategies.** Within the funds available for this purpose, the department shall develop and monitor transition and relapse prevention strategies, including risk assessment and release plans, to reduce risk to the community after sex offenders' terms of confinement in the custody of the department. [2000 c 28 § 35.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

##### **9.94A.820 Sex offender treatment in the community.**

(1) Sex offender examinations and treatment ordered as a special condition of community custody under this chapter shall be conducted only by certified sex offender treatment providers or certified affiliate sex offender treatment providers under chapter 18.155 RCW unless the court or the department finds that: (a) The offender has already moved to another state or plans to move to another state for reasons other than circumventing the certification requirements; (b) the treatment provider is employed by the department; or (c)(i) no certified sex offender treatment providers or certified affiliate sex offender treatment providers are available to provide treatment within a reasonable geographic distance of the offender's home, as determined in rules adopted by the secretary; and (ii) the evaluation and treatment plan comply with the rules adopted by the department of health. A treatment provider selected by an offender under (c) of this subsection, who is not certified by the department of health shall consult with a certified sex offender treatment provider during the offender's period of treatment to ensure compliance with the rules adopted by the department of health. The frequency and content of the consultation shall be based on the recommendation of the certified sex offender treatment provider.

(2) A sex offender's failure to participate in treatment required as a condition of community custody is a violation that will not be excused on the basis that no treatment provider was located within a reasonable geographic distance of



the offender's home. [2008 c 231 § 38; 2004 c 38 § 10; 2000 c 28 § 36.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Effective date—2004 c 38:** See note following RCW 18.155.075.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### SPECIAL ALLEGATIONS

**9.94A.825 Deadly weapon special verdict—Definition.** In a criminal case wherein there has been a special allegation and evidence establishing that the accused or an accomplice was armed with a deadly weapon at the time of the commission of the crime, the court shall make a finding of fact of whether or not the accused or an accomplice was armed with a deadly weapon at the time of the commission of the crime, or if a jury trial is had, the jury shall, if it find[s] the defendant guilty, also find a special verdict as to whether or not the defendant or an accomplice was armed with a deadly weapon at the time of the commission of the crime.

For purposes of this section, a deadly weapon is an implement or instrument which has the capacity to inflict death and from the manner in which it is used, is likely to produce or may easily and readily produce death. The following instruments are included in the term deadly weapon: Black-jack, sling shot, billy, sand club, sandbag, metal knuckles, any dirk, dagger, pistol, revolver, or any other firearm, any knife having a blade longer than three inches, any razor with an unguarded blade, any metal pipe or bar used or intended to be used as a club, any explosive, and any weapon containing poisonous or injurious gas. [1983 c 163 § 3. Formerly RCW 9.94A.602, 9.94A.125.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.827 Methamphetamine—Manufacturing with child on premises—Special allegation.** In a criminal case where:

(1) The defendant has been convicted of (a) manufacture of a controlled substance under RCW 69.50.401 relating to manufacture of methamphetamine; or (b) possession of ephedrine or any of its salts or isomers or salts of isomers, pseudoephedrine or any of its salts or isomers or salts of isomers, pressurized ammonia gas, or pressurized ammonia gas solution with intent to manufacture methamphetamine, as defined in RCW 69.50.440; and

(2) There has been a special allegation pleaded and proven beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant committed the crime when a person under the age of eighteen was present in or upon the premises of manufacture; the court shall make a finding of fact of the special allegation, or if a jury trial is had, the jury shall, if it finds the defendant guilty, also find a special verdict as to the special allegation. [2003 c 53 § 60; 2002 c 134 § 3; 2000 c 132 § 1. Formerly RCW 9.94A.605, 9.94A.128.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Effective date—2002 c 134:** See note following RCW 69.50.440.

**9.94A.829 Special allegation—Offense committed by criminal street gang member or associate—Procedures.**

In a criminal case in which the defendant has been convicted of unlawful possession of a firearm under RCW 9.41.040, and there has been a special allegation pleaded and proven by a preponderance of the evidence that the accused is a criminal street gang member or associate as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, the court shall make a finding of fact of the special allegation, or if a jury trial is had, the jury shall, if it finds the defendant guilty, also find a special verdict as to whether or not the accused was a criminal street gang member or associate during the commission of the crime. [2009 c 28 § 16.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**9.94A.831 Special allegation—Assault of law enforcement personnel with a firearm—Procedures.** In a criminal case where:

(1) The defendant has been convicted of assaulting a law enforcement officer or other employee of a law enforcement agency who was performing his or her official duties at the time of the assault as provided under RCW 9A.36.031; and

(2) There has been a special allegation pleaded and proven beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant intentionally committed the assault with what appears to be a firearm;

the court shall make a finding of fact of the special allegation, or if a jury trial is had, the jury shall, if it finds the defendant guilty, also find a special verdict as to the special allegation. [2009 c 141 § 1.]

**9.94A.833 Special allegation—Involving minor in felony offense—Procedures.** (1) In a prosecution of a criminal street gang-related felony offense, the prosecution may file a special allegation that the felony offense involved the compensation, threatening, or solicitation of a minor in order to involve that minor in the commission of the felony offense, as described under RCW 9.94A.533(10)(a).

(2) The state has the burden of proving a special allegation made under this section beyond a reasonable doubt. If a jury is had, the jury shall, if it finds the defendant guilty, also find a special verdict as to whether the criminal street gang-related felony offense involved the compensation, threatening, or solicitation of a minor in order to involve that minor in the commission of the felony offense. If no jury is had, the court shall make a finding of fact as to whether the criminal street gang-related felony offense involved the compensation, threatening, or solicitation of a minor in order to involve that minor in the commission of the felony offense. [2008 c 276 § 302.]

**Severability—Part headings, subheadings not law—2008 c 276:** See notes following RCW 36.28A.200.

**9.94A.834 Special allegation—Endangerment by eluding a police vehicle—Procedures.** (1) The prosecuting attorney may file a special allegation of endangerment by eluding in every criminal case involving a charge of attempting to elude a police vehicle under RCW 46.61.024, when sufficient admissible evidence exists, to show that one or more persons other than the defendant or the pursuing law enforcement officer were threatened with physical injury or harm by the actions of the person committing the crime of attempting to elude a police vehicle.

(2) In a criminal case in which there has been a special allegation, the state shall prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the accused committed the crime while endangering one or more persons other than the defendant or the pursuing law enforcement officer. The court shall make a finding of fact of whether or not one or more persons other than the defendant or the pursuing law enforcement officer were endangered at the time of the commission of the crime, or if a jury trial is had, the jury shall, if it finds the defendant guilty, also find a special verdict as to whether or not one or more persons other than the defendant or the pursuing law enforcement officer were endangered during the commission of the crime. [2008 c 219 § 2.]

**Short title—2008 c 219:** "This act may be known and cited as the Guillermo "Bobby" Aguilar and Edgar F. Trevino-Mendoza public safety act of 2008." [2008 c 219 § 1.]

**9.94A.835 Special allegation—Sexual motivation—Procedures.** (1) The prosecuting attorney shall file a special allegation of sexual motivation in every criminal case, felony, gross misdemeanor, or misdemeanor, other than sex offenses as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 when sufficient admissible evidence exists, which, when considered with the most plausible, reasonably foreseeable defense that could be raised under the evidence, would justify a finding of sexual motivation by a reasonable and objective fact finder.

(2) In a criminal case wherein there has been a special allegation the state shall prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the accused committed the crime with a sexual motivation. The court shall make a finding of fact of whether or not a sexual motivation was present at the time of the commission of the crime, or if a jury trial is had, the jury shall, if it finds the defendant guilty, also find a special verdict as to whether or not the defendant committed the crime with a sexual motivation. This finding shall not be applied to sex offenses as defined in RCW 9.94A.030.

(3) The prosecuting attorney shall not withdraw the special allegation of sexual motivation without approval of the court through an order of dismissal of the special allegation. The court shall not dismiss this special allegation unless it finds that such an order is necessary to correct an error in the initial charging decision or unless there are evidentiary problems which make proving the special allegation doubtful. [2009 c 28 § 15; 2006 c 123 § 2; 1999 c 143 § 11; 1990 c 3 § 601. Formerly RCW 9.94A.127.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Effective date—2006 c 123:** See note following RCW 9.94A.533.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.836 Special allegation—Offense was predatory—Procedures.** (1) In a prosecution for rape of a child in the first degree, rape of a child in the second degree, or child molestation in the first degree, the prosecuting attorney shall file a special allegation that the offense was predatory whenever sufficient admissible evidence exists, which, when considered with the most plausible, reasonably foreseeable defense that could be raised under the evidence, would justify a finding by a reasonable and objective fact finder that the offense was predatory, unless the prosecuting attorney determines, after consulting with a victim, that filing a special alle-

gation under this section is likely to interfere with the ability to obtain a conviction.

(2) Once a special allegation has been made under this section, the state has the burden to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the offense was predatory. If a jury is had, the jury shall, if it finds the defendant guilty, also find a special verdict as to whether the offense was predatory. If no jury is had, the court shall make a finding of fact as to whether the offense was predatory.

(3) The prosecuting attorney shall not withdraw a special allegation filed under this section without the approval of the court through an order of dismissal of the allegation. The court may not dismiss the special allegation unless it finds that the order is necessary to correct an error in the initial charging decision or that there are evidentiary problems that make proving the special allegation doubtful. [2006 c 122 § 1.]

**Effective date—2006 c 122 §§ 1-4 and 6:** "Sections 1 through 4 and 6 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect immediately [March 20, 2006]." [2006 c 122 § 10.]

**9.94A.837 Special allegation—Victim was under fifteen years of age—Procedures.** (1) In a prosecution for rape in the first degree, rape in the second degree, indecent liberties by forcible compulsion, or kidnapping in the first degree with sexual motivation, the prosecuting attorney shall file a special allegation that the victim of the offense was under fifteen years of age at the time of the offense whenever sufficient admissible evidence exists, which, when considered with the most plausible, reasonably foreseeable defense that could be raised under the evidence, would justify a finding by a reasonable and objective fact finder that the victim was under fifteen years of age at the time of the offense, unless the prosecuting attorney determines, after consulting with a victim, that filing a special allegation under this section is likely to interfere with the ability to obtain a conviction.

(2) Once a special allegation has been made under this section, the state has the burden to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the victim was under fifteen years of age at the time of the offense. If a jury is had, the jury shall, if it finds the defendant guilty, also find a special verdict as to whether the victim was under the age of fifteen at the time of the offense. If no jury is had, the court shall make a finding of fact as to whether the victim was under the age of fifteen at the time of the offense.

(3) The prosecuting attorney shall not withdraw a special allegation filed under this section without the approval of the court through an order of dismissal of the allegation. The court may not dismiss the special allegation unless it finds that the order is necessary to correct an error in the initial charging decision or that there are evidentiary problems that make proving the special allegation doubtful. [2006 c 122 § 2.]

**Effective date—2006 c 122 §§ 1-4 and 6:** See note following RCW 9.94A.836.

**9.94A.838 Special allegation—Victim had diminished capacity—Procedures.** (1) In a prosecution for rape in the first degree, rape in the second degree with forcible

compulsion, indecent liberties with forcible compulsion, or kidnapping in the first degree with sexual motivation, the prosecuting attorney shall file a special allegation that the victim of the offense was, at the time of the offense, developmentally disabled, mentally disordered, or a frail elder or vulnerable adult, whenever sufficient admissible evidence exists, which, when considered with the most plausible, reasonably foreseeable defense that could be raised under the evidence, would justify a finding by a reasonable and objective fact finder that the victim was, at the time of the offense, developmentally disabled, mentally disordered, or a frail elder or vulnerable adult, unless the prosecuting attorney determines, after consulting with a victim, that filing a special allegation under this section is likely to interfere with the ability to obtain a conviction.

(2) Once a special allegation has been made under this section, the state has the burden to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the victim was, at the time of the offense, developmentally disabled, mentally disordered, or a frail elder or vulnerable adult. If a jury is had, the jury shall, if it finds the defendant guilty, also find a special verdict as to whether the victim was, at the time of the offense, developmentally disabled, mentally disordered, or a frail elder or vulnerable adult. If no jury is had, the court shall make a finding of fact as to whether the victim was, at the time of the offense, developmentally disabled, mentally disordered, or a frail elder or vulnerable adult.

(3) The prosecuting attorney shall not withdraw a special allegation filed under this section without the approval of the court through an order of dismissal of the allegation. The court may not dismiss the special allegation unless it finds that the order is necessary to correct an error in the initial charging decision or that there are evidentiary problems that make proving the special allegation doubtful.

(4) For purposes of this section, "developmentally disabled," "mentally disordered," and "frail elder or vulnerable adult" have the same meaning as in \*RCW 9A.44.010. [2006 c 122 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9A.44.010 was amended by 2007 c 20 § 3, changing the definition of "developmentally disabled" and "mentally disordered" to "person with a developmental disability" and "person with a mental disorder," respectively.

**Effective date—2006 c 122 §§ 1-4 and 6:** See note following RCW 9.94A.836.

**9.94A.839 Special allegation—Sexual conduct with victim in return for a fee—Procedures.** (1) In a prosecution for a violation of RCW 9A.44.073, 9A.44.076, 9A.44.079, 9A.44.083, 9A.44.086, or 9A.44.089, or an anticipatory offense for a violation of RCW 9A.44.073, 9A.44.076, 9A.44.079, 9A.44.083, 9A.44.086, or 9A.44.089, committed on or after July 22, 2007, the prosecuting attorney may file a special allegation that the defendant engaged, agreed, offered, attempted, solicited another, or conspired to engage the victim in the sexual conduct in return for a fee, when sufficient admissible evidence exists, which, when considered with the most plausible, reasonably foreseeable defense that could be raised under the evidence, would justify a finding by a reasonable and objective fact finder that the defendant engaged, agreed, offered, attempted, solicited

another, or conspired to engage the victim in the sexual conduct in return for a fee.

(2) Once a special allegation has been made under this section, the state has the burden to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant engaged, agreed, offered, attempted, solicited another, or conspired to engage the victim in the sexual conduct in return for a fee. If a jury is had, the jury shall, if it finds the defendant guilty, also find a special verdict as to whether the defendant engaged, agreed, offered, attempted, solicited another, or conspired to engage the victim in the sexual conduct in exchange for a fee. If no jury is had, the court shall make a finding of fact as to whether the defendant engaged, agreed, offered, attempted, solicited another, or conspired to engage the victim in the sexual conduct in exchange for a fee.

(3) For purposes of this section, "sexual conduct" means sexual intercourse or sexual contact as defined in chapter 9A.44 RCW. [2007 c 368 § 10.]

## SEX OFFENDERS

**9.94A.840 Sex offenders—Release from total confinement—Notification of prosecutor.** (1)(a) When it appears that a person who has been convicted of a sexually violent offense may meet the criteria of a sexually violent predator as defined in \*RCW 71.09.020(1), the agency with jurisdiction over the person shall refer the person in writing to the prosecuting attorney of the county where that person was convicted, three months prior to the anticipated release from total confinement.

(b) The agency shall inform the prosecutor of the following:

(i) The person's name, identifying factors, anticipated future residence, and offense history; and

(ii) Documentation of institutional adjustment and any treatment received.

(2) This section applies to acts committed before, on, or after March 26, 1992.

(3) The agency with jurisdiction, its employees, and officials shall be immune from liability for any good-faith conduct under this section.

(4) As used in this section, "agency with jurisdiction" means that agency with the authority to direct the release of a person serving a sentence or term of confinement and includes the department of corrections, the indeterminate sentence review board, and the department of social and health services. [1992 c 45 § 1; 1990 c 3 § 122. Formerly RCW 9.94A.151.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 71.09.020 was amended by 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 102, changing subsection (1) to subsection (12). RCW 71.09.020 was subsequently amended by 2002 c 58 § 2, changing subsection (12) to subsection (16). RCW 71.09.020 was subsequently amended by 2009 c 409 § 1, changing subsection (16) to subsection (18).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.843 Sex offenders—Release of information—Immunity.** The department, its employees, and officials, shall be immune from liability for release of information regarding sex offenders that complies with RCW 4.24.550. [1990 c 3 § 123. Formerly RCW 9.94A.152.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.844 Sex offenders—Discretionary decisions—Immunity.** Law enforcement agencies and the department of corrections are immune from civil liability for damages from discretionary decisions made under chapter 436, Laws of 2005 if they make a good faith effort to comply with chapter 436, Laws of 2005. [2005 c 436 § 5.]

**Reviser's note:** 2005 c 436 § 6 (an expiration date section) was repealed by 2006 c 131 § 2.

**9.94A.845 Community protection zones—Preemption of local regulations—Retrospective application.** (1) Sections 1 through 3 and 5 of chapter 436, Laws of 2005, supersede and preempt all rules, regulations, codes, statutes, or ordinances of all cities, counties, municipalities, and local agencies regarding the same subject matter. The state preemption created in this section applies to all rules, regulations, codes, statutes, and ordinances pertaining to residency restrictions for persons convicted of any sex offense at any time.

(2) This section does not apply to rules, regulations, codes, statutes, or ordinances adopted by cities, counties, municipalities, or local agencies prior to March 1, 2006, except as required by an order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to litigation regarding the rules, regulations, codes, statutes, or ordinances. [2006 c 131 § 1.]

**Contingent expiration date—2006 c 131 § 1:** "(1) If the association of Washington cities submits consensus statewide standards to the governor and the legislature on or before December 31, 2007, section 1 of this act expires July 1, 2008, and may only be revived by an affirmative act of the legislature through duly enacted legislation.

(2) If the association of Washington cities does not submit consensus statewide standards to the governor and legislature on or before December 31, 2007, section 1 of this act does not expire." [2006 c 131 § 4.]

**Reviser's note:** No consensus statewide standards on sex offender residency restrictions were delivered to the governor on or before December 31, 2007.

**Residency restrictions on sex offenders—Statewide standards—2006 c 131:** "(1) The association of Washington cities, working with the cities and towns of Washington state, shall develop statewide standards for cities and towns to use when determining whether to impose residency restrictions on sex offenders within their jurisdiction.

(2) The association of Washington cities shall work in consultation with a representative from each of the following agencies and organizations:

- (a) The attorney general of Washington;
- (b) The Washington state association of counties;
- (c) The department of corrections;
- (d) The Washington state coalition of sexual assault programs;
- (e) The Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs; and
- (f) Any other agencies and organizations as deemed appropriate by the association of Washington cities, such as the Washington association of prosecuting attorneys, the juvenile rehabilitation administration of the department of social and health services, the indeterminate sentence review board, the Washington association for the treatment of sexual abusers, and the \*department of community, trade, and economic development.

(3) The statewide standards for whether to impose residency restrictions on sex offenders should consider the following elements:

- (a) An identification of areas in which sex offenders should not reside due to concerns regarding public safety and welfare;
- (b) An identification of areas in which sex offenders may reside, taking into consideration factors such as:
  - (i) How many housing units must reasonably be available in order to accommodate registered sex offenders in a city or town;
  - (ii) The average response time of emergency services to the areas;
  - (iii) The proximity of risk potential activities to the areas; and
  - (iv) The proximity of medical care, mental health care providers, and sex offender treatment providers to the areas;
- (c) A prohibition against completely precluding sex offender residences within a city or town, implicating a sex offender's right to travel, or enacting a criminal regulatory measure;

- (d) Appropriate civil remedies for violations of a local ordinance; and
- (e) Unique local conditions that should be given due deference, such as proximity to state facilities that house or treat sex offenders.

(4) The association of Washington cities, on behalf of the cities and towns in Washington, shall present consensus statewide standards, along with any consensus recommendations and proposed legislation, to the governor and the legislature no later than December 31, 2007. The standards and any recommendations or proposed legislation must reflect a consensus among the association of Washington cities and the entities in subsection (2)(a) through (e) of this section. These entities must participate in good faith in activities carried out under this section with a goal of achieving consensus standards." [2006 c 131 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The "department of community, trade, and economic development" was renamed the "department of commerce" by 2009 c 565.

**9.94A.846 Sex offenders—Release of information.** In addition to any other information required to be released under other provisions of this chapter, the department may, pursuant to RCW 4.24.550, release information concerning convicted sex offenders confined to the department of corrections. [1990 c 3 § 124. Formerly RCW 9.94A.153.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## SENTENCING GUIDELINES COMMISSION

**9.94A.860 Sentencing guidelines commission—Membership—Appointments—Terms of office—Expenses and compensation.** (1) The sentencing guidelines commission is hereby created, located within the office of financial management. Except as provided in RCW 9.94A.875, the commission shall serve to advise the governor and the legislature as necessary on issues relating to adult and juvenile sentencing. The commission may meet, as necessary, to accomplish these purposes within funds appropriated.

(2) The commission consists of twenty voting members, one of whom the governor shall designate as chairperson. With the exception of ex officio voting members, the voting members of the commission shall be appointed by the governor, or his or her designee, subject to confirmation by the senate.

(3) The voting membership consists of the following:

- (a) The head of the state agency having general responsibility for adult correction programs, as an ex officio member;
- (b) The director of financial management or designee, as an ex officio member;
- (c) The chair of the indeterminate sentence review board, as an ex officio member;
- (d) The head of the state agency, or the agency head's designee, having responsibility for juvenile corrections programs, as an ex officio member;
- (e) Two prosecuting attorneys;
- (f) Two attorneys with particular expertise in defense work;
- (g) Four persons who are superior court judges;
- (h) One person who is the chief law enforcement officer of a county or city;
- (i) Four members of the public who are not prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges, or law enforcement officers, one of whom is a victim of crime or a crime victims' advocate;
- (j) One person who is an elected official of a county government, other than a prosecuting attorney or sheriff;
- (k) One person who is an elected official of a city government;

(l) One person who is an administrator of juvenile court services.

In making the appointments, the governor shall endeavor to assure that the commission membership includes adequate representation and expertise relating to both the adult criminal justice system and the juvenile justice system. In making the appointments, the governor shall seek the recommendations of Washington prosecutors in respect to the prosecuting attorney members, of the Washington state bar association in respect to the defense attorney members, of the association of superior court judges in respect to the members who are judges, of the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs in respect to the member who is a law enforcement officer, of the Washington state association of counties in respect to the member who is a county official, of the association of Washington cities in respect to the member who is a city official, of the office of crime victims advocacy and other organizations of crime victims in respect to the member who is a victim of crime or a crime victims' advocate, and of the Washington association of juvenile court administrators in respect to the member who is an administrator of juvenile court services.

(4)(a) All voting members of the commission, except ex officio voting members, shall serve terms of three years and until their successors are appointed and confirmed.

(b) The governor shall stagger the terms of the members appointed under subsection (3)(j), (k), and (l) of this section by appointing one of them for a term of one year, one for a term of two years, and one for a term of three years.

(5) The speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate may each appoint two nonvoting members to the commission, one from each of the two largest caucuses in each house. The members so appointed shall serve two-year terms, or until they cease to be members of the house from which they were appointed, whichever occurs first.

(6) The members of the commission may be reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. Legislative members may be reimbursed by their respective houses as provided under RCW 44.04.120. Except for the reimbursement of travel expenses, members shall not be compensated. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 36; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 311; 1996 c 232 § 3; 1993 c 11 § 1; 1988 c 157 § 2; 1984 c 287 § 10; 1981 c 137 § 6. Formerly RCW 9.94A.060.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

**Legislative findings—Severability—Effective date—1984 c 287:** See notes following RCW 43.03.220.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.865 Standard sentence ranges—Revisions or modifications—Submission to legislature.** Revisions or modifications of standard sentence ranges or other standards, together with any additional list of standard sentence ranges, shall be submitted to the legislature at least every two years. [1986 c 257 § 19; 1981 c 137 § 7. Formerly RCW 9.94A.070.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.8673 Sex offender policy board—Membership—Expenses and compensation.** (1) Within funds appropriated for this purpose, the sentencing guidelines commission shall establish and maintain a sex offender policy board.

(2)(a) The board shall serve to advise the governor and the legislature as necessary on issues relating to sex offender management.

(b) At such times as the governor or a legislative committee of jurisdiction may request, the sex offender policy board may be convened to:

(i) Undertake projects to assist policymakers in making informed judgments about issues relating to sex offender policy; and

(ii) Conduct case reviews of sex offense incidents to understand performance of Washington's sex offender prevention and response systems.

(3) The sex offender policy board shall consist of thirteen voting members. Unless the member is specifically named in this section, the following organizations shall designate a person to sit on the board. The voting membership shall consist of the following:

(a) A representative of the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs;

(b) A representative of the Washington association of prosecuting attorneys;

(c) A representative of the Washington association of criminal defense lawyers;

(d) The chair of the indeterminate sentence review board or his or her designee;

(e) A representative of the Washington association for the treatment of sex abusers;

(f) The secretary of the department of corrections or his or her designee;

(g) A representative of the Washington state superior court judges' association;

(h) The assistant secretary of the juvenile rehabilitation administration or his or her designee;

(i) The office of crime victims advocacy in the department of commerce;

(j) A representative of the Washington state association of counties;

(k) A representative of the association of Washington cities;

(l) A representative of the Washington association of sexual assault programs; and

(m) The director of the special commitment center or his or her designee.

(4) The board shall choose its chair by majority vote from among its voting membership. The chair's term shall be two years.

(5) As appropriate, the board shall consult with the criminal justice division in the attorney general's office and the Washington institute for public policy.

(6) Members of the board shall receive no compensation but may be reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 37; 2008 c 249 § 3.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Captions not law—2008 c 249:** "Captions used in this act are not any part of the law." [2008 c 249 § 12.]

## CLEMENCY, INMATE POPULATION

**9.94A.870 Emergency due to inmate population exceeding correctional facility capacity.** If the governor finds that an emergency exists in that the population of a state residential correctional facility exceeds its reasonable, maximum capacity, then the governor may do any one or more of the following:

(1) Call the sentencing guidelines commission into an emergency meeting for the purpose of evaluating the standard ranges and other standards. The commission may adopt any revision or amendment to the standard ranges or other standards that it believes appropriate to deal with the emergency situation. The revision or amendment shall be adopted in conformity with chapter 34.05 RCW and shall take effect on the date prescribed by the commission. The legislature shall approve or modify the commission's revision or amendment at the next legislative session after the revision or amendment takes effect. Failure of the legislature to act shall be deemed as approval of the revision or amendment;

(2) Call the clemency and pardons board into an emergency meeting for the purpose of recommending whether the governor's commutation or pardon power should be exercised to meet the present emergency. [1999 c 143 § 13; 1984 c 246 § 1; 1983 c 163 § 4; 1981 c 137 § 16. Formerly RCW 9.94A.160.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.875 Emergency in county jails population exceeding capacity.** If the governor finds that an emergency exists in that the populations of county jails exceed their reasonable, maximum capacity in a significant manner as a result of increases in the sentenced felon population due to implementation of chapter 9.94A RCW, the governor may do any one or more of the following:

(1) Call the sentencing guidelines commission into an emergency meeting for the purpose of evaluating the standard ranges and other standards. The commission may adopt any revision or amendment to the standard ranges or other standards that it believes appropriate to deal with the emergency situation. The revision or amendment shall be adopted in conformity with chapter 34.05 RCW and shall take effect on the date prescribed by the commission. The legislature shall approve or modify the commission's revision or amendment at the next legislative session after the revision or amendment takes effect. Failure of the legislature to act shall be deemed as approval of the revision or amendment. The commission shall also analyze how alternatives to total confinement are being provided and used and may recommend other emergency measures that may relieve the overcrowding.

(2) Call the clemency and pardons board into an emergency meeting for the purpose of recommending whether the governor's commutation or pardon power should be exercised to meet the present emergency. [1984 c 209 § 9. Formerly RCW 9.94A.165.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## **9.94A.880 Clemency and pardons board—Membership—Terms—Chair—Bylaws—Travel expenses—Staff.**

(1) The clemency and pardons board is established as a board within the office of the governor. The board consists of five members appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the senate.

(2) Members of the board shall serve terms of four years and until their successors are appointed and confirmed. However, the governor shall stagger the terms by appointing one of the initial members for a term of one year, one for a term of two years, one for a term of three years, and two for terms of four years.

(3) The board shall elect a chair from among its members and shall adopt bylaws governing the operation of the board.

(4) Members of the board shall receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 as now existing or hereafter amended.

(5) The attorney general shall provide a staff as needed for the operation of the board. [2011 c 336 § 335; 1981 c 137 § 25. Formerly RCW 9.94A.250.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## **9.94A.885 Clemency and pardons board—Petitions for review—Hearing.**

(1) The clemency and pardons board shall receive petitions from individuals, organizations, and the department for review and commutation of sentences and pardoning of offenders in extraordinary cases, and shall make recommendations thereon to the governor.

(2) The board shall receive petitions from individuals or organizations for the restoration of civil rights lost by operation of state law as a result of convictions for federal offenses or out-of-state felonies. The board may issue certificates of restoration limited to engaging in political office. Any certifications granted by the board must be filed with the secretary of state to be effective. In all other cases, the board shall make recommendations to the governor.

(3) The board shall not recommend that the governor grant clemency under subsection (1) of this section until a public hearing has been held on the petition. The prosecuting attorney of the county where the conviction was obtained shall be notified at least thirty days prior to the scheduled hearing that a petition has been filed and the date and place at which the hearing on the petition will be held. The board may waive the thirty-day notice requirement in cases where it determines that waiver is necessary to permit timely action on the petition. A copy of the petition shall be sent to the prosecuting attorney. The prosecuting attorney shall make reasonable efforts to notify victims, survivors of victims, witnesses, and the law enforcement agency or agencies that conducted the investigation, of the date and place of the hearing. Information regarding victims, survivors of victims, or witnesses receiving this notice are confidential and shall not be available to the offender. The board shall consider statements presented as set forth in RCW 7.69.032. This subsection is intended solely for the guidance of the board. Nothing in this section is intended or may be relied upon to create a right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by any person. [2009 c 325 § 6; 2009 c 138 § 4; 1999 c 323 § 3; 1989 c 214 § 2; 1981 c 137 § 26. Formerly RCW 9.94A.260.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2009 c 138 § 4 and by 2009 c 325 § 6, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Intent—1999 c 323:** "The pardoning power is vested in the governor under such regulations and restrictions as may be prescribed by law. To assist the governor in gathering the facts necessary to the wise exercise of this power, the legislature created the clemency and pardons board.

In recognition of the severe and detrimental impact of crime on victims, survivors of victims, and witnesses of crime, an intelligent recommendation on an application for clemency is dependent upon input from the victims and survivors of victims of crimes. It is the intent of the legislature to ensure that all victims and survivors of victims of crimes are afforded a meaningful role in the clemency process.

The impact of the crime on the community must also be assessed when passing upon an application for clemency. The prosecuting attorney who obtained the conviction and the law enforcement agency that conducted the investigation are uniquely situated to provide an accurate account of the offense and the impact felt by the community as a result of the offense. It is the intent of the legislature to ensure that the prosecuting attorney who obtained the conviction and the law enforcement agency that conducted the investigation are afforded a meaningful role in the clemency process." [1999 c 323 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94A.890 Abused victim—Resentencing for murder of abuser.** (1) The sentencing court or the court's successor shall consider recommendations from the indeterminate sentence review board for resentencing offenders convicted of murder if the indeterminate sentence review board advises the court of the following:

(a) The offender was convicted for a murder committed prior to July 23, 1989;

(b) RCW 9.94A.535(1)(h), if effective when the offender committed the crime, would have provided a basis for the offender to seek a mitigated sentence; and

(c) Upon review of the sentence, the indeterminate sentence review board believes that the sentencing court, when originally sentencing the offender for the murder, did not consider evidence that the victim subjected the offender or the offender's children to a continuing pattern of sexual or physical abuse and the murder was in response to that abuse.

(2) The court may resentence the offender in light of RCW 9.94A.535(1)(h) and impose an exceptional mitigating sentence pursuant to that provision. Prior to resentencing, the court shall consider any other recommendation and evidence concerning the issue of whether the offender committed the crime in response to abuse.

(3) The court shall render its decision regarding reducing the inmate's sentence no later than six months after receipt of the indeterminate sentence review board's recommendation to reduce the sentence imposed. [2000 c 28 § 42; 1993 c 144 § 5. Formerly RCW 9.94A.395.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### MISCELLANEOUS

**9.94A.905 Effective date of \*RCW 9.94A.080 through 9.94A.130, 9.94A.150 through 9.94A.230, 9.94A.250, 9.94A.260—Sentences apply to felonies committed after June 30, 1984.** \*RCW 9.94A.080 through 9.94A.130, 9.94A.150 through 9.94A.230, and 9.94A.250 and 9.94A.260 shall take effect on July 1, 1984. The sentences required under this chapter shall be prescribed in each

sentence which occurs for a felony committed after June 30, 1984. [1981 c 137 § 28.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The majority of chapter 9.94A RCW was recodified by 2001 c 10 § 6. See Comparative Table for chapter 9.94A RCW in the Table of Disposition of Former RCW Sections.

**9.94A.910 Severability—1981 c 137.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1981 c 137 § 41.]

**9.94A.920 Headings and captions not law—2000 c 28.** Part headings and section captions used in this act do not constitute any part of the law. [2000 c 28 § 43.]

**9.94A.921 Effective date—2000 c 28.** Sections 1 through 42 of this act take effect July 1, 2001. [2000 c 28 § 46.]

**9.94A.922 Severability—2000 c 28.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [2000 c 28 § 47.]

**9.94A.923 Nonentitlement.** Nothing in chapter 290, Laws of 2002 creates an entitlement for a criminal defendant to any specific sanction, alternative, sentence option, or substance abuse treatment. [2002 c 290 § 26.]

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 1, 4-6, 12, 13, 26, and 27:** See note following RCW 70.96A.350.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

**Severability—2002 c 290:** See RCW 9.94A.924.

**9.94A.924 Severability—2002 c 290.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [2002 c 290 § 28.]

**9.94A.925 Application—2003 c 379 §§ 13-27.** The provisions of sections 13 through 27, chapter 379, Laws of 2003 apply to all offenders currently, or in the future, subject to sentences with unsatisfied legal financial obligations. The provisions of sections 13 through 27, chapter 379, Laws of 2003 do not change the amount of any legal financial obligation or the maximum term for which any offender is, or may be, under the jurisdiction of the court for collection of legal financial obligations. [2003 c 379 § 24.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2003 c 379:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.728.

**Intent—Purpose—2003 c 379 §§ 13-27:** See note following RCW 9.94A.760.

**9.94A.926 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and

married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 21.]

**9.94A.930 Recodification.** The code reviser shall recodify sections within chapter 9.94A RCW, and correct any cross-references to any such recodified sections, as necessary to simplify the organization of chapter 9.94A RCW. [2001 c 10 § 6.]

### Chapter 9.94B RCW

## SENTENCING—CRIMES COMMITTED PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2000

### Sections

9.94B.010	Application of chapter.
9.94B.020	Definitions.
9.94B.030	Postrelease supervision—Violations—Expenses.
9.94B.040	Noncompliance with condition or requirement of sentence—Procedure—Penalty.
9.94B.050	Community placement.
9.94B.060	Community placement for specified offenders.
9.94B.070	Community custody for sex offenders.
9.94B.080	Mental status evaluations.
9.94B.090	Transfer to community custody status in lieu of earned release.
9.94B.100	Legal financial obligations—Wage assignments—Sentences imposed before July 1, 1989.

**9.94B.010 Application of chapter.** (1) This chapter codifies sentencing provisions that may be applicable to sentences for crimes committed prior to July 1, 2000.

(2) This chapter supplements chapter 9.94A RCW and should be read in conjunction with that chapter. [2008 c 231 § 51.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94B.020 Definitions.** In addition to the definitions set out in RCW 9.94A.030, the following definitions apply for purposes of this chapter:

(1) "Community placement" means that period during which the offender is subject to the conditions of community custody and/or postrelease supervision, which begins either upon completion of the term of confinement (postrelease supervision) or at such time as the offender is transferred to community custody in lieu of earned release. Community placement may consist of entirely community custody, entirely postrelease supervision, or a combination of the two.

(2) "Community supervision" means a period of time during which a convicted offender is subject to crime-related prohibitions and other sentence conditions imposed by a court pursuant to this chapter or RCW \*16.52.200(6) or 46.61.524. Where the court finds that any offender has a chemical dependency that has contributed to his or her offense, the conditions of supervision may, subject to available resources, include treatment. For purposes of the interstate compact for out-of-state supervision of parolees and

probationers, RCW 9.95.270, community supervision is the functional equivalent of probation and should be considered the same as probation by other states.

(3) "Postrelease supervision" is that portion of an offender's community placement that is not community custody. [2008 c 231 § 52.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 16.52.200 was amended by 2009 c 287 § 3, changing subsection (6) to subsection (7). RCW 16.52.200 was subsequently amended by 2011 c 172 § 4, changing subsection (7) to subsection (9).

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94B.030 Postrelease supervision—Violations—Expenses.** If the offender violates any condition of postrelease supervision, a hearing may be conducted in the same manner as provided in RCW 9.94B.040. Jurisdiction shall be with the court of the county in which the offender was sentenced. However, the court may order a change of venue to the offender's county of residence or where the violation occurred, for the purpose of holding a violation hearing.

After the hearing, the court may order the offender to be confined for up to sixty days per violation in the county jail. Reimbursement to a city or county for the care of offenders who are detained solely for violating a condition of postrelease supervision shall be under RCW 70.48.440. A county shall be reimbursed for indigent defense costs for offenders who are detained solely for violating a condition of postrelease supervision in accordance with regulations to be promulgated by the office of financial management. An offender may be held in jail at state expense pending the hearing, and any time served while awaiting the hearing shall be credited against confinement imposed for a violation. The court shall retain jurisdiction for the purpose of holding the violation hearing and imposing a sanction. [2009 c 28 § 18; 1988 c 153 § 8. Formerly RCW 9.94A.628, 9.94A.175.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94B.040 Noncompliance with condition or requirement of sentence—Procedure—Penalty.** (1) If an offender violates any condition or requirement of a sentence, the court may modify its order of judgment and sentence and impose further punishment in accordance with this section.

(2) In cases where conditions from a second or later sentence of community supervision begin prior to the term of the second or later sentence, the court shall treat a violation of such conditions as a violation of the sentence of community supervision currently being served.

(3) If an offender fails to comply with any of the requirements or conditions of a sentence the following provisions apply:

(a)(i) Following the violation, if the offender and the department make a stipulated agreement, the department may impose sanctions such as work release, home detention with electronic monitoring, work crew, community restitution, inpatient treatment, daily reporting, curfew, educational or counseling sessions, supervision enhanced through electronic monitoring, jail time, or other sanctions available in the community.



(ii) Within seventy-two hours of signing the stipulated agreement, the department shall submit a report to the court and the prosecuting attorney outlining the violation or violations, and sanctions imposed. Within fifteen days of receipt of the report, if the court is not satisfied with the sanctions, the court may schedule a hearing and may modify the department's sanctions. If this occurs, the offender may withdraw from the stipulated agreement.

(iii) If the offender fails to comply with the sanction administratively imposed by the department, the court may take action regarding the original noncompliance. Offender failure to comply with the sanction administratively imposed by the department may be considered an additional violation.

(b) In the absence of a stipulated agreement, or where the court is not satisfied with the department's sanctions as provided in (a) of this subsection, the court, upon the motion of the state, or upon its own motion, shall require the offender to show cause why the offender should not be punished for the noncompliance. The court may issue a summons or a warrant of arrest for the offender's appearance;

(c) The state has the burden of showing noncompliance by a preponderance of the evidence. If the court finds that the violation has occurred, it may order the offender to be confined for a period not to exceed sixty days for each violation, and may (i) convert a term of partial confinement to total confinement, (ii) convert community restitution obligation to total or partial confinement, (iii) convert monetary obligations, except restitution and the crime victim penalty assessment, to community restitution hours at the rate of the state minimum wage as established in RCW 49.46.020 for each hour of community restitution, or (iv) order one or more of the penalties authorized in (a)(i) of this subsection. Any time served in confinement awaiting a hearing on noncompliance shall be credited against any confinement order by the court;

(d) If the court finds that the violation was not willful, the court may modify its previous order regarding payment of legal financial obligations and regarding community restitution obligations; and

(e) If the violation involves a failure to undergo or comply with mental status evaluation and/or outpatient mental health treatment, the community corrections officer shall consult with the treatment provider or proposed treatment provider. Enforcement of orders concerning outpatient mental health treatment must reflect the availability of treatment and must pursue the least restrictive means of promoting participation in treatment. If the offender's failure to receive care essential for health and safety presents a risk of serious physical harm or probable harmful consequences, the civil detention and commitment procedures of chapter 71.05 RCW shall be considered in preference to incarceration in a local or state correctional facility.

(4) The community corrections officer may obtain information from the offender's mental health treatment provider on the offender's status with respect to evaluation, application for services, registration for services, and compliance with the supervision plan, without the offender's consent, as described under RCW 71.05.630.

(5) An offender under community placement or community supervision who is civilly detained under chapter 71.05 RCW, and subsequently discharged or conditionally released to the community, shall be under the supervision of the

department of corrections for the duration of his or her period of community placement or community supervision. During any period of inpatient mental health treatment that falls within the period of community placement or community supervision, the inpatient treatment provider and the supervising community corrections officer shall notify each other about the offender's discharge, release, and legal status, and shall share other relevant information.

(6) Nothing in this section prohibits the filing of escape charges if appropriate. [2002 c 175 § 8; 1998 c 260 § 4. Prior: 1995 c 167 § 1; 1995 c 142 § 1; 1989 c 252 § 7; prior: 1988 c 155 § 2; 1988 c 153 § 11; 1984 c 209 § 12; 1981 c 137 § 20. Formerly RCW 9.94A.634, 9.94A.200.]

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Intent—1998 c 260:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94B.050 Community placement.** When a court sentences an offender to a term of total confinement in the custody of the department for any of the offenses specified in this section, the court shall also sentence the offender to a term of community placement as provided in this section. Except as provided in RCW 9.94A.501, the department shall supervise any sentence of community placement imposed under this section.

(1) The court shall order a one-year term of community placement for the following:

(a) A sex offense or a serious violent offense committed after July 1, 1988, but before July 1, 1990; or

(b) An offense committed on or after July 1, 1988, but before July 25, 1999, that is:

(i) Assault in the second degree;

(ii) Assault of a child in the second degree;

(iii) A crime against persons where it is determined in accordance with \*RCW 9.94A.602 that the offender or an accomplice was armed with a deadly weapon at the time of commission; or

(iv) A felony offense under chapter 69.50 or 69.52 RCW not sentenced under RCW 9.94A.660.

(2) The court shall sentence the offender to a term of community placement of two years or up to the period of earned release awarded pursuant to RCW 9.94A.728, whichever is longer, for:

(a) An offense categorized as a sex offense committed on or after July 1, 1990, but before June 6, 1996, including those sex offenses also included in other offense categories;

(b) A serious violent offense other than a sex offense committed on or after July 1, 1990, but before July 1, 2000; or

(c) A vehicular homicide or vehicular assault committed on or after July 1, 1990, but before July 1, 2000.

(3) The community placement ordered under this section shall begin either upon completion of the term of confinement or at such time as the offender is transferred to community custody in lieu of earned release. When the court sentences an offender to the statutory maximum sentence then the community placement portion of the sentence shall consist entirely of the community custody to which the offender may become eligible. Any period of community custody

actually served shall be credited against the community placement portion of the sentence.

(4) Unless a condition is waived by the court, the terms of any community placement imposed under this section shall include the following conditions:

(a) The offender shall report to and be available for contact with the assigned community corrections officer as directed;

(b) The offender shall work at department-approved education, employment, or community restitution, or any combination thereof;

(c) The offender shall not possess or consume controlled substances except pursuant to lawfully issued prescriptions;

(d) The offender shall pay supervision fees as determined by the department; and

(e) The residence location and living arrangements shall be subject to the prior approval of the department during the period of community placement.

(5) As a part of any terms of community placement imposed under this section, the court may also order one or more of the following special conditions:

(a) The offender shall remain within, or outside of, a specified geographical boundary;

(b) The offender shall not have direct or indirect contact with the victim of the crime or a specified class of individuals;

(c) The offender shall participate in crime-related treatment or counseling services;

(d) The offender shall not consume alcohol; or

(e) The offender shall comply with any crime-related prohibitions.

(6) An offender convicted of a felony sex offense against a minor victim after June 6, 1996, shall comply with any terms and conditions of community placement imposed by the department relating to contact between the sex offender and a minor victim or a child of similar age or circumstance as a previous victim.

(7) Prior to or during community placement, upon recommendation of the department, the sentencing court may remove or modify any conditions of community placement so as not to be more restrictive. [2003 c 379 § 4; 2002 c 175 § 13; 2000 c 28 § 22. Formerly RCW 9.94A.700.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9.94A.602 was recodified as RCW 9.94A.825 pursuant to 2009 c 28 § 41.

**Severability—Effective dates—2003 c 379:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.728.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94B.060 Community placement for specified offenders.** Except for persons sentenced under RCW 9.94B.050(2) or 9.94B.070, when a court sentences a person to a term of total confinement to the custody of the department for a violent offense, any crime against persons under RCW 9.94A.411(2), or any felony offense under chapter 69.50 or 69.52 RCW not sentenced under RCW 9.94A.660, committed on or after July 25, 1999, but before July 1, 2000, the court shall in addition to the other terms of the sentence, sentence the offender to a one-year term of community placement beginning either upon completion of the term of confinement or at such time as the offender is transferred to com-

munity custody in lieu of earned release in accordance with \*RCW 9.94A.728 (1) and (2). When the court sentences the offender under this section to the statutory maximum period of confinement, then the community placement portion of the sentence shall consist entirely of such community custody to which the offender may become eligible, in accordance with \*RCW 9.94A.728 (1) and (2). Any period of community custody actually served shall be credited against the community placement portion of the sentence. Except as provided in RCW 9.94A.501, the department shall supervise any sentence of community placement or community custody imposed under this section. [2009 c 28 § 19; 2003 c 379 § 5; 2000 c 28 § 23. Formerly RCW 9.94A.705.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9.94A.728 was amended by 2009 c 455 § 2, deleting subsections (1) and (2).

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Severability—Effective dates—2003 c 379:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.728.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9.94B.070 Community custody for sex offenders. (1)**

When a court sentences a person to the custody of the department for an offense categorized as a sex offense, including those sex offenses also included in other offense categories, committed on or after June 6, 1996, and before July 1, 2000, the court shall, in addition to other terms of the sentence, sentence the offender to community custody for three years or up to the period of earned release awarded pursuant to RCW 9.94A.728, whichever is longer. The community custody shall begin either upon completion of the term of confinement or at such time as the offender is transferred to community custody in lieu of earned release.

(2) Unless a condition is waived by the court, the terms of community custody imposed under this section shall be the same as those provided for in RCW 9.94B.050(4) and may include those provided for in RCW 9.94B.050(5). As part of any sentence that includes a term of community custody imposed under this section, the court shall also require the offender to comply with any conditions imposed by the department under RCW 9.94A.704.

(3) At any time prior to the completion of a sex offender's term of community custody, if the court finds that public safety would be enhanced, the court may impose and enforce an order extending any or all of the conditions imposed pursuant to this section for a period up to the maximum allowable sentence for the crime as it is classified in chapter 9A.20 RCW, regardless of the expiration of the offender's term of community custody. If a violation of a condition extended under this subsection occurs after the expiration of the offender's term of community custody, it shall be deemed a violation of the sentence for the purposes of RCW 9.94A.631 and may be punishable as contempt of court as provided for in RCW 7.21.040. [2009 c 28 § 20; 2000 c 28 § 24. Formerly RCW 9.94A.710.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.94B.080 Mental status evaluations.** The court may order an offender whose sentence includes community placement or community supervision to undergo a mental status evaluation and to participate in available outpatient mental

health treatment, if the court finds that reasonable grounds exist to believe that the offender is a mentally ill person as defined in RCW 71.24.025, and that this condition is likely to have influenced the offense. An order requiring mental status evaluation or treatment must be based on a presentence report and, if applicable, mental status evaluations that have been filed with the court to determine the offender's competency or eligibility for a defense of insanity. The court may order additional evaluations at a later date if deemed appropriate. [2008 c 231 § 53.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94B.090 Transfer to community custody status in lieu of earned release.** A person convicted of a sex offense or an offense categorized as a serious violent offense, assault in the second degree, vehicular homicide, vehicular assault, assault of a child in the second degree, any crime against persons where it is determined in accordance with \*RCW 9.94A.602 that the offender or an accomplice was armed with a deadly weapon at the time of commission, or any felony offense under chapter 69.50 or 69.52 RCW, committed before July 1, 2000, may become eligible, in accordance with a program developed by the department, for transfer to community custody status in lieu of earned release time pursuant to \*\*RCW 9.94A.728(1). [2008 c 231 § 54.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 9.94A.602 was recodified as RCW 9.94A.825 pursuant to 2009 c 28 § 41.

\*\* (2) RCW 9.94A.728 was amended by 2009 c 455 § 2, deleting subsection (1).

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**9.94B.100 Legal financial obligations—Wage assignments—Sentences imposed before July 1, 1989.** For those individuals who, as a condition and term of their sentence imposed on or before July 1, 1989, have had financial obligations imposed, and who are not in compliance with the court order requiring payment of that legal financial obligation, no action shall be brought before the court from July 1, 1989, through and including December 31, 1989, to impose a penalty for their failure to pay. All individuals who, after December 31, 1989, have not taken the opportunity to bring their legal financial obligation current, shall be proceeded against pursuant to RCW 9.94B.040. [2009 c 28 § 14; 1989 c 252 § 18. Formerly RCW 9.94A.771, 9.94A.201.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Purpose—Prospective application—Effective dates—Severability—1989 c 252:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.030.

## Chapter 9.95 RCW

### INDETERMINATE SENTENCES

(Formerly: Prison terms, paroles, and probation)

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*Commitments: Chapter 10.70 RCW.*

*Counties may provide probation and parole services: RCW 36.01.070.*

*Final discharge: RCW 9.96.050.*

*Form of sentence to penitentiary: RCW 10.64.060.*

*Leaves of absence for inmates: RCW 72.01.370, 72.01.380.*

*Probation and parole, transfer of certain powers, duties to department of corrections: Chapter 72.04A RCW.*

*Restoration of civil rights: Chapter 9.96 RCW.*

*Victims of crimes, reimbursement by convicted person as condition of work release or parole: RCW 7.68.120.*

*Western interstate corrections compact, board members may hold hearings: RCW 72.70.040.*

**9.95.0001 Definitions.** (1) "Board" means the indeterminate sentence review board.

(2) "Community custody" means that portion of an offender's sentence subject to controls including crime-related prohibitions and affirmative conditions from the court, the board, or the department of corrections based on risk to community safety, that is served under supervision in the community, and which may be modified or revoked for violations of release conditions.

(3) "Crime-related prohibition" has the meaning defined in RCW 9.94A.030.

(4) "Department" means the department of corrections.

(5) "Parole" means that portion of a person's sentence for a crime committed before July 1, 1984, served on conditional release in the community subject to board controls and revocation and under supervision of the department.

(6) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department of corrections or his or her designee. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 317.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.0002 Transfer of board to department of corrections—Members of board shall exercise independent judgment.** (1) The indeterminate sentence review board is transferred to the department of corrections.

(2)(a) All reports, documents, surveys, books, records, files, papers, or written materials in the possession of the

indeterminate sentence review board shall be delivered to the custody of the department of corrections. All cabinets, furniture, office equipment, motor vehicles, and other tangible property employed by the indeterminate sentence review board shall be made available to the department of corrections. All funds, credits, or other assets held by the indeterminate sentence review board shall be assigned to the department of corrections.

(b) Any appropriations made to the indeterminate sentence review board shall, on August 24, 2011, be transferred and credited to the department of corrections.

(c) If any question arises as to the transfer of any personnel, funds, books, documents, records, papers, files, equipment, or other tangible property used or held in the exercise of the powers and the performance of the duties and functions transferred, the director of financial management shall make a determination as to the proper allocation and certify the same to the state agencies concerned.

(3) All employees of the indeterminate sentence review board are transferred to the jurisdiction of the department of corrections. All employees classified under chapter 41.06 RCW, the state civil service law, are assigned to the department of corrections to perform their usual duties upon the same terms as formerly, without any loss of rights, subject to any action that may be appropriate thereafter in accordance with the laws and rules governing state civil service.

(4) All rules and all pending business before the indeterminate sentence review board shall be continued and acted upon by the department of corrections. All existing contracts and obligations shall remain in full force and shall be performed by the department of corrections.

(5) The transfer of the powers, duties, functions, and personnel of the indeterminate sentence review board shall not affect the validity of any act performed before August 24, 2011.

(6) If apportionments of budgeted funds are required because of the transfers directed by this section, the director of financial management shall certify the apportionments to the agencies affected, the state auditor, and the state treasurer. Each of these shall make the appropriate transfer and adjustments in funds and appropriation accounts and equipment records in accordance with the certification.

(7) All classified employees of the indeterminate sentence review board assigned to the department of corrections under chapter 40, Laws of 2011 1st sp. sess. whose positions are within an existing bargaining unit description at the department of corrections shall become a part of the existing bargaining unit at the department of corrections and shall be considered an appropriate inclusion or modification of the existing bargaining unit under the provisions of chapter 41.80 RCW.

(8) Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 40, Laws of 2011 1st sp. sess. and despite the transfer of the indeterminate sentence review board to the department of corrections, the members of the indeterminate sentence review board will possess and shall exercise independent judgment when making any decisions concerning offenders. These decisions include, but are not limited to, decisions concerning offenders' release, revocation, reinstatement, or the imposition of conditions of supervision. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 16.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**9.95.001 Board of prison terms and paroles redesignated as indeterminate sentence review board.** On July 1, 1986, the board of prison terms and paroles shall be redesignated the indeterminate sentence review board. The newly designated board shall retain the same membership and staff as the previously designated board of prison terms and paroles. References to "the board" or "board of prison terms and paroles" contained in this chapter, chapters 7.68, 9.95, 9.96, 71.06, and 72.04A RCW, and RCW 9A.44.045 and 72.68.031 are deemed to refer to the indeterminate sentence review board. [1986 c 224 § 2; (i) 1935 c 114 § 1; RRS § 10249-1. (ii) 1947 c 47 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10249-1a. Formerly RCW 43.67.010.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.002 Board considered parole board.** The indeterminate sentence review board, in fulfilling its duties under the provisions of chapter 12, Laws of 2001 2nd sp. sess., shall be considered a parole board as that concept was treated in law under the state's indeterminate sentencing statutes. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 363.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.003 Appointment of board members—Qualifications—Duties of chair—Salaries and travel expenses—Staffing.** (1) The board is created within the department. The board shall consist of a chair and four other members, each of whom shall be appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. Each member shall hold office for a term of five years, and until his or her successor is appointed and qualified. The terms shall expire on April 15th of the expiration year. Vacancies in the membership of the board shall be filled by appointment by the governor with the consent of the senate. In the event of the inability of any member to act, the governor shall appoint some competent person to act in his or her stead during the continuance of such inability. The members shall not be removable during their respective terms except for cause determined by the superior court of Thurston county. The governor in appointing the members shall designate one of them to serve as chair at the governor's pleasure. The appointed chair shall serve as a fully participating board member.

(2) The department shall provide administrative and staff support for the board. The secretary may employ a senior administrative officer and such other personnel as may be necessary to assist the board in carrying out its duties.

(3) The members of the board and staff assigned to the board shall not engage in any other business or profession or hold any other public office without the prior approval of the executive ethics board indicating compliance with RCW 42.52.020, 42.52.030, 42.52.040, and 42.52.120; nor shall they, at the time of appointment or employment or during their incumbency, serve as the representative of any political party on an executive committee or other governing body thereof, or as an executive officer or employee of any political committee or association. The members of the board

shall each severally receive salaries fixed by the governor in accordance with the provisions of RCW 43.03.040, and in addition shall receive travel expenses incurred in the discharge of their official duties in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 15; 2011 c 336 § 336; 2007 c 362 § 1; 1997 c 350 § 2; 1986 c 224 § 3; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 34 § 8; 1969 c 98 § 9; 1959 c 32 § 1; 1955 c 340 § 9. Prior: 1945 c 155 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 8, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 10249-8, part. Formerly RCW 43.67.020.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2011 c 336 § 336 and by 2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 15, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.005 Board meetings—Quarters at institutions.** The board shall meet at major state correctional institutions at such times as may be necessary for a full and complete study of the cases of all convicted persons whose durations of confinement are to be determined by it; whose community custody supervision is under the board's authority; or whose applications for parole come before it. Other times and places of meetings may also be fixed by the board.

The superintendents of the different institutions shall provide suitable quarters for the board while in the discharge of their duties. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 17; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 318; 1986 c 224 § 4; 1959 c 32 § 2; 1955 c 340 § 10. Prior: 1945 c 155 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 8, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 10249-8, part. Formerly RCW 43.67.030.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.007 Transaction of board's business in panels—Action by full board.** The board may meet and transact business in panels. Each board panel shall consist of at least two members of the board. In all matters concerning the internal affairs of the board and policy-making decisions, a majority of the full board must concur in such matters. The chair of the board with the consent of a majority of the board may designate any two members to exercise all the powers and duties of the board in connection with any hearing before the board. If the two members so designated cannot unanimously agree as to the disposition of the hearing assigned to them, such hearing shall be reheard by the full board. All actions of the full board shall be by concurrence of a majority of the sitting board members. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 18; 2011 c 336 § 337; 1986 c 224 § 5; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 63 § 1; 1959 c 32 § 3. Formerly RCW 43.67.035.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2011 c 336 § 337 and by 2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 18, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.009 Board of prison terms and paroles redesignated indeterminate sentence review board—Continuation of functions.** (1) On July 1, 1986, the board of prison terms and paroles shall be redesignated as the indeterminate sentence review board. The board's membership shall be reduced as follows: On July 1, 1986, and on July 1st of each year until 1998, the number of board members shall be reduced in a manner commensurate with the board's remaining workload as determined by the office of financial management based upon its population forecast for the indeterminate sentencing system and in conjunction with the budget process. To meet the statutory obligations of the indeterminate sentence review board, the number of board members shall not be reduced to fewer than three members, although the office of financial management may designate some or all members as part-time members and specify the extent to which they shall be less than full-time members. Any reduction shall take place by the expiration, on that date, of the term or terms having the least time left to serve.

(2) After July 1, 1984, the board shall continue its functions with respect to persons convicted of crimes committed prior to July 1, 1984, and committed to the department of corrections. When making decisions on duration of confinement, including those relating to persons committed under a mandatory life sentence, and parole release under RCW 9.95.100 and 9.95.110, the board shall consider the purposes, standards, and sentencing ranges under chapter 9.94A RCW of the sentencing reform act and the minimum term recommendations of the sentencing judge and prosecuting attorney, and shall attempt to make decisions reasonably consistent with those ranges, standards, purposes, and recommendations: PROVIDED, That the board and its successors shall give adequate written reasons whenever a minimum term or parole release decision is made which is outside the sentencing ranges under chapter 9.94A RCW of the sentencing reform act. In making such decisions, the board and its successors shall consider the different charging and disposition practices under the indeterminate sentencing system.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (2) of this section, the indeterminate sentence review board shall give public safety considerations the highest priority when making all discretionary decisions on the remaining indeterminate population regarding the ability for parole, parole release, and conditions of parole. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 41; 1990 c 3 § 707; 1989 c 259 § 1; 1986 c 224 § 6; 1985 c 279 § 1; 1982 c 192 § 8; 1981 c 137 § 24.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.010 Court to fix maximum sentence.** When a person, whose crime was committed before July 1, 1984, is convicted of any felony, except treason, murder in the first degree, or carnal knowledge of a child under ten years, and a new trial is not granted, the court shall sentence such person to the penitentiary, or, if the law allows and the court sees fit to exercise such discretion, to the reformatory, and shall fix the maximum term of such person's sentence only.

The maximum term to be fixed by the court shall be the maximum provided by law for the crime of which such person was convicted, if the law provides for a maximum term.

If the law does not provide a maximum term for the crime of which such person was convicted the court shall fix such maximum term, which may be for any number of years up to and including life imprisonment but in any case where the maximum term is fixed by the court it shall be fixed at not less than twenty years. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 319; 1955 c 133 § 2. Prior: 1947 c 92 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10249-2, part.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

*Punishment:* Chapter 9.92 RCW.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.011 Minimum terms.** (1) When the court commits a convicted person to the department of corrections on or after July 1, 1986, for an offense committed before July 1, 1984, the court shall, at the time of sentencing or revocation of probation, fix the minimum term. The term so fixed shall not exceed the maximum sentence provided by law for the offense of which the person is convicted.

The court shall attempt to set the minimum term reasonably consistent with the purposes, standards, and sentencing ranges under chapter 9.94A RCW of the sentencing reform act, but the court is subject to the same limitations as those placed on the board under RCW 9.92.090, 9.95.040 (1) through (4), 9.95.115, 9A.32.040, 9A.44.045, and chapter 69.50 RCW. The court's minimum term decision is subject to review to the same extent as a minimum term decision by the parole board before July 1, 1986.

Thereafter, the expiration of the minimum term set by the court minus any time credits earned under RCW 9.95.070 and 9.95.110 constitutes the parole eligibility review date, at which time the board may consider the convicted person for parole under RCW 9.95.100 and 9.95.110 and chapter 72.04A RCW. Nothing in this section affects the board's authority to reduce or increase the minimum term, once set by the court, under RCW 9.95.040, 9.95.052, 9.95.055, 9.95.070, 9.95.080, 9.95.100, 9.95.115, 9.95.125, or 9.95.047.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, not less than ninety days prior to the expiration of the minimum term of a person sentenced under RCW 9.94A.507, for a sex offense committed on or after September 1, 2001, less any time credits permitted by statute, the board shall review the person for conditional release to community custody as provided in RCW 9.95.420. If the board does not release the person, it shall set a new minimum term not to exceed an additional five years. The board shall review the person again not less than ninety days prior to the expiration of the new minimum term.

(b) If at the time a person sentenced under RCW 9.94A.507 for a sex offense committed on or after September 1, 2001, arrives at a department of corrections facility, the offender's minimum term has expired or will expire within one hundred twenty days of the offender's arrival, then no later than one hundred twenty days after the offender's arrival at a department of corrections facility, but after the board receives the results from the end of sentence review process and the recommendations for additional or modified conditions of community custody from the department, the board shall review the person for conditional release to community

custody as provided in RCW 9.95.420. If the board does not release the person, it shall set a new minimum term not to exceed an additional five years. The board shall review the person again not less than ninety days prior to the expiration of the new minimum term.

(c) In setting a new minimum term, the board may consider the length of time necessary for the offender to complete treatment and programming as well as other factors that relate to the offender's release under RCW 9.95.420. The board's rules shall permit an offender to petition for an earlier review if circumstances change or the board receives new information that would warrant an earlier review. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 40; 2009 c 28 § 21; 2007 c 363 § 1; 2002 c 174 § 2; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 320; 1993 c 144 § 3; 1986 c 224 § 7.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Effective date—2002 c 174:** See note following RCW 9.95.420.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.013 Application of sentencing reform act to board decision.** The board shall apply all of the statutory requirements of RCW 9.95.009(2), requiring decisions of the board to be reasonably consistent with the ranges, standards, and purposes of the sentencing reform act, chapter 9.94A RCW, and the minimum term recommendations of the sentencing judge and the prosecuting attorney, to every person who, on July 23, 1989, is incarcerated and has been adjudged under the provisions of RCW 9.92.090. [1989 c 259 § 5.]

**9.95.015 Finding of fact or special verdict establishing defendant armed with deadly weapon.** In every criminal case wherein conviction would require the board to determine the duration of confinement, or the court to make such determination for persons committed after July 1, 1986, for crimes committed before July 1, 1984, and wherein there has been an allegation and evidence establishing that the accused was armed with a deadly weapon at the time of the commission of the crime, the court shall make a finding of fact of whether or not the accused was armed with a deadly weapon, as defined by RCW 9.95.040, at the time of the commission of the crime, or if a jury trial is had, the jury shall, if it find the defendant guilty, also find a special verdict as to whether or not the defendant was armed with a deadly weapon, as defined in RCW 9.95.040, at the time of the commission of the crime. [1986 c 224 § 8; 1961 c 138 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.017 Criteria for confinement and parole.** (1) The board shall cause to be prepared criteria for duration of confinement, release on parole, and length of parole for persons committed to prison for crimes committed before July 1, 1984.

The proposed criteria should take into consideration RCW 9.95.009(2). Before submission to the governor, the board shall solicit comments and review on their proposed criteria for parole release.

(2) Persons committed to the department of corrections and who are under the authority of the board for crimes com-

mitted on or after September 1, 2001, are subject to the provisions for duration of confinement, release to community custody, and length of community custody established in RCW 9.94A.507, 9.94A.704, 72.09.335, and 9.95.420 through 9.95.440. [2009 c 28 § 22; 2008 c 231 § 40; 2003 c 218 § 2; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 321; 1986 c 224 § 11.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.020 Duties of superintendent of correctional institution.** If the sentence of a person so convicted is not suspended by the court, the superintendent of a major state correctional institution shall receive such person, if committed to his or her institution, and imprison the person until released under the provisions of this chapter, under RCW 9.95.420, upon the completion of the statutory maximum sentence, or through the action of the governor. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 322; 1955 c 133 § 3. Prior: 1947 c 92 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10249-2, part.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.028 Statement of prosecuting attorney provided to department, when.** It is the intent of the legislature to expedite the inmate classification process of the department of corrections. The statement of the prosecuting attorney regarding a convicted criminal defendant should be prepared and made available to the department at the time the convicted person is placed in the custody of the department. [1984 c 114 § 1.]

**9.95.030 Statement to indeterminate sentence review board.** At the time the convicted person is transported to the custody of the department of corrections, the indeterminate sentence review board shall obtain from the sentencing judge and the prosecuting attorney, a statement of all the facts concerning the convicted person's crime and any other information of which they may be possessed relative to him or her, and the sentencing judge and the prosecuting attorney shall furnish the board with such information. The sentencing judge and prosecuting attorney shall indicate to the board, for its guidance, what, in their judgment, should be the duration of the convicted person's imprisonment. [2011 c 336 § 338; 1999 c 143 § 17; 1984 c 114 § 2; 1955 c 133 § 4. Prior: 1947 c 92 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10249-2, part.]

**9.95.031 Statement of prosecuting attorney.** Whenever any person shall be convicted of a crime and who shall be sentenced to imprisonment or confinement in a state correctional facility, it shall be the duty of the prosecuting attorney who prosecuted such convicted person to make a statement of the facts respecting the crime for which the prisoner was tried and convicted, and include in such statement all information that the prosecuting attorney can give in regard

to the career of the prisoner before the commission of the crime for which the prisoner was convicted and sentenced, stating to the best of the prosecuting attorney's knowledge whether the prisoner was industrious and of good character, and all other facts and circumstances that may tend to throw any light upon the question as to whether such prisoner is capable of again becoming a good citizen. [1992 c 7 § 23; 1929 c 158 § 1; RRS § 10254.]

**Reviser's note:** This section and RCW 9.95.032 antedate the 1935 act (1935 c 114) that created the board of prison terms and paroles. They were not expressly repealed thereby, although part of section 2 of the 1935 act (RCW 9.95.030) contains similar provisions. The effect of 1935 c 114 (as amended) upon other unrepealed prior laws is discussed in *Lindsey v. Superior Court*, 33 Wn. (2d) 94 at pp 99-100.

**9.95.032 Statement of prosecuting attorney—Delivery of statement.** Such statement shall be signed by the prosecuting attorney and approved by the judge by whom the judgment was rendered and shall be delivered to the sheriff, traveling guard, department of corrections personnel, or other officer executing the sentence, and a copy of such statement shall be furnished to the defendant or his or her attorney. Such officer shall deliver the statement, at the time of the prisoner's commitment, to the superintendent of the institution to which such prisoner has been committed. The superintendent shall make such statement available for use by the board. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 323; 1984 c 114 § 3; 1929 c 158 § 2; RRS § 10255.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.040 Terms fixed by board—Minimums for certain cases.** The board shall fix the duration of confinement for persons committed by the court before July 1, 1986, for crimes committed before July 1, 1984. Within six months after the admission of the convicted person to a state correctional facility, the board shall fix the duration of confinement. The term of imprisonment so fixed shall not exceed the maximum provided by law for the offense of which the person was convicted or the maximum fixed by the court where the law does not provide for a maximum term.

Subject to RCW 9.95.047, the following limitations are placed on the board or the court for persons committed to a state correctional facility on or after July 1, 1986, for crimes committed before July 1, 1984, with regard to fixing the duration of confinement in certain cases, notwithstanding any provisions of law specifying a lesser sentence:

(1) For a person not previously convicted of a felony but armed with a deadly weapon at the time of the commission of the offense, the duration of confinement shall not be fixed at less than five years.

(2) For a person previously convicted of a felony either in this state or elsewhere and who was armed with a deadly weapon at the time of the commission of the offense, the duration of confinement shall not be fixed at less than seven and one-half years.

The words "deadly weapon," as used in this section include, but are not limited to, any instrument known as a blackjack, sling shot, billy, sand club, sandbag, metal knuckles, any dirk, dagger, pistol, revolver, or any other firearm, any knife having a blade longer than three inches, any razor

with an unguarded blade, any metal pipe or bar used or intended to be used as a club, any explosive, and any weapon containing poisonous or injurious gas.

(3) For a person convicted of being an habitual criminal within the meaning of the statute which provides for mandatory life imprisonment for such habitual criminals, the duration of confinement shall not be fixed at less than fifteen years.

(4) Any person convicted of embezzling funds from any institution of public deposit of which the person was an officer or stockholder, the duration of confinement shall be fixed at not less than five years.

Except when an inmate of a state correctional facility has been convicted of murder in the first or second degree, the board may parole an inmate prior to the expiration of a mandatory minimum term, provided such inmate has demonstrated a meritorious effort in rehabilitation and at least two-thirds of the board members concur in such action: PROVIDED, That any inmate who has a mandatory minimum term and is paroled prior to the expiration of such term according to the provisions of this chapter shall not receive a conditional release from supervision while on parole until after the mandatory minimum term has expired.

An inmate serving a sentence fixed under this chapter, whether or not a mandatory minimum term has expired, may be granted an extraordinary medical placement by the secretary of corrections when authorized under \*RCW 9.94A.728(4). [1999 c 324 § 4. Prior: 1993 c 144 § 4; 1993 c 140 § 1; 1992 c 7 § 24; 1986 c 224 § 9; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 63 § 2; 1961 c 138 § 2; 1955 c 133 § 5; prior: 1947 c 92 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10249-2, part.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9.94A.728 was amended by 2009 c 455 § 2, changing subsection (4) to subsection (3).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.045 Abused victim—Reduction in sentence for murder of abuser—Petition for review.** (1) An inmate convicted of murder may petition the indeterminate sentence review board to review the inmate's sentence if the petition alleges the following:

(a) The inmate was sentenced for a murder committed prior to July 23, 1989, which was the effective date of section 1, chapter 408, Laws of 1989, as codified in RCW 9.94A.535(1)(h). RCW 9.94A.535(1)(h) provides that the sentencing court may consider as a mitigating factor evidence that the defendant or the defendant's children suffered a continuing pattern of physical or sexual abuse by the victim of the offense and the offense was a response to that abuse;

(b) RCW 9.94A.535(1)(h), if effective when the defendant committed the crime, would have provided a basis for the defendant to seek a mitigated sentence; and

(c) The sentencing court when determining what sentence to impose, did not consider evidence that the victim subjected the defendant or the defendant's children to a continuing pattern of sexual or physical abuse and the murder was in response to that abuse.

(2) An inmate who seeks to have his or her sentence reviewed under this section must petition the board for review no later than October 1, 1993. The petition may be by letter requesting review.



(3)(a) If the inmate was convicted of a murder committed prior to July 1, 1984, and the inmate is under the jurisdiction of the indeterminate sentence review board, the board shall conduct the review as provided in RCW 9.95.047. If the inmate was sentenced pursuant to chapter 9.94A RCW for a murder committed after June 30, 1984, but before July 23, 1989, the board shall conduct the review and may make appropriate recommendations to the sentencing court as provided in RCW 9.94A.890. The board shall complete its review of the petitions and submit recommendations to the sentencing courts or their successors by October 1, 1994.

(b) When reviewing petitions, the board shall solicit recommendations from the prosecuting attorneys of the counties where the petitioners were convicted, and shall accept input from other interested parties. [1993 c 144 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.047 Abused victim—Considerations of board in reviewing petition.** (1) If an inmate under the board's jurisdiction files a petition for review under RCW 9.95.045, the board shall review the duration of the inmate's confinement, including review of the minimum term and parole eligibility review dates. The board shall consider whether:

(a) The petitioner was convicted for a murder committed prior to the effective date of RCW 9.94A.535(1)(h);

(b) RCW 9.94A.535(1)(h), if effective when the petitioner committed the crime, would have provided a basis for the petitioner to seek a mitigated sentence; and

(c) The sentencing court and prosecuting attorney, when making their minimum term recommendations, considered evidence that the victim subjected the petitioner or the petitioner's children to a continuing pattern of sexual or physical abuse and the murder was in response to that abuse.

(2) The board may reset the minimum term and parole eligibility review date of a petitioner convicted of murder if the board finds that had RCW 9.94A.535(1)(h) been effective when the petitioner committed the crime, the petitioner may have received an exceptional mitigating sentence. [1993 c 144 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.052 Redetermination and refixing of minimum term of confinement.** At any time after the board (or the court after July 1, 1986) has determined the minimum term of confinement of any person subject to confinement in a state correctional institution for a crime committed before July 1, 1984, the board may request the superintendent of such correctional institution to conduct a full review of such person's prospects for rehabilitation and report to the board the facts of such review and the resulting findings. Upon the basis of such report and such other information and investigation that the board deems appropriate, the board may redetermine and refix such convicted person's minimum term of confinement whether the term was set by the board or the court.

The board shall not reduce a person's minimum term of confinement unless the board has received from the department of corrections all institutional conduct reports relating to the person. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 324; 1986 c 224 § 10; 1983 c 196 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 67 § 1.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

[Title 9 RCW—page 202]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.055 Reduction of sentences during war emergency.** The indeterminate sentence review board is hereby granted authority, in the event of a declaration by the governor that a war emergency exists, including a general mobilization, and for the duration thereof only, to reduce downward the minimum term, as set by the board, of any inmate under the jurisdiction of the board confined in a state correctional facility, who will be accepted by and inducted into the armed services: PROVIDED, That a reduction downward shall not be made under this section for those inmates who: (1) Are confined for (a) treason; (b) murder in the first degree; or (c) rape of a child in the first degree where the victim is under ten years of age or an equivalent offense under prior law; (2) are being considered for civil commitment as a sexually violent predator under chapter 71.09 RCW; or (3) were sentenced under RCW 9.94A.507 for a crime committed on or after September 1, 2001. [2009 c 28 § 23; 2003 c 218 § 3; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 325; 1992 c 7 § 25; 1951 c 239 § 1.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.060 When sentence begins to run.** When a convicted person seeks appellate review of his or her conviction and is at liberty on bond pending the determination of the proceeding by the supreme court or the court of appeals, credit on his or her sentence will begin from the date such convicted person is returned to custody. The date of return to custody shall be certified to the department of corrections, the indeterminate sentence review board, and the prosecuting attorney of the county in which such convicted person was convicted and sentenced, by the sheriff of such county. If such convicted person does not seek review of the conviction, but is at liberty for a period of time subsequent to the signing of the judgment and sentence, or becomes a fugitive, credit on his sentence will begin from the date such convicted person is returned to custody. The date of return to custody shall be certified as provided in this section. In all other cases, credit on a sentence will begin from the date the judgment and sentence is signed by the court. [1999 c 143 § 18; 1988 c 202 § 15; 1981 c 136 § 36; 1979 c 141 § 1; 1971 c 81 § 46; 1967 c 200 § 10; 1955 c 133 § 7. Prior: 1947 c 92 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. §10249-2, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.062 Stay of judgment—When prohibited—Credit for jail time pending appeal.** (1) Notwithstanding CrR 3.2 or RAP 7.2, an appeal by a defendant in a criminal action shall not stay the execution of the judgment of conviction, if the court determines by a preponderance of the evidence that:

(a) The defendant is likely to flee or to pose a danger to the safety of any other person or the community if the judgment is stayed; or

(b) The delay resulting from the stay will unduly diminish the deterrent effect of the punishment; or

(c) A stay of the judgment will cause unreasonable trauma to the victims of the crime or their families; or

(d) The defendant has not undertaken to the extent of the defendant's financial ability to pay the financial obligations under the judgment or has not posted an adequate performance bond to assure payment.

(2) An appeal by a defendant convicted of one of the following offenses shall not stay execution of the judgment of conviction: Rape in the first or second degree (RCW 9A.44.040 and 9A.44.050); rape of a child in the first, second, or third degree (RCW 9A.44.073, 9A.44.076, and 9A.44.079); child molestation in the first, second, or third degree (RCW 9A.44.083, 9A.44.086, and 9A.44.089); sexual misconduct with a minor in the first or second degree (RCW 9A.44.093 and 9A.44.096); indecent liberties (RCW 9A.44.100); incest (RCW 9A.64.020); luring (RCW 9A.40.090); human trafficking in the first or second degree (RCW 9A.40.100); promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor (RCW 9.68A.101); any class A or B felony that is a sexually motivated offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030; a felony violation of RCW 9.68A.090; or any offense that is, under chapter 9A.28 RCW, a criminal attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit one of those offenses.

(3) In case the defendant has been convicted of a felony, and has been unable to obtain release pending the appeal by posting an appeal bond, cash, adequate security, release on personal recognizance, or any other conditions imposed by the court, the time the defendant has been imprisoned pending the appeal shall be deducted from the term for which the defendant was sentenced, if the judgment is affirmed. [2011 c 111 § 3; 1996 c 275 § 9; 1989 c 276 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 4 § 1; 1969 c 103 § 1; 1955 c 42 § 2. Prior: 1893 c 61 § 30; RRS § 1745. Formerly RCW 10.73.030, part.]

**Finding—1996 c 275:** See note following RCW 9.94A.505.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.063 Conviction upon new trial—Former imprisonment deductible.** If a defendant who has been imprisoned during the pendency of any posttrial proceeding in any state or federal court shall be again convicted upon a new trial resulting from any such proceeding, the period of his or her former imprisonment shall be deducted by the superior court from the period of imprisonment to be fixed on the last verdict of conviction. [2011 c 336 § 339; 1971 ex.s. c 86 § 1; 1971 c 81 § 47; 1955 c 42 § 4. Prior: 1893 c 61 § 34; RRS § 1750. Formerly RCW 10.73.070, part.]

**9.95.064 Conditions of release.** (1) In order to minimize the trauma to the victim, the court may attach conditions on release of an offender under RCW 9.95.062, convicted of a crime committed before July 1, 1984, regarding the whereabouts of the defendant, contact with the victim, or other conditions.

(2) Offenders released under RCW 9.95.420 are subject to crime-related prohibitions and affirmative conditions established by the court, the department of corrections, or the board pursuant to RCW \*9.94A.712, 9.94A.704, 72.09.335, and 9.95.420 through 9.95.440. [2008 c 231 § 41; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 326; 1989 c 276 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9.94A.712 was recodified as RCW 9.94A.507 pursuant to the direction found in section 56(4), chapter 231, Laws of 2008, effective August 1, 2009.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.070 Reductions for good behavior.** (1) Every prisoner, convicted of a crime committed before July 1, 1984, who has a favorable record of conduct at a state correctional institution, and who performs in a faithful, diligent, industrious, orderly and peaceable manner the work, duties, and tasks assigned to him or her to the satisfaction of the superintendent of the institution, and in whose behalf the superintendent of the institution files a report certifying that his or her conduct and work have been meritorious and recommending allowance of time credits to him or her, shall upon, but not until, the adoption of such recommendation by the indeterminate sentence review board, be allowed time credit reductions from the term of imprisonment fixed by the board.

(2) Offenders sentenced under RCW 9.94A.507 for a crime committed on or after September 1, 2001, are subject to the earned release provisions for sex offenders established in RCW 9.94A.728. [2009 c 28 § 24; 2003 c 218 § 4; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 327; 1999 c 143 § 19; 1955 c 133 § 8. Prior: 1947 c 92 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10249-2, part.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.080 Revocation and redetermination of minimum for infractions.** In case any person convicted of a crime committed before July 1, 1984, and under the jurisdiction of the indeterminate sentence review board undergoing sentence in a state correctional institution commits any infractions of the rules and regulations of the institution, the board may revoke any order theretofore made determining the length of time such convicted person shall be imprisoned, including the forfeiture of all or a portion of credits earned or to be earned, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 9.95.110, and make a new order determining the length of time the person shall serve, not exceeding the maximum penalty provided by law for the crime for which the person was convicted, or the maximum fixed by the court. Such revocation and redetermination shall not be had except upon a hearing before the indeterminate sentence review board. At such hearing the convicted person shall be present and entitled to be heard and may present evidence and witnesses in his or her behalf. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 328; 1992 c 7 § 26; 1972 ex.s. c 68 § 1; 1961 c 106 § 1; 1955 c 133 § 9. Prior: 1947 c 92 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10249-2, part.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.090 Labor required.** (1) The board shall require of every able bodied offender confined in a state correctional institution for a crime committed before July 1, 1984, as many hours of faithful labor in each and every day during his

or her term of imprisonment as shall be prescribed by the rules and regulations of the institution in which he or she is confined.

(2) Offenders sentenced under RCW 9.94A.507 for crimes committed on or after July 1, 2001, shall perform work or other programming as required by the department of corrections during their term of confinement. [2009 c 28 § 25; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 329; 1999 c 143 § 20; 1955 c 133 § 10. Prior: 1947 c 92 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. § 10249-2, part.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

*Labor by prisoners: Chapter 72.64 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.100 Prisoner released on serving maximum term.** Any person convicted of a felony committed before July 1, 1984, and undergoing sentence in a state correctional institution, not sooner released under the provisions of this chapter, shall, in accordance with the provisions of law, be discharged from custody on serving the maximum punishment provided by law for the offense of which such person was convicted, or the maximum term fixed by the court where the law does not provide for a maximum term. The board shall not, however, until his or her maximum term expires, release a prisoner, unless in its opinion his or her rehabilitation has been complete and he or she is a fit subject for release. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 330; 1955 c 133 § 11. Prior: (i) 1947 c 92 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10249-2, part. (ii) 1939 c 142 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 4, part; RRS § 10249-4, part.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.110 Parole.** (1) The board may permit an offender convicted of a crime committed before July 1, 1984, to leave the buildings and enclosures of a state correctional institution on parole, after such convicted person has served the period of confinement fixed for him or her by the board, less time credits for good behavior and diligence in work: PROVIDED, That in no case shall an inmate be credited with more than one-third of his or her sentence as fixed by the board.

The board may establish rules and regulations under which an offender may be allowed to leave the confines of a state correctional institution on parole, and may return such person to the confines of the institution from which he or she was paroled, at its discretion.

(2) The board may permit an offender convicted of a crime committed on or after September 1, 2001, and sentenced under RCW 9.94A.507, to leave a state correctional institution on community custody according to the provisions of RCW 9.94A.507, 9.94A.704, 72.09.335, and 9.95.420 through 9.95.440. The person may be returned to the institution following a violation of his or her conditions of release to community custody pursuant to the hearing provisions of RCW 9.95.435. [2009 c 28 § 26; 2008 c 231 § 42; 2003 c 218 § 7; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 331; 1999 c 143 § 21; 1955 c 133 §

12. Prior: 1939 c 142 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 4, part; RRS § 10249-4, part.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.115 Parole of life term prisoners—Crimes committed before July 1, 1984.** The indeterminate sentence review board is hereby granted authority to parole any person sentenced to the custody of the department of corrections, under a mandatory life sentence for a crime committed before July 1, 1984, except those persons sentenced to life without the possibility of parole. No such person shall be granted parole unless the person has been continuously confined therein for a period of twenty consecutive years less earned good time: PROVIDED, That no such person shall be released under parole who is subject to civil commitment as a sexually violent predator under chapter 71.09 RCW. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 332; 1989 c 259 § 3; 1951 c 238 § 1.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.116 Duration of confinement—Mandatory life sentences—Crimes committed before July 1, 1984.** (1) The board shall fix the duration of confinement for persons committed to the custody of the department of corrections under a mandatory life sentence for a crime or crimes committed before July 1, 1984. However, no duration of confinement shall be fixed for those persons committed under a life sentence without the possibility of parole.

The duration of confinement for persons covered by this section shall be fixed no later than July 1, 1992, or within six months after the admission or readmission of the convicted person to the custody of the department of corrections, whichever is later.

(2) Prior to fixing a duration of confinement under this section, the board shall request from the sentencing judge and the prosecuting attorney an updated statement in accordance with RCW 9.95.030. In addition to the report and recommendations of the prosecuting attorney and sentencing judge, the board shall also consider any victim impact statement submitted by a victim, survivor, or a representative, and any statement submitted by an investigative law enforcement officer. The board shall provide the convicted person with copies of any new statement and an opportunity to comment thereon prior to fixing the duration of confinement. [1989 c 259 § 2.]

**9.95.120 Suspension, revision of parole—Community corrections officers—Hearing—Retaking violators—Reinstatement.** Whenever the board or a community corrections officer of this state has reason to believe a person convicted of a crime committed before July 1, 1984, has breached a condition of his or her parole or violated the law of any state where he or she may then be or the rules and regulations of the board, any community corrections officer of

this state may arrest or cause the arrest and detention and suspension of parole of such convicted person pending a determination by the board whether the parole of such convicted person shall be revoked. All facts and circumstances surrounding the violation by such convicted person shall be reported to the board by the community corrections officer, with recommendations. The board, after consultation with the secretary of corrections, shall make all rules and regulations concerning procedural matters, which shall include the time when state community corrections officers shall file with the board reports required by this section, procedures pertaining thereto and the filing of such information as may be necessary to enable the board to perform its functions under this section. On the basis of the report by the community corrections officer, or at any time upon its own discretion, the board may revise or modify the conditions of parole or order the suspension of parole by the issuance of a written order bearing its seal, which order shall be sufficient warrant for all peace officers to take into custody any convicted person who may be on parole and retain such person in their custody until arrangements can be made by the board for his or her return to a state correctional institution for convicted felons. Any such revision or modification of the conditions of parole or the order suspending parole shall be personally served upon the parolee.

Any parolee arrested and detained in physical custody by the authority of a state community corrections officer, or upon the written order of the board, shall not be released from custody on bail or personal recognizance, except upon approval of the board and the issuance by the board of an order of reinstatement on parole on the same or modified conditions of parole.

All chiefs of police, marshals of cities and towns, sheriffs of counties, and all police, prison, and peace officers and constables shall execute any such order in the same manner as any ordinary criminal process.

Whenever a paroled prisoner is accused of a violation of his or her parole, other than the commission of, and conviction for, a felony or misdemeanor under the laws of this state or the laws of any state where he or she may then be, he or she shall be entitled to a fair and impartial hearing of such charges within thirty days from the time that he or she is served with charges of the violation of conditions of parole after his or her arrest and detention. The hearing shall be held before one or more members of the board at a place or places, within this state, reasonably near the site of the alleged violation or violations of parole.

In the event that the board suspends a parole by reason of an alleged parole violation or in the event that a parole is suspended pending the disposition of a new criminal charge, the board shall have the power to nullify the order of suspension and reinstate the individual to parole under previous conditions or any new conditions that the board may determine advisable. Before the board shall nullify an order of suspension and reinstate a parole they shall have determined that the best interests of society and the individual shall best be served by such reinstatement rather than a return to a correctional institution. [2003 c 218 § 5; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 333; 1999 c 143 § 22; 1981 c 136 § 37; 1979 c 141 § 2; 1969 c 98 § 2; 1961 c 106 § 2; 1955 c 133 § 13. Prior: 1939 c 142 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 4, part; RRS § 10249-4, part.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

*Violations of parole or probation—Revision of parole conditions—Rearrest—Detention:* RCW 72.04A.090.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.121 On-site revocation hearing—Procedure when waived.** (1) For offenders convicted of crimes committed before July 1, 1984, within fifteen days from the date of notice to the department of corrections of the arrest and detention of the alleged parole violator, he or she shall be personally served by a state community corrections officer with a copy of the factual allegations of the violation of the conditions of parole, and, at the same time shall be advised of his or her right to an on-site parole revocation hearing and of his or her rights and privileges as provided in RCW 9.95.120 through 9.95.126. The alleged parole violator, after service of the allegations of violations of the conditions of parole and the advice of rights may waive the on-site parole revocation hearing as provided in RCW 9.95.120, and admit one or more of the alleged violations of the conditions of parole. If the board accepts the waiver it shall either, (a) reinstate the parolee on parole under the same or modified conditions, or (b) revoke the parole of the parolee and enter an order of parole revocation and return to state custody. A determination of a new minimum sentence shall be made within thirty days of return to state custody which shall not exceed the maximum sentence as provided by law for the crime of which the parolee was originally convicted or the maximum fixed by the court.

If the waiver made by the parolee is rejected by the board it shall hold an on-site parole revocation hearing under the provisions of RCW 9.95.120 through 9.95.126.

(2) Offenders sentenced under RCW 9.94A.507 are subject to the violation hearing process established in RCW 9.95.435. [2009 c 28 § 27; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 334; 1981 c 136 § 38; 1979 c 141 § 3; 1969 c 98 § 3.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.122 On-site revocation hearing—Representation for alleged violators—Compensation.** (1) At any on-site parole revocation hearing for a person convicted of a crime committed before July 1, 1984, the alleged parole violator shall be entitled to be represented by an attorney of his or her own choosing and at his or her own expense, except, upon the presentation of satisfactory evidence of indigency and the request for the appointment of an attorney by the alleged parole violator, the board may cause the appointment of an attorney to represent the alleged parole violator to be paid for at state expense, and, in addition, the board may assume all or such other expenses in the presentation of evidence on behalf of the alleged parole violator as it may have authorized: PROVIDED, That funds are available for the payment of attorneys' fees and expenses. Attorneys for the representation of alleged parole violators in on-site hearings shall be appointed by the superior courts for the counties wherein the on-site parole revocation hearing is to be held and such attorneys shall be compensated in such manner and

in such amount as shall be fixed in a schedule of fees adopted by rule of the board.

(2) The rights of offenders sentenced under RCW 9.94A.507 are defined in RCW 9.95.435. [2009 c 28 § 28; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 335; 1999 c 143 § 23; 1969 c 98 § 4.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.123 On-site parole or community custody revocation or violations hearings—Conduct—Witnesses—Subpoenas, enforcement.** In conducting on-site parole hearings or community custody revocation or violations hearings, the board shall have the authority to administer oaths and affirmations, examine witnesses, receive evidence, and issue subpoenas for the compulsory attendance of witnesses and the production of evidence for presentation at such hearings. Subpoenas issued by the board shall be effective throughout the state. Witnesses in attendance at any on-site parole or community custody revocation hearing shall be paid the same fees and allowances, in the same manner and under the same conditions as provided for witnesses in the courts of the state in accordance with chapter 2.40 RCW. If any person fails or refuses to obey a subpoena issued by the board, or obeys the subpoena but refuses to testify concerning any matter under examination at the hearing, the board may petition the superior court of the county where the hearing is being conducted for enforcement of the subpoena: PROVIDED, That an offer to pay statutory fees and mileage has been made to the witness at the time of the service of the subpoena. The petition shall be accompanied by a copy of the subpoena and proof of service, and shall set forth in what specific manner the subpoena has not been complied with, and shall ask an order of the court to compel the witness to appear and testify before the board. The court, upon such petition, shall enter an order directing the witness to appear before the court at a time and place to be fixed in such order and then and there to show cause why he or she has not responded to the subpoena or has refused to testify. A copy of the order shall be served upon the witness. If it appears to the court that the subpoena was properly issued and that the particular questions which the witness refuses to answer are reasonable and relevant, the court shall enter an order that the witness appear at the time and place fixed in the order and testify or produce the required papers, and on failing to obey the order, the witness shall be dealt with as for contempt of court. [2008 c 231 § 43; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 336; 1999 c 143 § 24; 1969 c 98 § 5.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.124 On-site revocation hearing—Attorney general's recommendations—Procedural rules.** At all on-site parole revocation hearings for offenders convicted of crimes committed before July 1, 1984, the community corrections officers of the department of corrections, having made the

allegations of the violations of the conditions of parole, may be represented by the attorney general. The attorney general may make independent recommendations to the board about whether the violations constitute sufficient cause for the revocation of the parole and the return of the parolee to a state correctional institution for convicted felons. The hearings shall be open to the public unless the board for specifically stated reasons closes the hearing in whole or in part. The hearings shall be recorded either manually or by a mechanical recording device. An alleged parole violator may be requested to testify and any such testimony shall not be used against him or her in any criminal prosecution. The board shall adopt rules governing the formal and informal procedures authorized by this chapter and make rules of practice before the board in on-site parole revocation hearings, together with forms and instructions. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 337; 1999 c 143 § 25; 1983 c 196 § 2; 1981 c 136 § 39; 1979 c 141 § 4; 1969 c 98 § 6.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.125 On-site parole revocation hearing—Board's decision—Reinstatement or revocation of parole.** After the on-site parole revocation hearing for a person convicted of a crime committed before July 1, 1984, has been concluded, the members of the board having heard the matter shall enter their decision of record within ten days, and make findings and conclusions upon the allegations of the violations of the conditions of parole. If the member, or members having heard the matter, should conclude that the allegations of violation of the conditions of parole have not been proven by a preponderance of the evidence, or, those which have been proven by a preponderance of the evidence are not sufficient cause for the revocation of parole, then the parolee shall be reinstated on parole on the same or modified conditions of parole. For parole violations not resulting in new convictions, modified conditions of parole may include sanctions according to an administrative sanction grid. If the member or members having heard the matter should conclude that the allegations of violation of the conditions of parole have been proven by a preponderance of the evidence and constitute sufficient cause for the revocation of parole, then such member or members shall enter an order of parole revocation and return the parole violator to state custody. Within thirty days of the return of such parole violator to a state correctional institution the board shall enter an order determining a new minimum term not exceeding the maximum penalty provided by law for the crime for which the parole violator was originally convicted or the maximum fixed by the court. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 338; 1993 c 140 § 2; 1969 c 98 § 7.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.126 On-site revocation hearing—Cooperation in providing facilities.** All officers and employees of the state, counties, cities and political subdivisions of this state shall cooperate with the board in making available suitable

facilities for conducting parole or community custody revocation hearings. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 339; 1969 c 98 § 8.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.130 Parole-revoked offender as escapee.** From and after the suspension, cancellation, or revocation of the parole of any offender convicted of a crime committed before July 1, 1984, and until his or her return to custody the offender shall be deemed an escapee and a fugitive from justice. The indeterminate sentence review board may deny credit against the maximum sentence any time during which he or she is an escapee and fugitive from justice. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 340; 1993 c 140 § 3; 1955 c 133 § 14. Prior: 1939 c 142 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 4, part; RRS § 10249-4, part.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.140 Record of parolees—Privacy—Release of sex offender information—Immunity from liability—Cooperation by officials and employees.** (1) The board shall cause a complete record to be kept of every prisoner under the jurisdiction of the board released on parole or community custody. Such records shall be organized in accordance with the most modern methods of filing and indexing so that there will be always immediately available complete information about each such prisoner. Subject to information sharing provisions related to offenders with mental illness and the end of sentence review committee, the board may make rules as to the privacy of such records and their use by others than the board and the department staff assigned to perform board-related duties. Sex offenders convicted of crimes committed before July 1, 1984, who are under the board's jurisdiction shall be subject to the determinations of the end of sentence review committee regarding risk level and subject to sex offender registration and community notification. The board and the department staff assigned to perform board-related duties shall be immune from liability for the release of information concerning sex offenders as provided in RCW 4.24.550.

The superintendents of state correctional facilities and all officers and employees thereof and all other public officials shall at all times cooperate with the board and furnish to the board and staff assigned to perform board-related duties such information as may be necessary to enable it to perform its functions, and such superintendents and other employees shall at all times give the members of the board and staff assigned to perform board-related duties free access to all prisoners confined in the state correctional facilities.

(2) Offenders sentenced under RCW 9.94A.507 shall be subject to the determinations of the end of sentence review committee regarding risk level and subject to sex offender registration and community notification.

(3) The end of sentence review committee shall make law enforcement notifications for offenders under board jurisdiction on the same basis that it notifies law enforcement regarding offenders sentenced under chapter 9.94A RCW for crimes committed after July 1, 1984. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 19; 2009 c 28 § 29; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 341; 1992 c 7 § 27;

1990 c 3 § 126; 1955 c 133 § 15. Prior: 1939 c 142 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 4, part; RRS § 10249-4, part.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

*Washington state patrol identification and criminal history section: RCW 43.43.700 through 43.43.765.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.143 Court-ordered treatment—Required disclosures.** When an offender receiving court-ordered mental health or chemical dependency treatment or treatment ordered by the department of corrections presents for treatment from a mental health or chemical dependency treatment provider, the offender must disclose to the mental health or chemical dependency treatment provider whether he or she is subject to supervision by the department of corrections. If an offender has received relief from disclosure pursuant to RCW 9.94A.562, 70.96A.155, or 71.05.132, the offender must provide the mental health or chemical dependency treatment provider with a copy of the order granting the relief. [2004 c 166 § 10.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2004 c 166:** See notes following RCW 71.05.040.

**9.95.150 Rules and regulations.** The board shall make all necessary rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this chapter not inconsistent therewith, and may provide the forms of all documents necessary therefor. [1999 c 143 § 26; 1955 c 133 § 16. Prior: 1939 c 142 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 4, part; RRS § 10249-4, part.]

**9.95.155 Rule making regarding sex offenders.** See RCW 72.09.337.

**9.95.160 Governor's powers not affected—Revocation of paroles granted by board.** This chapter shall not limit or circumscribe the powers of the governor to commute the sentence of, or grant a pardon to, any convicted person, and the governor may cancel or revoke the parole granted to any convicted person by the board. The written order of the governor canceling or revoking such parole shall have the same force and effect and be executed in like manner as an order of the board. [1999 c 143 § 27; 1955 c 133 § 17. Prior: 1939 c 142 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 4, part; RRS § 10249-4, part.]

**9.95.170 Board to inform itself as to each convict—Records from department of corrections.** To assist it in fixing the duration of a convicted person's term of confinement, and in fixing the condition for release from custody on parole, it shall not only be the duty of the board to thoroughly inform itself as to the facts of such convicted person's crime but also to inform itself as thoroughly as possible as to such convict as a personality. The department of corrections and the institutions under its control shall make available to the board on request its case investigations, any file or other record, in order to assist the board in developing information for carrying out the purpose of this section. [1999 c 143 § 28;

1981 c 136 § 40; 1979 c 141 § 5; 1967 c 134 § 13; 1935 c 114 § 3; RRS § 10249-3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.190 Application of RCW 9.95.010 through 9.95.170 to inmates previously committed.** The provisions of RCW 9.95.010 through 9.95.170, inclusive, shall apply to all convicted persons serving time in a state correctional facility for crimes committed before July 1, 1984, to the end that at all times the same provisions relating to sentences, imprisonments, and paroles of prisoners shall apply to all inmates thereof. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 342; 1992 c 7 § 28; 1983 c 3 § 10; 1955 c 133 § 18. Prior: (i) 1939 c 142 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 4, part; RRS § 10249-4, part. (ii) 1947 c 92 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10249-2a, part.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.200 Probation by court—Investigation by secretary of corrections.** After conviction by plea or verdict of guilty of any crime, the court upon application or its own motion, may summarily grant or deny probation, or at a subsequent time fixed may hear and determine, in the presence of the defendant, the matter of probation of the defendant, and the conditions of such probation, if granted. The court may, in its discretion, prior to the hearing on the granting of probation, refer the matter to the secretary of corrections or such officers as the secretary may designate for investigation and report to the court at a specified time, upon the circumstances surrounding the crime and concerning the defendant, his or her prior record, and his or her family surroundings and environment. [2011 c 336 § 340; 1981 c 136 § 41; 1979 c 141 § 6; 1967 c 134 § 15; 1957 c 227 § 3. Prior: 1949 c 59 § 1; 1939 c 125 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 10249-5a.]

**Rules of court:** ER 410.

*Suspending sentences:* RCW 9.92.060.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.204 Misdemeanant probation services—County supervision.** (1) When a superior court places a defendant convicted of a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor on probation and orders supervision under RCW 9.92.060 or 9.95.210, the department of corrections has responsibility for supervision of defendants pursuant to RCW 9.94A.501 and 9.94A.5011.

(2) A county legislative authority may assume responsibility for the supervision of defendants within its jurisdiction who have been convicted of a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor and sentenced to probation by a superior court. If a county legislative authority chooses to assume responsibility for defendants supervised by the department, the assumption of responsibility shall be made by contract with the department of corrections on a biennial basis.

(3) The state of Washington, the department of corrections and its employees, community corrections officers, and volunteers who assist community corrections officers are not liable for any harm caused by the actions of a superior court misdemeanor probationer who is under the supervision of a county. A county, its probation department and employees,

probation officers, and volunteers who assist probation officers are not liable for any harm caused by the actions of a superior court misdemeanor probationer who is under the supervision of the department of corrections.

(4) The state of Washington, the department of corrections and its employees, community corrections officers, any county providing supervision services pursuant to this section and its employees, probation officers, and volunteers who assist community corrections officers and probation officers in the superior court misdemeanor probation program are not liable for civil damages resulting from any act or omission in the rendering of superior court misdemeanor probation activities unless the act or omission constitutes gross negligence. For purposes of this section, "volunteers" is defined according to RCW 51.12.035.

(5)(a) If a misdemeanor probationer requests permission to travel or transfer to another state, the assigned probation officer employed or contracted for by the county shall determine whether such request is subject to RCW 9.94A.745, the interstate compact for adult offender supervision. If such request is subject to the compact, the probation officer shall:

(i) Notify the department of corrections of the probationer's request;

(ii) Provide the department of corrections with the supporting documentation it requests for processing an application for transfer;

(iii) Notify the probationer of the fee due to the department of corrections for processing an application under the compact;

(iv) Cease supervision of the probationer while another state supervises the probationer pursuant to the compact;

(v) Resume supervision if the probationer returns to this state before the term of probation expires.

(b) The probationer shall receive credit for time served while being supervised by another state. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 6. Prior: 2005 c 400 § 2; 2005 c 362 § 3; 1996 c 298 § 1.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 40 §§ 1-9, 42:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Application—Effective date—2005 c 400:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.74504.

**Effective date—2005 c 362:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**9.95.210 Conditions of probation.** (1)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection in granting probation, the superior court may suspend the imposition or the execution of the sentence and may direct that the suspension may continue upon such conditions and for such time as it shall designate, not exceeding the maximum term of sentence or two years, whichever is longer.

(b) For a defendant sentenced under RCW 46.61.5055, the superior court may suspend the imposition or the execution of the sentence and may direct that the suspension continue upon such conditions and for such time as the court shall designate, not to exceed five years. The court shall have continuing jurisdiction and authority to suspend the execution of all or any part of the sentence upon stated terms, including installment payment of fines. A defendant who has been sentenced, and who then fails to appear for any hearing

to address the defendant's compliance with the terms of probation when ordered to do so by the court shall have the term of probation tolled until such time as the defendant makes his or her presence known to the court on the record. Any time before entering an order terminating probation, the court may modify or revoke its order suspending the imposition or execution of the sentence if the defendant violates or fails to carry out any of the conditions of the suspended sentence.

(2) In the order granting probation and as a condition thereof, the superior court may in its discretion imprison the defendant in the county jail for a period not exceeding one year and may fine the defendant any sum not exceeding the statutory limit for the offense committed, and court costs. As a condition of probation, the superior court shall require the payment of the penalty assessment required by RCW 7.68.035. The superior court may also require the defendant to make such monetary payments, on such terms as it deems appropriate under the circumstances, as are necessary: (a) To comply with any order of the court for the payment of family support; (b) to make restitution to any person or persons who may have suffered loss or damage by reason of the commission of the crime in question or when the offender pleads guilty to a lesser offense or fewer offenses and agrees with the prosecutor's recommendation that the offender be required to pay restitution to a victim of an offense or offenses which are not prosecuted pursuant to a plea agreement; (c) to pay such fine as may be imposed and court costs, including reimbursement of the state for costs of extradition if return to this state by extradition was required; (d) following consideration of the financial condition of the person subject to possible electronic monitoring, to pay for the costs of electronic monitoring if that monitoring was required by the court as a condition of release from custody or as a condition of probation; (e) to contribute to a county or interlocal drug fund; and (f) to make restitution to a public agency for the costs of an emergency response under RCW 38.52.430, and may require bonds for the faithful observance of any and all conditions imposed in the probation.

(3) The superior court shall order restitution in all cases where the victim is entitled to benefits under the crime victims' compensation act, chapter 7.68 RCW. If the superior court does not order restitution and the victim of the crime has been determined to be entitled to benefits under the crime victims' compensation act, the department of labor and industries, as administrator of the crime victims' compensation program, may petition the superior court within one year of imposition of the sentence for entry of a restitution order. Upon receipt of a petition from the department of labor and industries, the superior court shall hold a restitution hearing and shall enter a restitution order.

(4) In granting probation, the superior court may order the probationer to report to the secretary of corrections or such officer as the secretary may designate and as a condition of the probation to follow the instructions of the secretary for up to twelve months. If the county legislative authority has elected to assume responsibility for the supervision of superior court misdemeanor probationers within its jurisdiction, the superior court misdemeanor probationer shall report to a probation officer employed or contracted for by the county. In cases where a superior court misdemeanor probationer is sentenced in one county, but resides within another county,

there must be provisions for the probationer to report to the agency having supervision responsibility for the probationer's county of residence.

(5) If the probationer has been ordered to make restitution and the superior court has ordered supervision, the officer supervising the probationer shall make a reasonable effort to ascertain whether restitution has been made. If the superior court has ordered supervision and restitution has not been made as ordered, the officer shall inform the prosecutor of that violation of the terms of probation not less than three months prior to the termination of the probation period. The secretary of corrections will promulgate rules and regulations for the conduct of the person during the term of probation. For defendants found guilty in district court, like functions as the secretary performs in regard to probation may be performed by probation officers employed for that purpose by the county legislative authority of the county wherein the court is located.

(6) The provisions of RCW 9.94A.501 and 9.94A.5011 apply to sentences imposed under this section. [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 10; (2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 9 expired August 1, 2012); 2012 c 183 § 4; 2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 7; 2005 c 362 § 4; 1996 c 298 § 3; 1995 1st sp.s. c 19 § 29; 1995 c 33 § 6; 1993 c 251 § 3; 1992 c 86 § 1; 1987 c 202 § 146; 1984 c 46 § 1; 1983 c 156 § 4; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 10; 1982 1st ex.s. c 8 § 5; 1981 c 136 § 42; 1980 c 19 § 1. Prior: 1979 c 141 § 7; 1979 c 29 § 2; 1969 c 29 § 1; 1967 c 200 § 8; 1967 c 134 § 16; 1957 c 227 § 4; prior: 1949 c 77 § 1; 1939 c 125 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 10249-5b.]

**Effective date—2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 10:** "Section 10 of this act takes effect August 1, 2012." [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 17.]

**Expiration date—2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 9:** "Section 9 of this act expires August 1, 2012." [2012 1st sp.s. c 6 § 16.]

**Implementation—Application—2012 1st sp.s. c 6:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.631.

**Effective date—2012 c 183:** See note following RCW 2.28.175.

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 40 §§ 1-9, 42:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Effective date—2005 c 362:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Findings—Purpose—Short title—Severability—Effective date—1995 1st sp.s. c 19:** See notes following RCW 72.09.450.

**Finding—Intent—1993 c 251:** See note following RCW 38.52.430.

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**Intent—Reports—1982 1st ex.s. c 8:** See note following RCW 7.68.035.

*Restitution*

*alternative to fine: RCW 9A.20.030.*

*condition to suspending sentence: RCW 9.92.060.*

*disposition when victim not found or dead: RCW 7.68.290.*

*Termination of suspended sentence, restoration of civil rights: RCW 9.92.066.*

*Violations of probation conditions, rearrest, detention: RCW 72.04A.090.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.214 Assessments and intake fees for supervision of misdemeanor probationers.** Whenever a defendant convicted of a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor is placed on probation under RCW 9.92.060 or 9.95.210, and the defendant is supervised by a county probation department, the county probation department may assess and collect from



the defendant for the duration of the term of supervision a monthly assessment not to exceed one hundred dollars per month. Whenever a defendant convicted of a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor is placed on probation under RCW 9.92.060 or 9.95.210, and the defendant is supervised by the department of corrections, the department may collect supervision intake fees pursuant to RCW 9.94A.780. This assessment shall be paid to the agency supervising the defendant and shall be applied, along with funds appropriated by the legislature, toward the payment or part payment of the cost of supervising the defendant. The county probation department shall suspend such assessment while the defendant is being supervised by another state pursuant to RCW 9.94A.745, the interstate compact for adult offender supervision. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 11; 2005 c 400 § 3; 1996 c 298 § 4; 1995 1st sp.s. c 19 § 32.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Application—Effective date—2005 c 400:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.74504.

**Findings—Purpose—Short title—Severability—Effective date—1995 1st sp.s. c 19:** See notes following RCW 72.09.450.

**9.95.220 Violation of probation—Rearrest—Imprisonment.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, whenever the state parole officer or other officer under whose supervision the probationer has been placed shall have reason to believe such probationer is violating the terms of his or her probation, or engaging in criminal practices, or is abandoned to improper associates, or living a vicious life, he or she shall cause the probationer to be brought before the court wherein the probation was granted. For this purpose any peace officer or state parole officer may rearrest any such person without warrant or other process. The court may thereupon in its discretion without notice revoke and terminate such probation. In the event the judgment has been pronounced by the court and the execution thereof suspended, the court may revoke such suspension, whereupon the judgment shall be in full force and effect, and the defendant shall be delivered to the sheriff to be transported to the penitentiary or reformatory as the case may be. If the judgment has not been pronounced, the court shall pronounce judgment after such revocation of probation and the defendant shall be delivered to the sheriff to be transported to the penitentiary or reformatory, in accordance with the sentence imposed.

(2) If a probationer is being supervised by the department of corrections pursuant to RCW 9.95.204, the department shall have authority to issue a warrant for the arrest of an offender who violates a condition of community custody, as provided in RCW 9.94A.716. Any sanctions shall be imposed by the department pursuant to RCW 9.94A.737. The department shall provide a copy of the violation hearing report to the sentencing court in a timely manner. Nothing in this subsection is intended to limit the power of the sentencing court to respond to a probationer's violation of conditions. [2009 c 375 § 11; 1957 c 227 § 5. Prior: 1939 c 125 § 1, part; RRS § 10249-5c.]

**Application—2009 c 375:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.230 Court revocation or termination of probation.** The court shall have authority at any time prior to the entry of an order terminating probation to (1) revoke, modify, or change its order of suspension of imposition or execution of sentence; (2) it may at any time, when the ends of justice will be subserved thereby, and when the reformation of the probationer shall warrant it, terminate the period of probation, and discharge the person so held. [1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 11; 1957 c 227 § 6. Prior: 1939 c 125 § 1, part; RRS § 10249-5d.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.240 Dismissal of information or indictment after probation completed—Vacation of conviction.** (1) Every defendant who has fulfilled the conditions of his or her probation for the entire period thereof, or who shall have been discharged from probation prior to the termination of the period thereof, may at any time prior to the expiration of the maximum period of punishment for the offense for which he or she has been convicted be permitted in the discretion of the court to withdraw his or her plea of guilty and enter a plea of not guilty, or if he or she has been convicted after a plea of not guilty, the court may in its discretion set aside the verdict of guilty; and in either case, the court may thereupon dismiss the information or indictment against such defendant, who shall thereafter be released from all penalties and disabilities resulting from the offense or crime of which he or she has been convicted. The probationer shall be informed of this right in his or her probation papers: PROVIDED, That in any subsequent prosecution, for any other offense, such prior conviction may be pleaded and proved, and shall have the same effect as if probation had not been granted, or the information or indictment dismissed.

(2)(a) After the period of probation has expired, the defendant may apply to the sentencing court for a vacation of the defendant's record of conviction under RCW 9.94A.640. The court may, in its discretion, clear the record of conviction if it finds the defendant has met the equivalent of the tests in RCW 9.94A.640(2) as those tests would be applied to a person convicted of a crime committed before July 1, 1984.

(b) The clerk of the court in which the vacation order is entered shall immediately transmit the order vacating the conviction to the Washington state patrol identification section and to the local police agency, if any, which holds criminal history information for the person who is the subject of the conviction. The Washington state patrol and any such local police agency shall immediately update their records to reflect the vacation of the conviction, and shall transmit the order vacating the conviction to the federal bureau of investigation. A conviction that has been vacated under this section may not be disseminated or disclosed by the state patrol or local law enforcement agency to any person, except other criminal justice enforcement agencies.

(3) This section does not apply to chapter 18.130 RCW. [2008 c 134 § 27; 2003 c 66 § 1; 1957 c 227 § 7. Prior: 1939 c 125 § 1, part; RRS § 10249-5e.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—2008 c 134:** See notes following RCW 18.130.020.

*Gambling commission—Denial, suspension, or revocation of license, permit—Other provisions not applicable:* RCW 9.46.075.

*Juvenile courts, probation officers:* RCW 13.04.040, 13.04.050.

*State lottery commission—Denial, suspension, and revocation of licenses—Other provisions not applicable: RCW 67.70.090.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.250 Community corrections officers.** In order to carry out the provisions of this chapter 9.95 RCW the parole officers working under the supervision of the secretary of corrections shall be known as community corrections officers. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 343; 1981 c 136 § 43; 1979 c 141 § 8; 1967 c 134 § 17; 1957 c 227 § 8. Prior: 1939 c 125 § 1, part; RRS § 10249-5f.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

*Juvenile courts, probation officers: RCW 13.04.040, 13.04.050.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.260 Indeterminate sentence review board—Supervision of conditionally pardoned persons—Hearing.** (1) The indeterminate sentence review board shall, when requested by the governor, pass on the representations made in support of applications for pardons for convicted persons and make recommendations thereon to the governor.

(2) It will be the duty of the secretary of corrections to exercise supervision over such convicted persons as have been conditionally pardoned by the governor, to the end that such persons shall faithfully comply with the conditions of such pardons. The indeterminate sentence review board shall also pass on any representations made in support of applications for restoration of civil rights of convicted persons, and make recommendations to the governor. The department of corrections shall prepare materials and make investigations requested by the indeterminate sentence review board in order to assist the board in passing on the representations made in support of applications for pardon or for the restoration of civil rights.

(3) The board shall make no recommendations to the governor in support of an application for pardon until a public hearing has been held under this section or RCW 9.94A.885(3) upon the application. The prosecuting attorney of the county where the conviction was obtained shall be notified at least thirty days prior to the scheduled hearing that an application for pardon has been filed and the date and place at which the hearing on the application for pardon will be held. The board may waive the thirty-day notice requirement in cases where it determines that waiver is necessary to permit timely action on the petition. A copy of the application for pardon shall be sent to the prosecuting attorney. The prosecuting attorney shall make reasonable efforts to notify victims, survivors of victims, witnesses, and the law enforcement agency or agencies that conducted the investigation of the date and place of the hearing. Information regarding victims, survivors of victims, or witnesses receiving this notice are confidential and shall not be available to the offender. The board shall consider written, oral, audio, or videotaped statements regarding the application for pardon received, personally or by representation, from the individuals who receive notice pursuant to this section. This subsection is intended solely for the guidance of the board. Nothing in this section is intended or may be relied upon to create a right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by any person. [1999 c 323 § 4; 1999 c 143 § 29; 1981 c 136 § 44;

1979 c 141 § 9; 1967 c 134 § 14; 1935 c 114 § 7; RRS § 10249-7.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1999 c 143 § 29 and by 1999 c 323 § 4, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Intent—1999 c 323:** See note following RCW 9.94A.885.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.265 Report to governor and legislature.** The board shall transmit to the governor and to the legislature, as often as the governor may require it, a report of its work, in which shall be given such information as may be relevant. [1999 c 143 § 30; 1977 c 75 § 5; 1955 c 340 § 11. Prior: 1945 c 155 § 1, part; 1935 c 114 § 8, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 10249-8, part. Formerly RCW 43.67.040.]

**9.95.270 Compacts for out-of-state supervision of parolees or probationers—Uniform act.** The governor of this state is hereby authorized to execute a compact on behalf of the state of Washington with any of the United States legally joining therein in the form substantially as follows:

A compact entered into by and among the contracting states, signatories hereto, with the consent of the congress of the United States of America, granted by an act entitled "An Act granting the consent of congress to any two or more states to enter into agreements or compacts for cooperative effort and mutual assistance in the prevention of crime and for other purposes."

The contracting states solemnly agree:

(1) That it shall be competent for the duly constituted judicial and administrative authorities of a state, party to this compact, (herein called "sending state"), to permit any person convicted of an offense within such state and placed on probation or released on parole to reside in any other state party to this compact, (herein called "receiving state"), while on probation or parole, if

(a) Such person is in fact a resident of or has his or her family residing within the receiving state and can obtain employment there;

(b) Though not a resident of the receiving state and not having his or her family residing there, the receiving state consents to such person being sent there.

Before granting such permission, opportunity shall be granted to the receiving state to investigate the home and prospective employment of such person.

A resident of the receiving state, within the meaning of this section, is one who has been an actual inhabitant of such state continuously for more than one year prior to his or her coming to the sending state and has not resided within the sending state more than six continuous months immediately preceding the commission of the offense for which he or she has been convicted.

(2) That each receiving state will assume the duties of visitation of and supervision over probationers or parolees of any sending state and in the exercise of those duties will be governed by the same standards that prevail for its own probationers and parolees.

(3) That duly accredited officers of a sending state may at all times enter a receiving state and there apprehend and retake any person on probation or parole. For that purpose no

formalities will be required other than establishing the authority of the officer and the identity of the person to be retaken. All legal requirements to obtain extradition of fugitives from justice are hereby expressly waived on the part of states party hereto, as to such persons. The decision of the sending state to retake a person on probation or parole shall be conclusive upon and not reviewable within the receiving state: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That if at the time when a state seeks to retake a probationer or parolee there should be pending against him or her within the receiving state any criminal charge, or he or she should be suspected of having committed within such state a criminal offense, he or she shall not be retaken without the consent of the receiving state until discharged from prosecution or from imprisonment for such offense.

(4) That the duly accredited officers of the sending state will be permitted to transport prisoners being retaken through any and all states parties to this compact, without interference.

(5) That the governor of each state may designate an officer who, acting jointly with like officers of other contracting states, if and when appointed, shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary to more effectively carry out the terms of this compact.

(6) That this compact shall become operative immediately upon its execution by any state as between it and any other state or states so executing. When executed it shall have the full force and effect of law within such state, the form of execution to be in accordance with the laws of the executing state.

(7) That this compact shall continue in force and remain binding upon each executing state until renounced by it. The duties and obligations hereunder of a renouncing state shall continue as to parolees or probationers residing therein at the time of withdrawal until retaken or finally discharged by the sending state. Renunciation of this compact shall be by the same authority which executed it, by sending six months' notice in writing of its intention to withdraw from the compact to the other states, party hereto. [2012 c 117 § 3; 1937 c 92 § 1; RRS § 10249-11.]

*Interstate compact on juveniles: Chapter 13.24 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.280 Return of parole violators from another state—Deputizing out-of-state officers.** The secretary, upon recommendation by the board, may deputize any person (regularly employed by another state) to act as an officer and agent of this state in effecting the return of any person convicted of a crime committed before July 1, 1984, who has violated the terms and conditions of parole or probation as granted by this state. In any matter relating to the return of such a person, any agent so deputized shall have all the powers of a police officer of this state. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 20; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 344; 1999 c 143 § 31; 1955 c 183 § 1.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.290 Return of parole violators from another state—Deputization procedure.** Any deputization pursuant to this statute with regard to an offender convicted of a crime committed before July 1, 1984, shall be in writing and any person authorized to act as an agent of this state pursuant hereto shall carry formal evidence of his or her deputization and shall produce the same upon demand. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 345; 1955 c 183 § 2.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.300 Return of parole violators from another state—Contracts to share costs.** The secretary, upon recommendation by the board, may enter into contracts with similar officials of any other state or states for the purpose of sharing an equitable portion of the cost of effecting the return of any person who has violated the terms and conditions of parole, probation, or community custody as granted by this state. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 21; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 346; 1999 c 143 § 32; 1955 c 183 § 3.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.310 Assistance for parolees, work release, and discharged prisoners—Declaration of purpose.** The purpose of RCW 9.95.310 through 9.95.370 is to provide necessary assistance, other than assistance which is authorized to be provided under the vocational rehabilitation laws, Title 28A RCW, under the public assistance laws, Title 74 RCW or the employment security department or other state agency, for parolees, inmates assigned to work/training release facilities, discharged prisoners and persons convicted of a felony committed before July 1, 1984, and granted probation in need and whose capacity to earn a living under these circumstances is impaired; and to help such persons attain self-care and/or self-support for rehabilitation and restoration to independence as useful citizens as rapidly as possible thereby reducing the number of returnees to the institutions of this state to the benefit of such person and society as a whole. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 347; 1986 c 125 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 31 § 1; 1961 c 217 § 2.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.320 Assistance for parolees, work release, and discharged prisoners—Subsistence payments—Terms and conditions.** The secretary of corrections or his or her designee may provide to any parolee, inmate assigned to a work/training release facility, discharged prisoner and persons convicted of a felony committed before July 1, 1984, and granted probation in need and without necessary means, from any funds legally available therefor, such reasonable sums as he or she deems necessary for the subsistence of such person and his or her family until such person has become gainfully employed. Such aid may be made under such terms and conditions, and through local parole or probation officers

if necessary, as the secretary of corrections or his or her designee may require and shall be supplementary to any moneys which may be provided under public assistance or from any other source. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 348; 1986 c 125 § 2; 1981 c 136 § 45; 1971 ex.s. c 31 § 2; 1961 c 217 § 3.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.330 Assistance for parolees, work release, and discharged prisoners—Department may accept gifts and make expenditures.** The department of corrections may accept any devise, bequest, gift, grant, or contribution made for the purposes of RCW 9.95.310 through 9.95.370 and the secretary of corrections or his or her designee may make expenditures, or approve expenditures by local parole or probation officers, therefrom for the purposes of RCW 9.95.310 through 9.95.370 in accordance with the rules of the department of corrections. [2011 c 336 § 341; 1981 c 136 § 46; 1971 ex.s. c 31 § 3; 1961 c 217 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.340 Assistance for parolees, work release, and discharged prisoners—Use and repayment of funds belonging to absconders.** Any funds in the hands of the department of corrections, or which may come into its hands, which belong to discharged prisoners, inmates assigned to work/training release facilities, parolees or persons convicted of a felony and granted probation who absconded, or whose whereabouts are unknown, shall be deposited in the community services revolving fund. Said funds shall be used to defray the expenses of clothing and other necessities and for transporting discharged prisoners, inmates assigned to work/training release facilities, parolees and persons convicted of a felony and granted probation who are without means to secure the same. All payments disbursed from these funds shall be repaid, whenever possible, by discharged prisoners, inmates assigned to work/training release facilities, parolees and persons convicted of a felony and granted probation for whose benefit they are made. Whenever any money belonging to such persons is so paid into the revolving fund, it shall be repaid to them in accordance with law if a claim therefor is filed with the department of corrections within five years of deposit into said fund and upon a clear showing of a legal right of such claimant to such money. This section applies to persons convicted of a felony committed before July 1, 1984. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 349; 1986 c 125 § 3; 1981 c 136 § 47; 1971 ex.s. c 31 § 4; 1961 c 217 § 5.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.350 Assistance for parolees, work release, and discharged prisoners—Use and accounting of funds or property.** All money or other property paid or delivered to a community corrections officer or employee of the department of corrections by or for the benefit of any discharged prisoner, inmate assigned to a work/training release facility, parolee or persons convicted of a felony and granted probation shall be immediately transmitted to the department of corrections and it shall enter the same upon its books to his or

her credit. Such money or other property shall be used only under the direction of the department of corrections.

If such person absconds, the money shall be deposited in the revolving fund created by RCW 9.95.360, and any other property, if not called for within one year, shall be sold by the department of corrections and the proceeds credited to the revolving fund.

If any person, files a claim within five years after the deposit or crediting of such funds, and satisfies the department of corrections that he or she is entitled thereto, the department may make a finding to that effect and may make payment to the claimant in the amount to which he or she is entitled.

This section applies to persons convicted of a felony committed before July 1, 1984. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 350; 1986 c 125 § 4; 1981 c 136 § 48; 1971 ex.s. c 31 § 5; 1961 c 217 § 6.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.360 Assistance for parolees, work release, and discharged prisoners—Community services revolving fund.** The department of corrections shall create, maintain, and administer outside the state treasury a permanent revolving fund to be known as the "community services revolving fund" into which shall be deposited all moneys received by it under RCW 9.95.310 through 9.95.370 and any appropriation made for the purposes of RCW 9.95.310 through 9.95.370. All expenditures from this revolving fund shall be made by check or voucher signed by the secretary of corrections or his or her designee. The community services revolving fund shall be deposited by the department of corrections in such banks or financial institutions as it may select which shall give to the department a surety bond executed by a surety company authorized to do business in this state, or collateral eligible as security for deposit of state funds in at least the full amount of deposit.

This section applies to persons convicted of a felony committed before July 1, 1984. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 351; 1986 c 125 § 5; 1981 c 136 § 49; 1971 ex.s. c 31 § 6; 1961 c 217 § 7.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.370 Assistance for parolees and discharged prisoners—Repayment agreement.** The secretary of corrections or his or her designee shall enter into a written agreement with every person receiving funds under RCW 9.95.310 through 9.95.370 that such person will repay such funds under the terms and conditions in said agreement. No person shall receive funds until such an agreement is validly made. This section applies to persons convicted of a felony committed before July 1, 1984. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 352; 1981 c 136 § 50; 1971 ex.s. c 31 § 7; 1961 c 217 § 8.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.420 Sex offenders—End of sentence review—Victim input.** (1)(a) Except as provided in (c) of this subsection, before the expiration of the minimum term, as part of the end of sentence review process under RCW 72.09.340, 72.09.345, and where appropriate, 72.09.370, the department shall conduct, and the offender shall participate in, an examination of the offender, incorporating methodologies that are recognized by experts in the prediction of sexual dangerousness, and including a prediction of the probability that the offender will engage in sex offenses if released.

(b) The board may contract for an additional, independent examination, subject to the standards in this section.

(c) If at the time the sentence is imposed by the superior court the offender's minimum term has expired or will expire within one hundred twenty days of the sentencing hearing, the department shall conduct, within ninety days of the offender's arrival at a department of corrections facility, and the offender shall participate in, an examination of the offender, incorporating methodologies that are recognized by experts in the prediction of sexual dangerousness, and including a prediction of the probability that the offender will engage in sex offenses if released.

(2) The board shall impose the conditions and instructions provided for in RCW 9.94A.704. The board shall consider the department's recommendations and may impose conditions in addition to those recommended by the department. The board may impose or modify conditions of community custody following notice to the offender.

(3)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, no later than ninety days before expiration of the minimum term, but after the board receives the results from the end of sentence review process and the recommendations for additional or modified conditions of community custody from the department, the board shall conduct a hearing to determine whether it is more likely than not that the offender will engage in sex offenses if released on conditions to be set by the board. The board may consider an offender's failure to participate in an evaluation under subsection (1) of this section in determining whether to release the offender. The board shall order the offender released, under such affirmative and other conditions as the board determines appropriate, unless the board determines by a preponderance of the evidence that, despite such conditions, it is more likely than not that the offender will commit sex offenses if released. If the board does not order the offender released, the board shall establish a new minimum term as provided in RCW 9.95.011.

(b) If at the time the offender's minimum term has expired or will expire within one hundred twenty days of the offender's arrival at a department of correction's facility, then no later than one hundred twenty days after the offender's arrival at a department of corrections facility, but after the board receives the results from the end of sentence review process and the recommendations for additional or modified conditions of community custody from the department, the board shall conduct a hearing to determine whether it is more likely than not that the offender will engage in sex offenses if released on conditions to be set by the board. The board may consider an offender's failure to participate in an evaluation under subsection (1) of this section in determining whether to release the offender. The board shall order the offender released, under such affirmative and other condi-

tions as the board determines appropriate, unless the board determines by a preponderance of the evidence that, despite such conditions, it is more likely than not that the offender will commit sex offenses if released. If the board does not order the offender released, the board shall establish a new minimum term as provided in RCW 9.95.011.

(4) In a hearing conducted under subsection (3) of this section, the board shall provide opportunities for the victims of any crimes for which the offender has been convicted to present statements as set forth in RCW 7.69.032. The procedures for victim input shall be developed by rule. To facilitate victim involvement, county prosecutor's offices shall ensure that any victim impact statements and known contact information for victims of record are forwarded as part of the judgment and sentence. [2009 c 138 § 3; (2009 c 138 § 2 expired August 1, 2009); 2008 c 231 § 44; 2007 c 363 § 2; 2006 c 313 § 2; 2002 c 174 § 1; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 306.]

**Effective date—2009 c 138 § 3:** "Section 3 of this act takes effect August 1, 2009." [2009 c 138 § 7.]

**Expiration date—2009 c 138 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act expires August 1, 2009." [2009 c 138 § 6.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Effective date—2002 c 174:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 27, 2002]." [2002 c 174 § 3.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.425 Sex offenders—Postrelease violations.** (1) Whenever the board or a community corrections officer of this state has reason to believe an offender released under RCW 9.95.420 has violated a condition of community custody or the laws of this state, any community corrections officer may arrest or cause the arrest and detention of the offender pending a determination by the board whether sanctions should be imposed or the offender's community custody should be revoked. The community corrections officer shall report all facts and circumstances surrounding the alleged violation to the board, with recommendations.

(2) If the board or the department causes the arrest or detention of an offender for a violation that does not amount to a new crime and the offender is arrested or detained by local law enforcement or in a local jail, the board or department, whichever caused the arrest or detention, shall be financially responsible for local costs. Jail bed costs shall be allocated at the rate established under RCW 9.94A.740. [2009 c 28 § 30; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 307.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.430 Sex offenders—Postrelease arrest.** Any offender released under RCW 9.95.420 who is arrested and detained in physical custody by the authority of a community corrections officer, or upon the written order of the board, shall not be released from custody on bail or personal recognizance, except upon approval of the board and the issuance

by the board of an order reinstating the offender's release on the same or modified conditions. All chiefs of police, marshals of cities and towns, sheriffs of counties, and all police, prison, and peace officers and constables shall execute any such order in the same manner as any ordinary criminal process. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 308.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.435 Sex offenders—Postrelease transfer to more restrictive confinement.** (1) If an offender released by the board under RCW 9.95.420 violates any condition or requirement of community custody, the board may transfer the offender to a more restrictive confinement status to serve up to the remaining portion of the sentence, less credit for any period actually spent in community custody or in detention awaiting disposition of an alleged violation and subject to the limitations of subsection (2) of this section.

(2) Following the hearing specified in subsection (3) of this section, the board may impose sanctions such as work release, home detention with electronic monitoring, work crew, community restitution, inpatient treatment, daily reporting, curfew, educational or counseling sessions, supervision enhanced through electronic monitoring, or any other sanctions available in the community, or may suspend the release and sanction up to sixty days' confinement in a local correctional facility for each violation, or revoke the release to community custody whenever an offender released by the board under RCW 9.95.420 violates any condition or requirement of community custody.

(3) If an offender released by the board under RCW 9.95.420 is accused of violating any condition or requirement of community custody, he or she is entitled to a hearing before the board or a designee of the board prior to the imposition of sanctions. The hearing shall be considered as offender disciplinary proceedings and shall not be subject to chapter 34.05 RCW. The board shall develop hearing procedures and a structure of graduated sanctions consistent with the hearing procedures and graduated sanctions developed pursuant to RCW 9.94A.737. The board may suspend the offender's release to community custody and confine the offender in a correctional institution owned, operated by, or operated under contract with the state prior to the hearing unless the offender has been arrested and confined for a new criminal offense.

(4) The hearing procedures required under subsection (3) of this section shall be developed by rule and include the following:

(a) Hearings shall be conducted by members or designees of the board unless the board enters into an agreement with the department to use the hearing officers established under RCW 9.94A.737;

(b) The board shall provide the offender with findings and conclusions which include the evidence relied upon, and the reasons the particular sanction was imposed. The board shall notify the offender of the right to appeal the sanction and the right to file a personal restraint petition under court rules after the final decision of the board;

(c) The hearing shall be held unless waived by the offender, and shall be electronically recorded. For offenders

not in total confinement, the hearing shall be held within thirty days of service of notice of the violation, but not less than twenty-four hours after notice of the violation. For offenders in total confinement, the hearing shall be held within thirty days of service of notice of the violation, but not less than twenty-four hours after notice of the violation. The board or its designee shall make a determination whether probable cause exists to believe the violation or violations occurred. The determination shall be made within forty-eight hours of receipt of the allegation;

(d) The offender shall have the right to: (i) Be present at the hearing; (ii) have the assistance of a person qualified to assist the offender in the hearing, appointed by the presiding hearing officer if the offender has a language or communications barrier; (iii) testify or remain silent; (iv) call witnesses and present documentary evidence; (v) question witnesses who appear and testify; and (vi) be represented by counsel if revocation of the release to community custody upon a finding of violation is a probable sanction for the violation. The board may not revoke the release to community custody of any offender who was not represented by counsel at the hearing, unless the offender has waived the right to counsel; and

(e) The sanction shall take effect if affirmed by the presiding hearing officer.

(5) Within seven days after the presiding hearing officer's decision, the offender may appeal the decision to the full board or to a panel of three reviewing examiners designated by the chair of the board or by the chair's designee. The sanction shall be reversed or modified if a majority of the panel finds that the sanction was not reasonably related to any of the following: (a) The crime of conviction; (b) the violation committed; (c) the offender's risk of reoffending; or (d) the safety of the community.

(6) For purposes of this section, no finding of a violation of conditions may be based on unconfirmed or unconfirmable allegations. [2007 c 363 § 3; 2003 c 218 § 1; 2002 c 175 § 17; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 309.]

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.440 Sex offenders—Reinstatement of release.** In the event the board suspends the release status of an offender released under RCW 9.95.420 by reason of an alleged violation of a condition of release, or pending disposition of a new criminal charge, the board may nullify the suspension order and reinstate release under previous conditions or any new conditions the board determines advisable under RCW 9.94A.704. Before the board may nullify a suspension order and reinstate release, it shall determine that the best interests of society and the offender shall be served by such reinstatement rather than return to confinement. [2008 c 231 § 45; 2003 c 218 § 6; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 310.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9.95.900 Application of certain laws to felonies committed before, on, or after certain dates.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the following sections of law do not apply to any felony offense committed on or after July 1, 1984: RCW 9.95.010, 9.95.011, 9.95.013, 9.95.015, 9.95.017, 9.95.040, 9.95.045, 9.95.047, 9.95.052, 9.95.080, 9.95.100, 9.95.115, 9.95.116, 9.95.120, 9.95.124, 9.95.125, 9.95.130, 9.95.190, 9.95.200, 9.95.204, \*9.95.206, 9.95.210, \*9.95.212, 9.95.214, 9.95.220, 9.95.230, 9.95.240, 9.95.250, 9.95.260, 9.95.265, 9.95.280, 9.95.290, 9.95.310, 9.95.320, 9.95.330, 9.95.340, 9.95.350, 9.95.360, 9.95.370, 72.04A.070, and 72.04A.080.

(2) The following sections apply to any felony offense committed before July 1, 1984, and to any offense sentenced under RCW 9.94A.507 and committed on or after July 1, 2001: RCW 9.95.003, 9.95.005, 9.95.007, 9.95.020, 9.95.030, 9.95.031, 9.95.032, 9.95.055, 9.95.060, 9.95.062, 9.95.063, 9.95.064, 9.95.070, 9.95.090, 9.95.110, 9.95.121, 9.95.122, 9.95.123, 9.95.126, 9.95.140, 9.95.150, 9.95.160, 9.95.170, 9.95.300, and 9.96.050. [2009 c 28 § 31; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 353; 1981 c 137 § 32.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 9.95.206 and 9.95.212 were repealed by 2009 c 375 § 16.

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**Chapter 9.96 RCW  
RESTORATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS**

Sections

- 9.96.010 Restoration of civil rights.
- 9.96.020 Form of certificate.
- 9.96.030 Certified copy—Recording and indexing.
- 9.96.050 Final discharge of parolee—Restoration of civil rights—Governor's pardoning power not affected.
- 9.96.060 Misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor offenses, persons convicted of prostitution who committed the offense as a result of being a victim of trafficking, promoting prostitution in the first degree, or trafficking in persons—Vacating records.

*Governor*

*pardoning power: State Constitution Art. 3 § 9.*

*records to be kept: RCW 43.06.020.*

*remission of fines and forfeitures: State Constitution Art. 3 § 11.*

*Instrument restoring civil rights as evidence: RCW 5.44.090.*

*Report of indeterminate sentence review board: RCW 9.95.260.*

*Restoration of employment rights: Chapter 9.96A RCW.*

*Termination of suspended sentence, restoration of civil rights: RCW 9.92.066.*

*Voting rights, loss of: State Constitution Art. 6 § 3, RCW 29A.08.520.*

**9.96.010 Restoration of civil rights.** Whenever the governor shall grant a pardon to a person convicted of an infamous crime, or whenever the maximum term of imprisonment for which any such person was committed is about to expire or has expired, and such person has not otherwise had his or her civil rights restored, the governor shall have the power, in his or her discretion, to restore to such person his or her civil rights in the manner as in this chapter provided. [2011 c 336 § 342; 1961 c 187 § 2; 1931 c 19 § 1; 1929 c 26 § 2; RRS § 10250.]

**9.96.020 Form of certificate.** Whenever the governor shall determine to restore his or her civil rights to any person convicted of an infamous crime in any superior court of this state, he or she shall execute and file in the office of the secretary of state an instrument in writing in substantially the following form:

"To the People of the State of Washington

Greeting:

I, the undersigned Governor of the State of Washington, by virtue of the power vested in my office by the constitution and laws of the State of Washington, do by these presents restore to . . . . . his or her civil rights forfeited by him (or her) by reason of his (or her) conviction of the crime of . . . . . (naming it) in the Superior Court for the County of . . . . ., on to-wit: The . . . . day of . . . . ., 19 . . . .

Dated the . . . . day of . . . . ., 19 . . . .

(Signed) . . . . .

Governor of Washington."

[2012 c 117 § 4; 2011 c 336 § 343; 1931 c 19 § 2; 1929 c 26 § 3; RRS § 10251.]

**9.96.030 Certified copy—Recording and indexing.** Upon the filing of an instrument restoring civil rights in his or her office, it shall be the duty of the secretary of state to transmit a duly certified copy thereof to the clerk of the superior court named therein, who shall record the same in the journal of the court and index the same in the execution docket of the cause in which the conviction was had. [2011 c 336 § 344; 1931 c 19 § 3; 1929 c 26 § 4; RRS § 10252.]

**9.96.050 Final discharge of parolee—Restoration of civil rights—Governor's pardoning power not affected.** (1)(a) When an offender on parole has performed all obligations of his or her release, including any and all legal financial obligations, for such time as shall satisfy the indeterminate sentence review board that his or her final release is not incompatible with the best interests of society and the welfare of the paroled individual, the board may make a final order of discharge and issue a certificate of discharge to the offender.

(b) The board retains the jurisdiction to issue a certificate of discharge after the expiration of the offender's or parolee's maximum statutory sentence. If not earlier granted and any and all legal financial obligations have been paid, the board shall issue a final order of discharge three years from the date of parole unless the parolee is on suspended or revoked status at the expiration of the three years.

(c) The discharge, regardless of when issued, shall have the effect of restoring all civil rights not already restored by RCW 29A.08.520, and the certification of discharge shall so state.

(d) This restoration of civil rights shall not restore the right to receive, possess, own, or transport firearms.

(e) The board shall issue a certificate of discharge to the offender in person or by mail to the offender's last known address.

(2) A copy of every signed certificate of discharge for offender sentences under the authority of the department of corrections shall be placed in the department's files.

(3) The discharge provided for in this section shall be considered as a part of the sentence of the convicted person and shall not in any manner be construed as affecting the powers of the governor to pardon any such person. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 22; 2009 c 325 § 4. Prior: 2007 c 363 § 4; 2007 c 171 § 2; 2002 c 16 § 3; 1993 c 140 § 4; 1980 c 75 § 1; 1961 c 187 § 1.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Intent—2002 c 16:** See note following RCW 9.94A.637.

**9.96.060 Misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor offenses, persons convicted of prostitution who committed the offense as a result of being a victim of trafficking, promoting prostitution in the first degree, or trafficking in persons—Vacating records.** (1) Every person convicted of a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor offense who has completed all of the terms of the sentence for the misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor offense may apply to the sentencing court for a vacation of the applicant's record of conviction for the offense. If the court finds the applicant meets the tests prescribed in subsection (2) of this section, the court may in its discretion vacate the record of conviction by: (a)(i) Permitting the applicant to withdraw the applicant's plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty; or (ii) if the applicant has been convicted after a plea of not guilty, the court setting aside the verdict of guilty; and (b) the court dismissing the information, indictment, complaint, or citation against the applicant and vacating the judgment and sentence.

(2) An applicant may not have the record of conviction for a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor offense vacated if any one of the following is present:

(a) There are any criminal charges against the applicant pending in any court of this state or another state, or in any federal court;

(b) The offense was a violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 or an attempt to commit a violent offense;

(c) The offense was a violation of RCW 46.61.502 (driving while under the influence), 46.61.504 (actual physical control while under the influence), 9.91.020 (operating a railroad, etc. while intoxicated), or the offense is considered a "prior offense" under RCW 46.61.5055 and the applicant has had a subsequent alcohol or drug violation within ten years of the date of arrest for the prior offense;

(d) The offense was any misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor violation, including attempt, of chapter 9.68 RCW (obscenity and pornography), chapter 9.68A RCW (sexual exploitation of children), or chapter 9A.44 RCW (sex offenses);

(e) The applicant was convicted of a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor offense as defined in RCW 10.99.020, or the court determines after a review of the court file that the offense was committed by one family member or household member against another, or the court, after considering the damage to person or property that resulted in the conviction, any prior convictions for crimes defined in RCW 10.99.020, or for comparable offenses in another state or in federal court, and the totality of the records under review by the court regarding the conviction being considered for vacation, determines that the offense involved domestic violence, and any one of the following factors exist:

(i) The applicant has not provided written notification of the vacation petition to the prosecuting attorney's office that prosecuted the offense for which vacation is sought, or has not provided that notification to the court;

(ii) The applicant has previously had a conviction for domestic violence. For purposes of this subsection, however, if the current application is for more than one conviction that arose out of a single incident, none of those convictions counts as a previous conviction;

(iii) The applicant has signed an affidavit under penalty of perjury affirming that the applicant has not previously had a conviction for a domestic violence offense, and a criminal history check reveals that the applicant has had such a conviction; or

(iv) Less than five years have elapsed since the person completed the terms of the original conditions of the sentence, including any financial obligations and successful completion of any treatment ordered as a condition of sentencing;

(f) For any offense other than those described in (e) of this subsection, less than three years have passed since the person completed the terms of the sentence, including any financial obligations;

(g) The offender has been convicted of a new crime in this state, another state, or federal court since the date of conviction;

(h) The applicant has ever had the record of another conviction vacated; or

(i) The applicant is currently restrained, or has been restrained within five years prior to the vacation application, by a domestic violence protection order, a no-contact order, an antiharassment order, or a civil restraining order which restrains one party from contacting the other party.

(3) Every person convicted of prostitution under RCW 9A.88.030 who committed the offense as a result of being a victim of trafficking, RCW 9A.40.100, promoting prostitution in the first degree, RCW 9A.88.070, or trafficking in persons under the trafficking victims protection act of 2000, 22 U.S.C. Sec. 7101 et seq. may apply to the sentencing court for vacation of the applicant's record of conviction for the prostitution offense. An applicant may not have the record of conviction for prostitution vacated if any one of the following is present:

(a) There are any criminal charges against the applicant pending in any court of this state or another state, or in any federal court;

(b) The offender has been convicted of another crime in this state, another state, or federal court since the date of conviction; or

(c) The applicant has ever had the record of another prostitution conviction vacated.

(4) Once the court vacates a record of conviction under subsection (1) of this section, the person shall be released from all penalties and disabilities resulting from the offense and the fact that the person has been convicted of the offense shall not be included in the person's criminal history for purposes of determining a sentence in any subsequent conviction. For all purposes, including responding to questions on employment or housing applications, a person whose conviction has been vacated under subsection (1) of this section may state that he or she has never been convicted of that crime.



Nothing in this section affects or prevents the use of an offender's prior conviction in a later criminal prosecution.

(5) All costs incurred by the court and probation services shall be paid by the person making the motion to vacate the record unless a determination is made pursuant to chapter 10.101 RCW that the person making the motion is indigent, at the time the motion is brought.

(6) The clerk of the court in which the vacation order is entered shall immediately transmit the order vacating the conviction to the Washington state patrol identification section and to the local police agency, if any, which holds criminal history information for the person who is the subject of the conviction. The Washington state patrol and any such local police agency shall immediately update their records to reflect the vacation of the conviction, and shall transmit the order vacating the conviction to the federal bureau of investigation. A conviction that has been vacated under this section may not be disseminated or disclosed by the state patrol or local law enforcement agency to any person, except other criminal justice enforcement agencies. [2012 c 183 § 5; 2012 c 142 § 2; 2001 c 140 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2012 c 142 § 2 and by 2012 c 183 § 5, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2012 c 183:** See note following RCW 2.28.175.

## Chapter 9.96A RCW RESTORATION OF EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

### Sections

9.96A.010	Legislative declaration.
9.96A.020	Employment, occupational licensing by public entity—Prior felony conviction no disqualification—Exceptions.
9.96A.030	Exclusion—Law enforcement agencies.
9.96A.040	Violations—Adjudication pursuant to administrative procedure act.
9.96A.050	Provisions of chapter prevailing.
9.96A.060	Exclusion—Employees dealing with children or vulnerable persons.
9.96A.900	Effective date—1973 c 135.

*Gambling commission—Denial, suspension, or revocation of license, permit—Other provisions not applicable: RCW 9.46.075.*

*Restoration of civil rights: Chapter 9.96 RCW.*

*State lottery commission—Denial, suspension, and revocation of licenses—Other provisions not applicable: RCW 67.70.090.*

**9.96A.010 Legislative declaration.** The legislature declares that it is the policy of the state of Washington to encourage and contribute to the rehabilitation of felons and to assist them in the assumption of the responsibilities of citizenship, and the opportunity to secure employment or to pursue, practice or engage in a meaningful and profitable trade, occupation, vocation, profession or business is an essential ingredient to rehabilitation and the assumption of the responsibilities of citizenship. [1973 c 135 § 1.]

**9.96A.020 Employment, occupational licensing by public entity—Prior felony conviction no disqualification—Exceptions.** (1) Subject to the exceptions in subsections (3) through (5) of this section, and unless there is another provision of law to the contrary, a person is not disqualified from employment by the state of Washington or any of its counties, cities, towns, municipal corporations, or

quasi-municipal corporations, nor is a person disqualified to practice, pursue or engage in any occupation, trade, vocation, or business for which a license, permit, certificate or registration is required to be issued by the state of Washington or any of its counties, cities, towns, municipal corporations, or quasi-municipal corporations solely because of a prior conviction of a felony. However, this section does not preclude the fact of any prior conviction of a crime from being considered.

(2) A person may be denied employment by the state of Washington or any of its counties, cities, towns, municipal corporations, or quasi-municipal corporations, or a person may be denied a license, permit, certificate or registration to pursue, practice or engage in an occupation, trade, vocation, or business by reason of the prior conviction of a felony if the felony for which he or she was convicted directly relates to the position of employment sought or to the specific occupation, trade, vocation, or business for which the license, permit, certificate or registration is sought, and the time elapsed since the conviction is less than ten years. However, for positions in the county treasurer's office, a person may be disqualified from employment because of a prior guilty plea or conviction of a felony involving embezzlement or theft, even if the time elapsed since the guilty plea or conviction is ten years or more.

(3) A person is disqualified for any certificate required or authorized under chapters 28A.405 or 28A.410 RCW, because of a prior guilty plea or the conviction of a felony crime specified under RCW 28A.400.322, even if the time elapsed since the guilty plea or conviction is ten years or more.

(4) A person is disqualified from employment by school districts, educational service districts, and their contractors hiring employees who will have regularly scheduled unsupervised access to children, because of a prior guilty plea or conviction of a felony crime specified under RCW 28A.400.322, even if the time elapsed since the guilty plea or conviction is ten years or more.

(5) The provisions of this chapter do not apply to issuance of licenses or credentials for professions regulated under chapter 18.130 RCW.

(6) Subsections (3) and (4) of this section as they pertain to felony crimes specified under RCW 28A.400.322(1) apply to a person applying for a certificate or for employment on or after July 25, 1993, and before July 26, 2009. Subsections (3) and (4) of this section as they pertain to all felony crimes specified under RCW 28A.400.322(2) apply to a person applying for a certificate or for employment on or after July 26, 2009. Subsection (5) of this section only applies to a person applying for a license or credential on or after June 12, 2008. [2009 c 396 § 7; 2008 c 134 § 26; 1999 c 16 § 1; 1993 c 71 § 1; 1973 c 135 § 2.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—2008 c 134:** See notes following RCW 18.130.020.

**Intent—1993 c 71:** "The legislature reaffirms its singular intent that this act shall not affect the duties imposed or powers conferred on the office of the superintendent of public instruction by RCW 28A.410.090." [1993 c 71 § 2.]

**9.96A.030 Exclusion—Law enforcement agencies.** This chapter shall not be applicable to any law enforcement

agency; however, nothing herein shall be construed to preclude a law enforcement agency in its discretion from adopting the policy set forth in this chapter. [1973 c 135 § 3.]

**9.96A.040 Violations—Adjudication pursuant to administrative procedure act.** Any complaints or grievances concerning the violation of this chapter shall be processed and adjudicated in accordance with the procedures set forth in chapter 34.05 RCW, the administrative procedure act. [1973 c 135 § 4.]

**9.96A.050 Provisions of chapter prevailing.** The provisions of this chapter shall prevail over any other provisions of law which purport to govern the denial of licenses, permits, certificates, registrations, or other means to engage in a business, on the grounds of a lack of good moral character, or which purport to govern the suspension or revocation of such a license, permit, certificate, or registration on the grounds of conviction of a crime. [1973 c 135 § 5.]

**9.96A.060 Exclusion—Employees dealing with children or vulnerable persons.** This chapter is not applicable to the department of social and health services when employing a person, who in the course of his or her employment, has or may have unsupervised access to any person who is under the age of eighteen, who is under the age of twenty-one and has been sentenced to a term of confinement under the supervision of the department of social and health services under chapter 13.40 RCW, who is a vulnerable adult under chapter 74.34 RCW, or who is a vulnerable person. For purposes of this section "vulnerable person" means an adult of any age who lacks the functional, mental, or physical ability to care for himself or herself. [2001 c 296 § 2.]

**Intent—2001 c 296:** "It is the intent of the legislature to authorize the department of social and health services to investigate the background of current and future department employees to the same extent and with the same effect as it has authorized the state to investigate the background and exclude from the provision of service current and future care providers, contractors, volunteers, and others. The department of social and health services must coordinate with the department of personnel to develop rules that address the procedures for undertaking background checks, and specifically what action would be taken against a current employee who is disqualified from his or her current position because of a background check not previously performed." [2001 c 296 § 1.]

**9.96A.900 Effective date—1973 c 135.** This act shall take effect on July 1, 1973. [1973 c 135 § 7.]

### Chapter 9.98 RCW

#### PRISONERS—UNTRIED INDICTMENTS, INFORMATIONS, COMPLAINTS

##### Sections

9.98.010	Disposition of untried indictment, information, complaint—Procedure—Escape, effect.
9.98.020	Loss of jurisdiction and failure of indictment, information, complaint—Dismissal.
9.98.030	Chapter not applicable to mentally ill.
9.98.040	Court not prohibited from ordering prisoner to trial.

**9.98.010 Disposition of untried indictment, information, complaint—Procedure—Escape, effect.** (1) Whenever a person has entered upon a term of imprisonment in a penal or correctional institution of this state, and whenever

during the continuance of the term of imprisonment there is pending in this state any untried indictment, information, or complaint against the prisoner, he or she shall be brought to trial within one hundred twenty days after he or she shall have caused to be delivered to the prosecuting attorney and the superior court of the county in which the indictment, information, or complaint is pending written notice of the place of his or her imprisonment and his or her request for a final disposition to be made of the indictment, information, or complaint: PROVIDED, That for good cause shown in open court, the prisoner or his or her counsel shall have the right to be present, the court having jurisdiction of the matter may grant any necessary or reasonable continuance. The request of the prisoner shall be accompanied by a certificate of the superintendent having custody of the prisoner, stating the term of commitment under which the prisoner is being held, the time already served, the time remaining to be served on the sentence, the amount of good time earned, the time of parole eligibility of the prisoner, and any decisions of the indeterminate sentence review board relating to the prisoner.

(2) The written notice and request for final disposition referred to in subsection (1) of this section shall be given or sent by the prisoner to the superintendent having custody of him or her, who shall promptly forward it together with the certificate to the appropriate prosecuting attorney and superior court by certified mail, return receipt requested.

(3) The superintendent having custody of the prisoner shall promptly inform him or her in writing of the source and contents of any untried indictment, information, or complaint against him or her concerning which the superintendent has knowledge and of his or her right to make a request for final disposition thereof.

(4) Escape from custody by the prisoner subsequent to his or her execution of the request for final disposition referred to in subsection (1) of this section shall void the request. [2011 c 336 § 345; 1999 c 143 § 33; 1959 c 56 § 1.]

**9.98.020 Loss of jurisdiction and failure of indictment, information, complaint—Dismissal.** In the event that the action is not brought to trial within the period of time as herein provided, no court of this state shall any longer have jurisdiction thereof, nor shall the untried indictment, information or complaint be of any further force or effect, and the court shall enter an order dismissing the same with prejudice. [1959 c 56 § 2.]

**9.98.030 Chapter not applicable to mentally ill.** The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to any person adjudged to be mentally ill. [1959 c 56 § 3.]

**9.98.040 Court not prohibited from ordering prisoner to trial.** This chapter shall not be construed as preempting the right of the superior court on the motion of the county prosecuting attorney from ordering the superintendent of a state penal or correctional institution to cause a prisoner to be transported to the superior court of the county for trial upon any untried indictment, information or complaint. [1959 c 56 § 4.]

**Chapter 9.100 RCW**  
**AGREEMENT ON DETAINERS**

## Sections

9.100.010	Agreement on detainees—Text.
9.100.020	Appropriate court defined.
9.100.030	Courts, state and political subdivisions enjoined to enforce agreement.
9.100.040	Escape—Effect.
9.100.050	Giving over inmate authorized.
9.100.060	Administrator—Appointment.
9.100.070	Request for temporary custody—Notice to prisoner and governor—Advising prisoner of rights.
9.100.080	Copies of chapter—Transmission.

*Untried indictments, informations, complaints—Disposition: Chapter 9.98 RCW.*

**9.100.010 Agreement on detainees—Text.** The agreement on detainees is hereby enacted into law and entered into by this state with all other jurisdictions legally joining therein in the form substantially as follows:

TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT ON DETAINERS

The contracting states solemnly agree that:

ARTICLE I

The party states find that charges outstanding against a prisoner, detainees based on untried indictments, informations or complaints, and difficulties in securing speedy trial of persons already incarcerated in other jurisdictions, produce uncertainties which obstruct programs of prisoner treatment and rehabilitation. Accordingly, it is the policy of the party states and the purpose of this agreement to encourage the expeditious and orderly disposition of such charges and determination of the proper status of any and all detainees based on untried indictments, informations or complaints. The party states also find that proceedings with reference to such charges and detainees, when emanating from another jurisdiction, cannot properly be had in the absence of cooperative procedures. It is the further purpose of this agreement to provide such cooperative procedures.

ARTICLE II

As used in this agreement:

(a) "State" shall mean a state of the United States; the United States of America; a territory or possession of the United States; the District of Columbia; the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(b) "Sending state" shall mean a state in which a prisoner is incarcerated at the time that he initiates a request for final disposition pursuant to Article III hereof or at the time that a request for custody or availability is initiated pursuant to Article IV hereof.

(c) "Receiving state" shall mean the state in which trial is to be had on an indictment, information or complaint pursuant to Article III or Article IV hereof.

ARTICLE III

(a) Whenever a person has entered upon a term of imprisonment in a penal or correctional institution of a party state, and whenever during the continuance of the term of imprisonment there is pending in any other party state any untried indictment, information or complaint on the basis of which a detainer has been lodged against the prisoner, he

shall be brought to trial within one hundred eighty days after he shall have caused to be delivered to the prosecuting officer and the appropriate court of the prosecuting officer's jurisdiction written notice of the place of his imprisonment and his request for a final disposition to be made of the indictment, information or complaint: PROVIDED, That for good cause shown in open court, the prisoner or his counsel being present, the court having jurisdiction of the matter may grant any necessary or reasonable continuance. The request of the prisoner shall be accompanied by a certificate of the appropriate official having custody of the prisoner, stating the term of commitment under which the prisoner is being held, the time already served, the time remaining to be served on the sentence, the amount of good time earned, the time of parole eligibility of the prisoner, and any decisions of the state parole agency relating to the prisoner.

(b) The written notice and request for final disposition referred to in paragraph (a) hereof shall be given or sent by the prisoner to the warden, commissioner of correction or other official having custody of him, who shall promptly forward it together with the certificate to the appropriate prosecuting official and court by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested.

(c) The warden, commissioner of correction or other official having custody of the prisoner shall promptly inform him of the source and contents of any detainer lodged against him and shall also inform him of his right to make a request for final disposition of the indictment, information or complaint on which the detainer is based.

(d) Any request for final disposition made by a prisoner pursuant to paragraph (a) hereof shall operate as a request for final disposition of all untried indictments, informations or complaints on the basis of which detainees have been lodged against the prisoner from the state to whose prosecuting official the request for final disposition is specifically directed. The warden, commissioner of correction or other official having custody of the prisoner shall forthwith notify all appropriate prosecuting officers and courts in the several jurisdictions within the state to which the prisoner's request for final disposition is being sent of the proceeding being initiated by the prisoner. Any notification sent pursuant to this paragraph shall be accompanied by copies of the prisoner's written notice, request, and the certificate. If trial is not had on any indictment, information or complaint contemplated hereby prior to the return of the prisoner to the original place of imprisonment, such indictment, information or complaint shall not be of any further force or effect, and the court shall enter an order dismissing the same with prejudice.

(e) Any request for final disposition made by a prisoner pursuant to paragraph (a) hereof shall also be deemed to be a waiver of extradition with respect to any charge or proceeding contemplated thereby or included therein by reason of paragraph (d) hereof, and a waiver of extradition to the receiving state to serve any sentence there imposed upon him, after completion of his term of imprisonment in the sending state. The request for final disposition shall also constitute a consent by the prisoner to the production of his body in any court where his presence may be required in order to effectuate the purposes of this agreement and a further consent voluntarily to be returned to the original place of imprisonment in accordance with the provisions of this agreement. Nothing

in this paragraph shall prevent the imposition of a concurrent sentence if otherwise permitted by law.

(f) Escape from custody by the prisoner subsequent to his execution of the request for final disposition referred to in paragraph (a) hereof shall void the request.

#### ARTICLE IV

(a) The appropriate officer of the jurisdiction in which an untried indictment, information or complaint is pending shall be entitled to have a prisoner against whom he has lodged a detainer and who is serving a term of imprisonment in any party state made available in accordance with Article V(a) hereof upon presentation of a written request for temporary custody or availability to the appropriate authorities of the state in which the prisoner is incarcerated: PROVIDED, That the court having jurisdiction of such indictment, information or complaint shall have duly approved, recorded and transmitted the request: PROVIDED FURTHER, That there shall be a period of thirty days after receipt by the appropriate authorities before the request be honored, within which period the governor of the sending state may disapprove the request for temporary custody or availability, either upon his own motion or upon motion of the prisoner.

(b) Upon receipt of the officer's written request as provided in paragraph (a) hereof, the appropriate authorities having the prisoner in custody shall furnish the officer with a certificate stating the term of commitment under which the prisoner is being held, the time already served, the time remaining to be served on the sentence, the amount of good time earned, the time of parole eligibility of the prisoner, and any decisions of the state parole agency relating to the prisoner. Said authorities simultaneously shall furnish all other officers and appropriate courts in the receiving state who have lodged detainers against the prisoner with similar certificates and with notices informing them of the request or availability and of the reasons therefor.

(c) In respect of any proceeding made possible by this Article, trial shall be commenced within one hundred twenty days of the arrival of the prisoner in the receiving state, but for good cause shown in open court, the prisoner or his counsel being present, the court having jurisdiction of the matter may grant any necessary or reasonable continuance.

(d) Nothing contained in this Article shall be construed to deprive any prisoner of any right which he may have to contest the legality of his delivery as provided in paragraph (a) hereof, but such delivery may not be opposed or denied on the ground that the executive authority of the sending state has not affirmatively consented to or ordered such delivery.

(e) If trial is not had on any indictment, information or complaint contemplated hereby prior to the prisoner's being returned to the original place of imprisonment pursuant to Article V(e) hereof, such indictment, information or complaint shall not be of any further force or effect, and the court shall enter an order dismissing the same with prejudice.

#### ARTICLE V

(a) In response to a request made under Article III or Article IV hereof, the appropriate authority in a sending state shall offer to deliver temporary custody of such prisoner to the appropriate authority in the state where such indictment, information or complaint is pending against such person in

order that speedy and efficient prosecution may be had. If the request for final disposition is made by the prisoner, the offer of temporary custody shall accompany the written notice provided for in Article III of this agreement. In the case of a federal prisoner, the appropriate authority in the receiving state shall be entitled to temporary custody as provided by this agreement or to the prisoner's presence in federal custody at the place for trial, whichever custodial arrangement may be approved by the custodian.

(b) The officer or other representative of a state accepting an offer of temporary custody shall present the following upon demand:

(i) Proper identification and evidence of his authority to act for the state into whose temporary custody the prisoner is to be given.

(ii) A duly certified copy of the indictment, information or complaint on the basis of which the detainer has been lodged and on the basis of which the request for temporary custody of the prisoner has been made.

(c) If the appropriate authority shall refuse or fail to accept temporary custody of said person, or in the event that an action on the indictment, information or complaint on the basis of which the detainer has been lodged is not brought to trial within the period provided in Article III or Article IV hereof, the appropriate court of the jurisdiction where the indictment, information or complaint has been pending shall enter an order dismissing the same with prejudice, and any detainer based thereon shall cease to be of any force or effect.

(d) The temporary custody referred to in this agreement shall be only for the purpose of permitting prosecution on the charge or charges contained in one or more untried indictments, informations or complaints which form the basis of the detainer or detainers or for prosecution on any other charge or charges arising out of the same transaction. Except for his attendance at court and while being transported to or from any place at which his presence may be required, the prisoner shall be held in a suitable jail or other facility regularly used for persons awaiting prosecution.

(e) At the earliest practicable time consonant with the purposes of this agreement, the prisoner shall be returned to the sending state.

(f) During the continuance of temporary custody or while the prisoner is otherwise being made available for trial as required by this agreement, time being served on the sentence shall continue to run but good time shall be earned by the prisoner only if, and to the extent that, the law and practice of the jurisdiction which imposed the sentence may allow.

(g) For all purposes other than that for which temporary custody as provided in this agreement is exercised, the prisoner shall be deemed to remain in the custody of and subject to the jurisdiction of the sending state and any escape from temporary custody may be dealt with in the same manner as an escape from the original place of imprisonment or in any other manner permitted by law.

(h) From the time that a party state receives custody of a prisoner pursuant to this agreement until such prisoner is returned to the territory and custody of the sending state, the state in which the one or more untried indictments, informations or complaints are pending or in which trial is being had shall be responsible for the prisoner and shall also pay all

costs of transporting, caring for, keeping and returning the prisoner. The provisions of this paragraph shall govern unless the states concerned shall have entered into a supplementary agreement providing for a different allocation of costs and responsibilities as between or among themselves. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to alter or effect [affect] any internal relationship among the departments, agencies and officers of and in the government of a party state, or between a party state and its subdivisions, as to the payment of costs, or responsibilities therefor.

#### ARTICLE VI

(a) In determining the duration and expiration dates of the time periods provided in Articles III and IV of this agreement, the running of said time periods shall be tolled whenever and for as long as the prisoner is unable to stand trial, as determined by the court having jurisdiction of the matter.

(b) No provision of this agreement, and no remedy made available by this agreement, shall apply to any person who is adjudged to be mentally ill.

#### ARTICLE VII

Each state party to this agreement shall designate an officer who, acting jointly with like officers of other party states, shall promulgate rules and regulations to carry out more effectively the terms and provisions of this agreement, and who shall provide within and without the state, information necessary to the effective operation of this agreement.

#### ARTICLE VIII

This agreement shall enter into full force and effect as to a party state when such state has enacted the same into law. A state party to this agreement may withdraw herefrom by enacting a statute repealing the same. However, the withdrawal of any state shall not affect the status of any proceedings already initiated by inmates or by state officers at the time such withdrawal takes effect, nor shall it affect their rights in respect thereof.

#### ARTICLE IX

This agreement shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate its purposes. The provisions of this agreement shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of this agreement is declared to be contrary to the constitution of any party state or of the United States or the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this agreement and the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby. If this agreement shall be held contrary to the constitution of any state party hereto, the agreement shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining states and in full force and effect as to the state affected as to all severable matters. [1967 c 34 § 1.]

**9.100.020 Appropriate court defined.** The phrase "appropriate court" as used in the agreement on detainees shall, with reference to the courts of this state, mean any court with criminal jurisdiction. [1967 c 34 § 2.]

**9.100.030 Courts, state and political subdivisions enjoined to enforce agreement.** All courts, departments, agencies, officers and employees of this state and its political subdivisions are hereby directed to enforce the agreement on detainees and to cooperate with one another and with other party states in enforcing the agreement and effectuating its purposes. [1967 c 34 § 3.]

**9.100.040 Escape—Effect.** Escape from custody while in another state pursuant to the agreement on detainees shall constitute an offense against the laws of this state to the same extent and degree as an escape from the institution in which the prisoner was confined immediately prior to having been sent to another state pursuant to the provisions of the agreement on detainees and shall be punishable in the same manner as an escape from said institution. [1967 c 34 § 4.]

**9.100.050 Giving over inmate authorized.** It shall be lawful and mandatory upon the warden or other official in charge of a penal or correctional institution in this state to give over the person of any inmate thereof whenever so required by the operation of the agreement on detainees. [1967 c 34 § 5.]

**9.100.060 Administrator—Appointment.** The governor is hereby authorized and empowered to designate and appoint a state officer to act as the administrator who shall perform the duties and functions and exercise the powers conferred upon such person by Article VII of the agreement on detainees. [1967 c 34 § 6.]

**9.100.070 Request for temporary custody—Notice to prisoner and governor—Advising prisoner of rights.** In order to implement Article IV(a) of the agreement on detainees, and in furtherance of its purposes, the appropriate authorities having custody of the prisoner shall, promptly upon receipt of the officer's written request, notify the prisoner and the governor in writing that a request for temporary custody has been made and such notification shall describe the source and contents of said request. The authorities having custody of the prisoner shall also advise him or her in writing of his or her rights to counsel, to make representations to the governor within thirty days, and to contest the legality of his or her delivery. [2011 c 336 § 346; 1967 c 34 § 7.]

**9.100.080 Copies of chapter—Transmission.** Copies of this chapter shall, upon its approval, be transmitted by the secretary of state to the governor of each state, to the attorney general and the secretary of state of the United States, and the council of state governments. [1967 c 34 § 8.]

### Chapter 9.101 RCW

#### CRIMINAL STREET GANG DEFINITIONS—STATE PREEMPTION

##### Sections

9.101.010 Criminal street gang definitions—State preemption.

**9.101.010 Criminal street gang definitions—State preemption.** (1) The state of Washington hereby fully occupies and preempts the entire field of definitions used for pur-

poses of substantive criminal law relating to criminal street gangs, criminal street gang-related offenses, criminal street gang associates and members, and pattern of criminal street gang activity. These definitions of "criminal street gang," "criminal street gang associate or member," "criminal street gang-related offense," and "pattern of criminal street gang activity" contained in RCW 9.94A.030 expressly preempt any conflicting city or county codes or ordinances. Cities, towns, counties, or other municipalities may enact laws and ordinances relating to criminal street gangs that contain definitions that are consistent with definitions pursuant to RCW 9.94A.030. Local laws and ordinances that are inconsistent with the definitions shall not be enacted and are preempted and repealed, regardless of the nature of the code, charter, or home rule status of such city, town, county, or municipality.

(2) The preemption provided in this chapter does not apply to "gang" as defined in RCW 28A.600.455 under the common school provisions act or "gang" as defined in RCW 59.18.030 under the landlord-tenant act.

(3) The preemption provided for in this chapter does not restrict the adoption or use of a uniform state definition of "gang," "gang member," or "gang associate," for purposes of the creation and maintenance of the statewide gang database for law enforcement intelligence purposes under RCW 43.43.762. [2008 c 276 § 401.]

**Severability—Part headings, subheadings not law—2008 c 276:** See notes following RCW 36.28A.200.

# Title 9A

## WASHINGTON CRIMINAL CODE

### Chapters

- 9A.04 Preliminary article.
- 9A.08 Principles of liability.
- 9A.12 Insanity.
- 9A.16 Defenses.
- 9A.20 Classification of crimes.
- 9A.28 Anticipatory offenses.
- 9A.32 Homicide.
- 9A.36 Assault—Physical harm.
- 9A.40 Kidnapping, unlawful imprisonment, and custodial interference.
- 9A.42 Criminal mistreatment.
- 9A.44 Sex offenses.
- 9A.46 Harassment.
- 9A.48 Arson, reckless burning, and malicious mischief.
- 9A.49 Lasers.
- 9A.50 Interference with health care facilities or providers.
- 9A.52 Burglary and trespass.
- 9A.56 Theft and robbery.
- 9A.58 Identification documents.
- 9A.60 Fraud.
- 9A.61 Defrauding a public utility.
- 9A.64 Family offenses.
- 9A.68 Bribery and corrupt influence.
- 9A.72 Perjury and interference with official proceedings.
- 9A.76 Obstructing governmental operation.
- 9A.80 Abuse of office.
- 9A.82 Criminal profiteering act.
- 9A.83 Money laundering.
- 9A.84 Public disturbance.
- 9A.88 Indecent exposure—Prostitution.
- 9A.98 Laws repealed.

*Crimes and punishments: Title 9 RCW.*

*Explosives: Chapter 70.74 RCW.*

*Harassment: Chapter 10.14 RCW.*

### Chapter 9A.04 RCW PRELIMINARY ARTICLE

#### Sections

- 9A.04.010 Title, effective date, application, severability, captions.
- 9A.04.020 Purposes—Principles of construction.
- 9A.04.030 State criminal jurisdiction.
- 9A.04.040 Classes of crimes.
- 9A.04.050 People capable of committing crimes—Capability of children.
- 9A.04.060 Common law to supplement statute.
- 9A.04.070 Who amenable to criminal statutes.
- 9A.04.080 Limitation of actions.
- 9A.04.090 Application of general provisions of the code.
- 9A.04.100 Proof beyond a reasonable doubt.
- 9A.04.110 Definitions.

**9A.04.010 Title, effective date, application, severability, captions.** (1) This title shall be known and may be cited as the Washington Criminal Code and shall become effective on July 1, 1976.

(2) The provisions of this title shall apply to any offense committed on or after July 1, 1976, which is defined in this title or the general statutes, unless otherwise expressly provided or unless the context otherwise requires, and shall also apply to any defense to prosecution for such an offense.

(3) The provisions of this title do not apply to or govern the construction of and punishment for any offense committed prior to July 1, 1976, or to the construction and application of any defense to a prosecution for such an offense. Such an offense must be construed and punished according to the provisions of law existing at the time of the commission thereof in the same manner as if this title had not been enacted.

(4) If any provision of this title, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the title, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected, and to this end the provisions of this title are declared to be severable.

(5) Chapter, section, and subsection captions are for organizational purposes only and shall not be construed as part of this title. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.04.010.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.04.020 Purposes—Principles of construction.** (1) The general purposes of the provisions governing the definition of offenses are:

- (a) To forbid and prevent conduct that inflicts or threatens substantial harm to individual or public interests;
- (b) To safeguard conduct that is without culpability from condemnation as criminal;
- (c) To give fair warning of the nature of the conduct declared to constitute an offense;
- (d) To differentiate on reasonable grounds between serious and minor offenses, and to prescribe proportionate penalties for each.

(2) The provisions of this title shall be construed according to the fair import of their terms but when the language is susceptible of differing constructions it shall be interpreted to further the general purposes stated in this title. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.04.020.]

**9A.04.030 State criminal jurisdiction.** The following persons are liable to punishment:

- (1) A person who commits in the state any crime, in whole or in part.
- (2) A person who commits out of the state any act which, if committed within it, would be theft and is afterward found in the state with any of the stolen property.
- (3) A person who being out of the state, counsels, causes, procures, aids, or abets another to commit a crime in this state.
- (4) A person who, being out of the state, abducts or kidnaps by force or fraud, any person, contrary to the laws of the

place where the act is committed, and brings, sends, or conveys such person into this state.

(5) A person who commits an act without the state which affects persons or property within the state, which, if committed within the state, would be a crime.

(6) A person who, being out of the state, makes a statement, declaration, verification, or certificate under RCW 9A.72.085 which, if made within the state, would be perjury.

(7) A person who commits an act onboard a conveyance within the state of Washington, including the airspace over the state of Washington, that subsequently lands, docks, or stops within the state which, if committed within the state, would be a crime. [1999 c 349 § 1; 1981 c 187 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.04.030.]

**9A.04.040 Classes of crimes.** (1) An offense defined by this title or by any other statute of this state, for which a sentence of imprisonment is authorized, constitutes a crime. Crimes are classified as felonies, gross misdemeanors, or misdemeanors.

(2) A crime is a felony if it is so designated in this title or by any other statute of this state or if persons convicted thereof may be sentenced to imprisonment for a term in excess of one year. A crime is a misdemeanor if it is so designated in this title or by any other statute of this state or if persons convicted thereof may be sentenced to imprisonment for no more than ninety days. Every other crime is a gross misdemeanor. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.04.040.]

**9A.04.050 People capable of committing crimes—Capability of children.** Children under the age of eight years are incapable of committing crime. Children of eight and under twelve years of age are presumed to be incapable of committing crime, but this presumption may be removed by proof that they have sufficient capacity to understand the act or neglect, and to know that it was wrong. Whenever in legal proceedings it becomes necessary to determine the age of a child, he or she may be produced for inspection, to enable the court or jury to determine the age thereby; and the court may also direct his or her examination by one or more physicians, whose opinion shall be competent evidence upon the question of his or her age. [2011 c 336 § 347; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.04.050.]

**9A.04.060 Common law to supplement statute.** The provisions of the common law relating to the commission of crime and the punishment thereof, insofar as not inconsistent with the Constitution and statutes of this state, shall supplement all penal statutes of this state and all persons offending against the same shall be tried in the courts of this state having jurisdiction of the offense. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.04.060.]

**9A.04.070 Who amenable to criminal statutes.** Every person, regardless of whether or not he or she is an inhabitant of this state, may be tried and punished under the laws of this state for an offense committed by him or her therein, except when such offense is cognizable exclusively in the courts of the United States. [2011 c 336 § 348; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.04.070.]

**9A.04.080 Limitation of actions.** (1) Prosecutions for criminal offenses shall not be commenced after the periods prescribed in this section.

(a) The following offenses may be prosecuted at any time after their commission:

- (i) Murder;
- (ii) Homicide by abuse;
- (iii) Arson if a death results;
- (iv) Vehicular homicide;
- (v) Vehicular assault if a death results;
- (vi) Hit-and-run injury-accident if a death results (RCW 46.52.020(4)).

(b) The following offenses shall not be prosecuted more than ten years after their commission:

(i) Any felony committed by a public officer if the commission is in connection with the duties of his or her office or constitutes a breach of his or her public duty or a violation of the oath of office;

(ii) Arson if no death results; or

(iii)(A) Violations of RCW 9A.44.040 or 9A.44.050 if the rape is reported to a law enforcement agency within one year of its commission; except that if the victim is under fourteen years of age when the rape is committed and the rape is reported to a law enforcement agency within one year of its commission, the violation may be prosecuted up to the victim's twenty-eighth birthday.

(B) If a violation of RCW 9A.44.040 or 9A.44.050 is not reported within one year, the rape may not be prosecuted: (I) More than three years after its commission if the violation was committed against a victim fourteen years of age or older; or (II) more than three years after the victim's eighteenth birthday or more than seven years after the rape's commission, whichever is later, if the violation was committed against a victim under fourteen years of age.

(c) Violations of the following statutes may be prosecuted up to the victim's twenty-eighth birthday: RCW 9A.44.073, 9A.44.076, 9A.44.083, 9A.44.086, \*9A.44.070, 9A.44.080, 9A.44.100(1)(b), 9A.44.079, 9A.44.089, or 9A.64.020.

(d) The following offenses shall not be prosecuted more than six years after their commission or their discovery, whichever occurs later:

(i) Violations of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080;

(ii) Any felony violation of chapter 9A.83 RCW;

(iii) Any felony violation of chapter 9.35 RCW;

(iv) Theft in the first or second degree under chapter 9A.56 RCW when accomplished by color or aid of deception; or

(v) Trafficking in stolen property in the first or second degree under chapter 9A.82 RCW in which the stolen property is a motor vehicle or major component part of a motor vehicle as defined in RCW 46.80.010.

(e) The following offenses shall not be prosecuted more than five years after their commission: Any class C felony under chapter 74.09, 82.36, or 82.38 RCW.

(f) Bigamy shall not be prosecuted more than three years after the time specified in RCW 9A.64.010.

(g) A violation of RCW 9A.56.030 must not be prosecuted more than three years after the discovery of the offense when the victim is a tax exempt corporation under 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3).



(h) No other felony may be prosecuted more than three years after its commission; except that in a prosecution under RCW 9A.44.115, if the person who was viewed, photographed, or filmed did not realize at the time that he or she was being viewed, photographed, or filmed, the prosecution must be commenced within two years of the time the person who was viewed or in the photograph or film first learns that he or she was viewed, photographed, or filmed.

(i) No gross misdemeanor may be prosecuted more than two years after its commission.

(j) No misdemeanor may be prosecuted more than one year after its commission.

(2) The periods of limitation prescribed in subsection (1) of this section do not run during any time when the person charged is not usually and publicly resident within this state.

(3) In any prosecution for a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, the periods of limitation prescribed in subsection (1) of this section run from the date of commission or one year from the date on which the identity of the suspect is conclusively established by deoxyribonucleic acid testing, whichever is later.

(4) If, before the end of a period of limitation prescribed in subsection (1) of this section, an indictment has been found or a complaint or an information has been filed, and the indictment, complaint, or information is set aside, then the period of limitation is extended by a period equal to the length of time from the finding or filing to the setting aside. [2012 c 105 § 1. Prior: 2009 c 61 § 1; 2009 c 53 § 1; 2006 c 132 § 1; 1998 c 221 § 2; prior: 1997 c 174 § 1; 1997 c 97 § 1; prior: 1995 c 287 § 5; 1995 c 17 § 1; 1993 c 214 § 1; 1989 c 317 § 3; 1988 c 145 § 14; prior: 1986 c 257 § 13; 1986 c 85 § 1; prior: 1985 c 455 § 19; 1985 c 186 § 1; 1984 c 270 § 18; 1982 c 129 § 1; 1981 c 203 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.04.080.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9A.44.070 and 9A.44.080 were repealed by 1988 c 145 § 24.

**Intent—1989 c 317:** See note following RCW 4.16.340.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.04.090 Application of general provisions of the code.** The provisions of chapters 9A.04 through 9A.28 RCW of this title are applicable to offenses defined by this title or another statute, unless this title or such other statute specifically provides otherwise. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.04.090.]

**9A.04.100 Proof beyond a reasonable doubt.** (1) Every person charged with the commission of a crime is presumed innocent unless proved guilty. No person may be convicted of a crime unless each element of such crime is proved by competent evidence beyond a reasonable doubt.

(2) When a crime has been proven against a person, and there exists a reasonable doubt as to which of two or more degrees he or she is guilty, he or she shall be convicted only of the lowest degree. [2011 c 336 § 349; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.04.100.]

**9A.04.110 Definitions.** In this title unless a different meaning plainly is required:

(1) "Acted" includes, where relevant, omitted to act;

(2) "Actor" includes, where relevant, a person failing to act;

(3) "Benefit" is any gain or advantage to the beneficiary, including any gain or advantage to a third person pursuant to the desire or consent of the beneficiary;

(4)(a) "Bodily injury," "physical injury," or "bodily harm" means physical pain or injury, illness, or an impairment of physical condition;

(b) "Substantial bodily harm" means bodily injury which involves a temporary but substantial disfigurement, or which causes a temporary but substantial loss or impairment of the function of any bodily part or organ, or which causes a fracture of any bodily part;

(c) "Great bodily harm" means bodily injury which creates a probability of death, or which causes significant serious permanent disfigurement, or which causes a significant permanent loss or impairment of the function of any bodily part or organ;

(5) "Building," in addition to its ordinary meaning, includes any dwelling, fenced area, vehicle, railway car, cargo container, or any other structure used for lodging of persons or for carrying on business therein, or for the use, sale, or deposit of goods; each unit of a building consisting of two or more units separately secured or occupied is a separate building;

(6) "Deadly weapon" means any explosive or loaded or unloaded firearm, and shall include any other weapon, device, instrument, article, or substance, including a "vehicle" as defined in this section, which, under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used, or threatened to be used, is readily capable of causing death or substantial bodily harm;

(7) "Dwelling" means any building or structure, though movable or temporary, or a portion thereof, which is used or ordinarily used by a person for lodging;

(8) "Government" includes any branch, subdivision, or agency of the government of this state and any county, city, district, or other local governmental unit;

(9) "Governmental function" includes any activity which a public servant is legally authorized or permitted to undertake on behalf of a government;

(10) "Indicted" and "indictment" include "informed against" and "information", and "informed against" and "information" include "indicted" and "indictment";

(11) "Judge" includes every judicial officer authorized alone or with others, to hold or preside over a court;

(12) "Malice" and "maliciously" shall import an evil intent, wish, or design to vex, annoy, or injure another person. Malice may be inferred from an act done in willful disregard of the rights of another, or an act wrongfully done without just cause or excuse, or an act or omission of duty betraying a willful disregard of social duty;

(13) "Officer" and "public officer" means a person holding office under a city, county, or state government, or the federal government who performs a public function and in so doing is vested with the exercise of some sovereign power of government, and includes all assistants, deputies, clerks, and employees of any public officer and all persons lawfully exercising or assuming to exercise any of the powers or functions of a public officer;

(14) "Omission" means a failure to act;

(15) "Peace officer" means a duly appointed city, county, or state law enforcement officer;

(16) "Pecuniary benefit" means any gain or advantage in the form of money, property, commercial interest, or anything else the primary significance of which is economic gain;

(17) "Person," "he or she," and "actor" include any natural person and, where relevant, a corporation, joint stock association, or an unincorporated association;

(18) "Place of work" includes but is not limited to all the lands and other real property of a farm or ranch in the case of an actor who owns, operates, or is employed to work on such a farm or ranch;

(19) "Prison" means any place designated by law for the keeping of persons held in custody under process of law, or under lawful arrest, including but not limited to any state correctional institution or any county or city jail;

(20) "Prisoner" includes any person held in custody under process of law, or under lawful arrest;

(21) "Projectile stun gun" means an electronic device that projects wired probes attached to the device that emit an electrical charge and that is designed and primarily employed to incapacitate a person or animal;

(22) "Property" means anything of value, whether tangible or intangible, real or personal;

(23) "Public servant" means any person other than a witness who presently occupies the position of or has been elected, appointed, or designated to become any officer or employee of government, including a legislator, judge, judicial officer, juror, and any person participating as an advisor, consultant, or otherwise in performing a governmental function;

(24) "Signature" includes any memorandum, mark, or sign made with intent to authenticate any instrument or writing, or the subscription of any person thereto;

(25) "Statute" means the Constitution or an act of the legislature or initiative or referendum of this state;

(26) "Strangulation" means to compress a person's neck, thereby obstructing the person's blood flow or ability to breathe, or doing so with the intent to obstruct the person's blood flow or ability to breathe;

(27) "Suffocation" means to block or impair a person's intake of air at the nose and mouth, whether by smothering or other means, with the intent to obstruct the person's ability to breathe;

(28) "Threat" means to communicate, directly or indirectly the intent:

(a) To cause bodily injury in the future to the person threatened or to any other person; or

(b) To cause physical damage to the property of a person other than the actor; or

(c) To subject the person threatened or any other person to physical confinement or restraint; or

(d) To accuse any person of a crime or cause criminal charges to be instituted against any person; or

(e) To expose a secret or publicize an asserted fact, whether true or false, tending to subject any person to hatred, contempt, or ridicule; or

(f) To reveal any information sought to be concealed by the person threatened; or

(g) To testify or provide information or withhold testimony or information with respect to another's legal claim or defense; or

(h) To take wrongful action as an official against anyone or anything, or wrongfully withhold official action, or cause such action or withholding; or

(i) To bring about or continue a strike, boycott, or other similar collective action to obtain property which is not demanded or received for the benefit of the group which the actor purports to represent; or

(j) To do any other act which is intended to harm substantially the person threatened or another with respect to his or her health, safety, business, financial condition, or personal relationships;

(29) "Vehicle" means a "motor vehicle" as defined in the vehicle and traffic laws, any aircraft, or any vessel equipped for propulsion by mechanical means or by sail;

(30) Words in the present tense shall include the future tense; and in the masculine shall include the feminine and neuter genders; and in the singular shall include the plural; and in the plural shall include the singular. [2011 c 336 § 350; 2011 c 166 § 2; 2007 c 79 § 3; 2005 c 458 § 3; 1988 c 158 § 1; 1987 c 324 § 1; 1986 c 257 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.04.110.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2011 c 166 § 2 and by 2011 c 336 § 350, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Finding—2007 c 79:** See note following RCW 9A.36.021.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 9A.08 RCW PRINCIPLES OF LIABILITY

### Sections

9A.08.010	General requirements of culpability.
9A.08.020	Liability for conduct of another—Complicity.
9A.08.030	Corporate and personal liability.

### 9A.08.010 General requirements of culpability. (1) Kinds of Culpability Defined.

(a) **INTENT.** A person acts with intent or intentionally when he or she acts with the objective or purpose to accomplish a result which constitutes a crime.

(b) **KNOWLEDGE.** A person knows or acts knowingly or with knowledge when:

(i) he or she is aware of a fact, facts, or circumstances or result described by a statute defining an offense; or

(ii) he or she has information which would lead a reasonable person in the same situation to believe that facts exist which facts are described by a statute defining an offense.

(c) **RECKLESSNESS.** A person is reckless or acts recklessly when he or she knows of and disregards a substantial risk that a wrongful act may occur and his or her disregard of such substantial risk is a gross deviation from conduct that a reasonable person would exercise in the same situation.

(d) **CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE.** A person is criminally negligent or acts with criminal negligence when he or she fails to be aware of a substantial risk that a wrongful act may occur and his or her failure to be aware of such substantial risk constitutes a gross deviation from the standard of care that a reasonable person would exercise in the same situation.

(2) Substitutes for Criminal Negligence, Recklessness, and Knowledge. When a statute provides that criminal negli-

gence suffices to establish an element of an offense, such element also is established if a person acts intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly. When recklessness suffices to establish an element, such element also is established if a person acts intentionally or knowingly. When acting knowingly suffices to establish an element, such element also is established if a person acts intentionally.

(3) **Culpability as Determinant of Grade of Offense.** When the grade or degree of an offense depends on whether the offense is committed intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, or with criminal negligence, its grade or degree shall be the lowest for which the determinative kind of culpability is established with respect to any material element of the offense.

(4) **Requirement of Wilfulness Satisfied by Acting Knowingly.** A requirement that an offense be committed wilfully is satisfied if a person acts knowingly with respect to the material elements of the offense, unless a purpose to impose further requirements plainly appears. [2009 c 549 § 1002; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.08.010.]

**9A.08.020 Liability for conduct of another—Complicity.** (1) A person is guilty of a crime if it is committed by the conduct of another person for which he or she is legally accountable.

(2) A person is legally accountable for the conduct of another person when:

(a) Acting with the kind of culpability that is sufficient for the commission of the crime, he or she causes an innocent or irresponsible person to engage in such conduct; or

(b) He or she is made accountable for the conduct of such other person by this title or by the law defining the crime; or

(c) He or she is an accomplice of such other person in the commission of the crime.

(3) A person is an accomplice of another person in the commission of a crime if:

(a) With knowledge that it will promote or facilitate the commission of the crime, he or she:

(i) Solicits, commands, encourages, or requests such other person to commit it; or

(ii) Aids or agrees to aid such other person in planning or committing it; or

(b) His or her conduct is expressly declared by law to establish his or her complicity.

(4) A person who is legally incapable of committing a particular crime himself or herself may be guilty thereof if it is committed by the conduct of another person for which he or she is legally accountable, unless such liability is inconsistent with the purpose of the provision establishing his or her incapacity.

(5) Unless otherwise provided by this title or by the law defining the crime, a person is not an accomplice in a crime committed by another person if:

(a) He or she is a victim of that crime; or

(b) He or she terminates his or her complicity prior to the commission of the crime, and either gives timely warning to the law enforcement authorities or otherwise makes a good faith effort to prevent the commission of the crime.

(6) A person legally accountable for the conduct of another person may be convicted on proof of the commission of the crime and of his or her complicity therein, though the

person claimed to have committed the crime has not been prosecuted or convicted or has been convicted of a different crime or degree of crime or has an immunity to prosecution or conviction or has been acquitted. [2011 c 336 § 351; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.08.020.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.08.030 Corporate and personal liability.** (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Agent" means any director, officer, or employee of a corporation, or any other person who is authorized to act on behalf of the corporation;

(b) "Corporation" includes a joint stock association;

(c) "High managerial agent" means an officer or director of a corporation or any other agent in a position of comparable authority with respect to the formulation of corporate policy or the supervision in a managerial capacity of subordinate employees.

(2) A corporation is guilty of an offense when:

(a) The conduct constituting the offense consists of an omission to discharge a specific duty of performance imposed on corporations by law; or

(b) The conduct constituting the offense is engaged in, authorized, solicited, requested, commanded, or tolerated by the board of directors or by a high managerial agent acting within the scope of his or her employment and on behalf of the corporation; or

(c) The conduct constituting the offense is engaged in by an agent of the corporation, other than a high managerial agent, while acting within the scope of his or her employment and in behalf of the corporation and (i) the offense is a gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor, or (ii) the offense is one defined by a statute which clearly indicates a legislative intent to impose such criminal liability on a corporation.

(3) A person is criminally liable for conduct constituting an offense which he or she performs or causes to be performed in the name of or on behalf of a corporation to the same extent as if such conduct were performed in his or her own name or behalf.

(4) Whenever a duty to act is imposed by law upon a corporation, any agent of the corporation who knows he or she has or shares primary responsibility for the discharge of the duty is criminally liable for a reckless or, if a high managerial agent, criminally negligent omission to perform the required act to the same extent as if the duty were by law imposed directly upon such agent.

(5) Every corporation, whether foreign or domestic, which shall violate any provision of RCW 9A.28.040, shall forfeit every right and franchise to do business in this state. The attorney general shall begin and conduct all actions and proceedings necessary to enforce the provisions of this subsection. [2011 c 336 § 352; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.08.030.]

## Chapter 9A.12 RCW INSANITY

### Sections

9A.12.010 Insanity.

**9A.12.010 Insanity.** To establish the defense of insanity, it must be shown that:

(1) At the time of the commission of the offense, as a result of mental disease or defect, the mind of the actor was affected to such an extent that:

(a) He or she was unable to perceive the nature and quality of the act with which he or she is charged; or

(b) He or she was unable to tell right from wrong with reference to the particular act charged.

(2) The defense of insanity must be established by a preponderance of the evidence. [2011 c 336 § 353; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.12.010.]

### Chapter 9A.16 RCW DEFENSES

#### Sections

9A.16.010	Definitions.
9A.16.020	Use of force—When lawful.
9A.16.030	Homicide—When excusable.
9A.16.040	Justifiable homicide or use of deadly force by public officer, peace officer, person aiding.
9A.16.050	Homicide—By other person—When justifiable.
9A.16.060	Duress.
9A.16.070	Entrapment.
9A.16.080	Action for being detained on mercantile establishment premises for investigation—"Reasonable grounds" as defense.
9A.16.090	Intoxication.
9A.16.100	Use of force on children—Policy—Actions presumed unreasonable.
9A.16.110	Defending against violent crime—Reimbursement.
9A.16.120	Outdoor music festival, campground—Detention.
9A.16.900	Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.

**9A.16.010 Definitions.** In this chapter, unless a different meaning is plainly required:

(1) "Necessary" means that no reasonably effective alternative to the use of force appeared to exist and that the amount of force used was reasonable to effect the lawful purpose intended.

(2) "Deadly force" means the intentional application of force through the use of firearms or any other means reasonably likely to cause death or serious physical injury. [1986 c 209 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.16.010.]

**9A.16.020 Use of force—When lawful.** The use, attempt, or offer to use force upon or toward the person of another is not unlawful in the following cases:

(1) Whenever necessarily used by a public officer in the performance of a legal duty, or a person assisting the officer and acting under the officer's direction;

(2) Whenever necessarily used by a person arresting one who has committed a felony and delivering him or her to a public officer competent to receive him or her into custody;

(3) Whenever used by a party about to be injured, or by another lawfully aiding him or her, in preventing or attempting to prevent an offense against his or her person, or a malicious trespass, or other malicious interference with real or personal property lawfully in his or her possession, in case the force is not more than is necessary;

(4) Whenever reasonably used by a person to detain someone who enters or remains unlawfully in a building or on real property lawfully in the possession of such person, so long as such detention is reasonable in duration and manner

to investigate the reason for the detained person's presence on the premises, and so long as the premises in question did not reasonably appear to be intended to be open to members of the public;

(5) Whenever used by a carrier of passengers or the carrier's authorized agent or servant, or other person assisting them at their request in expelling from a carriage, railway car, vessel, or other vehicle, a passenger who refuses to obey a lawful and reasonable regulation prescribed for the conduct of passengers, if such vehicle has first been stopped and the force used is not more than is necessary to expel the offender with reasonable regard to the offender's personal safety;

(6) Whenever used by any person to prevent a mentally ill, mentally incompetent, or mentally disabled person from committing an act dangerous to any person, or in enforcing necessary restraint for the protection or restoration to health of the person, during such period only as is necessary to obtain legal authority for the restraint or custody of the person. [1986 c 149 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 244 § 7; 1977 ex.s. c 80 § 13; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.16.020.]

**Purpose—Intent—Severability—1977 ex.s. c 80:** See notes following RCW 4.16.190.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.16.030 Homicide—When excusable.** Homicide is excusable when committed by accident or misfortune in doing any lawful act by lawful means, without criminal negligence, or without any unlawful intent. [1979 ex.s. c 244 § 8; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.16.030.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.16.040 Justifiable homicide or use of deadly force by public officer, peace officer, person aiding.** (1) Homicide or the use of deadly force is justifiable in the following cases:

(a) When a public officer is acting in obedience to the judgment of a competent court; or

(b) When necessarily used by a peace officer to overcome actual resistance to the execution of the legal process, mandate, or order of a court or officer, or in the discharge of a legal duty.

(c) When necessarily used by a peace officer or person acting under the officer's command and in the officer's aid:

(i) To arrest or apprehend a person who the officer reasonably believes has committed, has attempted to commit, is committing, or is attempting to commit a felony;

(ii) To prevent the escape of a person from a federal or state correctional facility or in retaking a person who escapes from such a facility; or

(iii) To prevent the escape of a person from a county or city jail or holding facility if the person has been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of a felony; or

(iv) To lawfully suppress a riot if the actor or another participant is armed with a deadly weapon.

(2) In considering whether to use deadly force under subsection (1)(c) of this section, to arrest or apprehend any person for the commission of any crime, the peace officer must have probable cause to believe that the suspect, if not apprehended, poses a threat of serious physical harm to the officer or a threat of serious physical harm to others. Among the cir-

cumstances which may be considered by peace officers as a "threat of serious physical harm" are the following:

(a) The suspect threatens a peace officer with a weapon or displays a weapon in a manner that could reasonably be construed as threatening; or

(b) There is probable cause to believe that the suspect has committed any crime involving the infliction or threatened infliction of serious physical harm.

Under these circumstances deadly force may also be used if necessary to prevent escape from the officer, where, if feasible, some warning is given.

(3) A public officer or peace officer shall not be held criminally liable for using deadly force without malice and with a good faith belief that such act is justifiable pursuant to this section.

(4) This section shall not be construed as:

(a) Affecting the permissible use of force by a person acting under the authority of RCW 9A.16.020 or 9A.16.050; or

(b) Preventing a law enforcement agency from adopting standards pertaining to its use of deadly force that are more restrictive than this section. [1986 c 209 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.16.040.]

**Legislative recognition:** "The legislature recognizes that RCW 9A.16.040 establishes a dual standard with respect to the use of deadly force by peace officers and private citizens, and further recognizes that private citizens' permissible use of deadly force under the authority of RCW 9.01.200, 9A.16.020, or 9A.16.050 is not restricted and remains broader than the limitations imposed on peace officers." [1986 c 209 § 3.]

**9A.16.050 Homicide—By other person—When justifiable.** Homicide is also justifiable when committed either:

(1) In the lawful defense of the slayer, or his or her husband, wife, parent, child, brother, or sister, or of any other person in his or her presence or company, when there is reasonable ground to apprehend a design on the part of the person slain to commit a felony or to do some great personal injury to the slayer or to any such person, and there is imminent danger of such design being accomplished; or

(2) In the actual resistance of an attempt to commit a felony upon the slayer, in his or her presence, or upon or in a dwelling, or other place of abode, in which he or she is. [2011 c 336 § 354; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.16.050.]

**9A.16.060 Duress.** (1) In any prosecution for a crime, it is a defense that:

(a) The actor participated in the crime under compulsion by another who by threat or use of force created an apprehension in the mind of the actor that in case of refusal he or she or another would be liable to immediate death or immediate grievous bodily injury; and

(b) That such apprehension was reasonable upon the part of the actor; and

(c) That the actor would not have participated in the crime except for the duress involved.

(2) The defense of duress is not available if the crime charged is murder, manslaughter, or homicide by abuse.

(3) The defense of duress is not available if the actor intentionally or recklessly places himself or herself in a situation in which it is probable that he or she will be subject to duress.

(4) The defense of duress is not established solely by a showing that a married person acted on the command of his or her spouse. [1999 c 60 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.16.060.]

**9A.16.070 Entrapment.** (1) In any prosecution for a crime, it is a defense that:

(a) The criminal design originated in the mind of law enforcement officials, or any person acting under their direction, and

(b) The actor was lured or induced to commit a crime which the actor had not otherwise intended to commit.

(2) The defense of entrapment is not established by a showing only that law enforcement officials merely afforded the actor an opportunity to commit a crime. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.16.070.]

**9A.16.080 Action for being detained on mercantile establishment premises for investigation—"Reasonable grounds" as defense.**

In any criminal action brought by reason of any person having been detained on or in the immediate vicinity of the premises of a mercantile establishment for the purpose of investigation or questioning as to the ownership of any merchandise, it shall be a defense of such action that the person was detained in a reasonable manner and for not more than a reasonable time to permit such investigation or questioning by a peace officer, by the owner of the mercantile establishment, or by the owner's authorized employee or agent, and that such peace officer, owner, employee, or agent had reasonable grounds to believe that the person so detained was committing or attempting to commit theft or shoplifting on such premises of such merchandise. As used in this section, "reasonable grounds" shall include, but not be limited to, knowledge that a person has concealed possession of unpurchased merchandise of a mercantile establishment, and a "reasonable time" shall mean the time necessary to permit the person detained to make a statement or to refuse to make a statement, and the time necessary to examine employees and records of the mercantile establishment relative to the ownership of the merchandise. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.16.080.]

**9A.16.090 Intoxication.** No act committed by a person while in a state of voluntary intoxication shall be deemed less criminal by reason of his or her condition, but whenever the actual existence of any particular mental state is a necessary element to constitute a particular species or degree of crime, the fact of his or her intoxication may be taken into consideration in determining such mental state. [2011 c 336 § 355; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.16.090.]

**9A.16.100 Use of force on children—Policy—Actions presumed unreasonable.**

It is the policy of this state to protect children from assault and abuse and to encourage parents, teachers, and their authorized agents to use methods of correction and restraint of children that are not dangerous to the children. However, the physical discipline of a child is not unlawful when it is reasonable and moderate and is inflicted by a parent, teacher, or guardian for purposes of restraining or correcting the child. Any use of force on a child by any other person is unlawful unless it is reasonable and moderate and is

authorized in advance by the child’s parent or guardian for purposes of restraining or correcting the child.

The following actions are presumed unreasonable when used to correct or restrain a child: (1) Throwing, kicking, burning, or cutting a child; (2) striking a child with a closed fist; (3) shaking a child under age three; (4) interfering with a child’s breathing; (5) threatening a child with a deadly weapon; or (6) doing any other act that is likely to cause and which does cause bodily harm greater than transient pain or minor temporary marks. The age, size, and condition of the child and the location of the injury shall be considered when determining whether the bodily harm is reasonable or moderate. This list is illustrative of unreasonable actions and is not intended to be exclusive. [1986 c 149 § 1.]

**9A.16.110 Defending against violent crime—Reimbursement.** (1) No person in the state shall be placed in legal jeopardy of any kind whatsoever for protecting by any reasonable means necessary, himself or herself, his or her family, or his or her real or personal property, or for coming to the aid of another who is in imminent danger of or the victim of assault, robbery, kidnapping, arson, burglary, rape, murder, or any other violent crime as defined in RCW 9.94A.030.

(2) When a person charged with a crime listed in subsection (1) of this section is found not guilty by reason of self-defense, the state of Washington shall reimburse the defendant for all reasonable costs, including loss of time, legal fees incurred, and other expenses involved in his or her defense. This reimbursement is not an independent cause of action. To award these reasonable costs the trier of fact must find that the defendant’s claim of self-defense was sustained by a preponderance of the evidence. If the trier of fact makes a determination of self-defense, the judge shall determine the amount of the award.

(3) Notwithstanding a finding that a defendant’s actions were justified by self-defense, if the trier of fact also determines that the defendant was engaged in criminal conduct substantially related to the events giving rise to the charges filed against the defendant the judge may deny or reduce the amount of the award. In determining the amount of the award, the judge shall also consider the seriousness of the initial criminal conduct.

Nothing in this section precludes the legislature from using the sundry claims process to grant an award where none was granted under this section or to grant a higher award than one granted under this section.

(4) Whenever the issue of self-defense under this section is decided by a judge, the judge shall consider the same questions as must be answered in the special verdict under subsection (4) [(5)] of this section.

(5) Whenever the issue of self-defense under this section has been submitted to a jury, and the jury has found the defendant not guilty, the court shall instruct the jury to return a special verdict in substantially the following form:

- |    |   |       |
|----|---|-------|
|    | answer  |       |
|    | yes or no   |       |
| 1. | Was the finding of not guilty based upon self-defense?                    | ..... |
| 2. | If your answer to question 1 is no, do not answer the remaining question. |       |

3. If your answer to question 1 is yes, was the defendant:
  - a. Protecting himself or herself? .....
  - b. Protecting his or her family? .....
  - c. Protecting his or her property? .....
  - d. Coming to the aid of another who was in imminent danger of a heinous crime? .....
  - e. Coming to the aid of another who was the victim of a heinous crime? .....
  - f. Engaged in criminal conduct substantially related to the events giving rise to the crime with which the defendant is charged? .....

[1995 c 44 § 1; 1989 c 94 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 206 § 8. Formerly RCW 9.01.200.]

**Use of deadly force—Legislative recognition:** See note following RCW 9A.16.040.

**9A.16.120 Outdoor music festival, campground—**

**Detention.** (1) In a criminal action brought against the detainer by reason of a person having been detained on or in the immediate vicinity of the premises of an outdoor music festival or related campground for the purpose of pursuing an investigation or questioning by a law enforcement officer as to the lawfulness of the consumption or possession of alcohol or illegal drugs, it is a defense that the detained person was detained in a reasonable manner and for not more than a reasonable time to permit the investigation or questioning by a law enforcement officer, and that a peace officer, owner, operator, employee, or agent of the outdoor music festival had reasonable grounds to believe that the person so detained was unlawfully consuming or attempting to unlawfully consume or possess, alcohol or illegal drugs on the premises.

(2) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Illegal drug" means a controlled substance under chapter 69.50 RCW for which the person detained does not have a valid prescription or that is not being consumed in accordance with the prescription directions and warnings, or a legend drug under chapter 69.41 RCW for which the person does not have a valid prescription or that is not being consumed in accordance with the prescription directions and warnings.

(b) "Outdoor music festival" has the same meaning as in RCW 70.108.020, except that no minimum time limit is required.

(c) "Reasonable grounds" include, but are not limited to:

(i) Exhibiting the effects of having consumed liquor, which means that a person has the odor of liquor on his or her breath, or that by speech, manner, appearance, behavior, lack of coordination, or otherwise exhibits that he or she has consumed liquor, and either:

(A) Is in possession of or in close proximity to a container that has or recently had liquor in it; or

(B) Is shown by other evidence to have recently consumed liquor; or

(ii) Exhibiting the effects of having consumed an illegal drug, which means that a person by speech, manner, appearance, behavior, lack of coordination, or otherwise exhibits that he or she has consumed an illegal drug, and either:

(A) Is in possession of an illegal drug; or

(B) Is shown by other evidence to have recently consumed an illegal drug.

(d) "Reasonable time" means the time necessary to permit the person detained to make a statement or to refuse to make a statement, and the time necessary to allow a law enforcement officer to determine the lawfulness of the consumption or possession of alcohol or illegal drugs. "Reasonable time" may not exceed one hour. [2003 c 219 § 1.]

**9A.16.900 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 22.]

## Chapter 9A.20 RCW

### CLASSIFICATION OF CRIMES

#### Sections

9A.20.010	Classification and designation of crimes.
9A.20.020	Authorized sentences for crimes committed before July 1, 1984.
9A.20.021	Maximum sentences for crimes committed July 1, 1984, and after.
9A.20.030	Alternative to a fine—Restitution.
9A.20.040	Prosecutions related to felonies defined outside Title 9A RCW.

#### Assessments required of convicted persons

*offender supervision:* RCW 9.94A.780.

*parolees:* RCW 72.04A.120.

*probationers:* RCW 10.64.120.

#### **9A.20.010 Classification and designation of crimes.**

(1) Classified Felonies. (a) The particular classification of each felony defined in Title 9A RCW is expressly designated in the section defining it.

(b) For purposes of sentencing, classified felonies are designated as one of three classes, as follows:

- (i) Class A felony; or
- (ii) Class B felony; or
- (iii) Class C felony.

(2) Misdemeanors and Gross Misdemeanors. (a) Any crime punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than ninety days, or by both such fine and imprisonment is a misdemeanor. Whenever the performance of any act is prohibited by any statute, and no penalty for the violation of such statute is imposed, the committing of such act shall be a misdemeanor.

(b) All crimes other than felonies and misdemeanors are gross misdemeanors. [1984 c 258 § 808; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.20.010.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.20.020 Authorized sentences for crimes committed before July 1, 1984.** (1) Felony. Every person convicted of a classified felony shall be punished as follows:

(a) For a class A felony, by imprisonment in a state correctional institution for a maximum term fixed by the court of not less than twenty years, or by a fine in an amount fixed by the court of not more than fifty thousand dollars, or by both such imprisonment and fine;

(b) For a class B felony, by imprisonment in a state correctional institution for a maximum term of not more than ten years, or by a fine in an amount fixed by the court of not more than twenty thousand dollars, or by both such imprisonment and fine;

(c) For a class C felony, by imprisonment in a state correctional institution for a maximum term of not more than five years, or by a fine in an amount fixed by the court of not more than ten thousand dollars, or by both such imprisonment and fine.

(2) Gross Misdemeanor. Every person convicted of a gross misdemeanor defined in Title 9A RCW shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for a maximum term fixed by the court of up to three hundred sixty-four days, or by a fine in an amount fixed by the court of not more than five thousand dollars, or by both such imprisonment and fine.

(3) Misdemeanor. Every person convicted of a misdemeanor defined in Title 9A RCW shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for a maximum term fixed by the court of not more than ninety days, or by a fine in an amount fixed by the court of not more than one thousand dollars, or by both such imprisonment and fine.

(4) This section applies to only those crimes committed prior to July 1, 1984. [2011 c 96 § 12; 1982 c 192 § 9; 1981 c 137 § 37; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.20.020.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

*Penalty assessments in addition to fine or bail forfeiture—Crime victim and witness programs in county:* RCW 7.68.035.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9A.20.021 Maximum sentences for crimes committed July 1, 1984, and after.** (1) Felony. Unless a different maximum sentence for a classified felony is specifically established by a statute of this state, no person convicted of a classified felony shall be punished by confinement or fine exceeding the following:

(a) For a class A felony, by confinement in a state correctional institution for a term of life imprisonment, or by a fine in an amount fixed by the court of fifty thousand dollars, or by both such confinement and fine;

(b) For a class B felony, by confinement in a state correctional institution for a term of ten years, or by a fine in an amount fixed by the court of twenty thousand dollars, or by both such confinement and fine;

(c) For a class C felony, by confinement in a state correctional institution for five years, or by a fine in an amount

fixed by the court of ten thousand dollars, or by both such confinement and fine.

(2) Gross misdemeanor. Every person convicted of a gross misdemeanor defined in Title 9A RCW shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for a maximum term fixed by the court of up to three hundred sixty-four days, or by a fine in an amount fixed by the court of not more than five thousand dollars, or by both such imprisonment and fine.

(3) Misdemeanor. Every person convicted of a misdemeanor defined in Title 9A RCW shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for a maximum term fixed by the court of not more than ninety days, or by a fine in an amount fixed by the court of not more than one thousand dollars, or by both such imprisonment and fine.

(4) This section applies to only those crimes committed on or after July 1, 1984. [2011 c 96 § 13. Prior: 2003 c 288 § 7; 2003 c 53 § 63; 1982 c 192 § 10.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** "The legislature finds that a maximum sentence by a court in the state of Washington for a gross misdemeanor can, under federal law, result in the automatic deportation of a person who has lawfully immigrated to the United States, is a victim of domestic violence or a political refugee, even when all or part of the sentence to total confinement is suspended. The legislature further finds that this is a disproportionate outcome, when compared to a person who has been convicted of certain felonies which, under the state's determinate sentencing law, must be sentenced to less than one year and, hence, either have no impact on that person's residency status or will provide that person an opportunity to be heard in immigration proceedings where the court will determine whether deportation is appropriate. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to cure this inequity by reducing the maximum sentence for a gross misdemeanor by one day." [2011 c 96 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Penalty assessments in addition to fine or bail forfeiture—Crime victim and witness programs in county:* RCW 7.68.035.

**9A.20.030 Alternative to a fine—Restitution.** (1) If a person has gained money or property or caused a victim to lose money or property through the commission of a crime, upon conviction thereof or when the offender pleads guilty to a lesser offense or fewer offenses and agrees with the prosecutor's recommendation that the offender be required to pay restitution to a victim of an offense or offenses which are not prosecuted pursuant to a plea agreement, the court, in lieu of imposing the fine authorized for the offense under RCW 9A.20.020, may order the defendant to pay an amount, fixed by the court, not to exceed double the amount of the defendant's gain or victim's loss from the commission of a crime. Such amount may be used to provide restitution to the victim at the order of the court. It shall be the duty of the prosecuting attorney to investigate the alternative of restitution, and to recommend it to the court, when the prosecuting attorney believes that restitution is appropriate and feasible. If the court orders restitution, the court shall make a finding as to the amount of the defendant's gain or victim's loss from the crime, and if the record does not contain sufficient evidence to support such finding the court may conduct a hearing upon the issue. For purposes of this section, the terms "gain" or "loss" refer to the amount of money or the value of property or services gained or lost.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this section also applies to any corporation or joint stock association found guilty of any crime. [1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 12; 1979 c 29 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.20.030.]

#### Restitution

*condition of probation:* RCW 9.95.210.

*condition to suspending sentence:* RCW 9.92.060.

*disposition when victim dead or not found:* RCW 7.68.290.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.20.040 Prosecutions related to felonies defined outside Title 9A RCW.** In any prosecution under this title where the grade or degree of a crime is determined by reference to the degree of a felony for which the defendant or another previously had been sought, arrested, charged, convicted, or sentenced, if such felony is defined by a statute of this state which is not in Title 9A RCW, unless otherwise provided:

(1) If the maximum sentence of imprisonment authorized by law upon conviction of such felony is twenty years or more, such felony shall be treated as a class A felony for purposes of this title;

(2) If the maximum sentence of imprisonment authorized by law upon conviction of such felony is eight years or more, but less than twenty years, such felony shall be treated as a class B felony for purposes of this title;

(3) If the maximum sentence of imprisonment authorized by law upon conviction of such felony is less than eight years, such felony shall be treated as a class C felony for purposes of this title. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.20.040.]

### Chapter 9A.28 RCW ANTICIPATORY OFFENSES

#### Sections

9A.28.010	Prosecutions based on felonies defined outside Title 9A RCW.
9A.28.020	Criminal attempt.
9A.28.030	Criminal solicitation.
9A.28.040	Criminal conspiracy.

**9A.28.010 Prosecutions based on felonies defined outside Title 9A RCW.** In any prosecution under this title for attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit a felony defined by a statute of this state which is not in this title, unless otherwise provided:

(1) If the maximum sentence of imprisonment authorized by law upon conviction of such felony is twenty years or more, such felony shall be treated as a class A felony for purposes of this title;

(2) If the maximum sentence of imprisonment authorized by law upon conviction of such felony is eight years or more but less than twenty years, such felony shall be treated as a class B felony for purposes of this title;

(3) If the maximum sentence of imprisonment authorized by law upon conviction of such felony is less than eight years, such felony shall be treated as a class C felony for purposes of this title. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.28.010.]

**9A.28.020 Criminal attempt.** (1) A person is guilty of an attempt to commit a crime if, with intent to commit a specific crime, he or she does any act which is a substantial step toward the commission of that crime.

(2) If the conduct in which a person engages otherwise constitutes an attempt to commit a crime, it is no defense to a prosecution of such attempt that the crime charged to have



been attempted was, under the attendant circumstances, factually or legally impossible of commission.

(3) An attempt to commit a crime is a:

(a) Class A felony when the crime attempted is murder in the first degree, murder in the second degree, arson in the first degree, child molestation in the first degree, indecent liberties by forcible compulsion, rape in the first degree, rape in the second degree, rape of a child in the first degree, or rape of a child in the second degree;

(b) Class B felony when the crime attempted is a class A felony other than an offense listed in (a) of this subsection;

(c) Class C felony when the crime attempted is a class B felony;

(d) Gross misdemeanor when the crime attempted is a class C felony;

(e) Misdemeanor when the crime attempted is a gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor. [2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 354; 1994 c 271 § 101; 1981 c 203 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.28.020.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

**Purpose—1994 c 271:** "The purpose of chapter 271, Laws of 1994 is to make certain technical corrections and correct oversights discovered only after unanticipated circumstances have arisen. These changes are necessary to give full expression to the original intent of the legislature." [1994 c 271 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.28.030 Criminal solicitation.** (1) A person is guilty of criminal solicitation when, with intent to promote or facilitate the commission of a crime, he or she offers to give or gives money or other thing of value to another to engage in specific conduct which would constitute such crime or which would establish complicity of such other person in its commission or attempted commission had such crime been attempted or committed.

(2) Criminal solicitation shall be punished in the same manner as criminal attempt under RCW 9A.28.020. [2011 c 336 § 356; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.28.030.]

**9A.28.040 Criminal conspiracy.** (1) A person is guilty of criminal conspiracy when, with intent that conduct constituting a crime be performed, he or she agrees with one or more persons to engage in or cause the performance of such conduct, and any one of them takes a substantial step in pursuance of such agreement.

(2) It shall not be a defense to criminal conspiracy that the person or persons with whom the accused is alleged to have conspired:

(a) Has not been prosecuted or convicted; or

(b) Has been convicted of a different offense; or

(c) Is not amenable to justice; or

(d) Has been acquitted; or

(e) Lacked the capacity to commit an offense; or

(f) Is a law enforcement officer or other government agent who did not intend that a crime be committed.

(3) Criminal conspiracy is a:

(a) Class A felony when an object of the conspiratorial agreement is murder in the first degree;

(b) Class B felony when an object of the conspiratorial agreement is a class A felony other than murder in the first degree;

(c) Class C felony when an object of the conspiratorial agreement is a class B felony;

(d) Gross misdemeanor when an object of the conspiratorial agreement is a class C felony;

(e) Misdemeanor when an object of the conspiratorial agreement is a gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor. [1997 c 17 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.28.040.]

## Chapter 9A.32 RCW HOMICIDE

### Sections

9A.32.010	Homicide defined.
9A.32.020	Premeditation—Limitations.
9A.32.030	Murder in the first degree.
9A.32.040	Murder in the first degree—Sentence.
9A.32.050	Murder in the second degree.
9A.32.055	Homicide by abuse.
9A.32.060	Manslaughter in the first degree.
9A.32.070	Manslaughter in the second degree.

*Capital punishment—Aggravated first degree murder: Chapter 10.95 RCW.*

*Controlled substances homicide: RCW 69.50.415.*

**9A.32.010 Homicide defined.** Homicide is the killing of a human being by the act, procurement, or omission of another, death occurring at any time, and is either (1) murder, (2) homicide by abuse, (3) manslaughter, (4) excusable homicide, or (5) justifiable homicide. [1997 c 196 § 3; 1987 c 187 § 2; 1983 c 10 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.32.010.]

*Excusable homicide: RCW 9A.16.030.*

*Justifiable homicide: RCW 9A.16.040 and 9A.16.050.*

**9A.32.020 Premeditation—Limitations.** (1) As used in this chapter, the premeditation required in order to support a conviction of the crime of murder in the first degree must involve more than a moment in point of time.

(2) Nothing contained in this chapter shall affect RCW 46.61.520. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.32.020.]

**9A.32.030 Murder in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of murder in the first degree when:

(a) With a premeditated intent to cause the death of another person, he or she causes the death of such person or of a third person; or

(b) Under circumstances manifesting an extreme indifference to human life, he or she engages in conduct which creates a grave risk of death to any person, and thereby causes the death of a person; or

(c) He or she commits or attempts to commit the crime of either (1) robbery in the first or second degree, (2) rape in the first or second degree, (3) burglary in the first degree, (4) arson in the first or second degree, or (5) kidnapping in the first or second degree, and in the course of or in furtherance of such crime or in immediate flight therefrom, he or she, or another participant, causes the death of a person other than one of the participants: Except that in any prosecution under this subdivision (1)(c) in which the defendant was not the only participant in the underlying crime, if established by the defendant by a preponderance of the evidence, it is a defense that the defendant:

(i) Did not commit the homicidal act or in any way solicit, request, command, importune, cause, or aid the commission thereof; and

(ii) Was not armed with a deadly weapon, or any instrument, article, or substance readily capable of causing death or serious physical injury; and

(iii) Had no reasonable grounds to believe that any other participant was armed with such a weapon, instrument, article, or substance; and

(iv) Had no reasonable grounds to believe that any other participant intended to engage in conduct likely to result in death or serious physical injury.

(2) Murder in the first degree is a class A felony. [1990 c 200 § 1; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.32.030.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.32.040 Murder in the first degree—Sentence.** Notwithstanding RCW 9A.32.030(2), any person convicted of the crime of murder in the first degree shall be sentenced to life imprisonment. [1982 c 10 § 2. Prior: (1) 1981 c 138 § 21; 1977 ex.s. c 206 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.32.040. (2) 1981 c 136 § 55 repealed by 1982 c 10 § 18.]

*Capital punishment—Aggravated first degree murder: Chapter 10.95 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.32.050 Murder in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of murder in the second degree when:

(a) With intent to cause the death of another person but without premeditation, he or she causes the death of such person or of a third person; or

(b) He or she commits or attempts to commit any felony, including assault, other than those enumerated in RCW 9A.32.030(1)(c), and, in the course of and in furtherance of such crime or in immediate flight therefrom, he or she, or another participant, causes the death of a person other than one of the participants; except that in any prosecution under this subdivision (1)(b) in which the defendant was not the only participant in the underlying crime, if established by the defendant by a preponderance of the evidence, it is a defense that the defendant:

(i) Did not commit the homicidal act or in any way solicit, request, command, importune, cause, or aid the commission thereof; and

(ii) Was not armed with a deadly weapon, or any instrument, article, or substance readily capable of causing death or serious physical injury; and

(iii) Had no reasonable grounds to believe that any other participant was armed with such a weapon, instrument, article, or substance; and

(iv) Had no reasonable grounds to believe that any other participant intended to engage in conduct likely to result in death or serious physical injury.

(2) Murder in the second degree is a class A felony. [2003 c 3 § 2; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 4; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.32.050.]

**Findings—Intent—2003 c 3:** "The legislature finds that the 1975 legislature clearly and unambiguously stated that any felony, including assault, can be a predicate offense for felony murder. The intent was evident: Punish, under the applicable murder statutes, those who commit a homicide in the course and in furtherance of a felony. This legislature reaffirms that original intent and further intends to honor and reinforce the court's decisions

over the past twenty-eight years interpreting "in furtherance of" as requiring the death to be sufficiently close in time and proximity to the predicate felony. The legislature does not agree with or accept the court's findings of legislative intent in *State v. Address, Docket No. 71170-4 (October 24, 2002)*, and reasserts that assault has always been and still remains a predicate offense for felony murder in the second degree.

To prevent a miscarriage of the legislature's original intent, the legislature finds in light of *State v. Address, Docket No. 71170-4 (October 24, 2002)*, that it is necessary to amend RCW 9A.32.050. This amendment is intended to be curative in nature. The legislature urges the supreme court to apply this interpretation retroactively to July 1, 1976." [2003 c 3 § 1.]

**Effective date—2003 c 3:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [February 12, 2003]." [2003 c 3 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.32.055 Homicide by abuse.** (1) A person is guilty of homicide by abuse if, under circumstances manifesting an extreme indifference to human life, the person causes the death of a child or person under sixteen years of age, a developmentally disabled person, or a dependent adult, and the person has previously engaged in a pattern or practice of assault or torture of said child, person under sixteen years of age, developmentally disabled person, or dependent person.

(2) As used in this section, "dependent adult" means a person who, because of physical or mental disability, or because of extreme advanced age, is dependent upon another person to provide the basic necessities of life.

(3) Homicide by abuse is a class A felony. [1987 c 187 § 1.]

**9A.32.060 Manslaughter in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of manslaughter in the first degree when:

(a) He or she recklessly causes the death of another person; or

(b) He or she intentionally and unlawfully kills an unborn quick child by inflicting any injury upon the mother of such child.

(2) Manslaughter in the first degree is a class A felony. [2011 c 336 § 357; 1997 c 365 § 5; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.32.060.]

**9A.32.070 Manslaughter in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of manslaughter in the second degree when, with criminal negligence, he or she causes the death of another person.

(2) Manslaughter in the second degree is a class B felony. [2011 c 336 § 358; 1997 c 365 § 6; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.32.070.]

## Chapter 9A.36 RCW ASSAULT—PHYSICAL HARM

### Sections

9A.36.011	Assault in the first degree.
9A.36.021	Assault in the second degree.
9A.36.031	Assault in the third degree.
9A.36.041	Assault in the fourth degree.
9A.36.045	Drive-by shooting.
9A.36.050	Reckless endangerment.
9A.36.060	Promoting a suicide attempt.
9A.36.070	Coercion.
9A.36.078	Malicious harassment—Finding.
9A.36.080	Malicious harassment—Definition and criminal penalty.
9A.36.083	Malicious harassment—Civil action.

- 9A.36.090 Threats against governor or family.
- 9A.36.100 Custodial assault.
- 9A.36.120 Assault of a child in the first degree.
- 9A.36.130 Assault of a child in the second degree.
- 9A.36.140 Assault of a child in the third degree.
- 9A.36.150 Interfering with the reporting of domestic violence.
- 9A.36.160 Failing to summon assistance.
- 9A.36.161 Failing to summon assistance—Penalty.

**9A.36.011 Assault in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of assault in the first degree if he or she, with intent to inflict great bodily harm:

(a) Assaults another with a firearm or any deadly weapon or by any force or means likely to produce great bodily harm or death; or

(b) Administers, exposes, or transmits to or causes to be taken by another, poison, the human immunodeficiency virus as defined in chapter 70.24 RCW, or any other destructive or noxious substance; or

(c) Assaults another and inflicts great bodily harm.

(2) Assault in the first degree is a class A felony. [1997 c 196 § 1; 1986 c 257 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.36.021 Assault in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of assault in the second degree if he or she, under circumstances not amounting to assault in the first degree:

(a) Intentionally assaults another and thereby recklessly inflicts substantial bodily harm; or

(b) Intentionally and unlawfully causes substantial bodily harm to an unborn quick child by intentionally and unlawfully inflicting any injury upon the mother of such child; or

(c) Assaults another with a deadly weapon; or

(d) With intent to inflict bodily harm, administers to or causes to be taken by another, poison or any other destructive or noxious substance; or

(e) With intent to commit a felony, assaults another; or

(f) Knowingly inflicts bodily harm which by design causes such pain or agony as to be the equivalent of that produced by torture; or

(g) Assaults another by strangulation or suffocation.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, assault in the second degree is a class B felony.

(b) Assault in the second degree with a finding of sexual motivation under RCW 9.94A.835 or 13.40.135 is a class A felony. [2011 c 166 § 1; 2007 c 79 § 2; 2003 c 53 § 64; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 355; 1997 c 196 § 2. Prior: 1988 c 266 § 2; 1988 c 206 § 916; 1988 c 158 § 2; 1987 c 324 § 2; 1986 c 257 § 5.]

**Finding—2007 c 79:** "The legislature finds that assault by strangulation may result in immobilization of a victim, may cause a loss of consciousness, injury, or even death, and has been a factor in a significant number of domestic violence related assaults and fatalities. While not limited to acts of assault against an intimate partner, assault by strangulation is often knowingly inflicted upon an intimate partner with the intent to commit physical injury, or substantial or great bodily harm. Strangulation is one of the most lethal forms of domestic violence. The particular cruelty of this offense and its potential effects upon a victim both physically and psychologically, merit its categorization as a ranked felony offense under chapter 9A.36 RCW." [2007 c 79 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.36.031 Assault in the third degree.** (1) A person is guilty of assault in the third degree if he or she, under circumstances not amounting to assault in the first or second degree:

(a) With intent to prevent or resist the execution of any lawful process or mandate of any court officer or the lawful apprehension or detention of himself, herself, or another person, assaults another; or

(b) Assaults a person employed as a transit operator or driver, the immediate supervisor of a transit operator or driver, a mechanic, or a security officer, by a public or private transit company or a contracted transit service provider, while that person is performing his or her official duties at the time of the assault; or

(c) Assaults a school bus driver, the immediate supervisor of a driver, a mechanic, or a security officer, employed by a school district transportation service or a private company under contract for transportation services with a school district, while the person is performing his or her official duties at the time of the assault; or

(d) With criminal negligence, causes bodily harm to another person by means of a weapon or other instrument or thing likely to produce bodily harm; or

(e) Assaults a firefighter or other employee of a fire department, county fire marshal's office, county fire prevention bureau, or fire protection district who was performing his or her official duties at the time of the assault; or

(f) With criminal negligence, causes bodily harm accompanied by substantial pain that extends for a period sufficient to cause considerable suffering; or

(g) Assaults a law enforcement officer or other employee of a law enforcement agency who was performing his or her official duties at the time of the assault; or

(h) Assaults a peace officer with a projectile stun gun; or

(i) Assaults a nurse, physician, or health care provider who was performing his or her nursing or health care duties at the time of the assault. For purposes of this subsection: "Nurse" means a person licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW; "physician" means a person licensed under chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW; and "health care provider" means a person certified under chapter 18.71 or 18.73 RCW who performs emergency medical services or a person regulated under Title 18 RCW and employed by, or contracting with, a hospital licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW; or

(j) Assaults a judicial officer, court-related employee, county clerk, or county clerk's employee, while that person is performing his or her official duties at the time of the assault or as a result of that person's employment within the judicial system. For purposes of this subsection, "court-related employee" includes bailiffs, court reporters, judicial assistants, court managers, court managers' employees, and any other employee, regardless of title, who is engaged in equivalent functions.

(2) Assault in the third degree is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 359; 2011 c 238 § 1; 2005 c 458 § 1; 1999 c 328 § 1; 1998 c 94 § 1; 1997 c 172 § 1; 1996 c 266 § 1; 1990 c 236 § 1; 1989 c 169 § 1; 1988 c 158 § 3; 1986 c 257 § 6.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2011 c 238 § 1 and by 2011 c 336 § 359, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are

incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.36.041 Assault in the fourth degree.** (1) A person is guilty of assault in the fourth degree if, under circumstances not amounting to assault in the first, second, or third degree, or custodial assault, he or she assaults another.

(2) Assault in the fourth degree is a gross misdemeanor. [1987 c 188 § 2; 1986 c 257 § 7.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.36.045 Drive-by shooting.** (1) A person is guilty of drive-by shooting when he or she recklessly discharges a firearm as defined in RCW 9.41.010 in a manner which creates a substantial risk of death or serious physical injury to another person and the discharge is either from a motor vehicle or from the immediate area of a motor vehicle that was used to transport the shooter or the firearm, or both, to the scene of the discharge.

(2) A person who unlawfully discharges a firearm from a moving motor vehicle may be inferred to have engaged in reckless conduct, unless the discharge is shown by evidence satisfactory to the trier of fact to have been made without such recklessness.

(3) Drive-by shooting is a class B felony. [1997 c 338 § 44; 1995 c 129 § 8 (Initiative Measure No. 159); (1994 sp.s. c 7 § 511 repealed by 1995 c 129 § 19 (Initiative Measure No. 159)); 1989 c 271 § 109.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—Effective dates—Contingent expiration date—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**Finding—Intent—1989 c 271 §§ 102, 109, and 110:** See note following RCW 9A.36.050.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.36.050 Reckless endangerment.** (1) A person is guilty of reckless endangerment when he or she recklessly engages in conduct not amounting to drive-by shooting but that creates a substantial risk of death or serious physical injury to another person.

(2) Reckless endangerment is a gross misdemeanor. [1997 c 338 § 45; 1989 c 271 § 110; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.36.050.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Intent—1989 c 271 §§ 102, 109, and 110:** "The legislature finds that increased trafficking in illegal drugs has increased the likelihood of "drive-by shootings." It is the intent of the legislature in sections 102, 109, and 110 of this act to categorize such reckless and criminal activity into a separate crime and to provide for an appropriate punishment." [1989 c 271 § 108.]

*Criminal history and driving record:* RCW 46.61.513.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.36.060 Promoting a suicide attempt.** (1) A person is guilty of promoting a suicide attempt when he or she knowingly causes or aids another person to attempt suicide.

(2) Promoting a suicide attempt is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 360; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.36.060.]

**9A.36.070 Coercion.** (1) A person is guilty of coercion if by use of a threat he or she compels or induces a person to engage in conduct which the latter has a legal right to abstain from, or to abstain from conduct which he or she has a legal right to engage in.

(2) "Threat" as used in this section means:

(a) To communicate, directly or indirectly, the intent immediately to use force against any person who is present at the time; or

(b) Threats as defined in \*RCW 9A.04.110(27) (a), (b), or (c).

(3) Coercion is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 361; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.36.070.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9A.04.110 was amended by 2011 c 166 § 2, changing subsection (27) to subsection (28).

**9A.36.078 Malicious harassment—Finding.** The legislature finds that crimes and threats against persons because of their race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or mental, physical, or sensory handicaps are serious and increasing. The legislature also finds that crimes and threats are often directed against interracial couples and their children or couples of mixed religions, colors, ancestries, or national origins because of bias and bigotry against the race, color, religion, ancestry, or national origin of one person in the couple or family. The legislature finds that the state interest in preventing crimes and threats motivated by bigotry and bias goes beyond the state interest in preventing other felonies or misdemeanors such as criminal trespass, malicious mischief, assault, or other crimes that are not motivated by hatred, bigotry, and bias, and that prosecution of those other crimes inadequately protects citizens from crimes and threats motivated by bigotry and bias. Therefore, the legislature finds that protection of those citizens from threats of harm due to bias and bigotry is a compelling state interest.

The legislature also finds that in many cases, certain discrete words or symbols are used to threaten the victims. Those discrete words or symbols have historically or traditionally been used to connote hatred or threats towards members of the class of which the victim or a member of the victim's family or household is a member. In particular, the legislature finds that cross burnings historically and traditionally have been used to threaten, terrorize, intimidate, and harass African Americans and their families. Cross burnings often preceded lynchings, murders, burning of homes, and other acts of terror. Further, Nazi swastikas historically and traditionally have been used to threaten, terrorize, intimidate, and harass Jewish people and their families. Swastikas symbolize the massive destruction of the Jewish population, commonly known as the holocaust. Therefore, the legislature finds that any person who burns or attempts to burn a cross or displays a swastika on the property of the victim or burns a cross or displays a swastika as part of a series of acts directed towards a particular person, the person's family or household members, or a particular group, knows or reasonably should know that the cross burning or swastika may create a reasonable fear of harm in the mind of the person, the person's family and household members, or the group.

The legislature also finds that a hate crime committed against a victim because of the victim's gender may be identified in the same manner that a hate crime committed against

a victim of another protected group is identified. Affirmative indications of hatred towards gender as a class is the predominant factor to consider. Other factors to consider include the perpetrator's use of language, slurs, or symbols expressing hatred towards the victim's gender as a class; the severity of the attack including mutilation of the victim's sexual organs; a history of similar attacks against victims of the same gender by the perpetrator or a history of similar incidents in the same area; a lack of provocation; an absence of any other apparent motivation; and common sense. [1993 c 127 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.36.080 Malicious harassment—Definition and criminal penalty.**

(1) A person is guilty of malicious harassment if he or she maliciously and intentionally commits one of the following acts because of his or her perception of the victim's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or mental, physical, or sensory handicap:

(a) Causes physical injury to the victim or another person;

(b) Causes physical damage to or destruction of the property of the victim or another person; or

(c) Threatens a specific person or group of persons and places that person, or members of the specific group of persons, in reasonable fear of harm to person or property. The fear must be a fear that a reasonable person would have under all the circumstances. For purposes of this section, a "reasonable person" is a reasonable person who is a member of the victim's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, or sexual orientation, or who has the same mental, physical, or sensory handicap as the victim. Words alone do not constitute malicious harassment unless the context or circumstances surrounding the words indicate the words are a threat. Threatening words do not constitute malicious harassment if it is apparent to the victim that the person does not have the ability to carry out the threat.

(2) In any prosecution for malicious harassment, unless evidence exists which explains to the trier of fact's satisfaction that the person did not intend to threaten the victim or victims, the trier of fact may infer that the person intended to threaten a specific victim or group of victims because of the person's perception of the victim's or victims' race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or mental, physical, or sensory handicap if the person commits one of the following acts:

(a) Burns a cross on property of a victim who is or whom the actor perceives to be of African American heritage; or

(b) Defaces property of a victim who is or whom the actor perceives to be of Jewish heritage by defacing the property with a swastika.

This subsection only applies to the creation of a reasonable inference for evidentiary purposes. This subsection does not restrict the state's ability to prosecute a person under subsection (1) of this section when the facts of a particular case do not fall within (a) or (b) of this subsection.

(3) It is not a defense that the accused was mistaken that the victim was a member of a certain race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, or sexual orientation, or had a mental, physical, or sensory handicap.

(4) Evidence of expressions or associations of the accused may not be introduced as substantive evidence at trial unless the evidence specifically relates to the crime charged. Nothing in this chapter shall affect the rules of evidence governing impeachment of a witness.

(5) Every person who commits another crime during the commission of a crime under this section may be punished and prosecuted for the other crime separately.

(6) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Sexual orientation" has the same meaning as in RCW 49.60.040.

(b) "Threat" means to communicate, directly or indirectly, the intent to:

(i) Cause bodily injury immediately or in the future to the person threatened or to any other person; or

(ii) Cause physical damage immediately or in the future to the property of a person threatened or that of any other person.

(7) Malicious harassment is a class C felony.

(8) The penalties provided in this section for malicious harassment do not preclude the victims from seeking any other remedies otherwise available under law.

(9) Nothing in this section confers or expands any civil rights or protections to any group or class identified under this section, beyond those rights or protections that exist under the federal or state Constitution or the civil laws of the state of Washington. [2010 c 119 § 1; 2009 c 180 § 1; 1993 c 127 § 2; 1989 c 95 § 1; 1984 c 268 § 1; 1981 c 267 § 1.]

*Harassment: Chapters 9A.46 and 10.14 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.36.083 Malicious harassment—Civil action.**

In addition to the criminal penalty provided in RCW 9A.36.080 for committing a crime of malicious harassment, the victim may bring a civil cause of action for malicious harassment against the harasser. A person may be liable to the victim of malicious harassment for actual damages, punitive damages of up to ten thousand dollars, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in bringing the action. [1993 c 127 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.36.090 Threats against governor or family.**

(1) Whoever knowingly and willfully deposits for conveyance in the mail or for a delivery from any post office or by any letter carrier any letter, paper, writing, print, missive, or document containing any threat to take the life of or to inflict bodily harm upon the governor of the state or his or her immediate family, the governor-elect, the lieutenant governor, other officer next in the order of succession to the office of governor of the state, or the lieutenant governor-elect, or knowingly and willfully otherwise makes any such threat against the governor, governor-elect, lieutenant governor, other officer next in the order of succession to the office of governor, or lieutenant governor-elect, shall be guilty of a class C felony.

(2) As used in this section, the term "governor-elect" and "lieutenant governor-elect" means such persons as are the successful candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor, respectively, as ascertained from the results of the general election. As used in this section, the phrase "other officer next in the order of succession to the office of gover-

nor" means the person other than the lieutenant governor next in order of succession to the office of governor under Article 3, section 10 of the state Constitution.

(3) The Washington state patrol may investigate for violations of this section. [2011 c 336 § 362; 1982 c 185 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** 1982 c 185 § 2 directed that this section constitute a new chapter in Title 9 RCW. Since this placement appears inappropriate, this section has been codified as part of chapter 9A.36 RCW.

**9A.36.100 Custodial assault.** (1) A person is guilty of custodial assault if that person is not guilty of an assault in the first or second degree and where the person:

(a) Assaults a full or part-time staff member or volunteer, any educational personnel, any personal service provider, or any vendor or agent thereof at any juvenile corrections institution or local juvenile detention facilities who was performing official duties at the time of the assault;

(b) Assaults a full or part-time staff member or volunteer, any educational personnel, any personal service provider, or any vendor or agent thereof at any adult corrections institution or local adult detention facilities who was performing official duties at the time of the assault;

(c)(i) Assaults a full or part-time community correction officer while the officer is performing official duties; or

(ii) Assaults any other full or part-time employee who is employed in a community corrections office while the employee is performing official duties; or

(d) Assaults any volunteer who was assisting a person described in (c) of this subsection at the time of the assault.

(2) Custodial assault is a class C felony. [1988 c 151 § 1; 1987 c 188 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.36.120 Assault of a child in the first degree.** (1) A person eighteen years of age or older is guilty of the crime of assault of a child in the first degree if the child is under the age of thirteen and the person:

(a) Commits the crime of assault in the first degree, as defined in RCW 9A.36.011, against the child; or

(b) Intentionally assaults the child and either:

(i) Recklessly inflicts great bodily harm; or

(ii) Causes substantial bodily harm, and the person has previously engaged in a pattern or practice either of (A) assaulting the child which has resulted in bodily harm that is greater than transient physical pain or minor temporary marks, or (B) causing the child physical pain or agony that is equivalent to that produced by torture.

(2) Assault of a child in the first degree is a class A felony. [1992 c 145 § 1.]

**9A.36.130 Assault of a child in the second degree.** (1) A person eighteen years of age or older is guilty of the crime of assault of a child in the second degree if the child is under the age of thirteen and the person:

(a) Commits the crime of assault in the second degree, as defined in RCW 9A.36.021, against a child; or

(b) Intentionally assaults the child and causes bodily harm that is greater than transient physical pain or minor temporary marks, and the person has previously engaged in a pattern or practice either of (i) assaulting the child which has resulted in bodily harm that is greater than transient pain or

minor temporary marks, or (ii) causing the child physical pain or agony that is equivalent to that produced by torture.

(2) Assault of a child in the second degree is a class B felony. [1992 c 145 § 2.]

**9A.36.140 Assault of a child in the third degree.** (1) A person eighteen years of age or older is guilty of the crime of assault of a child in the third degree if the child is under the age of thirteen and the person commits the crime of assault in the third degree as defined in RCW 9A.36.031(1) (d) or (f) against the child.

(2) Assault of a child in the third degree is a class C felony. [1992 c 145 § 3.]

**9A.36.150 Interfering with the reporting of domestic violence.** (1) A person commits the crime of interfering with the reporting of domestic violence if the person:

(a) Commits a crime of domestic violence, as defined in RCW 10.99.020; and

(b) Prevents or attempts to prevent the victim of or a witness to that domestic violence crime from calling a 911 emergency communication system, obtaining medical assistance, or making a report to any law enforcement official.

(2) Commission of a crime of domestic violence under subsection (1) of this section is a necessary element of the crime of interfering with the reporting of domestic violence.

(3) Interference with the reporting of domestic violence is a gross misdemeanor. [1996 c 248 § 3.]

**9A.36.160 Failing to summon assistance.** A person is guilty of the crime of failing to summon assistance if:

(1) He or she was present when a crime was committed against another person; and

(2) He or she knows that the other person has suffered substantial bodily harm as a result of the crime committed against the other person and that the other person is in need of assistance; and

(3) He or she could reasonably summon assistance for the person in need without danger to himself or herself and without interference with an important duty owed to a third party; and

(4) He or she fails to summon assistance for the person in need; and

(5) Another person is not summoning or has not summoned assistance for the person in need of such assistance. [2005 c 209 § 1.]

**9A.36.161 Failing to summon assistance—Penalty.** A violation of RCW 9A.36.160 is a misdemeanor. [2005 c 209 § 2.]

## Chapter 9A.40 RCW

### KIDNAPPING, UNLAWFUL IMPRISONMENT, AND CUSTODIAL INTERFERENCE

#### Sections

9A.40.010	Definitions.
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9A.40.030	Kidnapping in the second degree.
9A.40.040	Unlawful imprisonment.
9A.40.060	Custodial interference in the first degree.
9A.40.070	Custodial interference in the second degree.

- 9A.40.080 Custodial interference—Assessment of costs—Defense—  
Consent defense, restricted.
- 9A.40.090 Luring.
- 9A.40.100 Trafficking.
- 9A.40.900 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic  
partnerships—2009 c 521.

**9A.40.010 Definitions.** The following definitions apply in this chapter:

(1) "Abduct" means to restrain a person by either (a) secreting or holding him or her in a place where he or she is not likely to be found, or (b) using or threatening to use deadly force.

(2) "Commercial sex act" means any act of sexual contact or sexual intercourse for which something of value is given or received.

(3) "Forced labor" means knowingly providing or obtaining labor or services of a person by: (a) Threats of serious harm to, or physical restraint against, that person or another person; or (b) means of any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause the person to believe that, if the person did not perform such labor or services, that person or another person would suffer serious harm or physical restraint.

(4) "Involuntary servitude" means a condition of servitude in which the victim was forced to work by the use or threat of physical restraint or physical injury, or by the use or threat of coercion through law or legal process. For the purposes of this subsection, "coercion" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 9A.36.070.

(5) "Relative" means an ancestor, descendant, or sibling, including a relative of the same degree through marriage or adoption, or a spouse.

(6) "Restrain" means to restrict a person's movements without consent and without legal authority in a manner which interferes substantially with his or her liberty. Restraint is "without consent" if it is accomplished by (a) physical force, intimidation, or deception, or (b) any means including acquiescence of the victim, if he or she is a child less than sixteen years old or an incompetent person and if the parent, guardian, or other person or institution having lawful control or custody of him or her has not acquiesced.

(7) "Serious harm" means any harm, whether physical or nonphysical, including psychological, financial, or reputational harm, that is sufficiently serious, under all the surrounding circumstances, to compel a reasonable person of the same background and in the same circumstances to perform or to continue performing labor, services, or a commercial sex act in order to avoid incurring that harm. [2011 c 336 § 363; 2011 c 111 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.40.010.]

**Reviser's note:** (1) The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

(2) This section was amended by 2011 c 111 § 2 and by 2011 c 336 § 363, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**9A.40.020 Kidnapping in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of kidnapping in the first degree if he or she intentionally abducts another person with intent:

(a) To hold him or her for ransom or reward, or as a shield or hostage; or

(b) To facilitate commission of any felony or flight thereafter; or

(c) To inflict bodily injury on him or her; or

(d) To inflict extreme mental distress on him, her, or a third person; or

(e) To interfere with the performance of any governmental function.

(2) Kidnapping in the first degree is a class A felony. [2011 c 336 § 364; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.40.020.]

**9A.40.030 Kidnapping in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of kidnapping in the second degree if he or she intentionally abducts another person under circumstances not amounting to kidnapping in the first degree.

(2) In any prosecution for kidnapping in the second degree, it is a defense if established by the defendant by a preponderance of the evidence that (a) the abduction does not include the use of or intent to use or threat to use deadly force, and (b) the actor is a relative of the person abducted, and (c) the actor's sole intent is to assume custody of that person. Nothing contained in this paragraph shall constitute a defense to a prosecution for, or preclude a conviction of, any other crime.

(3)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, kidnapping in the second degree is a class B felony.

(b) Kidnapping in the second degree with a finding of sexual motivation under RCW 9.94A.835 or 13.40.135 is a class A felony. [2003 c 53 § 65; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 356; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.40.030.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.40.040 Unlawful imprisonment.** (1) A person is guilty of unlawful imprisonment if he or she knowingly restrains another person.

(2) Unlawful imprisonment is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 365; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.40.040.]

**9A.40.060 Custodial interference in the first degree.**

(1) A relative of a child under the age of eighteen or of an incompetent person is guilty of custodial interference in the first degree if, with the intent to deny access to the child or incompetent person by a parent, guardian, institution, agency, or other person having a lawful right to physical custody of such person, the relative takes, entices, retains, detains, or conceals the child or incompetent person from a parent, guardian, institution, agency, or other person having a lawful right to physical custody of such person and:

(a) Intends to hold the child or incompetent person permanently or for a protracted period; or

(b) Exposes the child or incompetent person to a substantial risk of illness or physical injury; or

(c) Causes the child or incompetent person to be removed from the state of usual residence; or

(d) Retains, detains, or conceals the child or incompetent person in another state after expiration of any authorized visitation period with intent to intimidate or harass a parent, guardian, institution, agency, or other person having lawful right to physical custody or to prevent a parent, guardian,

institution, agency, or other person with lawful right to physical custody from regaining custody.

(2) A parent of a child is guilty of custodial interference in the first degree if the parent takes, entices, retains, detains, or conceals the child, with the intent to deny access, from the other parent having the lawful right to time with the child pursuant to a court-ordered parenting plan, and:

(a) Intends to hold the child permanently or for a protracted period; or

(b) Exposes the child to a substantial risk of illness or physical injury; or

(c) Causes the child to be removed from the state of usual residence.

(3) A parent or other person acting under the directions of the parent is guilty of custodial interference in the first degree if the parent or other person intentionally takes, entices, retains, or conceals a child, under the age of eighteen years and for whom no lawful custody order or parenting plan has been entered by a court of competent jurisdiction, from the other parent with intent to deprive the other parent from access to the child permanently or for a protracted period.

(4) Custodial interference in the first degree is a class C felony. [1998 c 55 § 1; 1994 c 162 § 1; 1984 c 95 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.40.070 Custodial interference in the second degree.** (1) A relative of a person is guilty of custodial interference in the second degree if, with the intent to deny access to such person by a parent, guardian, institution, agency, or other person having a lawful right to physical custody of such person, the relative takes, entices, retains, detains, or conceals the person from a parent, guardian, institution, agency, or other person having a lawful right to physical custody of such person. This subsection shall not apply to a parent's noncompliance with a court-ordered parenting plan.

(2) A parent of a child is guilty of custodial interference in the second degree if: (a) The parent takes, entices, retains, detains, or conceals the child, with the intent to deny access, from the other parent having the lawful right to time with the child pursuant to a court-ordered parenting plan; or (b) the parent has not complied with the residential provisions of a court-ordered parenting plan after a finding of contempt under RCW 26.09.160(3); or (c) if the court finds that the parent has engaged in a pattern of willful violations of the court-ordered residential provisions.

(3) Nothing in subsection (2)(b) of this section prohibits conviction of custodial interference in the second degree under subsection (2)(a) or (c) of this section in absence of findings of contempt.

(4)(a) The first conviction of custodial interference in the second degree is a gross misdemeanor.

(b) The second or subsequent conviction of custodial interference in the second degree is a class C felony. [2003 c 53 § 66; 1989 c 318 § 2; 1984 c 95 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.40.080 Custodial interference—Assessment of costs—Defense—Consent defense, restricted.** (1) Any reasonable expenses incurred in locating or returning a child or

incompetent person shall be assessed against a defendant convicted under RCW 9A.40.060 or 9A.40.070.

(2) In any prosecution of custodial interference in the first or second degree, it is a complete defense, if established by the defendant by a preponderance of the evidence, that:

(a) The defendant's purpose was to protect the child, incompetent person, or himself or herself from imminent physical harm, that the belief in the existence of the imminent physical harm was reasonable, and that the defendant sought the assistance of the police, sheriff's office, protective agencies, or the court of any state before committing the acts giving rise to the charges or within a reasonable time thereafter;

(b) The complainant had, prior to the defendant committing the acts giving rise to the crime, for a protracted period of time, failed to exercise his or her rights to physical custody or access to the child under a court-ordered parenting plan or order granting visitation rights, provided that such failure was not the direct result of the defendant's denial of access to such person;

(c) The acts giving rise to the charges were consented to by the complainant; or

(d) The offender, after providing or making a good faith effort to provide notice to the person entitled to access to the child, failed to provide access to the child due to reasons that a reasonable person would believe were directly related to the welfare of the child, and allowed access to the child in accordance with the court order within a reasonable period of time. The burden of proof that the denial of access was reasonable is upon the person denying access to the child.

(3) Consent of a child less than sixteen years of age or of an incompetent person does not constitute a defense to an action under RCW 9A.40.060 or 9A.40.070. [1989 c 318 § 5; 1984 c 95 § 3.]

*Child custody, action by relative:* RCW 26.09.255.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.40.090 Luring. (Effective until January 1, 2013.)**

A person commits the crime of luring if the person:

(1)(a) Orders, lures, or attempts to lure a minor or a person with a developmental disability into any area or structure that is obscured from or inaccessible to the public or into a motor vehicle;

(b) Does not have the consent of the minor's parent or guardian or of the guardian of the person with a developmental disability; and

(c) Is unknown to the child or developmentally disabled person.

(2) It is a defense to luring, which the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence, that the defendant's actions were reasonable under the circumstances and the defendant did not have any intent to harm the health, safety, or welfare of the minor or the person with the developmental disability.

(3) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Minor" means a person under the age of sixteen;

(b) "Person with a developmental disability" means a person with a developmental disability as defined in RCW 71A.10.020.

(4) Luring is a class C felony. [1995 c 156 § 1; 1993 c 509 § 1.]



**9A.40.090 Luring.** (Effective January 1, 2013.) A person commits the crime of luring if the person:

(1)(a) Orders, lures, or attempts to lure a minor or a person with a developmental disability into any area or structure that is obscured from or inaccessible to the public, or away from any area or structure constituting a bus terminal, airport terminal, or other transportation terminal, or into a motor vehicle;

(b) Does not have the consent of the minor's parent or guardian or of the guardian of the person with a developmental disability; and

(c) Is unknown to the child or developmentally disabled person.

(2) It is a defense to luring, which the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence, that the defendant's actions were reasonable under the circumstances and the defendant did not have any intent to harm the health, safety, or welfare of the minor or the person with the developmental disability.

(3) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Minor" means a person under the age of sixteen;

(b) "Person with a developmental disability" means a person with a developmental disability as defined in RCW 71A.10.020.

(4) Luring is a class C felony. [2012 c 145 § 1; 1995 c 156 § 1; 1993 c 509 § 1.]

**Effective date—2012 c 145:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2013." [2012 c 145 § 2.]

**9A.40.100 Trafficking.** (1)(a) A person is guilty of trafficking in the first degree when:

(i) Such person:

(A) Recruits, harbors, transports, transfers, provides, obtains, or receives by any means another person knowing that force, fraud, or coercion as defined in RCW 9A.36.070 will be used to cause the person to engage in forced labor, involuntary servitude, a sexually explicit act, or a commercial sex act; or

(B) Benefits financially or by receiving anything of value from participation in a venture that has engaged in acts set forth in (a)(i)(A) of this subsection; and

(ii) The acts or venture set forth in (a)(i) of this subsection:

(A) Involve committing or attempting to commit kidnapping;

(B) Involve a finding of sexual motivation under RCW 9.94A.835;

(C) Involve the illegal harvesting or sale of human organs; or

(D) Result in a death.

(b) Trafficking in the first degree is a class A felony.

(2)(a) A person is guilty of trafficking in the second degree when such person:

(i) Recruits, harbors, transports, transfers, provides, obtains, or receives by any means another person knowing that force, fraud, or coercion as defined in RCW 9A.36.070 will be used to cause the person to engage in forced labor, involuntary servitude, a sexually explicit act, or a commercial sex act; or

(ii) Benefits financially or by receiving anything of value from participation in a venture that has engaged in acts set forth in (a)(i) of this subsection.

(b) Trafficking in the second degree is a class A felony.

(3)(a) A person who is either convicted or given a deferred sentence or a deferred prosecution or who has entered into a statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreement as a result of an arrest for a violation of a trafficking crime shall be assessed a three thousand dollar fee.

(b) The court shall not reduce, waive, or suspend payment of all or part of the fee assessed in this section unless it finds, on the record, that the offender does not have the ability to pay the fee in which case it may reduce the fee by an amount up to two-thirds of the maximum allowable fee.

(c) Fees assessed under this section shall be collected by the clerk of the court and remitted to the treasurer of the county where the offense occurred for deposit in the county general fund, except in cases in which the offense occurred in a city or town that provides for its own law enforcement, in which case these amounts shall be remitted to the treasurer of the city or town for deposit in the general fund of the city or town. Revenue from the fees must be used for local efforts to reduce the commercial sale of sex including, but not limited to, increasing enforcement of commercial sex laws.

(i) At least fifty percent of the revenue from fees imposed under this section must be spent on prevention, including education programs for offenders, such as john school, and rehabilitative services, such as mental health and substance abuse counseling, parenting skills, training, housing relief, education, vocational training, drop-in centers, and employment counseling.

(ii) Revenues from these fees are not subject to the distribution requirements under RCW 3.50.100, 3.62.020, 3.62.040, 10.82.070, or 35.20.220.

(4) For purposes of this section, "sexually explicit act" means a public, private, or live photographed, recorded, or videotaped act or show intended to arouse or satisfy the sexual desires or appeal to the prurient interests of patrons. [2012 c 144 § 2; 2012 c 134 § 1; 2011 c 111 § 1; 2003 c 267 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2012 c 134 § 1 and by 2012 c 144 § 2, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**9A.40.900 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 23.]

**Chapter 9A.42 RCW**  
**CRIMINAL MISTREATMENT**

## Sections

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9A.42.100	Endangerment with a controlled substance.
9A.42.110	Leaving a child in the care of a sex offender.

**9A.42.005 Findings and intent—Christian Science treatment—Rules of evidence.** The legislature finds that there is a significant need to protect children and dependent persons, including frail elder and vulnerable adults, from abuse and neglect by their parents, by persons entrusted with their physical custody, or by persons employed to provide them with the basic necessities of life. The legislature further finds that such abuse and neglect often takes the forms of either withholding from them the basic necessities of life, including food, water, shelter, clothing, and health care, or abandoning them, or both. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature that criminal penalties be imposed on those guilty of such abuse or neglect. It is the intent of the legislature that a person who, in good faith, is furnished Christian Science treatment by a duly accredited Christian Science practitioner in lieu of medical care is not considered deprived of medically necessary health care or abandoned. Prosecutions under this chapter shall be consistent with the rules of evidence, including hearsay, under law. [1997 c 392 § 507.]

**Short title—Findings—Construction—Conflict with federal requirements—Part headings and captions not law—1997 c 392:** See notes following RCW 74.39A.009.

**9A.42.010 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

(1) "Basic necessities of life" means food, water, shelter, clothing, and medically necessary health care, including but not limited to health-related treatment or activities, hygiene, oxygen, and medication.

(2)(a) "Bodily injury" means physical pain or injury, illness, or an impairment of physical condition;

(b) "Substantial bodily harm" means bodily injury which involves a temporary but substantial disfigurement, or which causes a temporary but substantial loss or impairment of the function of any bodily part or organ, or which causes a fracture of any bodily part;

(c) "Great bodily harm" means bodily injury which creates a high probability of death, or which causes serious permanent disfigurement, or which causes a permanent or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily part or organ.

(3) "Child" means a person under eighteen years of age.

(4) "Dependent person" means a person who, because of physical or mental disability, or because of extreme advanced age, is dependent upon another person to provide the basic necessities of life. A resident of a nursing home, as defined in RCW 18.51.010, a resident of an adult family home, as defined in RCW 70.128.010, and a frail elder or vulnerable adult, as defined in \*RCW 74.34.020(13), is presumed to be a dependent person for purposes of this chapter.

(5) "Employed" means hired by a dependent person, another person acting on behalf of a dependent person, or by an organization or governmental entity, to provide to a dependent person any of the basic necessities of life. A person may be "employed" regardless of whether the person is paid for the services or, if paid, regardless of who pays for the person's services.

(6) "Parent" has its ordinary meaning and also includes a guardian and the authorized agent of a parent or guardian.

(7) "Abandons" means leaving a child or other dependent person without the means or ability to obtain one or more of the basic necessities of life.

(8) "Good samaritan" means any individual or group of individuals who: (a) Is not related to the dependent person; (b) voluntarily provides assistance or services of any type to the dependent person; (c) is not paid, given gifts, or made a beneficiary of any assets valued at five hundred dollars or more, for any reason, by the dependent person, the dependent person's family, or the dependent person's estate; and (d) does not commit or attempt to commit any other crime against the dependent person or the dependent person's estate. [2006 c 228 § 1; 1997 c 392 § 508; 1996 c 302 § 1; 1986 c 250 § 1.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 74.34.020 was amended by 2007 c 312 § 1, changing subsection (13) to subsection (15). RCW 74.34.020 was subsequently amended by 2010 c 133 § 2, changing subsection (15) to subsection (16). RCW 74.34.020 was subsequently amended by 2011 c 89 § 18, changing subsection (16) to subsection (17), effective January 1, 2012.

**Short title—Findings—Construction—Conflict with federal requirements—Part headings and captions not law—1997 c 392:** See notes following RCW 74.39A.009.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.42.020 Criminal mistreatment in the first degree.**

(1) A parent of a child, the person entrusted with the physical custody of a child or dependent person, a person who has assumed the responsibility to provide to a dependent person the basic necessities of life, or a person employed to provide to the child or dependent person the basic necessities of life is guilty of criminal mistreatment in the first degree if he or she recklessly, as defined in RCW 9A.08.010, causes great bodily harm to a child or dependent person by withholding any of the basic necessities of life.

(2) Criminal mistreatment in the first degree is a class B felony. [2006 c 228 § 2; 1997 c 392 § 510; 1986 c 250 § 2.]

**Short title—Findings—Construction—Conflict with federal requirements—Part headings and captions not law—1997 c 392:** See notes following RCW 74.39A.009.

**9A.42.030 Criminal mistreatment in the second degree.** (1) A parent of a child, the person entrusted with the physical custody of a child or dependent person, a person who has assumed the responsibility to provide to a dependent person the basic necessities of life, or a person employed to

provide to the child or dependent person the basic necessities of life is guilty of criminal mistreatment in the second degree if he or she recklessly, as defined in RCW 9A.08.010, either (a) creates an imminent and substantial risk of death or great bodily harm, or (b) causes substantial bodily harm by withholding any of the basic necessities of life.

(2) Criminal mistreatment in the second degree is a class C felony. [2006 c 228 § 3; 1997 c 392 § 511; 1986 c 250 § 3.]

**Short title—Findings—Construction—Conflict with federal requirements—Part headings and captions not law—1997 c 392:** See notes following RCW 74.39A.009.

**9A.42.035 Criminal mistreatment in the third degree.** (1) A person is guilty of the crime of criminal mistreatment in the third degree if the person is the parent of a child, is a person entrusted with the physical custody of a child or other dependent person, is a person who has assumed the responsibility to provide to a dependent person the basic necessities of life, or is a person employed to provide to the child or dependent person the basic necessities of life, and either:

(a) With criminal negligence, creates an imminent and substantial risk of substantial bodily harm to a child or dependent person by withholding any of the basic necessities of life; or

(b) With criminal negligence, causes substantial bodily harm to a child or dependent person by withholding any of the basic necessities of life.

(2) For purposes of this section, "a person who has assumed the responsibility to provide to a dependent person the basic necessities of life" means a person other than: (a) A government agency that regularly provides assistance or services to dependent persons, including but not limited to the department of social and health services; or (b) a good samaritan as defined in RCW 9A.42.010.

(3) Criminal mistreatment in the third degree is a gross misdemeanor. [2006 c 228 § 4; 2000 c 76 § 1.]

**9A.42.037 Criminal mistreatment in the fourth degree.** (1) A person is guilty of the crime of criminal mistreatment in the fourth degree if the person is the parent of a child, is a person entrusted with the physical custody of a child or other dependent person, is a person who has assumed the responsibility to provide to a dependent person the basic necessities of life, or is a person employed to provide to the child or dependent person the basic necessities of life, and either:

(a) With criminal negligence, creates an imminent and substantial risk of bodily injury to a child or dependent person by withholding any of the basic necessities of life; or

(b) With criminal negligence, causes bodily injury or extreme emotional distress manifested by more than transient physical symptoms to a child or dependent person by withholding the basic necessities of life.

(2) For purposes of this section, "a person who has assumed the responsibility to provide to a dependent person the basic necessities of life" means a person other than: (a) A government agency that regularly provides assistance or services to dependent persons, including but not limited to the department of social and health services; or (b) a good samaritan as defined in RCW 9A.42.010.

(3) Criminal mistreatment in the fourth degree is a misdemeanor. [2006 c 228 § 5; 2002 c 219 § 2.]

**Intent—Finding—2002 c 219:** "The legislature recognizes that responses by the department of social and health services and public safety agencies have varied between jurisdictions when allegations of withholding of the basic necessities of life are made. The legislature intends to improve the capacity of the department of social and health services and public safety agencies to respond to situations where the basic necessities of life are withheld by allowing an earlier intervention in such cases. The legislature finds that improved coordination between the department of social and health services and public safety agencies at an earlier point will lead to better treatment of children and families and will reduce the likelihood of serious harm." [2002 c 219 § 1.]

**9A.42.039 Arresting officer, notification by.** (1) When a law enforcement officer arrests a person for criminal mistreatment of a child, the officer must notify child protective services.

(2) When a law enforcement officer arrests a person for criminal mistreatment of a dependent person other than a child, the officer must notify adult protective services. [2002 c 219 § 5.]

**Intent—Finding—2002 c 219:** See note following RCW 9A.42.037.

**9A.42.040 Withdrawal of life support systems.** RCW 9A.42.020, 9A.42.030, 9A.42.035, and 9A.42.037 do not apply to decisions to withdraw life support systems made in accordance with chapter 7.70 or 70.122 RCW by the dependent person, his or her legal surrogate, or others with a legal duty to care for the dependent person. [2002 c 219 § 3; 2000 c 76 § 2; 1986 c 250 § 4.]

**Intent—Finding—2002 c 219:** See note following RCW 9A.42.037.

**9A.42.045 Palliative care.** RCW 9A.42.020, 9A.42.030, 9A.42.035, and 9A.42.037 do not apply when a terminally ill or permanently unconscious person or his or her legal surrogate, as set forth in chapter 7.70 RCW, requests, and the person receives, palliative care from a licensed home health agency, hospice agency, nursing home, or hospital providing care under the medical direction of a physician. As used in this section, the terms "terminally ill" and "permanently unconscious" have the same meaning as "terminal condition" and "permanent unconscious condition" in chapter 70.122 RCW. [2002 c 219 § 4; 2000 c 76 § 3; 1997 c 392 § 512.]

**Intent—Finding—2002 c 219:** See note following RCW 9A.42.037.

**Short title—Findings—Construction—Conflict with federal requirements—Part headings and captions not law—1997 c 392:** See notes following RCW 74.39A.009.

**9A.42.050 Defense of financial inability.** In any prosecution for criminal mistreatment, it shall be a defense that the withholding of the basic necessities of life is due to financial inability only if the person charged has made a reasonable effort to obtain adequate assistance. This defense is available to a person employed to provide the basic necessities of life only when the agreed-upon payment has not been made. [1997 c 392 § 509; 1986 c 250 § 5.]

**Short title—Findings—Construction—Conflict with federal requirements—Part headings and captions not law—1997 c 392:** See notes following RCW 74.39A.009.

**9A.42.060 Abandonment of a dependent person in the first degree—Exception.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a person is guilty of the crime of abandonment of a dependent person in the first degree if:

(a) The person is the parent of a child, a person entrusted with the physical custody of a child or other dependent person, a person who has assumed the responsibility to provide to a dependent person the basic necessities of life, or a person employed to provide to the child or other dependent person any of the basic necessities of life;

(b) The person recklessly abandons the child or other dependent person; and

(c) As a result of being abandoned, the child or other dependent person suffers great bodily harm.

(2) A parent of a newborn who transfers the newborn to a qualified person at an appropriate location pursuant to RCW 13.34.360 is not subject to criminal liability under this section.

(3) Abandonment of a dependent person in the first degree is a class B felony. [2006 c 228 § 6; 2002 c 331 § 3; 1996 c 302 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2002 c 331:** See notes following RCW 13.34.360.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.42.070 Abandonment of a dependent person in the second degree—Exception.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a person is guilty of the crime of abandonment of a dependent person in the second degree if:

(a) The person is the parent of a child, a person entrusted with the physical custody of a child or other dependent person, a person who has assumed the responsibility to provide to a dependent person the basic necessities of life, or a person employed to provide to the child or other dependent person any of the basic necessities of life; and

(b) The person recklessly abandons the child or other dependent person; and:

(i) As a result of being abandoned, the child or other dependent person suffers substantial bodily harm; or

(ii) Abandoning the child or other dependent person creates an imminent and substantial risk that the child or other dependent person will die or suffer great bodily harm.

(2) A parent of a newborn who transfers the newborn to a qualified person at an appropriate location pursuant to RCW 13.34.360 is not subject to criminal liability under this section.

(3) Abandonment of a dependent person in the second degree is a class C felony. [2006 c 228 § 7; 2002 c 331 § 4; 1996 c 302 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2002 c 331:** See notes following RCW 13.34.360.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.42.080 Abandonment of a dependent person in the third degree—Exception.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a person is guilty of the crime of abandonment of a dependent person in the third degree if:

(a) The person is the parent of a child, a person entrusted with the physical custody of a child or other dependent person, a person who has assumed the responsibility to provide

to a dependent person the basic necessities of life, or a person employed to provide to the child or dependent person any of the basic necessities of life; and

(b) The person recklessly abandons the child or other dependent person; and:

(i) As a result of being abandoned, the child or other dependent person suffers bodily harm; or

(ii) Abandoning the child or other dependent person creates an imminent and substantial risk that the child or other person will suffer substantial bodily harm.

(2) A parent of a newborn who transfers the newborn to a qualified person at an appropriate location pursuant to RCW 13.34.360 is not subject to criminal liability under this section.

(3) Abandonment of a dependent person in the third degree is a gross misdemeanor. [2006 c 228 § 8; 2002 c 331 § 5; 1996 c 302 § 4.]

**Intent—Effective date—2002 c 331:** See notes following RCW 13.34.360.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.42.090 Abandonment of a dependent person—Defense.** It is an affirmative defense to the charge of abandonment of a dependent person, that the person employed to provide any of the basic necessities of life to the child or other dependent person, gave reasonable notice of termination of services and the services were not terminated until after the termination date specified in the notice. The notice must be given to the child or dependent person, and to other persons or organizations that have requested notice of termination of services furnished to the child or other dependent person.

The department of social and health services and the department of health shall adopt rules establishing procedures for termination of services to children and other dependent persons. [1996 c 302 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.42.100 Endangerment with a controlled substance.** A person is guilty of the crime of endangerment with a controlled substance if the person knowingly or intentionally permits a dependent child or dependent adult to be exposed to, ingest, inhale, or have contact with methamphetamine or ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or anhydrous ammonia, including their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, that are being used in the manufacture of methamphetamine, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers. Endangerment with a controlled substance is a class B felony. [2005 c 218 § 4; 2002 c 229 § 1.]

**Effective date—2002 c 229:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 28, 2002]." [2002 c 229 § 4.]

**9A.42.110 Leaving a child in the care of a sex offender.** (1) A person is guilty of the crime of leaving a child in the care of a sex offender if the person is (a) the parent of a child; (b) entrusted with the physical custody of a child; or (c) employed to provide to the child the basic necessities of life, and leaves the child in the care or custody of another person who is not a parent, guardian, or lawful custodian of the child, knowing that the person is registered or

required to register as a sex offender under the laws of this state, or a law or ordinance in another jurisdiction with similar requirements, because of a sex offense against a child.

(2) It is an affirmative defense to the charge of leaving a child in the care of a sex offender under this section, that the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence, that a court has entered an order allowing the offender to have unsupervised contact with children, or that the offender is allowed to have unsupervised contact with the child in question under a family reunification plan, which has been approved by a court, the department of corrections, or the department of social and health services in accordance with department policies.

(3) Leaving a child in the care of a sex offender is a misdemeanor. [2002 c 170 § 1.]

### Chapter 9A.44 RCW SEX OFFENSES

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9A.44.903	Section captions—1988 c 145.
9A.44.904	Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.

*Council for children and families: Chapter 43.121 RCW.*

*Witnesses: Rules of court: ER 601 through 615.*

#### 9A.44.010 Definitions. As used in this chapter:

(1) "Sexual intercourse" (a) has its ordinary meaning and occurs upon any penetration, however slight, and

(b) Also means any penetration of the vagina or anus however slight, by an object, when committed on one person by another, whether such persons are of the same or opposite sex, except when such penetration is accomplished for medically recognized treatment or diagnostic purposes, and

(c) Also means any act of sexual contact between persons involving the sex organs of one person and the mouth or anus of another whether such persons are of the same or opposite sex.

(2) "Sexual contact" means any touching of the sexual or other intimate parts of a person done for the purpose of gratifying sexual desire of either party or a third party.

(3) "Married" means one who is legally married to another, but does not include a person who is living separate and apart from his or her spouse and who has filed in an appropriate court for legal separation or for dissolution of his or her marriage.

(4) "Mental incapacity" is that condition existing at the time of the offense which prevents a person from understanding the nature or consequences of the act of sexual intercourse whether that condition is produced by illness, defect, the influence of a substance or from some other cause.

(5) "Physically helpless" means a person who is unconscious or for any other reason is physically unable to communicate unwillingness to an act.

(6) "Forcible compulsion" means physical force which overcomes resistance, or a threat, express or implied, that places a person in fear of death or physical injury to herself or himself or another person, or in fear that she or he or another person will be kidnapped.

(7) "Consent" means that at the time of the act of sexual intercourse or sexual contact there are actual words or conduct indicating freely given agreement to have sexual intercourse or sexual contact.

(8) "Significant relationship" means a situation in which the perpetrator is:

(a) A person who undertakes the responsibility, professionally or voluntarily, to provide education, health, welfare, or organized recreational activities principally for minors;

(b) A person who in the course of his or her employment supervises minors; or

(c) A person who provides welfare, health or residential assistance, personal care, or organized recreational activities to frail elders or vulnerable adults, including a provider, employee, temporary employee, volunteer, or independent contractor who supplies services to long-term care facilities licensed or required to be licensed under chapter 18.20, 18.51, 72.36, or 70.128 RCW, and home health, hospice, or home care agencies licensed or required to be licensed under chapter 70.127 RCW, but not including a consensual sexual partner.

(9) "Abuse of a supervisory position" means:

(a) To use a direct or indirect threat or promise to exercise authority to the detriment or benefit of a minor; or

(b) To exploit a significant relationship in order to obtain the consent of a minor.

(10) "Person with a developmental disability," for purposes of RCW 9A.44.050(1)(c) and 9A.44.100(1)(c), means

a person with a developmental disability as defined in RCW 71A.10.020.

(11) "Person with supervisory authority," for purposes of RCW 9A.44.050(1) (c) or (e) and 9A.44.100(1) (c) or (e), means any proprietor or employee of any public or private care or treatment facility who directly supervises developmentally disabled, mentally disordered, or chemically dependent persons at the facility.

(12) "Person with a mental disorder" for the purposes of RCW 9A.44.050(1)(e) and 9A.44.100(1)(e) means a person with a "mental disorder" as defined in RCW 71.05.020.

(13) "Person with a chemical dependency" for purposes of RCW 9A.44.050(1)(e) and 9A.44.100(1)(e) means a person who is "chemically dependent" as defined in RCW 70.96A.020(4).

(14) "Health care provider" for purposes of RCW 9A.44.050 and 9A.44.100 means a person who is, holds himself or herself out to be, or provides services as if he or she were: (a) A member of a health care profession under chapter 18.130 RCW; or (b) registered under chapter 18.19 RCW or licensed under chapter 18.225 RCW, regardless of whether the health care provider is licensed, certified, or registered by the state.

(15) "Treatment" for purposes of RCW 9A.44.050 and 9A.44.100 means the active delivery of professional services by a health care provider which the health care provider holds himself or herself out to be qualified to provide.

(16) "Frail elder or vulnerable adult" means a person sixty years of age or older who has the functional, mental, or physical inability to care for himself or herself. "Frail elder or vulnerable adult" also includes a person found incapacitated under chapter 11.88 RCW, a person over eighteen years of age who has a developmental disability under chapter 71A.10 RCW, a person admitted to a long-term care facility that is licensed or required to be licensed under chapter 18.20, 18.51, 72.36, or 70.128 RCW, and a person receiving services from a home health, hospice, or home care agency licensed or required to be licensed under chapter 70.127 RCW. [2007 c 20 § 3; 2005 c 262 § 1; 2001 c 251 § 28. Prior: 1997 c 392 § 513; 1997 c 112 § 37; 1994 c 271 § 302; 1993 c 477 § 1; 1988 c 146 § 3; 1988 c 145 § 1; 1981 c 123 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 14 § 1. Formerly RCW 9.79.140.]

**Effective date—2007 c 20:** See note following RCW 9A.44.050.

**Short title—Findings—Construction—Conflict with federal requirements—Part headings and captions not law—1997 c 392:** See notes following RCW 74.39A.009.

**Intent—1994 c 271:** "The legislature hereby reaffirms its desire to protect the children of Washington from sexual abuse and further reaffirms its condemnation of child sexual abuse that takes the form of causing one child to engage in sexual contact with another child for the sexual gratification of the one causing such activities to take place." [1994 c 271 § 301.]

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.020 Testimony—Evidence—Written motion—Admissibility.** (1) In order to convict a person of any crime defined in this chapter it shall not be necessary that the testimony of the alleged victim be corroborated.

(2) Evidence of the victim's past sexual behavior including but not limited to the victim's marital history, divorce history, or general reputation for promiscuity, nonchastity, or

sexual mores contrary to community standards is inadmissible on the issue of credibility and is inadmissible to prove the victim's consent except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, but when the perpetrator and the victim have engaged in sexual intercourse with each other in the past, and when the past behavior is material to the issue of consent, evidence concerning the past behavior between the perpetrator and the victim may be admissible on the issue of consent to the offense.

(3) In any prosecution for the crime of rape or for an attempt to commit, or an assault with an intent to commit any such crime evidence of the victim's past sexual behavior including but not limited to the victim's marital behavior, divorce history, or general reputation for promiscuity, nonchastity, or sexual mores contrary to community standards is not admissible if offered to attack the credibility of the victim and is admissible on the issue of consent only pursuant to the following procedure:

(a) A written pretrial motion shall be made by the defendant to the court and prosecutor stating that the defense has an offer of proof of the relevancy of evidence of the past sexual behavior of the victim proposed to be presented and its relevancy on the issue of the consent of the victim.

(b) The written motion shall be accompanied by an affidavit or affidavits in which the offer of proof shall be stated.

(c) If the court finds that the offer of proof is sufficient, the court shall order a hearing out of the presence of the jury, if any, and the hearing shall be closed except to the necessary witnesses, the defendant, counsel, and those who have a direct interest in the case or in the work of the court.

(d) At the conclusion of the hearing, if the court finds that the evidence proposed to be offered by the defendant regarding the past sexual behavior of the victim is relevant to the issue of the victim's consent; is not inadmissible because its probative value is substantially outweighed by the probability that its admission will create a substantial danger of undue prejudice; and that its exclusion would result in denial of substantial justice to the defendant; the court shall make an order stating what evidence may be introduced by the defendant, which order may include the nature of the questions to be permitted. The defendant may then offer evidence pursuant to the order of the court.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit cross-examination of the victim on the issue of past sexual behavior when the prosecution presents evidence in its case in chief tending to prove the nature of the victim's past sexual behavior, but the court may require a hearing pursuant to subsection (3) of this section concerning such evidence. [1975 1st ex.s. c 14 § 2. Formerly RCW 9.79.150.]

**9A.44.030 Defenses to prosecution under this chapter.** (1) In any prosecution under this chapter in which lack of consent is based solely upon the victim's mental incapacity or upon the victim's being physically helpless, it is a defense which the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that at the time of the offense the defendant reasonably believed that the victim was not mentally incapacitated and/or physically helpless.

(2) In any prosecution under this chapter in which the offense or degree of the offense depends on the victim's age, it is no defense that the perpetrator did not know the victim's

age, or that the perpetrator believed the victim to be older, as the case may be: PROVIDED, That it is a defense which the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that at the time of the offense the defendant reasonably believed the alleged victim to be the age identified in subsection (3) of this section based upon declarations as to age by the alleged victim.

(3) The defense afforded by subsection (2) of this section requires that for the following defendants, the reasonable belief be as indicated:

(a) For a defendant charged with rape of a child in the first degree, that the victim was at least twelve, or was less than twenty-four months younger than the defendant;

(b) For a defendant charged with rape of a child in the second degree, that the victim was at least fourteen, or was less than thirty-six months younger than the defendant;

(c) For a defendant charged with rape of a child in the third degree, that the victim was at least sixteen, or was less than forty-eight months younger than the defendant;

(d) For a defendant charged with sexual misconduct with a minor in the first degree, that the victim was at least eighteen, or was less than sixty months younger than the defendant;

(e) For a defendant charged with child molestation in the first degree, that the victim was at least twelve, or was less than thirty-six months younger than the defendant;

(f) For a defendant charged with child molestation in the second degree, that the victim was at least fourteen, or was less than thirty-six months younger than the defendant;

(g) For a defendant charged with child molestation in the third degree, that the victim was at least sixteen, or was less than thirty-six months younger than the defendant;

(h) For a defendant charged with sexual misconduct with a minor in the second degree, that the victim was at least eighteen, or was less than sixty months younger than the defendant. [1988 c 145 § 20; 1975 1st ex.s. c 14 § 3. Formerly RCW 9.79.160.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.040 Rape in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of rape in the first degree when such person engages in sexual intercourse with another person by forcible compulsion where the perpetrator or an accessory:

(a) Uses or threatens to use a deadly weapon or what appears to be a deadly weapon; or

(b) Kidnaps the victim; or

(c) Inflicts serious physical injury, including but not limited to physical injury which renders the victim unconscious; or

(d) Feloniously enters into the building or vehicle where the victim is situated.

(2) Rape in the first degree is a class A felony. [1998 c 242 § 1. Prior: 1983 c 118 § 1; 1983 c 73 § 1; 1982 c 192 § 11; 1982 c 10 § 3; prior: (1) 1981 c 137 § 36; 1979 ex.s. c 244 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 247 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 14 § 4. (2) 1981 c 136 § 57 repealed by 1982 c 10 § 18. Formerly RCW 9.79.170.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.045 First degree rape—Penalties.** No person convicted of rape in the first degree shall be granted a

deferred or suspended sentence except for the purpose of commitment to an inpatient treatment facility: PROVIDED, That every person convicted of rape in the first degree shall be confined for a minimum of three years: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the \*board of prison terms and paroles shall have authority to set a period of confinement greater than three years but shall never reduce the minimum three-year period of confinement; nor shall the board release the convicted person during the first three years of confinement as a result of any type of good time calculation; nor shall the department of corrections permit the convicted person to participate in any work release program or furlough program during the first three years of confinement. This section applies only to offenses committed prior to July 1, 1984. [1982 c 192 § 12.]

\*Reviser's note: The "board of prison terms and paroles" was redesignated the "indeterminate sentence review board" by 1986 c 224, effective July 1, 1986.

**9A.44.050 Rape in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of rape in the second degree when, under circumstances not constituting rape in the first degree, the person engages in sexual intercourse with another person:

(a) By forcible compulsion;

(b) When the victim is incapable of consent by reason of being physically helpless or mentally incapacitated;

(c) When the victim is a person with a developmental disability and the perpetrator is a person who is not married to the victim and who:

(i) Has supervisory authority over the victim; or

(ii) Was providing transportation, within the course of his or her employment, to the victim at the time of the offense;

(d) When the perpetrator is a health care provider, the victim is a client or patient, and the sexual intercourse occurs during a treatment session, consultation, interview, or examination. It is an affirmative defense that the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the client or patient consented to the sexual intercourse with the knowledge that the sexual intercourse was not for the purpose of treatment;

(e) When the victim is a resident of a facility for persons with a mental disorder or chemical dependency and the perpetrator is a person who is not married to the victim and has supervisory authority over the victim; or

(f) When the victim is a frail elder or vulnerable adult and the perpetrator is a person who is not married to the victim and who:

(i) Has a significant relationship with the victim; or

(ii) Was providing transportation, within the course of his or her employment, to the victim at the time of the offense.

(2) Rape in the second degree is a class A felony. [2007 c 20 § 1; 1997 c 392 § 514; 1993 c 477 § 2; 1990 c 3 § 901; 1988 c 146 § 1; 1983 c 118 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 244 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 14 § 5. Formerly RCW 9.79.180.]

**Effective date—2007 c 20:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [April 10, 2007]." [2007 c 20 § 4.]

**Short title—Findings—Construction—Conflict with federal requirements—Part headings and captions not law—1997 c 392:** See notes following RCW 74.39A.009.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.060 Rape in the third degree.** (1) A person is guilty of rape in the third degree when, under circumstances not constituting rape in the first or second degrees, such person engages in sexual intercourse with another person, not married to the perpetrator:

(a) Where the victim did not consent as defined in RCW 9A.44.010(7), to sexual intercourse with the perpetrator and such lack of consent was clearly expressed by the victim's words or conduct, or

(b) Where there is threat of substantial unlawful harm to property rights of the victim.

(2) Rape in the third degree is a class C felony. [1999 c 143 § 34; 1979 ex.s. c 244 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 14 § 6. Formerly RCW 9.79.190.]

**9A.44.073 Rape of a child in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of rape of a child in the first degree when the person has sexual intercourse with another who is less than twelve years old and not married to the perpetrator and the perpetrator is at least twenty-four months older than the victim.

(2) Rape of a child in the first degree is a class A felony. [1988 c 145 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.076 Rape of a child in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of rape of a child in the second degree when the person has sexual intercourse with another who is at least twelve years old but less than fourteen years old and not married to the perpetrator and the perpetrator is at least thirty-six months older than the victim.

(2) Rape of a child in the second degree is a class A felony. [1990 c 3 § 903; 1988 c 145 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.079 Rape of a child in the third degree.** (1) A person is guilty of rape of a child in the third degree when the person has sexual intercourse with another who is at least fourteen years old but less than sixteen years old and not married to the perpetrator and the perpetrator is at least forty-eight months older than the victim.

(2) Rape of a child in the third degree is a class C felony. [1988 c 145 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.083 Child molestation in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of child molestation in the first degree when the person has, or knowingly causes another person under the age of eighteen to have, sexual contact with another who is less than twelve years old and not married to the perpetrator and the perpetrator is at least thirty-six months older than the victim.

(2) Child molestation in the first degree is a class A felony. [1994 c 271 § 303; 1990 c 3 § 902; 1988 c 145 § 5.]

**Intent—1994 c 271:** See note following RCW 9A.44.010.

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.086 Child molestation in the second degree.**

(1) A person is guilty of child molestation in the second degree when the person has, or knowingly causes another person under the age of eighteen to have, sexual contact with another who is at least twelve years old but less than fourteen years old and not married to the perpetrator and the perpetrator is at least thirty-six months older than the victim.

(2) Child molestation in the second degree is a class B felony. [1994 c 271 § 304; 1988 c 145 § 6.]

**Intent—1994 c 271:** See note following RCW 9A.44.010.

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.089 Child molestation in the third degree.** (1)

A person is guilty of child molestation in the third degree when the person has, or knowingly causes another person under the age of eighteen to have, sexual contact with another who is at least fourteen years old but less than sixteen years old and not married to the perpetrator and the perpetrator is at least forty-eight months older than the victim.

(2) Child molestation in the third degree is a class C felony. [1994 c 271 § 305; 1988 c 145 § 7.]

**Intent—1994 c 271:** See note following RCW 9A.44.010.

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.093 Sexual misconduct with a minor in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of sexual misconduct with a minor in the first degree when:

(a) The person has, or knowingly causes another person under the age of eighteen to have, sexual intercourse with another person who is at least sixteen years old but less than eighteen years old and not married to the perpetrator, if the perpetrator is at least sixty months older than the victim, is in a significant relationship to the victim, and abuses a supervisory position within that relationship in order to engage in or cause another person under the age of eighteen to engage in sexual intercourse with the victim; (b) the person is a school employee who has, or knowingly causes another person under the age of eighteen to have, sexual intercourse with an enrolled student of the school who is at least sixteen years old and not more than twenty-one years old and not married to the employee, if the employee is at least sixty months older than the student; or (c) the person is a foster parent who has, or knowingly causes another person under the age of eighteen to have, sexual intercourse with his or her foster child who is at least sixteen.

(2) Sexual misconduct with a minor in the first degree is a class C felony.

(3) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Enrolled student" means any student enrolled at or attending a program hosted or sponsored by a common school as defined in RCW 28A.150.020, or a student enrolled at or attending a program hosted or sponsored by a private school under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or any person who



receives home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW.

(b) "School employee" means an employee of a common school defined in RCW 28A.150.020, or a grade kindergarten through twelve employee of a private school under chapter 28A.195 RCW, who is not enrolled as a student of the common school or private school. [2009 c 324 § 1; 2005 c 262 § 2; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 357; 1994 c 271 § 306; 1988 c 145 § 8.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

**Intent—1994 c 271:** See note following RCW 9A.44.010.

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.096 Sexual misconduct with a minor in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of sexual misconduct with a minor in the second degree when: (a) The person has, or knowingly causes another person under the age of eighteen to have, sexual contact with another person who is at least sixteen years old but less than eighteen years old and not married to the perpetrator, if the perpetrator is at least sixty months older than the victim, is in a significant relationship to the victim, and abuses a supervisory position within that relationship in order to engage in or cause another person under the age of eighteen to engage in sexual contact with the victim; (b) the person is a school employee who has, or knowingly causes another person under the age of eighteen to have, sexual contact with an enrolled student of the school who is at least sixteen years old and not more than twenty-one years old and not married to the employee, if the employee is at least sixty months older than the student; or (c) the person is a foster parent who has, or knowingly causes another person under the age of eighteen to have, sexual contact with his or her foster child who is at least sixteen.

(2) Sexual misconduct with a minor in the second degree is a gross misdemeanor.

(3) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Enrolled student" means any student enrolled at or attending a program hosted or sponsored by a common school as defined in RCW 28A.150.020, or a student enrolled at or attending a program hosted or sponsored by a private school under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or any person who receives home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW.

(b) "School employee" means an employee of a common school defined in RCW 28A.150.020, or a grade kindergarten through twelve employee of a private school under chapter 28A.195 RCW, who is not enrolled as a student of the common school or private school. [2009 c 324 § 2; 2005 c 262 § 3; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 358; 1994 c 271 § 307; 1988 c 145 § 9.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

**Intent—1994 c 271:** See note following RCW 9A.44.010.

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.100 Indecent liberties.** (1) A person is guilty of indecent liberties when he or she knowingly causes another person who is not his or her spouse to have sexual contact with him or her or another:

(a) By forcible compulsion;

(b) When the other person is incapable of consent by reason of being mentally defective, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless;

(c) When the victim is a person with a developmental disability and the perpetrator is a person who is not married to the victim and who:

(i) Has supervisory authority over the victim; or

(ii) Was providing transportation, within the course of his or her employment, to the victim at the time of the offense;

(d) When the perpetrator is a health care provider, the victim is a client or patient, and the sexual contact occurs during a treatment session, consultation, interview, or examination. It is an affirmative defense that the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the client or patient consented to the sexual contact with the knowledge that the sexual contact was not for the purpose of treatment;

(e) When the victim is a resident of a facility for persons with a mental disorder or chemical dependency and the perpetrator is a person who is not married to the victim and has supervisory authority over the victim; or

(f) When the victim is a frail elder or vulnerable adult and the perpetrator is a person who is not married to the victim and who:

(i) Has a significant relationship with the victim; or

(ii) Was providing transportation, within the course of his or her employment, to the victim at the time of the offense.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, indecent liberties is a class B felony.

(b) Indecent liberties by forcible compulsion is a class A felony. [2007 c 20 § 2; 2003 c 53 § 67; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 359; 1997 c 392 § 515; 1993 c 477 § 3; 1988 c 146 § 2; 1988 c 145 § 10; 1986 c 131 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.88.100. Formerly RCW 9A.88.100.]

**Effective date—2007 c 20:** See note following RCW 9A.44.050.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

**Short title—Findings—Construction—Conflict with federal requirements—Part headings and captions not law—1997 c 392:** See notes following RCW 74.39A.009.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.105 Sexually violating human remains.** (1) Any person who has sexual intercourse or sexual contact with a dead human body is guilty of a class C felony.

(2) As used in this section:

(a) "Sexual intercourse" (i) has its ordinary meaning and occurs upon any penetration, however slight; and (ii) also means any penetration of the vagina or anus however slight, by an object, when committed on a dead human body, except when such penetration is accomplished as part of a procedure authorized or required under chapter 68.50 RCW or other law; and (iii) also means any act of sexual contact between

the sex organs of a person and the mouth or anus of a dead human body.

(b) "Sexual contact" means any touching by a person of the sexual or other intimate parts of a dead human body done for the purpose of gratifying the sexual desire of the person. [1994 c 53 § 1.]

**9A.44.115 Voyeurism.** (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Intimate areas" means any portion of a person's body or undergarments that is covered by clothing and intended to be protected from public view;

(b) "Photographs" or "films" means the making of a photograph, motion picture film, videotape, digital image, or any other recording or transmission of the image of a person;

(c) "Place where he or she would have a reasonable expectation of privacy" means:

(i) A place where a reasonable person would believe that he or she could disrobe in privacy, without being concerned that his or her undressing was being photographed or filmed by another; or

(ii) A place where one may reasonably expect to be safe from casual or hostile intrusion or surveillance;

(d) "Surveillance" means secret observation of the activities of another person for the purpose of spying upon and invading the privacy of the person;

(e) "Views" means the intentional looking upon of another person for more than a brief period of time, in other than a casual or cursory manner, with the unaided eye or with a device designed or intended to improve visual acuity.

(2) A person commits the crime of voyeurism if, for the purpose of arousing or gratifying the sexual desire of any person, he or she knowingly views, photographs, or films:

(a) Another person without that person's knowledge and consent while the person being viewed, photographed, or filmed is in a place where he or she would have a reasonable expectation of privacy; or

(b) The intimate areas of another person without that person's knowledge and consent and under circumstances where the person has a reasonable expectation of privacy, whether in a public or private place.

(3) Voyeurism is a class C felony.

(4) This section does not apply to viewing, photographing, or filming by personnel of the department of corrections or of a local jail or correctional facility for security purposes or during investigation of alleged misconduct by a person in the custody of the department of corrections or the local jail or correctional facility.

(5) If a person is convicted of a violation of this section, the court may order the destruction of any photograph, motion picture film, digital image, videotape, or any other recording of an image that was made by the person in violation of this section. [2003 c 213 § 1; 1998 c 221 § 1.]

**Effective date—2003 c 213:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 12, 2003]." [2003 c 213 § 2.]

**9A.44.120 Admissibility of child's statement—Conditions.** A statement made by a child when under the age of ten describing any act of sexual contact performed with or on the child by another, describing any attempted act of sexual

contact with or on the child by another, or describing any act of physical abuse of the child by another that results in substantial bodily harm as defined by RCW 9A.04.110, not otherwise admissible by statute or court rule, is admissible in evidence in dependency proceedings under Title 13 RCW and criminal proceedings, including juvenile offense adjudications, in the courts of the state of Washington if:

(1) The court finds, in a hearing conducted outside the presence of the jury, that the time, content, and circumstances of the statement provide sufficient indicia of reliability; and

(2) The child either:

(a) Testifies at the proceedings; or

(b) Is unavailable as a witness: PROVIDED, That when the child is unavailable as a witness, such statement may be admitted only if there is corroborative evidence of the act.

A statement may not be admitted under this section unless the proponent of the statement makes known to the adverse party his or her intention to offer the statement and the particulars of the statement sufficiently in advance of the proceedings to provide the adverse party with a fair opportunity to prepare to meet the statement. [1995 c 76 § 1; 1991 c 169 § 1; 1985 c 404 § 1; 1982 c 129 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.128 Definitions applicable to RCW 9A.44.130 through 9A.44.145, 10.01.200, 43.43.540, 70.48.470, and 72.09.330.** For the purposes of RCW 9A.44.130 through 9A.44.145, 10.01.200, 43.43.540, 70.48.470, and 72.09.330, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Business day" means any day other than Saturday, Sunday, or a legal local, state, or federal holiday.

(2) "Conviction" means any adult conviction or juvenile adjudication for a sex offense or kidnapping offense.

(3) "Disqualifying offense" means a conviction for: Any offense that is a felony; a sex offense as defined in this section; a crime against children or persons as defined in RCW \*43.43.830(5) and 9.94A.411(2)(a); an offense with a domestic violence designation as provided in RCW 10.99.020; permitting the commercial sexual abuse of a minor as defined in RCW 9.68A.103; or any violation of chapter 9A.88 RCW.

(4) "Employed" or "carries on a vocation" means employment that is full time or part time for a period of time exceeding fourteen days, or for an aggregate period of time exceeding thirty days during any calendar year. A person is employed or carries on a vocation whether the person's employment is financially compensated, volunteered, or for the purpose of government or educational benefit.

(5) "Fixed residence" means a building that a person lawfully and habitually uses as living quarters a majority of the week. Uses as living quarters means to conduct activities consistent with the common understanding of residing, such as sleeping; eating; keeping personal belongings; receiving mail; and paying utilities, rent, or mortgage. A nonpermanent structure including, but not limited to, a motor home, travel trailer, camper, or boat may qualify as a residence provided it is lawfully and habitually used as living quarters a majority of the week, primarily kept at one location with a physical address, and the location it is kept at is either owned or rented by the person or used by the person with the permission of the owner or renter. A shelter program may qualify as a residence provided it is a shelter program designed to pro-

vide temporary living accommodations for the homeless, provides an offender with a personally assigned living space, and the offender is permitted to store belongings in the living space.

(6) "In the community" means residing outside of confinement or incarceration for a disqualifying offense.

(7) "Institution of higher education" means any public or private institution dedicated to postsecondary education, including any college, university, community college, trade, or professional school.

(8) "Kidnapping offense" means:

(a) The crimes of kidnapping in the first degree, kidnapping in the second degree, and unlawful imprisonment, as defined in chapter 9A.40 RCW, where the victim is a minor and the offender is not the minor's parent;

(b) Any offense that is, under chapter 9A.28 RCW, a criminal attempt, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy to commit an offense that is classified as a kidnapping offense under this subsection; and

(c) Any federal or out-of-state conviction for: An offense for which the person would be required to register as a kidnapping offender if residing in the state of conviction; or, if not required to register in the state of conviction, an offense that under the laws of this state would be classified as a kidnapping offense under this subsection.

(9) "Lacks a fixed residence" means the person does not have a living situation that meets the definition of a fixed residence and includes, but is not limited to, a shelter program designed to provide temporary living accommodations for the homeless, an outdoor sleeping location, or locations where the person does not have permission to stay.

(10) "Sex offense" means:

(a) Any offense defined as a sex offense by RCW 9.94A.030;

(b) Any violation under RCW 9A.44.096 (sexual misconduct with a minor in the second degree);

(c) Any violation under RCW 9.68A.090 (communication with a minor for immoral purposes);

(d) A violation under RCW 9A.88.070 (promoting prostitution in the first degree) or RCW 9A.88.080 (promoting prostitution in the second degree) if the person has a prior conviction for one of these offenses;

(e) Any gross misdemeanor that is, under chapter 9A.28 RCW, a criminal attempt, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy to commit an offense that is classified as a sex offense under RCW 9.94A.030 or this subsection;

(f) Any out-of-state conviction for an offense for which the person would be required to register as a sex offender while residing in the state of conviction; or, if not required to register in the state of conviction, an offense that under the laws of this state would be classified as a sex offense under this subsection;

(g) Any federal conviction classified as a sex offense under 42 U.S.C. Sec. 16911 (SORNA);

(h) Any military conviction for a sex offense. This includes sex offenses under the uniform code of military justice, as specified by the United States secretary of defense;

(i) Any conviction in a foreign country for a sex offense if it was obtained with sufficient safeguards for fundamental fairness and due process for the accused under guidelines or regulations established pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Sec. 16912.

(11) "School" means a public or private school regulated under Title 28A RCW or chapter 72.40 RCW.

(12) "Student" means a person who is enrolled, on a full-time or part-time basis, in any school or institution of higher education. [2012 c 134 § 2; 2011 c 337 § 2; 2010 c 267 § 1.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 43.43.830 was alphabetized in 2011 pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k), changing subsection (5) to subsection (6). RCW 43.43.830 was subsequently amended by 2012 c 44 § 1, changing subsection (6) to subsection (7).

**Application—2010 c 267:** "The provisions of this act apply to persons convicted before, on, or after June 10, 2010." [2010 c 267 § 15.]

### **9A.44.130 Registration of sex offenders and kidnapping offenders—Procedures—Definition—Penalties.**

(1)(a) Any adult or juvenile residing whether or not the person has a fixed residence, or who is a student, is employed, or carries on a vocation in this state who has been found to have committed or has been convicted of any sex offense or kidnapping offense, or who has been found not guilty by reason of insanity under chapter 10.77 RCW of committing any sex offense or kidnapping offense, shall register with the county sheriff for the county of the person's residence, or if the person is not a resident of Washington, the county of the person's school, or place of employment or vocation, or as otherwise specified in this section. When a person required to register under this section is in custody of the state department of corrections, the state department of social and health services, a local division of youth services, or a local jail or juvenile detention facility as a result of a sex offense or kidnapping offense, the person shall also register at the time of release from custody with an official designated by the agency that has jurisdiction over the person.

(b) Any adult or juvenile who is required to register under (a) of this subsection must give notice to the county sheriff of the county with whom the person is registered within three business days:

(i) Prior to arriving at a school or institution of higher education to attend classes;

(ii) Prior to starting work at an institution of higher education; or

(iii) After any termination of enrollment or employment at a school or institution of higher education.

(2)(a) A person required to register under this section must provide the following information when registering: (i) Name and any aliases used; (ii) complete and accurate residential address or, if the person lacks a fixed residence, where he or she plans to stay; (iii) date and place of birth; (iv) place of employment; (v) crime for which convicted; (vi) date and place of conviction; (vii) social security number; (viii) photograph; and (ix) fingerprints.

(b) A person may be required to update any of the information required in this subsection in conjunction with any address verification conducted by the county sheriff or as part of any notice required by this section.

(c) A photograph or copy of an individual's fingerprints may be taken at any time to update an individual's file.

(3)(a) Offenders shall register with the county sheriff within the following deadlines:

(i) **OFFENDERS IN CUSTODY.** (A) Sex offenders who committed a sex offense on, before, or after February 28, 1990, and who, on or after July 28, 1991, are in custody, as a

result of that offense, of the state department of corrections, the state department of social and health services, a local division of youth services, or a local jail or juvenile detention facility, and (B) kidnapping offenders who on or after July 27, 1997, are in custody of the state department of corrections, the state department of social and health services, a local division of youth services, or a local jail or juvenile detention facility, must register at the time of release from custody with an official designated by the agency that has jurisdiction over the offender. The agency shall within three days forward the registration information to the county sheriff for the county of the offender's anticipated residence. The offender must also register within three business days from the time of release with the county sheriff for the county of the person's residence, or if the person is not a resident of Washington, the county of the person's school, or place of employment or vocation. The agency that has jurisdiction over the offender shall provide notice to the offender of the duty to register.

When the agency with jurisdiction intends to release an offender with a duty to register under this section, and the agency has knowledge that the offender is eligible for developmental disability services from the department of social and health services, the agency shall notify the division of developmental disabilities of the release. Notice shall occur not more than thirty days before the offender is to be released. The agency and the division shall assist the offender in meeting the initial registration requirement under this section. Failure to provide such assistance shall not constitute a defense for any violation of this section.

(ii) **OFFENDERS NOT IN CUSTODY BUT UNDER STATE OR LOCAL JURISDICTION.** Sex offenders who, on July 28, 1991, are not in custody but are under the jurisdiction of the indeterminate sentence review board or under the department of corrections' active supervision, as defined by the department of corrections, the state department of social and health services, or a local division of youth services, for sex offenses committed before, on, or after February 28, 1990, must register within ten days of July 28, 1991. Kidnapping offenders who, on July 27, 1997, are not in custody but are under the jurisdiction of the indeterminate sentence review board or under the department of corrections' active supervision, as defined by the department of corrections, the state department of social and health services, or a local division of youth services, for kidnapping offenses committed before, on, or after July 27, 1997, must register within ten days of July 27, 1997. A change in supervision status of a sex offender who was required to register under this subsection (3)(a)(ii) as of July 28, 1991, or a kidnapping offender required to register as of July 27, 1997, shall not relieve the offender of the duty to register or to reregister following a change in residence.

(iii) **OFFENDERS UNDER FEDERAL JURISDICTION.** Sex offenders who, on or after July 23, 1995, and kidnapping offenders who, on or after July 27, 1997, as a result of that offense are in the custody of the United States bureau of prisons or other federal or military correctional agency for sex offenses committed before, on, or after February 28, 1990, or kidnapping offenses committed on, before, or after July 27, 1997, must register within three business days from the time of release with the county sheriff for the county of

the person's residence, or if the person is not a resident of Washington, the county of the person's school, or place of employment or vocation. Sex offenders who, on July 23, 1995, are not in custody but are under the jurisdiction of the United States bureau of prisons, United States courts, United States parole commission, or military parole board for sex offenses committed before, on, or after February 28, 1990, must register within ten days of July 23, 1995. Kidnapping offenders who, on July 27, 1997, are not in custody but are under the jurisdiction of the United States bureau of prisons, United States courts, United States parole commission, or military parole board for kidnapping offenses committed before, on, or after July 27, 1997, must register within ten days of July 27, 1997. A change in supervision status of a sex offender who was required to register under this subsection (3)(a)(iii) as of July 23, 1995, or a kidnapping offender required to register as of July 27, 1997 shall not relieve the offender of the duty to register or to reregister following a change in residence, or if the person is not a resident of Washington, the county of the person's school, or place of employment or vocation.

(iv) **OFFENDERS WHO ARE CONVICTED BUT NOT CONFINED.** Sex offenders who are convicted of a sex offense on or after July 28, 1991, for a sex offense that was committed on or after February 28, 1990, and kidnapping offenders who are convicted on or after July 27, 1997, for a kidnapping offense that was committed on or after July 27, 1997, but who are not sentenced to serve a term of confinement immediately upon sentencing, shall report to the county sheriff to register within three business days of being sentenced.

(v) **OFFENDERS WHO ARE NEW RESIDENTS OR RETURNING WASHINGTON RESIDENTS.** Sex offenders and kidnapping offenders who move to Washington state from another state or a foreign country that are not under the jurisdiction of the state department of corrections, the indeterminate sentence review board, or the state department of social and health services at the time of moving to Washington, must register within three business days of establishing residence or reestablishing residence if the person is a former Washington resident. The duty to register under this subsection applies to sex offenders convicted under the laws of another state or a foreign country, federal or military statutes for offenses committed before, on, or after February 28, 1990, or Washington state for offenses committed before, on, or after February 28, 1990, and to kidnapping offenders convicted under the laws of another state or a foreign country, federal or military statutes, or Washington state for offenses committed before, on, or after July 27, 1997. Sex offenders and kidnapping offenders from other states or a foreign country who, when they move to Washington, are under the jurisdiction of the department of corrections, the indeterminate sentence review board, or the department of social and health services must register within three business days of moving to Washington. The agency that has jurisdiction over the offender shall notify the offender of the registration requirements before the offender moves to Washington.

(vi) **OFFENDERS FOUND NOT GUILTY BY REASON OF INSANITY.** Any adult or juvenile who has been found not guilty by reason of insanity under chapter 10.77 RCW of (A) committing a sex offense on, before, or after

February 28, 1990, and who, on or after July 23, 1995, is in custody, as a result of that finding, of the state department of social and health services, or (B) committing a kidnapping offense on, before, or after July 27, 1997, and who on or after July 27, 1997, is in custody, as a result of that finding, of the state department of social and health services, must register within three business days from the time of release with the county sheriff for the county of the person's residence. The state department of social and health services shall provide notice to the adult or juvenile in its custody of the duty to register. Any adult or juvenile who has been found not guilty by reason of insanity of committing a sex offense on, before, or after February 28, 1990, but who was released before July 23, 1995, or any adult or juvenile who has been found not guilty by reason of insanity of committing a kidnapping offense but who was released before July 27, 1997, shall be required to register within three business days of receiving notice of this registration requirement.

(vii) **OFFENDERS WHO LACK A FIXED RESIDENCE.** Any person who lacks a fixed residence and leaves the county in which he or she is registered and enters and remains within a new county for twenty-four hours is required to register with the county sheriff not more than three business days after entering the county and provide the information required in subsection (2)(a) of this section.

(viii) **OFFENDERS WHO LACK A FIXED RESIDENCE AND WHO ARE UNDER SUPERVISION.** Offenders who lack a fixed residence and who are under the supervision of the department shall register in the county of their supervision.

(ix) **OFFENDERS WHO MOVE TO, WORK, CARRY ON A VOCATION, OR ATTEND SCHOOL IN ANOTHER STATE.** Offenders required to register in Washington, who move to another state, or who work, carry on a vocation, or attend school in another state shall register a new address, fingerprints, and photograph with the new state within three business days after establishing residence, or after beginning to work, carry on a vocation, or attend school in the new state. The person must also send written notice within three business days of moving to the new state or to a foreign country to the county sheriff with whom the person last registered in Washington state. The county sheriff shall promptly forward this information to the Washington state patrol.

(b) The county sheriff shall not be required to determine whether the person is living within the county.

(c) An arrest on charges of failure to register, service of an information, or a complaint for a violation of RCW 9A.44.132, or arraignment on charges for a violation of RCW 9A.44.132, constitutes actual notice of the duty to register. Any person charged with the crime of failure to register under RCW 9A.44.132 who asserts as a defense the lack of notice of the duty to register shall register within three business days following actual notice of the duty through arrest, service, or arraignment. Failure to register as required under this subsection (3)(c) constitutes grounds for filing another charge of failing to register. Registering following arrest, service, or arraignment on charges shall not relieve the offender from criminal liability for failure to register prior to the filing of the original charge.

(d) The deadlines for the duty to register under this section do not relieve any sex offender of the duty to register under this section as it existed prior to July 28, 1991.

(4)(a) If any person required to register pursuant to this section changes his or her residence address within the same county, the person must provide, by certified mail, with return receipt requested or in person, signed written notice of the change of address to the county sheriff within three business days of moving.

(b) If any person required to register pursuant to this section moves to a new county, the person must register with that county sheriff within three business days of moving. Within three business days, the person must also provide, by certified mail, with return receipt requested or in person, signed written notice of the change of address in the new county to the county sheriff with whom the person last registered. The county sheriff with whom the person last registered shall promptly forward the information concerning the change of address to the county sheriff for the county of the person's new residence. Upon receipt of notice of change of address to a new state, the county sheriff shall promptly forward the information regarding the change of address to the agency designated by the new state as the state's offender registration agency.

(5)(a) Any person required to register under this section who lacks a fixed residence shall provide signed written notice to the sheriff of the county where he or she last registered within three business days after ceasing to have a fixed residence. The notice shall include the information required by subsection (2)(a) of this section, except the photograph and fingerprints. The county sheriff may, for reasonable cause, require the offender to provide a photograph and fingerprints. The sheriff shall forward this information to the sheriff of the county in which the person intends to reside, if the person intends to reside in another county.

(b) A person who lacks a fixed residence must report weekly, in person, to the sheriff of the county where he or she is registered. The weekly report shall be on a day specified by the county sheriff's office, and shall occur during normal business hours. The person must keep an accurate accounting of where he or she stays during the week and provide it to the county sheriff upon request. The lack of a fixed residence is a factor that may be considered in determining an offender's risk level and shall make the offender subject to disclosure of information to the public at large pursuant to RCW 4.24.550.

(c) If any person required to register pursuant to this section does not have a fixed residence, it is an affirmative defense to the charge of failure to register, that he or she provided written notice to the sheriff of the county where he or she last registered within three business days of ceasing to have a fixed residence and has subsequently complied with the requirements of subsections (3)(a)(vii) or (viii) and (5) of this section. To prevail, the person must prove the defense by a preponderance of the evidence.

(6) A sex offender subject to registration requirements under this section who applies to change his or her name under RCW 4.24.130 or any other law shall submit a copy of the application to the county sheriff of the county of the person's residence and to the state patrol not fewer than five days before the entry of an order granting the name change.

No sex offender under the requirement to register under this section at the time of application shall be granted an order changing his or her name if the court finds that doing so will interfere with legitimate law enforcement interests, except that no order shall be denied when the name change is requested for religious or legitimate cultural reasons or in recognition of marriage or dissolution of marriage. A sex offender under the requirement to register under this section who receives an order changing his or her name shall submit a copy of the order to the county sheriff of the county of the person's residence and to the state patrol within three business days of the entry of the order.

(7) Except as may otherwise be provided by law, nothing in this section shall impose any liability upon a peace officer, including a county sheriff, or law enforcement agency, for failing to release information authorized under this section. [2011 c 337 § 3. Prior: 2010 c 267 § 2; 2010 c 265 § 1; 2008 c 230 § 1; prior: 2006 c 129 § 2; (2006 c 129 § 1 expired September 1, 2006); 2006 c 128 § 2; (2006 c 128 § 1 expired September 1, 2006); 2006 c 127 § 2; 2006 c 126 § 2; (2006 c 126 § 1 expired September 1, 2006); 2005 c 380 § 1; prior: 2003 c 215 § 1; 2003 c 53 § 68; 2002 c 31 § 1; prior: 2001 c 169 § 1; 2001 c 95 § 2; 2000 c 91 § 2; prior: 1999 sp.s. c 6 § 2; 1999 c 352 § 9; prior: 1998 c 220 § 1; 1998 c 139 § 1; prior: 1997 c 340 § 3; 1997 c 113 § 3; 1996 c 275 § 11; prior: 1995 c 268 § 3; 1995 c 248 § 1; 1995 c 195 § 1; 1994 c 84 § 2; 1991 c 274 § 2; 1990 c 3 § 402.]

**Application—2010 c 267:** See note following RCW 9A.44.128.

**Delayed effective date—2008 c 230 §§ 1-3:** "Sections 1 through 3 of this act take effect ninety days after adjournment sine die of the 2010 legislative session." [2008 c 230 § 5.]

**Effective date—2006 c 129 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act takes effect September 1, 2006." [2006 c 129 § 4.]

**Expiration date—2006 c 129 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act expires September 1, 2006." [2006 c 129 § 3.]

**Effective date—2006 c 128 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act takes effect September 1, 2006." [2006 c 128 § 8.]

**Expiration date—2006 c 128 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act expires September 1, 2006." [2006 c 128 § 7.]

**Severability—2006 c 127:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2006 c 127 § 1.]

**Effective date—2006 c 127:** "This act takes effect September 1, 2006." [2006 c 127 § 3.]

**Effective date—2006 c 126 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act takes effect September 1, 2006." [2006 c 126 § 10.]

**Expiration date—2006 c 126 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act expires September 1, 2006." [2006 c 126 § 8.]

**Effective date—2006 c 126 §§ 1 and 3-7:** "Sections 1 and 3 through 7 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect immediately [March 20, 2006]." [2006 c 126 § 9.]

**Effective date—2005 c 380:** "This act takes effect September 1, 2006." [2005 c 380 § 4.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Application—2002 c 31:** "This act applies to all persons convicted of communication with a minor either on, before, or after July 1, 2001, unless otherwise relieved of the duty to register under RCW 9A.44.140." [2002 c 31 § 2.]

**Severability—2002 c 31:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the

application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2002 c 31 § 3.]

**Effective date—2002 c 31:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 12, 2002]." [2002 c 31 § 4.]

**Intent—1999 sp.s. c 6:** "It is the intent of this act to revise the law on registration of sex and kidnapping offenders in response to the case of *State v. Pickett*, Docket number 41562-0-1. The legislature intends that all sex and kidnapping offenders whose history requires them to register shall do so regardless of whether the person has a fixed residence. The lack of a residential address is not to be construed to preclude registration as a sex or kidnapping offender. The legislature intends that persons who lack a residential address shall have an affirmative duty to report to the appropriate county sheriff, based on the level of risk of offending." [1999 sp.s. c 6 § 1.]

**Findings—1997 c 113:** See note following RCW 4.24.550.

**Finding—1996 c 275:** See note following RCW 9.94A.505.

**Purpose—1995 c 268:** See note following RCW 9.94A.030.

**Intent—1994 c 84:** "This act is intended to clarify existing law and is not intended to reflect a substantive change in the law." [1994 c 84 § 1.]

**Finding and intent—1991 c 274:** "The legislature finds that sex offender registration has assisted law enforcement agencies in protecting their communities. This act is intended to clarify and amend the deadlines for sex offenders to register. This act's clarification or amendment of RCW 9A.44.130 does not relieve the obligation of sex offenders to comply with the registration requirements of RCW 9A.44.130 as that statute exists before July 28, 1991." [1991 c 274 § 1.]

**Finding—Policy—1990 c 3 § 402:** "The legislature finds that sex offenders often pose a high risk of reoffense, and that law enforcement's efforts to protect their communities, conduct investigations, and quickly apprehend offenders who commit sex offenses, are impaired by the lack of information available to law enforcement agencies about convicted sex offenders who live within the law enforcement agency's jurisdiction. Therefore, this state's policy is to assist local law enforcement agencies' efforts to protect their communities by regulating sex offenders by requiring sex offenders to register with local law enforcement agencies as provided in RCW 9A.44.130." [1990 c 3 § 401.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.132 Failure to register as sex offender or kidnapping offender.** (1) A person commits the crime of failure to register as a sex offender if the person has a duty to register under RCW 9A.44.130 for a felony sex offense and knowingly fails to comply with any of the requirements of RCW 9A.44.130.

(a) The failure to register as a sex offender pursuant to this subsection is a class C felony if:

(i) It is the person's first conviction for a felony failure to register; or

(ii) The person has previously been convicted of a felony failure to register as a sex offender in this state or pursuant to the laws of another state.

(b) If a person has been convicted of a felony failure to register as a sex offender in this state or pursuant to the laws of another state on two or more prior occasions, the failure to register under this subsection is a class B felony.

(2) A person is guilty of failure to register as a sex offender if the person has a duty to register under RCW 9A.44.130 for a sex offense other than a felony and knowingly fails to comply with any of the requirements of RCW 9A.44.130. The failure to register as a sex offender under this subsection is a gross misdemeanor.

(3) A person commits the crime of failure to register as a kidnapping offender if the person has a duty to register under RCW 9A.44.130 for a kidnapping offense and knowingly

fails to comply with any of the requirements of RCW 9A.44.130.

(a) If the person has a duty to register for a felony kidnapping offense, the failure to register as a kidnapping offender is a class C felony.

(b) If the person has a duty to register for a kidnapping offense other than a felony, the failure to register as a kidnapping offender is a gross misdemeanor.

(4) Unless relieved of the duty to register pursuant to RCW 9A.44.141 and 9A.44.142, a violation of this section is an ongoing offense for purposes of the statute of limitations under RCW 9A.04.080. [2011 c 337 § 5; 2010 c 267 § 3.]

**Application—2010 c 267:** See note following RCW 9A.44.128.

**9A.44.135 Address verification.** (1) When an offender registers with the county sheriff pursuant to RCW 9A.44.130, the county sheriff shall notify the police chief or town marshal of the jurisdiction in which the offender has registered to live. If the offender registers to live in an unincorporated area of the county, the sheriff shall make reasonable attempts to verify that the offender is residing at the registered address. If the offender registers to live in an incorporated city or town, the police chief or town marshal shall make reasonable attempts to verify that the offender is residing at the registered address. Reasonable attempts include verifying an offender's address pursuant to the grant program established under RCW 36.28A.230. If the sheriff or police chief or town marshal does not participate in the grant program established under RCW 36.28A.230, reasonable attempts require a yearly mailing by certified mail, with return receipt requested, a nonforwardable verification form to the offender at the offender's last registered address sent by the chief law enforcement officer of the jurisdiction where the offender is registered to live. For offenders who have been previously designated sexually violent predators under chapter 71.09 RCW or the equivalent procedure in another jurisdiction, even if the designation has subsequently been removed, this mailing must be sent every ninety days.

The offender must sign the verification form, state on the form whether he or she still resides at the last registered address, and return the form to the chief law enforcement officer of the jurisdiction where the offender is registered to live within ten days after receipt of the form.

(2) The chief law enforcement officer of the jurisdiction where the offender has registered to live shall make reasonable attempts to locate any sex offender who fails to return the verification form or who cannot be located at the registered address.

If the offender fails to return the verification form or the offender is not at the last registered address, the chief law enforcement officer of the jurisdiction where the offender has registered to live shall promptly forward this information to the county sheriff and to the Washington state patrol for inclusion in the central registry of sex offenders.

(3) When an offender notifies the county sheriff of a change to his or her residence address pursuant to RCW 9A.44.130, and the new address is in a different law enforcement jurisdiction, the county sheriff shall notify the police chief or town marshal of the jurisdiction from which the offender has moved.

(4) County sheriffs and police chiefs or town marshals may enter into agreements for the purposes of delegating the authority and obligation to fulfill the requirements of this section. [2010 c 265 § 2; 2000 c 91 § 1; 1999 c 196 § 15; 1998 c 220 § 2; 1995 c 248 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.138 Attendance, employment of registered sex offenders and kidnapping offenders at institutions of higher education—Notice to school districts, principal, department of public safety at institution—Confidentiality.** (1) Upon receiving notice from a registered person pursuant to RCW 9A.44.130 that the person will be attending a school or institution of higher education or will be employed with an institution of higher education, the sheriff must promptly notify the school district and the school principal or institution's department of public safety and shall provide that school or department with the person's: (a) Name and any aliases used; (b) complete residential address; (c) date and place of birth; (d) place of employment; (e) crime for which convicted; (f) date and place of conviction; (g) social security number; (h) photograph; and (i) risk level classification.

(2) A principal or department receiving notice under this subsection must disclose the information received from the sheriff as follows:

(a) If the student is classified as a risk level II or III, the principal shall provide the information received to every teacher of the student and to any other personnel who, in the judgment of the principal, supervises the student or for security purposes should be aware of the student's record;

(b) If the student is classified as a risk level I, the principal or department shall provide the information received only to personnel who, in the judgment of the principal or department, for security purposes should be aware of the student's record.

(3) The sheriff shall notify the applicable school district and school principal or institution's department of public safety whenever a student's risk level classification is changed or the sheriff is notified of a change in the student's address.

(4) Any information received by school or institution personnel under this subsection is confidential and may not be further disseminated except as provided in RCW 28A.225.330, other statutes or case law, and the family and educational and privacy rights act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g et seq. [2011 c 337 § 4.]

**9A.44.140 Registration of sex offenders and kidnapping offenders—Duty to register—Expiration of subsection.** The duty to register under RCW 9A.44.130 shall continue for the duration provided in this section.

(1) For a person convicted in this state of a class A felony or an offense listed in RCW 9A.44.142(5), or a person convicted in this state of any sex offense or kidnapping offense who has one or more prior convictions for a sex offense or kidnapping offense, the duty to register shall continue indefinitely.

(2) For a person convicted in this state of a class B felony who does not have one or more prior convictions for a sex offense or kidnapping offense and whose current offense is

not listed in RCW 9A.44.142(5), the duty to register shall end fifteen years after the last date of release from confinement, if any, (including full-time residential treatment) pursuant to the conviction, or entry of the judgment and sentence, if the person has spent fifteen consecutive years in the community without being convicted of a disqualifying offense during that time period.

(3) For a person convicted in this state of a class C felony, a violation of RCW 9.68A.090 or 9A.44.096, or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit a class C felony, and the person does not have one or more prior convictions for a sex offense or kidnapping offense and the person's current offense is not listed in RCW 9A.44.142(5), the duty to register shall end ten years after the last date of release from confinement, if any, (including full-time residential treatment) pursuant to the conviction, or entry of the judgment and sentence, if the person has spent ten consecutive years in the community without being convicted of a disqualifying offense during that time period.

(4) For a person required to register for a federal or out-of-state conviction, the duty to register shall continue indefinitely.

(5) Nothing in this section prevents a person from being relieved of the duty to register under RCW 9A.44.142 and 9A.44.143.

(6) Nothing in RCW 9.94A.637 relating to discharge of an offender shall be construed as operating to relieve the offender of his or her duty to register pursuant to RCW 9A.44.130.

(7) For purposes of determining whether a person has been convicted of more than one sex offense, failure to register as a sex offender or kidnapping offender is not a sex or kidnapping offense.

(8) The provisions of this section and RCW 9A.44.141 through 9A.44.143 apply equally to a person who has been found not guilty by reason of insanity under chapter 10.77 RCW of a sex offense or kidnapping offense. [2010 c 267 § 4; 2002 c 25 § 1; 2001 c 170 § 2; 2000 c 91 § 3; 1998 c 220 § 3; 1997 c 113 § 4; 1996 c 275 § 12. Prior: 1995 c 268 § 4; 1995 c 248 § 2; 1995 c 195 § 2; 1991 c 274 § 3; 1990 c 3 § 408.]

**Application—2010 c 267:** See note following RCW 9A.44.128.

**Effective date—2002 c 25:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 12, 2002]." [2002 c 25 § 3.]

**Intent—2001 c 170:** "The legislature intends to amend the lifetime sex offender registration requirement so that it is narrowly tailored to meet the requirements of the Jacob Wetterling act." [2001 c 170 § 1.]

**Findings—1997 c 113:** See note following RCW 4.24.550.

**Finding—1996 c 275:** See note following RCW 9.94A.505.

**Purpose—1995 c 268:** See note following RCW 9.94A.030.

**Finding and intent—1991 c 274:** See note following RCW 9A.44.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.141 Investigation—End of duty to register—Removal from registry—Civil liability.** (1) Upon the request of a person who is listed in the Washington state patrol central registry of sex offenders and kidnapping offenders, the county sheriff shall investigate whether a per-

son's duty to register has ended by operation of law pursuant to RCW 9A.44.140.

(a) Using available records, the county sheriff shall verify that the offender has spent the requisite time in the community and has not been convicted of a disqualifying offense.

(b) If the county sheriff determines the person's duty to register has ended by operation of law, the county sheriff shall request the Washington state patrol remove the person's name from the central registry.

(2) Nothing in this subsection prevents a county sheriff from investigating, upon his or her own initiative, whether a person's duty to register has ended by operation of law pursuant to RCW 9A.44.140.

(3)(a) A person who is listed in the central registry as the result of a federal or out-of-state conviction may request the county sheriff to investigate whether the person should be removed from the registry if:

(i) A court in the person's state of conviction has made an individualized determination that the person should not be required to register; and

(ii) The person provides proof of relief from registration to the county sheriff.

(b) If the county sheriff determines the person has been relieved of the duty to register in his or her state of conviction, the county sheriff shall request the Washington state patrol remove the person's name from the central registry.

(4) An appointed or elected public official, public employee, or public agency as defined in RCW 4.24.470, or units of local government and its employees, as provided in RCW 36.28A.010, are immune from civil liability for damages for removing or requesting the removal of a person from the central registry of sex offenders and kidnapping offenders or the failure to remove or request removal of a person within the time frames provided in RCW 9A.44.140. [2011 c 337 § 6; 2010 c 267 § 5.]

**Application—2010 c 267:** See note following RCW 9A.44.128.

**9A.44.142 Relief from duty to register—Petition—Exceptions.** (1) A person who is required to register under RCW 9A.44.130 may petition the superior court to be relieved of the duty to register:

(a) If the person has a duty to register for a sex offense or kidnapping offense committed when the offender was a juvenile, regardless of whether the conviction was in this state, as provided in RCW 9A.44.143;

(b) If the person is required to register for a conviction in this state and is not prohibited from petitioning for relief from registration under subsection (2) of this section, when the person has spent ten consecutive years in the community without being convicted of a disqualifying offense during that time period; or

(c) If the person is required to register for a federal or out-of-state conviction, when the person has spent fifteen consecutive years in the community without being convicted of a disqualifying offense during that time period.

(2)(a) A person may not petition for relief from registration if the person has been:

(i) Determined to be a sexually violent predator as defined in RCW 71.09.020;



(ii) Convicted as an adult of a sex offense or kidnapping offense that is a class A felony and that was committed with forcible compulsion on or after June 8, 2000; or

(iii) Until July 1, 2012, convicted of one aggravated offense or more than one sexually violent offense, as defined in subsection (5) of this section, and the offense or offenses were committed on or after March 12, 2002. After July 1, 2012, this subsection (2)(a)(iii) shall have no further force and effect.

(b) Any person who may not be relieved of the duty to register may petition the court to be exempted from any community notification requirements that the person may be subject to fifteen years after the later of the entry of the judgment and sentence or the last date of release from confinement, including full-time residential treatment, pursuant to the conviction, if the person has spent the time in the community without being convicted of a disqualifying offense.

(3) A petition for relief from registration or exemption from notification under this section shall be made to the court in which the petitioner was convicted of the offense that subjects him or her to the duty to register or, in the case of convictions in other states, a foreign country, or a federal or military court, to the court in the county where the person is registered at the time the petition is sought. The prosecuting attorney of the county shall be named and served as the respondent in any such petition.

(4)(a) The court may relieve a petitioner of the duty to register only if the petitioner shows by clear and convincing evidence that the petitioner is sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant removal from the central registry of sex offenders and kidnapping offenders.

(b) In determining whether the petitioner is sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant removal from the registry, the following factors are provided as guidance to assist the court in making its determination:

(i) The nature of the registrable offense committed including the number of victims and the length of the offense history;

(ii) Any subsequent criminal history;

(iii) The petitioner's compliance with supervision requirements;

(iv) The length of time since the charged incident(s) occurred;

(v) Any input from community corrections officers, law enforcement, or treatment providers;

(vi) Participation in sex offender treatment;

(vii) Participation in other treatment and rehabilitative programs;

(viii) The offender's stability in employment and housing;

(ix) The offender's community and personal support system;

(x) Any risk assessments or evaluations prepared by a qualified professional;

(xi) Any updated polygraph examination;

(xii) Any input of the victim;

(xiii) Any other factors the court may consider relevant.

(5)(a) A person who has been convicted of an aggravated offense, or has been convicted of one or more prior sexually violent offenses or criminal offenses against a victim who is a minor, as defined in (b) of this subsection:

(i) Until July 1, 2012, may not be relieved of the duty to register;

(ii) After July 1, 2012, may petition the court to be relieved of the duty to register as provided in this section;

(iii) This provision shall apply to convictions for crimes committed on or after July 22, 2001.

(b) Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the following definitions apply only to the federal lifetime registration requirements under this subsection:

(i) "Aggravated offense" means an adult conviction that meets the definition of 18 U.S.C. Sec. 2241, which is limited to the following:

(A) Any sex offense involving sexual intercourse or sexual contact where the victim is under twelve years of age;

(B) RCW 9A.44.040 (rape in the first degree), RCW 9A.44.073 (rape of a child in the first degree), or RCW 9A.44.083 (child molestation in the first degree);

(C) Any of the following offenses when committed by forcible compulsion or by the offender administering, by threat or force or without the knowledge or permission of that person, a drug, intoxicant, or other similar substance that substantially impairs the ability of that person to appraise or control conduct: RCW 9A.44.050 (rape in the second degree), RCW 9A.44.100 (indecent liberties), RCW 9A.44.160 (custodial sexual misconduct in the first degree), RCW 9A.64.020 (incest), or RCW 9.68A.040 (sexual exploitation of a minor);

(D) Any of the following offenses when committed by forcible compulsion or by the offender administering, by threat or force or without the knowledge or permission of that person, a drug, intoxicant, or other similar substance that substantially impairs the ability of that person to appraise or control conduct, if the victim is twelve years of age or over but under sixteen years of age and the offender is eighteen years of age or over and is more than forty-eight months older than the victim: RCW 9A.44.076 (rape of a child in the second degree), RCW 9A.44.079 (rape of a child in the third degree), RCW 9A.44.086 (child molestation in the second degree), or RCW 9A.44.089 (child molestation in the third degree);

(E) A felony with a finding of sexual motivation under RCW 9.94A.835 where the victim is under twelve years of age or that is committed by forcible compulsion or by the offender administering, by threat or force or without the knowledge or permission of that person, a drug, intoxicant, or other similar substance that substantially impairs the ability of that person to appraise or control conduct;

(F) An offense that is, under chapter 9A.28 RCW, an attempt or solicitation to commit such an offense; or

(G) An offense defined by federal law or the laws of another state that is equivalent to the offenses listed in (b)(i)(A) through (F) of this subsection.

(ii) "Sexually violent offense" means an adult conviction that meets the definition of 42 U.S.C. Sec. 14071(a)(1)(A), which is limited to the following:

(A) An aggravated offense;

(B) An offense that is not an aggravated offense but meets the definition of 18 U.S.C. Sec. 2242, which is limited to RCW 9A.44.050(1) (b) through (f) (rape in the second degree) and RCW 9A.44.100(1) (b) through (f) (indecent liberties);

(C) A felony with a finding of sexual motivation under RCW 9.94A.835 where the victim is incapable of appraising the nature of the conduct or physically incapable of declining participation in, or communicating unwillingness to engage in, the conduct;

(D) An offense that is, under chapter 9A.28 RCW, an attempt or solicitation to commit such an offense; or

(E) An offense defined by federal law or the laws of another state that is equivalent to the offenses listed in (b)(ii)(A) through (D) of this subsection.

(iii) "Criminal offense against a victim who is a minor" means, in addition to any aggravated offense or sexually violent offense where the victim was under eighteen years of age, an adult conviction for the following offenses where the victim is under eighteen years of age:

(A) RCW 9A.44.060 (rape in the third degree), RCW 9A.44.076 (rape of a child in the second degree), RCW 9A.44.079 (rape of a child in the third degree), RCW 9A.44.086 (child molestation in the second degree), RCW 9A.44.089 (child molestation in the third degree), RCW 9A.44.093 (sexual misconduct with a minor in the first degree), RCW 9A.44.096 (sexual misconduct with a minor in the second degree), RCW 9A.44.160 (custodial sexual misconduct in the first degree), RCW 9A.64.020 (incest), RCW 9.68A.040 (sexual exploitation of a minor), RCW 9.68A.090 (communication with a minor for immoral purposes), or RCW 9.68A.100 (commercial sexual abuse of a minor);

(B) RCW 9A.40.020 (kidnapping in the first degree), RCW 9A.40.030 (kidnapping in the second degree), or RCW 9A.40.040 (unlawful imprisonment), where the victim is a minor and the offender is not the minor's parent;

(C) A felony with a finding of sexual motivation under RCW 9.94A.835 where the victim is a minor;

(D) An offense that is, under chapter 9A.28 RCW, an attempt or solicitation to commit such an offense; or

(E) An offense defined by federal law or the laws of another state that is equivalent to the offenses listed in (b)(iii)(A) through (D) of this subsection. [2011 c 337 § 7; 2010 c 267 § 6.]

**Application—2010 c 267:** See note following RCW 9A.44.128.

**9A.44.143 Relief from duty to register for sex offense or kidnapping offense committed when offender was a juvenile—Petition—Exception.** (1) An offender having a duty to register under RCW 9A.44.130 for a sex offense or kidnapping offense committed when the offender was a juvenile may petition the superior court to be relieved of that duty as provided in this section.

(2) For class A sex offenses or kidnapping offenses committed when the petitioner was fifteen years of age or older, the court may relieve the petitioner of the duty to register if:

(a) At least sixty months have passed since the petitioner's adjudication and completion of any term of confinement for the offense giving rise to the duty to register and the petitioner has not been adjudicated or convicted of any additional sex offenses or kidnapping offenses;

(b) The petitioner has not been adjudicated or convicted of a violation of RCW 9A.44.132 (failure to register) during the sixty months prior to filing the petition; and

(c) The petitioner shows by a preponderance of the evidence that the petitioner is sufficiently rehabilitated to war-

rant removal from the central registry of sex offenders and kidnapping offenders.

(3) For all other sex offenses or kidnapping offenses committed by a juvenile not included in subsection (2) of this section, the court may relieve the petitioner of the duty to register if:

(a) At least twenty-four months have passed since the petitioner's adjudication and completion of any term of confinement for the offense giving rise to the duty to register and the petitioner has not been adjudicated or convicted of any additional sex offenses or kidnapping offenses;

(b) The petitioner has not been adjudicated or convicted of a violation of RCW 9A.44.132 (failure to register) during the twenty-four months prior to filing the petition; and

(c) The petitioner shows by a preponderance of the evidence that the petitioner is sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant removal from the central registry of sex offenders and kidnapping offenders.

(4) A petition for relief from registration under this section shall be made to the court in which the petitioner was convicted of the offense that subjects him or her to the duty to register or, in the case of convictions in other states, a foreign country, or a federal or military court, to the court in Thurston county. The prosecuting attorney of the county shall be named and served as the respondent in any such petition.

(5) In determining whether the petitioner is sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant removal from the central registry of sex offenders and kidnapping offenders, the following factors are provided as guidance to assist the court in making its determination, to the extent the factors are applicable considering the age and circumstances of the petitioner:

(a) The nature of the registrable offense committed including the number of victims and the length of the offense history;

(b) Any subsequent criminal history;

(c) The petitioner's compliance with supervision requirements;

(d) The length of time since the charged incident(s) occurred;

(e) Any input from community corrections officers, juvenile parole or probation officers, law enforcement, or treatment providers;

(f) Participation in sex offender treatment;

(g) Participation in other treatment and rehabilitative programs;

(h) The offender's stability in employment and housing;

(i) The offender's community and personal support system;

(j) Any risk assessments or evaluations prepared by a qualified professional;

(k) Any updated polygraph examination;

(l) Any input of the victim;

(m) Any other factors the court may consider relevant.

(6) A juvenile prosecuted and convicted of a sex offense or kidnapping offense as an adult may not petition to the superior court under this section. [2011 c 338 § 1; 2010 c 267 § 7.]

**Application—2010 c 267:** See note following RCW 9A.44.128.

**9A.44.145 Notification to offenders of changed requirements and ability to petition for relief from registration.** (1) The state patrol shall notify:

(a) Registered sex and kidnapping offenders of any change to the registration requirements; and

(b) No less than annually, an offender having a duty to register under RCW 9A.44.143 for a sex offense or kidnapping offense committed when the offender was a juvenile of their ability to petition for relief from registration as provided in RCW 9A.44.140.

(2) For economic efficiency, the state patrol may combine the notices in this section into one notice. [2010 c 267 § 8; 2009 c 210 § 1; 1998 c 139 § 2.]

**Application—2010 c 267:** See note following RCW 9A.44.128.

**9A.44.150 Testimony of child by closed-circuit television.** (1) On motion of the prosecuting attorney in a criminal proceeding, the court may order that a child under the age of ten may testify in a room outside the presence of the defendant and the jury while one-way closed-circuit television equipment simultaneously projects the child's testimony into another room so the defendant and the jury can watch and hear the child testify if:

(a) The testimony will:

(i) Describe an act or attempted act of sexual contact performed with or on the child witness by another person or with or on a child other than the child witness by another person;

(ii) Describe an act or attempted act of physical abuse against the child witness by another person or against a child other than the child witness by another person; or

(iii) Describe a violent offense as defined by RCW 9A.030 committed against a person known by or familiar to the child witness or by a person known by or familiar to the child witness;

(b) The testimony is taken during the criminal proceeding;

(c) The court finds by substantial evidence, in a hearing conducted outside the presence of the jury, that requiring the child witness to testify in the presence of the defendant will cause the child to suffer serious emotional or mental distress that will prevent the child from reasonably communicating at the trial. If the defendant is excluded from the presence of the child, the jury must also be excluded;

(d) As provided in subsection (1)(a) and (b) of this section, the court may allow a child witness to testify in the presence of the defendant but outside the presence of the jury, via closed-circuit television, if the court finds, upon motion and hearing outside the presence of the jury, that the child will suffer serious emotional distress that will prevent the child from reasonably communicating at the trial in front of the jury, or, that although the child may be able to reasonably communicate at trial in front of the jury, the child will suffer serious emotional or mental distress from testifying in front of the jury. If the child is able to communicate in front of the defendant but not the jury the defendant will remain in the room with the child while the jury is excluded from the room;

(e) The court finds that the prosecutor has made all reasonable efforts to prepare the child witness for testifying, including informing the child or the child's parent or guardian about community counseling services, giving court tours, and explaining the trial process. If the prosecutor fails to

demonstrate that preparations were implemented or the prosecutor in good faith attempted to implement them, the court shall deny the motion;

(f) The court balances the strength of the state's case without the testimony of the child witness against the defendant's constitutional rights and the degree of infringement of the closed-circuit television procedure on those rights;

(g) The court finds that no less restrictive method of obtaining the testimony exists that can adequately protect the child witness from the serious emotional or mental distress;

(h) When the court allows the child witness to testify outside the presence of the defendant, the defendant can communicate constantly with the defense attorney by electronic transmission and be granted reasonable court recesses during the child's testimony for person-to-person consultation with the defense attorney;

(i) The court can communicate with the attorneys by an audio system so that the court can rule on objections and otherwise control the proceedings;

(j) All parties in the room with the child witness are on camera and can be viewed by all other parties. If viewing all participants is not possible, the court shall describe for the viewers the location of the prosecutor, defense attorney, and other participants in relation to the child;

(k) The court finds that the television equipment is capable of making an accurate reproduction and the operator of the equipment is competent to operate the equipment; and

(l) The court imposes reasonable guidelines upon the parties for conducting the filming to avoid trauma to the child witness or abuse of the procedure for tactical advantage.

The prosecutor, defense attorney, and a neutral and trained victim's advocate, if any, shall always be in the room where the child witness is testifying. The court in the court's discretion depending on the circumstances and whether the jury or defendant or both are excluded from the room where the child is testifying, may remain or may not remain in the room with the child.

(2) During the hearing conducted under subsection (1) of this section to determine whether the child witness may testify outside the presence of the defendant and/or the jury, the court may conduct the observation and examination of the child outside the presence of the defendant if:

(a) The prosecutor alleges and the court concurs that the child witness will be unable to testify in front of the defendant or will suffer severe emotional or mental distress if forced to testify in front of the defendant;

(b) The defendant can observe and hear the child witness by closed-circuit television;

(c) The defendant can communicate constantly with the defense attorney during the examination of the child witness by electronic transmission and be granted reasonable court recesses during the child's examination for person-to-person consultation with the defense attorney; and

(d) The court finds the closed-circuit television is capable of making an accurate reproduction and the operator of the equipment is competent to operate the equipment. Whenever possible, all the parties in the room with the child witness shall be on camera so that the viewers can see all the parties. If viewing all participants is not possible, then the court shall describe for the viewers the location of the prosecutor,

defense attorney, and other participants in relation to the child.

(3) The court shall make particularized findings on the record articulating the factors upon which the court based its decision to allow the child witness to testify via closed-circuit television pursuant to this section. The factors the court may consider include, but are not limited to, a consideration of the child's age, physical health, emotional stability, expressions by the child of fear of testifying in open court or in front of the defendant, the relationship of the defendant to the child, and the court's observations of the child's inability to reasonably communicate in front of the defendant or in open court. The court's findings shall identify the impact the factors have upon the child's ability to testify in front of the jury or the defendant or both and the specific nature of the emotional or mental trauma the child would suffer. The court shall determine whether the source of the trauma is the presence of the defendant, the jury, or both, and shall limit the use of the closed-circuit television accordingly.

(4) This section does not apply if the defendant is an attorney pro se unless the defendant has a court-appointed attorney assisting the defendant in the defense.

(5) This section may not preclude the presence of both the child witness and the defendant in the courtroom together for purposes of establishing or challenging the identification of the defendant when identification is a legitimate issue in the proceeding.

(6) The Washington supreme court may adopt rules of procedure regarding closed-circuit television procedures.

(7) All recorded tapes of testimony produced by closed-circuit television equipment shall be subject to any protective order of the court for the purpose of protecting the privacy of the child witness.

(8) Nothing in this section creates a right of the child witness to a closed-circuit television procedure in lieu of testifying in open court.

(9) The state shall bear the costs of the closed-circuit television procedure.

(10) A child witness may or may not be a victim in the proceeding.

(11) Nothing in this section precludes the court, under other circumstances arising under subsection (1)(a) of this section, from allowing a child to testify outside the presence of the defendant and the jury so long as the testimony is presented in accordance with the standards and procedures required in this section. [2005 c 455 § 1; 1990 c 150 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.160 Custodial sexual misconduct in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of custodial sexual misconduct in the first degree when the person has sexual intercourse with another person:

(a) When:

(i) The victim is a resident of a state, county, or city adult or juvenile correctional facility, including but not limited to jails, prisons, detention centers, or work release facilities, or is under correctional supervision; and

(ii) The perpetrator is an employee or contract personnel of a correctional agency and the perpetrator has, or the victim reasonably believes the perpetrator has, the ability to influ-

ence the terms, conditions, length, or fact of incarceration or correctional supervision; or

(b) When the victim is being detained, under arrest[,], or in the custody of a law enforcement officer and the perpetrator is a law enforcement officer.

(2) Consent of the victim is not a defense to a prosecution under this section.

(3) Custodial sexual misconduct in the first degree is a class C felony. [1999 c 45 § 1.]

**9A.44.170 Custodial sexual misconduct in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of custodial sexual misconduct in the second degree when the person has sexual contact with another person:

(a) When:

(i) The victim is a resident of a state, county, or city adult or juvenile correctional facility, including but not limited to jails, prisons, detention centers, or work release facilities, or is under correctional supervision; and

(ii) The perpetrator is an employee or contract personnel of a correctional agency and the perpetrator has, or the victim reasonably believes the perpetrator has, the ability to influence the terms, conditions, length, or fact of incarceration or correctional supervision; or

(b) When the victim is being detained, under arrest, or in the custody of a law enforcement officer and the perpetrator is a law enforcement officer.

(2) Consent of the victim is not a defense to a prosecution under this section.

(3) Custodial sexual misconduct in the second degree is a gross misdemeanor. [1999 c 45 § 2.]

**9A.44.180 Custodial sexual misconduct—Defense.** It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under RCW 9A.44.160 or 9A.44.170, to be proven by the defendant by a preponderance of the evidence, that the act of sexual intercourse or sexual contact resulted from forcible compulsion by the other person. [1999 c 45 § 3.]

**9A.44.190 Criminal trespass against children—Definitions.** As used in this section and RCW 9A.44.193 and 9A.44.196:

(1) "Covered entity" means any public facility or private facility whose primary purpose, at any time, is to provide for the education, care, or recreation of a child or children, including but not limited to community and recreational centers, playgrounds, schools, swimming pools, and state or municipal parks.

(2) "Child" means a person under the age of eighteen, unless the context clearly indicates that the term is otherwise defined in statute.

(3) "Public facility" means a facility operated by a unit of local or state government, or by a nonprofit organization.

(4) "Schools" means public and private schools, but does not include home-based instruction as defined in RCW 28A.225.010.

(5) "Covered offender" means a person required to register under RCW 9A.44.130 who is eighteen years of age or older, who is not under the jurisdiction of the juvenile rehabilitation authority or currently serving a special sex offender disposition alternative, whose risk level classification has

been assessed at a risk level II or a risk level III pursuant to RCW 72.09.345, and who, at any time, has been convicted of one or more of the following offenses:

(a) Rape of a child in the first, second, and third degree; child molestation in the first, second, and third degree; indecent liberties against a child under age fifteen; sexual misconduct with a minor in the first and second degree; incest in the first and second degree; luring with sexual motivation; possession of depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct; dealing in depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct; bringing into the state depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct; sexual exploitation of a minor; communicating with a minor for immoral purposes; \*patronizing a juvenile prostitute;

(b) Any felony in effect at any time prior to March 20, 2006, that is comparable to an offense listed in (a) of this subsection, including, but not limited to, statutory rape in the first and second degrees [degree] and carnal knowledge;

(c) Any felony offense for which:

(i) There was a finding that the offense was committed with sexual motivation; and

(ii) The victim of the offense was less than sixteen years of age at the time of the offense;

(d) An attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit any of the offenses listed in (a) through (c) of this subsection;

(e) Any conviction from any other jurisdiction which is comparable to any of the offenses listed in (a) through (d) of this subsection. [2006 c 126 § 4; 2006 c 125 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The term "patronizing a juvenile prostitute" was changed to "commercial sexual abuse of a minor" by 2007 c 368 § 2.

**Effective date—2006 c 126 §§ 1 and 3-7:** See note following RCW 9A.44.130.

**Intent—2006 c 125:** "It is the intent of the legislature to give public and private entities that provide services to children the tools necessary to prevent convicted child sex offenders from contacting children when those children are within the legal premises of the covered public and private entities." [2006 c 126 § 3; 2006 c 125 § 1.]

**Severability—2006 c 125:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2006 c 125 § 6.]

**Effective date—2006 c 125:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 20, 2006]." [2006 c 125 § 7.]

**9A.44.193 Criminal trespass against children—Covered entities.** (1) An owner, manager, or operator of a covered entity may order a covered offender from the legal premises of a covered entity as provided under this section. To do this, the owner, manager, or operator of a covered entity must first provide the covered offender, or cause the covered offender to be provided, personal service of a written notice that informs the covered offender that:

(a) The covered offender must leave the legal premises of the covered entity and may not return without the written permission of the covered entity; and

(b) If the covered offender refuses to leave the legal premises of the covered entity, or thereafter returns and enters within the legal premises of the covered entity without written permission, the offender may be charged and prosecuted for a felony offense as provided in RCW 9A.44.196.

(2) A covered entity may give written permission of entry and use to a covered offender to enter and remain on the legal premises of the covered entity at particular times and for lawful purposes, including, but not limited to, conducting business, voting, or participating in educational or recreational activities. Any written permission of entry and use of the legal premises of a covered entity must be clearly stated in a written document and must be personally served on the covered offender. If the covered offender violates the conditions of entry and use contained in a written document personally served on the offender by the covered entity, the covered offender may be charged and prosecuted for a felony offense as provided in RCW 9A.44.196.

(3) An owner, employee, or agent of a covered entity shall be immune from civil liability for damages arising from excluding or failing to exclude a covered offender from a covered entity or from imposing or failing to impose conditions of entry and use on a covered offender.

(4) A person provided with written notice from a covered entity under this section may file a petition with the district court alleging that he or she does not meet the definition of "covered offender" in RCW 9A.44.190. The district court must conduct a hearing on the petition within thirty days of the petition being filed. In the hearing on the petition, the person has the burden of proving that he or she is not a covered offender. If the court finds, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the person is not a covered offender, the court shall order the covered entity to rescind the written notice and shall order the covered entity to pay the person's costs and reasonable attorneys' fees. [2006 c 126 § 5; 2006 c 125 § 3.]

**Effective date—2006 c 126 §§ 1 and 3-7:** See note following RCW 9A.44.130.

**Intent—Severability—Effective date—2006 c 125:** See notes following RCW 9A.44.190.

**9A.44.196 Criminal trespass against children.** (1) A person is guilty of the crime of criminal trespass against children if he or she:

(a) Is a covered offender as defined in RCW 9A.44.190; and

(b)(i) Is personally served with written notice complying with the requirements of RCW 9A.44.193 that excludes the covered offender from the legal premises of the covered entity and remains upon or reenters the legal premises of the covered entity; or

(ii) Is personally served with written notice complying with the requirements of RCW 9A.44.193 that imposes conditions of entry and use on the covered offender and violates the conditions of entry and use.

(2) Criminal trespass against children is a class C felony. [2006 c 126 § 6; 2006 c 125 § 4.]

**Effective date—2006 c 126 §§ 1 and 3-7:** See note following RCW 9A.44.130.

**Intent—Severability—Effective date—2006 c 125:** See notes following RCW 9A.44.190.

**9A.44.900 Decodifications and additions to this chapter.** RCW 9.79.140, 9.79.150, 9.79.160, 9.79.170 as now or hereafter amended, 9.79.180 as now or hereafter amended, 9.79.190 as now or hereafter amended, 9.79.200 as now or hereafter amended, 9.79.210 as now or hereafter amended,

9.79.220 as now or hereafter amended, 9A.88.020, and 9A.88.100 are each decodified and are each added to Title 9A RCW as a new chapter with the designation chapter 9A.44 RCW. [1979 ex.s. c 244 § 17.]

**9A.44.901 Construction—Sections decodified and added to this chapter.** The sections decodified by RCW 9A.44.900 and added to Title 9A RCW as a new chapter with the designation chapter 9A.44 RCW shall be construed as part of Title 9A RCW. [1979 ex.s. c 244 § 18.]

**9A.44.902 Effective date—1979 ex.s. c 244.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect on July 1, 1979. [1979 ex.s. c 244 § 19.]

**9A.44.903 Section captions—1988 c 145.** Section captions as used in this chapter do not constitute any part of the law. [1988 c 145 § 22.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.44.904 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 24.]

## Chapter 9A.46 RCW HARASSMENT

### Sections

9A.46.010	Legislative finding.
9A.46.020	Definition—Penalties.
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9A.46.900	Short title.
9A.46.905	Effective date—1985 c 288.
9A.46.910	Severability—1985 c 288.

*Disclosure of information to person threatened or harassed by individual with mental illness: RCW 71.05.390.*

*Harassment: RCW 9A.36.080, chapter 10.14 RCW.*

**9A.46.010 Legislative finding.** The legislature finds that the prevention of serious, personal harassment is an

important government objective. Toward that end, this chapter is aimed at making unlawful the repeated invasions of a person's privacy by acts and threats which show a pattern of harassment designed to coerce, intimidate, or humiliate the victim.

The legislature further finds that the protection of such persons from harassment can be accomplished without infringing on constitutionally protected speech or activity. [1985 c 288 § 1.]

**9A.46.020 Definition—Penalties.** (1) A person is guilty of harassment if:

(a) Without lawful authority, the person knowingly threatens:

(i) To cause bodily injury immediately or in the future to the person threatened or to any other person; or

(ii) To cause physical damage to the property of a person other than the actor; or

(iii) To subject the person threatened or any other person to physical confinement or restraint; or

(iv) Maliciously to do any other act which is intended to substantially harm the person threatened or another with respect to his or her physical or mental health or safety; and

(b) The person by words or conduct places the person threatened in reasonable fear that the threat will be carried out. "Words or conduct" includes, in addition to any other form of communication or conduct, the sending of an electronic communication.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, a person who harasses another is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(b) A person who harasses another is guilty of a class C felony if any of the following apply: (i) The person has previously been convicted in this or any other state of any crime of harassment, as defined in RCW 9A.46.060, of the same victim or members of the victim's family or household or any person specifically named in a no-contact or no-harassment order; (ii) the person harasses another person under subsection (1)(a)(i) of this section by threatening to kill the person threatened or any other person; (iii) the person harasses a criminal justice participant who is performing his or her official duties at the time the threat is made; or (iv) the person harasses a criminal justice participant because of an action taken or decision made by the criminal justice participant during the performance of his or her official duties. For the purposes of (b)(iii) and (iv) of this subsection, the fear from the threat must be a fear that a reasonable criminal justice participant would have under all the circumstances. Threatening words do not constitute harassment if it is apparent to the criminal justice participant that the person does not have the present and future ability to carry out the threat.

(3) Any criminal justice participant who is a target for threats or harassment prohibited under subsection (2)(b)(iii) or (iv) of this section, and any family members residing with him or her, shall be eligible for the address confidentiality program created under RCW 40.24.030.

(4) For purposes of this section, a criminal justice participant includes any (a) federal, state, or local law enforcement agency employee; (b) federal, state, or local prosecuting attorney or deputy prosecuting attorney; (c) staff member of any adult corrections institution or local adult detention facility; (d) staff member of any juvenile corrections institution or

local juvenile detention facility; (e) community corrections officer, probation, or parole officer; (f) member of the indeterminate sentence review board; (g) advocate from a crime victim/witness program; or (h) defense attorney.

(5) The penalties provided in this section for harassment do not preclude the victim from seeking any other remedy otherwise available under law. [2011 c 64 § 1; 2003 c 53 § 69; 1999 c 27 § 2; 1997 c 105 § 1; 1992 c 186 § 2; 1985 c 288 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Intent—1999 c 27:** "It is the intent of chapter 27, Laws of 1999 to clarify that electronic communications are included in the types of conduct and actions that can constitute the crimes of harassment and stalking. It is not the intent of the legislature, by adoption of chapter 27, Laws of 1999, to restrict in any way the types of conduct or actions that can constitute harassment or stalking." [1999 c 27 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.46.030 Place where committed.** Any harassment offense committed as set forth in RCW 9A.46.020 or 9A.46.110 may be deemed to have been committed where the conduct occurred or at the place from which the threat or threats were made or at the place where the threats were received. [1992 c 186 § 3; 1985 c 288 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.46.040 Court-ordered requirements upon person charged with crime—Violation.** (1) Because of the likelihood of repeated harassment directed at those who have been victims of harassment in the past, when any defendant charged with a crime involving harassment is released from custody before trial on bail or personal recognizance, the court authorizing the release may require that the defendant:

(a) Stay away from the home, school, business, or place of employment of the victim or victims of the alleged offense or other location, as shall be specifically named by the court in the order;

(b) Refrain from contacting, intimidating, threatening, or otherwise interfering with the victim or victims of the alleged offense and such other persons, including but not limited to members of the family or household of the victim, as shall be specifically named by the court in the order.

(2) Willful violation of a court order issued under this section or an equivalent local ordinance is a gross misdemeanor. The written order releasing the defendant shall contain the court's directives and shall bear the legend: Violation of this order is a criminal offense under chapter 9A.46 RCW. A certified copy of the order shall be provided to the victim by the clerk of the court. [2012 c 223 § 1; 2011 c 307 § 4; 1985 c 288 § 4.]

**9A.46.050 Arraignment—No-contact order.** A defendant who is charged by citation, complaint, or information with an offense involving harassment and not arrested shall appear in court for arraignment in person as soon as practicable, but in no event later than fourteen days after the next day on which court is in session following the issuance of the citation or the filing of the complaint or information. At that appearance, the court shall determine the necessity of imposing a no-contact or no-harassment order, and consider the provisions of RCW 9A.41.800, or other conditions of pre-

trial release according to the procedures established by court rule for preliminary appearance or an arraignment. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 447; 1985 c 288 § 5.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.46.060 Crimes included in harassment.** As used in this chapter, "harassment" may include but is not limited to any of the following crimes:

- (1) Harassment (RCW 9A.46.020);
- (2) Malicious harassment (RCW 9A.36.080);
- (3) Telephone harassment (RCW 9.61.230);
- (4) Assault in the first degree (RCW 9A.36.011);
- (5) Assault of a child in the first degree (RCW 9A.36.120);
- (6) Assault in the second degree (RCW 9A.36.021);
- (7) Assault of a child in the second degree (RCW 9A.36.130);
- (8) Assault in the fourth degree (RCW 9A.36.041);
- (9) Reckless endangerment (RCW 9A.36.050);
- (10) Extortion in the first degree (RCW 9A.56.120);
- (11) Extortion in the second degree (RCW 9A.56.130);
- (12) Coercion (RCW 9A.36.070);
- (13) Burglary in the first degree (RCW 9A.52.020);
- (14) Burglary in the second degree (RCW 9A.52.030);
- (15) Criminal trespass in the first degree (RCW 9A.52.070);
- (16) Criminal trespass in the second degree (RCW 9A.52.080);
- (17) Malicious mischief in the first degree (RCW 9A.48.070);
- (18) Malicious mischief in the second degree (RCW 9A.48.080);
- (19) Malicious mischief in the third degree (RCW 9A.48.090);
- (20) Kidnapping in the first degree (RCW 9A.40.020);
- (21) Kidnapping in the second degree (RCW 9A.40.030);
- (22) Unlawful imprisonment (RCW 9A.40.040);
- (23) Rape in the first degree (RCW 9A.44.040);
- (24) Rape in the second degree (RCW 9A.44.050);
- (25) Rape in the third degree (RCW 9A.44.060);
- (26) Indecent liberties (RCW 9A.44.100);
- (27) Rape of a child in the first degree (RCW 9A.44.073);
- (28) Rape of a child in the second degree (RCW 9A.44.076);
- (29) Rape of a child in the third degree (RCW 9A.44.079);
- (30) Child molestation in the first degree (RCW 9A.44.083);
- (31) Child molestation in the second degree (RCW 9A.44.086);
- (32) Child molestation in the third degree (RCW 9A.44.089);
- (33) Stalking (RCW 9A.46.110);
- (34) Cyberstalking (RCW 9.61.260);
- (35) Residential burglary (RCW 9A.52.025);

(36) Violation of a temporary, permanent, or final protective order issued pursuant to chapter 7.90, 9A.46, 10.14, 10.99, 26.09, or 26.50 RCW;

(37) Unlawful discharge of a laser in the first degree (RCW 9A.49.020); and

(38) Unlawful discharge of a laser in the second degree (RCW 9A.49.030). [2006 c 138 § 21; 2004 c 94 § 4; 1999 c 180 § 7; 1997 c 338 § 52. Prior: 1994 c 271 § 802; 1994 c 121 § 2; prior: 1992 c 186 § 4; 1992 c 145 § 12; 1988 c 145 § 15; 1985 c 288 § 6.]

**Short title—2006 c 138:** See RCW 7.90.900.

**Severability—Effective dates—2004 c 94:** See notes following RCW 9.61.260.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9A.46.070 Enforcement of orders restricting contact.**

Any law enforcement agency in this state may enforce this chapter as it relates to orders restricting the defendants' ability to have contact with the victim or others. [1985 c 288 § 7.]

**9A.46.080 Order restricting contact—Violation.** The victim shall be informed by local law enforcement agencies or the prosecuting attorney of the final disposition of the case in which the victim is involved. If a defendant is found guilty of a crime of harassment and a condition of the sentence restricts the defendant's ability to have contact with the victim or witnesses, the condition shall be recorded and a written certified copy of that order shall be provided to the victim or witnesses by the clerk of the court. Willful violation of a court order issued under this section or an equivalent local ordinance is a gross misdemeanor. The written order shall contain the court's directives and shall bear the legend: Violation of this order is a criminal offense under chapter 9A.46 RCW and will subject a violator to arrest. [2012 c 223 § 2; 2011 c 307 § 5; 1985 c 288 § 8.]

**9A.46.090 Nonliability of peace officer.** A peace officer shall not be held liable in any civil action for an arrest based on probable cause, enforcement in good faith of a court order, or any other action or omission in good faith under this chapter arising from an alleged incident of harassment brought by any party to the incident. [1985 c 288 § 9.]

**9A.46.100 "Convicted," time when.** As used in RCW 9.61.230, 9.61.260, 9A.46.020, or 9A.46.110, a person has been "convicted" at such time as a plea of guilty has been accepted or a verdict of guilty has been filed, notwithstanding the pendency of any future proceedings including but not limited to sentencing, posttrial motions, and appeals. [2004 c 94 § 5; 1992 c 186 § 5; 1985 c 288 § 10.]

**Severability—Effective dates—2004 c 94:** See notes following RCW 9.61.260.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.46.110 Stalking.** (1) A person commits the crime of stalking if, without lawful authority and under circumstances not amounting to a felony attempt of another crime:

(a) He or she intentionally and repeatedly harasses or repeatedly follows another person; and

(b) The person being harassed or followed is placed in fear that the stalker intends to injure the person, another person, or property of the person or of another person. The feeling of fear must be one that a reasonable person in the same situation would experience under all the circumstances; and

(c) The stalker either:

(i) Intends to frighten, intimidate, or harass the person; or

(ii) Knows or reasonably should know that the person is afraid, intimidated, or harassed even if the stalker did not intend to place the person in fear or intimidate or harass the person.

(2)(a) It is not a defense to the crime of stalking under subsection (1)(c)(i) of this section that the stalker was not given actual notice that the person did not want the stalker to contact or follow the person; and

(b) It is not a defense to the crime of stalking under subsection (1)(c)(ii) of this section that the stalker did not intend to frighten, intimidate, or harass the person.

(3) It shall be a defense to the crime of stalking that the defendant is a licensed private investigator acting within the capacity of his or her license as provided by chapter 18.165 RCW.

(4) Attempts to contact or follow the person after being given actual notice that the person does not want to be contacted or followed constitutes prima facie evidence that the stalker intends to intimidate or harass the person. "Contact" includes, in addition to any other form of contact or communication, the sending of an electronic communication to the person.

(5)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, a person who stalks another person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(b) A person who stalks another is guilty of a class C felony if any of the following applies: (i) The stalker has previously been convicted in this state or any other state of any crime of harassment, as defined in RCW 9A.46.060, of the same victim or members of the victim's family or household or any person specifically named in a protective order; (ii) the stalking violates any protective order protecting the person being stalked; (iii) the stalker has previously been convicted of a gross misdemeanor or felony stalking offense under this section for stalking another person; (iv) the stalker was armed with a deadly weapon, as defined in \*RCW 9.94A.602, while stalking the person; (v)(A) the stalker's victim is or was a law enforcement officer; judge; juror; attorney; victim advocate; legislator; community corrections' officer; an employee, contract staff person, or volunteer of a correctional agency; or an employee of the child protective, child welfare, or adult protective services division within the department of social and health services; and (B) the stalker stalked the victim to retaliate against the victim for an act the victim performed during the course of official duties or to influence the victim's performance of official duties; or (vi) the stalker's victim is a current, former, or prospective witness in an adjudicative proceeding, and the stalker stalked the victim to retaliate



against the victim as a result of the victim's testimony or potential testimony.

(6) As used in this section:

(a) "Correctional agency" means a person working for the department of natural resources in a correctional setting or any state, county, or municipally operated agency with the authority to direct the release of a person serving a sentence or term of confinement and includes but is not limited to the department of corrections, the indeterminate sentence review board, and the department of social and health services.

(b) "Follows" means deliberately maintaining visual or physical proximity to a specific person over a period of time. A finding that the alleged stalker repeatedly and deliberately appears at the person's home, school, place of employment, business, or any other location to maintain visual or physical proximity to the person is sufficient to find that the alleged stalker follows the person. It is not necessary to establish that the alleged stalker follows the person while in transit from one location to another.

(c) "Harasses" means unlawful harassment as defined in RCW 10.14.020.

(d) "Protective order" means any temporary or permanent court order prohibiting or limiting violence against, harassment of, contact or communication with, or physical proximity to another person.

(e) "Repeatedly" means on two or more separate occasions. [2007 c 201 § 1; 2006 c 95 § 3; 2003 c 53 § 70. Prior: 1999 c 143 § 35; 1999 c 27 § 3; 1994 c 271 § 801; 1992 c 186 § 1.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 9.94A.602 was recodified as RCW 9.94A.825 pursuant to 2009 c 28 § 41.

**Findings—Intent—2006 c 95:** See note following RCW 74.04.790.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Intent—1999 c 27:** See note following RCW 9A.46.020.

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.46.120 Criminal gang intimidation.** A person commits the offense of criminal gang intimidation if the person threatens another person with bodily injury because the other person refuses to join or has attempted to withdraw from a gang, as defined in RCW 28A.600.455, if the person who threatens the victim or the victim attends or is registered in a public or alternative school. Criminal gang intimidation is a class C felony. [1997 c 266 § 3.]

**Findings—Intent—Severability—1997 c 266:** See notes following RCW 28A.600.455.

**9A.46.900 Short title.** This act shall be known as the anti-harassment act of 1985. [1985 c 288 § 12.]

**9A.46.905 Effective date—1985 c 288.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect May 1, 1985. [1985 c 288 § 15.]

**9A.46.910 Severability—1985 c 288.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is

held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1985 c 288 § 14.]

## Chapter 9A.48 RCW

### ARSON, RECKLESS BURNING, AND MALICIOUS MISCHIEF

#### Sections

9A.48.010	Definitions.
9A.48.020	Arson in the first degree.
9A.48.030	Arson in the second degree.
9A.48.040	Reckless burning in the first degree.
9A.48.050	Reckless burning in the second degree.
9A.48.060	Reckless burning—Defense.
9A.48.070	Malicious mischief in the first degree.
9A.48.080	Malicious mischief in the second degree.
9A.48.090	Malicious mischief in the third degree.
9A.48.100	Malicious mischief—"Physical damage" defined.
9A.48.105	Criminal street gang tagging and graffiti.
9A.48.110	Defacing a state monument.
9A.48.120	Civil disorder training.

*Explosives: Chapter 70.74 RCW.*

**9A.48.010 Definitions.** (1) For the purpose of this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise:

(a) "Building" has the definition in RCW 9A.04.110(5), and where a building consists of two or more units separately secured or occupied, each unit shall not be treated as a separate building;

(b) "Damages", in addition to its ordinary meaning, includes any charring, scorching, burning, or breaking, or agricultural or industrial sabotage, and shall include any diminution in the value of any property as a consequence of an act;

(c) "Property of another" means property in which the actor possesses anything less than exclusive ownership.

(2) To constitute arson it is not necessary that a person other than the actor has ownership in the building or structure damaged or set on fire. [2002 c 32 § 1; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 6; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.48.010.]

**Effective date—2002 c 32:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 12, 2002]." [2002 c 32 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.48.020 Arson in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of arson in the first degree if he or she knowingly and maliciously:

(a) Causes a fire or explosion which is manifestly dangerous to any human life, including firefighters; or

(b) Causes a fire or explosion which damages a dwelling;

or

(c) Causes a fire or explosion in any building in which there shall be at the time a human being who is not a participant in the crime; or

(d) Causes a fire or explosion on property valued at ten thousand dollars or more with intent to collect insurance proceeds.

(2) Arson in the first degree is a class A felony. [2007 c 218 § 63; 1981 c 203 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.48.020.]

**Intent—Finding—2007 c 218:** See note following RCW 1.08.130.

**9A.48.030 Arson in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of arson in the second degree if he or she knowingly and maliciously causes a fire or explosion which damages a building, or any structure or erection appurtenant to or joining any building, or any wharf, dock, machine, engine, automobile, or other motor vehicle, watercraft, aircraft, bridge, or trestle, or hay, grain, crop, or timber, whether cut or standing or any range land, or pasture land, or any fence, or any lumber, shingle, or other timber products, or any property.

(2) Arson in the second degree is a class B felony. [2011 c 336 § 366; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.48.030.]

**9A.48.040 Reckless burning in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of reckless burning in the first degree if he or she recklessly damages a building or other structure or any vehicle, railway car, aircraft, or watercraft or any hay, grain, crop, or timber whether cut or standing, by knowingly causing a fire or explosion.

(2) Reckless burning in the first degree is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 367; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.48.040.]

**9A.48.050 Reckless burning in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of reckless burning in the second degree if he or she knowingly causes a fire or explosion, whether on his or her own property or that of another, and thereby recklessly places a building or other structure, or any vehicle, railway car, aircraft, or watercraft, or any hay, grain, crop or timber, whether cut or standing, in danger of destruction or damage.

(2) Reckless burning in the second degree is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 368; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.48.050.]

**9A.48.060 Reckless burning—Defense.** In any prosecution for the crime of reckless burning in the first or second degrees, it shall be a defense if the defendant establishes by a preponderance of the evidence that:

(a) No person other than the defendant had a possessory, or pecuniary interest in the damaged or endangered property, or if other persons had such an interest, all of them consented to the defendant's conduct; and

(b) The defendant's sole intent was to destroy or damage the property for a lawful purpose. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.48.060.]

**9A.48.070 Malicious mischief in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of malicious mischief in the first degree if he or she knowingly and maliciously:

(a) Causes physical damage to the property of another in an amount exceeding five thousand dollars;

(b) Causes an interruption or impairment of service rendered to the public by physically damaging or tampering with an emergency vehicle or property of the state, a political subdivision thereof, or a public utility or mode of public transportation, power, or communication; or

(c) Causes an impairment of the safety, efficiency, or operation of an aircraft by physically damaging or tampering with the aircraft or aircraft equipment, fuel, lubricant, or parts.

(2) Malicious mischief in the first degree is a class B felony. [2009 c 431 § 4; 1983 1st ex.s. c 4 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.48.070.]

**Applicability—2009 c 431:** See note following RCW 4.24.230.

*Property crime database, liability:* RCW 4.24.340.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.48.080 Malicious mischief in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of malicious mischief in the second degree if he or she knowingly and maliciously:

(a) Causes physical damage to the property of another in an amount exceeding seven hundred fifty dollars; or

(b) Creates a substantial risk of interruption or impairment of service rendered to the public, by physically damaging or tampering with an emergency vehicle or property of the state, a political subdivision thereof, or a public utility or mode of public transportation, power, or communication.

(2) Malicious mischief in the second degree is a class C felony. [2009 c 431 § 5; 1994 c 261 § 17; 1979 c 145 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.48.080.]

**Applicability—2009 c 431:** See note following RCW 4.24.230.

**Finding—Intent—1994 c 261:** See note following RCW 16.52.011.

*Action by owner of stolen livestock:* RCW 4.24.320.

*Property crime database, liability:* RCW 4.24.340.

**9A.48.090 Malicious mischief in the third degree.** (1) A person is guilty of malicious mischief in the third degree if he or she:

(a) Knowingly and maliciously causes physical damage to the property of another, under circumstances not amounting to malicious mischief in the first or second degree; or

(b) Writes, paints, or draws any inscription, figure, or mark of any type on any public or private building or other structure or any real or personal property owned by any other person unless the person has obtained the express permission of the owner or operator of the property, under circumstances not amounting to malicious mischief in the first or second degree.

(2) Malicious mischief in the third degree is a gross misdemeanor. [2009 c 431 § 6; 2003 c 53 § 71; 1996 c 35 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.48.090.]

**Applicability—2009 c 431:** See note following RCW 4.24.230.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Property crime database, liability:* RCW 4.24.340.

**9A.48.100 Malicious mischief—"Physical damage" defined.** For the purposes of RCW 9A.48.070 through 9A.48.090 inclusive:

(1) "Physical damage", in addition to its ordinary meaning, shall include the total or partial alteration, damage, obliteration, or erasure of records, information, data, computer programs, or their computer representations, which are recorded for use in computers or the impairment, interruption, or interference with the use of such records, information, data, or computer programs, or the impairment, interruption, or interference with the use of any computer or services provided by computers. "Physical damage" also includes any diminution in the value of any property as the consequence of an act;

(2) If more than one item of property is physically damaged as a result of a common scheme or plan by a person and the physical damage to the property would, when considered separately, constitute mischief in the third degree because of value, then the value of the damages may be aggregated in one count. If the sum of the value of all the physical damages exceeds two hundred fifty dollars, the defendant may be charged with and convicted of malicious mischief in the second degree. [1984 c 273 § 4; 1981 c 260 § 2. Prior: 1979 ex.s. c 244 § 11; 1979 c 145 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 174 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.48.100.]

*Action by owner of stolen livestock: RCW 4.24.320.*

*Computer trespass: RCW 9A.52.110 through 9A.52.130.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9A.48.105 Criminal street gang tagging and graffiti.**

(1) A person is guilty of criminal street gang tagging and graffiti if he or she commits malicious mischief in the third degree under RCW 9A.48.090(1)(b) and he or she:

(a) Has multiple current convictions for malicious mischief in the third degree offenses under RCW 9A.48.090(1)(b); or

(b) Has previously been convicted for a malicious mischief in the third degree offense under RCW 9A.48.090(1)(b) or a comparable offense under a municipal code provision of any city or town; and

(c) The current offense or one of the current offenses is a "criminal street gang-related offense" as defined in RCW 9.94A.030.

(2) Criminal street gang tagging and graffiti is a gross misdemeanor offense. [2008 c 276 § 306.]

**Severability—Part headings, subheadings not law—2008 c 276:** See notes following RCW 36.28A.200.

**9A.48.110 Defacing a state monument.** (1) A person is guilty of defacing a state monument if he or she knowingly defaces a monument or memorial on the state capitol campus or other state property.

(2) Defacing a state monument is a misdemeanor. [1995 c 66 § 1.]

**9A.48.120 Civil disorder training.** (1) A person is guilty of civil disorder training if he or she teaches or demonstrates to any other person the use, application, or making of any device or technique capable of causing significant bodily injury or death to persons, knowing, or having reason to know or intending that same will be unlawfully employed for use in, or in furtherance of, a civil disorder.

(2) Civil disorder training is a class B felony.

(3) Nothing in this section makes unlawful any act of any law enforcement officer that is performed in the lawful performance of his or her official duties.

(4) Nothing in this section makes unlawful any act of firearms training, target shooting, or other firearms activity, so long as it is not done for the purpose of furthering a civil disorder.

(5) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Civil disorder" means any public disturbance involving acts of violence that is intended to cause an immediate danger of, or to result in, significant injury to property or the person of any other individual.

(b) "Law enforcement officer" means any law enforcement officer as defined in RCW 9A.76.020(2) including members of the Washington national guard, as defined in RCW 38.04.010. [2008 c 206 § 1; 2002 c 340 § 1.]

## **Chapter 9A.49 RCW LASERS**

### Sections

9A.49.001	Findings.
9A.49.010	Definitions.
9A.49.020	Unlawful discharge of a laser in the first degree.
9A.49.030	Unlawful discharge of a laser in the second degree.
9A.49.040	Civil infraction, when.
9A.49.050	Exclusions.

**9A.49.001 Findings.** The legislature finds that lasers are becoming both less expensive and more accessible in our technologically advanced society. Laser devices are being used by individuals in a manner so as to intimidate and harass. This creates an especially serious problem for law enforcement officers who reasonably believe they are the target of a laser sighting device on a firearm. Additionally, emergency service providers, service providers, and others who operate aircraft or motor vehicles may be negatively affected to the point of jeopardizing their safety as well as the safety of others. In order to address the misuse of lasers, the legislature hereby finds it necessary to criminalize the discharge of lasers under certain circumstances. [1999 c 180 § 1.]

**9A.49.010 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Aircraft" means any contrivance known or hereafter invented, used, or designed for navigation of or flight in air.

(2) "Laser" means any device designed or used to amplify electromagnetic radiation by simulated [stimulated] emission which is visible to the human eye.

(3) "Laser sighting system or device" means any system or device which is integrated with or affixed to a firearm and which emits a laser light beam that is used by the shooter to assist in the sight alignment of that firearm. [1999 c 180 § 2.]

**9A.49.020 Unlawful discharge of a laser in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of unlawful discharge of a laser in the first degree if he or she knowingly and maliciously discharges a laser, under circumstances not amounting to malicious mischief in the first degree:

(a) At a law enforcement officer or other employee of a law enforcement agency who is performing his or her official duties in uniform or exhibiting evidence of his or her authority, and in a manner that would support that officer's or employee's reasonable belief that he or she is targeted with a laser sighting device or system; or

(b) At a law enforcement officer or other employee of a law enforcement agency who is performing his or her official duties, causing an impairment of the safety or operation of a law enforcement vehicle or causing an interruption or impairment of service rendered to the public by negatively affecting the officer or employee; or

(c) At a pilot, causing an impairment of the safety or operation of an aircraft or causing an interruption or impairment of service rendered to the public by negatively affecting the pilot; or

(d) At a firefighter or other employee of a fire department, county fire marshal's office, county fire prevention bureau, or fire protection district who is performing his or her official duties, causing an impairment of the safety or operation of an emergency vehicle or causing an interruption or impairment of service rendered to the public by negatively affecting the firefighter or employee; or

(e) At a transit operator or driver of a public or private transit company while that person is performing his or her official duties, causing an impairment of the safety or operation of a transit vehicle or causing an interruption or impairment of service rendered to the public by negatively affecting the operator or driver; or

(f) At a school bus driver employed by a school district or private company while the driver is performing his or her official duties, causing an impairment of the safety or operation of a school bus or causing an interruption or impairment of service by negatively affecting the bus driver.

(2) Except as provided in RCW 9A.49.040, unlawful discharge of a laser in the first degree is a class C felony. [1999 c 180 § 3.]

**9A.49.030 Unlawful discharge of a laser in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of unlawful discharge of a laser in the second degree if he or she knowingly and maliciously discharges a laser, under circumstances not amounting to unlawful discharge of a laser in the first degree or malicious mischief in the first or second degree:

(a) At a person, not described in RCW 9A.49.020(1) (a) through (f), who is operating a motor vehicle at the time, causing an impairment of the safety or operation of a motor vehicle by negatively affecting the driver; or

(b) At a person described in RCW 9A.49.020(1) (b) through (f), causing a substantial risk of an impairment or interruption as described in RCW 9A.49.020(1) (b) through (f); or

(c) At a person in order to intimidate or threaten that person.

(2) Except as provided in RCW 9A.49.040, unlawful discharge of a laser in the second degree is a gross misdemeanor. [1999 c 180 § 4.]

**9A.49.040 Civil infraction, when.** Unlawful discharge of a laser in the first degree or second degree is a civil infraction if committed by a juvenile who has not before committed either offense. The monetary penalty imposed upon a juvenile may not exceed one hundred dollars. [1999 c 180 § 5.]

**9A.49.050 Exclusions.** This chapter does not apply to the conduct of a laser development activity by or on behalf of the United States armed forces. [1999 c 180 § 6.]

## Chapter 9A.50 RCW

### INTERFERENCE WITH HEALTH CARE FACILITIES OR PROVIDERS

#### Sections

9A.50.005	Finding.
9A.50.010	Definitions.
9A.50.020	Interference with health care facility.
9A.50.030	Penalty.
9A.50.040	Civil remedies.
9A.50.050	Civil damages.
9A.50.060	Informational picketing.
9A.50.070	Protection of health care patients and providers.
9A.50.900	Construction.
9A.50.901	Severability—1993 c 128.
9A.50.902	Effective date—1993 c 128.

**9A.50.005 Finding.** The legislature finds that seeking or obtaining health care is fundamental to public health and safety. [1993 c 128 § 1.]

**9A.50.010 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Health care facility" means a facility that provides health care services directly to patients, including but not limited to, a hospital, clinic, health care provider's office, health maintenance organization, diagnostic or treatment center, neuropsychiatric or mental health facility, hospice, or nursing home.

(2) "Health care provider" has the same meaning as defined in RCW 7.70.020 (1) and (2), and also means an officer, director, employee, or agent of a health care facility who sues or testifies regarding matters within the scope of his or her employment.

(3) "Aggrieved" means:

(a) A person, physically present at the health care facility when the prohibited actions occur, whose access is or is about to be obstructed or impeded;

(b) A person, physically present at the health care facility when the prohibited actions occur, whose care is or is about to be disrupted;

(c) The health care facility, its employees, or agents;

(d) The owner of the health care facility or the building or property upon which the health care facility is located. [1993 c 128 § 2.]

**9A.50.020 Interference with health care facility.** It is unlawful for a person except as otherwise protected by state or federal law, alone or in concert with others, to willfully or recklessly interfere with access to or from a health care facility or willfully or recklessly disrupt the normal functioning of such facility by:

(1) Physically obstructing or impeding the free passage of a person seeking to enter or depart from the facility or from the common areas of the real property upon which the facility is located;

(2) Making noise that unreasonably disturbs the peace within the facility;

(3) Trespassing on the facility or the common areas of the real property upon which the facility is located;

(4) Telephoning the facility repeatedly, or knowingly permitting any telephone under his or her control to be used for such purpose; or

(5) Threatening to inflict injury on the owners, agents, patients, employees, or property of the facility or knowingly permitting any telephone under his or her control to be used for such purpose. [1993 c 128 § 3.]

**9A.50.030 Penalty.** A violation of RCW 9A.50.020 is a gross misdemeanor. A person convicted of violating RCW 9A.50.020 shall be punished as follows:

(1) For a first offense, a fine of not less than two hundred fifty dollars and a jail term of not less than twenty-four consecutive hours;

(2) For a second offense, a fine of not less than five hundred dollars and a jail term of not less than seven consecutive days; and

(3) For a third or subsequent offense, a fine of not less than one thousand dollars and a jail term of not less than thirty consecutive days. [1993 c 128 § 4.]

**9A.50.040 Civil remedies.** (1) A person or health care facility aggrieved by the actions prohibited by RCW 9A.50.020 may seek civil damages from those who committed the prohibited acts and those acting in concert with them. A plaintiff in an action brought under this chapter shall not recover more than his or her actual damages and additional sums authorized in RCW 9A.50.050. Once a plaintiff recovers his or her actual damages and any additional sums authorized under this chapter, additional damages shall not be recovered. A person does not have to be criminally convicted of violating RCW 9A.50.020 to be held civilly liable under this section. It is not necessary to prove actual damages to recover the additional sums authorized under RCW 9A.50.050, costs, and attorneys' fees. The prevailing party is entitled to recover costs and attorneys' fees.

(2) The superior courts of this state shall have authority to grant temporary, preliminary, and permanent injunctive relief to enjoin violations of this chapter.

In appropriate circumstances, any superior court having personal jurisdiction over one or more defendants may issue injunctive relief that shall have binding effect on the original defendants and persons acting in concert with the original defendants, in any county in the state.

Due to the nature of the harm involved, injunctive relief may be issued without bond in the discretion of the court, notwithstanding any other requirement imposed by statute.

The state and its political subdivisions shall cooperate in the enforcement of court injunctions that seek to protect against acts prohibited by this chapter. [1993 c 128 § 6.]

**9A.50.050 Civil damages.** In a civil action brought under this chapter, an individual plaintiff aggrieved by the actions prohibited by RCW 9A.50.020 may be entitled to recover up to five hundred dollars for each day that the actions occurred, or up to five thousand dollars for each day that the actions occurred if the plaintiff aggrieved by the actions prohibited under RCW 9A.50.020 is a health care facility. [1993 c 128 § 7.]

**9A.50.060 Informational picketing.** Nothing in RCW 9A.50.020 shall prohibit either lawful picketing or other publicity for the purpose of providing the public with information. [1993 c 128 § 8.]

**9A.50.070 Protection of health care patients and providers.** A court having jurisdiction over a criminal or civil proceeding under this chapter shall take all steps reasonably necessary to safeguard the individual privacy and prevent harassment of a health care patient or health care provider who is a party or witness in a proceeding, including granting protective orders and orders in limine. [1993 c 128 § 9.]

**9A.50.900 Construction.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit the right to seek other available criminal or civil remedies. The remedies provided in this chapter are cumulative, not exclusive. [1993 c 128 § 11.]

**9A.50.901 Severability—1993 c 128.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1993 c 128 § 12.]

**9A.50.902 Effective date—1993 c 128.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately [April 26, 1993]. [1993 c 128 § 14.]

## Chapter 9A.52 RCW BURGLARY AND TRESPASS

### Sections

9A.52.010	Definitions.
9A.52.020	Burglary in the first degree.
9A.52.025	Residential burglary.
9A.52.030	Burglary in the second degree.
9A.52.040	Inference of intent.
9A.52.050	Other crime in committing burglary punishable.
9A.52.060	Making or having burglar tools.
9A.52.070	Criminal trespass in the first degree.
9A.52.080	Criminal trespass in the second degree.
9A.52.090	Criminal trespass—Defenses.
9A.52.095	Vehicle prowling in the first degree.
9A.52.100	Vehicle prowling in the second degree.
9A.52.110	Computer trespass in the first degree.
9A.52.120	Computer trespass in the second degree.
9A.52.130	Computer trespass—Commission of other crime.

**9A.52.010 Definitions.** The following definitions apply in this chapter:

(1) "Access" means to approach, instruct, communicate with, store data in, retrieve data from, or otherwise make use of any resources of a computer, directly or by electronic means.

(2) "Computer program" means an ordered set of data representing coded instructions or statements that when executed by a computer cause the computer to process data.

(3) "Data" means a representation of information, knowledge, facts, concepts, or instructions that are being prepared or have been prepared in a formalized manner and are intended for use in a computer.

(4) "Enter." The word "enter" when constituting an element or part of a crime, shall include the entrance of the person, or the insertion of any part of his or her body, or any instrument or weapon held in his or her hand and used or intended to be used to threaten or intimidate a person or to detach or remove property;

(5) "Enters or remains unlawfully." A person "enters or remains unlawfully" in or upon premises when he or she is not then licensed, invited, or otherwise privileged to so enter or remain.

A license or privilege to enter or remain in a building which is only partly open to the public is not a license or privilege to enter or remain in that part of a building which is not open to the public. A person who enters or remains upon unimproved and apparently unused land, which is neither fenced nor otherwise enclosed in a manner designed to exclude intruders, does so with license and privilege unless notice against trespass is personally communicated to him or her by the owner of the land or some other authorized person, or unless notice is given by posting in a conspicuous manner. Land that is used for commercial aquaculture or for growing an agricultural crop or crops, other than timber, is not unimproved and apparently unused land if a crop or any other sign of cultivation is clearly visible or if notice is given by posting in a conspicuous manner. Similarly, a field fenced in any manner is not unimproved and apparently unused land. A license or privilege to enter or remain on improved and apparently used land that is open to the public at particular times, which is neither fenced nor otherwise enclosed in a manner to exclude intruders, is not a license or privilege to enter or remain on the land at other times if notice of prohibited times of entry is posted in a conspicuous manner.

(6) "Premises" includes any building, dwelling, structure used for commercial aquaculture, or any real property. [2011 c 336 § 369; 2004 c 69 § 1; 1985 c 289 § 1. Prior: 1984 c 273 § 5; 1984 c 49 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.52.010.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**9A.52.020 Burglary in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of burglary in the first degree if, with intent to commit a crime against a person or property therein, he or she enters or remains unlawfully in a building and if, in entering or while in the building or in immediate flight therefrom, the actor or another participant in the crime (a) is armed with a deadly weapon, or (b) assaults any person.

(2) Burglary in the first degree is a class A felony. [1996 c 15 § 1; 1995 c 129 § 9 (Initiative Measure No. 159); 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.52.020.]

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

**9A.52.025 Residential burglary.** (1) A person is guilty of residential burglary if, with intent to commit a crime against a person or property therein, the person enters or remains unlawfully in a dwelling other than a vehicle.

(2) Residential burglary is a class B felony. In establishing sentencing guidelines and disposition standards, residential burglary is to be considered a more serious offense than second degree burglary. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 38; 1989 2nd ex.s. c 1 § 1; 1989 c 412 § 1.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.52.030 Burglary in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of burglary in the second degree if, with intent to

commit a crime against a person or property therein, he or she enters or remains unlawfully in a building other than a vehicle or a dwelling.

(2) Burglary in the second degree is a class B felony. [2011 c 336 § 370; 1989 2nd ex.s. c 1 § 2; 1989 c 412 § 2; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 7; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.52.030.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.52.040 Inference of intent.** In any prosecution for burglary, any person who enters or remains unlawfully in a building may be inferred to have acted with intent to commit a crime against a person or property therein, unless such entering or remaining shall be explained by evidence satisfactory to the trier of fact to have been made without such criminal intent. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.52.040.]

**9A.52.050 Other crime in committing burglary punishable.** Every person who, in the commission of a burglary shall commit any other crime, may be punished therefor as well as for the burglary, and may be prosecuted for each crime separately. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.52.050.]

**9A.52.060 Making or having burglar tools.** (1) Every person who shall make or mend or cause to be made or mended, or have in his or her possession, any engine, machine, tool, false key, pick lock, bit, nippers, or implement adapted, designed, or commonly used for the commission of burglary under circumstances evincing an intent to use or employ, or allow the same to be used or employed in the commission of a burglary, or knowing that the same is intended to be so used, shall be guilty of making or having burglar tools.

(2) Making or having burglar tools is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 371; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.52.060.]

**9A.52.070 Criminal trespass in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of criminal trespass in the first degree if he or she knowingly enters or remains unlawfully in a building.

(2) Criminal trespass in the first degree is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 372; 1979 ex.s. c 244 § 12; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.52.070.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.52.080 Criminal trespass in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of criminal trespass in the second degree if he or she knowingly enters or remains unlawfully in or upon premises of another under circumstances not constituting criminal trespass in the first degree.

(2) Criminal trespass in the second degree is a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 373; 1979 ex.s. c 244 § 13; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.52.080.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.52.090 Criminal trespass—Defenses.** In any prosecution under RCW 9A.52.070 and 9A.52.080, it is a defense that:

(1) A building involved in an offense under RCW 9A.52.070 was abandoned; or

(2) The premises were at the time open to members of the public and the actor complied with all lawful conditions imposed on access to or remaining in the premises; or

(3) The actor reasonably believed that the owner of the premises, or other person empowered to license access thereto, would have licensed him or her to enter or remain; or

(4) The actor was attempting to serve legal process which includes any document required or allowed to be served upon persons or property, by any statute, rule, ordinance, regulation, or court order, excluding delivery by the mails of the United States. This defense applies only if the actor did not enter into a private residence or other building not open to the public and the entry onto the premises was reasonable and necessary for service of the legal process. [2011 c 336 § 374; 1986 c 219 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.52.090.]

**9A.52.095 Vehicle prowling in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of vehicle prowling in the first degree if, with intent to commit a crime against a person or property therein, he or she enters or remains unlawfully in a motor home, as defined in RCW 46.04.305, or in a vessel equipped for propulsion by mechanical means or by sail which has a cabin equipped with permanently installed sleeping quarters or cooking facilities.

(2) Vehicle prowling in the first degree is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 375; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 13.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.52.100 Vehicle prowling in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of vehicle prowling in the second degree if, with intent to commit a crime against a person or property therein, he or she enters or remains unlawfully in a vehicle other than a motor home, as defined in RCW 46.04.305, or a vessel equipped for propulsion by mechanical means or by sail which has a cabin equipped with permanently installed sleeping quarters or cooking facilities.

(2) Vehicle prowling in the second degree is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 376; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 14; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.52.100.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.52.110 Computer trespass in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of computer trespass in the first degree if the person, without authorization, intentionally gains access to a computer system or electronic database of another; and

(a) The access is made with the intent to commit another crime; or

(b) The violation involves a computer or database maintained by a government agency.

(2) Computer trespass in the first degree is a class C felony. [1984 c 273 § 1.]

**9A.52.120 Computer trespass in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of computer trespass in the second degree if the person, without authorization, intentionally gains access to a computer system or electronic database of another under circumstances not constituting the offense in the first degree.

(2) Computer trespass in the second degree is a gross misdemeanor. [1984 c 273 § 2.]

**9A.52.130 Computer trespass—Commission of other crime.** A person who, in the commission of a computer trespass, commits any other crime may be punished for that other crime as well as for the computer trespass and may be prosecuted for each crime separately. [1984 c 273 § 3.]

*Physical damage to computer programs: RCW 9A.48.100.*

## Chapter 9A.56 RCW THEFT AND ROBBERY

### Sections

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9A.56.050	Theft in the third degree.
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9A.56.270	Shopping cart theft.
9A.56.280	Credit, debit cards, checks, etc.—Definitions.
9A.56.290	Credit, payment cards—Unlawful factoring of transactions.
9A.56.300	Theft of a firearm.
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9A.56.320	Financial fraud—Unlawful possession, production of instruments of.
9A.56.330	Possession of another's identification.
9A.56.340	Theft with the intent to resell.
9A.56.350	Organized retail theft.
9A.56.360	Retail theft with extenuating circumstances.
9A.56.370	Mail theft.
9A.56.380	Possession of stolen mail.
9A.56.390	Mail theft—Possession of stolen mail—Commission of other crime.

*Insurance producer, appropriation of premiums: RCW 48.17.480.*

*Pawnbrokers and secondhand dealers: RCW 19.60.066.*

*Public lands, taking or destroying property is theft: RCW 79.02.310.*

*Public officer misappropriating funds: RCW 42.20.070, 42.20.090.*

*Removing native flora from state lands or highways: RCW 47.40.080.*

*Retaining books, etc., from public library: RCW 27.12.340.*

*Search and seizures: Chapter 10.79 RCW.*

*Stealing, receiving railroad property: RCW 81.60.080.*

*Stolen property, restoration, sale does not divest rights, duty of officer: RCW 10.79.050.*

*Sufficiency of indictment or information alleging crime of larceny: RCW 10.37.110.*

**9A.56.010 Definitions.** The following definitions are applicable in this chapter unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Access device" means any card, plate, code, account number, or other means of account access that can be used alone or in conjunction with another access device to obtain money, goods, services, or anything else of value, or that can be used to initiate a transfer of funds, other than a transfer originated solely by paper instrument;

(2) "Appropriate lost or misdelivered property or services" means obtaining or exerting control over the property or services of another which the actor knows to have been lost or mislaid, or to have been delivered under a mistake as to identity of the recipient or as to the nature or amount of the property;

(3) "Beverage crate" means a plastic or metal box-like container used by a manufacturer or distributor in the transportation or distribution of individually packaged beverages to retail outlets, and affixed with language stating "property of . . . .," "owned by . . . .," or other markings or words identifying ownership;

(4) "By color or aid of deception" means that the deception operated to bring about the obtaining of the property or services; it is not necessary that deception be the sole means of obtaining the property or services;

(5) "Deception" occurs when an actor knowingly:

(a) Creates or confirms another's false impression which the actor knows to be false; or

(b) Fails to correct another's impression which the actor previously has created or confirmed; or

(c) Prevents another from acquiring information material to the disposition of the property involved; or

(d) Transfers or encumbers property without disclosing a lien, adverse claim, or other legal impediment to the enjoyment of the property, whether that impediment is or is not valid, or is or is not a matter of official record; or

(e) Promises performance which the actor does not intend to perform or knows will not be performed;

(6) "Deprive" in addition to its common meaning means to make unauthorized use or an unauthorized copy of records, information, data, trade secrets, or computer programs;

(7) "Mail," in addition to its common meaning, means any letter, postal card, package, bag, or other item that is addressed to a specific address for delivery by the United States postal service or any commercial carrier performing the function of delivering similar items to residences or businesses, provided the mail:

(a)(i) Is addressed with a specific person's name, family name, or company, business, or corporation name on the outside of the item of mail or on the contents inside; and

(ii) Is not addressed to a generic unnamed occupant or resident of the address without an identifiable person, family, or company, business, or corporation name on the outside of the item of mail or on the contents inside; and

(b) Has been left for collection or delivery in any letter box, mailbox, mail receptacle, or other authorized depository for mail, or given to a mail carrier, or left with any private business that provides mailboxes or mail addresses for cus-

tomers or when left in a similar location for collection or delivery by any commercial carrier; or

(c) Is in transit with a postal service, mail carrier, letter carrier, commercial carrier, or that is at or in a postal vehicle, postal station, mailbox, postal airplane, transit station, or similar location of a commercial carrier; or

(d) Has been delivered to the intended addressee, but has not been received by the intended addressee.

Mail, for purposes of chapter 164, Laws of 2011, does not include magazines, catalogs, direct mail inserts, newsletters, advertising circulars, or any mail that is considered third-class mail by the United States postal service;

(8) "Mailbox," in addition to its common meaning, means any authorized depository or receptacle of mail for the United States postal service or authorized depository for a commercial carrier that provides services to the general public, including any address to which mail is or can be addressed, or a place where the United States postal service or equivalent commercial carrier delivers mail to its addressee;

(9) "Merchandise pallet" means a wood or plastic carrier designed and manufactured as an item on which products can be placed before or during transport to retail outlets, manufacturers, or contractors, and affixed with language stating "property of . . .," "owned by . . .," or other markings or words identifying ownership;

(10) "Obtain control over" in addition to its common meaning, means:

(a) In relation to property, to bring about a transfer or purported transfer to the obtainer or another of a legally recognized interest in the property; or

(b) In relation to labor or service, to secure performance thereof for the benefits of the obtainer or another;

(11) "Owner" means a person, other than the actor, who has possession of or any other interest in the property or services involved, and without whose consent the actor has no authority to exert control over the property or services;

(12) "Parking area" means a parking lot or other property provided by retailers for use by a customer for parking an automobile or other vehicle;

(13) "Receive" includes, but is not limited to, acquiring title, possession, control, or a security interest, or any other interest in the property;

(14) "Received by the intended addressee" means that the addressee, owner of the delivery mailbox, or authorized agent has removed the delivered mail from its delivery mailbox;

(15) "Services" includes, but is not limited to, labor, professional services, transportation services, electronic computer services, the supplying of hotel accommodations, restaurant services, entertainment, the supplying of equipment for use, and the supplying of commodities of a public utility nature such as gas, electricity, steam, and water;

(16) "Shopping cart" means a basket mounted on wheels or similar container generally used in a retail establishment by a customer for the purpose of transporting goods of any kind;

(17) "Stolen" means obtained by theft, robbery, or extortion;

(18) "Subscription television service" means cable or encrypted video and related audio and data services intended



for viewing on a home television by authorized members of the public only, who have agreed to pay a fee for the service. Subscription services include but are not limited to those video services presently delivered by coaxial cable, fiber optic cable, terrestrial microwave, television broadcast, and satellite transmission;

(19) "Telecommunication device" means (a) any type of instrument, device, machine, or equipment that is capable of transmitting or receiving telephonic or electronic communications; or (b) any part of such an instrument, device, machine, or equipment, or any computer circuit, computer chip, electronic mechanism, or other component, that is capable of facilitating the transmission or reception of telephonic or electronic communications;

(20) "Telecommunication service" includes any service other than subscription television service provided for a charge or compensation to facilitate the transmission, transfer, or reception of a telephonic communication or an electronic communication;

(21) Value. (a) "Value" means the market value of the property or services at the time and in the approximate area of the criminal act.

(b) Whether or not they have been issued or delivered, written instruments, except those having a readily ascertained market value, shall be evaluated as follows:

(i) The value of an instrument constituting an evidence of debt, such as a check, draft, or promissory note, shall be deemed the amount due or collectible thereon or thereby, that figure ordinarily being the face amount of the indebtedness less any portion thereof which has been satisfied;

(ii) The value of a ticket or equivalent instrument which evidences a right to receive transportation, entertainment, or other service shall be deemed the price stated thereon, if any; and if no price is stated thereon, the value shall be deemed the price of such ticket or equivalent instrument which the issuer charged the general public;

(iii) The value of any other instrument that creates, releases, discharges, or otherwise affects any valuable legal right, privilege, or obligation shall be deemed the greatest amount of economic loss which the owner of the instrument might reasonably suffer by virtue of the loss of the instrument.

(c) Except as provided in RCW 9A.56.340(4) and 9A.56.350(4), whenever any series of transactions which constitute theft, would, when considered separately, constitute theft in the third degree because of value, and said series of transactions are a part of a criminal episode or a common scheme or plan, then the transactions may be aggregated in one count and the sum of the value of all said transactions shall be the value considered in determining the degree of theft involved.

For purposes of this subsection, "criminal episode" means a series of thefts committed by the same person from one or more mercantile establishments on three or more occasions within a five-day period.

(d) Whenever any person is charged with possessing stolen property and such person has unlawfully in his possession at the same time the stolen property of more than one person, then the stolen property possessed may be aggregated in one count and the sum of the value of all said stolen property shall be the value considered in determining the degree of theft

involved. Thefts committed by the same person in different counties that have been aggregated in one county may be prosecuted in any county in which one of the thefts occurred.

(e) Property or services having value that cannot be ascertained pursuant to the standards set forth above shall be deemed to be of a value not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars;

(22) "Wrongfully obtains" or "exerts unauthorized control" means:

(a) To take the property or services of another;

(b) Having any property or services in one's possession, custody or control as bailee, factor, lessee, pledgee, renter, servant, attorney, agent, employee, trustee, executor, administrator, guardian, or officer of any person, estate, association, or corporation, or as a public officer, or person authorized by agreement or competent authority to take or hold such possession, custody, or control, to secrete, withhold, or appropriate the same to his or her own use or to the use of any person other than the true owner or person entitled thereto; or

(c) Having any property or services in one's possession, custody, or control as partner, to secrete, withhold, or appropriate the same to his or her use or to the use of any person other than the true owner or person entitled thereto, where the use is unauthorized by the partnership agreement. [2011 c 164 § 2; 2006 c 277 § 4; 2002 c 97 § 1; 1999 c 143 § 36; 1998 c 236 § 1; 1997 c 346 § 2; 1995 c 92 § 1; 1987 c 140 § 1; 1986 c 257 § 2; 1985 c 382 § 1; 1984 c 273 § 6; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 8; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.010.]

**Intent—2011 c 164:** "It is important to the citizens of this state to have confidence in the security of the mail. Mail contains personal information, medical records, and financial documents. Theft of mail has become a serious problem in our state because mail is a key source of information for identity thieves. Currently, there is no law that adequately addresses the seriousness of this crime. This act is intended to accurately recognize the seriousness of taking personal, medical, or financial identifying information and compromising the integrity of our mail system." [2011 c 164 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.020 Theft—Definition, defense.** (1) "Theft" means:

(a) To wrongfully obtain or exert unauthorized control over the property or services of another or the value thereof, with intent to deprive him or her of such property or services; or

(b) By color or aid of deception to obtain control over the property or services of another or the value thereof, with intent to deprive him or her of such property or services; or

(c) To appropriate lost or misdelivered property or services of another, or the value thereof, with intent to deprive him or her of such property or services.

(2) In any prosecution for theft, it shall be a sufficient defense that:

(a) The property or service was appropriated openly and avowedly under a claim of title made in good faith, even though the claim be untenable; or

(b) The property was merchandise pallets that were received by a pallet recycler or repairer in the ordinary course of its business. [2004 c 122 § 1; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 9; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.020.]

*Civil action for shoplifting by adults, minors: RCW 4.24.230.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.030 Theft in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of theft in the first degree if he or she commits theft of:

(a) Property or services which exceed(s) five thousand dollars in value other than a firearm as defined in RCW 9.41.010;

(b) Property of any value, other than a firearm as defined in RCW 9.41.010 or a motor vehicle, taken from the person of another;

(c) A search and rescue dog, as defined in RCW 9.91.175, while the search and rescue dog is on duty; or

(d) Metal wire, taken from a public service company, as defined in RCW 80.04.010, or a consumer-owned utility, as defined in RCW 19.280.020, and the costs of the damage to the public service company's or consumer-owned utility's property exceed five thousand dollars in value.

(2) Theft in the first degree is a class B felony. [2012 c 233 § 2; 2009 c 431 § 7; 2007 c 199 § 3; 2005 c 212 § 2; 1995 c 129 § 11 (Initiative Measure No. 159); 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.030.]

**Applicability—2009 c 431:** See note following RCW 4.24.230.

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

*Civil action for shoplifting by adults, minors:* RCW 4.24.230.

*Property crime database, liability:* RCW 4.24.340.

**9A.56.040 Theft in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of theft in the second degree if he or she commits theft of:

(a) Property or services which exceed(s) seven hundred fifty dollars in value but does not exceed five thousand dollars in value, other than a firearm as defined in RCW 9.41.010 or a motor vehicle;

(b) A public record, writing, or instrument kept, filed, or deposited according to law with or in the keeping of any public office or public servant;

(c) Metal wire, taken from a public service company, as defined in RCW 80.04.010, or a consumer-owned utility, as defined in RCW 19.280.020, and the costs of the damage to the public service company's or consumer-owned utility's property exceed seven hundred fifty dollars but does not exceed five thousand dollars in value; or

(d) An access device.

(2) Theft in the second degree is a class C felony. [2012 c 233 § 3; 2009 c 431 § 8; 2007 c 199 § 4; 1995 c 129 § 12 (Initiative Measure No. 159); 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 433; 1987 c 140 § 2; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 15; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.040.]

**Applicability—2009 c 431:** See note following RCW 4.24.230.

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

*Civil action for shoplifting by adults, minors:* RCW 4.24.230.

*Property crime database, liability:* RCW 4.24.340.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.050 Theft in the third degree.** (1) A person is guilty of theft in the third degree if he or she commits theft of property or services which (a) does not exceed seven hundred fifty dollars in value, or (b) includes ten or more merchandise pallets, or ten or more beverage crates, or a combination of ten or more merchandise pallets and beverage crates.

(2) Theft in the third degree is a gross misdemeanor. [2009 c 431 § 9; 1998 c 236 § 4; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.050.]

**Applicability—2009 c 431:** See note following RCW 4.24.230.

*Civil action for shoplifting by adults, minors:* RCW 4.24.230.

*Property crime database, liability:* RCW 4.24.340.

**9A.56.060 Unlawful issuance of checks or drafts.** (1) Any person who shall with intent to defraud, make, or draw, or utter, or deliver to another person any check, or draft, on a bank or other depository for the payment of money, knowing at the time of such drawing, or delivery, that he or she has not sufficient funds in, or credit with the bank or other depository, to meet the check or draft, in full upon its presentation, is guilty of unlawful issuance of bank check. The word "credit" as used herein shall be construed to mean an arrangement or understanding with the bank or other depository for the payment of such check or draft, and the uttering or delivery of such a check or draft to another person without such fund or credit to meet the same shall be prima facie evidence of an intent to defraud.

(2) Any person who shall with intent to defraud, make, or draw, or utter, or deliver to another person any check, or draft on a bank or other depository for the payment of money and who issues a stop-payment order directing the bank or depository on which the check is drawn not to honor the check, and who fails to make payment of money in the amount of the check or draft or otherwise arrange a settlement agreed upon by the holder of the check within twenty days of issuing the check or draft is guilty of unlawful issuance of a bank check.

(3) When any series of transactions which constitute unlawful issuance of a bank check would, when considered separately, constitute unlawful issuance of a bank check in an amount of seven hundred fifty dollars or less because of value, and the series of transactions are a part of a common scheme or plan, the transactions may be aggregated in one count and the sum of the value of all of the transactions shall be the value considered in determining whether the unlawful issuance of a bank check is to be punished as a class C felony or a gross misdemeanor.

(4) Unlawful issuance of a bank check in an amount greater than seven hundred fifty dollars is a class C felony.

(5) Unlawful issuance of a bank check in an amount of seven hundred fifty dollars or less is a gross misdemeanor and shall be punished as follows:

(a) The court shall order the defendant to make full restitution;

(b) The defendant need not be imprisoned, but the court shall impose a fine of up to one thousand one hundred twenty-five dollars. Of the fine imposed, at least three hundred seventy-five dollars or an amount equal to one hundred fifty percent of the amount of the bank check, whichever is greater, shall not be suspended or deferred. Upon conviction for a second offense within any twelve-month period, the

court may not suspend or defer any portion of the fine. [2009 c 431 § 10; 1982 c 138 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 244 § 14; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.060.]

**Applicability—2009 c 431:** See note following RCW 4.24.230.

*Maintenance by state treasurer of accounts in amount less than all warrants outstanding not a violation of RCW 9A.56.060(1):* RCW 43.08.135.

*Property crime database, liability:* RCW 4.24.340.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.063 Making or possessing motor vehicle theft tools.** (1) Any person who makes or mends, or causes to be made or mended, uses, or has in his or her possession any motor vehicle theft tool, that is adapted, designed, or commonly used for the commission of motor vehicle related theft, under circumstances evincing an intent to use or employ, or allow the same to be used or employed, in the commission of motor vehicle theft, or knowing that the same is intended to be so used, is guilty of making or having motor vehicle theft tools.

(2) For the purpose of this section, motor vehicle theft tool includes, but is not limited to, the following: Slim jim, false master key, master purpose key, altered or shaved key, trial or jiggle key, slide hammer, lock puller, picklock, bit, nipper, any other implement shown by facts and circumstances that is intended to be used in the commission of a motor vehicle related theft, or knowing that the same is intended to be so used.

(3) For the purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(a) "False master" or "master key" is any key or other device made or altered to fit locks or ignitions of multiple vehicles, or vehicles other than that for which the key was originally manufactured.

(b) "Altered or shaved key" is any key so altered, by cutting, filing, or other means, to fit multiple vehicles or vehicles other than the vehicles for which the key was originally manufactured.

(c) "Trial keys" or "jiggler keys" are keys or sets designed or altered to manipulate a vehicle locking mechanism other than the lock for which the key was originally manufactured.

(4) Making or having motor vehicle theft tools is a gross misdemeanor. [2007 c 199 § 18.]

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**9A.56.065 Theft of motor vehicle.** (1) A person is guilty of theft of a motor vehicle if he or she commits theft of a motor vehicle.

(2) Theft of a motor vehicle is a class B felony. [2007 c 199 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—2007 c 199:** "(1) The legislature finds that:

(a) Automobiles are an essential part of our everyday lives. The west coast is the only region of the United States with an increase of over three percent in motor vehicle thefts over the last several years. The family car is a priority of most individuals and families. The family car is typically the second largest investment a person has next to the home, so when a car is stolen, it causes a significant loss and inconvenience to people, imposes financial hardship, and negatively impacts their work, school, and personal activities. Appropriate and meaningful penalties that are proportionate to the crime committed must be imposed on those who steal motor vehicles;

(b) In Washington, more than one car is stolen every eleven minutes, one hundred thirty-eight cars are stolen every day, someone's car has a one

in one hundred seventy-nine chance of being stolen, and more vehicles were stolen in 2005 than in any other previous year. Since 1994, auto theft has increased over fifty-five percent, while other property crimes like burglary are on the decline or holding steady. The national crime insurance bureau reports that Seattle and Tacoma ranked in the top ten places for the most auto thefts, ninth and tenth respectively, in 2004. In 2005, over fifty thousand auto thefts were reported costing Washington citizens more than three hundred twenty-five million dollars in higher insurance rates and lost vehicles. Nearly eighty percent of these crimes occurred in the central Puget Sound region consisting of the heavily populated areas of King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties;

(c) Law enforcement has determined that auto theft, along with all the grief it causes the immediate victims, is linked more and more to offenders engaged in other crimes. Many stolen vehicles are used by criminals involved in such crimes as robbery, burglary, and assault. In addition, many people who are stopped in stolen vehicles are found to possess the personal identification of other persons, or to possess methamphetamine, precursors to methamphetamine, or equipment used to cook methamphetamine;

(d) Juveniles account for over half of the reported auto thefts with many of these thefts being their first criminal offense. It is critical that they, along with first time adult offenders, are appropriately punished for their crimes. However, it is also important that first time offenders who qualify receive appropriate counseling treatment for associated problems that may have contributed to the commission of the crime, such as drugs, alcohol, and anger management; and

(e) A coordinated and concentrated enforcement mechanism is critical to an effective statewide offensive against motor vehicle theft. Such a system provides for better communications between and among law enforcement agencies, more efficient implementation of efforts to discover, track, and arrest auto thieves, quicker recovery, and the return of stolen vehicles, saving millions of dollars in potential loss to victims and their insurers.

(2) It is the intent of this act to deter motor vehicle theft through a statewide cooperative effort by combating motor vehicle theft through tough laws, supporting law enforcement activities, improving enforcement and administration, effective prosecution, public awareness, and meaningful treatment for first time offenders where appropriate. It is also the intent of the legislature to ensure that adequate funding is provided to implement this act in order for real, observable reductions in the number of auto thefts in Washington state." [2007 c 199 § 1.]

**Short title—2007 c 199:** "This act shall be known as the Elizabeth Nowak-Washington auto theft prevention act." [2007 c 199 § 29.]

**9A.56.068 Possession of stolen vehicle.** (1) A person is guilty of possession of a stolen vehicle if he or she possess [possesses] a stolen motor vehicle.

(2) Possession of a stolen motor vehicle is a class B felony. [2007 c 199 § 5.]

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**9A.56.070 Taking motor vehicle without permission in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of taking a motor vehicle without permission in the first degree if he or she, without the permission of the owner or person entitled to possession, intentionally takes or drives away an automobile or motor vehicle, whether propelled by steam, electricity, or internal combustion engine, that is the property of another, and he or she:

(a) Alters the motor vehicle for the purpose of changing its appearance or primary identification, including obscuring, removing, or changing the manufacturer's serial number or the vehicle identification number plates;

(b) Removes, or participates in the removal of, parts from the motor vehicle with the intent to sell the parts;

(c) Exports, or attempts to export, the motor vehicle across state lines or out of the United States for profit;

(d) Intends to sell the motor vehicle; or

(e) Is engaged in a conspiracy and the central object of the conspiratorial agreement is the theft of motor vehicles for

sale to others for profit or is engaged in a conspiracy and has solicited a juvenile to participate in the theft of a motor vehicle.

(2) Taking a motor vehicle without permission in the first degree is a class B felony. [2007 c 199 § 16; 2003 c 53 § 72; 2002 c 324 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.070.]

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Study and report—2002 c 324:** "The sentencing guidelines commission shall study the impact of the sentencing changes in this act upon the incidence of the crime of taking a motor vehicle without permission. By December 2004, the commission shall submit a report to the governor and the legislature. The report shall address:

(1) Whether the creation of the crime of taking a motor vehicle without permission in the first degree and the increased penalties for that new crime have resulted in a reduction in the number of convictions for taking a motor vehicle without permission in the first or second degree; and

(2) Whether there are other actions, either civil or criminal, that could have the effect of further decreasing the incidence of these crimes, including but not limited to: The revocation of driving privileges, double scoring of prior convictions, or increasing penalties for juveniles." [2002 c 324 § 4.]

**9A.56.075 Taking motor vehicle without permission in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of taking a motor vehicle without permission in the second degree if he or she, without the permission of the owner or person entitled to possession, intentionally takes or drives away any automobile or motor vehicle, whether propelled by steam, electricity, or internal combustion engine, that is the property of another, or he or she voluntarily rides in or upon the automobile or motor vehicle with knowledge of the fact that the automobile or motor vehicle was unlawfully taken.

(2) Taking a motor vehicle without permission in the second degree is a class C felony. [2003 c 53 § 73.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9A.56.078 Motor vehicle crimes—Civil action.** (1) A person who is deprived of his or her motor vehicle because of a violation of RCW 9A.56.030, 9A.56.040, 9A.56.070, or 9A.56.075 may file an action in superior court against the perpetrator for the recovery of actual damages, limited to the value of any damage to the vehicle and any property stolen from the vehicle, civil damages of up to five thousand dollars, and the costs of the suit, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, service of any summons or other process under this section shall be by personal service.

(b)(i) If the defendant cannot be found after a due and diligent search, the defendant's violation of RCW 9A.56.030, 9A.56.040, 9A.56.070, or 9A.56.075 shall be deemed to constitute an appointment by the defendant of the secretary of state of the state of Washington to be his or her true and lawful attorney upon whom may be served all lawful summons and processes against him or her under this section. The plaintiff shall perform the service allowed under this subsection (2)(b)(i) by leaving two copies of the summons or other process with the secretary of state or at the secretary of state's office. Service in this manner constitutes sufficient and valid personal service upon the defendant.

(ii) After performing service under (b)(i) of this subsection, the plaintiff shall promptly send notice of service under

(b)(i) of this subsection and a copy of the summons or process to the defendant by registered mail, with return receipt requested, to the defendant's last known address. After complying with this subsection (2)(b)(ii), the plaintiff shall file the following with the secretary of state to be attached to the summons or process filed under (b)(i) of this subsection:

(A) An affidavit from the plaintiff attesting to compliance with (b)(ii) of this subsection; and

(B) An affidavit from the plaintiff's attorney that he or she has, with due diligence, attempted to serve personal process upon the defendant at all addresses known to him or her and listing the addresses at which he or she attempted to personally serve the defendant. However, if the defendant's endorsed return receipt is received, then the affidavit need only show that the defendant received personal service by mail.

(iii) The secretary of state shall send, by prepaid mail, a copy of the summons or process received under (b)(i) of this subsection to the defendant's address, if known. The secretary of state shall keep a record that shows the day of service of all summons and processes made under (b)(i) of this subsection.

(iv) The court in which an action is brought under this section may order continuances as may be necessary to afford the defendant a reasonable opportunity to defend the action.

(v) The secretary of state may charge a fee for his or her services under (b) of this subsection. The fee shall be part of the costs of suit that may be awarded to the plaintiff.

(3) The department of licensing shall suspend the driver's license or driving privilege of a defendant until any monetary obligation imposed under subsection (1) of this section is paid in full, unless the defendant has entered into a payment plan under subsection (4) of this section.

(4) If the court determines that a person is not able to pay a monetary obligation made under subsection (1) of this section in full, the court may enter into a payment plan with the person. If the person fails to meet the obligations of the payment plan, the court may modify or revoke the plan and order the defendant to pay the obligation in full. If the court revokes the plan, it shall notify the department of licensing and the department of licensing shall suspend the driver's license or driving privilege of the defendant until the monetary obligation is paid in full.

(5) The court shall notify the department of licensing when the monetary obligation of a defendant whose license is suspended under this section is paid in full. [2007 c 393 § 1.]

**9A.56.080 Theft of livestock in the first degree.** (1) Every person who, with intent to sell or exchange and to deprive or defraud the lawful owner thereof, willfully takes, leads, or transports away, conceals, withholds, slaughters, or otherwise appropriates any horse, mule, cow, heifer, bull, steer, swine, goat, or sheep is guilty of theft of livestock in the first degree.

(2) Theft of livestock in the first degree is a class B felony. [2005 c 419 § 1; 2003 c 53 § 74; 1986 c 257 § 32; 1977 ex.s. c 174 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.080.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Action by owner of damaged or stolen livestock:* RCW 4.24.320.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.083 Theft of livestock in the second degree.** (1)

A person who commits what would otherwise be theft of livestock in the first degree but without intent to sell or exchange, and for the person's own use only, is guilty of theft of livestock in the second degree.

(2) Theft of livestock in the second degree is a class C felony. [2003 c 53 § 75.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9A.56.085 Minimum fine for theft of livestock.** (1)

Whenever a person is convicted of a violation of RCW 9A.56.080 or 9A.56.083, the convicting court shall order the person to pay the amount of two thousand dollars for each animal killed or possessed.

(2) For the purpose of this section, the term "convicted" includes a plea of guilty, a finding of guilt regardless of whether the imposition of the sentence is deferred or any part of the penalty is suspended, or the levying of a fine.

(3) If two or more persons are convicted of any violation of this section, the amount required under this section shall be imposed upon them jointly and severally.

(4) The fine in this section shall be imposed in addition to and regardless of any penalty, including fines or costs, that is provided for any violation of this section. The amount imposed by this section shall be included by the court in any pronouncement of sentence and may not be suspended, waived, modified, or deferred in any respect. Nothing in this section may be construed to abridge or alter alternative rights of action or remedies in equity or under common law or statutory law, criminal or civil.

(5) A defaulted payment or any installment payment may be collected by any means authorized by law for the enforcement of orders of the court or collection of a fine or costs, including vacation of a deferral of sentencing or of a suspension of sentence.

(6) The two thousand dollars additional penalty shall be remitted by the county treasurer to the state treasurer as provided under RCW 10.82.070. [2003 c 53 § 76; 1989 c 131 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9A.56.096 Theft of rental, leased, lease-purchased, or loaned property.** (1)

A person who, with intent to deprive the owner or owner's agent, wrongfully obtains, or exerts unauthorized control over, or by color or aid of deception gains control of personal property that is rented, leased, or loaned by written agreement to the person, is guilty of theft of rental, leased, lease-purchased, or loaned property.

(2) The finder of fact may presume intent to deprive if the finder of fact finds either of the following:

(a) That the person who rented or leased the property failed to return or make arrangements acceptable to the owner of the property or the owner's agent to return the property to the owner or the owner's agent within seventy-two hours after receipt of proper notice following the due date of the rental, lease, lease-purchase, or loan agreement; or

(b) That the renter, lessee, or borrower presented identification to the owner or the owner's agent that was materially

false, fictitious, or not current with respect to name, address, place of employment, or other appropriate items.

(3) As used in subsection (2) of this section, "proper notice" consists of a written demand by the owner or the owner's agent made after the due date of the rental, lease, lease-purchase, or loan period, mailed by certified or registered mail to the renter, lessee, or borrower at: (a) The address the renter, lessee, or borrower gave when the contract was made; or (b) the renter, lessee, or borrower's last known address if later furnished in writing by the renter, lessee, borrower, or the agent of the renter, lessee, or borrower.

(4) The replacement value of the property obtained must be utilized in determining the amount involved in the theft of rental, leased, lease-purchased, or loaned property.

(5)(a) Theft of rental, leased, lease-purchased, or loaned property is a class B felony if the rental, leased, lease-purchased, or loaned property is valued at five thousand dollars or more.

(b) Theft of rental, leased, lease-purchased, or loaned property is a class C felony if the rental, leased, lease-purchased, or loaned property is valued at seven hundred fifty dollars or more but less than five thousand dollars.

(c) Theft of rental, leased, lease-purchased, or loaned property is a gross misdemeanor if the rental, leased, lease-purchased, or loaned property is valued at less than seven hundred fifty dollars.

(6) The crime of theft of rental, leased, lease-purchased, or loaned property may be deemed to have been committed either at the physical location where the written agreement for the rental, lease, lease-purchase, or loan of the property was executed under subsection (1) of this section, or at the address where proper notice may be mailed to the renter, lessee, or borrower under subsection (3) of this section.

(7) This section applies to rental agreements that provide that the renter may return the property any time within the rental period and pay only for the time the renter actually retained the property, in addition to any minimum rental fee, to lease agreements, to lease-purchase agreements as defined under RCW 63.19.010, and to vehicles loaned to prospective purchasers borrowing a vehicle by written agreement from a motor vehicle dealer licensed under chapter 46.70 RCW. This section does not apply to rental or leasing of real property under the residential landlord-tenant act, chapter 59.18 RCW. [2012 c 30 § 1; 2009 c 431 § 11; 2007 c 199 § 17; 2003 c 53 § 77; 1997 c 346 § 1.]

**Applicability—2009 c 431:** See note following RCW 4.24.230.

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Property crime database, liability: RCW 4.24.340.*

**9A.56.100 Theft and larceny equated.** All offenses defined as larcenies outside of this title shall be treated as thefts as provided in this title. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.100.]

**9A.56.110 Extortion—Definition.** "Extortion" means knowingly to obtain or attempt to obtain by threat property or services of the owner, and specifically includes sexual favors.

[1999 c 143 § 37; 1983 1st ex.s. c 4 § 2; 1975-76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 10. Prior: 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.110.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.120 Extortion in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of extortion in the first degree if he or she commits extortion by means of a threat as defined in \*RCW 9A.04.110(27) (a), (b), or (c).

(2) Extortion in the first degree is a class B felony. [2011 c 336 § 377; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.120.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9A.04.110 was amended by 2011 c 166 § 2, changing subsection (27) to subsection (28).

**9A.56.130 Extortion in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of extortion in the second degree if he or she commits extortion by means of a wrongful threat as defined in \*RCW 9A.04.110(25) (d) through (j).

(2) In any prosecution under this section based on a threat to accuse any person of a crime or cause criminal charges to be instituted against any person, it is a defense that the actor reasonably believed the threatened criminal charge to be true and that his or her sole purpose was to compel or induce the person threatened to take reasonable action to make good the wrong which was the subject of such threatened criminal charge.

(3) Extortion in the second degree is a class C felony. [2002 c 47 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.130.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9A.04.110 was amended by 2005 c 458 § 3, changing subsection (25) to subsection (26); was subsequently amended by 2007 c 79 § 3, changing subsection (26) to subsection (27); and was subsequently amended by 2011 c 166 § 2, changing subsection (27) to subsection (28).

**Intent—2002 c 47:** "The legislature intends to revise the crime of extortion in the second degree in response to the holding in *State v. Pauling*, 108 Wn. App. 445 (2001), by adding a requirement that the threat required for conviction of the offense be wrongful." [2002 c 47 § 1.]

**9A.56.140 Possessing stolen property—Definition—Presumption.** (1) "Possessing stolen property" means knowingly to receive, retain, possess, conceal, or dispose of stolen property knowing that it has been stolen and to withhold or appropriate the same to the use of any person other than the true owner or person entitled thereto.

(2) The fact that the person who stole the property has not been convicted, apprehended, or identified is not a defense to a charge of possessing stolen property.

(3) When a person has in his or her possession, or under his or her control, stolen access devices issued in the names of two or more persons, or ten or more stolen merchandise pallets, or ten or more stolen beverage crates, or a combination of ten or more stolen merchandise pallets and beverage crates, as defined under RCW 9A.56.010, he or she is presumed to know that they are stolen.

(4) The presumption in subsection (3) of this section is rebuttable by evidence raising a reasonable inference that the possession of such stolen access devices, merchandise pallets, or beverage crates was without knowledge that they were stolen.

(5) In any prosecution for possessing stolen property, it is a sufficient defense that the property was merchandise pallets that were received by a pallet recycler or repairer in the

ordinary course of its business. [2004 c 122 § 2; 1998 c 236 § 3; 1987 c 140 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.140.]

**9A.56.150 Possessing stolen property in the first degree—Other than firearm or motor vehicle.** (1) A person is guilty of possessing stolen property in the first degree if he or she possesses stolen property, other than a firearm as defined in RCW 9.41.010 or a motor vehicle, which exceeds five thousand dollars in value.

(2) Possessing stolen property in the first degree is a class B felony. [2009 c 431 § 12; 2007 c 199 § 6; 1995 c 129 § 14 (Initiative Measure No. 159); 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.150.]

**Applicability—2009 c 431:** See note following RCW 4.24.230.

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

*Property crime database, liability:* RCW 4.24.340.

**9A.56.160 Possessing stolen property in the second degree—Other than firearm or motor vehicle.** (1) A person is guilty of possessing stolen property in the second degree if:

(a) He or she possesses stolen property, other than a firearm as defined in RCW 9.41.010 or a motor vehicle, which exceeds seven hundred fifty dollars in value but does not exceed five thousand dollars in value; or

(b) He or she possesses a stolen public record, writing or instrument kept, filed, or deposited according to law; or

(c) He or she possesses a stolen access device.

(2) Possessing stolen property in the second degree is a class C felony. [2009 c 431 § 13; 2007 c 199 § 7; 1995 c 129 § 15 (Initiative Measure No. 159); 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 434; 1987 c 140 § 4; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.160.]

**Applicability—2009 c 431:** See note following RCW 4.24.230.

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

*Property crime database, liability:* RCW 4.24.340.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.170 Possessing stolen property in the third degree.** (1) A person is guilty of possessing stolen property in the third degree if he or she possesses (a) stolen property which does not exceed seven hundred fifty dollars in value, or (b) ten or more stolen merchandise pallets, or ten or more stolen beverage crates, or a combination of ten or more stolen merchandise pallets and beverage crates.

(2) Possessing stolen property in the third degree is a gross misdemeanor. [2009 c 431 § 14; 1998 c 236 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.170.]

**Applicability—2009 c 431:** See note following RCW 4.24.230.

*Property crime database, liability:* RCW 4.24.340.

**9A.56.180 Obscuring the identity of a machine.** (1) A person is guilty of obscuring the identity of a machine if he or she knowingly:

(a) Obscures the manufacturer's serial number or any other distinguishing identification number or mark upon any vehicle, machine, engine, apparatus, appliance, or other device with intent to render it unidentifiable; or

(b) Possesses a vehicle, machine, engine, apparatus, appliance, or other device held for sale knowing that the serial number or other identification number or mark has been obscured.

(2) "Obscure" means to remove, deface, cover, alter, destroy, or otherwise render unidentifiable.

(3) Obscuring the identity of a machine is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 378; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 11; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.180.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.190 Robbery—Definition.** A person commits robbery when he or she unlawfully takes personal property from the person of another or in his or her presence against his or her will by the use or threatened use of immediate force, violence, or fear of injury to that person or his or her property or the person or property of anyone. Such force or fear must be used to obtain or retain possession of the property, or to prevent or overcome resistance to the taking; in either of which cases the degree of force is immaterial. Such taking constitutes robbery whenever it appears that, although the taking was fully completed without the knowledge of the person from whom taken, such knowledge was prevented by the use of force or fear. [2011 c 336 § 379; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.190.]

**9A.56.200 Robbery in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of robbery in the first degree if:

(a) In the commission of a robbery or of immediate flight therefrom, he or she:

(i) Is armed with a deadly weapon; or

(ii) Displays what appears to be a firearm or other deadly weapon; or

(iii) Inflicts bodily injury; or

(b) He or she commits a robbery within and against a financial institution as defined in RCW 7.88.010 or 35.38.060.

(2) Robbery in the first degree is a class A felony. [2002 c 85 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.200.]

**9A.56.210 Robbery in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of robbery in the second degree if he or she commits robbery.

(2) Robbery in the second degree is a class B felony. [2011 c 336 § 380; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.56.210.]

**9A.56.220 Theft of subscription television services.**

(1) A person is guilty of theft of subscription television services if, with intent to avoid payment of the lawful charge of a subscription television service, he or she:

(a) Obtains or attempts to obtain subscription television service from a subscription television service company by trick, artifice, deception, use of a device or decoder, or other fraudulent means without authority from the company providing the service;

(b) Assists or instructs a person in obtaining or attempting to obtain subscription television service without authority of the company providing the service;

(c) Makes or maintains a connection or connections, whether physical, electrical, mechanical, acoustical, or by other means, with cables, wires, components, or other devices used for the distribution of subscription television services without authority from the company providing the services;

(d) Makes or maintains a modification or alteration to a device installed with the authorization of a subscription television service company for the purpose of interception or receiving a program or other service carried by the company that the person is not authorized by the company to receive; or

(e) Possesses without authority a device designed in whole or in part to receive subscription television services offered for sale by the subscription television service company, regardless of whether the program or services are encoded, filtered, scrambled, or otherwise made unintelligible, or to perform or facilitate the performance of any other acts set out in (a) through (d) of this subsection for the reception of subscription television services without authority.

(2) Theft of subscription television services is a gross misdemeanor. [1995 c 92 § 2; 1989 c 11 § 1; 1985 c 430 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.230 Unlawful sale of subscription television services.** (1) A person is guilty of unlawful sale of subscription television services if, with intent to avoid payment or to facilitate the avoidance of payment of the lawful charge for any subscription television service, he or she, without authorization from the subscription television service company:

(a) Publishes or advertises for sale a plan for a device that is designed in whole or in part to receive subscription television or services offered for sale by the subscription television service company, regardless of whether the programming or services are encoded, filtered, scrambled, or otherwise made unintelligible;

(b) Advertises for sale or lease a device or kit for a device designed in whole or in part to receive subscription television services offered for sale by the subscription television service company, regardless of whether the programming or services are encoded, filtered, scrambled, or otherwise made unintelligible; or

(c) Manufactures, imports into the state of Washington, distributes, sells, leases, or offers for sale or lease a device, plan, or kit for a device designed in whole or in part to receive subscription television services offered for sale by the subscription television service company, regardless of whether the programming or services are encoded, filtered, scrambled, or otherwise made unintelligible.

(2) Unlawful sale of subscription television services is a class C felony. [1995 c 92 § 3; 1985 c 430 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.240 Forfeiture and disposal of device used to commit violation.** Upon conviction of theft or unlawful sale of cable television services and upon motion and hearing, the court shall order the forfeiture of any decoder, descrambler, or other device used in committing the violation of RCW

9A.56.220 or 9A.56.230 as contraband and dispose of it at the court's discretion. [1985 c 430 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.250 Civil cause of action.** (1) In addition to the criminal penalties provided in RCW 9A.56.220 and 9A.56.230, there is created a civil cause of action for theft of subscription television services and for unlawful sale of subscription television services.

(2) A person who sustains injury to his or her person, business, or property by an act described in RCW 9A.56.220 or 9A.56.230 may file an action in superior court for recovery of damages and the costs of the suit, including reasonable investigative and attorneys' fees and costs.

(3) Upon finding a violation of RCW 9A.56.220 or 9A.56.230, in addition to the remedies described in this section, the court may impose a civil penalty not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars.

(4) The superior court may grant temporary and final injunctions on such terms as it deems reasonable to prevent or restrain violations of RCW 9A.56.220 and 9A.56.230. [1995 c 92 § 4; 1985 c 430 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.260 Connection of channel converter.** No person may be charged with theft under RCW 9A.56.220 or subject to a civil cause of action under RCW 9A.56.250 for connecting a nondecoding or nondescrambling channel frequency converter, which includes cable-ready television sets, video recorders, or similar equipment, to a cable system. [1985 c 430 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.262 Theft of telecommunication services.** (1) A person is guilty of theft of telecommunication services if he or she knowingly and with intent to avoid payment:

(a) Uses a telecommunication device to obtain telecommunication services without having entered into a prior agreement with a telecommunication service provider to pay for the telecommunication services; or

(b) Possesses a telecommunication device.

(2) Theft of telecommunication services is a class C felony. [1995 c 92 § 6.]

*Telecommunications crime: Chapter 9.26A RCW.*

**9A.56.264 Unlawful manufacture of telecommunication device.** (1) A person is guilty of unlawful manufacture of a telecommunication device if he or she knowingly and with intent to avoid payment or to facilitate avoidance of payment:

(a) Manufactures, produces, or assembles a telecommunication device;

(b) Modifies, alters, programs, or reprograms a telecommunication device to be capable of acquiring or of facilitating the acquisition of telecommunication service without the consent of the telecommunication service provider; or

(c) Writes, creates, or modifies a computer program that he or she knows is thereby capable of being used to manufacture a telecommunication device.

(2) Unlawful manufacture of a telecommunication device is a class C felony. [1995 c 92 § 7.]

*Telecommunications crime: Chapter 9.26A RCW.*

**9A.56.266 Unlawful sale of telecommunication device.** (1) A person is guilty of unlawful sale of a telecommunication device if he or she sells, leases, exchanges, or offers to sell, lease, or exchange:

(a) A telecommunication device, knowing that the purchaser, lessee, or recipient, or a third person, intends to use the device to avoid payment or to facilitate avoidance of payment for telecommunication services; or

(b) Any material, including data, computer software, or other information and equipment, knowing that the purchaser, lessee, or recipient, or a third person, intends to use the material to avoid payment or to facilitate avoidance of payment for telecommunication services.

(2) Unlawful sale of a telecommunication device is a class C felony. [1995 c 92 § 8.]

*Telecommunications crime: Chapter 9.26A RCW.*

**9A.56.268 Civil cause of action.** (1) In addition to the criminal penalties provided in RCW 9A.56.262 through 9A.56.266, there is created a civil cause of action for theft of telecommunication services, for unlawful manufacture of a telecommunication device, and for unlawful sale of a telecommunication device.

(2) A person who sustains injury to his or her person, business, or property by an act described in RCW 9A.56.262, 9A.56.264, or 9A.56.266 may file an action in superior court for recovery of damages and the costs of the suit, including reasonable investigative and attorneys' fees and costs.

(3) Upon finding a violation of 9A.56.262, 9A.56.264, or 9A.56.266, in addition to the remedies described in this section, the court may impose a civil penalty not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars.

(4) The superior court may grant temporary and final injunctions on such terms as it deems reasonable to prevent or restrain violations of RCW 9A.56.262 through 9A.56.266. [1995 c 92 § 9.]

*Telecommunications crime: Chapter 9.26A RCW.*

**9A.56.270 Shopping cart theft.** (1) It is unlawful to do any of the following acts, if a shopping cart has a permanently affixed sign as provided in subsection (2) of this section:

(a) To remove a shopping cart from the parking area of a retail establishment with the intent to deprive the owner of the shopping cart the use of the cart; or

(b) To be in possession of any shopping cart that has been removed from the parking area of a retail establishment with the intent to deprive the owner of the shopping cart the use of the cart.

(2) This section shall apply only when a shopping cart:

(a) Has a sign permanently affixed to it that identifies the owner of the cart or the retailer, or both; (b) notifies the public of the procedure to be utilized for authorized removal of the cart from the premises; (c) notifies the public that the unauthorized removal of the cart from the premises or parking area of the retail establishment, or the unauthorized possession of the cart, is unlawful; and (d) lists a telephone number or address for returning carts removed from the premises or parking area to the owner or retailer.



(3) Any person who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. [1985 c 382 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.280 Credit, debit cards, checks, etc.—Definitions.** As used in RCW 9A.56.280, 9A.56.290, 9A.60.020, 9A.56.320, and 9A.56.330, unless the context requires otherwise:

(1) "Cardholder" means a person to whom a credit card or payment card is issued or a person who otherwise is authorized to use a credit card or payment card.

(2) "Check" means a negotiable instrument that meets the definition of "check" under RCW 62A.3-104 or a blank form instrument that would meet the definition of "check" under RCW 62A.3-104 if it were completed and signed.

(3) "Credit card" means a card, plate, booklet, credit card number, credit card account number, or other identifying symbol, instrument, or device that can be used to pay for, or to obtain on credit, goods or services.

(4) "Credit card or payment card transaction" means a sale or other transaction in which a credit card or payment card is used to pay for, or to obtain on credit, goods or services.

(5) "Credit card or payment card transaction record" means a record or evidence of a credit card or payment card transaction, including, without limitation, a paper, sales draft, instrument, or other writing and an electronic or magnetic transmission or record.

(6) "Debit card" means a card used to obtain goods or services by a transaction that debits the cardholder's account, rather than extending credit.

(7) "Financial information" means financial information as defined in RCW 9.35.005.

(8) "Financial institution" means a bank, trust company, mutual savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union authorized under state or federal law to do business and accept deposits in Washington.

(9) "Means of identification" means means of identification as defined in RCW 9.35.005.

(10) "Merchant" means an owner or operator of any retail mercantile establishment or any agent, employee, lessee, consignee, officer, director, franchisee, or independent contractor of such owner or operator. "Merchant" also means a person who receives from an authorized user, a payment card or information from a payment card, or what the person believes to be a payment card or information from a payment card, as the instrument for obtaining, purchasing, or receiving goods, services, money, or anything else of value from the person.

(11) "Payment card" means a credit card, charge card, debit card, stored value card, or any card that is issued to an authorized card user and that allows the user to obtain goods, services, money, or anything else of value from a merchant.

(12) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, trust, or unincorporated association, but does not include a financial institution or its authorized employees, representatives, or agents.

(13) "Personal identification" means any driver's license, passport, or identification card actually or purportedly issued by any federal, state, local or foreign governmental entity; any credit card or debit card; or any employee iden-

tification card actually or purportedly issued by any employer, public or private, including but not limited to a badge or identification or access card.

(14) "Reencoder" means an electronic device that places encoded information from a payment card onto a different payment card.

(15) "Scanning device" means a scanner, reader, or any other electronic device that is used to access, read, scan, obtain, memorize, or store, temporarily or permanently, information encoded on a payment card. [2003 c 119 § 3; 2003 c 52 § 1; 1993 c 484 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2003 c 52 § 1 and by 2003 c 119 § 3, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**9A.56.290 Credit, payment cards—Unlawful factoring of transactions.** (1) A person commits the crime of unlawful factoring of a credit card or payment card transaction if the person:

(a) Uses a scanning device to access, read, obtain, memorize, or store, temporarily or permanently, information encoded on a payment card without the permission of the authorized user of the payment card or with the intent to defraud the authorized user, another person, or a financial institution;

(b) Uses a reencoder to place information encoded on a payment card onto a different card without the permission of the authorized issuer of the card from which the information is being reencoded or with the intent to defraud the authorized user, another person, or a financial institution;

(c) Presents to or deposits with, or causes another to present to or deposit with, a financial institution for payment a credit card or payment card transaction record that is not the result of a credit card or payment card transaction between the cardholder and the person;

(d) Employs, solicits, or otherwise causes a merchant or an employee, representative, or agent of a merchant to present to or deposit with a financial institution for payment a credit card or payment card transaction record that is not the result of a credit card or payment card transaction between the cardholder and the merchant; or

(e) Employs, solicits, or otherwise causes another to become a merchant for purposes of engaging in conduct made unlawful by this section.

(2) Normal transactions conducted by or through airline reporting corporation-appointed travel agents or cruise-only travel agents recognized by passenger cruise lines are not considered factoring for the purposes of this section.

(3) In a proceeding under this section that is related to an identity theft under RCW 9.35.020, the crime will be considered to have been committed in any locality where the person whose means of identification or financial information was appropriated resides, or in which any part of the offense took place, regardless of whether the defendant was ever actually in that locality.

(4)(a) Unlawful factoring of a credit card or payment card transaction is a class C felony.

(b) A second or subsequent violation of subsection (1) of this section is a class B felony. [2003 c 119 § 4; 2003 c 52 § 2; 1993 c 484 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2003 c 52 § 2 and by 2003 c 119 § 4, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**9A.56.300 Theft of a firearm.** (1) A person is guilty of theft of a firearm if he or she commits a theft of any firearm.

(2) This section applies regardless of the value of the firearm taken in the theft.

(3) Each firearm taken in the theft under this section is a separate offense.

(4) The definition of "theft" and the defense allowed against the prosecution for theft under RCW 9A.56.020 shall apply to the crime of theft of a firearm.

(5) As used in this section, "firearm" means any firearm as defined in RCW 9.41.010.

(6) Theft of a firearm is a class B felony. [1995 c 129 § 10 (Initiative Measure No. 159); 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 432.]

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.56.310 Possessing a stolen firearm.** (1) A person is guilty of possessing a stolen firearm if he or she possesses, carries, delivers, sells, or is in control of a stolen firearm.

(2) This section applies regardless of the stolen firearm's value.

(3) Each stolen firearm possessed under this section is a separate offense.

(4) The definition of "possessing stolen property" and the defense allowed against the prosecution for possessing stolen property under RCW 9A.56.140 shall apply to the crime of possessing a stolen firearm.

(5) As used in this section, "firearm" means any firearm as defined in RCW 9.41.010.

(6) Possessing a stolen firearm is a class B felony. [1995 c 129 § 13 (Initiative Measure No. 159).]

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

**9A.56.320 Financial fraud—Unlawful possession, production of instruments of.** (1) A person is guilty of unlawful production of payment instruments if he or she prints or produces a check or other payment instrument in the name of a person or entity, or with the routing number or account number of a person or entity, without the permission of the person or entity to manufacture or reproduce such payment instrument with such name, routing number, or account number.

(2)(a) A person is guilty of unlawful possession of payment instruments if he or she possesses two or more checks or other payment instruments, alone or in combination:

(i) In the name of a person or entity, or with the routing number or account number of a person or entity, without the permission of the person or entity to possess such payment instrument, and with intent either to deprive the person of possession of such payment instrument or to commit theft, forgery, or identity theft; or

(ii) In the name of a fictitious person or entity, or with a fictitious routing number or account number of a person or

entity, with intent to use the payment instruments to commit theft, forgery, or identity theft.

(b) (a)(i) of this subsection does not apply to:

(i) A person or financial institution that has lawful possession of a check, which is endorsed to that person or financial institution; and

(ii) A person or financial institution that processes checks for a lawful business purpose.

(3) A person is guilty of unlawful possession of a personal identification device if the person possesses a personal identification device with intent to use such device to commit theft, forgery, or identity theft. "Personal identification device" includes any machine or instrument whose purpose is to manufacture or print any driver's license or identification card issued by any state or the federal government, or any employee identification issued by any employer, public or private, including but not limited to badges and identification cards, or any credit or debit card.

(4) A person is guilty of unlawful possession of fictitious identification if the person possesses a personal identification card with a fictitious person's identification with intent to use such identification card to commit theft, forgery, or identity theft, when the possession does not amount to a violation of RCW 9.35.020.

(5) A person is guilty of unlawful possession of instruments of financial fraud if the person possesses a check-making machine, equipment, or software, with intent to use or distribute checks for purposes of defrauding an account holder, business, financial institution, or any other person or organization.

(6) This section does not apply to:

(a) A person, business, or other entity, that has lawful possession of a check, which is endorsed to that person, business, or other entity;

(b) A financial institution or other entity that processes checks for a lawful business purpose;

(c) A person engaged in a lawful business who obtains another person's personal identification in the ordinary course of that lawful business;

(d) A person who obtains another person's personal identification for the sole purpose of misrepresenting his or her age; and

(e) A law enforcement agency that produces or displays counterfeit credit or debit cards, checks or other payment instruments, or personal identification devices for investigative or educational purposes.

(7) In a proceeding under this section that is related to an identity theft under RCW 9.35.020, the crime will be considered to have been committed in any locality where the person whose means of identification or financial information was appropriated resides, or in which any part of the offense took place, regardless of whether the defendant was ever actually in that locality.

(8) A violation of this section is a class C felony. [2003 c 119 § 1.]

**9A.56.330 Possession of another's identification.** (1) A person is guilty of possession of another's identification if the person knowingly possesses personal identification bearing another person's identity, when the person possessing the personal identification does not have the other person's per-

mission to possess it, and when the possession does not amount to a violation of RCW 9.35.020.

(2) This section does not apply to:

(a) A person who obtains, by means other than theft, another person's personal identification for the sole purpose of misrepresenting his or her age;

(b) A person engaged in a lawful business who obtains another person's personal identification in the ordinary course of business;

(c) A person who finds another person's lost personal identification, does not intend to deprive the other person of the personal identification or to use it to commit a crime, and takes reasonably prompt steps to return it to its owner; and

(d) A law enforcement agency that produces or displays counterfeit credit or debit cards, checks or other payment instruments, or personal identification for investigative or educational purposes.

(3) In a proceeding under this section that is related to an identity theft under RCW 9.35.020, the crime will be considered to have been committed in any locality where the person whose means of identification or financial information was appropriated resides, or in which any part of the offense took place, regardless of whether the defendant was ever actually in that locality.

(4) A violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor. [2003 c 119 § 2.]

**9A.56.340 Theft with the intent to resell.** (1) A person is guilty of theft with the intent to resell if he or she commits theft of property with a value of at least two hundred fifty dollars from a mercantile establishment with the intent to resell the property for monetary or other gain.

(2) The person is guilty of theft with the intent to resell in the first degree if the property has a value of one thousand five hundred dollars or more. Theft with the intent to resell in the first degree is a class B felony.

(3) The person is guilty of theft with the intent to resell in the second degree if the property has a value of at least two hundred fifty dollars, but less than one thousand five hundred dollars. Theft with the intent to resell in the second degree is a class C felony.

(4) For purposes of this section, a series of thefts committed by the same person from one or more mercantile establishments over a period of one hundred eighty days may be aggregated in one count and the sum of the value of all the property shall be the value considered in determining the degree of the theft with the intent to resell involved. Thefts committed by the same person in different counties that have been aggregated in one county may be prosecuted in any county in which one of the thefts occurred. [2006 c 277 § 1.]

**9A.56.350 Organized retail theft.** (1) A person is guilty of organized retail theft if he or she:

(a) Commits theft of property with a value of at least seven hundred fifty dollars from a mercantile establishment with an accomplice;

(b) Possesses stolen property, as defined in RCW 9A.56.140, with a value of at least seven hundred fifty dollars from a mercantile establishment with an accomplice; or

(c) Commits theft of property with a cumulative value of at least seven hundred fifty dollars from one or more mercan-

tile establishments within a period of up to one hundred eighty days.

(2) A person is guilty of organized retail theft in the first degree if the property stolen or possessed has a value of five thousand dollars or more. Organized retail theft in the first degree is a class B felony.

(3) A person is guilty of organized retail theft in the second degree if the property stolen or possessed has a value of at least seven hundred fifty dollars, but less than five thousand dollars. Organized retail theft in the second degree is a class C felony.

(4) For purposes of this section, a series of thefts committed by the same person from one or more mercantile establishments over a period of one hundred eighty days may be aggregated in one count and the sum of the value of all the property shall be the value considered in determining the degree of the organized retail theft involved. Thefts committed by the same person in different counties that have been aggregated in one county may be prosecuted in any county in which any one of the thefts occurred.

(5) The mercantile establishment or establishments whose property is alleged to have been stolen may request that the charge be aggregated with other thefts of property about which the mercantile establishment or establishments is aware. In the event a request to aggregate the prosecution is declined, the mercantile establishment or establishments shall be promptly advised by the prosecuting jurisdiction making the decision to decline aggregating the prosecution of the decision and the reasons for such decision. [2009 c 431 § 15; 2006 c 277 § 2.]

**Applicability—2009 c 431:** See note following RCW 4.24.230.

*Property crime database, liability:* RCW 4.24.340.

**9A.56.360 Retail theft with extenuating circumstances.** (1) A person commits retail theft with extenuating circumstances if he or she commits theft of property from a mercantile establishment with one of the following extenuating circumstances:

(a) To facilitate the theft, the person leaves the mercantile establishment through a designated emergency exit;

(b) The person was, at the time of the theft, in possession of an item, article, implement, or device designed to overcome security systems including, but not limited to, lined bags or tag removers; or

(c) The person committed theft at three or more separate and distinct mercantile establishments within a one hundred eighty-day period.

(2) A person is guilty of retail theft with extenuating circumstances in the first degree if the theft involved constitutes theft in the first degree. Retail theft with extenuating circumstances in the first degree is a class B felony.

(3) A person is guilty of retail theft with extenuating circumstances in the second degree if the theft involved constitutes theft in the second degree. Retail theft with extenuating circumstances in the second degree is a class C felony.

(4) A person is guilty of retail theft with extenuating circumstances in the third degree if the theft involved constitutes theft in the third degree. Retail theft with extenuating circumstances in the third degree is a class C felony. [2006 c 277 § 3.]

**9A.56.370 Mail theft.** (1) A person is guilty of mail theft if he or she: (a) Commits theft of mail addressed to three or more different addresses; and (b) commits theft of a minimum of ten separate pieces of mail.

(2) Each set of ten separate pieces of stolen mail addressed to three or more different mailboxes constitutes a separate and distinct crime and may be punished accordingly.

(3) Mail theft is a class C felony. [2011 c 164 § 3.]

**Intent—2011 c 164:** See note following RCW 9A.56.010.

**9A.56.380 Possession of stolen mail.** (1) A person is guilty of possession of stolen mail if he or she: (a) Possesses stolen mail addressed to three or more different mailboxes; and (b) possesses a minimum of ten separate pieces of stolen mail.

(2) "Possesses stolen mail" means to knowingly receive, retain, possess, conceal, or dispose of stolen mail knowing that it has been stolen, and to withhold or appropriate to the use of any person other than the true owner, or the person to whom the mail is addressed.

(3) The fact that the person who stole the mail has not been convicted, apprehended, or identified is not a defense to the charge of possessing stolen mail.

(4) Each set of ten separate pieces of stolen mail addressed to three or more different mailboxes constitutes a separate and distinct crime and may be punished accordingly.

(5) Possession of stolen mail is a class C felony. [2011 c 164 § 4.]

**Intent—2011 c 164:** See note following RCW 9A.56.010.

**9A.56.390 Mail theft—Possession of stolen mail—Commission of other crime.** Every person who, in the commission of mail theft or possession of stolen mail, shall commit any other crime, may be punished therefor as well as for the mail theft or possession of stolen mail, and may be prosecuted for each crime separately. [2011 c 164 § 5.]

**Intent—2011 c 164:** See note following RCW 9A.56.010.

## Chapter 9A.58 RCW

### IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS

#### Sections

9A.58.005	Findings.
9A.58.010	Definitions.
9A.58.020	Possessing, or reading or capturing, information contained on another person's identification document—Exceptions.
9A.58.030	Violation—Consumer protection act.

**9A.58.005 Findings.** The legislature finds that:

(1) Washington state recognizes the importance of protecting its citizens from unwanted wireless surveillance.

(2) Enhanced drivers' licenses and enhanced identicards are intended to facilitate efficient travel at land and sea borders between the United States, Canada, and Mexico, not to facilitate the profiling and tracking of individuals.

(3) Easy access to the information found on enhanced drivers' licenses and enhanced identicards could facilitate the commission of other unwanted offenses, such as identity theft. [2008 c 200 § 1.]

**9A.58.010 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Enhanced driver's license" means a driver's license that is issued under RCW 46.20.202.

(2) "Enhanced identicard" means an identicard that is issued under RCW 46.20.202.

(3) "Identification document" means an enhanced driver's license or an enhanced identicard.

(4) "Radio frequency identification" means a technology that uses radio waves to transmit data remotely to readers.

(5) "Reader" means a scanning device that is capable of using radio waves to communicate with an identification document and read the data transmitted by the identification document.

(6) "Remotely" means that no physical contact between the identification document and a reader is necessary in order to transmit data using radio waves.

(7) "Unique personal identifier number" means a randomly assigned string of numbers or symbols issued by the department of licensing that is encoded on an identification document and is intended to be read remotely by a reader to identify the identification document that has been issued to a particular individual. [2008 c 200 § 2.]

**9A.58.020 Possessing, or reading or capturing, information contained on another person's identification document—Exceptions.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a person is guilty of a class C felony if the person intentionally possesses, or reads or captures remotely using radio waves, information contained on another person's identification document, including the unique personal identifier number encoded on the identification document, without that person's express knowledge or consent.

(2) This section does not apply to:

(a) A person or entity that reads an identification document to facilitate border crossing;

(b) A person or entity that reads a person's identification document in the course of an act of good faith security research, experimentation, or scientific inquiry including, but not limited to, activities useful in identifying and analyzing security flaws and vulnerabilities; or

(c) A person or entity that unintentionally reads an identification document remotely in the course of operating its own radio frequency identification system, provided that the inadvertently received information:

(i) Is not disclosed to any other party;

(ii) Is not used for any purpose; and

(iii) Is not stored or is promptly destroyed. [2008 c 200 § 3.]

**9A.58.030 Violation—Consumer protection act.** The legislature finds that the practices covered by this chapter are matters vitally affecting the public interest for the purpose of applying chapter 19.86 RCW. A violation of this chapter is not reasonable in relation to the development and preservation of business and is an unfair or deceptive act in trade or commerce and an unfair method of competition for the purpose of applying chapter 19.86 RCW. [2008 c 200 § 4.]

**Chapter 9A.60 RCW  
FRAUD**

Sections

- 9A.60.010 Definitions.
- 9A.60.020 Forgery.
- 9A.60.030 Obtaining a signature by deception or duress.
- 9A.60.040 Criminal impersonation in the first degree.
- 9A.60.045 Criminal impersonation in the second degree.
- 9A.60.050 False certification.
- 9A.60.060 Fraudulent creation or revocation of a mental health advance directive.
- 9A.60.070 False academic credentials—Unlawful issuance or use—Definitions—Penalties.

- Ballots, forgery: RCW 29A.84.410.*
- Cigarette tax stamps, forgery: RCW 82.24.100.*
- False representations: Chapter 9.38 RCW.*
- Food, drugs, and cosmetics act: Chapter 69.04 RCW.*
- Forest products, forgery of brands or marks: RCW 76.36.110, 76.36.120.*
- Forged instruments, tools for making, search and seizure: RCW 10.79.015.*
- Forgery: RCW 9A.60.020.*
- Frauds and swindles: Chapter 9.45 RCW.*
- Honey act: RCW 69.28.180.*
- Land registration forgery: RCW 65.12.760.*
- Misdescription of instrument forged immaterial: RCW 10.37.080.*
- Mutual savings bank, falsification: RCW 32.04.100.*
- Obtaining employment by forged recommendation: RCW 49.44.040.*
- Offering forged instrument for filing: RCW 40.16.030.*
- Optometry certificates falsification: RCW 18.53.140, 18.53.150.*
- Osteopathy license falsification: RCW 18.57.160.*
- Public bonds, forgery: Chapter 39.44 RCW.*
- Public works, falsification of records, etc.: RCW 39.04.110, 39.12.050.*

**9A.60.010 Definitions.** The following definitions and the definitions of RCW 9A.56.010 are applicable in this chapter unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) "Complete written instrument" means one which is fully drawn with respect to every essential feature thereof;
- (2) "Incomplete written instrument" means one which contains some matter by way of content or authentication but which requires additional matter in order to render it a complete written instrument;
- (3) To "falsely alter" a written instrument means to change, without authorization by anyone entitled to grant it, a written instrument, whether complete or incomplete, by means of erasure, obliteration, deletion, insertion of new matter, transposition of matter, or in any other manner;
- (4) To "falsely complete" a written instrument means to transform an incomplete written instrument into a complete one by adding or inserting matter, without the authority of anyone entitled to grant it;
- (5) To "falsely make" a written instrument means to make or draw a complete or incomplete written instrument which purports to be authentic, but which is not authentic either because the ostensible maker is fictitious or because, if real, he or she did not authorize the making or drawing thereof;
- (6) "Forged instrument" means a written instrument which has been falsely made, completed, or altered;
- (7) "Written instrument" means: (a) Any paper, document, or other instrument containing written or printed matter or its equivalent; or (b) any access device, token, stamp, seal, badge, trademark, or other evidence or symbol of value,

right, privilege, or identification. [2011 c 336 § 381; 1999 c 143 § 38; 1987 c 140 § 5; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 12; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.60.010.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.60.020 Forgery.** (1) A person is guilty of forgery if, with intent to injure or defraud:

(a) He or she falsely makes, completes, or alters a written instrument or;

(b) He or she possesses, utters, offers, disposes of, or puts off as true a written instrument which he or she knows to be forged.

(2) In a proceeding under this section that is related to an identity theft under RCW 9.35.020, the crime will be considered to have been committed in any locality where the person whose means of identification or financial information was appropriated resides, or in which any part of the offense took place, regardless of whether the defendant was ever actually in that locality.

(3) Forgery is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 382; 2003 c 119 § 5; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 13; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.60.020.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.60.030 Obtaining a signature by deception or duress.** (1) A person is guilty of obtaining a signature by deception or duress if by deception or duress and with intent to defraud or deprive he or she causes another person to sign or execute a written instrument.

(2) Obtaining a signature by deception or duress is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 383; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 14; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.60.030.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.60.040 Criminal impersonation in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of criminal impersonation in the first degree if the person:

(a) Assumes a false identity and does an act in his or her assumed character with intent to defraud another or for any other unlawful purpose; or

(b) Pretends to be a representative of some person or organization or a public servant and does an act in his or her pretended capacity with intent to defraud another or for any other unlawful purpose.

(2) Criminal impersonation in the first degree is a class C felony. [2004 c 11 § 1; 2003 c 53 § 78; 1993 c 457 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.60.040.]

**Effective date—2004 c 11:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2004 c 11 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9A.60.045 Criminal impersonation in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of criminal impersonation in the second degree if the person:

(a)(i) Claims to be a law enforcement officer or creates an impression that he or she is a law enforcement officer; and

(ii) Under circumstances not amounting to criminal impersonation in the first degree, does an act with intent to

convey the impression that he or she is acting in an official capacity and a reasonable person would believe the person is a law enforcement officer; or

(b) Falsely assumes the identity of a veteran or active duty member of the armed forces of the United States with intent to defraud for the purpose of personal gain or to facilitate any unlawful activity.

(2) Criminal impersonation in the second degree is a gross misdemeanor. [2004 c 124 § 1; 2004 c 11 § 2; 2003 c 53 § 79.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2004 c 11 § 2 and by 2004 c 124 § 1, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2004 c 124:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2004 c 124 § 2.]

**Effective date—2004 c 11:** See note following RCW 9A.60.040.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9A.60.050 False certification.** (1) A person is guilty of false certification, if, being an officer authorized to take a proof or acknowledgment of an instrument which by law may be recorded, he or she knowingly certifies falsely that the execution of such instrument was acknowledged by any party thereto or that the execution thereof was proved.

(2) False certification is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 384; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 15; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.60.050.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.60.060 Fraudulent creation or revocation of a mental health advance directive.** (1) For purposes of this section "mental health advance directive" means a written document that is a "mental health advance directive" as defined in RCW 71.32.020.

(2) A person is guilty of fraudulent creation or revocation of a mental health advance directive if he or she knowingly:

(a) Makes, completes, alters, or revokes the mental health advance directive of another without the principal's consent;

(b) Utters, offers, or puts off as true a mental health advance directive that he or she knows to be forged; or

(c) Obtains or prevents the signature of a principal or witness to a mental health advance directive by deception or duress.

(3) Fraudulent creation or revocation of a mental health advance directive is a class C felony. [2003 c 283 § 31.]

**Severability—Part headings not law—2003 c 283:** See RCW 71.32.900 and 71.32.901.

**9A.60.070 False academic credentials—Unlawful issuance or use—Definitions—Penalties.** (1) A person is guilty of issuing a false academic credential if the person knowingly:

(a) Grants or awards a false academic credential or offers to grant or award a false academic credential in violation of this section;

(b) Represents that a credit earned or granted by the person in violation of this section can be applied toward a credential offered by another person;

(c) Grants or offers to grant a credit for which a representation as described in (b) of this subsection is made; or

(d) Solicits another person to seek a credential or to earn a credit the person knows is offered in violation of this section.

(2) A person is guilty of knowingly using a false academic credential if the person knowingly uses a false academic credential or falsely claims to have a credential issued by an institution of higher education that is accredited by an accrediting association recognized as such by rule of the student achievement council:

(a) In a written or oral advertisement or other promotion of a business; or

(b) With the intent to:

(i) Obtain employment;

(ii) Obtain a license or certificate to practice a trade, profession, or occupation;

(iii) Obtain a promotion, compensation or other benefit, or an increase in compensation or other benefit, in employment or in the practice of a trade, profession, or occupation;

(iv) Obtain admission to an educational program in this state; or

(v) Gain a position in government with authority over another person, regardless of whether the person receives compensation for the position.

(3) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section and RCW 28B.85.220.

(a) "False academic credential" means a document that provides evidence or demonstrates completion of an academic or professional course of instruction beyond the secondary level that results in the attainment of an academic certificate, degree, or rank, and that is not issued by a person or entity that: (i) Is an entity accredited by an agency recognized as such by rule of the student achievement council or has the international equivalents of such accreditation; or (ii) is an entity authorized as a degree-granting institution by the student achievement council; or (iii) is an entity exempt from the requirements of authorization as a degree-granting institution by the student achievement council; or (iv) is an entity that has been granted a waiver by the student achievement council from the requirements of authorization by the council. Such documents include, but are not limited to, academic certificates, degrees, coursework, degree credits, transcripts, or certification of completion of a degree.

(b) "Grant" means award, bestow, confer, convey, sell, or give.

(c) "Offer," in addition to its usual meanings, means advertise, publicize, or solicit.

(d) "Operate" includes but is not limited to the following:

(i) Offering courses in person, by correspondence, or by electronic media at or to any Washington location for degree credit;

(ii) Granting or offering to grant degrees in Washington;

(iii) Maintaining or advertising a Washington location, mailing address, computer server, or telephone number, for any purpose, other than for contact with the institution's former students for any legitimate purpose related to the students having attended the institution.

(4) Issuing a false academic credential is a class C felony.

(5) Knowingly using a false academic credential is a gross misdemeanor. [2012 c 229 § 501; 2006 c 234 § 2.]

**Effective date—2012 c 229 §§ 101, 117, 401, 402, 501 through 594, 601 through 609, 701 through 708, 801 through 821, 902, and 904:** See note following RCW 28B.77.005.

## Chapter 9A.61 RCW DEFRAUDING A PUBLIC UTILITY

### Sections

9A.61.010	Definitions.
9A.61.020	Defrauding a public utility.
9A.61.030	Defrauding a public utility in the first degree.
9A.61.040	Defrauding a public utility in the second degree.
9A.61.050	Defrauding a public utility in the third degree.
9A.61.060	Restitution and costs.
9A.61.070	Damages not precluded.

**9A.61.010 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Customer" means the person in whose name a utility service is provided.

(2) "Divert" means to change the intended course or path of electricity, gas, or water without the authorization or consent of the utility.

(3) "Person" means an individual, partnership, firm, association, or corporation or government agency.

(4) "Reconnection" means the commencement of utility service to a customer or other person after service has been lawfully disconnected by the utility.

(5) "Tamper" means to rearrange, injure, alter, interfere with, or otherwise prevent from performing the normal or customary function.

(6) "Utility" means an electrical company, gas company, or water company as those terms are defined in RCW 80.04.010, and includes an electrical, gas, or water system operated by a public agency.

(7) "Utility service" means the provision of electricity, gas, water, or any other service or commodity furnished by the utility for compensation. [1989 c 109 § 1.]

**9A.61.020 Defrauding a public utility.** "Defrauding a public utility" means to commit, authorize, solicit, aid, abet, or attempt to:

(1) Divert, or cause to be diverted, utility services by any means whatsoever;

(2) Make, or cause to be made, a connection or reconnection with property owned or used by the utility to provide utility service without the authorization or consent of the utility;

(3) Prevent a utility meter or other device used in determining the charge for utility services from accurately performing its measuring function by tampering or by any other means;

(4) Tamper with property owned or used by the utility to provide utility services; or

(5) Use or receive the direct benefit of all or a portion of the utility service with knowledge of, or reason to believe that, the diversion, tampering, or unauthorized connection existed at the time of the use or that the use or receipt was without the authorization or consent of the utility. [1989 c 109 § 2.]

**9A.61.030 Defrauding a public utility in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of defrauding a public utility in the first degree if:

(a) The utility service diverted or used exceeds one thousand five hundred dollars in value; or

(b) Tampering has occurred in furtherance of other criminal activity.

(2) Defrauding a public utility in the first degree is a class B felony. [1989 c 109 § 3.]

**9A.61.040 Defrauding a public utility in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of defrauding a public utility in the second degree if the utility service diverted or used exceeds five hundred dollars in value.

(2) Defrauding a public utility in the second degree is a class C felony. [1989 c 109 § 4.]

**9A.61.050 Defrauding a public utility in the third degree.** (1) A person is guilty of defrauding a public utility in the third degree if:

(a) The utility service diverted or used is five hundred dollars or less in value; or

(b) A connection or reconnection has occurred without authorization or consent of the utility.

(2) Defrauding a public utility in the third degree is a gross misdemeanor. [1989 c 109 § 5.]

**9A.61.060 Restitution and costs.** In any prosecution under this section, the court may require restitution from the defendant as provided by chapter 9A.20 RCW, plus court costs plus the costs incurred by the utility on account of the bypassing, tampering, or unauthorized reconnection, including but not limited to costs and expenses for investigation, disconnection, reconnection, service calls, and expert witnesses. [1989 c 109 § 6.]

**9A.61.070 Damages not precluded.** Restitution ordered or fines imposed under this chapter do not preclude a utility from collecting damages under RCW 80.28.240 to which it may be entitled. [1989 c 109 § 7.]

## Chapter 9A.64 RCW FAMILY OFFENSES

### Sections

9A.64.010	Bigamy.
9A.64.020	Incest.
9A.64.030	Child selling—Child buying.

**9A.64.010 Bigamy.** (1) A person is guilty of bigamy if he or she intentionally marries or purports to marry another person when either person has a living spouse.

(2) In any prosecution under this section, it is a defense that at the time of the subsequent marriage or purported marriage:

(a) The actor reasonably believed that the prior spouse was dead; or

(b) A court had entered a judgment purporting to terminate or annul any prior disqualifying marriage and the actor did not know that such judgment was invalid; or

(c) The actor reasonably believed that he or she was legally eligible to marry.

(3) The limitation imposed by RCW 9A.04.080 on commencing a prosecution for bigamy does not begin to run until the death of the prior or subsequent spouse of the actor or until a court enters a judgment terminating or annulling the prior or subsequent marriage.

(4) Bigamy is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 385; 1986 c 257 § 14; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.64.010.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.64.020 Incest.** (1)(a) A person is guilty of incest in the first degree if he or she engages in sexual intercourse with a person whom he or she knows to be related to him or her, either legitimately or illegitimately, as an ancestor, descendant, brother, or sister of either the whole or the half blood.

(b) Incest in the first degree is a class B felony.

(2)(a) A person is guilty of incest in the second degree if he or she engages in sexual contact with a person whom he or she knows to be related to him or her, either legitimately or illegitimately, as an ancestor, descendant, brother, or sister of either the whole or the half blood.

(b) Incest in the second degree is a class C felony.

(3) As used in this section:

(a) "Descendant" includes stepchildren and adopted children under eighteen years of age;

(b) "Sexual contact" has the same meaning as in RCW 9A.44.010; and

(c) "Sexual intercourse" has the same meaning as in RCW 9A.44.010. [2003 c 53 § 80; 1999 c 143 § 39; 1985 c 53 § 1; 1982 c 129 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.64.020.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.64.030 Child selling—Child buying.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to sell or purchase a minor child.

(2) A transaction shall not be a purchase or sale under subsection (1) of this section if any of the following exists:

(a) The transaction is between the parents of the minor child; or

(b) The transaction is between a person receiving or to receive the child and an agency recognized under RCW 26.33.020; or

(c) The transaction is between the person receiving or to receive the child and a state agency or other governmental agency; or

(d) The transaction is pursuant to chapter 26.34 RCW; or

(e) The transaction is pursuant to court order; or

(f) The only consideration paid by the person receiving or to receive the child is intended to pay for the prenatal hospital or medical expenses involved in the birth of the child, or attorneys' fees and court costs involved in effectuating transfer of child custody.

(3)(a) Child selling is a class C felony.

(b) Child buying is a class C felony. [2003 c 53 § 81; 1985 c 7 § 3; 1980 c 85 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 9A.68 RCW BRIBERY AND CORRUPT INFLUENCE

### Sections

9A.68.010	Bribery.
9A.68.020	Requesting unlawful compensation.
9A.68.030	Receiving or granting unlawful compensation.
9A.68.040	Trading in public office.
9A.68.050	Trading in special influence.
9A.68.060	Commercial bribery.

*Banks and trust companies, misconduct by employees:* RCW 30.12.110.

*Baseball, bribery and illegal practices:* Chapter 67.04 RCW.

*Bribery or corrupt solicitation:* State Constitution Art. 2 § 30.

*Bribery or corruption offender as witness:* RCW 9.18.080.

*Cities and towns, commission form, misconduct of officers and employees:* RCW 35.17.150.

*County officers, misconduct:* RCW 36.18.160, 36.18.170.

*Elections, bribery or coercion:* Chapter 29A.84 RCW.

*Employees, corrupt influencing, grafting by:* RCW 49.44.060.

*Insurance, fraud and unfair practices:* Chapter 48.30 RCW.

*Labor representative bribery:* RCW 49.44.020, 49.44.030.

*Misconduct in signing a petition:* RCW 9.44.080.

*Public officers, misconduct:* Chapter 42.20 RCW.

*School officials, grafting:* RCW 28A.635.050.

*Wages, rebating by employers:* RCW 49.52.050, 49.52.090.

**9A.68.010 Bribery.** (1) A person is guilty of bribery if:

(a) With the intent to secure a particular result in a particular matter involving the exercise of the public servant's vote, opinion, judgment, exercise of discretion, or other action in his or her official capacity, he or she offers, confers, or agrees to confer any pecuniary benefit upon such public servant; or

(b) Being a public servant, he or she requests, accepts, or agrees to accept any pecuniary benefit pursuant to an agreement or understanding that his or her vote, opinion, judgment, exercise of discretion, or other action as a public servant will be used to secure or attempt to secure a particular result in a particular matter.

(2) It is no defense to a prosecution under this section that the public servant sought to be influenced was not qualified to act in the desired way, whether because he or she had not yet assumed office, lacked jurisdiction, or for any other reason.

(3) Bribery is a class B felony. [2011 c 336 § 386; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.68.010.]

**9A.68.020 Requesting unlawful compensation.** (1) A public servant is guilty of requesting unlawful compensation if he or she requests a pecuniary benefit for the performance of an official action knowing that he or she is required to perform that action without compensation or at a level of compensation lower than that requested.

(2) Requesting unlawful compensation is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 387; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.68.020.]

**9A.68.030 Receiving or granting unlawful compensation.** (1) A person is guilty of receiving or granting unlawful compensation if:

(a) Being a public servant, he or she requests, accepts, or agrees to accept compensation for advice or other assistance in preparing a bill, contract, claim, or transaction regarding



which he or she knows he or she is likely to have an official discretion to exercise; or

(b) He or she knowingly offers, pays, or agrees to pay compensation to a public servant for advice or other assistance in preparing or promoting a bill, contract, claim, or other transaction regarding which the public servant is likely to have an official discretion to exercise.

(2) Receiving or granting unlawful compensation is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 388; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.68.030.]

**9A.68.040 Trading in public office.** (1) A person is guilty of trading in public office if:

(a) He or she offers, confers, or agrees to confer any pecuniary benefit upon a public servant pursuant to an agreement or understanding that such actor will or may be appointed to a public office; or

(b) Being a public servant, he or she requests, accepts, or agrees to accept any pecuniary benefit from another person pursuant to an agreement or understanding that such person will or may be appointed to a public office.

(2) Trading in public office is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 389; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.68.040.]

**9A.68.050 Trading in special influence.** (1) A person is guilty of trading in special influence if:

(a) He or she offers, confers, or agrees to confer any pecuniary benefit upon another person pursuant to an agreement or understanding that such other person will offer or confer a benefit upon a public servant or procure another to do so with intent thereby to secure or attempt to secure a particular result in a particular matter; or

(b) He or she requests, accepts, or agrees to accept any pecuniary benefit pursuant to an agreement or understanding that he or she will offer or confer a benefit upon a public servant or procure another to do so with intent thereby to secure or attempt to secure a particular result in a particular matter.

(2) Trading in special influence is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 390; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.68.050.]

**9A.68.060 Commercial bribery.** (1) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Claimant" means a person who has or is believed by an actor to have an insurance claim.

(b) "Service provider" means a person who directly or indirectly provides, advertises, or otherwise claims to provide services.

(c) "Services" means health care services, motor vehicle body or other motor vehicle repair, and preparing, processing, presenting, or negotiating an insurance claim.

(d) "Trusted person" means:

(i) An agent, employee, or partner of another;

(ii) An administrator, executor, conservator, guardian, receiver, or trustee of a person or an estate, or any other person acting in a fiduciary capacity;

(iii) An accountant, appraiser, attorney, physician, or other professional adviser;

(iv) An officer or director of a corporation, or any other person who participates in the affairs of a corporation, partnership, or unincorporated association; or

(v) An arbitrator, mediator, or other purportedly disinterested adjudicator or referee.

(2) A person is guilty of commercial bribery if:

(a) He or she offers, confers, or agrees to confer a pecuniary benefit directly or indirectly upon a trusted person under a request, agreement, or understanding that the trusted person will violate a duty of fidelity or trust arising from his or her position as a trusted person;

(b) Being a trusted person, he or she requests, accepts, or agrees to accept a pecuniary benefit for himself, herself, or another under a request, agreement, or understanding that he or she will violate a duty of fidelity or trust arising from his or her position as a trusted person; or

(c) Being an employee or agent of an insurer, he or she requests, accepts, or agrees to accept a pecuniary benefit for himself or herself, or a person other than the insurer, under a request, agreement, or understanding that he or she will or a threat that he or she will not refer or induce claimants to have services performed by a service provider.

(3) It is not a defense to a prosecution under this section that the person sought to be influenced was not qualified to act in the desired way, whether because the person had not yet assumed his or her position, lacked authority, or for any other reason.

(4) Commercial bribery is a class B felony. [2001 c 224 § 2. Prior: 1995 c 285 § 29.]

**Purpose—2001 c 224:** "The purpose of this act is to respond to *State v. Thomas*, 103 Wn. App. 800, by reenacting and ranking, without changes, the law relating to the crime of commercial bribery, enacted as sections 29 and 37(5), chapter 285, Laws of 1995." [2001 c 224 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 9A.72 RCW

### PERJURY AND INTERFERENCE WITH OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

#### Sections

9A.72.010	Definitions.
9A.72.020	Perjury in the first degree.
9A.72.030	Perjury in the second degree.
9A.72.040	False swearing.
9A.72.050	Perjury and false swearing—Inconsistent statements—Degree of crime.
9A.72.060	Perjury and false swearing—Retraction.
9A.72.070	Perjury and false swearing—Irregularities no defense.
9A.72.080	Statement of what one does not know to be true.
9A.72.085	Unsworn statements, certification.
9A.72.090	Bribing a witness.
9A.72.100	Bribe receiving by a witness.
9A.72.110	Intimidating a witness.
9A.72.120	Tampering with a witness.
9A.72.130	Intimidating a juror.
9A.72.140	Jury tampering.
9A.72.150	Tampering with physical evidence.
9A.72.160	Intimidating a judge.

*Committal of witness committing perjury: RCW 9.72.090.*

**9A.72.010 Definitions.** The following definitions are applicable in this chapter unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Materially false statement" means any false statement oral or written, regardless of its admissibility under the rules of evidence, which could have affected the course or outcome of the proceeding; whether a false statement is material shall be determined by the court as a matter of law;

(2) "Oath" includes an affirmation and every other mode authorized by law of attesting to the truth of that which is stated; in this chapter, written statements shall be treated as if made under oath if:

(a) The statement was made on or pursuant to instructions on an official form bearing notice, authorized by law, to the effect that false statements made therein are punishable;

(b) The statement recites that it was made under oath, the declarant was aware of such recitation at the time he or she made the statement, intended that the statement should be represented as a sworn statement, and the statement was in fact so represented by its delivery or utterance with the signed jurat of an officer authorized to administer oaths appended thereto; or

(c) It is a statement, declaration, verification, or certificate, made within or outside the state of Washington, which is certified or declared to be true under penalty of perjury as provided in RCW 9A.72.085.

(3) An oath is "required or authorized by law" when the use of the oath is specifically provided for by statute or regulatory provision or when the oath is administered by a person authorized by state or federal law to administer oaths;

(4) "Official proceeding" means a proceeding heard before any legislative, judicial, administrative, or other government agency or official authorized to hear evidence under oath, including any referee, hearing examiner, commissioner, notary, or other person taking testimony or depositions;

(5) "Juror" means any person who is a member of any jury, including a grand jury, impaneled by any court of this state or by any public servant authorized by law to impanel a jury; the term juror also includes any person who has been drawn or summoned to attend as a prospective juror;

(6) "Testimony" includes oral or written statements, documents, or any other material that may be offered by a witness in an official proceeding. [2001 c 171 § 2. Prior: 1995 c 285 § 30; 1981 c 187 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.010.]

**Purpose—2001 c 171:** "The purpose of this act is to respond to *State v. Thomas*, 103 Wn. App. 800, by reenacting, without changes, legislation relating to the crime of perjury, as amended in sections 30 and 31, chapter 285, Laws of 1995." [2001 c 171 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.72.020 Perjury in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of perjury in the first degree if in any official proceeding he or she makes a materially false statement which he or she knows to be false under an oath required or authorized by law.

(2) Knowledge of the materiality of the statement is not an element of this crime, and the actor's mistaken belief that his or her statement was not material is not a defense to a prosecution under this section.

(3) Perjury in the first degree is a class B felony. [2011 c 336 § 391; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.020.]

**9A.72.030 Perjury in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of perjury in the second degree if, in an examination under oath under the terms of a contract of insurance, or with intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his or her duty, he or she makes a materially false statement, which he or she knows to be false under an oath required or authorized by law.

(2) Perjury in the second degree is a class C felony. [2001 c 171 § 3. Prior: 1995 c 285 § 31; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.030.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 171:** See notes following RCW 9A.72.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.72.040 False swearing.** (1) A person is guilty of false swearing if he or she makes a false statement, which he or she knows to be false, under an oath required or authorized by law.

(2) False swearing is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 392; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.040.]

**9A.72.050 Perjury and false swearing—Inconsistent statements—Degree of crime.** (1) Where, in the course of one or more official proceedings, a person makes inconsistent material statements under oath, the prosecution may proceed by setting forth the inconsistent statements in a single count alleging in the alternative that one or the other was false and known by the defendant to be false. In such case it shall not be necessary for the prosecution to prove which material statement was false but only that one or the other was false and known by the defendant to be false.

(2) The highest offense of which a person may be convicted in such an instance as set forth in subsection (1) of this section shall be determined by hypothetically assuming each statement to be false. If perjury of different degrees would be established by the making of the two statements, the person may only be convicted of the lesser degree. If perjury or false swearing would be established by the making of the two statements, the person may only be convicted of false swearing. For purposes of this section, no corroboration shall be required of either inconsistent statement. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.050.]

**9A.72.060 Perjury and false swearing—Retraction.** No person shall be convicted of perjury or false swearing if he or she retracts his or her false statement in the course of the same proceeding in which it was made, if in fact he or she does so before it becomes manifest that the falsification is or will be exposed and before the falsification substantially affects the proceeding. Statements made in separate hearings at separate stages of the same trial, administrative, or other official proceeding shall be treated as if made in the course of the same proceeding. [2011 c 336 § 393; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 16; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.060.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.72.070 Perjury and false swearing—Irregularities no defense.** It is no defense to a prosecution for perjury or false swearing:

(1) That the oath was administered or taken in an irregular manner; or

(2) That the person administering the oath lacked authority to do so, if the taking of the oath was required or authorized by law. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.070.]

**9A.72.080 Statement of what one does not know to be true.** Every unqualified statement of that which one does not know to be true is equivalent to a statement of that which he

or she knows to be false. [2011 c 336 § 394; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.080.]

**9A.72.085 Unsworn statements, certification.** Whenever, under any law of this state or under any rule, order, or requirement made under the law of this state, any matter in an official proceeding is required or permitted to be supported, evidenced, established, or proved by a person's sworn written statement, declaration, verification, certificate, oath, or affidavit, the matter may with like force and effect be supported, evidenced, established, or proved in the official proceeding by an unsworn written statement, declaration, verification, or certificate, which:

- (1) Recites that it is certified or declared by the person to be true under penalty of perjury;
- (2) Is subscribed by the person;
- (3) States the date and place of its execution; and
- (4) States that it is so certified or declared under the laws of the state of Washington.

The certification or declaration may be in substantially the following form:

"I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct":

(Date and Place)

(Signature)

This section does not apply to writings requiring an acknowledgment, depositions, oaths of office, or oaths required to be taken before a special official other than a notary public. [1981 c 187 § 3.]

**9A.72.090 Bribing a witness.** (1) A person is guilty of bribing a witness if he or she offers, confers, or agrees to confer any benefit upon a witness or a person he or she has reason to believe is about to be called as a witness in any official proceeding or upon a person whom he or she has reason to believe may have information relevant to a criminal investigation or the abuse or neglect of a minor child, with intent to:

- (a) Influence the testimony of that person; or
- (b) Induce that person to avoid legal process summoning him or her to testify; or
- (c) Induce that person to absent himself or herself from an official proceeding to which he or she has been legally summoned; or
- (d) Induce that person to refrain from reporting information relevant to a criminal investigation or the abuse or neglect of a minor child.

(2) Bribing a witness is a class B felony. [1994 c 271 § 202; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 16; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.090.]

**Finding—1994 c 271:** "The legislature finds that witness intimidation and witness tampering serve to thwart both the effective prosecution of criminal conduct in the state of Washington and resolution of child dependencies.

Further, the legislature finds that intimidating persons who have information pertaining to a future proceeding serves to prevent both the bringing of a charge and prosecution of such future proceeding. The legislature finds that the period before a crime or child abuse or neglect is reported is when a victim is most vulnerable to influence, both from the defendant or from people acting on behalf of the defendant and a time when the defendant is most able to threaten, bribe, and/or persuade potential witnesses to leave the jurisdiction or withhold information from law enforcement agencies.

The legislature moreover finds that a criminal defendant's admonishment or demand to a witness to "drop the charges" is intimidating to witnesses or other persons with information relevant to a criminal proceeding.

The legislature finds, therefore, that tampering with and/or intimidating witnesses or other persons with information relevant to a present or future criminal or child dependency proceeding are grave offenses which adversely impact the state's ability to promote public safety and prosecute criminal behavior." [1994 c 271 § 201.]

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.72.100 Bribe receiving by a witness.** (1) A witness or a person who has reason to believe he or she is about to be called as a witness in any official proceeding or that he or she may have information relevant to a criminal investigation or the abuse or neglect of a minor child is guilty of bribe receiving by a witness if he or she requests, accepts, or agrees to accept any benefit pursuant to an agreement or understanding that:

- (a) The person's testimony will thereby be influenced; or
- (b) The person will attempt to avoid legal process summoning him or her to testify; or
- (c) The person will attempt to absent himself or herself from an official proceeding to which he or she has been legally summoned; or
- (d) The person will not report information he or she has relevant to a criminal investigation or the abuse or neglect of a minor child.

(2) Bribe receiving by a witness is a class B felony. [1994 c 271 § 203; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 17; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.100.]

**Finding—1994 c 271:** See note following RCW 9A.72.090.

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.72.110 Intimidating a witness.** (1) A person is guilty of intimidating a witness if a person, by use of a threat against a current or prospective witness, attempts to:

- (a) Influence the testimony of that person;
- (b) Induce that person to elude legal process summoning him or her to testify;
- (c) Induce that person to absent himself or herself from such proceedings; or
- (d) Induce that person not to report the information relevant to a criminal investigation or the abuse or neglect of a minor child, not to have the crime or the abuse or neglect of a minor child prosecuted, or not to give truthful or complete information relevant to a criminal investigation or the abuse or neglect of a minor child.

(2) A person also is guilty of intimidating a witness if the person directs a threat to a former witness because of the witness's role in an official proceeding.

(3) As used in this section:

- (a) "Threat" means:
  - (i) To communicate, directly or indirectly, the intent immediately to use force against any person who is present at the time; or
  - (ii) Threat as defined in \*RCW 9A.04.110(27).
- (b) "Current or prospective witness" means:

(i) A person endorsed as a witness in an official proceeding;

(ii) A person whom the actor believes may be called as a witness in any official proceeding; or

(iii) A person whom the actor has reason to believe may have information relevant to a criminal investigation or the abuse or neglect of a minor child.

(c) "Former witness" means:

(i) A person who testified in an official proceeding;

(ii) A person who was endorsed as a witness in an official proceeding;

(iii) A person whom the actor knew or believed may have been called as a witness if a hearing or trial had been held; or

(iv) A person whom the actor knew or believed may have provided information related to a criminal investigation or an investigation into the abuse or neglect of a minor child.

(4) Intimidating a witness is a class B felony.

(5) For purposes of this section, each instance of an attempt to intimidate a witness constitutes a separate offense. [2011 c 165 § 2; 1997 c 29 § 1; 1994 c 271 § 204; 1985 c 327 § 2; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 18; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.110.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9A.04.110 was amended by 2011 c 166 § 2, changing subsection (27) to subsection (28).

**Intent—2011 c 165:** "In response to *State v. Hall*, 168 Wn.2d 726 (2010), the legislature intends to clarify that each instance of an attempt to intimidate or tamper with a witness constitutes a separate violation for purposes of determining the unit of prosecution under the statutes governing tampering with a witness and intimidating a witness." [2011 c 165 § 1.]

**Finding—1994 c 271:** See note following RCW 9A.72.090.

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.72.120 Tampering with a witness.** (1) A person is guilty of tampering with a witness if he or she attempts to induce a witness or person he or she has reason to believe is about to be called as a witness in any official proceeding or a person whom he or she has reason to believe may have information relevant to a criminal investigation or the abuse or neglect of a minor child to:

(a) Testify falsely or, without right or privilege to do so, to withhold any testimony; or

(b) Absent himself or herself from such proceedings; or

(c) Withhold from a law enforcement agency information which he or she has relevant to a criminal investigation or the abuse or neglect of a minor child to the agency.

(2) Tampering with a witness is a class C felony.

(3) For purposes of this section, each instance of an attempt to tamper with a witness constitutes a separate offense. [2011 c 165 § 3; 1994 c 271 § 205; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 19; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.120.]

**Intent—2011 c 165:** See note following RCW 9A.72.110.

**Finding—1994 c 271:** See note following RCW 9A.72.090.

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.72.130 Intimidating a juror.** (1) A person is guilty of intimidating a juror if a person directs a threat to a former juror because of the juror's vote, opinion, decision, or other

official action as a juror, or if, by use of a threat, he or she attempts to influence a juror's vote, opinion, decision, or other official action as a juror.

(2) "Threat" as used in this section means:

(a) To communicate, directly or indirectly, the intent immediately to use force against any person who is present at the time; or

(b) Threats as defined in RCW 9A.04.110.

(3) Intimidating a juror is a class B felony. [2011 c 336 § 395; 1985 c 327 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.130.]

**9A.72.140 Jury tampering.** (1) A person is guilty of jury tampering if with intent to influence a juror's vote, opinion, decision, or other official action in a case, he or she attempts to communicate directly or indirectly with a juror other than as part of the proceedings in the trial of the case.

(2) Jury tampering is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 396; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.140.]

**9A.72.150 Tampering with physical evidence.** (1) A person is guilty of tampering with physical evidence if, having reason to believe that an official proceeding is pending or about to be instituted and acting without legal right or authority, he or she:

(a) Destroys, mutilates, conceals, removes, or alters physical evidence with intent to impair its appearance, character, or availability in such pending or prospective official proceeding; or

(b) Knowingly presents or offers any false physical evidence.

(2) "Physical evidence" as used in this section includes any article, object, document, record, or other thing of physical substance.

(3) Tampering with physical evidence is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 397; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.72.150.]

**9A.72.160 Intimidating a judge.** (1) A person is guilty of intimidating a judge if a person directs a threat to a judge because of a ruling or decision of the judge in any official proceeding, or if by use of a threat directed to a judge, a person attempts to influence a ruling or decision of the judge in any official proceeding.

(2) "Threat" as used in this section means:

(a) To communicate, directly or indirectly, the intent immediately to use force against any person who is present at the time; or

(b) Threats as defined in \*RCW 9A.04.110(25).

(3) Intimidating a judge is a class B felony. [1985 c 327 § 1.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9A.04.110 was amended by 2005 c 458 § 3, changing subsection (25) to subsection (26); was subsequently amended by 2007 c 79 § 3, changing subsection (26) to subsection (27); and was subsequently amended by 2011 c 166 § 2, changing subsection (27) to subsection (28).

## Chapter 9A.76 RCW

### OBSTRUCTING GOVERNMENTAL OPERATION

#### Sections

9A.76.010 Definitions.

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- 9A.76.900 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.

*Withholding knowledge of felony: RCW 9.69.100.*

**9A.76.010 Definitions.** The following definitions are applicable in this chapter unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Contraband" means any article or thing which a person confined in a detention facility is prohibited from obtaining or possessing by statute, rule, regulation, or order of a court;

(2) "Custody" means restraint pursuant to a lawful arrest or an order of a court, or any period of service on a work crew: PROVIDED, That custody pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW and RCW \*74.13.020 and 74.13.031 and chapter 13.32A RCW shall not be deemed custody for purposes of this chapter;

(3) "Detention facility" means any place used for the confinement of a person (a) arrested for, charged with or convicted of an offense, or (b) charged with being or adjudicated to be a juvenile offender as defined in RCW 13.40.020 as now existing or hereafter amended, or (c) held for extradition or as a material witness, or (d) otherwise confined pursuant to an order of a court, except an order under chapter 13.34 RCW or chapter 13.32A RCW, or (e) in any work release, furlough, or other such facility or program;

(4) "Uncontrollable circumstances" means an act of nature such as a flood, earthquake, or fire, or a medical condition that requires immediate hospitalization or treatment, or an act of a human being such as an automobile accident or threats of death, forcible sexual attack, or substantial bodily injury in the immediate future for which there is no time for a complaint to the authorities and no time or opportunity to resort to the courts. [2009 c 549 § 1003; 2001 c 264 § 4; 1991 c 181 § 6; 1979 c 155 § 35; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 53; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.010.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 74.13.020 no longer refers to "custody."

(2) The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.76.020 Obstructing a law enforcement officer. (1)**

A person is guilty of obstructing a law enforcement officer if the person willfully hinders, delays, or obstructs any law enforcement officer in the discharge of his or her official powers or duties.

(2) "Law enforcement officer" means any general authority, limited authority, or specially commissioned Washington peace officer or federal peace officer as those terms are defined in RCW 10.93.020, and other public officers who are responsible for enforcement of fire, building, zoning, and life and safety codes.

(3) Obstructing a law enforcement officer is a gross misdemeanor. [2001 c 308 § 3. Prior: 1995 c 285 § 33; 1994 c 196 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.020.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 308:** See notes following RCW 9A.76.175.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.76.023 Disarming a law enforcement or corrections officer. (1)**

A person is guilty of disarming a law enforcement officer if with intent to interfere with the performance of the officer's duties the person knowingly removes a firearm or weapon from the person of a law enforcement officer or corrections officer or deprives a law enforcement officer or corrections officer of the use of a firearm or weapon, when the officer is acting within the scope of the officer's duties, does not consent to the removal, and the person has reasonable cause to know or knows that the individual is a law enforcement or corrections officer.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, disarming a law enforcement or corrections officer is a class C felony.

(b) Disarming a law enforcement or corrections officer is a class B felony if the firearm involved is discharged when the person removes the firearm. [2003 c 53 § 82; 1998 c 252 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9A.76.025 Disarming a law enforcement or corrections officer—Commission of another crime.**

A person who commits another crime during the commission of the crime of disarming a law enforcement or corrections officer may be punished for the other crime as well as for disarming a law enforcement officer and may be prosecuted separately for each crime. [1998 c 252 § 2.]

**9A.76.027 Law enforcement or corrections officer engaged in criminal conduct.**

RCW 9A.76.023 and 9A.76.025 do not apply when the law enforcement officer or corrections officer is engaged in criminal conduct. [1998 c 252 § 3.]

**9A.76.030 Refusing to summon aid for a peace officer. (1)**

A person is guilty of refusing to summon aid for a peace officer if, upon request by a person he or she knows to be a peace officer, he or she unreasonably refuses or fails to summon aid for such peace officer.

(2) Refusing to summon aid for a peace officer is a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 398; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.030.]

**9A.76.040 Resisting arrest.** (1) A person is guilty of resisting arrest if he or she intentionally prevents or attempts to prevent a peace officer from lawfully arresting him or her.

(2) Resisting arrest is a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 399; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.040.]

**9A.76.050 Rendering criminal assistance—Definition of term.** As used in RCW 9A.76.070, 9A.76.080, and 9A.76.090, a person "renders criminal assistance" if, with intent to prevent, hinder, or delay the apprehension or prosecution of another person who he or she knows has committed a crime or juvenile offense or is being sought by law enforcement officials for the commission of a crime or juvenile offense or has escaped from a detention facility, he or she:

(1) Harbors or conceals such person; or

(2) Warns such person of impending discovery or apprehension; or

(3) Provides such person with money, transportation, disguise, or other means of avoiding discovery or apprehension; or

(4) Prevents or obstructs, by use of force, deception, or threat, anyone from performing an act that might aid in the discovery or apprehension of such person; or

(5) Conceals, alters, or destroys any physical evidence that might aid in the discovery or apprehension of such person; or

(6) Provides such person with a weapon. [2011 c 336 § 400; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 20; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.050.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.76.060 Relative defined.** As used in RCW 9A.76.070 and 9A.76.080, "relative" means a person:

(1) Who is related as husband or wife, brother or sister, parent or grandparent, child or grandchild, stepchild or step-parent to the person to whom criminal assistance is rendered; and

(2) Who does not render criminal assistance to another person in one or more of the means defined in subsections (4), (5), or (6) of RCW 9A.76.050. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.060.]

**9A.76.070 Rendering criminal assistance in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of rendering criminal assistance in the first degree if he or she renders criminal assistance to a person who has committed or is being sought for murder in the first degree or any class A felony or equivalent juvenile offense.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, rendering criminal assistance in the first degree is a class B felony.

(b) Rendering criminal assistance in the first degree is a gross misdemeanor if it is established by a preponderance of the evidence that the actor is a relative as defined in RCW 9A.76.060 and under the age of eighteen at the time of the offense. [2010 c 255 § 1; 2003 c 53 § 83; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 21; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.070.]

**Short title—2010 c 255:** "This act may be known and cited as Randy's law." [2010 c 255 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.76.080 Rendering criminal assistance in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of rendering criminal assistance in the second degree if he or she renders criminal assistance to a person who has committed or is being sought for a class B or class C felony or an equivalent juvenile offense or to someone being sought for violation of parole, probation, or community supervision.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, rendering criminal assistance in the second degree is a gross misdemeanor.

(b) Rendering criminal assistance in the second degree is a misdemeanor if it is established by a preponderance of the evidence that the actor is a relative as defined in RCW 9A.76.060. [2003 c 53 § 84; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 22; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.080.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.76.090 Rendering criminal assistance in the third degree.** (1) A person is guilty of rendering criminal assistance in the third degree if he or she renders criminal assistance to a person who has committed a gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor.

(2) Rendering criminal assistance in the third degree is a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 401; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.090.]

**9A.76.100 Compounding.** (1) A person is guilty of compounding if:

(a) He or she requests, accepts, or agrees to accept any pecuniary benefit pursuant to an agreement or understanding that he or she will refrain from initiating a prosecution for a crime; or

(b) He or she confers, or offers or agrees to confer, any pecuniary benefit upon another pursuant to an agreement or understanding that such other person will refrain from initiating a prosecution for a crime.

(2) In any prosecution under this section, it is a defense if established by a preponderance of the evidence that the pecuniary benefit did not exceed an amount which the defendant reasonably believed to be due as restitution or indemnification for harm caused by the crime.

(3) Compounding is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 402; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.100.]

**9A.76.110 Escape in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of escape in the first degree if he or she knowingly escapes from custody or a detention facility while being detained pursuant to a conviction of a felony or an equivalent juvenile offense.

(2) It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under this section that uncontrollable circumstances prevented the person from remaining in custody or in the detention facility or from returning to custody or to the detention facility, and that the person did not contribute to the creation of such circumstances in reckless disregard of the requirement to remain or return, and that the person returned to custody or the detention facility as soon as such circumstances ceased to exist.

(3) Escape in the first degree is a class B felony. [2001 c 264 § 1; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 23; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.110.]

*Term of escaped prisoner recaptured: RCW 9.31.090.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.76.115 Sexually violent predator escape.** (1) A person is guilty of sexually violent predator escape if:

(a) Having been found to be a sexually violent predator and confined to the special commitment center or another secure facility under court order, the person escapes from the secure facility;

(b) Having been found to be a sexually violent predator and being under an order of conditional release, the person leaves or remains absent from the state of Washington without prior court authorization; or

(c) Having been found to be a sexually violent predator and being under an order of conditional release, the person: (i) Without authorization, leaves or remains absent from his or her residence, place of employment, educational institution, or authorized outing; (ii) tampers with his or her electronic monitoring device or removes it without authorization; or (iii) escapes from his or her escort.

(2) Sexually violent predator escape is a class A felony with a minimum sentence of sixty months, and shall be sentenced under RCW 9.94A.507. [2009 c 28 § 32; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 12 § 360; 2001 c 287 § 1.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—2001 2nd sp.s. c 12:** See notes following RCW 71.09.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.76.120 Escape in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of escape in the second degree if:

(a) He or she knowingly escapes from a detention facility; or

(b) Having been charged with a felony or an equivalent juvenile offense, he or she knowingly escapes from custody; or

(c) Having been committed under chapter 10.77 RCW for a sex, violent, or felony harassment offense and being under an order of conditional release, he or she knowingly leaves or remains absent from the state of Washington without prior court authorization.

(2) It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under this section that uncontrollable circumstances prevented the person from remaining in custody or in the detention facility or from returning to custody or to the detention facility, and that the person did not contribute to the creation of such circumstances in reckless disregard of the requirement to remain or return, and that the person returned to custody or the detention facility as soon as such circumstances ceased to exist.

(3) Escape in the second degree is a class C felony. [2001 c 287 § 2; 2001 c 264 § 2; 1995 c 216 § 15; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 24; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.120.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2001 c 264 § 2 and by 2001 c 287 § 2, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

*Term of escaped prisoner recaptured: RCW 9.31.090.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.76.130 Escape in the third degree.** (1) A person is guilty of escape in the third degree if he or she escapes from custody.

(2) Escape in the third degree is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 403; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.130.]

*Term of escaped prisoner recaptured: RCW 9.31.090.*

**9A.76.140 Introducing contraband in the first degree.** (1) A person is guilty of introducing contraband in the first degree if he or she knowingly provides any deadly weapon to any person confined in a detention facility.

(2) Introducing contraband in the first degree is a class B felony. [2011 c 336 § 404; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.140.]

**9A.76.150 Introducing contraband in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of introducing contraband in the second degree if he or she knowingly and unlawfully provides contraband to any person confined in a detention facility with the intent that such contraband be of assistance in an escape or in the commission of a crime.

(2) Introducing contraband in the second degree is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 405; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.150.]

**9A.76.160 Introducing contraband in the third degree.** (1) A person is guilty of introducing contraband in the third degree if he or she knowingly and unlawfully provides contraband to any person confined in a detention facility.

(2) Introducing contraband in the third degree is a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 406; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.160.]

**9A.76.170 Bail jumping.** (1) Any person having been released by court order or admitted to bail with knowledge of the requirement of a subsequent personal appearance before any court of this state, or of the requirement to report to a correctional facility for service of sentence, and who fails to appear or who fails to surrender for service of sentence as required is guilty of bail jumping.

(2) It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under this section that uncontrollable circumstances prevented the person from appearing or surrendering, and that the person did not contribute to the creation of such circumstances in reckless disregard of the requirement to appear or surrender, and that the person appeared or surrendered as soon as such circumstances ceased to exist.

(3) Bail jumping is:

(a) A class A felony if the person was held for, charged with, or convicted of murder in the first degree;

(b) A class B felony if the person was held for, charged with, or convicted of a class A felony other than murder in the first degree;

(c) A class C felony if the person was held for, charged with, or convicted of a class B or class C felony;

(d) A misdemeanor if the person was held for, charged with, or convicted of a gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor. [2001 c 264 § 3; 1983 1st ex.s. c 4 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.170.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.76.175 Making a false or misleading statement to a public servant.** A person who knowingly makes a false or misleading material statement to a public servant is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. "Material statement" means a written or oral statement reasonably likely to be relied upon by a public servant in the discharge of his or her official powers or duties. [2001 c 308 § 2. Prior: 1995 c 285 § 32.]

**Purpose—2001 c 308:** "The purpose of this act is to respond to *State v. Thomas*, 103 Wn. App. 800, by reenacting, without changes, the law prohibiting materially false or misleading statements to public servants, enacted as sections 32 and 33, chapter 285, Laws of 1995." [2001 c 308 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.76.177 Amber alert—Making a false or misleading statement to a public servant.** (1) A person who, with the intent of causing an activation of the voluntary broadcast notification system commonly known as the "Amber alert," or as the same system may otherwise be known, which is used to notify the public of abducted children, knowingly makes a false or misleading material statement to a public servant that a child has been abducted and which statement causes an activation, is guilty of a class C felony.

(2) "Material statement" means a written or oral statement reasonably likely to be relied upon by a public servant in the discharge of his or her official powers or duties. [2008 c 91 § 1.]

**9A.76.180 Intimidating a public servant.** (1) A person is guilty of intimidating a public servant if, by use of a threat, he or she attempts to influence a public servant's vote, opinion, decision, or other official action as a public servant.

(2) For purposes of this section "public servant" shall not include jurors.

(3) "Threat" as used in this section means:

(a) To communicate, directly or indirectly, the intent immediately to use force against any person who is present at the time; or

(b) Threats as defined in RCW 9A.04.110.

(4) Intimidating a public servant is a class B felony. [2011 c 336 § 407; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.76.180.]

**9A.76.200 Harming a police dog, accelerant detection dog, or police horse—Penalty.** (1) A person is guilty of harming a police dog, accelerant detection dog, or police horse, if he or she maliciously injures, disables, shoots, or kills by any means any dog or horse that the person knows or has reason to know to be a police dog or accelerant detection dog, as defined in RCW 4.24.410, or police horse, as defined in subsection (2) of this section, whether or not the dog or horse is actually engaged in police or accelerant detection work at the time of the injury.

(2) "Police horse" means any horse used or kept for use by a law enforcement officer in discharging any legal duty or power of his or her office.

(3) Harming a police dog, accelerant detection dog, or police horse is a class C felony.

(4)(a) In addition to the criminal penalty provided in this section for harming a police dog:

(i) The court may impose a civil penalty of up to five thousand dollars for harming a police dog.

(ii) The court shall impose a civil penalty of at least five thousand dollars and may increase the penalty up to a maximum of ten thousand dollars for killing a police dog.

(b) Moneys collected must be distributed to the jurisdiction that owns the police dog. [2012 c 94 § 2; 2003 c 269 § 1; 1993 c 180 § 2; 1989 c 26 § 2; 1982 c 22 § 2.]

**9A.76.900 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 25.]

## Chapter 9A.80 RCW ABUSE OF OFFICE

### Sections

9A.80.010 Official misconduct.

**9A.80.010 Official misconduct.** (1) A public servant is guilty of official misconduct if, with intent to obtain a benefit or to deprive another person of a lawful right or privilege:

(a) He or she intentionally commits an unauthorized act under color of law; or

(b) He or she intentionally refrains from performing a duty imposed upon him or her by law.

(2) Official misconduct is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 408; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 17; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.80.010.]

*Failure of duty by public officers:* RCW 42.20.100.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 9A.82 RCW CRIMINAL PROFITEERING ACT (Formerly: Racketeering)

### Sections

9A.82.001 Short title.  
9A.82.010 Definitions.  
9A.82.020 Extortionate extension of credit.  
9A.82.030 Advancing money or property to be used for extortionate credit.  
9A.82.040 Use of extortionate means to collect extensions of credit.  
9A.82.045 Collection of unlawful debt.  
9A.82.050 Trafficking in stolen property in the first degree.  
9A.82.055 Trafficking in stolen property in the second degree.  
9A.82.060 Leading organized crime.  
9A.82.070 Influencing outcome of sporting event.  
9A.82.080 Use of proceeds of criminal profiteering—Controlling enterprise or realty—Conspiracy or attempt.  
9A.82.085 Bars on certain prosecutions.  
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9A.82.100 Remedies and procedures.  
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9A.82.120	Criminal profiteering lien—Authority, procedures.
9A.82.130	Criminal profiteering lien—Trustee of real property.
9A.82.140	Criminal profiteering lien—Procedures after notice.
9A.82.150	Criminal profiteering lien—Conveyance of property by trustee, liability.
9A.82.160	Criminal profiteering lien—Trustee's failure to comply, evasion of procedures or lien.
9A.82.170	Financial institution records—Inspection and copying—Wrongful disclosure.
9A.82.900	Severability—1984 c 270.
9A.82.901	Effective date—1984 c 270 as amended by 1985 c 455.
9A.82.902	Effective date—1985 c 455.
9A.82.904	Severability—1985 c 455.

*Special narcotics enforcement unit: RCW 43.43.655.*

**9A.82.001 Short title.** This chapter shall be known as the criminal profiteering act. [2001 c 222 § 2. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 1.]

**Purpose—2001 c 222:** "The purpose of this act is to respond to *State v. Thomas*, 103 Wn. App. 800, by reenacting, without substantive changes, the Washington laws relating to criminal profiteering, and the sentencing level ranking for criminal profiteering crimes as they existed prior to December 21, 2000." [2001 c 222 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.82.010 Definitions.** Unless the context requires the contrary, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1)(a) "Beneficial interest" means:

(i) The interest of a person as a beneficiary under a trust established under Title 11 RCW in which the trustee for the trust holds legal or record title to real property;

(ii) The interest of a person as a beneficiary under any other trust arrangement under which a trustee holds legal or record title to real property for the benefit of the beneficiary; or

(iii) The interest of a person under any other form of express fiduciary arrangement under which one person holds legal or record title to real property for the benefit of the other person.

(b) "Beneficial interest" does not include the interest of a stockholder in a corporation or the interest of a partner in a general partnership or limited partnership.

(c) A beneficial interest is considered to be located where the real property owned by the trustee is located.

(2) "Control" means the possession of a sufficient interest to permit substantial direction over the affairs of an enterprise.

(3) "Creditor" means a person making an extension of credit or a person claiming by, under, or through a person making an extension of credit.

(4) "Criminal profiteering" means any act, including any anticipatory or completed offense, committed for financial gain, that is chargeable or indictable under the laws of the state in which the act occurred and, if the act occurred in a state other than this state, would be chargeable or indictable under the laws of this state had the act occurred in this state and punishable as a felony and by imprisonment for more than one year, regardless of whether the act is charged or indicted, as any of the following:

(a) Murder, as defined in RCW 9A.32.030 and 9A.32.050;

(b) Robbery, as defined in RCW 9A.56.200 and 9A.56.210;

(c) Kidnapping, as defined in RCW 9A.40.020 and 9A.40.030;

(d) Forgery, as defined in RCW 9A.60.020 and 9A.60.030;

(e) Theft, as defined in RCW 9A.56.030, 9A.56.040, 9A.56.060, 9A.56.080, and 9A.56.083;

(f) Unlawful sale of subscription television services, as defined in RCW 9A.56.230;

(g) Theft of telecommunication services or unlawful manufacture of a telecommunication device, as defined in RCW 9A.56.262 and 9A.56.264;

(h) Child selling or child buying, as defined in RCW 9A.64.030;

(i) Bribery, as defined in RCW 9A.68.010, 9A.68.020, 9A.68.040, and 9A.68.050;

(j) Gambling, as defined in RCW 9.46.220 and 9.46.215 and 9.46.217;

(k) Extortion, as defined in RCW 9A.56.120 and 9A.56.130;

(l) Unlawful production of payment instruments, unlawful possession of payment instruments, unlawful possession of a personal identification device, unlawful possession of fictitious identification, or unlawful possession of instruments of financial fraud, as defined in RCW 9A.56.320;

(m) Extortionate extension of credit, as defined in RCW 9A.82.020;

(n) Advancing money for use in an extortionate extension of credit, as defined in RCW 9A.82.030;

(o) Collection of an extortionate extension of credit, as defined in RCW 9A.82.040;

(p) Collection of an unlawful debt, as defined in RCW 9A.82.045;

(q) Delivery or manufacture of controlled substances or possession with intent to deliver or manufacture controlled substances under chapter 69.50 RCW;

(r) Trafficking in stolen property, as defined in RCW 9A.82.050;

(s) Leading organized crime, as defined in RCW 9A.82.060;

(t) Money laundering, as defined in RCW 9A.83.020;

(u) Obstructing criminal investigations or prosecutions in violation of RCW 9A.72.090, 9A.72.100, 9A.72.110, 9A.72.120, 9A.72.130, 9A.76.070, or 9A.76.180;

(v) Fraud in the purchase or sale of securities, as defined in RCW 21.20.010;

(w) Promoting pornography, as defined in RCW 9.68.140;

(x) Sexual exploitation of children, as defined in RCW 9.68A.040, 9.68A.050, and 9.68A.060;

(y) Promoting prostitution, as defined in RCW 9A.88.070 and 9A.88.080;

(z) Arson, as defined in RCW 9A.48.020 and 9A.48.030;

(aa) Assault, as defined in RCW 9A.36.011 and 9A.36.021;

(bb) Assault of a child, as defined in RCW 9A.36.120 and 9A.36.130;

(cc) A pattern of equity skimming, as defined in RCW 61.34.020;

(dd) Commercial telephone solicitation in violation of RCW 19.158.040(1);

(ee) Trafficking in insurance claims, as defined in RCW 48.30A.015;

(ff) Unlawful practice of law, as defined in RCW 2.48.180;

(gg) Commercial bribery, as defined in RCW 9A.68.060;

(hh) Health care false claims, as defined in RCW 48.80.030;

(ii) Unlicensed practice of a profession or business, as defined in RCW 18.130.190(7);

(jj) Improperly obtaining financial information, as defined in RCW 9.35.010;

(kk) Identity theft, as defined in RCW 9.35.020;

(ll) Unlawful shipment of cigarettes in violation of \*RCW 70.155.105(6) (a) or (b);

(mm) Unlawful shipment of cigarettes in violation of RCW 82.24.110(2);

(nn) Unauthorized sale or procurement of telephone records in violation of RCW 9.26A.140;

(oo) Theft with the intent to resell, as defined in RCW 9A.56.340;

(pp) Organized retail theft, as defined in RCW 9A.56.350;

(qq) Mortgage fraud, as defined in RCW 19.144.080;

(rr) Commercial sexual abuse of a minor, as defined in RCW 9.68A.100; or

(ss) Promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor, as defined in RCW 9.68A.101.

(5) "Dealer in property" means a person who buys and sells property as a business.

(6) "Debtor" means a person to whom an extension of credit is made or a person who guarantees the repayment of an extension of credit or in any manner undertakes to indemnify the creditor against loss resulting from the failure of a person to whom an extension is made to repay the same.

(7) "Documentary material" means any book, paper, document, writing, drawing, graph, chart, photograph, phonograph record, magnetic tape, computer printout, other data compilation from which information can be obtained or from which information can be translated into usable form, or other tangible item.

(8) "Enterprise" includes any individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, business trust, or other profit or nonprofit legal entity, and includes any union, association, or group of individuals associated in fact although not a legal entity, and both illicit and licit enterprises and governmental and nongovernmental entities.

(9) "Extortionate extension of credit" means an extension of credit with respect to which it is the understanding of the creditor and the debtor at the time the extension is made that delay in making repayment or failure to make repayment could result in the use of violence or other criminal means to cause harm to the person, reputation, or property of any person.

(10) "Extortionate means" means the use, or an express or implicit threat of use, of violence or other criminal means to cause harm to the person, reputation, or property of any person.

(11) "Financial institution" means any bank, trust company, savings and loan association, savings bank, mutual savings bank, credit union, or loan company under the jurisdiction of the state or an agency of the United States.

(12) "Pattern of criminal profiteering activity" means engaging in at least three acts of criminal profiteering, one of which occurred after July 1, 1985, and the last of which occurred within five years, excluding any period of imprisonment, after the commission of the earliest act of criminal profiteering. In order to constitute a pattern, the three acts must have the same or similar intent, results, accomplices, principals, victims, or methods of commission, or be otherwise interrelated by distinguishing characteristics including a nexus to the same enterprise, and must not be isolated events. However, in any civil proceedings brought pursuant to RCW 9A.82.100 by any person other than the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney in which one or more acts of fraud in the purchase or sale of securities are asserted as acts of criminal profiteering activity, it is a condition to civil liability under RCW 9A.82.100 that the defendant has been convicted in a criminal proceeding of fraud in the purchase or sale of securities under RCW 21.20.400 or under the laws of another state or of the United States requiring the same elements of proof, but such conviction need not relate to any act or acts asserted as acts of criminal profiteering activity in such civil action under RCW 9A.82.100.

(13) "Real property" means any real property or interest in real property, including but not limited to a land sale contract, lease, or mortgage of real property.

(14) "Records" means any book, paper, writing, record, computer program, or other material.

(15) "Repayment of an extension of credit" means the repayment, satisfaction, or discharge in whole or in part of a debt or claim, acknowledged or disputed, valid or invalid, resulting from or in connection with that extension of credit.

(16) "Stolen property" means property that has been obtained by theft, robbery, or extortion.

(17) "To collect an extension of credit" means to induce in any way a person to make repayment thereof.

(18) "To extend credit" means to make or renew a loan or to enter into an agreement, tacit or express, whereby the repayment or satisfaction of a debt or claim, whether acknowledged or disputed, valid or invalid, and however arising, may or shall be deferred.

(19) "Traffic" means to sell, transfer, distribute, dispense, or otherwise dispose of stolen property to another person, or to buy, receive, possess, or obtain control of stolen property, with intent to sell, transfer, distribute, dispense, or otherwise dispose of the property to another person.

(20)(a) "Trustee" means:

(i) A person acting as a trustee under a trust established under Title 11 RCW in which the trustee holds legal or record title to real property;

(ii) A person who holds legal or record title to real property in which another person has a beneficial interest; or

(iii) A successor trustee to a person who is a trustee under (a)(i) or (ii) of this subsection.

(b) "Trustee" does not mean a person appointed or acting as:

(i) A personal representative under Title 11 RCW;

(ii) A trustee of any testamentary trust;

(iii) A trustee of any indenture of trust under which a bond is issued; or

(iv) A trustee under a deed of trust.

(21) "Unlawful debt" means any money or other thing of value constituting principal or interest of a debt that is legally unenforceable in the state in full or in part because the debt was incurred or contracted:

- (a) In violation of any one of the following:
  - (i) Chapter 67.16 RCW relating to horse racing;
  - (ii) Chapter 9.46 RCW relating to gambling;
- (b) In a gambling activity in violation of federal law; or
- (c) In connection with the business of lending money or a thing of value at a rate that is at least twice the permitted rate under the applicable state or federal law relating to usury.

[2012 c 139 § 1; 2008 c 108 § 24. Prior: 2006 c 277 § 5; 2006 c 193 § 2; prior: 2003 c 119 § 6; 2003 c 113 § 3; 2003 c 53 § 85; prior: 2001 c 222 § 3; 2001 c 217 § 11; prior: 1999 c 143 § 40; prior: 1995 c 285 § 34; 1995 c 92 § 5; 1994 c 218 § 17; prior: 1992 c 210 § 6; 1992 c 145 § 13; 1989 c 20 § 17; 1988 c 33 § 5; 1986 c 78 § 1; 1985 c 455 § 2; 1984 c 270 § 1.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 70.155.105 was repealed by 2009 c 278 § 3.

**Findings—2008 c 108:** See RCW 19.144.005.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.82.020 Extortionate extension of credit.** (1) A person who knowingly makes an extortionate extension of credit is guilty of a class B felony.

(2) In a prosecution under this section, if it is shown that all of the following factors are present in connection with the extension of credit, there is prima facie evidence that the extension of credit was extortionate:

(a) The repayment of the extension of credit, or the performance of any promise given in consideration thereof, would be unenforceable at the time the extension of credit was made through civil judicial processes against the debtor in the county in which the debtor, if a natural person, resided or in every county in which the debtor, if other than a natural person, was incorporated or qualified to do business.

(b) The extension of credit was made at a rate of interest in excess of an annual rate of forty-five percent calculated according to the actuarial method of allocating payments made on a debt between principal and interest, pursuant to which a payment is applied first to the accumulated interest and the balance is applied to the unpaid principal.

(c) The creditor intended the debtor to believe that failure to comply with the terms of the extension of credit would be enforced by extortionate means.

(d) Upon the making of the extension of credit, the total of the extensions of credit by the creditor to the debtor then outstanding, including any unpaid interest or similar charges, exceeded one hundred dollars. [2001 c 222 § 4. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 3; 1984 c 270 § 2.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.030 Advancing money or property to be used for extortionate credit.** A person who advances money or property, whether as a gift, loan, investment, or pursuant to a partnership or profit-sharing agreement or otherwise, to any person, with the knowledge that it is the intention of that per-

son to use the money or property so advanced, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of making extortionate extensions of credit, is guilty of a class B felony. [2001 c 222 § 5. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 4; 1984 c 270 § 3.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.040 Use of extortionate means to collect extensions of credit.** A person who knowingly participates in any way in the use of any extortionate means to collect or attempt to collect any extensions of credit or to punish any person for the nonrepayment thereof, is guilty of a class B felony. [2001 c 222 § 6. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 5; 1984 c 270 § 4.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.045 Collection of unlawful debt.** It is unlawful for any person knowingly to collect any unlawful debt. A violation of this section is a class C felony. [2001 c 222 § 7. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 6.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.050 Trafficking in stolen property in the first degree.** (1) A person who knowingly initiates, organizes, plans, finances, directs, manages, or supervises the theft of property for sale to others, or who knowingly traffics in stolen property, is guilty of trafficking in stolen property in the first degree.

(2) Trafficking in stolen property in the first degree is a class B felony. [2003 c 53 § 86; 2001 c 222 § 8. Prior: 1984 c 270 § 5.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.055 Trafficking in stolen property in the second degree.** (1) A person who recklessly traffics in stolen property is guilty of trafficking in stolen property in the second degree.

(2) Trafficking in stolen property in the second degree is a class C felony. [2003 c 53 § 87.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9A.82.060 Leading organized crime.** (1) A person commits the offense of leading organized crime by:

(a) Intentionally organizing, managing, directing, supervising, or financing any three or more persons with the intent to engage in a pattern of criminal profiteering activity; or

(b) Intentionally inciting or inducing others to engage in violence or intimidation with the intent to further or promote the accomplishment of a pattern of criminal profiteering activity.

(2)(a) Leading organized crime as defined in subsection (1)(a) of this section is a class A felony.

(b) Leading organized crime as defined in subsection (1)(b) of this section is a class B felony. [2003 c 53 § 88; 2001 c 222 § 9. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 7; 1984 c 270 § 6.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.070 Influencing outcome of sporting event.**

Whoever knowingly gives, promises, or offers to any professional or amateur baseball, football, hockey, polo, tennis, horse race, or basketball player or boxer or any player or referee or other official who participates or expects to participate in any professional or amateur game or sport, or to any manager, coach, or trainer of any team or participant or prospective participant in any such game, contest, or sport, any benefit with intent to influence the person to lose or try to lose or cause to be lost or to limit the person's or person's team's margin of victory or defeat, or in the case of a referee or other official to affect the decisions or the performance of the official's duties in any way, in a baseball, football, hockey, or basketball game, boxing, tennis, horse race, or polo match, or any professional or amateur sport or game, in which the player or participant or referee or other official is taking part or expects to take part, or has any duty or connection therewith, is guilty of a class C felony. [2001 c 222 § 10. Prior: 1984 c 270 § 7.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.080 Use of proceeds of criminal profiteering—Controlling enterprise or realty—Conspiracy or attempt.**

(1)(a) It is unlawful for a person who has knowingly received any of the proceeds derived, directly or indirectly, from a pattern of criminal profiteering activity to use or invest, whether directly or indirectly, any part of the proceeds, or the proceeds derived from the investment or use thereof, in the acquisition of any title to, or any right, interest, or equity in, real property or in the establishment or operation of any enterprise.

(b) A violation of this subsection is a class B felony.

(2)(a) It is unlawful for a person knowingly to acquire or maintain, directly or indirectly, any interest in or control of any enterprise or real property through a pattern of criminal profiteering activity.

(b) A violation of this subsection is a class B felony.

(3)(a) It is unlawful for a person knowingly to conspire or attempt to violate subsection (1) or (2) of this section.

(b) A violation of this subsection is a class C felony. [2003 c 53 § 89; 2001 c 222 § 11. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 8; 1984 c 270 § 8.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.085 Bars on certain prosecutions.** In a criminal prosecution alleging a violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080, the state is barred from joining any offense other than the offenses alleged to be part of the pattern of criminal profiteering activity. When a defendant has been tried criminally for a violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080, the state is barred from subsequently charging the defendant with an offense that was alleged to be part of the pattern of criminal profiteering activity for which he or she was tried. [2001 c 222 § 12. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 9.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.090 Orders restraining criminal profiteering—When issued.**

During the pendency of any criminal case charging a violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080, or an offense defined in RCW 9A.40.100, the superior court may, in addition to its other powers, issue an order pursuant to RCW 9A.82.100 (2) or (3). Upon conviction of a person for a violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080, or an offense defined in RCW 9A.40.100, the superior court may, in addition to its other powers of disposition, issue an order pursuant to RCW 9A.82.100. [2003 c 267 § 5; 2001 c 222 § 13. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 10; 1984 c 270 § 9.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.100 Remedies and procedures.**

(1)(a) A person who sustains injury to his or her person, business, or property by an act of criminal profiteering that is part of a pattern of criminal profiteering activity, or by an offense defined in RCW 9A.40.100, 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, or by a violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080 may file an action in superior court for the recovery of damages and the costs of the suit, including reasonable investigative and attorney's fees.

(b) The attorney general or county prosecuting attorney may file an action: (i) On behalf of those persons injured or, respectively, on behalf of the state or county if the entity has sustained damages, or (ii) to prevent, restrain, or remedy a pattern of criminal profiteering activity, or an offense defined in RCW 9A.40.100, 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, or a violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080.

(c) An action for damages filed by or on behalf of an injured person, the state, or the county shall be for the recovery of damages and the costs of the suit, including reasonable investigative and attorney's fees.

(d) In an action filed to prevent, restrain, or remedy a pattern of criminal profiteering activity, or an offense defined in RCW 9A.40.100, 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, or a violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080, the court, upon proof of the violation, may impose a civil penalty not exceeding two hundred fifty thousand dollars, in addition to awarding the cost of the suit, including reasonable investigative and attorney's fees.

(2) The superior court has jurisdiction to prevent, restrain, and remedy a pattern of criminal profiteering, or an offense defined in RCW 9A.40.100, 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, or a violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080 after making provision for the rights of all innocent persons affected by the violation and after hearing or trial, as appropriate, by issuing appropriate orders.

(3) Prior to a determination of liability, orders issued under subsection (2) of this section may include, but are not limited to, entering restraining orders or prohibitions or taking such other actions, including the acceptance of satisfactory performance bonds, in connection with any property or other interest subject to damages, forfeiture, or other restraints pursuant to this section as the court deems proper. The orders may also include attachment, receivership, or injunctive relief in regard to personal or real property pursu-

ant to Title 7 RCW. In shaping the reach or scope of receivership, attachment, or injunctive relief, the superior court shall provide for the protection of bona fide interests in property, including community property, of persons who were not involved in the violation of this chapter, except to the extent that such interests or property were acquired or used in such a way as to be subject to forfeiture under RCW 9A.82.100(4)(f).

(4) Following a determination of liability, orders may include, but are not limited to:

(a) Ordering any person to divest himself or herself of any interest, direct or indirect, in any enterprise.

(b) Imposing reasonable restrictions on the future activities or investments of any person, including prohibiting any person from engaging in the same type of endeavor as the enterprise engaged in, the activities of which affect the laws of this state, to the extent the Constitutions of the United States and this state permit.

(c) Ordering dissolution or reorganization of any enterprise.

(d) Ordering the payment of actual damages sustained to those persons injured by a violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080, or an offense defined in RCW 9A.40.100, 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, or an act of criminal profiteering that is part of a pattern of criminal profiteering, and in the court's discretion, increasing the payment to an amount not exceeding three times the actual damages sustained.

(e) Ordering the payment of all costs and expenses of the prosecution and investigation of a pattern of criminal profiteering, or an offense defined in RCW 9A.40.100, 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, activity or a violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080, civil and criminal, incurred by the state or county, including any costs of defense provided at public expense, as appropriate to the state general fund or the antiprofitteering revolving fund of the county.

(f) Ordering forfeiture first as restitution to any person damaged by an act of criminal profiteering that is part of a pattern of criminal profiteering, or by an offense defined in RCW 9A.40.100, then to the state general fund or antiprofitteering revolving fund of the county, as appropriate, to the extent not already ordered to be paid in other damages, of the following:

(i) Any property or other interest acquired or maintained in violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080 to the extent of the investment of funds, and any appreciation or income attributable to the investment, from a violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080.

(ii) Any property, contractual right, or claim against property used to influence any enterprise that a person has established, operated, controlled, conducted, or participated in the conduct of, in violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080.

(iii) All proceeds traceable to or derived from an offense included in the pattern of criminal profiteering activity, or an offense defined in RCW 9A.40.100, 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, and all moneys, negotiable instruments, securities, and other things of value significantly used or intended to be used significantly to facilitate commission of the offense.

(g) Ordering payment to the state general fund or anti-profitteering revolving fund of the county, as appropriate, of an amount equal to the gain a person has acquired or maintained through an offense included in the definition of criminal profiteering.

(5) In addition to or in lieu of an action under this section, the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney may file an action for forfeiture to the state general fund or anti-profitteering revolving fund of the county, as appropriate, to the extent not already ordered paid pursuant to this section, of the following:

(a) Any interest acquired or maintained by a person in violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080 to the extent of the investment of funds obtained from a violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080 and any appreciation or income attributable to the investment.

(b) Any property, contractual right, or claim against property used to influence any enterprise that a person has established, operated, controlled, conducted, or participated in the conduct of, in violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080.

(c) All proceeds traceable to or derived from an offense included in the pattern of criminal profiteering activity, or an offense defined in RCW 9A.40.100, 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, and all moneys, negotiable instruments, securities, and other things of value significantly used or intended to be used significantly to facilitate the commission of the offense.

(6) A defendant convicted in any criminal proceeding is precluded in any civil proceeding from denying the essential allegations of the criminal offense proven in the criminal trial in which the defendant was convicted. For the purposes of this subsection, a conviction shall be deemed to have occurred upon a verdict, finding, or plea of guilty, notwithstanding the fact that appellate review of the conviction and sentence has been or may be sought. If a subsequent reversal of the conviction occurs, any judgment that was based upon that conviction may be reopened upon motion of the defendant.

(7) The initiation of civil proceedings under this section shall be commenced within three years after discovery of the pattern of criminal profiteering activity or after the pattern should reasonably have been discovered or, in the case of an offense that is defined in RCW 9A.40.100, within three years after the final disposition of any criminal charges relating to the offense, whichever is later.

(8) The attorney general or county prosecuting attorney may, in a civil action brought pursuant to this section, file with the clerk of the superior court a certificate stating that the case is of special public importance. A copy of that certificate shall be furnished immediately by the clerk to the presiding chief judge of the superior court in which the action is pending and, upon receipt of the copy, the judge shall immediately designate a judge to hear and determine the action. The judge so designated shall promptly assign the action for hearing, participate in the hearings and determination, and cause the action to be expedited.

(9) The standard of proof in actions brought pursuant to this section is the preponderance of the evidence test.

(10) A person other than the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney who files an action under this section

shall serve notice and one copy of the pleading on the attorney general within thirty days after the action is filed with the superior court. The notice shall identify the action, the person, and the person's attorney. Service of the notice does not limit or otherwise affect the right of the state to maintain an action under this section or intervene in a pending action nor does it authorize the person to name the state or the attorney general as a party to the action.

(11) Except in cases filed by a county prosecuting attorney, the attorney general may, upon timely application, intervene in any civil action or proceeding brought under this section if the attorney general certifies that in the attorney general's opinion the action is of special public importance. Upon intervention, the attorney general may assert any available claim and is entitled to the same relief as if the attorney general had instituted a separate action.

(12) In addition to the attorney general's right to intervene as a party in any action under this section, the attorney general may appear as amicus curiae in any proceeding in which a claim under this section has been asserted or in which a court is interpreting RCW 9A.82.010, 9A.82.080, 9A.82.090, 9A.82.110, or 9A.82.120, or this section.

(13) A private civil action under this section does not limit any other civil or criminal action under this chapter or any other provision. Private civil remedies provided under this section are supplemental and not mutually exclusive.

(14) Upon motion by the defendant, the court may authorize the sale or transfer of assets subject to an order or lien authorized by this chapter for the purpose of paying actual attorney's fees and costs of defense. The motion shall specify the assets for which sale or transfer is sought and shall be accompanied by the defendant's sworn statement that the defendant has no other assets available for such purposes. No order authorizing such sale or transfer may be entered unless the court finds that the assets involved are not subject to possible forfeiture under RCW 9A.82.100(4)(f). Prior to disposition of the motion, the court shall notify the state of the assets sought to be sold or transferred and shall hear argument on the issue of whether the assets are subject to forfeiture under RCW 9A.82.100(4)(f). Such a motion may be made from time to time and shall be heard by the court on an expedited basis.

(15) In an action brought under subsection (1)(a) and (b)(i) of this section, either party has the right to a jury trial. [2012 c 139 § 2; 2003 c 267 § 6; 2001 c 222 § 14. Prior: 1989 c 271 § 111; 1985 c 455 § 11; 1984 c 270 § 10.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **9A.82.110 County antiprofitereing revolving funds.**

(1) In an action brought by the attorney general on behalf of the state under RCW 9A.82.100(1)(b)(i) in which the state prevails, any payments ordered in excess of the actual damages sustained shall be deposited in the crime victims' compensation account provided in RCW 7.68.045.

(2)(a) The county legislative authority may establish an antiprofitereing revolving fund to be administered by the county prosecuting attorney under the conditions and for the purposes provided by this subsection. Disbursements from

the fund shall be on authorization of the county prosecuting attorney. No appropriation is required for disbursements.

(b) Any prosecution and investigation costs, including attorney's fees, recovered for the state by the county prosecuting attorney as a result of enforcement of civil and criminal statutes pertaining to any offense included in the definition of criminal profiteering, whether by final judgment, settlement, or otherwise, shall be deposited, as directed by a court of competent jurisdiction, in the fund established by this subsection. In an action brought by a prosecuting attorney on behalf of the county under RCW 9A.82.100(1)(b)(i) in which the county prevails, any payments ordered in excess of the actual damages sustained shall be deposited in the crime victims' compensation account provided in RCW 7.68.045.

(c) The county legislative authority may prescribe a maximum level of moneys in the antiprofitereing revolving fund. Moneys exceeding the prescribed maximum shall be transferred to the county current expense fund.

(d) The moneys in the fund shall be used by the county prosecuting attorney for the investigation and prosecution of any offense, within the jurisdiction of the county prosecuting attorney, included in the definition of criminal profiteering, including civil enforcement.

(e) If a county has not established an antiprofitereing revolving fund, any payments or forfeitures ordered to the county under this chapter shall be deposited to the county current expense fund. [2010 c 122 § 4; 2009 c 479 § 11; 2001 c 222 § 15. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 12; 1984 c 270 § 11.]

**Effective date—2009 c 479:** See note following RCW 2.56.030.

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.120 Criminal profiteering lien—Authority, procedures.** (1) The state, upon filing a criminal action under RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080 or for an offense defined in RCW 9A.40.100, or a civil action under RCW 9A.82.100, may file in accordance with this section a criminal profiteering lien. A filing fee or other charge is not required for filing a criminal profiteering lien.

(2) A criminal profiteering lien shall be signed by the attorney general or the county prosecuting attorney representing the state in the action and shall set forth the following information:

(a) The name of the defendant whose property or other interests are to be subject to the lien;

(b) In the discretion of the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney filing the lien, any aliases or fictitious names of the defendant named in the lien;

(c) If known to the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney filing the lien, the present residence or principal place of business of the person named in the lien;

(d) A reference to the proceeding pursuant to which the lien is filed, including the name of the court, the title of the action, and the court's file number for the proceeding;

(e) The name and address of the attorney representing the state in the proceeding pursuant to which the lien is filed;

(f) A statement that the notice is being filed pursuant to this section;

(g) The amount that the state claims in the action or, with respect to property or other interests that the state has

requested forfeiture to the state or county, a description of the property or interests sought to be paid or forfeited;

(h) If known to the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney filing the lien, a description of property that is subject to forfeiture to the state or property in which the defendant has an interest that is available to satisfy a judgment entered in favor of the state; and

(i) Such other information as the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney filing the lien deems appropriate.

(3) The attorney general or the county prosecuting attorney filing the lien may amend a lien filed under this section at any time by filing an amended criminal profiteering lien in accordance with this section that identifies the prior lien amended.

(4) The attorney general or the county prosecuting attorney filing the lien shall, as soon as practical after filing a criminal profiteering lien, furnish to any person named in the lien a notice of the filing of the lien. Failure to furnish notice under this subsection does not invalidate or otherwise affect a criminal profiteering lien filed in accordance with this section.

(5)(a) A criminal profiteering lien is perfected against interests in personal property in the same manner as a security interest in like property pursuant to RCW 62A.9A-301 through 62A.9A-316 or as otherwise required to perfect a security interest in like property under applicable law. In the case of perfection by filing, the state shall file, in lieu of a financing statement in the form prescribed by RCW 62A.9A-502, a notice of lien in substantially the following form:

NOTICE OF LIEN

Pursuant to RCW 9A.82.120, the state of Washington claims a criminal profiteering lien on all real and personal property of:

Name: .....  
Address: .....  
.....  
State of Washington  
.....  
By (authorized signature)

On receipt of such a notice from the state, a filing officer shall, without payment of filing fee, file and index the notice as if it were a financing statement naming the state as secured party and the defendant as debtor.

(b) A criminal profiteering lien is perfected against interests in real property by filing the lien in the office where a mortgage on the real estate would be filed or recorded. The filing officer shall file and index the criminal profiteering lien, without payment of a filing fee, in the same manner as a mortgage.

(6) The filing of a criminal profiteering lien in accordance with this section creates a lien in favor of the state in:

(a) Any interest of the defendant, in real property situated in the county in which the lien is filed, then maintained, or thereafter acquired in the name of the defendant identified in the lien;

(b) Any interest of the defendant, in personal property situated in this state, then maintained or thereafter acquired in the name of the defendant identified in the lien; and

(c) Any property identified in the lien to the extent of the defendant's interest therein.

(7) The lien created in favor of the state in accordance with this section, when filed or otherwise perfected as provided in subsection (5) of this section, has, with respect to any of the property described in subsection (6) of this section, the same priority determined pursuant to the laws of this state as a mortgage or security interest given for value (but not a purchase money security interest) and perfected in the same manner with respect to such property; except that any lien perfected pursuant to Title 60 RCW by any person who, in the ordinary course of his or her business, furnishes labor, services, or materials, or rents, leases, or otherwise supplies equipment, without knowledge of the criminal profiteering lien, is superior to the criminal profiteering lien.

(8) Upon entry of judgment in favor of the state, the state may proceed to execute thereon as in the case of any other judgment, except that in order to preserve the state's lien priority as provided in this section the state shall, in addition to such other notice as is required by law, give at least thirty days' notice of the execution to any person possessing at the time the notice is given, an interest recorded subsequent to the date the state's lien was perfected.

(9) Upon the entry of a final judgment in favor of the state providing for forfeiture of property to the state, the title of the state to the property:

(a) In the case of real property or a beneficial interest in real property, relates back to the date of filing the criminal profiteering lien or, if no criminal profiteering lien is filed, then to the date of recording of the final judgment or the abstract thereof; or

(b) In the case of personal property or a beneficial interest in personal property, relates back to the date the personal property was seized by the state, or the date of filing of a criminal profiteering lien in accordance with this section, whichever is earlier, but if the property was not seized and no criminal profiteering lien was filed then to the date the final judgment was filed with the department of licensing and, if the personal property is an aircraft, with the federal aviation administration.

(10) This section does not limit the right of the state to obtain any order or injunction, receivership, writ, attachment, garnishment, or other remedy authorized under RCW 9A.82.100 or appropriate to protect the interests of the state or available under other applicable law.

(11) In a civil or criminal action under this chapter, the superior court shall provide for the protection of bona fide interests in property, including community property, subject to liens of persons who were not involved in the violation of this chapter, except to the extent that such interests or property were acquired or used in such a way as to be subject to forfeiture pursuant to RCW 9A.82.100(4)(f). [2003 c 267 § 7; 2001 c 222 § 16. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 13; 1984 c 270 § 12.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.130 Criminal profiteering lien—Trustee of real property.** (1) A trustee who is personally served in the manner provided for service of legal process with written notice that a lien notice has been recorded or a civil proceeding or criminal proceeding has been instituted under this

chapter against any person for whom the trustee holds legal or record title to real property, shall immediately furnish to the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney the following:

(a) The name and address of the person, as known to the trustee;

(b) To the extent known to the trustee, the name and address of all other persons for whose benefit the trustee holds title to the real property; and

(c) If requested by the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney, a copy of the trust agreement or other instrument under which the trustee holds legal or record title to the real property.

(2) The recording of a lien notice shall not constitute a lien on the record title to real property owned by a trustee at the time of recording except to the extent that trustee is named in and served with the lien notice as provided in subsection (1) of this section. The attorney general or county prosecuting attorney may bring a civil proceeding in superior court against the trustee to recover from the trustee the amounts set forth in RCW 9A.82.150. In addition to amounts recovered under RCW 9A.82.150, the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney also may recover its investigative costs and attorneys' fees.

(3) The recording of a lien notice does not affect the use to which real property or a beneficial interest owned by the person named in the lien notice may be put or the right of the person to receive any avails, rents, or other proceeds resulting from the use and ownership except the sale of the property, until a judgment of forfeiture is entered.

(4) This section does not apply to any conveyance by a trustee under a court order unless the court order is entered in an action between the trustee and the beneficiary.

(5) Notwithstanding that a trustee is served with notice as provided in subsection (1) of this section, this section does not apply to a conveyance by a trustee required under the terms of any trust agreement in effect before service of such notice on the trustee. [2001 c 222 § 17. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 14; 1984 c 270 § 13.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.140 Criminal profiteering lien—Procedures after notice.** (1) The term of a lien notice shall be six years from the date the lien notice is recorded. If a renewal lien notice is filed by the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney, the term of the renewal lien notice shall be for six years from the date the renewal lien notice is recorded. The attorney general or county prosecuting attorney is entitled to only one renewal of the lien notice.

(2) The attorney general or county prosecuting attorney filing the lien notice may release in whole or in part any lien notice or may release any specific property or beneficial interest from the lien notice upon such terms and conditions as the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney considers appropriate and shall release any lien upon the dismissal of the action which is the basis of the lien or satisfaction of the judgment of the court in the action or other final disposition of the claim evidenced by the lien. A release of a lien notice executed by the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney shall be recorded in the official records in which the

lien notice covering that property was recorded. No charge or fee may be imposed for recording any release of a lien notice.

(3)(a) A person named in the lien notice may move the court in which the civil proceeding giving rise to the lien notice is pending for an order extinguishing the lien notice.

(b) Upon the motion of a person under (a) of this subsection, the court immediately shall enter an order setting a date for hearing, which shall be not less than five nor more than ten days after the motion is filed. The order and a copy of the motion shall be served on the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney within three days after the entry of the court's order. At the hearing, the court shall take evidence on the issue of whether any property or beneficial interest owned by the person is covered by the lien notice or otherwise subject to forfeiture under RCW 9A.82.120. If the person shows by a preponderance of the evidence that the lien notice is not applicable to the person or that any property or beneficial interest owned by the person is not subject to forfeiture under RCW 9A.82.120, the court shall enter a judgment extinguishing the lien notice or releasing the property or beneficial interest from the lien notice.

(c) The court may enter an order releasing from the lien notice any specific real property or beneficial interest if, at the time the lien notice is recorded, there is pending an arms length sale of the real property or beneficial interest in which the parties are under no undue compulsion to sell or buy and are able, willing, and reasonably well informed and the sale is for the fair market value of the real property or beneficial interest and the recording of the lien notice prevents the sale of the property or interest. The proceeds resulting from the sale of the real property or beneficial interest shall be deposited with the court, subject to the further order of the court.

(d) At any time after filing of a lien, the court may release from the lien any property upon application by the defendant and posting of security equal to the value of the property to be released. [2001 c 222 § 18. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 15; 1984 c 270 § 14.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.150 Criminal profiteering lien—Conveyance of property by trustee, liability.** (1) If a trustee conveys title to real property for which, at the time of the conveyance, the trustee has been personally served with notice as provided in RCW 9A.82.130(1) of a lien under this chapter, the trustee shall be liable to the state for the greater of:

(a) The amount of proceeds received by the person named in the lien notice as a result of the conveyance;

(b) The amount of proceeds received by the trustee as a result of the conveyance and distributed by the trustee to the person named in the lien notice; or

(c) The fair market value of the interest of the person named in the lien notice in the real property so conveyed.

(2) If the trustee conveys the real property for which a lien notice has been served on the trustee at the time of the conveyance and holds the proceeds that would otherwise be paid or distributed to the beneficiary or at the direction of the beneficiary or beneficiary's designee, the trustee's liability shall not exceed the amount of the proceeds so held so long as the trustee continues to hold the proceeds. [2001 c 222 § 19. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 16; 1984 c 270 § 15.]



**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.160 Criminal profiteering lien—Trustee's failure to comply, evasion of procedures or lien.** (1) A trustee who knowingly fails to comply with RCW 9A.82.130(1) is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(2) A trustee who conveys title to real property after service of the notice as provided in RCW 9A.82.130(1) with the intent to evade the provisions of RCW 9A.82.100 or 9A.82.120 with respect to such property is guilty of a class C felony. [2003 c 53 § 90; 2001 c 222 § 20. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 17; 1984 c 270 § 16.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.170 Financial institution records—Inspection and copying—Wrongful disclosure.** (1) Upon request of the attorney general or prosecuting attorney, a subpoena for the production of records of a financial institution may be signed and issued by a superior court judge if there is reason to believe that an act of criminal profiteering or a violation of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080 has occurred or is occurring and that the records sought will materially aid in the investigation of such activity or appears reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of information that will do so. The subpoena shall be served on the financial institution as in civil actions. The court may, upon motion timely made and in any event before the time specified for compliance with the subpoena, condition compliance upon advancement by the attorney general or prosecuting attorney of the reasonable costs of producing the records specified in the subpoena.

(2) A response to a subpoena issued under this section is sufficient if a copy or printout, duly authenticated by an officer of the financial institution as a true and correct copy or printout of its records, is provided, unless otherwise provided in the subpoena for good cause shown.

(3) Except as provided in this subsection, a financial institution served with a subpoena under this section shall not disclose to the customer the fact that a subpoena seeking records relating to the customer has been served. A judge of the superior court may order the attorney general, prosecuting attorney, or financial institution to advise the financial institution's customer of the subpoena. Unless ordered to do so by the court, disclosure of the subpoena by the financial institution or any of its employees to the customer is a misdemeanor.

(4) A financial institution shall be reimbursed in an amount set by the court for reasonable costs incurred in providing information pursuant to this section.

(5) This section does not preclude the use of other legally authorized means of obtaining records, nor preclude the assertion of any legally recognized privileges.

(6) Disclosure by the attorney general, county prosecuting attorney, or any peace officer or other person designated by the attorney general or the county prosecuting attorney, of information obtained under this section, except in the proper discharge of official duties, is punishable as a misdemeanor.

(7) Upon filing of any civil or criminal action, the non-disclosure requirements of any subpoena or order under this section shall terminate, and the attorney general or prosecuting attorney filing the action shall provide to the defendant copies of all subpoenas or other orders issued under this section.

(8) A financial institution shall not be civilly liable for harm resulting from its compliance with the provisions of this chapter. [2001 c 222 § 21. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 18; 1984 c 270 § 17.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.900 Severability—1984 c 270.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [2001 c 222 § 22. Prior: 1984 c 270 § 20.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.901 Effective date—1984 c 270 as amended by 1985 c 455.** Sections 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16, chapter 270, Laws of 1984 as amended by sections 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 of this 1985 act shall take effect on July 1, 1986, and the remainder of chapter 270, Laws of 1984 shall take effect on July 1, 1985. [2001 c 222 § 23. Prior: 1985 c 455 § 20; 1984 c 270 § 21.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2001 c 222:** See notes following RCW 9A.82.001.

**9A.82.902 Effective date—1985 c 455.** With the exception of sections 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 of this act, this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1985. [1985 c 455 § 21.]

**9A.82.904 Severability—1985 c 455.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1985 c 455 § 23.]

## Chapter 9A.83 RCW MONEY LAUNDERING

### Sections

9A.83.010	Definitions.
9A.83.020	Money laundering.
9A.83.030	Seizure and forfeiture.
9A.83.040	Release from liability.

**9A.83.010 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Conducts a financial transaction" includes initiating, concluding, or participating in a financial transaction.

(2) "Financial institution" means a bank, savings bank, credit union, or savings and loan institution.

(3) "Financial transaction" means a purchase, sale, loan, pledge, gift, transfer, transmission, delivery, trade, deposit, withdrawal, payment, transfer between accounts, exchange

of currency, extension of credit, or any other acquisition or disposition of property, by whatever means effected.

(4) "Knows the property is proceeds of specified unlawful activity" means believing based upon the representation of a law enforcement officer or his or her agent, or knowing that the property is proceeds from some form, though not necessarily which form, of specified unlawful activity.

(5) "Proceeds" means any interest in property directly or indirectly acquired through or derived from an act or omission, and any fruits of this interest, in whatever form.

(6) "Property" means anything of value, whether real or personal, tangible or intangible.

(7) "Specified unlawful activity" means an offense committed in this state that is a class A or B felony under Washington law or that is listed as "criminal profiteering" in RCW 9A.82.010, or an offense committed in any other state that is punishable under the laws of that state by more than one year in prison, or an offense that is punishable under federal law by more than one year in prison. [1999 c 143 § 41; 1992 c 210 § 1.]

**9A.83.020 Money laundering.** (1) A person is guilty of money laundering when that person conducts or attempts to conduct a financial transaction involving the proceeds of specified unlawful activity and:

(a) Knows the property is proceeds of specified unlawful activity; or

(b) Knows that the transaction is designed in whole or in part to conceal or disguise the nature, location, source, ownership, or control of the proceeds, and acts recklessly as to whether the property is proceeds of specified unlawful activity; or

(c) Knows that the transaction is designed in whole or in part to avoid a transaction reporting requirement under federal law.

(2) In consideration of the constitutional right to counsel afforded by the Fifth and Sixth amendments to the United States Constitution and Article 1, Section 22 of the Constitution of Washington, an additional proof requirement is imposed when a case involves a licensed attorney who accepts a fee for representing a client in an actual criminal investigation or proceeding. In these situations, the prosecution is required to prove that the attorney accepted proceeds of specified unlawful activity with intent:

(a) To conceal or disguise the nature, location, source, ownership, or control of the proceeds, knowing the property is proceeds of specified unlawful activity; or

(b) To avoid a transaction reporting requirement under federal law.

The proof required by this subsection is in addition to the requirements contained in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) An additional proof requirement is imposed when a case involves a financial institution and one or more of its employees. In these situations, the prosecution is required to prove that proceeds of specified unlawful activity were accepted with intent:

(a) To conceal or disguised [disguise] the nature, location, source, ownership, or control of the proceeds, knowing the property is proceeds of specified unlawful activity; or

(b) To avoid a transaction reporting requirement under federal law.

The proof required by this subsection is in addition to the requirements contained in subsection (1) of this section.

(4) Money laundering is a class B felony.

(5) A person who violates this section is also liable for a civil penalty of twice the value of the proceeds involved in the financial transaction and for the costs of the suit, including reasonable investigative and attorneys' fees.

(6) Proceedings under this chapter shall be in addition to any other criminal penalties, civil penalties, or forfeitures authorized under state law. [1992 c 210 § 2.]

**9A.83.030 Seizure and forfeiture.** (1) Proceeds traceable to or derived from specified unlawful activity or a violation of RCW 9A.83.020 are subject to seizure and forfeiture. The attorney general or county prosecuting attorney may file a civil action for the forfeiture of proceeds. Unless otherwise provided for under this section, no property rights exist in these proceeds. All right, title, and interest in the proceeds shall vest in the governmental entity of which the seizing law enforcement agency is a part upon commission of the act or omission giving rise to forfeiture under this section.

(2) Real or personal property subject to forfeiture under this chapter may be seized by any law enforcement officer of this state upon process issued by a superior court that has jurisdiction over the property. Any agency seizing real property shall file a lis pendens concerning the property. Real property seized under this section shall not be transferred or otherwise conveyed until ninety days after seizure or until a judgment of forfeiture is entered, whichever is later. Real property seized under this section may be transferred or conveyed to any person or entity who acquires title by foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure of a security interest. Seizure of personal property without process may be made if:

(a) The seizure is incident to an arrest or a search under a search warrant or an inspection under an administrative inspection warrant issued pursuant to RCW 69.50.502; or

(b) The property subject to seizure has been the subject of a prior judgment in favor of the state in a criminal injunction or forfeiture proceeding based upon this chapter.

(3) A seizure under subsection (2) of this section commences proceedings for forfeiture. The law enforcement agency under whose authority the seizure was made shall cause notice of the seizure and intended forfeiture of the seized proceeds to be served within fifteen days after the seizure on the owner of the property seized and the person in charge thereof and any person who has a known right or interest therein, including a community property interest. Service of notice of seizure of real property shall be made according to the rules of civil procedure. However, the state may not obtain a default judgment with respect to real property against a party who is served by substituted service absent an affidavit stating that a good faith effort has been made to ascertain if the defaulted party is incarcerated within the state, and that there is no present basis to believe that the party is incarcerated within the state. The notice of seizure in other cases may be served by any method authorized by law or court rule including but not limited to service by certified mail with return receipt requested. Service by mail is complete upon mailing within the fifteen-day period after the seizure.

(4) If no person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of the property within forty-five days of the seizure in the case of personal property and ninety days in the case of real property, the property seized shall be deemed forfeited. The community property interest in real property of a person whose spouse or domestic partner committed a violation giving rise to seizure of the real property may not be forfeited if the person did not participate in the violation.

(5) If a person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of property within forty-five days of the seizure in the case of personal property and ninety days in the case of real property, the person or persons shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard as to the claim or right. The provisions of RCW 69.50.505(5) shall apply to any such hearing. The seizing law enforcement agency shall promptly return property to the claimant upon the direction of the administrative law judge or court.

(6) Disposition of forfeited property shall be made in the manner provided for in RCW 69.50.505 (8) through (10) and (14). [2008 c 6 § 630; 2001 c 168 § 2; 1992 c 210 § 3.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.83.040 Release from liability.** No liability is imposed by this chapter upon any authorized state, county, or municipal officer engaged in the lawful performance of his or her duties, or upon any person who reasonably believes that he or she is acting at the direction of such officer and that the officer is acting in the lawful performance of his or her duties. [2011 c 336 § 409; 1992 c 210 § 4.]

## Chapter 9A.84 RCW PUBLIC DISTURBANCE

### Sections

9A.84.010	Riot.
9A.84.020	Failure to disperse.
9A.84.030	Disorderly conduct.
9A.84.040	False reporting.

**9A.84.010 Riot.** (1) A person is guilty of the crime of riot if, acting with three or more other persons, he or she knowingly and unlawfully uses or threatens to use force, or in any way participates in the use of such force, against any other person or against property.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, the crime of riot is a gross misdemeanor.

(b) The crime of riot is a class C felony if the actor is armed with a deadly weapon. [2003 c 53 § 91; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.84.010.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**9A.84.020 Failure to disperse.** (1) A person is guilty of failure to disperse if:

(a) He or she congregates with a group of three or more other persons and there are acts of conduct within that group which create a substantial risk of causing injury to any person, or substantial harm to property; and

(b) He or she refuses or fails to disperse when ordered to do so by a peace officer or other public servant engaged in enforcing or executing the law.

(2) Failure to disperse is a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 410; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.84.020.]

**9A.84.030 Disorderly conduct.** (1) A person is guilty of disorderly conduct if the person:

(a) Uses abusive language and thereby intentionally creates a risk of assault;

(b) Intentionally disrupts any lawful assembly or meeting of persons without lawful authority;

(c) Intentionally obstructs vehicular or pedestrian traffic without lawful authority; or

(d)(i) Intentionally engages in fighting or in tumultuous conduct or makes unreasonable noise, within five hundred feet of:

(A) The location where a funeral or burial is being performed;

(B) A funeral home during the viewing of a deceased person;

(C) A funeral procession, if the person described in this subsection (1)(d) knows that the funeral procession is taking place; or

(D) A building in which a funeral or memorial service is being conducted; and

(ii) Knows that the activity adversely affects the funeral, burial, viewing, funeral procession, or memorial service.

(2) Disorderly conduct is a misdemeanor. [2007 c 2 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.84.030.]

**Effective date—2007 c 2:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [February 2, 2007]." [2007 c 2 § 2.]

**9A.84.040 False reporting.** (1) A person is guilty of false reporting if with knowledge that the information reported, conveyed, or circulated is false, he or she initiates or circulates a false report or warning of an alleged occurrence or impending occurrence of a fire, explosion, crime, catastrophe, or emergency knowing that such false report is likely to cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly, or transportation facility, or to cause public inconvenience or alarm.

(2) False reporting is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 411; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.84.040.]

## Chapter 9A.88 RCW INDECENT EXPOSURE—PROSTITUTION

(Formerly: Public indecency—Prostitution)

### Sections

9A.88.010	Indecent exposure.
9A.88.030	Prostitution.
9A.88.040	Prosecution for prostitution under RCW 9A.88.030—Affirmative defense.
9A.88.050	Prostitution—Sex of parties immaterial—No defense.
9A.88.060	Promoting prostitution—Definitions.
9A.88.070	Promoting prostitution in the first degree.
9A.88.080	Promoting prostitution in the second degree.
9A.88.085	Promoting travel for prostitution.
9A.88.090	Permitting prostitution.
9A.88.110	Patronizing a prostitute.
9A.88.120	Additional fee assessments.
9A.88.130	Additional requirements.

9A.88.140 Vehicle impoundment—Fees and fine.  
9A.88.150 Seizure and forfeiture.

*Obscenity: Chapter 9.68 RCW.*

**9A.88.010 Indecent exposure.** (1) A person is guilty of indecent exposure if he or she intentionally makes any open and obscene exposure of his or her person or the person of another knowing that such conduct is likely to cause reasonable affront or alarm. The act of breastfeeding or expressing breast milk is not indecent exposure.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) and (c) of this subsection, indecent exposure is a misdemeanor.

(b) Indecent exposure is a gross misdemeanor on the first offense if the person exposes himself or herself to a person under the age of fourteen years.

(c) Indecent exposure is a class C felony if the person has previously been convicted under this section or of a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030. [2003 c 53 § 92; 2001 c 88 § 2; 1990 c 3 § 904; 1987 c 277 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.88.010.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Acknowledgment—Declaration—Findings—2001 c 88:** See note following RCW 43.70.640.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.88.030 Prostitution.** (1) A person is guilty of prostitution if such person engages or agrees or offers to engage in sexual conduct with another person in return for a fee.

(2) For purposes of this section, "sexual conduct" means "sexual intercourse" or "sexual contact," both as defined in chapter 9A.44 RCW.

(3) Prostitution is a misdemeanor. [1988 c 145 § 16; 1979 ex.s. c 244 § 15; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.88.030.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.88.040 Prosecution for prostitution under RCW 9A.88.030—Affirmative defense.** In any prosecution for prostitution under RCW 9A.88.030, it is an affirmative defense that the actor committed the offense as a result of being a victim of trafficking, RCW 9A.40.100, promoting prostitution in the first degree, RCW 9A.88.070, or trafficking in persons under the trafficking victims protection act of 2000, 22 U.S.C. Sec. 7101 et seq. Documentation that the actor is named as a current victim in an information or the investigative records upon which a conviction is obtained for trafficking, promoting prostitution in the first degree, or trafficking in persons shall create a presumption that the person's participation in prostitution was a result of having been a victim of trafficking, promoting prostitution in the first degree, or trafficking in persons. [2012 c 142 § 1.]

**9A.88.050 Prostitution—Sex of parties immaterial—No defense.** In any prosecution for prostitution, the sex of the two parties or prospective parties to the sexual conduct engaged in, contemplated, or solicited is immaterial, and it is no defense that:

(1) Such persons were of the same sex; or

(2) The person who received, agreed to receive, or solicited a fee was a male and the person who paid or agreed or offered to pay such fee was female. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.88.050.]

**9A.88.060 Promoting prostitution—Definitions.** The following definitions are applicable in RCW 9A.88.070 through 9A.88.090:

(1) "Advances prostitution." A person "advances prostitution" if, acting other than as a prostitute or as a customer thereof, he or she causes or aids a person to commit or engage in prostitution, procures or solicits customers for prostitution, provides persons or premises for prostitution purposes, operates or assists in the operation of a house of prostitution or a prostitution enterprise, or engages in any other conduct designed to institute, aid, or facilitate an act or enterprise of prostitution.

(2) "Profits from prostitution." A person "profits from prostitution" if, acting other than as a prostitute receiving compensation for personally rendered prostitution services, he or she accepts or receives money or other property pursuant to an agreement or understanding with any person whereby he or she participates or is to participate in the proceeds of prostitution activity. [2011 c 336 § 412; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.88.060.]

**9A.88.070 Promoting prostitution in the first degree.**

(1) A person is guilty of promoting prostitution in the first degree if he or she knowingly advances prostitution:

(a) By compelling a person by threat or force to engage in prostitution or profits from prostitution which results from such threat or force; or

(b) By compelling a person with a mental incapacity or developmental disability that renders the person incapable of consent to engage in prostitution or profits from prostitution that results from such compulsion.

(2) Promoting prostitution in the first degree is a class B felony. [2012 c 141 § 1; 2007 c 368 § 13; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.88.070.]

**9A.88.080 Promoting prostitution in the second degree.** (1) A person is guilty of promoting prostitution in the second degree if he or she knowingly:

(a) Profits from prostitution; or

(b) Advances prostitution.

(2) Promoting prostitution in the second degree is a class C felony. [2011 c 336 § 413; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.88.080.]

**9A.88.085 Promoting travel for prostitution.** (1) A person commits the offense of promoting travel for prostitution if the person knowingly sells or offers to sell travel services that include or facilitate travel for the purpose of engaging in what would be patronizing a prostitute or promoting prostitution, if occurring in the state.

(2) For purposes of this section, "travel services" has the same meaning as defined in RCW 19.138.021.

(3) Promoting travel for prostitution is a class C felony. [2006 c 250 § 2.]

**Finding—2006 c 250:** "The legislature finds that the sex industry has rapidly expanded over the past several decades. It involves sexual exploitation of persons, predominantly women and girls, including activities relating to prostitution, pornography, sex tourism, and other commercial sexual services. Prostitution and related activities contribute to the trafficking in persons, as does sex tourism. Therefore, discouraging sex tourism is key to reducing the demand for sex trafficking.

While prostitution is illegal in developing nations that are the primary destination of sex tourism, sex tourism is a major component of the local

economy. The laws target female workers rather than the male customers, and economic opportunities for females are limited. Developed nations create the demand for sex tourism, yet often fail to criminalize the practice, or the existing laws fail to specifically target the sellers of travel who organize, facilitate, and promote sex tourism." [2006 c 250 § 1.]

**9A.88.090 Permitting prostitution.** (1) A person is guilty of permitting prostitution if, having possession or control of premises which he or she knows are being used for prostitution purposes, he or she fails without lawful excuse to make reasonable effort to halt or abate such use.

(2) Permitting prostitution is a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 414; 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.88.090.]

**9A.88.110 Patronizing a prostitute.** (1) A person is guilty of patronizing a prostitute if:

(a) Pursuant to a prior understanding, he or she pays a fee to another person as compensation for such person or a third person having engaged in sexual conduct with him or her; or

(b) He or she pays or agrees to pay a fee to another person pursuant to an understanding that in return therefor such person will engage in sexual conduct with him or her; or

(c) He or she solicits or requests another person to engage in sexual conduct with him or her in return for a fee.

(2) For purposes of this section, "sexual conduct" has the meaning given in RCW 9A.88.030.

(3) Patronizing a prostitute is a misdemeanor. [1988 c 146 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**9A.88.120 Additional fee assessments.** (1)(a) In addition to penalties set forth in RCW 9A.88.010 and 9A.88.030, a person who is either convicted or given a deferred sentence or a deferred prosecution or who has entered into a statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreement as a result of an arrest for violating RCW 9A.88.010, 9A.88.030, or comparable county or municipal ordinances shall be assessed a fifty dollar fee.

(b) In addition to penalties set forth in RCW 9A.88.090, a person who is either convicted or given a deferred sentence or a deferred prosecution or who has entered into a statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreement as a result of an arrest for violating RCW 9A.88.090 or comparable county or municipal ordinances shall be assessed a fee in the amount of:

(i) One thousand five hundred dollars if the defendant has no prior convictions, deferred sentences, deferred prosecutions, or statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreements for this offense;

(ii) Two thousand five hundred dollars if the defendant has one prior conviction, deferred sentence, deferred prosecution, or statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreement for this offense; and

(iii) Five thousand dollars if the defendant has two or more prior convictions, deferred sentences, deferred prosecutions, or statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreements for this offense.

(c) In addition to penalties set forth in RCW 9A.88.110, a person who is either convicted or given a deferred sentence or a deferred prosecution or who has entered into a statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreement as a result of an arrest for violating RCW 9A.88.110 or a comparable county or municipal ordinance shall be assessed a fee in the amount of:

(i) One thousand five hundred dollars if the defendant has no prior convictions, deferred sentences, deferred prosecutions, or statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreements for this offense;

(ii) Two thousand five hundred dollars if the defendant has one prior conviction, deferred sentence, deferred prosecution, or statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreement for this offense; and

(iii) Five thousand dollars if the defendant has two or more prior convictions, deferred sentences, deferred prosecutions, or statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreements for this offense.

(d) In addition to penalties set forth in RCW 9A.88.070 and 9A.88.080, a person who is either convicted or given a deferred sentence or a deferred prosecution or who has entered into a statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreement as a result of an arrest for violating RCW 9A.88.070, 9A.88.080, or comparable county or municipal ordinances shall be assessed a fee in the amount of:

(i) Three thousand dollars if the defendant has no prior convictions, deferred sentences, deferred prosecutions, or statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreements for this offense;

(ii) Six thousand dollars if the defendant has one prior conviction, deferred sentence, deferred prosecution, or statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreement for this offense; and

(iii) Ten thousand dollars if the defendant has two or more prior convictions, deferred sentences, deferred prosecutions, or statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreements for this offense.

(2) When a minor has been adjudicated a juvenile offender or has entered into a statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreement for an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a violation under this chapter or comparable county or municipal ordinances, the court shall assess the fee as specified under subsection (1) of this section.

(3) The court shall not reduce, waive, or suspend payment of all or part of the assessed fee in this section unless it finds, on the record, that the offender does not have the ability to pay the fee in which case it may reduce the fee by an amount up to two-thirds of the maximum allowable fee.

(4) Fees assessed under this section shall be collected by the clerk of the court and remitted to the treasurer of the county where the offense occurred for deposit in the county general fund, except in cases in which the offense occurred in a city or town that provides for its own law enforcement, in which case these amounts shall be remitted to the treasurer of the city or town for deposit in the general fund of the city or town. Revenue from the fees must be used for local efforts to reduce the commercial sale of sex including, but not limited to, increasing enforcement of commercial sex laws.

(a) At least fifty percent of the revenue from fees imposed under this section must be spent on prevention, including education programs for offenders, such as john school, and rehabilitative services, such as mental health and substance abuse counseling, parenting skills, training, housing relief, education, vocational training, drop-in centers, and employment counseling.

(b) Revenues from these fees are not subject to the distribution requirements under RCW 3.50.100, 3.62.020, 3.62.040, 10.82.070, or 35.20.220.

(5) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Statutory or nonstatutory diversion agreement" means an agreement under RCW 13.40.080 or any written agreement between a person accused of an offense listed in subsection (1) of this section and a court, county, or city prosecutor, or designee thereof, whereby the person agrees to fulfill certain conditions in lieu of prosecution.

(b) "Deferred sentence" means a sentence that will not be carried out if the defendant meets certain requirements, such as complying with the conditions of probation. [2012 c 134 § 3; 2007 c 368 § 12; 1995 c 353 § 13.]

**9A.88.130 Additional requirements.** (1) When sentencing or imposing conditions on a person convicted of, or receiving a deferred sentence or deferred prosecution for, violating RCW 9A.88.110 or 9.68A.100, the court must impose a requirement that the offender:

(a) Not be subsequently arrested for patronizing a prostitute or commercial sexual abuse of a minor;

(b) Remain outside the geographical area, prescribed by the court, in which the person was arrested for violating RCW 9A.88.110 or 9.68A.100, unless such a requirement would interfere with the person's legitimate employment or residence or otherwise be infeasible; and

(c) Fulfill the terms of a program, if a first-time offender, designated by the sentencing court, designed to educate offenders about the negative costs of prostitution.

(2) This requirement is in addition to the penalties set forth in RCW 9A.88.110, 9A.88.120, and 9.68A.100. [2012 c 136 § 2; 1999 c 327 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—1999 c 327:** "The legislature finds that most law enforcement effort to prevent prostitution is directed at punishing prostitutes. The legislature also finds that many patrons of prostitutes use motor vehicles in order to obtain the services of prostitutes and that successful prevention of prostitution involves efforts to curtail the demand for services offered by prostitutes. It is the intent of the legislature to decrease the demand for prostitution services and thereby eliminate the economic foundation for the prostitution industry. It is also the intent of the legislature to eliminate traffic congestion and other concerns to neighborhoods and business areas caused by patrons cruising in motor vehicles in areas of high prostitution activity." [1999 c 327 § 1.]

**9A.88.140 Vehicle impoundment—Fees and fine.**

(1)(a) Upon an arrest for a suspected violation of patronizing a prostitute, promoting prostitution in the first degree, promoting prostitution in the second degree, promoting travel for prostitution, the arresting law enforcement officer may impound the person's vehicle if (i) the motor vehicle was used in the commission of the crime; (ii) the person arrested is the owner of the vehicle or the vehicle is a rental car as defined in RCW 46.04.465; and (iii) either (A) the person arrested has previously been convicted of one of the offenses listed in this subsection or (B) the offense was committed within an area designated under (b) of this subsection.

(b) A local governing authority may designate areas within which vehicles are subject to impoundment under this section regardless of whether the person arrested has previously been convicted of any of the offenses listed in (a) of this subsection.

(i) The designation must be based on evidence indicating that the area has a disproportionately higher number of arrests for the offenses listed in (a) of this subsection as compared to other areas within the same jurisdiction.

(ii) The local governing authority shall post signs at the boundaries of the designated area to indicate that the area has been designated under this subsection.

(2) Upon an arrest for a suspected violation of commercial sexual abuse of a minor, promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor, or promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse of a minor, the arresting law enforcement officer shall impound the person's vehicle if (a) the motor vehicle was used in the commission of the crime; and (b) the person arrested is the owner of the vehicle or the vehicle is a rental car as defined in RCW 46.04.465.

(3) Impoundments performed under this section shall be in accordance with chapter 46.55 RCW and the impoundment order must clearly state "prostitution hold."

(4)(a) Prior to redeeming the impounded vehicle, and in addition to all applicable impoundment, towing, and storage fees paid to the towing company under chapter 46.55 RCW, the owner of the impounded vehicle must pay a fine to the impounding agency. The fine shall be five hundred dollars for the offenses specified in subsection (1) of this section, or two thousand five hundred dollars for the offenses specified in subsection (2) of this section. The fine shall be deposited in the prostitution prevention and intervention account established under RCW 43.63A.740.

(b) Upon receipt of the fine paid under (a) of this subsection, the impounding agency shall issue a written receipt to the owner of the impounded vehicle.

(5)(a) In order to redeem a vehicle impounded under this section, the owner must provide the towing company with the written receipt issued under subsection (4)(b) of this section.

(b) The written receipt issued under subsection (4)(b) of this section authorizes the towing company to release the impounded vehicle upon payment of all impoundment, towing, and storage fees.

(c) A towing company that relies on a forged receipt to release a vehicle impounded under this section is not liable to the impounding authority for any unpaid fine under subsection (4)(a) of this section.

(6)(a) In any proceeding under chapter 46.55 RCW to contest the validity of an impoundment under this section where the claimant substantially prevails, the claimant is entitled to a full refund of the impoundment, towing, and storage fees paid under chapter 46.55 RCW and the five hundred dollar fine paid under subsection (4) of this section.

(b) If the person is found not guilty at trial for a crime listed under subsection (1) of this section, the person is entitled to a full refund of the impoundment, towing, and storage fees paid under chapter 46.55 RCW and the fine paid under subsection (4) of this section.

(c) All refunds made under this section shall be paid by the impounding agency.

(d) Prior to receiving any refund under this section, the claimant must provide proof of payment. [2010 c 289 § 12; 2009 c 387 § 1; 2007 c 368 § 8; 1999 c 327 § 3.]

**Findings—Intent—1999 c 327:** See note following RCW 9A.88.130.

**9A.88.150 Seizure and forfeiture.** (1) The following are subject to seizure and forfeiture and no property right exists in them:

(a) Any property or other interest acquired or maintained in violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070 to

the extent of the investment of funds, and any appreciation or income attributable to the investment, from a violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070;

(b) All conveyances, including aircraft, vehicles, or vessels, which are used, or intended for use, in any manner to facilitate a violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, except that:

(i) No conveyance used by any person as a common carrier in the transaction of business as a common carrier is subject to forfeiture under this section unless it appears that the owner or other person in charge of the conveyance is a consenting party or privy to a violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070;

(ii) No conveyance is subject to forfeiture under this section by reason of any act or omission established by the owner thereof to have been committed or omitted without the owner's knowledge or consent;

(iii) A forfeiture of a conveyance encumbered by a bona fide security interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if the secured party neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or omission; and

(iv) When the owner of a conveyance has been arrested for a violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, the conveyance in which the person is arrested may not be subject to forfeiture unless it is seized or process is issued for its seizure within ten days of the owner's arrest;

(c) Any property, contractual right, or claim against property used to influence any enterprise that a person has established, operated, controlled, conducted, or participated in the conduct of, in violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070;

(d) All proceeds traceable to or derived from an offense defined in RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070 and all moneys, negotiable instruments, securities, and other things of value significantly used or intended to be used significantly to facilitate commission of the offense;

(e) All books, records, and research products and materials, including formulas, microfilm, tapes, and data which are used, or intended for use, in violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070;

(f) All moneys, negotiable instruments, securities, or other tangible or intangible property of value furnished or intended to be furnished by any person in exchange for a violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, all tangible or intangible personal property, proceeds, or assets acquired in whole or in part with proceeds traceable to an exchange or series of exchanges in violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, and all moneys, negotiable instruments, and securities used or intended to be used to facilitate any violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070. A forfeiture of money, negotiable instruments, securities, or other tangible or intangible property encumbered by a bona fide security interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if, at the time the security interest was created, the secured party neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or omission. No personal property may be forfeited under this subsection (1)(f), to the extent of the interest of an owner, by reason of any act or omission, which that owner establishes was committed or omitted without the owner's knowledge or consent; and

(g) All real property, including any right, title, and interest in the whole of any lot or tract of land, and any appurtenances or improvements which are being used with the knowledge of the owner for a violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, or which have been acquired in whole or in part with proceeds traceable to an exchange or series of exchanges in violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070, if a substantial nexus exists between the violation and the real property. However:

(i) No property may be forfeited pursuant to this subsection (1)(g), to the extent of the interest of an owner, by reason of any act or omission committed or omitted without the owner's knowledge or consent;

(ii) A forfeiture of real property encumbered by a bona fide security interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if the secured party, at the time the security interest was created, neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or omission.

(2) Real or personal property subject to forfeiture under this section may be seized by any law enforcement officer of this state upon process issued by any superior court having jurisdiction over the property. Seizure of real property shall include the filing of a lis pendens by the seizing agency. Real property seized under this section shall not be transferred or otherwise conveyed until ninety days after seizure or until a judgment of forfeiture is entered, whichever is later: PROVIDED, That real property seized under this section may be transferred or conveyed to any person or entity who acquires title by foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure of a security interest. Seizure of personal property without process may be made if:

(a) The seizure is incident to an arrest or a search under a search warrant;

(b) The property subject to seizure has been the subject of a prior judgment in favor of the state in a criminal injunction or forfeiture proceeding; or

(c) The law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used in violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070.

(3) In the event of seizure pursuant to subsection (2) of this section, proceedings for forfeiture shall be deemed commenced by the seizure. The law enforcement agency under whose authority the seizure was made shall cause notice to be served within fifteen days following the seizure on the owner of the property seized and the person in charge thereof and any person having any known right or interest therein, including any community property interest, of the seizure and intended forfeiture of the seized property. Service of notice of seizure of real property shall be made according to the rules of civil procedure. However, the state may not obtain a default judgment with respect to real property against a party who is served by substituted service absent an affidavit stating that a good faith effort has been made to ascertain if the defaulted party is incarcerated within the state, and that there is no present basis to believe that the party is incarcerated within the state. Notice of seizure in the case of property subject to a security interest that has been perfected by filing a financing statement, or a certificate of title, shall be made by service upon the secured party or the secured party's assignee at the address shown on the financing statement or the certificate of title. The notice of seizure in other cases may be

served by any method authorized by law or court rule including, but not limited to, service by certified mail with return receipt requested. Service by mail shall be deemed complete upon mailing within the fifteen day period following the seizure.

(4) If no person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of items specified in subsection (1) of this section within forty-five days of the service of notice from the seizing agency in the case of personal property and ninety days in the case of real property, the item seized shall be deemed forfeited. The community property interest in real property of a person whose spouse or domestic partner committed a violation giving rise to seizure of the real property may not be forfeited if the person did not participate in the violation.

(5) If any person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of items specified in subsection (1) of this section within forty-five days of the service of notice from the seizing agency in the case of personal property and ninety days in the case of real property, the person or persons shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard as to the claim or right. The notice of claim may be served by any method authorized by law or court rule including, but not limited to, service by first-class mail. Service by mail shall be deemed complete upon mailing within the forty-five day period following service of the notice of seizure in the case of personal property and within the ninety day period following service of the notice of seizure in the case of real property. The hearing shall be before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency or the chief law enforcement officer's designee, except where the seizing agency is a state agency as defined in RCW 34.12.020(4), the hearing shall be before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency or an administrative law judge appointed under chapter 34.12 RCW, except that any person asserting a claim or right may remove the matter to a court of competent jurisdiction. Removal of any matter involving personal property may only be accomplished according to the rules of civil procedure. The person seeking removal of the matter must serve process against the state, county, political subdivision, or municipality that operates the seizing agency, and any other party of interest, in accordance with RCW 4.28.080 or 4.92.020, within forty-five days after the person seeking removal has notified the seizing law enforcement agency of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession. The court to which the matter is to be removed shall be the district court when the aggregate value of personal property is within the jurisdictional limit set forth in RCW 3.66.020. A hearing before the seizing agency and any appeal therefrom shall be under Title 34 RCW. In all cases, the burden of proof is upon the law enforcement agency to establish, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the property is subject to forfeiture.

The seizing law enforcement agency shall promptly return the article or articles to the claimant upon a determination by the administrative law judge or court that the claimant is the present lawful owner or is lawfully entitled to possession thereof of items specified in subsection (1) of this section.

(6) In any proceeding to forfeit property under this title, where the claimant substantially prevails, the claimant is entitled to reasonable attorneys' fees reasonably incurred by the claimant. In addition, in a court hearing between two or more claimants to the article or articles involved, the prevailing party is entitled to a judgment for costs and reasonable attorneys' fees.

(7) When property is forfeited under this chapter, the seizing law enforcement agency shall sell the property that is not required to be destroyed by law and that is not harmful to the public.

(8)(a) When property is forfeited, the seizing agency shall keep a record indicating the identity of the prior owner, if known, a description of the property, the disposition of the property, the value of the property at the time of seizure, and the amount of proceeds realized from disposition of the property.

(b) Each seizing agency shall retain records of forfeited property for at least seven years.

(c) Each seizing agency shall file a report including a copy of the records of forfeited property with the state treasurer each calendar quarter.

(d) The quarterly report need not include a record of forfeited property that is still being held for use as evidence during the investigation or prosecution of a case or during the appeal from a conviction.

(9)(a) By January 31st of each year, each seizing agency shall remit to the state treasurer the net proceeds of any property forfeited during the preceding calendar year. Money remitted shall be deposited in the prostitution prevention and intervention account under RCW 43.63A.740.

(b) The net proceeds of forfeited property is the value of the forfeitable interest in the property after deducting the cost of satisfying any bona fide security interest to which the property is subject at the time of seizure; and in the case of sold property, after deducting the cost of sale, including reasonable fees or commissions paid to independent selling agents, and the cost of any valid landlord's claim for damages under subsection (11) of this section.

(c) The value of sold forfeited property is the sale price. The value of destroyed property and retained firearms or illegal property is zero.

(10) Upon the entry of an order of forfeiture of real property, the court shall forward a copy of the order to the assessor of the county in which the property is located. Orders for the forfeiture of real property shall be entered by the superior court, subject to court rules. Such an order shall be filed by the seizing agency in the county auditor's records in the county in which the real property is located.

(11) A landlord may assert a claim against proceeds from the sale of assets seized and forfeited under subsection (9) of this section, only if:

(a) A law enforcement officer, while acting in his or her official capacity, directly caused damage to the complaining landlord's property while executing a search of a tenant's residence;

(b) The landlord has applied any funds remaining in the tenant's deposit, to which the landlord has a right under chapter 59.18 RCW, to cover the damage directly caused by a law enforcement officer prior to asserting a claim under the provisions of this section:



(i) Only if the funds applied under (b) of this subsection are insufficient to satisfy the damage directly caused by a law enforcement officer, may the landlord seek compensation for the damage by filing a claim against the governmental entity under whose authority the law enforcement agency operates within thirty days after the search;

(ii) Only if the governmental entity denies or fails to respond to the landlord's claim within sixty days of the date of filing, may the landlord collect damages under this subsection by filing within thirty days of denial or the expiration of the sixty day period, whichever occurs first, a claim with the seizing law enforcement agency. The seizing law enforcement agency must notify the landlord of the status of the claim by the end of the thirty day period. Nothing in this section requires the claim to be paid by the end of the sixty day or thirty day period; and

(c) For any claim filed under (b) of this subsection, the law enforcement agency shall pay the claim unless the agency provides substantial proof that the landlord either:

(i) Knew or consented to actions of the tenant in violation of RCW 9.68A.100, 9.68A.101, or 9A.88.070; or

(ii) Failed to respond to a notification of the illegal activity, provided by a law enforcement agency under RCW 59.18.075, within seven days of receipt of notification of the illegal activity.

(12) The landlord's claim for damages under subsection (11) of this section may not include a claim for loss of business and is limited to:

(a) Damage to tangible property and clean-up costs;

(b) The lesser of the cost of repair or fair market value of the damage directly caused by a law enforcement officer;

(c) The proceeds from the sale of the specific tenant's property seized and forfeited under subsection (9) of this section; and

(d) The proceeds available after the seizing law enforcement agency satisfies any bona fide security interest in the tenant's property and costs related to sale of the tenant's property as provided by subsection (11) of this section.

(13) Subsections (11) and (12) of this section do not limit any other rights a landlord may have against a tenant to collect for damages. However, if a law enforcement agency satisfies a landlord's claim under subsection (11) of this section, the rights the landlord has against the tenant for damages directly caused by a law enforcement officer under the terms of the landlord and tenant's contract are subrogated to the law enforcement agency. [2012 c 140 § 1.]

proceedings which were begun before July 1, 1976. [1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.92.020.]

## Chapter 9A.98 RCW LAWS REPEALED

### Sections

9A.98.010 Acts or parts of acts repealed.

9A.98.020 Savings clause.

**9A.98.010 Acts or parts of acts repealed.** See 1975 1st ex.s. c 260 § 9A.92.010.

**9A.98.020 Savings clause.** The laws repealed by RCW 9A.98.010 are repealed except with respect to rights and duties which matured, penalties which were incurred, and

# Title 10

## CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

### Chapters

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- 10.04 District court procedure—Generally.
- 10.05 Deferred prosecution—Courts of limited jurisdiction.
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*Criminal justice training commission—Education and training boards: Chapter 43.101 RCW.*

*Criminal rules for superior court: Rules of court: Superior Court Criminal Rules (CrR).*

*Justice without unnecessary delay: State Constitution Art. 1 § 10.*

*Mental illness—Financial responsibility: Chapter 71.02 RCW.*

*Oaths and mode of administering: State Constitution Art. 1 § 6.*

*Traffic violations: Chapters 46.63, 46.64 RCW.*

*Victims of crimes, compensation: Chapter 7.68 RCW.*

### Chapter 10.01 RCW GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### Sections

- 10.01.030 Pleadings—Forms abolished.
- 10.01.040 Statutes—Repeal or amendment—Saving clause presumed.
- 10.01.050 Convictions—Necessary before punishment.
- 10.01.060 Conviction—Requisites—Waiver of jury trial.
- 10.01.070 Corporations—Amenable to criminal process—How.
- 10.01.090 Corporations—Judgment against.
- 10.01.100 Corporations—Penalties—Fines in lieu of other punishments.
- 10.01.120 Pardons—Reprieves—Commutations.
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*Alcoholics—Private establishment: Chapter 71.12 RCW.*

*Double jeopardy: State Constitution Art. 1 § 9.*

*Excessive bail or fines, cruel punishment prohibited: State Constitution Art. 1 § 14.*

*Habeas corpus: State Constitution Art. 1 § 13.*

*Indians, jurisdiction in criminal and civil causes: Chapter 37.12 RCW.*

*Limitation of actions: RCW 9A.04.080.*

*Mental illness: Chapter 71.05 RCW.*

*Psychopathic delinquents, procedures, hospitalization, etc.: Chapter 71.06 RCW.*

*Public defender: Chapter 36.26 RCW.*

*Right to*

*bail: State Constitution Art. 1 § 20.*

*trial by jury: State Constitution Art. 1 § 21.*

*Rights of accused persons: State Constitution Art. 1 § 22.*

*Sexual psychopaths, procedures as to: Chapter 71.06 RCW.*

**10.01.030 Pleadings—Forms abolished.** All the forms of pleading in criminal actions heretofore existing, are abolished; and hereafter, the forms of pleading, and the rules by which the sufficiency of pleadings is to be determined, are those prescribed herein. [Code 1881 § 1002; 1873 p 224 § 185; 1869 p 240 § 180; RRS § 2022.]

**10.01.040 Statutes—Repeal or amendment—Saving clause presumed.** No offense committed and no penalty or forfeiture incurred previous to the time when any statutory provision shall be repealed, whether such repeal be express or implied, shall be affected by such repeal, unless a contrary intention is expressly declared in the repealing act, and no prosecution for any offense, or for the recovery of any pen-

alty or forfeiture, pending at the time any statutory provision shall be repealed, whether such repeal be express or implied, shall be affected by such repeal, but the same shall proceed in all respects, as if such provision had not been repealed, unless a contrary intention is expressly declared in the repealing act. Whenever any criminal or penal statute shall be amended or repealed, all offenses committed or penalties or forfeitures incurred while it was in force shall be punished or enforced as if it were in force, notwithstanding such amendment or repeal, unless a contrary intention is expressly declared in the amendatory or repealing act, and every such amendatory or repealing statute shall be so construed as to save all criminal and penal proceedings, and proceedings to recover forfeitures, pending at the time of its enactment, unless a contrary intention is expressly declared therein. [1901 ex.s. c 6 § 1; RRS § 2006.]

**10.01.050 Convictions—Necessary before punishment.** No person charged with any offense against the law shall be punished for such offense, unless he or she shall have been duly and legally convicted thereof in a court having competent jurisdiction of the case and of the person. [2010 c 8 § 1001; Code 1881 § 770; 1854 p 76 § 6; RRS § 2118.]

**10.01.060 Conviction—Requisites—Waiver of jury trial.** No person informed against or indicted for a crime shall be convicted thereof, unless by admitting the truth of the charge in his or her plea, by confession in open court, or by the verdict of a jury, accepted and recorded by the court: PROVIDED HOWEVER, That except in capital cases, where the person informed against or indicted for a crime is represented by counsel, such person may, with the assent of the court, waive trial by jury and submit to trial by the court. [2010 c 8 § 1002; 1951 c 52 § 1; 1909 c 249 § 57; 1891 c 28 § 91; Code 1881 § 767; 1873 p 180 § 3; 1869 p 198 § 3; 1859 p 105 § 3; 1854 p 76 § 3; RRS § 2309.]

*Self-incriminating testimony: State Constitution Art. 1 § 9.*

**10.01.070 Corporations—Amenable to criminal process—How.** Whenever an indictment or information shall be filed in any superior court against a corporation charging it with the commission of a crime, a summons shall be issued by the clerk of such court, signed by one of the judges thereof, commanding the sheriff forthwith to notify the accused thereof, and commanding it to appear before such court at such time as shall be specified in said summons. Such summons and a copy of the indictment or information shall be at once delivered by such clerk to said sheriff and by the sheriff forthwith served and returned in the manner provided for service of summons upon such corporation in a civil action. Whenever a complaint against a corporation, charging it with the commission of a crime, shall be made before any district or municipal judge, a like summons, signed by such judge, shall be issued, which, together with a copy of said complaint, shall be delivered to the sheriff at once and by the sheriff forthwith served as herein provided. [1987 c 202 § 147; 1911 c 29 § 1; RRS § 2011-1.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**10.01.090 Corporations—Judgment against.** If the corporation shall be found guilty and a fine imposed, it shall

be entered and docketed by the clerk, or district or municipal court as a judgment against the corporation, and it shall be of the same force and effect and be enforced against such corporation in the same manner as a judgment in a civil action. [1987 c 202 § 148; 1911 c 29 § 3; RRS § 2011-3.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**10.01.100 Corporations—Penalties—Fines in lieu of other punishments.** Every corporation guilty of a violation of any law of the state of Washington, where the prescribed penalty is, for any reason, incapable of execution or enforcement against such corporation, shall be punished by a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars, if such offense is a felony; or, by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars if such offense is a gross misdemeanor; or, by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars if such offense is a misdemeanor. [1925 ex.s. c 101 § 1; RRS § 2011-4.]

**10.01.120 Pardons—Reprieves—Commutations.** Whenever a prisoner has been sentenced to death, the governor shall have power to commute such sentence to imprisonment for life at hard labor; and in all cases in which the governor is authorized to grant pardons or commute sentence of death, he or she may, upon the petition of the person convicted, commute a sentence or grant a pardon, upon such conditions, and with such restrictions, and under such limitations as he or she may think proper; and he or she may issue his or her warrant to all proper officers to carry into effect such pardon or commutation, which warrant shall be obeyed and executed, instead of the sentence, if any, which was originally given. The governor may also, on good cause shown, grant respites or reprieves from time to time as he or she may think proper. [2010 c 8 § 1003; Code 1881 § 1136; 1854 p 128 § 174; RRS § 2223.]

*Governor's powers: State Constitution Art. 3 §§ 9, 11.*

*Record of pardons, etc., governor to keep: RCW 43.06.020.*

**10.01.130 Witnesses' fees.** No fees shall be allowed to witnesses in criminal causes unless they shall have reported their attendance at the close of each day's session to the clerk in attendance thereon. [1895 c 10 § 1; RRS § 498, part. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1895 c 10 § 2; RRS § 498, part, now codified as RCW 10.01.140.]

**Rules of court:** Cf. CrR 6.12.

*Witness fees: Chapters 2.40, 12.16 RCW.*

**10.01.140 Mileage allowance—Jurors—Witnesses.** No allowance of mileage shall be made to a juror or witness who has not verified his or her claim of mileage under oath before the clerk of the court on which he or she is in attendance. [2010 c 8 § 1004; 1895 c 10 § 2; RRS § 498, part. Formerly RCW 10.01.130, part.]

**10.01.150 Charges arising from official acts of state officers or employees—Defense by attorney general.** Whenever a state officer or employee is charged with a criminal offense arising out of the performance of an official act which was fully in conformity with established written rules, policies, and guidelines of the state or state agency, the employing agency may request the attorney general to defend the officer or employee. If the agency finds, and the attorney

general concurs, that the officer's or employee's conduct was fully in accordance with established written rules, policies, and guidelines of the state or a state agency and the act performed was within the scope of employment, then the request shall be granted and the costs of defense shall be paid by the requesting agency: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, If the agency head is the person charged, then approval must be obtained from both the attorney general and the state auditor. If the court finds that the officer or employee was performing an official act, or was within the scope of employment, and that his or her actions were in conformity with the established rules, regulations, policies, and guidelines of the state and the state agency, the cost of any monetary fine assessed shall be paid from the liability account. [2010 c 8 § 1005; 1999 c 163 § 6; 1975 1st ex.s. c 144 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.01.160 Costs—What constitutes—Payment by defendant—Procedure—Remission—Medical or mental health treatment or services.** (1) The court may require a defendant to pay costs. Costs may be imposed only upon a convicted defendant, except for costs imposed upon a defendant's entry into a deferred prosecution program, costs imposed upon a defendant for pretrial supervision, or costs imposed upon a defendant for preparing and serving a warrant for failure to appear.

(2) Costs shall be limited to expenses specially incurred by the state in prosecuting the defendant or in administering the deferred prosecution program under chapter 10.05 RCW or pretrial supervision. They cannot include expenses inherent in providing a constitutionally guaranteed jury trial or expenditures in connection with the maintenance and operation of government agencies that must be made by the public irrespective of specific violations of law. Expenses incurred for serving of warrants for failure to appear and jury fees under RCW 10.46.190 may be included in costs the court may require a defendant to pay. Costs for administering a deferred prosecution may not exceed two hundred fifty dollars. Costs for administering a pretrial supervision may not exceed one hundred fifty dollars. Costs for preparing and serving a warrant for failure to appear may not exceed one hundred dollars. Costs of incarceration imposed on a defendant convicted of a misdemeanor or a gross misdemeanor may not exceed the actual cost of incarceration. In no case may the court require the offender to pay more than one hundred dollars per day for the cost of incarceration. Payment of other court-ordered financial obligations, including all legal financial obligations and costs of supervision take precedence over the payment of the cost of incarceration ordered by the court. All funds received from defendants for the cost of incarceration in the county or city jail must be remitted for criminal justice purposes to the county or city that is responsible for the defendant's jail costs. Costs imposed constitute a judgment against a defendant and survive a dismissal of the underlying action against the defendant. However, if the defendant is acquitted on the underlying action, the costs for preparing and serving a warrant for failure to appear do not survive the acquittal, and the judgment that such costs would otherwise constitute shall be vacated.

(3) The court shall not order a defendant to pay costs unless the defendant is or will be able to pay them. In deter-

mining the amount and method of payment of costs, the court shall take account of the financial resources of the defendant and the nature of the burden that payment of costs will impose.

(4) A defendant who has been ordered to pay costs and who is not in contumacious default in the payment thereof may at any time petition the sentencing court for remission of the payment of costs or of any unpaid portion thereof. If it appears to the satisfaction of the court that payment of the amount due will impose manifest hardship on the defendant or the defendant's immediate family, the court may remit all or part of the amount due in costs, or modify the method of payment under RCW 10.01.170.

(5) Except for direct costs relating to evaluating and reporting to the court, prosecutor, or defense counsel regarding a defendant's competency to stand trial as provided in RCW 10.77.060, this section shall not apply to costs related to medical or mental health treatment or services a defendant receives while in custody of the secretary of the department of social and health services or other governmental units. This section shall not prevent the secretary of the department of social and health services or other governmental units from imposing liability and seeking reimbursement from a defendant committed to an appropriate facility as provided in RCW 10.77.084 while criminal proceedings are stayed. This section shall also not prevent governmental units from imposing liability on defendants for costs related to providing medical or mental health treatment while the defendant is in the governmental unit's custody. Medical or mental health treatment and services a defendant receives at a state hospital or other facility are not a cost of prosecution and shall be recoverable under RCW 10.77.250 and 70.48.130, chapter 43.20B RCW, and any other applicable statute. [2010 c 54 § 1; 2008 c 318 § 2; 2007 c 367 § 3; 2005 c 263 § 2; 1995 c 221 § 1; 1994 c 192 § 1; 1991 c 247 § 4; 1987 c 363 § 1; 1985 c 389 § 1; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 96 § 1.]

**Findings—Intent—2008 c 318:** "The legislature finds that because of the decision in *Utter v. DSHS*, 165 P.3d 399 (Wash. 2007), there is unintended ambiguity about the authority of the secretary of the department of social and health services under the criminal procedure act to seek reimbursement from defendants under RCW 10.77.250 who are committed for competency evaluation and mental health treatment under RCW 10.77.060 and 10.77.084, and the general provision prohibiting a criminal defendant from being charged for prosecution related costs prior to conviction provided in RCW 10.01.160. Mental health evaluation and treatment, and other medical treatment relate entirely to the medically necessary care that defendants receive at state hospitals and other facilities. The legislature intended for treatment costs to be the responsibility of the defendant's insurers and ultimately the defendant based on their ability to pay, and it is permissible under chapters 10.77, 70.48, and 43.20B RCW for the state and other governmental units to assess financial liability on defendants who become patients and receive medical and mental health care. The legislature further finds that it intended that a court order staying criminal proceedings under RCW 10.77.084, and committing a defendant to the custody of the secretary of the department of social and health services for placement in an appropriate facility involve costs payable by the defendant, because the commitment primarily and directly benefits the defendant through treatment of their medical and mental health conditions. The legislature did not intend for medical and mental health services provided to a defendant in the custody of a governmental unit, and the associated costs, to be costs related to the prosecution of the defendant. Thus, if a court orders a stay of the criminal proceeding under RCW 10.77.084 and orders commitment to the custody of the secretary, or if at any time a defendant receives other medical care while in custody of a governmental unit, but prior to conviction, the costs associated with such care shall be the responsibility of the defendant and the defendant's insurers as provided in chapters 10.77, 70.48, and 43.20B RCW. The intent of the legislature is to clarify this reimbursement requirement, and the purpose of

this act is to make retroactive, remedial, curative, and technical amendments in order to resolve any ambiguity about the legislature's intent in enacting these chapters." [2008 c 318 § 1.]

**Effective date—2008 c 318:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [April 1, 2008]." [2008 c 318 § 3.]

*Commitment for failure to pay fine and costs:* RCW 10.70.010, 10.82.030.

*Defendant liable for costs:* RCW 10.64.015.

*Fine and costs—Collection and disposition:* Chapter 10.82 RCW.

**10.01.170 Fine or costs—Payment within specified time or installments.** When a defendant is sentenced to pay a fine or costs, the court may grant permission for payment to be made within a specified period of time or in specified installments. If no such permission is included in the sentence the fine or costs shall be payable forthwith. [1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 96 § 2.]

*Payment of fine and costs in installments:* RCW 9.92.070.

**10.01.180 Fine or costs—Default in payment—Contempt of court—Enforcement, collection procedures.** (1) A defendant sentenced to pay a fine or costs who defaults in the payment thereof or of any installment is in contempt of court as provided in chapter 7.21 RCW. The court may issue a warrant of arrest for his or her appearance.

(2) When a fine or assessment of costs is imposed on a corporation or unincorporated association, it is the duty of the person authorized to make disbursement from the assets of the corporation or association to pay the fine or costs from those assets, and his or her failure to do so may be held to be contempt.

(3) If a term of imprisonment for contempt for nonpayment of a fine or costs is ordered, the term of imprisonment shall be set forth in the commitment order, and shall not exceed one day for each twenty-five dollars of the fine or costs, thirty days if the fine or assessment of costs was imposed upon conviction of a violation or misdemeanor, or one year in any other case, whichever is the shorter period. A person committed for nonpayment of a fine or costs shall be given credit toward payment for each day of imprisonment at the rate specified in the commitment order.

(4) If it appears to the satisfaction of the court that the default in the payment of a fine or costs is not contempt, the court may enter an order allowing the defendant additional time for payment, reducing the amount thereof or of each installment or revoking the fine or costs or the unpaid portion thereof in whole or in part.

(5) A default in the payment of a fine or costs or any installment thereof may be collected by any means authorized by law for the enforcement of a judgment. The levy of execution for the collection of a fine or costs shall not discharge a defendant committed to imprisonment for contempt until the amount of the fine or costs has actually been collected. [2010 c 8 § 1006; 1989 c 373 § 13; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 96 § 3.]

*Fine and costs—Collection procedure, commitment for failure to pay, execution against defendant's property:* Chapter 10.82 RCW.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.01.190 Prosecutorial powers of attorney general.** In any criminal proceeding instituted or conducted by the

attorney general, the attorney general and assistants are deemed to be prosecuting attorneys and have all prosecutorial powers vested in prosecuting attorneys of the state of Washington by statute or court rule. [1981 c 335 § 4.]

**Purpose—1981 c 335:** See RCW 43.10.230.

**10.01.200 Registration of sex offenders and kidnapping offenders—Notice to defendants.** The court shall provide written notification to any defendant charged with a sex offense or kidnapping offense of the registration requirements of RCW 9A.44.130. Such notice shall be included on any guilty plea forms and judgment and sentence forms provided to the defendant. [1997 c 113 § 5; 1990 c 3 § 404.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in RCW 9A.44.128 apply to this section.

**Findings—1997 c 113:** See note following RCW 4.24.550.

*Sex offense and kidnapping offense defined:* RCW 9A.44.128.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.01.210 Offender notification and warning.** Any and all law enforcement agencies and personnel, criminal justice attorneys, sentencing judges, and state and local correctional facilities and personnel may, but are not required to, give any and all offenders either written or oral notice, or both, of the sanctions imposed and criminal justice changes regarding armed offenders, including but not limited to the subjects of:

(1) Felony crimes involving any deadly weapon special verdict under \*RCW 9.94A.602;

(2) Any and all deadly weapon enhancements under RCW 9.94A.533 (3) or (4), or both, as well as any federal firearm, ammunition, or other deadly weapon enhancements;

(3) Any and all felony crimes requiring the possession, display, or use of any deadly weapon as well as the many increased penalties for these crimes including the creation of theft of a firearm and possessing a stolen firearm;

(4) New prosecuting standards established for filing charges for all crimes involving any deadly weapons;

(5) Removal of good time for any and all deadly weapon enhancements; and

(6) Providing the death penalty for those who commit first degree murder: (a) To join, maintain, or advance membership in an identifiable group; (b) as part of a drive-by shooting; or (c) to avoid prosecution as a persistent offender as defined in RCW 9.94A.030. [2002 c 290 § 23; 1995 c 129 § 18 (Initiative Measure No. 159).]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9.94A.602 was recodified as RCW 9.94A.825 pursuant to 2009 c 28 § 41.

**Effective date—2002 c 290 §§ 7-11 and 14-23:** See note following RCW 9.94A.515.

**Intent—2002 c 290:** See note following RCW 9.94A.517.

**Severability—2002 c 290:** See RCW 9.94A.924.

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

**10.01.220 City attorney, county prosecutor, or other prosecuting authority—Filing a criminal charge—Contribution, donation, payment.** A city attorney, county prosecutor, or other prosecuting authority may not dismiss, amend, or agree not to file a criminal charge in exchange for

a contribution, donation, or payment to any person, corporation, or organization. This does not prohibit:

- (1) Contribution, donation, or payment to any specific fund authorized by state statute;
- (2) The collection of costs associated with actual supervision, treatment, or collection of restitution under agreements to defer or divert; or
- (3) Dismissal following payment that is authorized by any other statute. [2007 c 367 § 1.]

**10.01.230 Victim impact panel registry—Panel minimum standards.** (1) The Washington traffic safety commission may develop and maintain a registry of qualified victim impact panels. When imposing a requirement that an offender attend a victim impact panel under RCW 46.61.5152, the court may refer the offender to a victim impact panel that is listed in the registry. The Washington traffic safety commission may consult with victim impact panel organizations to develop and maintain a registry.

(2) To be listed on the registry, the victim impact panel must meet the following minimum standards:

(a) The victim impact panel must address the effects of driving while impaired on individuals and families and address alternatives to drinking and driving and drug use and driving;

(b) The victim impact panel should strive to have at least two different speakers, one of whom is a victim survivor of an impaired driving crash, to present their stories in person. A victim survivor may be the panel facilitator. The victim impact panel should be a minimum of sixty minutes of presentation, not including registration and administration time;

(c) The victim impact panel shall have policies and procedures to recruit, screen, train, and provide feedback and ongoing support to the panelists. The panel shall take reasonable steps to verify the authenticity of each panelist's story;

(d) The victim impact panel shall charge a reasonable fee to all persons required to attend, unless otherwise ordered by the court;

(e) The victim impact panel shall have a policy to prohibit admittance of anyone under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or anyone whose actions or behavior are otherwise inappropriate. The victim impact panel may institute additional admission requirements;

(f) The victim impact panel shall maintain attendance records for at least five years;

(g) The victim impact panel shall make reasonable efforts to use a facility that meets standards established by the Americans with disabilities act;

(h) The victim impact panel may provide referral information to other community services; and

(i) The victim impact panel shall have a designated facilitator who is responsible for the compliance with these minimum standards and who is responsible for maintaining appropriate records and communication with the referring courts and probationary departments regarding attendance or nonattendance. [2011 c 293 § 15.]

## Chapter 10.04 RCW

### DISTRICT COURT PROCEDURE—GENERALLY

#### Sections

10.04.020	Arrest—Offense committed in view of district judge.
10.04.040	Cash bail in lieu of recognizance.
10.04.050	Jury—If demanded.
10.04.070	Plea of guilty.
10.04.100	Verdict of guilty—Proceedings upon.
10.04.101	Assessment of punishment by courts organized under 1961 justice of the peace act.
10.04.110	Judgment—Entry—Execution—Remittance of district court fines, etc.
10.04.120	Stay of execution.
10.04.800	Proposed forms for criminal actions.

**Rules of court:** See *Criminal Rules for Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (CrRLJ)*.

**10.04.020 Arrest—Offense committed in view of district judge.** When any offense is committed in view of any district judge, the judge may, by verbal direction to any deputy, or if no deputy is present, to any citizen, cause such deputy or citizen to arrest such offender, and keep such offender in custody for the space of one hour, unless such offender shall sooner be taken from such custody by virtue of a warrant issued on complaint on oath. But such person so arrested, shall not be confined in jail, nor put upon any trial, until arrested by virtue of such warrant. [1987 c 202 § 149; Code 1881 § 1888; Code 1881 § 1889, part; 1873 p 382 § 186; 1854 p 260 § 173; RRS § 1926, part.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**10.04.040 Cash bail in lieu of recognizance.** District courts or committing magistrates may accept money as bail from persons charged with bailable offenses, and for the appearance of witnesses in all cases provided by law for the recognizance of witnesses. The amount of such bail or recognizance in each case shall be determined by the court in its discretion, and may from time to time be increased or decreased as circumstances may justify. The money to be received and accounted for in the same manner as provided by law for the superior courts. [1987 c 202 § 150; 1919 c 76 § 1; RRS § 1957 1/2.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

*Excessive bail or fines, cruel punishment prohibited: State Constitution Art. 1 § 14.*

**10.04.050 Jury—If demanded.** In all trials for offenses within the jurisdiction of a district judge, the defendant or the state may demand a jury, which shall consist of six, or a less number, agreed upon by the state and accused, to be impaneled and sworn as in civil cases; or the trial may be by the judge. When the complaint is for a crime or misdemeanor in the exclusive jurisdiction of the superior court, the justice hears the case as a committing magistrate, and no jury shall be allowed. [1987 c 202 § 151; 1891 c 11 § 1; Code 1881 § 1890; 1875 p 51 § 2; 1873 p 382 § 188; 1854 p 260 § 174, part; RRS § 1927.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

*Charging juries: State Constitution Art. 4 § 16.*

*Convicted persons liable for costs and jury fees: RCW 10.46.190.*

*Right to trial by jury: State Constitution Art. 1 § 21.*

**10.04.070 Plea of guilty.** The defendant may plead guilty to any offense charged. [Code 1881 § 1892; 1873 p 383 § 190; 1854 p 260 § 174, part; RRS § 1929.]

**10.04.100 Verdict of guilty—Proceedings upon.** The judge, if the prisoner is found guilty, shall assess the prisoner's punishment; or if, in the judge's opinion, the punishment the judge is authorized to assess is not adequate to the offense, he or she may so find, and in such case the judge shall order such defendant to enter recognizance to appear in the superior court of the county, and shall also recognize the witnesses, and proceed as in proceedings by a committing magistrate. [1987 c 202 § 152; 1891 c 11 § 2; Code 1881 § 1891; 1873 p 382 § 189; 1854 p 260 § 174; RRS § 1928.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**10.04.101 Assessment of punishment by courts organized under 1961 justice of the peace act.** See RCW 3.66.065.

**10.04.110 Judgment—Entry—Execution—Remittance of district court fines, etc.** In all cases of conviction, unless otherwise provided in this chapter, the judge shall enter judgment for the fine and costs against the defendant, and may commit him or her to jail until the amount of such fine and costs owing are paid, or the payment thereof be secured as provided by RCW 10.04.120. The amount of such fine and costs owing shall be computed as provided for superior court cases in RCW 10.82.030 and 10.82.040. Further proceedings therein shall be had as in like cases in the superior court: PROVIDED, That all fees, fines, forfeitures and penalties collected or assessed by a district court because of the violation of a state law shall be remitted as provided in chapter 3.62 RCW as now exists or is later amended. [2010 c 8 § 1007; 1987 c 202 § 153; 1969 ex.s. c 199 § 10; 1967 c 200 § 6; 1891 c 11 § 6; Code 1881 § 1896; 1873 p 383 § 194; 1854 p 261 § 176; RRS § 1933.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

*Convicted persons liable for jury fees: RCW 10.46.190.*

**10.04.120 Stay of execution.** Every defendant may stay the execution for the fine and costs for thirty days, by procuring sufficient sureties, to be approved by the district judge, to enter into recognizance before the district judge for the payment of the fine and costs; the entry of such recognizance shall be made on the docket of the district judge, and signed by the sureties, and shall have the same effect as a judgment, and if the same be not paid in thirty days, the district judge shall proceed as in like cases in the superior court. [1987 c 202 § 154; Code 1881 § 1897; 1873 p 383 § 195; 1854 p 261 § 176; RRS § 1934.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**10.04.800 Proposed forms for criminal actions.** The district and municipal court judges' association may propose to the supreme court suggested forms for criminal actions for inclusion in the justice court criminal rules. [1994 c 32 § 6; 1987 c 202 § 155.]

**Rules of court:** *CrRLJ 2.1, 4.2.*

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

## Chapter 10.05 RCW DEFERRED PROSECUTION—COURTS OF LIMITED JURISDICTION

### Sections

10.05.010	Petition—Eligibility.
10.05.015	Statement of availability.
10.05.020	Requirements of petition—Rights of petitioner—Court findings.
10.05.030	Arraignment continued—Treatment referral.
10.05.040	Investigation and examination.
10.05.050	Report to court—Recommended treatment plan—Commitment to provide treatment.
10.05.055	Child welfare services.
10.05.060	Procedure upon approval of plan.
10.05.070	Arraignment when treatment rejected.
10.05.080	Evidence, uses and admissibility.
10.05.090	Procedure upon breach of treatment plan.
10.05.100	Conviction of similar offense.
10.05.110	Trial delay not grounds for dismissal.
10.05.120	Dismissal of charges.
10.05.130	Services provided for indigent defendants.
10.05.140	Conditions of granting.
10.05.150	Alcoholism program requirements.
10.05.160	Appeal of deferred prosecution order.
10.05.170	Supervision as condition—Levy of assessment.

**10.05.010 Petition—Eligibility.** (1) In a court of limited jurisdiction a person charged with a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor may petition the court to be considered for a deferred prosecution program. The petition shall be filed with the court at least seven days before the date set for trial but, upon a written motion and affidavit establishing good cause for the delay and failure to comply with this section, the court may waive this requirement subject to the defendant's reimbursement to the court of the witness fees and expenses due for subpoenaed witnesses who have appeared on the date set for trial.

(2) A person charged with a traffic infraction, misdemeanor, or gross misdemeanor under Title 46 RCW shall not be eligible for a deferred prosecution program unless the court makes specific findings pursuant to RCW 10.05.020 or \*section 18 of this act. Such person shall not be eligible for a deferred prosecution program more than once; and cannot receive a deferred prosecution under both RCW 10.05.020 and \*section 18 of this act. Separate offenses committed more than seven days apart may not be consolidated in a single program.

(3) A person charged with a misdemeanor or a gross misdemeanor under chapter 9A.42 RCW shall not be eligible for a deferred prosecution program unless the court makes specific findings pursuant to RCW 10.05.020. Such person shall not be eligible for a deferred prosecution program more than once. [2008 c 282 § 15; 2002 c 219 § 6; 1998 c 208 § 1; 1985 c 352 § 4; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 26; 1975 1st ex.s. c 244 § 1.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Section 18 of this act was vetoed by the governor.

**Intent—Finding—2002 c 219:** See note following RCW 9A.42.037.

**Legislative finding—1985 c 352:** "The legislature finds that the deferred prosecution program is an alternative to punishment for persons who will benefit from a treatment program if the treatment program is provided under circumstances that do not unreasonably endanger public safety or the traditional goals of the criminal justice system. This alternative to punishment is dependent for success upon appropriate treatment and the willingness and ability of the person receiving treatment to cooperate fully with the treatment program. The legislature finds that some persons have sought deferred prosecution but have been unable or unwilling to cooperate with treatment requirements and escaped punishment because of the difficulties in resuming prosecution after significant delay due to the absence of witnesses at a later date and the congestion in courts at a later date. The legisla-

ture further finds that the deferred prosecution statutes require clarification. The purpose of sections 4 through 19 of this act is to provide specific standards and procedures for judges and prosecutors to use in carrying out the original intent of the deferred prosecution statutes." [1985 c 352 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.05.015 Statement of availability.** At the time of arraignment a person charged with a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 may be given a statement by the court that explains the availability, operation, and effects of the deferred prosecution program. [1985 c 352 § 5.]

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

**10.05.020 Requirements of petition—Rights of petitioner—Court findings.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the petitioner shall allege under oath in the petition that the wrongful conduct charged is the result of or caused by alcoholism, drug addiction, or mental problems for which the person is in need of treatment and unless treated the probability of future recurrence is great, along with a statement that the person agrees to pay the cost of a diagnosis and treatment of the alleged problem or problems if financially able to do so. The petition shall also contain a case history and written assessment prepared by an approved alcoholism treatment program as designated in chapter 70.96A RCW if the petition alleges alcoholism, an approved drug program as designated in chapter 71.24 RCW if the petition alleges drug addiction, or by an approved mental health center if the petition alleges a mental problem.

(2) In the case of a petitioner charged with a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor under chapter 9A.42 RCW, the petitioner shall allege under oath in the petition that the petitioner is the natural or adoptive parent of the alleged victim; that the wrongful conduct charged is the result of parenting problems for which the petitioner is in need of services; that the petitioner is in need of child welfare services under chapter 74.13 RCW to improve his or her parenting skills in order to better provide his or her child or children with the basic necessities of life; that the petitioner wants to correct his or her conduct to reduce the likelihood of harm to his or her minor children; that in the absence of child welfare services the petitioner may be unable to reduce the likelihood of harm to his or her minor children; and that the petitioner has cooperated with the department of social and health services to develop a plan to receive appropriate child welfare services; along with a statement that the person agrees to pay the cost of the services if he or she is financially able to do so. The petition shall also contain a case history and a written service plan from the department of social and health services.

(3) Before entry of an order deferring prosecution, a petitioner shall be advised of his or her rights as an accused and execute, as a condition of receiving treatment, a statement that contains: (a) An acknowledgment of his or her rights; (b) an acknowledgment and waiver of the right to testify, the right to a speedy trial, the right to call witnesses to testify, the right to present evidence in his or her defense, and the right to a jury trial; (c) a stipulation to the admissibility and sufficiency of the facts contained in the written police report; and (d) an acknowledgment that the statement will be entered and used to support a finding of guilty if the court finds cause to

revoke the order granting deferred prosecution. The petitioner shall also be advised that he or she may, if he or she proceeds to trial and is found guilty, be allowed to seek suspension of some or all of the fines and incarceration that may be ordered upon the condition that he or she seek treatment and, further, that he or she may seek treatment from public and private agencies at any time without regard to whether or not he or she is found guilty of the offense charged. He or she shall also be advised that the court will not accept a petition for deferred prosecution from a person who: (i) Sincerely believes that he or she is innocent of the charges; (ii) sincerely believes that he or she does not, in fact, suffer from alcoholism, drug addiction, or mental problems; or (iii) in the case of a petitioner charged under chapter 9A.42 RCW, sincerely believes that he or she does not need child welfare services.

(4) Before entering an order deferring prosecution, the court shall make specific findings that: (a) The petitioner has stipulated to the admissibility and sufficiency of the facts as contained in the written police report; (b) the petitioner has acknowledged the admissibility of the stipulated facts in any criminal hearing on the underlying offense or offenses held subsequent to revocation of the order granting deferred prosecution; (c) the petitioner has acknowledged and waived the right to testify, the right to a speedy trial, the right to call witnesses to testify, the right to present evidence in his or her defense, and the right to a jury trial; and (d) the petitioner's statements were made knowingly and voluntarily. Such findings shall be included in the order granting deferred prosecution. [2010 c 269 § 9; 2008 c 282 § 16; 2002 c 219 § 7; 1996 c 24 § 1; 1985 c 352 § 6; 1975 1st ex.s. c 244 § 2.]

**Effective date—2010 c 269:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Intent—Finding—2002 c 219:** See note following RCW 9A.42.037.

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

*Criminal history and driving record:* RCW 46.61.513.

**10.05.030 Arraignment continued—Treatment referral.** The arraigning judge upon consideration of the petition and with the concurrence of the prosecuting attorney may continue the arraignment and refer such person for a diagnostic investigation and evaluation to an approved alcoholism treatment program as designated in chapter 70.96A RCW, if the petition alleges an alcohol problem, an approved drug treatment center as designated in chapter 71.24 RCW, if the petition alleges a drug problem, to an approved mental health center, if the petition alleges a mental problem, or the department of social and health services if the petition is brought under RCW 10.05.020(2). [2002 c 219 § 8; 1999 c 143 § 42; 1975 1st ex.s. c 244 § 3.]

**Intent—Finding—2002 c 219:** See note following RCW 9A.42.037.

**10.05.040 Investigation and examination.** The \*facility to which such person is referred, or the department of social and health services if the petition is brought under RCW 10.05.020(2), shall conduct an investigation and examination to determine:

(1) Whether the person suffers from the problem described;



(2) Whether the problem is such that if not treated, or if no child welfare services are provided, there is a probability that similar misconduct will occur in the future;

(3) Whether extensive and long term treatment is required;

(4) Whether effective treatment or child welfare services for the person's problem are available; and

(5) Whether the person is amenable to treatment or willing to cooperate with child welfare services. [2002 c 219 § 9; 1985 c 352 § 7; 1975 1st ex.s. c 244 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Chapter 70.96A RCW was amended by 1990 c 151, changing "treatment facility" to "treatment program."

**Intent—Finding—2002 c 219:** See note following RCW 9A.42.037.

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

**10.05.050 Report to court—Recommended treatment plan—Commitment to provide treatment.** (1) The \*facility, or the department of social and health services if the petition is brought under RCW 10.05.020(2), shall make a written report to the court stating its findings and recommendations after the examination required by RCW 10.05.040. If its findings and recommendations support treatment or the implementation of a child welfare service plan, it shall also recommend a treatment or service plan setting out:

- (a) The type;
- (b) Nature;
- (c) Length;
- (d) A treatment or service time schedule; and
- (e) Approximate cost of the treatment or child welfare services.

(2) In the case of a child welfare service plan, the plan shall be designed in a manner so that a parent who successfully completes the plan will not be likely to withhold the basic necessities of life from his or her child.

(3) The report with the treatment or service plan shall be filed with the court and a copy given to the petitioner and petitioner's counsel. A copy of the treatment or service plan shall be given to the prosecutor by petitioner's counsel at the request of the prosecutor. The evaluation facility, or the department of social and health services if the petition is brought under RCW 10.05.020(2), making the written report shall append to the report a commitment by the \*treatment facility or the department of social and health services that it will provide the treatment or child welfare services in accordance with this chapter. The facility or the service provider shall agree to provide the court with a statement every three months for the first year and every six months for the second year regarding (a) the petitioner's cooperation with the treatment or child welfare service plan proposed and (b) the petitioner's progress or failure in treatment or child welfare services. These statements shall be made as a declaration by the person who is personally responsible for providing the treatment or services. [2002 c 219 § 10; 1985 c 352 § 8; 1975 1st ex.s. c 244 § 5.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Chapter 70.96A RCW was amended by 1990 c 151, changing "treatment facility" to "treatment program."

**Intent—Finding—2002 c 219:** See note following RCW 9A.42.037.

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

**10.05.055 Child welfare services.** Child welfare services provided under chapter 74.13 RCW pursuant to a deferred prosecution ordered under RCW 10.05.060 may not be construed to prohibit the department from providing services or undertaking proceedings pursuant to chapter 13.34 or 26.44 RCW. [2002 c 219 § 12.]

**Intent—Finding—2002 c 219:** See note following RCW 9A.42.037.

**10.05.060 Procedure upon approval of plan.** If the report recommends treatment, the court shall examine the treatment plan. If it approves the plan and the petitioner agrees to comply with its terms and conditions and agrees to pay the cost thereof, if able to do so, or arrange for the treatment, an entry shall be made upon the person's court docket showing that the person has been accepted for deferred prosecution. A copy of the treatment plan shall be filed with the court. If the charge be one that an abstract of the docket showing the charge, the date of the violation for which the charge was made, and the date of petitioner's acceptance is required to be sent to the department of licensing, an abstract shall be sent, and the department of licensing shall make an entry of the charge and of the petitioner's acceptance for deferred prosecution on the department's driving record of the petitioner. The entry is not a conviction for purposes of Title 46 RCW. Upon receipt of the abstract of the docket, the department shall issue the petitioner a probationary license in accordance with RCW 46.20.355, and the petitioner's driver's license shall be on probationary status for five years from the date of the violation that gave rise to the charge. The department shall maintain the record for ten years from date of entry of the order granting deferred prosecution. [2009 c 135 § 1; 1994 c 275 § 17; 1990 c 250 § 13; 1985 c 352 § 9; 1979 c 158 § 4; 1975 1st ex.s. c 244 § 6.]

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.05.070 Arraignment when treatment rejected.** When treatment is either not recommended or not approved by the judge, or the petitioner declines to accept the treatment plan, the petitioner shall be arraigned on the charge. [1985 c 352 § 10; 1975 1st ex.s. c 244 § 7.]

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

**10.05.080 Evidence, uses and admissibility.** If the petition is not approved or is withdrawn before approval, evidence pertaining to or resulting from the petition and/or investigation is inadmissible in any trial on the charges, but shall be available for use after a conviction in determining a sentence. [1985 c 352 § 11; 1975 1st ex.s. c 244 § 8.]

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

**10.05.090 Procedure upon breach of treatment plan.** If a petitioner, who has been accepted for a deferred prosecution, fails or neglects to carry out and fulfill any term or condition of the petitioner's treatment plan or any term or condition imposed in connection with the installation of an interlock or other device under RCW 46.20.720, the facility, center, institution, or agency administering the treatment or

the entity administering the use of the device, shall immediately report such breach to the court, the prosecutor, and the petitioner or petitioner's attorney of record, together with its recommendation. The court upon receiving such a report shall hold a hearing to determine whether the petitioner should be removed from the deferred prosecution program. At the hearing, evidence shall be taken of the petitioner's alleged failure to comply with the treatment plan or device installation and the petitioner shall have the right to present evidence on his or her own behalf. The court shall either order that the petitioner continue on the treatment plan or be removed from deferred prosecution. If removed from deferred prosecution, the court shall enter judgment pursuant to RCW 10.05.020 and, if the charge for which the deferred prosecution was granted was a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor under Title 46 RCW, shall notify the department of licensing of the removal and entry of judgment. [2010 c 269 § 10; 2008 c 282 § 17; 1997 c 229 § 1; 1994 c 275 § 18; 1985 c 352 § 12; 1975 1st ex.s. c 244 § 9.]

**Effective date—2010 c 269:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.05.100 Conviction of similar offense.** If a petitioner is subsequently convicted of a similar offense that was committed while the petitioner was in a deferred prosecution program, upon notice the court shall remove the petitioner's docket from the deferred prosecution file and the court shall enter judgment pursuant to RCW 10.05.020. [1998 c 208 § 2; 1985 c 352 § 13; 1975 1st ex.s. c 244 § 10.]

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.05.110 Trial delay not grounds for dismissal.** Delay in bringing a case to trial caused by a petitioner requesting deferred prosecution as provided for in this chapter shall not be grounds for dismissal. [1985 c 352 § 14; 1975 1st ex.s. c 244 § 11.]

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

**10.05.120 Dismissal of charges.** (1) Three years after receiving proof of successful completion of the two-year treatment program, and following proof to the court that the petitioner has complied with the conditions imposed by the court following successful completion of the two-year treatment program, but not before five years following entry of the order of deferred prosecution pursuant to a petition brought under RCW 10.05.020(1), the court shall dismiss the charges pending against the petitioner.

(2) When a deferred prosecution is ordered pursuant to a petition brought under RCW 10.05.020(2) and the court has received proof that the petitioner has successfully completed the child welfare service plan, or the plan has been terminated because the alleged victim has reached his or her majority and there are no other minor children in the home, the court shall dismiss the charges pending against the petitioner: PROVIDED, That in any case where the petitioner's parental rights have been terminated with regard to the alleged victim

due to abuse or neglect that occurred during the pendency of the deferred prosecution, the termination shall be per se evidence that the petitioner did not successfully complete the child welfare service plan. [2003 c 220 § 1; 2002 c 219 § 14; 1998 c 208 § 3; 1994 c 275 § 19; 1985 c 352 § 15; 1983 c 165 § 45; 1975 1st ex.s. c 244 § 12.]

**Intent—Finding—2002 c 219:** See note following RCW 9A.42.037.

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.05.130 Services provided for indigent defendants.** Funds shall be appropriated from the fines and forfeitures of the court to provide investigation, examination, report and treatment plan for any indigent person who is unable to pay the cost of any program of treatment. [1975 1st ex.s. c 244 § 13.]

**10.05.140 Conditions of granting.** As a condition of granting a deferred prosecution petition, the court shall order that the petitioner shall not operate a motor vehicle upon the public highways without a valid operator's license and proof of liability insurance. The amount of liability insurance shall be established by the court at not less than that established by RCW 46.29.490. As a condition of granting a deferred prosecution petition on any alcohol-dependency based case, the court shall also order the installation of an ignition interlock under RCW 46.20.720. The required periods of use of the interlock shall be not less than the periods provided for in RCW 46.20.720(3) (a), (b), and (c). As a condition of granting a deferred prosecution petition, the court may order the petitioner to make restitution and to pay costs as defined in RCW 10.01.160. To help ensure continued sobriety and reduce the likelihood of reoffense, the court may order reasonable conditions during the period of the deferred prosecution including, but not limited to, attendance at self-help recovery support groups for alcoholism or drugs, complete abstinence from alcohol and all nonprescribed mind-altering drugs, periodic urinalysis or breath analysis, and maintaining law-abiding behavior. The court may terminate the deferred prosecution program upon violation of the deferred prosecution order. [2011 c 293 § 8; 2004 c 95 § 1; 2003 c 220 § 2; 1999 c 331 § 4; 1997 c 229 § 2; 1991 c 247 § 1; 1985 c 352 § 16.]

**Effective date—2011 c 293 §§ 1-9:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.05.150 Alcoholism program requirements.** A deferred prosecution program for alcoholism shall be for a two-year period and shall include, but not be limited to, the following requirements:

(1) Total abstinence from alcohol and all other nonprescribed mind-altering drugs;

(2) Participation in an intensive inpatient or intensive outpatient program in a state-approved alcoholism treatment program;

(3) Participation in a minimum of two meetings per week of an alcoholism self-help recovery support group, as determined by the assessing agency, for the duration of the treatment program;

(4) Participation in an alcoholism self-help recovery support group, as determined by the assessing agency, from the date of court approval of the plan to entry into intensive treatment;

(5) Not less than weekly approved outpatient counseling, group or individual, for a minimum of six months following the intensive phase of treatment;

(6) Not less than monthly outpatient contact, group or individual, for the remainder of the two-year deferred prosecution period;

(7) The decision to include the use of prescribed drugs, including disulfiram, as a condition of treatment shall be reserved to the treating facility and the petitioner's physician;

(8) All treatment within the purview of this section shall occur within or be approved by a state-approved alcoholism treatment program as described in chapter 70.96A RCW;

(9) Signature of the petitioner agreeing to the terms and conditions of the treatment program. [1999 c 143 § 43; 1985 c 352 § 17.]

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

**10.05.160 Appeal of deferred prosecution order.** The prosecutor may appeal an order granting deferred prosecution on any or all of the following grounds:

(1) Prior deferred prosecution has been granted to the defendant;

(2) Failure of the court to obtain proof of insurance or a treatment plan conforming to the requirements of this chapter;

(3) Failure of the court to comply with the requirements of RCW 10.05.100;

(4) Failure of the evaluation facility to provide the information required in RCW 10.05.040 and 10.05.050, if the defendant has been referred to the facility for treatment. If an appeal on such basis is successful, the trial court may consider the use of another treatment program;

(5) Failure of the court to order the installation of an ignition interlock or other device under RCW 10.05.140. [2010 c 269 § 11; 2008 c 282 § 19; 1999 c 143 § 44; 1998 c 208 § 4; 1985 c 352 § 18.]

**Effective date—2010 c 269:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.05.170 Supervision as condition—Levy of assessment.** As a condition of granting deferred prosecution, the court may order supervision of the petitioner during the period of deferral and may levy a monthly assessment upon the petitioner as provided in RCW 10.64.120. In a jurisdiction with a probation department, the court may appoint the probation department to supervise the petitioner. In a jurisdiction without a probation department, the court may appoint an appropriate person or agency to supervise the petitioner. A supervisor appointed under this section shall be required to do at least the following:

(1) If the charge for which deferral is granted relates to operation of a motor vehicle, at least once every six months request from the department of licensing an abstract of the petitioner's driving record; and

(2) At least once every month make contact with the petitioner or with any agency to which the petitioner has been directed for treatment as a part of the deferral. [1991 c 247 § 2; 1985 c 352 § 19.]

**Legislative finding—Severability—1985 c 352:** See notes following RCW 10.05.010.

## Chapter 10.10 RCW

### CRIMINAL APPEALS FROM DISTRICT COURTS

#### Sections

10.10.010 Court rules.  
10.10.060 Appeal—Costs—Default.

**Rules of court:** *Rules for Appeal of Decisions of Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (RALJ).*

**10.10.010 Court rules.** Every person convicted before a district judge of any offense may appeal from the judgment as provided by court rules. [1987 c 202 § 156; 1891 c 29 § 6, part; RRS § 1919, part. Prior: Code 1881 § 1898, part; 1877 p 203 § 7, part; 1873 p 384 § 196, part; 1854 p 261 § 177. Formerly RCW 10.10.010, 10.10.020, and 10.10.030.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**10.10.060 Appeal—Costs—Default.** The appellant in a criminal action shall not be required to advance any fees in claiming his or her appeal nor in prosecuting the same; but if convicted in the appellate court, or if sentenced for failing to prosecute his or her appeal, he or she may be required as a part of the sentence to pay the costs of the prosecution. If the appellant shall fail to enter and prosecute his or her appeal he or she shall be defaulted of his or her recognizance, if any was taken, and the superior court may award sentence against him or her for the offense whereof he or she was convicted in like manner as if he or she had been convicted thereof in that court; and if he or she be not then in custody process may be issued to bring him or her into court to receive sentence. [2010 c 8 § 1008; 1891 c 29 § 7; RRS § 1920. Prior: Code 1881 § 1900; 1873 p 384 § 198, part; 1854 p 261 § 179. Formerly RCW 10.10.060 and 10.10.080.]

## Chapter 10.14 RCW

### HARASSMENT

#### Sections

10.14.010 Legislative finding, intent.  
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10.14.900	Severability—1987 c 280.

**10.14.010 Legislative finding, intent.** The legislature finds that serious, personal harassment through repeated invasions of a person's privacy by acts and words showing a pattern of harassment designed to coerce, intimidate, or humiliate the victim is increasing. The legislature further finds that the prevention of such harassment is an important governmental objective. This chapter is intended to provide victims with a speedy and inexpensive method of obtaining civil antiharassment protection orders preventing all further unwanted contact between the victim and the perpetrator. [1987 c 280 § 1.]

**10.14.020 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Course of conduct" means a pattern of conduct composed of a series of acts over a period of time, however short, evidencing a continuity of purpose. "Course of conduct" includes, in addition to any other form of communication, contact, or conduct, the sending of an electronic communication, but does not include constitutionally protected free speech. Constitutionally protected activity is not included within the meaning of "course of conduct."

(2) "Unlawful harassment" means a knowing and willful course of conduct directed at a specific person which seriously alarms, annoys, harasses, or is detrimental to such person, and which serves no legitimate or lawful purpose. The course of conduct shall be such as would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress, and shall actually cause substantial emotional distress to the petitioner, or, when the course of conduct would cause a reasonable parent to fear for the well-being of their child. [2011 c 307 § 2; 2001 c 260 § 2; 1999 c 27 § 4; 1995 c 127 § 1; 1987 c 280 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Findings—Intent—2001 c 260:** "The legislature finds that unlawful harassment directed at a child by a person under the age of eighteen is not acceptable and can have serious consequences. The legislature further finds that some interactions between minors, such as "schoolyard scuffles," though not to be condoned, may not rise to the level of unlawful harassment. It is the intent of the legislature that a protection order sought by the parent or guardian of a child as provided for in this chapter be available only when the alleged behavior of the person under the age of eighteen to be restrained rises to the level set forth in chapter 10.14 RCW." [2001 c 260 § 1.]

**Intent—1999 c 27:** See note following RCW 9A.46.020.

**10.14.030 Course of conduct—Determination of purpose.** In determining whether the course of conduct serves any legitimate or lawful purpose, the court should consider whether:

- (1) Any current contact between the parties was initiated by the respondent only or was initiated by both parties;
- (2) The respondent has been given clear notice that all further contact with the petitioner is unwanted;
- (3) The respondent's course of conduct appears designed to alarm, annoy, or harass the petitioner;
- (4) The respondent is acting pursuant to any statutory authority, including but not limited to acts which are reasonably necessary to:
  - (a) Protect property or liberty interests;
  - (b) Enforce the law; or
  - (c) Meet specific statutory duties or requirements;
- (5) The respondent's course of conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the petitioner's privacy or the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive living environment for the petitioner;
- (6) Contact by the respondent with the petitioner or the petitioner's family has been limited in any manner by any previous court order. [1987 c 280 § 3.]

**10.14.040 Protection order—Petition.** There shall exist an action known as a petition for an order for protection in cases of unlawful harassment.

(1) A petition for relief shall allege the existence of harassment and shall be accompanied by an affidavit made under oath stating the specific facts and circumstances from which relief is sought.

(2) A petition for relief may be made regardless of whether or not there is a pending lawsuit, complaint, petition, or other action between the parties.

(3) All court clerks' offices shall make available simplified forms and instructional brochures. Any assistance or information provided by clerks under this section does not constitute the practice of law and clerks are not responsible for incorrect information contained in a petition.

(4) Filing fees are set in RCW 36.18.020, but no filing fee may be charged for a petition filed in an existing action or under an existing cause number brought under this chapter in the jurisdiction where the relief is sought or as provided in RCW 10.14.055. Forms and instructional brochures shall be provided free of charge.

(5) A person is not required to post a bond to obtain relief in any proceeding under this section.

(6) The parent or guardian of a child under age eighteen may petition for an order of protection to restrain a person age eighteen years or over from contact with that child upon a showing that contact with the person to be enjoined is detrimental to the welfare of the child.

(7) The parent or guardian of a child under the age of eighteen may petition in superior court for an order of protection to restrain a person under the age of eighteen years from contact with that child only in cases where the person to be restrained has been adjudicated of an offense against the child protected by the order, or is under investigation or has been investigated for such an offense. In issuing a protection order under this subsection, the court shall consider, among the other facts of the case, the severity of the alleged offense, any continuing physical danger or emotional distress to the alleged victim, and the expense, difficulty, and educational disruption that would be caused by a transfer of the alleged offender to another school. The court may order that the per-

son restrained in the order not attend the public or approved private elementary, middle, or high school attended by the person under the age of eighteen years protected by the order. In the event that the court orders a transfer of the restrained person to another school, the parents or legal guardians of the person restrained in the order are responsible for transportation and other costs associated with the change of school by the person restrained in the order. The court shall send notice of the restriction on attending the same school as the person protected by the order to the public or approved private school the person restrained by the order will attend and to the school the person protected by the order attends. [2002 c 117 § 1; 2001 c 260 § 3. Prior: 1995 c 292 § 2; 1995 c 127 § 2; 1987 c 280 § 4.]

**Findings—Intent—2001 c 260:** See note following RCW 10.14.020.

**10.14.050 Administrator for courts—Forms, information.** The administrator for the courts shall develop and prepare, in consultation with interested persons, model forms and instructional brochures required under RCW 10.14.040(3). [1987 c 280 § 5.]

**10.14.055 Fees excused, when.** No fees for filing or service of process may be charged by a public agency to petitioners seeking relief under this chapter from a person who has stalked them as that term is defined in RCW 9A.46.110, or from a person who has engaged in conduct that would constitute a sex offense as defined in \*RCW 9A.44.130, or from a person who is a family or household member as defined in RCW 26.50.010(2) who has engaged in conduct that would constitute domestic violence as defined in RCW 26.50.010(1). [2002 c 117 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9A.44.130 was amended by 2010 c 267 § 2, removing the definition of "sex offense" and "kidnapping offense." Those terms are now defined in RCW 9A.44.128.

**10.14.060 Proceeding in forma pauperis.** Persons seeking relief under this chapter may file an application for leave to proceed in forma pauperis on forms supplied by the court. If the court determines that a petitioner lacks the funds to pay the costs of filing, the petitioner shall be granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis and no filing fee or any other court related fees shall be charged by the court to the petitioner for relief sought under this chapter. If the petitioner is granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis, then no fees for service may be charged to the petitioner. [1987 c 280 § 6.]

**10.14.065 Orders—Judicial information system to be consulted.** Before granting an order under this chapter, the court may consult the judicial information system, if available, to determine criminal history or the pendency of other proceedings involving the parties. [2011 c 307 § 6.]

**10.14.070 Hearing—Service.** Upon receipt of the petition alleging a prima facie case of harassment, other than a petition alleging a sex offense as defined in chapter 9A.44 RCW, the court shall order a hearing which shall be held not later than fourteen days from the date of the order. If the petition alleges a sex offense as defined in chapter 9A.44 RCW, the court shall order a hearing which shall be held not later than fourteen days from the date of the order. Except as pro-

vided in RCW 10.14.085, personal service shall be made upon the respondent not less than five court days before the hearing. If timely personal service cannot be made, the court shall set a new hearing date and shall either require additional attempts at obtaining personal service or permit service by publication as provided by RCW 10.14.085. If the court permits service by publication, the court shall set the hearing date not later than twenty-four days from the date of the order. The court may issue an ex parte order for protection pending the hearing as provided in RCW 10.14.080 and 10.14.085. [2005 c 144 § 1; 1992 c 143 § 10; 1987 c 280 § 7.]

**10.14.080 Antiharassment protection orders—Ex parte temporary—Hearing—Longer term, renewal—Acts not prohibited.** (1) Upon filing a petition for a civil antiharassment protection order under this chapter, the petitioner may obtain an ex parte temporary antiharassment protection order. An ex parte temporary antiharassment protection order may be granted with or without notice upon the filing of an affidavit which, to the satisfaction of the court, shows reasonable proof of unlawful harassment of the petitioner by the respondent and that great or irreparable harm will result to the petitioner if the temporary antiharassment protection order is not granted.

(2) An ex parte temporary antiharassment protection order shall be effective for a fixed period not to exceed fourteen days or twenty-four days if the court has permitted service by publication under RCW 10.14.085. The ex parte order may be reissued. A full hearing, as provided in this chapter, shall be set for not later than fourteen days from the issuance of the temporary order or not later than twenty-four days if service by publication is permitted. Except as provided in RCW 10.14.070 and 10.14.085, the respondent shall be personally served with a copy of the ex parte order along with a copy of the petition and notice of the date set for the hearing. The ex parte order and notice of hearing shall include at a minimum the date and time of the hearing set by the court to determine if the temporary order should be made effective for one year or more, and notice that if the respondent should fail to appear or otherwise not respond, an order for protection will be issued against the respondent pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, for a minimum of one year from the date of the hearing. The notice shall also include a brief statement of the provisions of the ex parte order and notify the respondent that a copy of the ex parte order and notice of hearing has been filed with the clerk of the court.

(3) At the hearing, if the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that unlawful harassment exists, a civil antiharassment protection order shall issue prohibiting such unlawful harassment.

(4) An order issued under this chapter shall be effective for not more than one year unless the court finds that the respondent is likely to resume unlawful harassment of the petitioner when the order expires. If so, the court may enter an order for a fixed time exceeding one year or may enter a permanent antiharassment protection order. The court shall not enter an order that is effective for more than one year if the order restrains the respondent from contacting the respondent's minor children. This limitation is not applicable to civil antiharassment protection orders issued under chapter 26.09, 26.10, or 26.26 RCW. If the petitioner seeks relief for

a period longer than one year on behalf of the respondent's minor children, the court shall advise the petitioner that the petitioner may apply for renewal of the order as provided in this chapter or if appropriate may seek relief pursuant to chapter 26.09 or 26.10 RCW.

(5) At any time within the three months before the expiration of the order, the petitioner may apply for a renewal of the order by filing a petition for renewal. The petition for renewal shall state the reasons why the petitioner seeks to renew the protection order. Upon receipt of the petition for renewal, the court shall order a hearing which shall be not later than fourteen days from the date of the order. Except as provided in RCW 10.14.085, personal service shall be made upon the respondent not less than five days before the hearing. If timely service cannot be made the court shall set a new hearing date and shall either require additional attempts at obtaining personal service or permit service by publication as provided by RCW 10.14.085. If the court permits service by publication, the court shall set the new hearing date not later than twenty-four days from the date of the order. If the order expires because timely service cannot be made the court shall grant an ex parte order of protection as provided in this section. The court shall grant the petition for renewal unless the respondent proves by a preponderance of the evidence that the respondent will not resume harassment of the petitioner when the order expires. The court may renew the protection order for another fixed time period or may enter a permanent order as provided in subsection (4) of this section.

(6) The court, in granting an ex parte temporary anti-harassment protection order or a civil anti-harassment protection order, shall have broad discretion to grant such relief as the court deems proper, including an order:

- (a) Restraining the respondent from making any attempts to contact the petitioner;
- (b) Restraining the respondent from making any attempts to keep the petitioner under surveillance;
- (c) Requiring the respondent to stay a stated distance from the petitioner's residence and workplace; and
- (d) Considering the provisions of RCW 9.41.800.

(7) The court in granting an ex parte temporary anti-harassment protection order or a civil anti-harassment protection order, shall not prohibit the respondent from exercising constitutionally protected free speech. Nothing in this section prohibits the petitioner from utilizing other civil or criminal remedies to restrain conduct or communications not otherwise constitutionally protected.

(8) The court in granting an ex parte temporary anti-harassment protection order or a civil anti-harassment protection order, shall not prohibit the respondent from the use or enjoyment of real property to which the respondent has a cognizable claim unless that order is issued under chapter 26.09 RCW or under a separate action commenced with a summons and complaint to determine title or possession of real property.

(9) The court in granting an ex parte temporary anti-harassment protection order or a civil anti-harassment protection order, shall not limit the respondent's right to care, control, or custody of the respondent's minor child, unless that order is issued under chapter 13.32A, 26.09, 26.10, or 26.26 RCW.

(10) A petitioner may not obtain an ex parte temporary anti-harassment protection order against a respondent if the

petitioner has previously obtained two such ex parte orders against the same respondent but has failed to obtain the issuance of a civil anti-harassment protection order unless good cause for such failure can be shown.

(11) The court order shall specify the date an order issued pursuant to subsections (4) and (5) of this section expires if any. The court order shall also state whether the court issued the protection order following personal service or service by publication and whether the court has approved service by publication of an order issued under this section. [2011 c 307 § 3; 2001 c 311 § 1; 1995 c 246 § 36; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 448; 1992 c 143 § 11; 1987 c 280 § 8.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.14.085 Hearing reset after ex parte order—Service by publication—Circumstances.** (1) If the respondent was not personally served with the petition, notice of hearing, and ex parte order before the hearing, the court shall reset the hearing for twenty-four days from the date of entry of the order and may order service by publication instead of personal service under the following circumstances:

(a) The sheriff or municipal officer files an affidavit stating that the officer was unable to complete personal service upon the respondent. The affidavit must describe the number and types of attempts the officer made to complete service;

(b) The petitioner files an affidavit stating that the petitioner believes that the respondent is hiding from the server to avoid service. The petitioner's affidavit must state the reasons for the belief that the petitioner [respondent] is avoiding service;

(c) The server has deposited a copy of the summons, in substantially the form prescribed in subsection (3) of this section, notice of hearing, and the ex parte order of protection in the post office, directed to the respondent at the respondent's last known address, unless the server states that the server does not know the respondent's address; and

(d) The court finds reasonable grounds exist to believe that the respondent is concealing himself or herself to avoid service, and that further attempts to personally serve the respondent would be futile or unduly burdensome.

(2) The court shall reissue the temporary order of protection not to exceed another twenty-four days from the date of reissuing the ex parte protection order and order to provide service by publication.

(3) The publication shall be made in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the petition was brought and in the county of the last known address of the respondent once a week for three consecutive weeks. The newspaper selected must be one of the three most widely circulated papers in the county. The publication of summons shall not be made until the court orders service by publication under this section. Service of the summons shall be considered complete when the publication has been made for three consecutive weeks. The summons must be signed by the petitioner. The summons shall contain the date of the first publication, and shall require the respondent upon whom service by publication is desired, to appear and answer the petition on the date set for the hearing. The summons shall also contain a brief statement of the reason for the petition and a summary

of the provisions under the ex parte order. The summons shall be essentially in the following form:

In the . . . . . court of the state of Washington for the county of . . . . .  
. . . . ., Petitioner  
vs. No. . . . .  
. . . . ., Respondent

The state of Washington to . . . . . (respondent):

You are hereby summoned to appear on the . . . . day of . . . . ., 19 . . . ., at . . . . a.m./p.m., and respond to the petition. If you fail to respond, an order of protection will be issued against you pursuant to the provisions of chapter 10.14 RCW, for a minimum of one year from the date you are required to appear. A temporary order of protection has been issued against you, restraining you from the following: (Insert a brief statement of the provisions of the ex parte order). A copy of the petition, notice of hearing, and ex parte order has been filed with the clerk of this court.

Petitioner

[1992 c 143 § 12.]

**10.14.090 Representation or appearance.** (1) Nothing in this chapter shall preclude either party from representation by private counsel or from appearing on his or her own behalf.

(2) The court may require the respondent to pay the filing fee and court costs, including service fees, and to reimburse the petitioner for costs incurred in bringing the action, including a reasonable attorney’s fee. If the petitioner has been granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis, the court may require the respondent to pay the filing fee and costs, including services fees, to the county or municipality incurring the expense. [1992 c 143 § 14; 1987 c 280 § 9.]

**10.14.100 Service of order.** (1) An order issued under this chapter shall be personally served upon the respondent, except as provided in subsections (5) and (7) of this section.

(2) The sheriff of the county or the peace officers of the municipality in which the respondent resides shall serve the respondent personally unless the petitioner elects to have the respondent served by a private party.

(3) If the sheriff or municipal peace officer cannot complete service upon the respondent within ten days, the sheriff or municipal peace officer shall notify the petitioner.

(4) Returns of service under this chapter shall be made in accordance with the applicable court rules.

(5) If an order entered by the court recites that the respondent appeared in person before the court, the necessity for further service is waived and proof of service of that order is not necessary. The court’s order, entered after a hearing, need not be served on a respondent who fails to appear before the court, if material terms of the order have not changed from those contained in the temporary order, and it is shown to the court’s satisfaction that the respondent has previously been personally served with the temporary order.

(6) Except in cases where the petitioner has fees waived under RCW 10.14.055 or is granted leave to proceed in forma

pauperis, municipal police departments serving documents as required under this chapter may collect the same fees for service and mileage authorized by RCW 36.18.040 to be collected by sheriffs.

(7) If the court previously entered an order allowing service by publication of the notice of hearing and temporary order of protection pursuant to RCW 10.14.085, the court may permit service by publication of the order of protection issued under RCW 10.14.080. Service by publication must comply with the requirements of RCW 10.14.085. [2002 c 117 § 3; 2001 c 311 § 2; 1992 c 143 § 15; 1987 c 280 § 10.]

**10.14.105 Order following service by publication.**

Following completion of service by publication as provided in RCW 10.14.085, if the respondent fails to appear at the hearing, the court may issue an order of protection as provided in RCW 10.14.080. That order must be served pursuant to RCW 10.14.100, and forwarded to the appropriate law enforcement agency pursuant to RCW 10.14.110. [1992 c 143 § 13.]

**10.14.110 Notice to law enforcement agencies—Enforceability.**

(1) A copy of an antiharassment protection order granted under this chapter shall be forwarded by the clerk of the court on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order.

Upon receipt of the order, the law enforcement agency shall forthwith enter the order into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. The law enforcement agency shall expunge expired orders from the computer system. Entry into the law enforcement information system constitutes notice to all law enforcement agencies of the existence of the order. The order is fully enforceable in any county in the state.

(2) The information entered into the computer-based system shall include notice to law enforcement whether the order was personally served or served by publication. [1992 c 143 § 16; 1987 c 280 § 11.]

**10.14.115 Enforcement of order—Knowledge prerequisite to penalties—Reasonable efforts to serve copy of order.**

(1) When the court issues an order of protection pursuant to RCW 10.14.080, the court shall advise the petitioner that the respondent may not be subjected to the penalties set forth in RCW 10.14.120 and 10.14.170 for a violation of the order unless the respondent knows of the order.

(2) When a peace officer investigates a report of an alleged violation of an order for protection issued under this chapter the officer shall attempt to determine whether the respondent knew of the existence of the protection order. If the officer determines that the respondent did not or probably did not know about the protection order, the officer shall make reasonable efforts to obtain a copy of the protection order and serve it on the respondent during the investigation. [1992 c 143 § 17.]

**10.14.120 Disobedience of order—Penalties.**

Any willful disobedience by a respondent age eighteen years or over of any temporary antiharassment protection order or civil antiharassment protection order issued under this chap-

ter subjects the respondent to criminal penalties under this chapter. Any respondent age eighteen years or over who willfully disobeys the terms of any order issued under this chapter may also, in the court's discretion, be found in contempt of court and subject to penalties under chapter 7.21 RCW. Any respondent under the age of eighteen years who willfully disobeys the terms of an order issued under this chapter may, in the court's discretion, be found in contempt of court and subject to the sanction specified in RCW 7.21.030(4). [2001 c 260 § 4; 1989 c 373 § 14; 1987 c 280 § 12.]

**Findings—Intent—2001 c 260:** See note following RCW 10.14.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.14.125 Service by publication—Costs.** The court may permit service by publication under this chapter only if the petitioner pays the cost of publication or if the petitioner's costs have been waived pursuant to RCW 10.14.055, unless the county legislative authority allocates funds for service of process by publication for petitioners who are granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis. [2002 c 117 § 4; 1992 c 143 § 18.]

**10.14.130 Exclusion of certain actions.** Protection orders authorized under this chapter shall not be issued for any action specifically covered by chapter 7.90, 10.99, or 26.50 RCW. [2006 c 138 § 22; 1987 c 280 § 13.]

**Short title—2006 c 138:** See RCW 7.90.900.

**10.14.140 Other remedies.** Nothing in this chapter shall preclude a petitioner's right to utilize other existing civil remedies. [1987 c 280 § 14.]

**10.14.150 Jurisdiction.** (1) The district courts shall have original jurisdiction and cognizance of any civil actions and proceedings brought under this chapter, except the district court shall transfer such actions and proceedings to the superior court when it is shown that (a) the respondent to the petition is under eighteen years of age; (b) the action involves title or possession of real property; (c) a superior court has exercised or is exercising jurisdiction over a proceeding involving the parties; or (d) the action would have the effect of interfering with a respondent's care, control, or custody of the respondent's minor child.

(2) Municipal courts may exercise jurisdiction and cognizance of any civil actions and proceedings brought under this chapter by adoption of local court rule, except the municipal court shall transfer such actions and proceedings to the superior court when it is shown that (a) the respondent to the petition is under eighteen years of age; (b) the action involves title or possession of real property; (c) a superior court has exercised or is exercising jurisdiction over a proceeding involving the parties; or (d) the action would have the effect of interfering with a respondent's care, control, or custody of the respondent's minor child.

(3) Superior courts shall have concurrent jurisdiction to receive transfer of antiharassment petitions in cases where a district or municipal court judge makes findings of fact and conclusions of law showing that meritorious reasons exist for the transfer. The municipal and district courts shall have jurisdiction and cognizance of any criminal actions brought

under RCW 10.14.120 and 10.14.170. [2011 c 307 § 1; 2005 c 196 § 1; 1999 c 170 § 1; 1991 c 33 § 2; 1987 c 280 § 15.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.14.155 Personal jurisdiction—Nonresident individual.** (1) In a proceeding in which a petition for an order for protection under this chapter is sought, a court of this state may exercise personal jurisdiction over a nonresident individual if:

(a) The individual is personally served with a petition within this state;

(b) The individual submits to the jurisdiction of this state by consent, entering a general appearance, or filing a responsive document having the effect of waiving any objection to consent to personal jurisdiction;

(c) The act or acts of the individual or the individual's agent giving rise to the petition or enforcement of an order for protection occurred within this state;

(d)(i) The act or acts of the individual or the individual's agent giving rise to the petition or enforcement of an order for protection occurred outside this state and are part of an ongoing pattern of harassment that has an adverse effect on the petitioner or a member of the petitioner's family or household and the petitioner resides in this state; or

(ii) As a result of acts of harassment, the petitioner or a member of the petitioner's family or household has sought safety or protection in this state and currently resides in this state; or

(e) There is any other basis consistent with RCW 4.28.185 or with the constitutions of this state and the United States.

(2) For jurisdiction to be exercised under subsection (1)(d)(i) or (ii) of this section, the individual must have communicated with the petitioner or a member of the petitioner's family, directly or indirectly, or made known a threat to the safety of the petitioner or member of the petitioner's family while the petitioner or family member resides in this state. For the purposes of subsection (1)(d)(i) or (ii) of this section, "communicated or made known" includes, but is not limited to, through the mail, telephonically, or a posting on an electronic communication site or medium. Communication on any electronic medium that is generally available to any individual residing in the state shall be sufficient to exercise jurisdiction under subsection (1)(d)(i) or (ii) of this section.

(3) For the purposes of this section, an act or acts that "occurred within this state" includes, but is not limited to, an oral or written statement made or published by a person outside of this state to any person in this state by means of the mail, interstate commerce, or foreign commerce. Oral or written statements sent by electronic mail or the internet are deemed to have "occurred within this state." [2010 c 274 § 308.]

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**10.14.160 Where action may be brought.** For the purposes of this chapter an action may be brought in:

(1) The judicial district of the county in which the alleged acts of unlawful harassment occurred;

(2) The judicial district of the county where any respondent resides at the time the petition is filed;



(3) The judicial district of the county where a respondent may be served if it is the same county or judicial district where a respondent resides;

(4) The municipality in which the alleged acts of unlawful harassment occurred;

(5) The municipality where any respondent resides at the time the petition is filed; or

(6) The municipality where a respondent may be served if it is the same county or judicial district where a respondent resides. [2005 c 196 § 2; 1992 c 127 § 1; 1987 c 280 § 16.]

**10.14.170 Criminal penalty.** Any respondent age eighteen years or over who willfully disobeys any civil anti-harassment protection order issued pursuant to this chapter shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2001 c 260 § 5; 1987 c 280 § 17.]

**Findings—Intent—2001 c 260:** See note following RCW 10.14.020.

**10.14.180 Modification of order.** Upon application with notice to all parties and after a hearing, the court may modify the terms of an existing order under this chapter. In any situation where an order is terminated or modified before its expiration date, the clerk of the court shall forward on or before the next judicial day a true copy of the modified order or the termination order to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the modified order or termination order. Upon receipt of the order, the law enforcement agency shall promptly enter it in the law enforcement information system. [1987 c 280 § 18.]

**10.14.190 Constitutional rights.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to infringe upon any constitutionally protected rights including, but not limited to, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly. [1987 c 280 § 19.]

**10.14.200 Availability of orders in family law proceedings.** Any order available under this chapter may be issued in actions under chapter 13.32A, 26.09, 26.10, or 26.26 RCW. An order available under this chapter that is issued under those chapters shall be fully enforceable and shall be enforced pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. [1999 c 397 § 4; 1995 c 246 § 35.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.14.210 Court appearance after violation.** (1) A defendant arrested for violating any civil anti-harassment protection order issued pursuant to this chapter is required to appear in person before a magistrate within one judicial day after the arrest. At the time of the appearance, the court shall determine the necessity of imposing a no-contact order or other conditions of pretrial release in accordance with RCW 9A.46.050.

(2) A defendant who is charged by citation, complaint, or information with violating any civil anti-harassment protection order issued pursuant to this chapter and not arrested shall appear in court for arraignment in accordance with RCW 9A.46.050.

(3) Appearances required pursuant to this section are mandatory and cannot be waived. [2012 c 223 § 4.]

**10.14.900 Severability—1987 c 280.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1987 c 280 § 22.]

## Chapter 10.16 RCW PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

### Sections

10.16.080	Discharge of defendant—F frivolous complaints.
10.16.100	Abstract of costs forwarded with transcript.
10.16.110	Statement of prosecuting attorney if no information filed—Court action.
10.16.145	Witnesses—Recognizances with sureties.
10.16.150	Recognizances for minors.
10.16.160	Witnesses—Failure to furnish recognizance—Commitment—Deposition—Discharge.

*Magistrates:* Chapter 2.20 RCW.

*Municipal judges as magistrates:* RCW 35.20.020, 35.20.250.

**10.16.080 Discharge of defendant—F frivolous complaints.** If it should appear upon the whole examination that no offense has been committed, or that there is not probable cause for charging the defendant with an offense, he or she shall be discharged, and if in the opinion of the magistrate, the complaint was malicious, or without probable cause, and there was no reasonable ground therefor, the costs shall be taxed against the party making the complaint. [2010 c 8 § 1009; Code 1881 § 1925; 1873 p 395 § 223; 1854 p 107 § 31; RRS § 1954.]

**10.16.100 Abstract of costs forwarded with transcript.** In all cases where any magistrate shall order a defendant to recognize for his or her appearance before a district or superior court, the magistrate shall forward with the papers in the case, an abstract of the costs that have accrued in the case, and such costs shall be subject to the final determination of the case. [1987 c 202 § 163; Code 1881 § 1937; 1873 p 397 § 236; 1854 p 109 § 44; RRS § 1966.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**10.16.110 Statement of prosecuting attorney if no information filed—Court action.** It shall be the duty of the prosecuting attorney of the proper county to inquire into and make full examination of all the facts and circumstances connected with any case of preliminary examination, as provided by law, touching the commission of any offense wherein the offender shall be committed to jail, or become recognized or held to bail; and if the prosecuting attorney shall determine in any such case that an information ought not to be filed, he or she shall make, subscribe, and file with the clerk of the court a statement in writing containing his or her reasons, in fact and in law, for not filing an information in such case, and such statement shall be filed at and during the session of court at which the offender shall be held for his or her appearance: PROVIDED, That in such case such court may examine such statement, together with the evidence filed in the case, and if upon such examination the court shall not be satisfied with such statement, the prosecuting attorney shall be directed by the court to file the proper information and bring the case to trial. [2010 c 8 § 1010; 1890 p 102 § 6; RRS § 2053. Formerly RCW 10.16.110 and 10.16.120.]

**10.16.145 Witnesses—Recognizances with sureties.**

If the magistrate shall be satisfied that there is good cause to believe that any such witness will not perform the condition of his or her recognizance unless other security be given, such magistrate may order the witness to enter into recognizance with such sureties as may be deemed necessary for his or her appearance at court. [2010 c 8 § 1011; Code 1881 § 1930; 1873 p 396 § 229; 1854 p 108 § 37; RRS § 1960. Formerly codified in RCW 10.16.140, part.]

**Rules of court:** *This section probably superseded by CrR 6.13. See comment after CrR 6.13.*

**10.16.150 Recognizances for minors.** When any minor is a material witness, any other person may be allowed to recognize for the appearance of such witness, or the magistrate may, in his or her discretion, take the recognizance of such minor in a sum not exceeding fifty dollars which shall be valid and binding in law, notwithstanding the disability of minority. [2010 c 8 § 1012; 1973 1st ex.s. c 154 § 19; Code 1881 § 1931; 1873 p 396 § 230; 1854 p 108 § 38; RRS § 1961.]

**Rules of court:** *This section probably superseded by CrR 6.13. See comment after CrR 6.13.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.16.160 Witnesses—Failure to furnish recognizance—Commitment—Deposition—Discharge.** All witnesses required to recognize with or without sureties shall, if they refuse, be committed to the county jail by the magistrate, there to remain until they comply with such orders or be otherwise discharged according to law: PROVIDED, That when the magistrate is satisfied that any witness required to recognize with sureties is unable to comply with such order, the magistrate shall immediately take the deposition of such witness and discharge the witness from custody upon the witness' own recognizance. The testimony of the witness shall be reduced to writing by a district judge or some competent person under the judge's direction, and only the exact words of the witness shall be taken; the deposition, except the cross-examination, shall be in the narrative form, and upon the cross-examination the questions and answers shall be taken in full. The defendant must be present in person when the deposition is taken, and shall have an opportunity to cross-examine the witnesses; the defendant may make any objections to the admission of any part of the testimony, and all objections shall be noted by the district judge; but the district judge shall not decide as to the admissibility of the evidence, but shall take all the testimony offered by the witness. The deposition must be carefully read to the witness, and any corrections the witness may desire to make thereto shall be made in presence of the defendant by adding the same to the deposition as first taken; it must be signed by the witness, certified by the district judge, and transmitted to the clerk of the superior court, in the same manner as depositions in civil actions. And if the witness is not present when required to testify in the case, either before the grand jury or upon the trial in the superior court, the deposition shall be submitted to the judge of such superior court, upon the objections noted by the district judge, and such judge shall suppress so much of said deposition as such judge shall find to be inadmissible, and the remainder of the deposition may be read as evidence in the

case, either before the grand jury or upon the trial in the court. [1987 c 202 § 164; 1891 c 11 § 15; Code 1881 § 1932; 1877 p 203 § 8; 1873 p 396 § 232; 1854 p 108 § 39; RRS § 1962. Formerly RCW 10.16.160, 10.16.170, and 10.16.180.]

**Rules of court:** *This section modified if not superseded by CrR 6.13. See comment after CrR 6.13.*

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

## Chapter 10.19 RCW BAIL AND APPEARANCE BONDS

### Sections

- 10.19.040 Officers authorized to take recognizance and approve bail.
- 10.19.055 Class A or B felony offenses—Bail for release determined by judicial officer.
- 10.19.060 Certification and filing of recognizances.
- 10.19.065 Taking and entering recognizances.
- 10.19.090 Forfeiture, exoneration of recognizances—Judgment—Execution.
- 10.19.100 Stay of execution of forfeiture judgment—Bond.
- 10.19.105 Forfeiture judgment vacated on defendant's production—When.
- 10.19.110 Recognizances before district judge or magistrate—Forfeiture—Action.
- 10.19.120 Actions not barred by defect of form or formality.
- 10.19.140 Return of bond to surety, when.
- 10.19.150 Liability of surety, limitation.
- 10.19.160 Surrender of person under surety's bond.
- 10.19.170 Violent offenders—Reasons for release without bail.

### Bail

*arresting officer's duties regarding:* RCW 10.31.030.

*pending appeal to supreme court:* RCW 10.73.040.

*traffic offenses, nonresidents:* RCW 46.64.035.

*Fugitives, bail:* Chapter 10.88 RCW.

### Recognizance

*for stay of execution:* RCW 10.82.020, 10.82.025.

*to keep the peace as incidence of conviction of crime:* RCW 10.64.070, 10.64.075.

*Recognizances relative to preliminary hearings:* Chapter 10.16 RCW.

**10.19.040 Officers authorized to take recognizance and approve bail.** Any officer authorized to execute a warrant in a criminal action, may take the recognizance and justify and approve the bail; he or she may administer an oath and examine the bail as to its sufficiency. [2010 c 8 § 1013; Code 1881 § 1034; 1873 p 229 § 214; 1854 p 114 § 78; RRS § 2087. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1891 c 11 § 13; Code 1881 § 1927; 1873 p 395 § 225; 1854 p 108 § 33; RRS § 1957, now codified in RCW 10.16.070.]

**10.19.055 Class A or B felony offenses—Bail for release determined by judicial officer.** Bail for the release of a person arrested and detained for a class A or B felony offense must be determined on an individualized basis by a judicial officer. [2012 c 6 § 1; 2010 c 254 § 2.]

**10.19.060 Certification and filing of recognizances.** Every recognizance taken by any peace officer must be certified by him or her forthwith to the clerk of the court to which the defendant is recognized. The clerk must thereupon record the recognizance in the order book, and, from the time of filing, it has the same effect as if taken in open court. [2010 c 8 § 1014; Code 1881 § 1035; 1873 p 230 § 215; 1854 p 114 § 79; RRS § 2088.]

**10.19.065 Taking and entering recognizances.**

Recognizances in criminal proceedings may be taken in open court and entered on the order book. [Code 1881 § 1033; 1854 p 114 § 77; RRS § 2086.]

**10.19.090 Forfeiture, exoneration of recognizances—**

**Judgment—Execution.** In criminal cases where a recognizance for the appearance of any person, either as a witness or to appear and answer, shall have been taken and a default entered, the recognizance shall be declared forfeited by the court, and at the time of adjudging such forfeiture said court shall enter judgment against the principal and sureties named in such recognizance for the sum therein mentioned, and execution may issue thereon the same as upon other judgments. If the surety is not notified by the court in writing of the unexplained failure of the defendant to appear within thirty days of the date for appearance, then the forfeiture shall be null and void and the recognizance exonerated. [1986 c 322 § 2; Code 1881 § 1137; 1873 p 230 § 217; 1867 p 103 § 1; RRS § 2231.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.19.100 Stay of execution of forfeiture judgment—**

**Bond.** The parties, or either of them, against whom such judgment may be entered in the superior or supreme courts, may stay said execution for sixty days by giving a bond with two or more sureties, to be approved by the clerk, conditioned for the payment of such judgment at the expiration of sixty days, unless the same shall be vacated before the expiration of that time. [1891 c 28 § 86; Code 1881 § 1138; 1873 p 242 § 281; 1867 p 103 § 2; RRS § 2232. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1891 c 28 § 87; Code 1881 § 1139; 1867 p 103 § 3; RRS § 2233, now codified as RCW 10.19.105.]

**10.19.105 Forfeiture judgment vacated on defendant's production—When.**

If a bond be given and execution stayed, as provided in RCW 10.19.100, and the person for whose appearance such recognizance was given shall be produced in court before the expiration of said period of sixty days, the judge may vacate such judgment upon such terms as may be just and equitable, otherwise execution shall forthwith issue as well against the sureties in the new bond as against the judgment debtors. [1891 c 28 § 87; Code 1881 § 1139; 1867 p 103 § 3; RRS § 2233. Formerly RCW 10.19.100, part.]

**10.19.110 Recognizances before district judge or magistrate—Forfeiture—Action.**

All recognizances taken and forfeited before any district judge or magistrate, shall be forthwith certified to the clerk of the superior court of the county; and it shall be the duty of the prosecuting attorney to proceed at once by action against all the persons bound in such recognizances, and in all forfeited recognizances whatever, or such of them as the prosecuting attorney may elect to proceed against. [1987 c 202 § 165; Code 1881 § 1166; 1873 p 230 § 215; 1854 p 128 § 175; RRS § 2234. FORMER PART OF SECTION: Code 1881 § 1936; 1873 p 397 § 235; 1863 p 390 § 216; 1859 p 141 § 185; 1854 p 109 § 43; RRS § 1965, now codified as RCW 10.16.190.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**10.19.120 Actions not barred by defect of form or formality.**

No action brought on any recognizance, bail, or appearance bond given in any criminal proceeding whatever shall be barred or defeated, nor shall judgment be arrested thereon, by reason of any neglect or omission to note or record the default of any principal or surety at the time when such default shall happen, or by reason of any defect in the form of the recognizance, if it sufficiently appear from the tenor thereof at what court or before what district judge the party or witness was bound to appear, and that the court or magistrate before whom it was taken was authorized by law to require and take such recognizance; and a recognizance may be recorded after execution awarded. [1987 c 202 § 166; 1891 c 28 § 88; Code 1881 § 1167; 1854 p 129 § 176; RRS § 2235. FORMER PART OF SECTION: Code 1881 § 749; 1854 p 219 § 489; RRS § 777, now codified as RCW 19.72.170.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**10.19.140 Return of bond to surety, when.**

If a forfeiture has been entered against a person in a criminal case and the person is returned to custody or produced in court within twelve months from the forfeiture, then the full amount of the bond, less any and all costs determined by the court to have been incurred by law enforcement in transporting, locating, apprehending, or processing the return of the person to the jurisdiction of the court, shall be remitted to the surety if the surety was directly responsible for producing the person in court or directly responsible for apprehension of the person by law enforcement. [1986 c 322 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.19.150 Liability of surety, limitation.**

The liability of the surety is limited to the amount of the bond when acting within the scope of the surety's duties in issuing the bond. [1986 c 322 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.19.160 Surrender of person under surety's bond.**

The surety on the bond may return to custody a person in a criminal case under the surety's bond if the surrender is accompanied by a notice of forfeiture or a notarized affidavit specifying the reasons for the surrender. The surrender shall be made to the facility in which the person was originally held in custody or the county or city jail affiliated with the court issuing the warrant resulting in bail. [1986 c 322 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.19.170 Violent offenders—Reasons for release without bail.**

Notwithstanding CrR 3.2, a court who releases a defendant arrested or charged with a violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 on the offender's personal recognizance or personal recognizance with conditions must state on the record the reasons why the court did not require the defendant to post bail. [1996 c 181 § 1.]

## Chapter 10.21 RCW

BAIL DETERMINATIONS UNDER ARTICLE I,  
SECTION 20—CONDITIONS OF RELEASE

## Sections

10.21.010	Intent.
10.21.020	Appearance before judicial officer—Issuance of order.
10.21.030	Conditions of release—Judicial officer may amend order.
10.21.040	Detention order—Hearing—Expedited review.
10.21.050	Conditions of release—Judicial officer to consider available information.
10.21.060	Hearing—Appearance—Defendant's right to representation—Detention of defendant.
10.21.070	Release order—Requirements.
10.21.080	Detention order—Requirements—Temporary release.
10.21.900	Construction of chapter.

**10.21.010 Intent.** It is the intent of the legislature to enact a law for the purpose of reasonably assuring public safety in bail determination hearings and hearings pursuant to the proposed amendment to Article I, section 20 of the state Constitution set forth in House Joint Resolution No. 4220. Other provisions of law address matters relating to assuring the appearance of the defendant at trial and preventing interference with the administration of justice. [2010 c 254 § 3.]

**Intent—2010 c 254:** "The legislature intends by this act to require an individualized determination by a judicial officer of conditions of release for persons in custody for felony. This requirement is consistent with constitutional requirements and court rules regarding the right of a detained person to a prompt determination of probable cause and judicial review of the conditions of release and the requirement that judicial determinations of bail or release be made no later than the preliminary appearance stage." [2010 c 254 § 1.]

**Contingent effective date—2010 c 254:** "Sections 1 and 2 of this act take effect January 1, 2011. Sections 3 through 10 of this act take effect January 1, 2011, only if the proposed amendment to Article I, section 20 of the state Constitution proposed in House Joint Resolution No. 4220 is validly submitted to and is approved and ratified by the voters at the next general election. If the proposed amendment is not approved and ratified, sections 3 through 11 of this act are null and void in their entirety." [2010 c 254 § 14.] House Joint Resolution No. 4220 was approved and ratified by the voters November 2, 2010.

**10.21.020 Appearance before judicial officer—Issuance of order.** Upon the appearance before a judicial officer of a person charged with an offense, the judicial officer must issue an order that, pending trial, the person be:

- (1) Released on personal recognizance;
- (2) Released on a condition or combination of conditions ordered under RCW 10.21.030 or other provision of law;
- (3) Temporarily detained as allowed by law; or
- (4) Detained as provided under chapter 254, Laws of 2010. [2010 c 254 § 4.]

**Intent—Contingent effective date—2010 c 254:** See notes following RCW 10.21.010.

**10.21.030 Conditions of release—Judicial officer may amend order.** (1) The judicial officer may at any time amend the order to impose additional or different conditions of release. The conditions imposed under this chapter supplement but do not supplant provisions of law allowing the imposition of conditions to assure the appearance of the defendant at trial or to prevent interference with the administration of justice.

(2) Appropriate conditions of release under this chapter include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) The defendant may be placed in the custody of a designated person or organization agreeing to supervise the defendant;

(b) The defendant may have restrictions placed upon travel, association, or place of abode during the period of release;

(c) The defendant may be required to comply with a specified curfew;

(d) The defendant may be required to return to custody during specified hours or to be placed on electronic monitoring, if available. The defendant, if convicted, may not have the period of incarceration reduced by the number of days spent on electronic monitoring;

(e) The defendant may be prohibited from approaching or communicating in any manner with particular persons or classes of persons;

(f) The defendant may be prohibited from going to certain geographical areas or premises;

(g) The defendant may be prohibited from possessing any dangerous weapons or firearms;

(h) The defendant may be prohibited from possessing or consuming any intoxicating liquors or drugs not prescribed to the defendant. The defendant may be required to submit to testing to determine the defendant's compliance with this condition;

(i) The defendant may be prohibited from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with an ignition interlock device;

(j) The defendant may be required to report regularly to and remain under the supervision of an officer of the court or other person or agency; and

(k) The defendant may be prohibited from committing any violations of criminal law. [2010 c 254 § 5.]

**Intent—Contingent effective date—2010 c 254:** See notes following RCW 10.21.010.

**10.21.040 Detention order—Hearing—Expedited review.** If, after a hearing on offenses prescribed in Article I, section 20 of the state Constitution, the judicial officer finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that a person shows a propensity for violence that creates a substantial likelihood of danger to the community or any persons, and finds that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the safety of any other person and the community, such judicial officer must order the detention of the person before trial. The detainee is entitled to expedited review of the detention order by the court of appeals under the writ provided in RCW 7.36.160. [2010 c 254 § 6.]

**Intent—Contingent effective date—2010 c 254:** See notes following RCW 10.21.010.

**10.21.050 Conditions of release—Judicial officer to consider available information.** The judicial officer must, in determining whether there are conditions of release that will reasonably assure the safety of any other person and the community, take into account the available information concerning:

(1) The nature and circumstances of the offense charged, including whether the offense is a crime of violence;

(2) The weight of the evidence against the defendant; and

(3) The history and characteristics of the defendant, including:

(a) The person's character, physical and mental condition, family ties, employment, financial resources, length of residence in the community, community ties, past conduct, history relating to drug or alcohol abuse, criminal history, and record concerning appearance at court proceedings;

(b) Whether, at the time of the current offense or arrest, the defendant was on community supervision, probation, parole, or on other release pending trial, sentencing, appeal, or completion of sentence for an offense under federal, state, or local law; and

(c) The nature and seriousness of the danger to any person or the community that would be posed by the defendant's release. [2010 c 254 § 7.]

**Intent—Contingent effective date—2010 c 254:** See notes following RCW 10.21.010.

**10.21.060 Hearing—Appearance—Defendant's right to representation—Detention of defendant.** (1) The judicial officer must hold a hearing in cases involving offenses prescribed in Article I, section 20, to determine whether any condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the safety of any other person and the community upon motion of the attorney for the government.

(2) The hearing must be held immediately upon the defendant's first appearance before the judicial officer unless the defendant, or the attorney for the government, seeks a continuance. Except for good cause, a continuance on motion of such person may not exceed five days (not including any intermediate Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday), and a continuance on motion of the attorney for the government may not exceed three days (not including any intermediate Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday). During a continuance, such person must be detained.

(3) At the hearing, such defendant has the right to be represented by counsel, and, if financially unable to obtain representation, to have counsel appointed. The defendant must be afforded an opportunity to testify, to present witnesses, to cross-examine witnesses who appear at the hearing, and to present information by proffer or otherwise. The rules concerning admissibility of evidence in criminal trials do not apply to the presentation and consideration of information at the hearing. The facts the judicial officer uses to support a finding that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the safety of any other person and the community must be supported by clear and convincing evidence of a propensity for violence that creates a substantial likelihood of danger to the community or any persons.

(4) The defendant may be detained pending completion of the hearing. The hearing may be reopened, before or after a determination by the judicial officer, at any time before trial if the judicial officer finds that information exists that was not known to the movant at the time of the hearing and that has a material bearing on the issue whether there are conditions of release that will reasonably assure the safety of any other person and the community. [2010 c 254 § 8.]

**Intent—Contingent effective date—2010 c 254:** See notes following RCW 10.21.010.

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**10.21.070 Release order—Requirements.** In a release order issued under RCW 10.21.030 the judicial officer must:

(1) Include a written statement that sets forth all the conditions to which the release is subject, in a manner sufficiently clear and specific to serve as a guide for the defendant's conduct; and

(2) Advise the defendant of:

(a) The penalties for violating a condition of release, including the penalties for committing an offense while on pretrial release; and

(b) The consequences of violating a condition of release, including the immediate issuance of a warrant for the defendant's arrest. [2010 c 254 § 9.]

**Intent—Contingent effective date—2010 c 254:** See notes following RCW 10.21.010.

**10.21.080 Detention order—Requirements—Temporary release.** (1) In a detention order issued under RCW 10.21.040, the judicial officer must:

(a) Include written findings of fact and a written statement of the reasons for the detention;

(b) Direct that the person be committed to the custody of the appropriate correctional authorities for confinement separate, to the extent practicable, from persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal; and

(c) Direct that the person be afforded reasonable opportunity for private consultation with counsel.

(2) The judicial officer may, by subsequent order, permit the temporary release of the person, in the custody of an appropriate law enforcement officer or other appropriate person, to the extent that the judicial officer determines such release to be necessary for preparation of the person's defense or for another compelling reason. [2010 c 254 § 10.]

**Intent—Contingent effective date—2010 c 254:** See notes following RCW 10.21.010.

**10.21.900 Construction of chapter.** Nothing in this chapter may be construed as modifying or limiting the presumption of innocence. [2010 c 254 § 11.]

**Intent—Contingent effective date—2010 c 254:** See notes following RCW 10.21.010.

## Chapter 10.22 RCW COMPROMISE OF MISDEMEANORS

### Sections

10.22.010	When permitted—Exceptions.
10.22.020	Procedure—Costs.
10.22.030	Compromise in all other cases forbidden.

**10.22.010 When permitted—Exceptions.** When a defendant is prosecuted in a criminal action for a misdemeanor, other than a violation of RCW 9A.48.105, for which the person injured by the act constituting the offense has a remedy by a civil action, the offense may be compromised as provided in RCW 10.22.020, except when it was committed:

(1) By or upon an officer while in the execution of the duties of his or her office;

(2) Riotously;

(3) With an intent to commit a felony; or

(4) By one family or household member against another as defined in RCW 10.99.020 and was a crime of domestic

violence as defined in RCW 10.99.020. [2010 c 8 § 1015; 2008 c 276 § 308; 1999 c 143 § 45; 1989 c 411 § 3; Code 1881 § 1040; 1854 p 115 § 84; RRS § 2126. FORMER PART OF SECTION: Code 1881 § 1935; 1873 p 397 § 234; 1854 p 109 § 42; RRS § 1964, now codified as RCW 10.16.135.]

**Severability—Part headings, subheadings not law—2008 c 276:** See notes following RCW 36.28A.200.

**10.22.020 Procedure—Costs.** In such case, if the party injured appear in the court in which the cause is pending at any time before the final judgment therein, and acknowledge, in writing, that he or she has received satisfaction for the injury, the court may, in its discretion, on payment of the costs incurred, order all proceedings to be discontinued and the defendant to be discharged. The reasons for making the order must be set forth therein and entered in the minutes. Such order is a bar to another prosecution for the same offense. [2010 c 8 § 1016; 1891 c 28 § 63; Code 1881 §§ 1041, 1042; 1873 p 230 § 220; 1854 p 115 § 84; RRS § 2127.]

**10.22.030 Compromise in all other cases forbidden.** No offense can be compromised, nor can any proceedings for the prosecution or punishment thereof be stayed upon a compromise, except as provided in this chapter. [1891 c 28 § 64; Code 1881 § 1043; RRS § 2128.]

**Chapter 10.25 RCW  
JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

Sections

- 10.25.065 Perjury outside the state.
- 10.25.070 Change of venue—Procedure.
- 10.25.130 Costs.
- 10.25.140 Change of venue by outside jury.

**10.25.065 Perjury outside the state.** Perjury committed outside of the state of Washington in a statement, declaration, verification, or certificate authorized by RCW 9A.72.085 is punishable in the county in this state in which occurs the act, transaction, matter, action, or proceeding, in relation to which the statement, declaration, verification, or certification was given or made. [1981 c 187 § 4.]

**10.25.070 Change of venue—Procedure.** The defendant may show to the court, by affidavit, that he or she believes he or she cannot receive a fair trial in the county where the action is pending, owing to the prejudice of the judge, or to excitement or prejudice against the defendant in the county or some part thereof, and may thereupon demand to be tried in another county. The application shall not be granted on the ground of excitement or prejudice other than prejudice of the judge, unless the affidavit of the defendant be supported by other evidence, nor in any case unless the judge is satisfied the ground upon which the application is made does exist. [2010 c 8 § 1017; 1891 c 28 § 7; Code 1881 § 1072; 1854 p 117 § 98; RRS § 2018.]

**10.25.130 Costs.** When a criminal case is transferred to another county pursuant to this chapter the county from which such case is transferred shall pay to the county in

which the case is tried all costs accrued for per diem and mileage for jurors and witnesses and all other costs properly charged to a convicted defendant. [1961 c 303 § 2.]

**10.25.140 Change of venue by outside jury.** When a change of venue is ordered and the court, upon motion to transfer a jury or in the absence of such motion, determines that it would be more economical to move the jury than to move the pending action and that justice will be served, a change of venue shall be accomplished by the selection of a jury in the county to which the venue would otherwise have been transferred and the selected jury moved to the county where the indictment or information was filed. [1981 c 205 § 1.]

**Chapter 10.27 RCW  
GRAND JURIES—CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS**

Sections

- 10.27.010 Short title—Purpose.
- 10.27.020 Definitions.
- 10.27.030 Summoning grand jury.
- 10.27.040 Selection of grand jury members.
- 10.27.050 Special inquiry judge—Selection.
- 10.27.060 Discharge of panel, juror—Grounds.
- 10.27.070 Oath—Officers—Witnesses.
- 10.27.080 Persons authorized to attend—Restrictions on attorneys.
- 10.27.090 Secrecy enjoined—Exceptions—Use and availability of evidence.
- 10.27.100 Inquiry as to offenses—Duties—Investigation.
- 10.27.110 Duration of sessions—Extensions.
- 10.27.120 Self-incrimination—Right to counsel.
- 10.27.130 Self-incrimination—Refusal to testify or give evidence—Procedure.
- 10.27.140 Witnesses—Attendance.
- 10.27.150 Indictments—Issuance.
- 10.27.160 Grand jury report.
- 10.27.170 Special inquiry judge—Petition for order.
- 10.27.180 Special inquiry judge—Disqualification from subsequent proceedings.
- 10.27.190 Special inquiry judge—Direction to public attorney for proceedings in another county—Procedure.

*Interpreters—Legal proceedings: Chapter 2.42 RCW.*

*Juries: Chapter 2.36 RCW.*

**10.27.010 Short title—Purpose.** This chapter shall be known as the criminal investigatory act of 1971 and is enacted on behalf of the people of the state of Washington to serve law enforcement in combating crime and corruption. [1971 ex.s. c 67 § 1.]

**10.27.020 Definitions.** For the purposes of this chapter:

- (1) The term "court" shall mean any superior court in the state of Washington.
- (2) The term "public attorney" shall mean the prosecuting attorney of the county in which a grand jury or special grand jury is impaneled; the attorney general of the state of Washington when acting pursuant to RCW 10.27.070(9) and the special prosecutor appointed by the governor, pursuant to RCW 10.27.070(10), and their deputies or special deputies.
- (3) The term "indictment" shall mean a written accusation found by a grand jury.
- (4) The term "principal" shall mean any person whose conduct is being investigated by a grand jury or special inquiry judge.

(5) The term "witness" shall mean any person summoned to appear before a grand jury or special inquiry judge to answer questions or produce evidence.

(6) A "grand jury" consists of twelve persons, is impaneled by a superior court and constitutes a part of such court. The functions of a grand jury are to hear, examine and investigate evidence concerning criminal activity and corruption and to take action with respect to such evidence. The grand jury shall operate as a whole and not by committee.

(7) A "special inquiry judge" is a superior court judge designated by a majority of the superior court judges of a county to hear and receive evidence of crime and corruption. [1988 c 188 § 16; 1971 ex.s. c 67 § 2.]

**Legislative findings—Severability—Effective date—1988 c 188:** See notes following RCW 2.36.010.

**10.27.030 Summoning grand jury.** No grand jury shall be summoned to attend at the superior court of any county except upon an order signed by a majority of the judges thereof. A grand jury shall be summoned by the court, where the public interest so demands, whenever in its opinion there is sufficient evidence of criminal activity or corruption within the county or whenever so requested by a public attorney, corporation counsel or city attorney upon showing of good cause. [1971 ex.s. c 67 § 3.]

**10.27.040 Selection of grand jury members.** Members of the grand jury shall be selected in the manner provided in chapter 2.36 RCW. [1988 c 188 § 17; 1971 ex.s. c 67 § 4.]

**Legislative findings—Severability—Effective date—1988 c 188:** See notes following RCW 2.36.010.

**10.27.050 Special inquiry judge—Selection.** In every county a superior court judge as designated by a majority of the judges shall be available to serve as a special inquiry judge to hear evidence concerning criminal activity and corruption. [1971 ex.s. c 67 § 5.]

**10.27.060 Discharge of panel, juror—Grounds.** Neither the grand jury panel nor any individual grand juror may be challenged, but the court may:

(1) At any time before a grand jury is sworn discharge the panel and summon another if it finds that the original panel does not substantially conform to the requirements of chapter 2.36 RCW; or

(2) At any time after a grand juror is drawn, refuse to swear him or her, or discharge him or her after he or she has been sworn, upon a finding that he or she is disqualified from service pursuant to chapter 2.36 RCW, or incapable of performing his or her duties because of bias or prejudice, or guilty of misconduct in the performance of his or her duties such as to impair the proper functioning of the grand jury. [2010 c 8 § 1018; 1971 ex.s. c 67 § 6.]

**10.27.070 Oath—Officers—Witnesses.** (1) When the grand jury is impaneled, the court shall appoint one of the jurors to be foreperson, and also another of the jurors to act as foreperson in case of the absence of the foreperson.

(2) The grand jurors must be sworn pursuant to the following oath: "You, as grand jurors for the county of . . . . .,

do solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will diligently inquire into and true presentment make of all such matters and things as shall come to your knowledge and you will submit things truly as they come to your knowledge, according to your charge the laws of this state and your understanding; you shall indict no person through envy, hatred, malice or political consideration; neither will you leave any person unindicted through fear, favor, affection, reward or the hope thereof or political consideration. The counsel of the state, his or her advice, and that of your fellows you shall keep secret."

(3) After a grand jury has been sworn, the court must deliver or cause to be delivered to each grand juror a printed copy of all the provisions of this chapter, and the court may give the grand jurors any oral or written instructions, or both, relating to the proper performance of their duties at any time it deems necessary or appropriate.

(4) The court shall appoint a reporter to record the proceedings before the grand jury or special inquiry judge, and shall swear him or her not to disclose any testimony or the name of any witness except as provided in RCW 10.27.090. In addition, the foreperson of the grand jury may, in his or her discretion, select one of the grand jurors to act as secretary to keep records of the grand jury's business.

(5) The court, whenever necessary, shall appoint an interpreter, and shall swear him or her not to disclose any testimony or the name of any witness except as provided in RCW 10.27.090.

(6) When a person held in official custody is a witness before a grand jury or special inquiry judge, a public servant, assigned to guard him or her during his or her appearance may accompany him or her. The court shall swear such public servant not to disclose any testimony or the name of any witness except as provided in RCW 10.27.090.

(7) Proceedings of a grand jury shall not be valid unless at least twelve of its members are present. The foreperson or acting foreperson of the grand jury shall conduct proceedings in an orderly manner and shall administer an oath or affirmation in the manner prescribed by law to any witness who shall testify before the grand jury.

(8) The legal advisers of a grand jury are the court and public attorneys, and a grand jury may not seek or receive legal advice from any other source. When necessary or appropriate, the court or public attorneys or both must instruct the grand jury concerning the law with respect to its duties or any matter before it, and such instructions shall be recorded by the reporter.

(9)(a) Upon request of the prosecuting attorney of the county in which a grand jury or special inquiry judge is impaneled, the attorney general shall assist such prosecuting attorney in attending such grand jury or special inquiry judge.

(b) Whenever directed by the court, the attorney general shall supersede the prosecuting attorney in attending the grand jury and in which event the attorney general shall be responsible for the prosecution of any indictment returned by the grand jury.

(c) When the attorney general is conducting a criminal investigation pursuant to powers otherwise granted to him or her, he or she shall attend all grand juries or special inquiry judges in relation thereto and shall prosecute any indictments returned by a grand jury.

(10) After consulting with the court and receiving its approval, the grand jury may request the governor to appoint a special prosecutor to attend the grand jury. The grand jury shall in the request nominate three persons approved by the court. From those nominated, the governor shall appoint a special prosecutor, who shall supersede the prosecuting attorney and the attorney general and who shall be responsible for the prosecution of any indictments returned by the grand jury attended by him or her.

(11) A public attorney shall attend the grand jurors when requested by them, and he or she may do so on his or her own motion within the limitations of RCW 10.27.020(2), 10.27.070(9) and 10.27.070(10) hereof, for the purpose of examining witnesses in their presence, or of giving the grand jurors legal advice regarding any matter cognizable by them. He or she shall also, when requested by them, draft indictments and issue process for the attendance of witnesses.

(12) Subject to the approval of the court, the corporation counsel or city attorney for any city or town in the county where any grand jury has been convened may appear as a witness before the grand jury to advise the grand jury of any criminal activity or corruption within his or her jurisdiction. [2010 c 8 § 1019; 1971 ex.s. c 67 § 7.]

**10.27.080 Persons authorized to attend—Restrictions on attorneys.** No person shall be present at sessions of the grand jury or special inquiry judge except the witness under examination and his or her attorney, public attorneys, the reporter, an interpreter, a public servant guarding a witness who has been held in custody, if any, and, for the purposes provided for in RCW 10.27.170, any corporation counsel or city attorney. The attorney advising the witness shall only advise such witness concerning his or her right to answer or not answer any questions and the form of his or her answer and shall not otherwise engage in the proceedings. No person other than grand jurors shall be present while the grand jurors are deliberating or voting. Any person violating either of the above provisions may be held in contempt of court. [2010 c 8 § 1020; 1971 ex.s. c 67 § 8.]

**10.27.090 Secrecy enjoined—Exceptions—Use and availability of evidence.** (1) Every member of the grand jury shall keep secret whatever he, she, or any other grand juror has said, and how he, she, or any other grand juror has voted, except for disclosure of indictments, if any, as provided in RCW 10.27.150.

(2) No grand juror shall be permitted to state or testify in any court how he, she, or any other grand juror voted on any question before them or what opinion was expressed by himself, herself, or any other grand juror regarding such question.

(3) No grand juror, public or private attorney, city attorney or corporation counsel, reporter, interpreter or public servant who held a witness in custody before a grand jury or special inquiry judge, or witness, principal or other person shall disclose the testimony of a witness examined before the grand jury or special inquiry judge or other evidence received by it, except when required by the court to disclose the testimony of the witness examined before the grand jury or special inquiry judge for the purpose of ascertaining whether it is consistent with that of the witness given before the court, or to disclose his or her testimony given before the grand jury or

special inquiry judge by any person upon a charge against such person for perjury in giving his or her testimony or upon trial therefor, or when permitted by the court in furtherance of justice.

(4) The public attorney shall have access to all grand jury and special inquiry judge evidence and may introduce such evidence before any other grand jury or any trial in which the same may be relevant.

(5) The court upon a showing of good cause may make any or all grand jury or special inquiry judge evidence available to any other public attorney, prosecuting attorney, city attorney or corporation counsel upon proper application and with the concurrence of the public attorney attending such grand jury. Any witness' testimony, given before a grand jury or a special inquiry judge and relevant to any subsequent proceeding against the witness, shall be made available to the witness upon proper application to the court. The court may also, upon proper application and upon a showing of good cause, make available to a defendant in a subsequent criminal proceeding other testimony or evidence:

(a) When given or presented before a special inquiry judge, if doing so is in the furtherance of justice; or

(b) When given or presented before a grand jury, if the court finds that doing so is necessary to prevent an injustice and that there is no reason to believe that doing so would endanger the life or safety of any witness or his or her family. The cost of any such transcript made available shall be borne by the applicant. [2010 c 8 § 1021; 1971 ex.s. c 67 § 9.]

**10.27.100 Inquiry as to offenses—Duties—Investigation.** The grand jurors shall inquire into every offense triable within the county for which any person has been held to answer, if an indictment has not been found or an information filed in such case, and all other indictable offenses within the county which are presented to them by a public attorney or otherwise come to their knowledge. If a grand juror knows or has reason to believe that an indictable offense, triable within the county, has been committed, he or she shall declare such a fact to his or her fellow jurors who may begin an investigation. In such investigation the grand juror may be sworn as a witness. [2010 c 8 § 1022; 1971 ex.s. c 67 § 10.]

**10.27.110 Duration of sessions—Extensions.** The length of time which a grand jury may sit after being convened shall not exceed sixty days. Before expiration of the sixty day period and any extensions, and upon showing of good cause, the court may order the grand jury panel extended for a period not to exceed sixty days. [1971 ex.s. c 67 § 11.]

**10.27.120 Self-incrimination—Right to counsel.** Any individual called to testify before a grand jury or special inquiry judge, whether as a witness or principal, if not represented by an attorney appearing with the witness before the grand jury or special inquiry judge, must be told of his or her privilege against self-incrimination. Such an individual has a right to representation by an attorney to advise him or her as to his or her rights, obligations, and duties before the grand jury or special inquiry judge, and must be informed of this right. The attorney may be present during all proceedings attended by his or her client unless immunity has been



granted pursuant to RCW 10.27.130. After immunity has been granted, such an individual may leave the grand jury room to confer with his or her attorney. [2010 c 8 § 1023; 1971 ex.s. c 67 § 12.]

**10.27.130 Self-incrimination—Refusal to testify or give evidence—Procedure.** If in any proceedings before a grand jury or special inquiry judge, a person refuses, or indicates in advance a refusal, to testify or provide evidence of any other kind on the ground that he or she may be incriminated thereby, and if a public attorney requests the court to order that person to testify or provide the evidence, the court shall then hold a hearing and shall so order unless it finds that to do so would be clearly contrary to the public interest, and that person shall comply with the order. The hearing shall be subject to the provisions of RCW 10.27.080 and 10.27.090, unless the witness shall request that the hearing be public.

If, but for this section, he or she would have been privileged to withhold the answer given or the evidence produced by him or her, the witness may not refuse to comply with the order on the basis of his or her privilege against self-incrimination; but he or she shall not be prosecuted or subjected to criminal penalty or forfeiture for or on account of any transaction, matter, or fact concerning which he or she has been ordered to testify pursuant to this section. He or she may nevertheless be prosecuted for failing to comply with the order to answer, or for perjury or for offering false evidence to the grand jury. [2010 c 8 § 1024; 1971 ex.s. c 67 § 13.]

**10.27.140 Witnesses—Attendance.** (1) Except as provided in this section, no person has the right to appear as a witness in a grand jury or special inquiry judge proceeding.

(2) A public attorney may call as a witness in a grand jury or special inquiry judge proceeding any person believed by him or her to possess information or knowledge relevant thereto and may issue legal process and subpoena to compel his or her attendance and the production of evidence.

(3) The grand jury or special inquiry judge may cause to be called as a witness any person believed by it to possess relevant information or knowledge. If the grand jury or special inquiry judge desires to hear any such witness who was not called by a public attorney, it may direct a public attorney to issue and serve a subpoena upon such witness and the public attorney must comply with such direction. At any time after service of such subpoena and before the return date thereof, however, the public attorney may apply to the court which impeached the grand jury for an order vacating or modifying the subpoena on the grounds that such is in the public interest. Upon such application, the court may in its discretion vacate the subpoena, extend its return date, attach reasonable conditions to directions, or make such other qualification thereof as is appropriate.

(4) The proceedings to summon a person and compel him or her to testify or provide evidence shall as far as possible be the same as proceedings to summon witnesses and compel their attendance. Such persons shall receive only those fees paid witnesses in superior court criminal trials. [2010 c 8 § 1025; 1971 ex.s. c 67 § 14.]

**10.27.150 Indictments—Issuance.** After hearing, examining, and investigating the evidence before it, a grand

jury may, in its discretion, issue an indictment against a principal. A grand jury shall find an indictment only when from all the evidence at least three-fourths of the jurors are convinced that there is probable cause to believe a principal is guilty of a criminal offense. When an indictment is found by a grand jury the foreperson or acting foreperson shall present it to the court. [2010 c 8 § 1026; 1971 ex.s. c 67 § 15.]

**10.27.160 Grand jury report.** The grand jury may prepare its conclusions, recommendations and suggestions in the form of a grand jury report. Such report shall be released to the public only upon a determination by a majority of the judges of the superior court of the county court that (1) the findings in the report deal with matters of broad public policy affecting the public interest and do not identify or criticize any individual; (2) the release of the report would be consistent with the public interest and further the ends of justice; and (3) release of the report would not prejudice any pending criminal investigation or trial. [1971 ex.s. c 67 § 16.]

**10.27.170 Special inquiry judge—Petition for order.** When any public attorney, corporation counsel or city attorney has reason to suspect crime or corruption, within the jurisdiction of such attorney, and there is reason to believe that there are persons who may be able to give material testimony or provide material evidence concerning such suspected crime or corruption, such attorney may petition the judge designated as a special inquiry judge pursuant to RCW 10.27.050 for an order directed to such persons commanding them to appear at a designated time and place in said county and to then and there answer such questions concerning the suspected crime or corruption as the special inquiry judge may approve, or provide evidence as directed by the special inquiry judge. [1971 ex.s. c 67 § 17.]

**10.27.180 Special inquiry judge—Disqualification from subsequent proceedings.** The judge serving as a special inquiry judge shall be disqualified from acting as a magistrate or judge in any subsequent court proceeding arising from such inquiry except alleged contempt for neglect or refusal to appear, testify or provide evidence at such inquiry in response to an order, summons or subpoena. [1971 ex.s. c 67 § 18.]

**10.27.190 Special inquiry judge—Direction to public attorney for proceedings in another county—Procedure.** Upon petition of a public attorney to the special inquiry judge that there is reason to suspect that there exists evidence of crime and corruption in another county, and with the concurrence of the special inquiry judge and prosecuting attorney of the other county, the special inquiry judge may direct the public attorney to attend and participate in special inquiry judge proceedings in the other county held to inquire into crime and corruption which relates to crime or corruption under investigation in the initiating county. The proceedings of such special inquiry judge may be transcribed, certified and filed in the county of the public attorney's jurisdiction at the expense of that county. [1971 ex.s. c 67 § 19.]

## Chapter 10.29 RCW

## STATEWIDE SPECIAL INQUIRY JUDGE ACT

## Sections

10.29.010	Short title.
10.29.020	Intent.
10.29.050	Powers and duties of statewide special inquiry judge.
10.29.060	Disclosures by witness—Penalty.
10.29.070	Rules.
10.29.100	Vacancy in office.
10.29.110	Duties of special prosecutor or designee.
10.29.120	Advising county prosecuting attorney—Filing and prosecution of informations—Expenses of prosecutions.
10.29.130	Disqualification of judge from subsequent proceedings.
10.29.900	Severability—1980 c 146.

*Special inquiry judge: RCW 10.27.050, 10.27.170 through 10.27.190.*

**10.29.010 Short title.** This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the Statewide Special Inquiry Judge Act. [1980 c 146 § 1.]

**10.29.020 Intent.** It is the intent of the legislature in enacting this chapter to strengthen and enhance the ability of the state to detect and eliminate organized criminal activity. [1980 c 146 § 2.]

**10.29.050 Powers and duties of statewide special inquiry judge.** A statewide special inquiry judge shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) To hear and receive evidence of crime and corruption.

(2) To appoint a reporter to record the proceedings; and to swear the reporter not to disclose any testimony or the name of any witness except as provided in RCW 10.27.090.

(3) Whenever necessary, to appoint an interpreter, and to swear him or her not to disclose any testimony or the name of any witness except as provided in RCW 10.27.090.

(4) When a person held in official custody is a witness before a statewide special inquiry judge, a public servant, assigned to guard him or her during his or her appearance may accompany him or her. The statewide special inquiry judge shall swear such public servant not to disclose any testimony or the name of any witness except as provided in RCW 10.27.090.

(5) To cause to be called as a witness any person believed by him or her to possess relevant information or knowledge. If the statewide special inquiry judge desires to hear any such witness who was not called by the special prosecutor, it may direct the special prosecutor to issue and serve a subpoena upon such witness and the special prosecutor must comply with such direction. At any time after service of such subpoena and before the return date thereof, however, the special prosecutor may apply to the statewide special inquiry judge for an order vacating or modifying the subpoena on the grounds that such is in the public interest. Upon such application, the statewide special inquiry judge may in its discretion vacate the subpoena, extend its return date, attach reasonable conditions to directions, or make such other qualification thereof as is appropriate.

(6) Upon a showing of good cause may make available any or all evidence obtained to any other public attorney, prosecuting attorney, city attorney, or corporation counsel upon proper application and with the concurrence of the special prosecutor. Any witness' testimony, given before a

statewide special inquiry judge and relevant to any subsequent proceeding against the witness, shall be made available to the witness upon proper application to the statewide special inquiry judge. The statewide special inquiry judge may also, upon proper application and upon a showing of good cause, make available to a defendant in a subsequent criminal proceeding other testimony or evidence when given or presented before a special inquiry judge, if doing so is in the furtherance of justice.

(7) Have authority to perform such other duties as may be required to effectively implement this chapter, in accord with rules adopted by the supreme court relating to these proceedings.

(8) Have authority to hold in contempt of court any person who shall disclose the name or testimony of a witness examined before a statewide special inquiry judge except when required by a court to disclose the testimony given before such statewide special inquiry judge in a subsequent criminal proceeding. [2010 c 8 § 1027; 1980 c 146 § 5.]

**10.29.060 Disclosures by witness—Penalty.** Any witness who shall disclose the fact that he or she has been called as a witness before a statewide special inquiry judge or who shall disclose the nature of the testimony given shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1980 c 146 § 6.]

**10.29.070 Rules.** The supreme court shall develop and adopt rules to govern the procedures of a statewide special inquiry judge proceeding including rules assuring the confidentiality of all proceedings, testimony, and the identity of persons called as witnesses. The adoption of such rules shall be subject to the approval of such rules by the senate and house judiciary committees. [1980 c 146 § 7.]

**10.29.100 Vacancy in office.** Whenever a statewide special inquiry judge or special prosecutor appointed under this chapter dies or in any other way is rendered incapable of continuing the duties of his or her office, a successor shall be appointed to serve for the remainder of the judge's or prosecutor's term in the manner provided for by \*RCW 10.29.030 and 10.29.080 for the appointment of statewide special inquiry judges and special prosecutors. [1980 c 146 § 10.]

*\*Reviser's note:* RCW 10.29.030 and 10.29.080 were repealed by 2009 c 560 § 24.

**10.29.110 Duties of special prosecutor or designee.** The special prosecutor or his or her designee shall:

(1) Attend all proceedings of the statewide special inquiry judge;

(2) Have the authority to issue subpoenas for witnesses statewide;

(3) Examine witnesses, present evidence, draft reports as directed by the statewide special inquiry judge, and draft and file informations under RCW 10.29.120. [2010 c 8 § 1028; 1980 c 146 § 11.]

**10.29.120 Advising county prosecuting attorney—Filing and prosecution of informations—Expenses of prosecutions.** (1) The special prosecutor shall advise the county prosecuting attorney in any affected county of the nature of the statewide special inquiry judge investigation

and of any informations arising from such proceedings unless such disclosures will create a substantial likelihood of a conflict of interest for the county prosecuting attorney.

(2) The special prosecutor may file and prosecute an information in the county where proper venue lies, after having advised the county prosecuting attorney as provided in this section and determined that such prosecuting attorney does not intend to do so, or pursuant to an agreement between them that the special prosecutor shall do so.

(3) Informations filed and prosecuted pursuant to this chapter shall meet the requirements of chapter 10.37 RCW.

(4) The expenses of prosecutions initiated and maintained by the special prosecutor shall be paid as part of the statewide special inquiry judge program as provided in \*RCW 10.29.090. [1980 c 146 § 12.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 10.29.090 was repealed by 2009 c 560 § 24.

**10.29.130 Disqualification of judge from subsequent proceedings.** The judge serving as a special inquiry judge shall be disqualified from acting as a magistrate or judge in any subsequent court proceeding arising from such inquiry except alleged contempt for neglect or refusal to appear, testify, or provide evidence at such inquiry in response to an order, summons, or subpoena. [1980 c 146 § 13.]

**10.29.900 Severability—1980 c 146.** If any provision of this 1980 act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1980 c 146 § 19.]

## Chapter 10.31 RCW WARRANTS AND ARRESTS

### Sections

10.31.030	Service—How—Warrant not in possession, procedure—Bail.
10.31.040	Officer may break and enter.
10.31.050	Officer may use force.
10.31.060	Arrest by telegraph or teletype.
10.31.100	Arrest without warrant.
10.31.110	Arrest—Individuals with mental disorders.

**Rules of court:** *Warrant upon indictment or information—CrR 2.2.*

*Search and seizure: Chapter 10.79 RCW.*

**10.31.030 Service—How—Warrant not in possession, procedure—Bail.** The officer making an arrest must inform the defendant that he or she acts under authority of a warrant, and must also show the warrant: PROVIDED, That if the officer does not have the warrant in his or her possession at the time of arrest he or she shall declare that the warrant does presently exist and will be shown to the defendant as soon as possible on arrival at the place of intended confinement: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That any officer making an arrest under this section shall, if the person arrested wishes to deposit bail, take such person directly and without delay before a judge or before an officer authorized to take the recognizance and justify and approve the bail, including the deposit of a sum of money equal to bail. Bail shall be the amount fixed by the warrant. Such judge or authorized officer shall hold bail for the legal authority within this state which issued such warrant if other than such arresting authority. [2010 c 8 § 1029; 1970 ex.s. c 49 § 3; 1891 c 28 § 43;

Code 1881 § 1030; 1873 p 229 § 210; 1854 p 114 § 74; RRS § 2083.]

*Bail: Chapter 10.19 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.31.040 Officer may break and enter.** To make an arrest in criminal actions, the officer may break open any outer or inner door, or windows of a dwelling house or other building, or any other inclosure, if, after notice of his or her office and purpose, he or she be refused admittance. [2010 c 8 § 1030; Code 1881 § 1170; 1854 p 129 § 179; RRS § 2082.]

**10.31.050 Officer may use force.** If after notice of the intention to arrest the defendant, he or she either flee or forcibly resist, the officer may use all necessary means to effect the arrest. [2010 c 8 § 1031; Code 1881 § 1031; 1873 p 229 § 211; 1854 p 114 § 75; RRS § 2084.]

**10.31.060 Arrest by telegraph or teletype.** Whenever any person or persons shall have been indicted or accused on oath of any public offense, or thereof convicted, and a warrant of arrest shall have been issued, the magistrate issuing such warrant, or any justice of the supreme court, or any judge of either the court of appeals or superior court may indorse thereon an order signed by him or her and authorizing the service thereof by telegraph or teletype, and thereupon such warrant and order may be sent by telegraph or teletype to any marshal, sheriff, constable or police officer, and on the receipt of the telegraphic or teletype copy thereof by any such officer, he or she shall have the same authority and be under the same obligations to arrest, take into custody and detain the said person or persons, as if the said original warrant of arrest, with the proper direction for the service thereof, duly indorsed thereon, had been placed in his or her hands, and the said telegraphic or teletype copy shall be entitled to full faith and credit, and have the same force and effect in all courts and places as the original; but prior to indictment and conviction, no such order shall be made by any officer, unless in his or her judgment there is probable cause to believe the said accused person or persons guilty of the offense charged: PROVIDED, That the making of such order by any officer aforesaid, shall be prima facie evidence of the regularity thereof, and of all the proceedings prior thereto. The original warrant and order, or a copy thereof, certified by the officer making the order, shall be preserved in the telegraph office or police agency from which the same is sent, and in telegraphing or teletyping the same, the original or the said certified copy may be used. [2010 c 8 § 1032; 1971 c 81 § 48; 1967 c 91 § 1; Code 1881 § 2357; 1865 p 75 § 16; RRS § 2081. Formerly RCW 10.31.060 through 10.31.090.]

**10.31.100 Arrest without warrant.** A police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing a felony shall have the authority to arrest the person without a warrant. A police officer may arrest a person without a warrant for committing a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor only when the offense is committed in the presence of the officer, except as provided in subsections (1) through (10) of this section.

(1) Any police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing a misdemeanor

or gross misdemeanor, involving physical harm or threats of harm to any person or property or the unlawful taking of property or involving the use or possession of cannabis, or involving the acquisition, possession, or consumption of alcohol by a person under the age of twenty-one years under RCW 66.44.270, or involving criminal trespass under RCW 9A.52.070 or 9A.52.080, shall have the authority to arrest the person.

(2) A police officer shall arrest and take into custody, pending release on bail, personal recognizance, or court order, a person without a warrant when the officer has probable cause to believe that:

(a) An order has been issued of which the person has knowledge under RCW 26.44.063, or chapter 7.90, 10.99, 26.09, 26.10, 26.26, 26.50, or 74.34 RCW restraining the person and the person has violated the terms of the order restraining the person from acts or threats of violence, or restraining the person from going onto the grounds of or entering a residence, workplace, school, or day care, or prohibiting the person from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of a location or, in the case of an order issued under RCW 26.44.063, imposing any other restrictions or conditions upon the person; or

(b) A foreign protection order, as defined in RCW 26.52.010, has been issued of which the person under restraint has knowledge and the person under restraint has violated a provision of the foreign protection order prohibiting the person under restraint from contacting or communicating with another person, or excluding the person under restraint from a residence, workplace, school, or day care, or prohibiting the person from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of a location, or a violation of any provision for which the foreign protection order specifically indicates that a violation will be a crime; or

(c) The person is sixteen years or older and within the preceding four hours has assaulted a family or household member as defined in RCW 10.99.020 and the officer believes: (i) A felonious assault has occurred; (ii) an assault has occurred which has resulted in bodily injury to the victim, whether the injury is observable by the responding officer or not; or (iii) that any physical action has occurred which was intended to cause another person reasonably to fear imminent serious bodily injury or death. Bodily injury means physical pain, illness, or an impairment of physical condition. When the officer has probable cause to believe that family or household members have assaulted each other, the officer is not required to arrest both persons. The officer shall arrest the person whom the officer believes to be the primary physical aggressor. In making this determination, the officer shall make every reasonable effort to consider: (i) The intent to protect victims of domestic violence under RCW 10.99.010; (ii) the comparative extent of injuries inflicted or serious threats creating fear of physical injury; and (iii) the history of domestic violence of each person involved, including whether the conduct was part of an ongoing pattern of abuse.

(3) Any police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing a violation of any of the following traffic laws shall have the authority to arrest the person:

(a) RCW 46.52.010, relating to duty on striking an unattended car or other property;

(b) RCW 46.52.020, relating to duty in case of injury to or death of a person or damage to an attended vehicle;

(c) RCW 46.61.500 or 46.61.530, relating to reckless driving or racing of vehicles;

(d) RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, relating to persons under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs;

(e) RCW 46.20.342, relating to driving a motor vehicle while operator's license is suspended or revoked;

(f) RCW 46.61.5249, relating to operating a motor vehicle in a negligent manner.

(4) A law enforcement officer investigating at the scene of a motor vehicle accident may arrest the driver of a motor vehicle involved in the accident if the officer has probable cause to believe that the driver has committed in connection with the accident a violation of any traffic law or regulation.

(5) Any police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing a violation of RCW 79A.60.040 shall have the authority to arrest the person.

(6) An officer may act upon the request of a law enforcement officer in whose presence a traffic infraction was committed, to stop, detain, arrest, or issue a notice of traffic infraction to the driver who is believed to have committed the infraction. The request by the witnessing officer shall give an officer the authority to take appropriate action under the laws of the state of Washington.

(7) Any police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing any act of indecent exposure, as defined in RCW 9A.88.010, may arrest the person.

(8) A police officer may arrest and take into custody, pending release on bail, personal recognizance, or court order, a person without a warrant when the officer has probable cause to believe that an order has been issued of which the person has knowledge under chapter 10.14 RCW and the person has violated the terms of that order.

(9) Any police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has, within twenty-four hours of the alleged violation, committed a violation of RCW 9A.50.020 may arrest such person.

(10) A police officer having probable cause to believe that a person illegally possesses or illegally has possessed a firearm or other dangerous weapon on private or public elementary or secondary school premises shall have the authority to arrest the person.

For purposes of this subsection, the term "firearm" has the meaning defined in RCW 9.41.010 and the term "dangerous weapon" has the meaning defined in RCW 9.41.250 and 9.41.280(1) (c) through (e).

(11) Except as specifically provided in subsections (2), (3), (4), and (6) of this section, nothing in this section extends or otherwise affects the powers of arrest prescribed in Title 46 RCW.

(12) No police officer may be held criminally or civilly liable for making an arrest pursuant to subsection (2) or (8) of this section if the police officer acts in good faith and without malice. [2010 c 274 § 201; 2006 c 138 § 23; 2000 c 119 § 4; 1999 c 184 § 14; 1997 c 66 § 10; 1996 c 248 § 4. Prior: 1995 c 246 § 20; 1995 c 184 § 1; 1995 c 93 § 1; prior: 1993 c 209

§ 1; 1993 c 128 § 5; 1988 c 190 § 1; prior: 1987 c 280 § 20; 1987 c 277 § 2; 1987 c 154 § 1; 1987 c 66 § 1; prior: 1985 c 303 § 9; 1985 c 267 § 3; 1984 c 263 § 19; 1981 c 106 § 1; 1980 c 148 § 8; 1979 ex.s. c 28 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 198 § 1.]

**Intent—2010 c 274:** "The legislature intends to improve the lives of persons who suffer from the adverse effects of domestic violence and to require reasonable, coordinated measures to prevent domestic violence from occurring. The legislature intends to give law enforcement and the courts better tools to identify violent perpetrators of domestic violence and hold them accountable. The legislature intends to: Increase the safety afforded to individuals who seek protection of public and private agencies involved in domestic violence prevention; improve the ability of agencies to address the needs of victims and their children and the delivery of services; upgrade the quality of treatment programs; and enhance the ability of the justice system to respond quickly and fairly to domestic violence. In order to improve the lives of persons who have, or may suffer, the effects of domestic violence the legislature intends to achieve more uniformity in the decision-making processes at public and private agencies that address domestic violence by reducing inconsistencies and duplications allowing domestic violence victims to achieve safety and stability in their lives." [2010 c 274 § 101.]

**Short title—2006 c 138:** See RCW 7.90.900.

*Arrest procedure involving traffic violations:* Chapter 46.64 RCW.

*Domestic violence, peace officers—Immunity:* RCW 26.50.140.

*Uniform Controlled Substances Act:* Chapter 69.50 RCW.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.31.110 Arrest—Individuals with mental disorders.** (1) When a police officer has reasonable cause to believe that the individual has committed acts constituting a nonfelony crime that is not a serious offense as identified in RCW 10.77.092 and the individual is known by history or consultation with the regional support network to suffer from a mental disorder, the arresting officer may:

(a) Take the individual to a crisis stabilization unit as defined in RCW 71.05.020(6). Individuals delivered to a crisis stabilization unit pursuant to this section may be held by the facility for a period of up to twelve hours. The individual must be examined by a mental health professional within three hours of arrival;

(b) Take the individual to a triage facility as defined in RCW 71.05.020. An individual delivered to a triage facility which has elected to operate as an involuntary facility may be held up to a period of twelve hours. The individual must be examined by a mental health professional within three hours of arrival;

(c) Refer the individual to a mental health professional for evaluation for initial detention and proceeding under chapter 71.05 RCW; or

(d) Release the individual upon agreement to voluntary participation in outpatient treatment.

(2) If the individual is released to the community, the mental health provider shall inform the arresting officer of the release within a reasonable period of time after the release if the arresting officer has specifically requested notification and provided contact information to the provider.

(3) In deciding whether to refer the individual to treatment under this section, the police officer shall be guided by standards mutually agreed upon with the prosecuting authority, which address, at a minimum, the length, seriousness, and recency of the known criminal history of the individual, the mental health history of the individual, where available, and the circumstances surrounding the commission of the alleged offense.

(4) Any agreement to participate in treatment shall not require individuals to stipulate to any of the alleged facts regarding the criminal activity as a prerequisite to participation in a mental health treatment alternative. The agreement is inadmissible in any criminal or civil proceeding. The agreement does not create immunity from prosecution for the alleged criminal activity.

(5) If an individual violates such agreement and the mental health treatment alternative is no longer appropriate:

(a) The mental health provider shall inform the referring law enforcement agency of the violation; and

(b) The original charges may be filed or referred to the prosecutor, as appropriate, and the matter may proceed accordingly.

(6) The police officer is immune from liability for any good faith conduct under this section. [2011 c 305 § 7; 2011 c 148 § 3; 2007 c 375 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2011 c 148 § 3 and by 2011 c 305 § 7, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Findings—2011 c 305:** See note following RCW 74.09.295.

**Certification of triage facilities—Effective date—2011 c 148:** See notes following RCW 71.05.020.

**Findings—Purpose—2007 c 375:** "The legislature finds that \*RCW 10.77.090 contains laws relating to three discrete subjects. Therefore, one purpose of this act is to reorganize some of those laws by creating new sections in the Revised Code of Washington that clarify and identify these discrete subjects.

The legislature further finds that there are disproportionate numbers of individuals with mental illness in jail. The needs of individuals with mental illness and the public safety needs of society at large are better served when individuals with mental illness are provided an opportunity to obtain treatment and support." [2007 c 375 § 1.]

\***Reviser's note:** RCW 10.77.090 was repealed by 2007 c 375 § 17. For later enactment, see RCW 10.77.084, 10.77.086, and 10.77.088.

**Construction—2007 c 375:** "Nothing in this act shall be construed to alter or diminish a prosecutor's inherent authority to divert or pursue the prosecution of criminal offenders." [2007 c 375 § 16.]

**Severability—2007 c 375:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2007 c 375 § 18.]

## Chapter 10.34 RCW FUGITIVES OF THIS STATE

### Sections

10.34.010	Officer may arrest defendant in any county.
10.34.020	Escape—Retaking prisoner—Authority.
10.34.030	Escape—Retaking in foreign state—Extradition agents.

*Escape:* Chapter 9A.76 RCW.

*Extradition and fresh pursuit:* Chapter 10.88 RCW.

*Return of parole violators from another state:* RCW 9.95.280 through 9.95.300.

**10.34.010 Officer may arrest defendant in any county.** If any person against whom a warrant may be issued for an alleged offense, committed in any county, shall either before or after the issuing of such warrant, escape from, or be out of the county, the sheriff or other officer to whom such warrant may be directed, may pursue and apprehend the party charged, in any county in this state, and for that purpose may command aid, and exercise the same authority as in his or her

own county. [2010 c 8 § 1033; Code 1881 § 1922; 1873 p 394 § 220; 1854 p 107 § 28; RRS § 1950.]

**10.34.020 Escape—Retaking prisoner—Authority.**

If a person arrested escape or be rescued, the person from whose custody he or she made his or her escape, or was rescued, may immediately pursue and retake him or her at any time, and within any place in the state. To retake the person escaping or rescued, the person pursuing has the same power to command assistance as given in cases of arrest. [2010 c 8 § 1034; Code 1881 § 1032; 1873 p 229 § 212; 1854 p 114 § 76; RRS § 2085.]

**10.34.030 Escape—Retaking in foreign state—Extradition agents.** The governor may appoint agents to make a demand upon the executive authority of any state or territory for the surrender of any fugitive from justice, or any other person charged with a felony or any other crime in this state. Whenever an application shall be made to the governor for the appointment of an agent he or she may require the official submitting the same to provide whatever information is necessary prior to approval of the application. [2010 c 8 § 1035; 1993 c 442 § 1; 1967 c 91 § 2; 1891 c 28 § 98; Code 1881 § 971; 1873 p 217 § 157; 1854 p 102 § 5; RRS § 2241.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**Chapter 10.37 RCW**

**ACCUSATIONS AND THEIR REQUISITES**

Sections

- 10.37.010 Pleadings required in criminal proceedings.
- 10.37.015 Charge by information or indictment—Exceptions.
- 10.37.040 Indictment—Form.
- 10.37.050 Indictment or information—Sufficiency.
- 10.37.052 Indictment or information—Requisites.
- 10.37.054 Indictment or information—Certainty.
- 10.37.056 Indictment or information—Certain defects or imperfections deemed immaterial.
- 10.37.060 Indictment or information—Separation into counts—Consolidation.
- 10.37.070 Animals—Description of.
- 10.37.080 Forgery—Description of instrument.
- 10.37.090 Injury to person or intention concerning.
- 10.37.100 Judgment, how pleaded.
- 10.37.110 Larceny or embezzlement—Specification.
- 10.37.130 Obscene literature—Description.
- 10.37.140 Perjury—Subornation of perjury—Description of matter.
- 10.37.150 Presumptions of law need not be stated.
- 10.37.160 Statute—Exact words need not be used.
- 10.37.170 Statute, private—Description.
- 10.37.190 Words and phrases—How used.

**Rules of court:** *Rights of dependents—CrR 3.1 through 3.6.*  
*Ownership of property, proof of: RCW 10.58.060.*

**10.37.010 Pleadings required in criminal proceedings.** No pleading other than an indictment, information or complaint shall be required on the part of the state in any criminal proceedings in any court of the state, and when such pleading is in the manner and form as provided by law the defendant shall be required to plead thereto as prescribed by law without any further action or proceedings of any kind on the part of the state. [1925 ex.s. c 150 § 3; RRS § 2050-1. FORMER PARTS OF SECTION: (i) 1927 c 103 § 1; Code 1881 § 764; RRS § 2023, now codified as RCW 10.37.015. (ii) 1909 c 87 § 1; 1891 c 117 § 1; 1890 p 100 § 1; RRS § 2024, now codified as RCW 10.37.026. (iii) 1891 c 28 § 19;

Code 1881 § 1003; 1873 p 224 § 186; 1869 p 240 § 181; RRS § 2054, now codified as RCW 10.37.025.]

**10.37.015 Charge by information or indictment—**

**Exceptions.** (1) No person shall be held to answer in any court for an alleged crime or offense, unless upon an information filed by the prosecuting attorney, or upon an indictment by a grand jury, except in cases of misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor before a district or municipal judge, or before a court martial, except as provided in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) Violations of RCW 46.20.342(1)(c)(iv) may be required by the prosecuting attorney to be referred to his or her office for consideration of filing an information or for entry into a precharge diversion program. [2011 c 46 § 1; 1987 c 202 § 167; 1927 c 103 § 1; Code 1881 § 764; RRS § 2023. Formerly RCW 10.37.010, part.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**10.37.040 Indictment—Form.** The indictment may be substantially in the following form:

State of Washington	}	Superior Court of the State of Washington for the County of .....
v.		
A. ....		
B. ....		

A. B. is accused by the grand jury of the . . . . . , by this indictment, of the crime of [here insert the name of the crime, if it have one, such as treason, murder, arson, manslaughter, or the like; or if it be a crime having no general name, such as libel, assault and battery, and the like, insert a brief description of it as given by law], committed as follows:

The said A. B. on the . . . . day of . . . . . , 19. . . , in the county of . . . . . , aforesaid, [here set forth the act charged as a crime.]

Dated at . . . . . , in the county aforesaid, the . . . . day of . . . . . , A.D. 19. . .

(Signed) C. D., Prosecuting Attorney.

(Indorsed) A true bill.

(Signed) E. F., Foreperson of the Grand Jury.

[2010 c 8 § 1036; 1891 c 28 § 21; Code 1881 § 1005; 1873 p 225 § 188; 1869 p 240 § 183; RRS § 2056.]

**10.37.050 Indictment or information—Sufficiency.** The indictment or information is sufficient if it can be understood therefrom—

(1) That it is entitled in a court having authority to receive it;

(2) That it was found by a grand jury or prosecuting attorney of the county in which the court was held;

(3) That the defendant is named, or if his or her name cannot be discovered, that he or she is described by a fictitious name or by reference to a unique genetic sequence of deoxyribonucleic acid, with the statement that his or her real name is unknown;

(4) That the crime was committed within the jurisdiction of the court, except where, as provided by law, the act, though done without the county in which the court is held, is triable therein;

(5) That the crime was committed at some time previous to the finding of the indictment or filing of the information, and within the time limited by law for the commencement of an action therefor;

(6) That the act or omission charged as the crime is clearly and distinctly set forth in ordinary and concise language, without repetition, and in such a manner as to enable a person of common understanding to know what is intended;

(7) The act or omission charged as the crime is stated with such a degree of certainty as to enable the court to pronounce judgment upon a conviction according to the right of the case. [2010 c 8 § 1037; 2000 c 92 § 3; 1891 c 28 § 29; Code 1881 § 1014; 1873 p 226 § 197; 1869 p 242 § 192; RRS § 2065. FORMER PARTS OF SECTION: (i) 1891 c 28 § 20; Code 1881 § 1004; 1873 p 224 § 187; 1869 p 240 § 182; RRS § 2055, now codified as RCW 10.37.052. (ii) 1891 c 28 § 22; Code 1881 § 1006; 1873 p 225 § 189; 1854 p 112 § 61; 1869 p 241 § 184; RRS § 2057, now codified as RCW 10.37.054. (iii) 1891 c 28 § 30; Code 1881 § 1015; 1873 p 227 § 198; 1869 p 242 § 193; RRS § 2066, now codified as RCW 10.37.056.]

**Intent—2000 c 92:** See note following RCW 10.73.170.

#### **10.37.052 Indictment or information—Requisites.**

The indictment or information must contain—

(1) The title of the action, specifying the name of the court to which the indictment or information is presented and the names of the parties;

(2) A statement of the acts constituting the offense, in ordinary and concise language, without repetition, and in such manner as to enable a person of common understanding to know what is intended. [1891 c 28 § 20; Code 1881 § 1004; 1873 p 224 § 187; 1869 p 240 § 182; RRS § 2055. Formerly RCW 10.37.050, part.]

#### **10.37.054 Indictment or information—Certainty.**

The indictment or information must be direct and certain as it regards:

(1) The party charged;

(2) The crime charged; and

(3) The particular circumstances of the crime charged, when they are necessary to constitute a complete crime. [1891 c 28 § 22; Code 1881 § 1006; 1873 p 225 § 189; 1869 p 241 § 184; 1854 p 112 § 61; RRS § 2057. Formerly RCW 10.37.050, part.]

**10.37.056 Indictment or information—Certain defects or imperfections deemed immaterial.** No indictment or information is insufficient, nor can the trial, judgment or other proceedings thereon be affected, by reason of any of the following matters, which were formerly deemed defects or imperfections:

(1) For want of an allegation of the time or place of any material fact, when the time and place have been once stated;

(2) For the omission of any of the following allegations, namely: "With force and arms," "contrary to the form of the

statute or the statutes," or "against the peace and dignity of the state;"

(3) For the omission to allege that the grand jury was impaneled, sworn, or charged;

(4) For any surplusage or repugnant allegation or for any repetition, when there is sufficient matter alleged to indicate clearly the offense and the person charged; nor

(5) For any other matter which was formerly deemed a defect or imperfection, but which does not tend to the prejudice of the substantial rights of the defendant upon the merits. [1891 c 28 § 30; Code 1881 § 1015; 1873 p 227 § 198; 1869 p 242 § 193; RRS § 2066. Formerly RCW 10.37.050, part.]

*Ownership of property, proof of:* RCW 10.58.060.

**10.37.060 Indictment or information—Separation into counts—Consolidation.** When there are several charges against any person, or persons, for the same act or transaction, or for two or more acts or transactions connected together, or for two or more acts or transactions of the same class of crimes or offenses, which may be properly joined, instead of having several indictments or informations the whole may be joined in one indictment, or information, in separate counts; and, if two or more indictments are found, or two or more informations filed, in such cases, the court may order such indictments or informations to be consolidated. [1925 ex.s. c 109 § 1; 1891 c 28 § 24; Code 1881 § 1008; 1873 p 225 § 191; 1869 p 241 § 186; RRS § 2059.]

**10.37.070 Animals—Description of.** When the crime involves the taking of or injury to an animal the indictment or information is sufficiently certain in that respect if it describes the animal by the common name of its class. [1891 c 28 § 26; Code 1881 § 1011; 1873 p 226 § 194; 1869 p 241 § 189; RRS § 2062.]

*Crimes relating to animals:* Chapter 9.08 RCW.

*Larceny:* Chapter 9A.56 RCW.

#### **10.37.080 Forgery—Description of instrument.**

When an instrument which is the subject of an indictment or information for forgery has been destroyed or withheld by the act or procurement of the defendant, and the fact of the destruction or withholding is alleged in the indictment or information, and established on the trial, the misdescription of the instrument is immaterial. [1891 c 28 § 35; Code 1881 § 1020; 1873 p 227 § 203; 1854 p 113 § 68; RRS § 2071.]

*Forgery:* Chapter 9A.60 RCW.

#### **10.37.090 Injury to person or intention concerning.**

When the crime involves the commission of, or an attempt to commit a private injury, and is described with sufficient certainty in other respects to identify the act, an erroneous allegation as to the person injured or intended to be injured is not material. [Code 1881 § 1010; 1873 p 226 § 193; 1869 p 241 § 188; RRS § 2061.]

**10.37.100 Judgment, how pleaded.** In pleading a judgment or other determination of or proceeding before a court or officer of special jurisdiction, it is not necessary to state in the indictment or information the facts conferring jurisdiction; but the judgment, determination or proceeding may be stated to have been duly given or made. The facts conferring

jurisdiction, however, must be established on the trial. [1891 c 28 § 32; Code 1881 § 1017; 1873 p 227 § 200; 1869 p 242 § 195; 1854 p 112 § 65; RRS § 2068.]

#### 10.37.110 Larceny or embezzlement—Specification.

In an indictment or information for larceny or embezzlement of money, bank notes, certificates of stock, or valuable securities, or for a conspiracy to cheat or defraud a person of any such property, it is sufficient to allege the larceny or embezzlement, or the conspiracy to cheat and defraud, to be of money, bank notes, certificates of stock, or valuable securities, without specifying the coin, number, denomination or kind thereof. [1891 c 28 § 38; Code 1881 § 1023; RRS § 2074.]

*Larceny: Chapter 9A.56 RCW.*

*Ownership of property, proof of: RCW 10.58.060.*

#### 10.37.130 Obscene literature—Description.

An indictment or information for exhibiting, publishing, passing, selling, or offering to sell, or having in possession with such intent, any lewd or obscene book, pamphlet, picture, print, card, paper, or writing, need not set forth any portion of the language used or figures shown upon such book, pamphlet, picture, print, card, paper, or writing, but it is sufficient to state generally the fact of the lewdness or obscenity thereof. [1891 c 28 § 39; Code 1881 § 1024; RRS § 2075.]

*Obscenity: Chapter 9.68 RCW.*

#### 10.37.140 Perjury—Subornation of perjury—

**Description of matter.** In an indictment or information for perjury, or subornation of perjury, it is sufficient to set forth the substance of the controversy or matter in respect to which the crime was committed, and in what court or before whom the oath alleged to be false was taken, and that the court or person before whom it was taken had authority to administer it, with proper allegations of the falsity of the matter on which the perjury is assigned; but the indictment or information need not set forth the pleadings, record or proceedings with which the oath is connected, nor the commission or authority of the court or person before whom the perjury was committed. [1891 c 28 § 36; Code 1881 § 1021; 1873 p 228 § 204; 1869 p 243 § 199; 1854 p 112 § 67; RRS § 2072.]

*Perjury: Chapter 9A.72 RCW.*

#### 10.37.150 Presumptions of law need not be stated.

Neither presumptions of law nor matters of which judicial notice is taken need be stated in an indictment or information. [1891 c 28 § 31; Code 1881 § 1016; 1873 p 227 § 199; 1869 p 242 § 194; RRS § 2067.]

#### 10.37.160 Statute—Exact words need not be used.

Words used in a statute to define a crime need not be strictly pursued in the indictment or information, but other words conveying the same meaning may be used. [1891 c 28 § 28; Code 1881 § 1013; 1873 p 226 § 196; 1869 p 241 § 191; RRS § 2064.]

**10.37.170 Statute, private—Description.** In pleading a private statute, or right derived therefrom, it is sufficient to refer, in the indictment or information, to the statute by its title and the day of its passage, and the court must thereupon

take judicial notice thereof. [1891 c 28 § 33; Code 1881 § 1018; 1873 p 227 § 201; 1869 p 243 § 196; 1854 p 112 § 66; RRS § 2069.]

**10.37.190 Words and phrases—How used.** The words used in an indictment or information must be construed in their usual acceptation, in common language, except words and phrases defined by law, which are to be construed according to their legal meaning. [1891 c 28 § 27; Code 1881 § 1012; 1873 p 227 § 195; 1869 p 241 § 190; RRS § 2063.]

## Chapter 10.40 RCW ARRAIGNMENT

### Sections

10.40.050	Entry and use of true name.
10.40.060	Pleading to arraignment.
10.40.070	Motion to set aside indictment.
10.40.075	Motion to set aside indictment—Grounds not allowed, when.
10.40.090	Sustaining motion—Effect of.
10.40.100	Overruling motion—Pleading over.
10.40.110	Demurrer to indictment or information.
10.40.120	Sustaining demurrer—When final.
10.40.125	Sustaining demurrer, etc.—When not final.
10.40.140	Overruling demurrer—Pleading over.
10.40.170	Plea of guilty.
10.40.180	Plea of not guilty.
10.40.190	Refusal to answer.
10.40.200	Deportation of aliens upon conviction—Advisement—Legislative intent.

*Rules of court: Arraignment—CrR 4.1.*

**10.40.050 Entry and use of true name.** If he or she alleges that another name is his or her true name it must be entered in the minutes of the court, and the subsequent proceedings on the indictment or information may be had against him or her by that name, referring also to the name by which he or she is indicted or informed against. [2010 c 8 § 1038; 1891 c 28 § 49; Code 1881 § 1065; 1873 p 232 § 227; 1854 p 116 § 91; RRS § 2097.]

*Action on discovery of true name: RCW 10.46.060.*

**10.40.060 Pleading to arraignment.** In answer to the arraignment, the defendant may move to set aside the indictment or information, or he or she may demur or plead to it, and is entitled to one day after arraignment in which to answer thereto if he or she demands it. [2010 c 8 § 1039; 1891 c 28 § 50; Code 1881 § 1045; RRS § 2098.]

**10.40.070 Motion to set aside indictment.** The motion to set aside the indictment can be made by the defendant on one or more of the following grounds, and must be sustained:

(1) When any person, other than the grand jurors, was present before the grand jury when the question was taken upon the finding of the indictment, or when any person, other than the grand jurors, was present before the grand jury during the investigation of the charge, except as required or permitted by law;

(2) If the grand jury were not selected, drawn, summoned, impaneled, or sworn as prescribed by law. [1983 c 3 § 12; 1957 c 10 § 1; Code 1881 § 1046; RRS § 2099. FOR-MER PART OF SECTION: Code 1881 § 1047; RRS § 2100, now codified as RCW 10.40.075.]



**10.40.075 Motion to set aside indictment—Grounds not allowed, when.** The ground of the motion to set aside the indictment mentioned in the fourth subdivision of RCW 10.40.070 is not allowed to a defendant who has been held to answer before indictment. [Code 1881 § 1047; RRS § 2100. Formerly RCW 10.40.070, part.]

**10.40.090 Sustaining motion—Effect of.** An order to set aside the indictment or information as provided in this chapter shall be no bar to a future prosecution for the same offense. [1891 c 28 § 54; Code 1881 § 1050; RRS § 2104.]

**10.40.100 Overruling motion—Pleading over.** If the motion to set aside the indictment [or information] be denied, the defendant must immediately answer the indictment or information, either by demurring or pleading thereto. [1891 c 28 § 52; Code 1881 § 1048; RRS § 2102.]

**10.40.110 Demurrer to indictment or information.** The defendant may demur to the indictment or information when it appears upon its face either—

- (1) That it does not substantially conform to the requirements of this code;
- (2) [That] more than one crime is charged;
- (3) That the facts charged do not constitute a crime;
- (4) That the indictment or information contains any matter which, if true, would constitute a defense or other legal bar to the action. [1891 c 28 § 55; Code 1881 § 1051; RRS § 2105.]

**10.40.120 Sustaining demurrer—When final.** If the demurrer is sustained because the indictment or information contains matter which is a legal defense or bar to the action, the judgment shall be final, and the defendant must be discharged. [1891 c 28 § 56; Code 1881 § 1052; RRS § 2106. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1891 c 28 § 61; Code 1881 § 1060; RRS § 2114, now codified as RCW 10.40.125.]

**10.40.125 Sustaining demurrer, etc.—When not final.** The judgment for the defendant on a demurrer to the indictment or information, except where it is otherwise provided, or for an objection taken at the trial to its form or substance, or for variance between the indictment or information and the proof, shall not bar another prosecution for the same offense. [1891 c 28 § 61; Code 1881 § 1060; RRS § 2114. Formerly RCW 10.40.120, part.]

**10.40.140 Overruling demurrer—Pleading over.** If the demurrer is overruled the defendant has a right to put in a plea. If he or she fails to do so, judgment may be rendered against him or her on the demurrer, and, if necessary, a jury may be impaneled to inquire and ascertain the degree of the offense. [2010 c 8 § 1040; Code 1881 § 1053; RRS § 2107.]

**10.40.170 Plea of guilty.** The plea of guilty can only be put in by the defendant himself or herself in open court. [2010 c 8 § 1041; Code 1881 § 1056; RRS § 2110. FORMER PART OF SECTION: Code 1881 § 1057; RRS § 2111, now codified as RCW 10.40.175.]

**10.40.180 Plea of not guilty.** The plea of not guilty is a denial of every material allegation in the indictment or information; and all matters of fact may be given in evidence under it, except a former conviction or acquittal. [1891 c 28 § 59; Code 1881 § 1058; RRS § 2112.]

**10.40.190 Refusal to answer.** If the defendant fail or refuse to answer the indictment or information by demurrer or plea, a plea of not guilty must be entered by the court. [1891 c 28 § 62; Code 1881 § 1061; 1873 p 232 § 224; 1854 p 116 § 88; RRS § 2115.]

**10.40.200 Deportation of aliens upon conviction—Advisement—Legislative intent.** (1) The legislature finds and declares that in many instances involving an individual who is not a citizen of the United States charged with an offense punishable as a crime under state law, a plea of guilty is entered without the defendant knowing that a conviction of such offense is grounds for deportation, exclusion from admission to the United States, or denial of naturalization pursuant to the laws of the United States. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature in enacting this section to promote fairness to such accused individuals by requiring in such cases that acceptance of a guilty plea be preceded by an appropriate warning of the special consequences for such a defendant which may result from the plea. It is further the intent of the legislature that at the time of the plea no defendant be required to disclose his or her legal status to the court.

(2) Prior to acceptance of a plea of guilty to any offense punishable as a crime under state law, except offenses designated as infractions under state law, the court shall determine that the defendant has been advised of the following potential consequences of conviction for a defendant who is not a citizen of the United States: Deportation, exclusion from admission to the United States, or denial of naturalization pursuant to the laws of the United States. A defendant signing a guilty plea statement containing the advisement required by this subsection shall be presumed to have received the required advisement. If, after September 1, 1983, the defendant has not been advised as required by this section and the defendant shows that conviction of the offense to which the defendant pleaded guilty may have the consequences for the defendant of deportation, exclusion from admission to the United States, or denial of naturalization pursuant to the laws of the United States, the court, on defendant's motion, shall vacate the judgment and permit the defendant to withdraw the plea of guilty and enter a plea of not guilty. Absent a written acknowledgment by the defendant of the advisement required by this subsection, the defendant shall be presumed not to have received the required advisement.

(3) With respect to pleas accepted prior to September 1, 1983, it is not the intent of the legislature that a defendant's failure to receive the advisement required by subsection (2) of this section should require the vacation of judgment and withdrawal of the plea or constitute grounds for finding a prior conviction invalid. [1983 c 199 § 1.]

**Notice to courts—Rules—Forms:** "The administrative office of the courts shall notify all courts of the requirements contained in RCW 10.40.200. The judicial council shall recommend to the supreme court appropriate court rules to ensure compliance with the requirements of RCW 10.40.200. Until court rules are promulgated, the administrative office of the

courts shall develop and distribute forms necessary for the courts to comply with RCW 10.40.200." [2005 c 282 § 21; 1983 c 199 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### Chapter 10.43 RCW

#### FORMER ACQUITTAL OR CONVICTION

##### Sections

- 10.43.020 Offense embraces lower degree and included offenses.
- 10.43.030 Conviction or acquittal in other county.
- 10.43.040 Foreign conviction or acquittal.
- 10.43.050 Acquittal, when a bar.

*Discharge of codefendant as bar to further prosecution: RCW 10.46.110.*

*Double jeopardy: State Constitution Art. 1 § 9.*

**10.43.020 Offense embraces lower degree and included offenses.** When the defendant has been convicted or acquitted upon an indictment or information of an offense consisting of different degrees, the conviction or acquittal shall be a bar to another indictment or information for the offense charged in the former, or for any lower degree of that offense, or for an offense necessarily included therein. [1891 c 28 § 74; Code 1881 § 1096; 1873 p 238 § 257; 1854 p 120 § 121; RRS § 2166.]

*Bar as to prosecution for same crime in another degree, or attempt: RCW 10.43.050.*

**10.43.030 Conviction or acquittal in other county.** Whenever, upon the trial of any person for a crime, it shall appear that the defendant has already been acquitted or convicted upon the merits, of the same crime, in a court having jurisdiction of such offense in another county of this state, such former acquittal or conviction is a sufficient defense. [1909 c 249 § 20; RRS § 2272.]

**10.43.040 Foreign conviction or acquittal.** Whenever, upon the trial of any person for a crime, it appears that the offense was committed in another state or country, under such circumstances that the courts of this state had jurisdiction thereof, and that the defendant has already been acquitted or convicted upon the merits, in a judicial proceeding conducted under the criminal laws of such state or country, founded upon the act or omission with respect to which he or she is upon trial, such former acquittal or conviction is a sufficient defense. Nothing in this section affects or prevents a prosecution in a court of this state of any person who has received administrative or nonjudicial punishment, civilian or military, in another state or country based upon the same act or omission. [2010 c 8 § 1042; 1999 c 141 § 1; 1909 c 249 § 19; RRS § 2271.]

**10.43.050 Acquittal, when a bar.** No order of dismissal or directed verdict of not guilty on the ground of a variance between the indictment or information and the proof, or on the ground of any defect in such indictment or information, shall bar another prosecution for the same offense. Whenever a defendant shall be acquitted or convicted upon an indictment or information charging a crime consisting of different degrees, he or she cannot be proceeded against or tried for the same crime in another degree, nor for an attempt to commit such crime, or any degree thereof.

[2010 c 8 § 1043; 1909 c 249 § 64; Code 1881 § 769; RRS § 2316.]

*Offense embraces lower degree and included offenses: RCW 10.43.020.*

*Ownership of property—Proof of: RCW 10.58.060.*

### Chapter 10.46 RCW

#### SUPERIOR COURT TRIAL

##### Sections

- 10.46.020 Trial docket.
- 10.46.060 True name inserted in proceedings.
- 10.46.070 Conduct of trial—Generally.
- 10.46.080 Continuances.
- 10.46.085 Continuances not permitted in certain cases.
- 10.46.110 Discharging defendant to give evidence.
- 10.46.190 Liability of convicted person for costs—Jury fee.
- 10.46.200 Costs allowed to acquitted or discharged defendant.
- 10.46.210 Taxation of costs on acquittal or discharge—Generally—Fivolous complaints.
- 10.46.220 Cost bills in felony cases—Certification.
- 10.46.230 Cost bills in felony cases—Payment.

*Criminal rules for superior court: Rules of court: Superior Court Criminal Rules (CrR).*

*Superior court rules: State Constitution Art. 4 § 24.*

**10.46.020 Trial docket.** The clerk shall, in preparing the docket of criminal cases, enumerate the indictments and informations pending according to the date of their filing, specifying opposite to the title of each action whether it be for a felony or misdemeanor, and whether the defendant be in custody or on bail; and shall, in like manner, enter therein all indictments and informations on which issues of fact are joined, all cases brought to the court on change of venue from other counties, and all cases pending upon appeal from inferior courts. [1891 c 28 § 65; Code 1881 § 1044; 1873 p 231 § 222; 1854 p 115 § 86; RRS § 2134.]

**10.46.060 True name inserted in proceedings.** When a defendant is designated in the indictment or information by a fictitious or erroneous name, and in any stage of the proceedings his or her true name is discovered, it may be inserted in the subsequent proceedings, referring to the fact of his or her being indicted or informed against by the name mentioned in the indictment or information. [2010 c 8 § 1044; 1891 c 28 § 23; Code 1881 § 1007; 1873 p 225 § 190; 1869 p 241 § 185; RRS § 2058.]

*True name: RCW 10.40.050.*

**10.46.070 Conduct of trial—Generally.** The court shall decide all questions of law which shall arise in the course of the trial, and the trial shall be conducted in the same manner as in civil actions. [1891 c 28 § 70; Code 1881 § 1088; 1873 p 237 § 249; 1854 p 119 § 111; RRS § 2158. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1891 c 28 § 66, part; Code 1881 § 1078; 1873 p 236 § 239; 1854 p 118 § 101; RRS § 2137, part, now codified as RCW 10.49.020.]

*Rules of court: This section superseded, in part, by CrR 6. See comment preceding CrR 6.1.*

**10.46.080 Continuances.** A continuance may be granted in any case on the ground of the absence of evidence on the motion of the defendant supported by affidavit showing the materiality of the evidence expected to be obtained, and that due diligence has been used to procure it; and also

the name and place of residence of the witness or witnesses; and the substance of the evidence expected to be obtained, and if the prosecuting attorney admit that such evidence would be given, and that it be considered as actually given on the trial or offered and overruled as improper the continuance shall not be granted. [Code 1881 § 1077; 1877 p 206 § 7; RRS § 2135.]

**10.46.085 Continuances not permitted in certain cases.** When a defendant is charged with a crime which constitutes a violation of RCW 9A.64.020 or chapter 9.68, 9.68A, or 9A.44 RCW, and the alleged victim of the crime is a person under the age of eighteen years, neither the defendant nor the prosecuting attorney may agree to extend the originally scheduled trial date unless the court within its discretion finds that there are substantial and compelling reasons for a continuance of the trial date and that the benefit of the postponement outweighs the detriment to the victim. The court may consider the testimony of lay witnesses and of expert witnesses, if available, regarding the impact of the continuance on the victim. [1989 c 332 § 7.]

**Finding—1989 c 332:** "The legislature finds that treatment of the emotional problems of child sexual abuse victims may be impaired by lengthy delay in trial of the accused and the resulting delay in testimony of the child victim. The trauma of the abusive incident is likely to be exacerbated by requiring testimony from a victim who has substantially completed therapy and is forced to relive the incident. The legislature finds that it is necessary to prevent, to the extent reasonably possible, lengthy and unnecessary delays in trial of a person charged with abuse of a minor." [1989 c 332 § 6.]

**10.46.110 Discharging defendant to give evidence.** When two or more persons are included in one prosecution, the court may, at any time before the defendant has gone into his or her defense, direct any defendant to be discharged, that he or she may be a witness for the state. A defendant may also, when there is not sufficient evidence to put him or her on his or her defense, at any time before the evidence is closed, be discharged by the court, for the purpose of giving evidence for a codefendant. The order of discharge is a bar to another prosecution for the same offense. [2010 c 8 § 1045; Code 1881 § 1092; 1873 p 237 § 253; 1854 p 120 § 117; RRS § 2162.]

*Conviction or acquittal—Several defendants: RCW 10.61.035.*

**10.46.190 Liability of convicted person for costs—Jury fee.** Every person convicted of a crime or held to bail to keep the peace shall be liable to all the costs of the proceedings against him or her, including, when tried by a jury in the superior court or before a committing magistrate, a jury fee as provided for in civil actions for which judgment shall be rendered and collected. The jury fee, when collected for a case tried by the superior court, shall be paid to the clerk and applied as the jury fee in civil cases is applied. [2005 c 457 § 12; 1977 ex.s. c 248 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 53 § 1; 1961 c 304 § 8; Code 1881 § 2105; 1869 p 418 § 3; RRS § 2227.]

**Intent—2005 c 457:** See note following RCW 43.08.250.

*Disposition of fines and costs: Chapter 10.82 RCW.*

*Jury*

*fees: RCW 4.44.110, 36.18.020.*

*in district court: RCW 10.04.050.*

**10.46.200 Costs allowed to acquitted or discharged defendant.** No prisoner or person under recognizance who shall be acquitted by verdict or discharged because no indictment is found against him or her, or for want of prosecution, shall be liable for any costs or fees of any officer or for any charge of subsistence while he or she was in custody, but in every such case the fees of the defendant's witnesses, and of the officers for services rendered at the request of the defendant; and charges for subsistence of the defendant while in custody shall be taxed and paid as other costs and charges in such cases. [2010 c 8 § 1046; Code 1881 § 1168; 1877 p 207 § 10; 1854 p 129 § 177; RRS § 2236.]

**10.46.210 Taxation of costs on acquittal or discharge—Generally—F frivolous complaints.** When any person shall be brought before a court or other committing magistrate of any county, city or town in this state, having jurisdiction of the alleged offense, charged with the commission of a crime or misdemeanor, and such complaint upon examination shall appear to be unfounded, no costs shall be payable by such acquitted party, but the same shall be chargeable to the county, city or town for or in which the said complaint is triable, but if the court or other magistrate trying said charge, shall decide the complaint was frivolous or malicious, the judgment or verdict shall also designate who is the complainant, and may adjudge that said complainant pay the costs. In such cases a judgment shall thereupon be entered for the costs against said complainant, who shall stand committed until such costs be paid or discharged by due process of law. [1987 c 202 § 168; Code 1881 § 2103; 1869 p 418 § 1; RRS § 2225.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**10.46.220 Cost bills in felony cases—Certification.** In all convictions for felony, whether capital or punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary, the clerk of the superior court shall forthwith, after sentence, tax the costs in the case. The cost bill shall be made out in triplicate, and be examined by the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the trial was had. After which the judge of the superior court shall allow and approve such bill or so much thereof, as is allowable by law. The clerk of the superior court shall thereupon, under his or her hand, and under the seal of the court, certify said triplicate cost bills, and shall file one with the papers of cause, and shall transmit one to the administrator for the courts and one to the county auditor of the county in which said felony was committed. [2010 c 8 § 1047; 1979 c 129 § 1; 1883 p 35 § 1; Code 1881 § 2106; RRS § 2228.]

**10.46.230 Cost bills in felony cases—Payment.** Upon the receipt of the cost bill, as provided for in the preceding section, the county auditor shall draw warrants for the amounts due each person, as certified in said cost bill, which warrants shall be paid as other county warrants are paid. On receipt of the certified copy of said cost bill, the administrator for the courts shall examine and audit said bill and allow the payment by the state of statutorily required witness fees in cases where conviction of a felony is obtained and the defendant is sentenced to pay a fine or is given a prison sentence even if the sentence is deferred or suspended. Payment shall be allowed by the administrator for the courts in such cases

even when the conviction is subsequently reversed or if a new trial is granted. [1979 c 129 § 2; 1883 p 35 § 1; Code 1881 § 2107; 1873 p 250 § 316; RRS § 2229.]

## Chapter 10.52 RCW WITNESSES—GENERALLY

### Sections

10.52.040	Compelling witness to attend and testify—Accused as witness.
10.52.060	Confrontation of witnesses.
10.52.090	Incriminating testimony not to be used.
10.52.100	Identity of child victims of sexual assault not to be disclosed.

*Discharging defendant to give evidence:* RCW 10.46.110.

*Salaried public officers shall not receive additional compensation as witness on behalf of employer, and in certain other cases:* RCW 42.16.020.

*Witnesses: Rules of court:* ER 610, CrR 6.12, CrRLJ 6.12.

**10.52.040 Compelling witness to attend and testify—Accused as witness.** Witnesses may be compelled to attend and testify before the grand jury; and witnesses on behalf of the state, or of the defendant, in a criminal prosecution, may be compelled to attend and testify in open court, if they have been subpoenaed, without their fees being first paid or tendered, unless otherwise provided by law; the court may, upon the motion of the prosecuting attorney or defense counsel, recognize witnesses, with or without sureties, to attend and testify at any hearing or trial in any criminal prosecution in any court of this state, or before the grand jury. In default of such recognizance, or in the event that surety is required and has not been obtained, the court shall require the appearance of the witness before the court and shall appoint counsel for the witness if he is indigent and then shall determine that the testimony of the witness would be material to either the prosecution or the defendant and that the witness would not attend the trial of the matter unless detained and, therefore, the court may direct that such witness shall be detained in the custody of the sheriff until the hearing or trial in which the witness is to testify: PROVIDED, That each witness detained for failure to obtain surety shall be paid, in addition to witness fees for actual appearance in court, for each day of his detention a sum equal to the daily jury fee paid to a juror serving in a superior court; and each witness in breach of recognizance and who is detained therefor shall be paid, in addition to witness fees for actual appearance in court, the sum of one dollar for each day of his detention. Any such witness shall be provided food and lodging while so detained. Any person accused of any crime in this state, by indictment, information, or otherwise, may, in the examination or trial of the cause, offer himself, or herself, as a witness in his or her own behalf, and shall be allowed to testify as other witnesses in such case, and when accused shall so testify, he or she shall be subject to all the rules of law relating to cross-examination of other witnesses: PROVIDED, That nothing in this code shall be construed to compel such accused person to offer himself or herself as a witness in such case. [1984 c 76 § 17; 1969 ex.s. c 143 § 1; 1915 c 83 § 1; 1891 c 28 § 69; Code 1881 § 1067; 1873 p 233 § 229; 1871 p 105 § 2; 1854 p 116 § 93; RRS § 2148. Formerly RCW 10.52.040, 10.52.050, 10.52.070, and 10.52.080.]

**Rules of court:** See CrR 6.13, 6.14.

*Rights of accused persons: State Constitution Art. 1 §§ 9, 22 (Amendment 10).*

**10.52.060 Confrontation of witnesses.** Every person accused of crime shall have the right to meet the witnesses produced against him or her face to face: PROVIDED, That whenever any witness whose deposition shall have been taken pursuant to law by a magistrate, in the presence of the defendant and his or her counsel, shall be absent, and cannot be found when required to testify upon any trial or hearing, so much of such deposition as the court shall deem admissible and competent shall be admitted and read as evidence in such case. [2010 c 8 § 1048; 1909 c 249 § 54; RRS § 2306. Prior: Code 1881 § 765; 1873 p 180 § 2; 1869 p 198 § 2; 1859 p 104 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** Caption for 1909 c 249 § 54 reads as follows: "SEC. 54. WITNESSES."

*Rights of accused persons: State Constitution Art. 1 § 22 (Amendment 10).*

**10.52.090 Incriminating testimony not to be used.** In every case where it is provided in \*this act that a witness shall not be excused from giving testimony tending to criminate himself or herself, no person shall be excused from testifying or producing any papers or documents on the ground that his or her testimony may tend to criminate or subject him or her to a penalty or forfeiture; but he or she shall not be prosecuted or subjected to a penalty or forfeiture for or on account of any action, matter or thing concerning which he or she shall so testify, except for perjury or offering false evidence committed in such testimony. [2010 c 8 § 1049; 1909 c 249 § 39; RRS § 2291.]

**Rules of court:** *Ordering immunity from prosecution—Incriminating testimony not to be used—CrR 6.14.*

**\*Reviser's note:** For meaning of "this act," see note following RCW 9.01.120.

*Bribery or corrupt solicitation: State Constitution Art. 2 § 30.*

*Rights of accused persons: State Constitution Art. 1 §§ 9, 22 (Amendment 10).*

*Witness not excused from giving testimony tending to incriminate himself in crimes concerning bribery: RCW 9.18.080.*

**10.52.100 Identity of child victims of sexual assault not to be disclosed.** Child victims of sexual assault who are under the age of eighteen, have a right not to have disclosed to the public or press at any court proceeding involved in the prosecution of the sexual assault, the child victim's name, address, location, photographs, and in cases in which the child victim is a relative or stepchild of the alleged perpetrator, identification of the relationship between the child and the alleged perpetrator. The court shall ensure that information identifying the child victim is not disclosed to the press or the public and that in the event of any improper disclosure the court shall make all necessary orders to restrict further dissemination of identifying information improperly obtained. Court proceedings include but are not limited to pretrial hearings, trial, sentencing, and appellate proceedings. The court shall also order that any portion of any court records, transcripts, or recordings of court proceedings that contain information identifying the child victim shall be sealed and not open to public inspection unless those identifying portions are deleted from the documents or tapes. [1992 c 188 § 9.]

**Findings—Intent—Severability—1992 c 188:** See notes following RCW 7.69A.020.

### Chapter 10.55 RCW

#### WITNESSES OUTSIDE THE STATE (UNIFORM ACT)

##### Sections

10.55.010	Definitions.
10.55.020	Summoning witness in this state to testify in another state.
10.55.060	Witness from another state summoned to testify in this state.
10.55.100	Exemption of witness from arrest and service of process.
10.55.110	Uniformity of interpretation.
10.55.120	Short title.
10.55.130	Severability—1943 c 218.

**10.55.010 Definitions.** "Witness" as used in this chapter shall include a person whose testimony is desired in any proceeding or investigation by a grand jury or in a criminal action, prosecution or proceeding.

The word "state" shall include any territory of the United States and the District of Columbia.

The word "summons" shall include a subpoena, order or other notice requiring the appearance of a witness. [1943 c 218 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2150-1.]

**10.55.020 Summoning witness in this state to testify in another state.** If a judge of a court of record in any state which by its laws has made provision for commanding persons within that state to attend and testify in this state certified under the seal of such court that there is a criminal prosecution pending in such court, or that a grand jury investigation has commenced or is about to commence, that a person being within this state is a material witness in such prosecution, or grand jury investigation, and that his or her presence will be required for a specified number of days, upon presentation of such certificate to any judge of a court of record in the county in which such person is, such judge shall fix a time and place for a hearing, and shall make an order directing the witness to appear at a time and place certain for the hearing.

If at a hearing the judge determines that the witness is material and necessary, that it will not cause undue hardship to the witness to be compelled to attend and testify in the prosecution or a grand jury investigation in the other state, and that the laws of the state in which the prosecution is pending, or grand jury investigation has commenced or is about to commence, will give to him or her protection from arrest and the service of civil and criminal process, he or she shall issue a summons, with a copy of the certificate attached, directing the witness to attend and testify in the court where the prosecution is pending, or where a grand jury investigation has commenced or is about to commence and of any other state through which the witness may be required to travel by ordinary course of travel, at a time and place specified in the certificate. In any such hearing the certificate shall be prima facie evidence of all the facts stated therein.

If said certificate recommends that the witness be taken into immediate custody and delivered to an officer of the requesting state to assure his or her attendance in the requesting state, such judge may, in lieu of notification of the hearing, direct that such witness be forthwith brought before him or her for said hearing; and the judge at the hearing being satisfied of the desirability of such custody and delivery, for which determination the certificate shall be prima facie proof

of such desirability may, in lieu of issuing subpoena or summons, order that said witness be forthwith taken into custody and delivered to an officer of the requesting state.

If the witness, who is summoned as above provided, after being paid or tendered by some properly authorized person the sum of ten cents a mile for each mile by the ordinary traveled route to and from the court where the prosecution is pending and five dollars for each day, that he or she is required to travel and attend as a witness, fails without good cause to attend and testify as directed in the summons, he or she shall be punished in the manner provided for the punishment of any witness who disobeys a summons issued from a court of record in this state. [2010 c 8 § 1050; 1943 c 218 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2150-2. Formerly RCW 10.55.020, 10.55.030, 10.55.040, and 10.55.050.]

**10.55.060 Witness from another state summoned to testify in this state.** If any person in any state, which by its laws has made provision for commanding persons within its borders to attend and testify in criminal prosecutions, or grand jury investigations commenced or about to commence, in this state, is a material witness either for the prosecution or for the defense, in a criminal action pending in a court of record in this state, or in a grand jury investigation which has commenced or is about to commence, a judge of such court may issue a certificate under the seal of the court stating these facts and specifying the number of days the witness will be required. Said certificate may include a recommendation that the witness be taken into immediate custody and delivered to an officer of this state to assure his or her attendance in this state. This certificate shall be presented to a judge of a court of record in the county in which the witness is found.

If the witness is summoned to attend and testify in this state he or she shall be tendered the sum of ten cents a mile for each mile by the ordinary traveled route to and from the court where the prosecution is pending and five dollars for each day that he or she is required to travel and attend as a witness. A witness who has appeared in accordance with the provisions of the summons shall not be required to remain within this state a longer period of time than the period mentioned in the certificate, unless otherwise ordered by the court. If such witness, after coming into this state, fails without good cause to attend and testify as directed in the summons, he or she shall be punished in the manner provided for the punishment of any witness who disobeys a summons issued from a court of record in this state. [2010 c 8 § 1051; 1943 c 218 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2150-3. Formerly RCW 10.55.060, 10.55.070, 10.55.080, and 10.55.090.]

**10.55.100 Exemption of witness from arrest and service of process.** If a person comes into this state in obedience to a summons directing him or her to attend and testify in this state he or she shall not while in this state pursuant to such summons be subject to arrest or the service of process, civil or criminal, in connection with matters which arose before his or her entrance into this state under the summons.

If a person passes through this state while going to another state in obedience to a summons to attend and testify in that state or while returning therefrom, he or she shall not while so passing through this state be subject to arrest or the service of process, civil or criminal, in connection with mat-

ters which arose before his or her entrance into this state under the summons. [2010 c 8 § 1052; 1943 c 218 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2150-4.]

**10.55.110 Uniformity of interpretation.** This chapter shall be so interpreted and construed as to effectuate its general purpose to make uniform the law of the states which enact it. [1943 c 218 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2150-5.]

**10.55.120 Short title.** This chapter may be cited as "Uniform Act to Secure the Attendance of Witnesses from Without a State in Criminal Proceedings." [1943 c 218 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2150-6.]

**10.55.130 Severability—1943 c 218.** If any provision of this chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the chapter which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this chapter are declared to be severable. [1943 c 218 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2150-7.]

## Chapter 10.58 RCW EVIDENCE

### Sections

10.58.010	Rules—Generally.
10.58.020	Presumption of innocence—Conviction of lowest degree, when.
10.58.030	Confession as evidence.
10.58.035	Statement of defendant—Admissibility.
10.58.038	Polygraph examinations—Victims of alleged sex offenses.
10.58.040	Intent to defraud.
10.58.060	Ownership—Proof of.
10.58.080	View of place of crime permissible.
10.58.090	Sex offenses—Admissibility.

### Evidence

*generally: Title 5 RCW.*

*material to homicide, search and seizure: RCW 10.79.015.*

**10.58.010 Rules—Generally.** The rules of evidence in civil actions, so far as practicable, shall be applied to criminal prosecutions. [Code 1881 § 1071; 1873 p 234 § 233; 1854 p 117 § 97; RRS § 2152.]

**10.58.020 Presumption of innocence—Conviction of lowest degree, when.** Every person charged with the commission of a crime shall be presumed innocent until the contrary is proved by competent evidence beyond a reasonable doubt; and when an offense has been proved against him or her, and there exists a reasonable doubt as to which of two or more degrees he or she is guilty, he or she shall be convicted only of the lowest. [2010 c 8 § 1053; 1909 c 249 § 56; 1891 c 28 § 91; Code 1881 § 767; 1854 p 76 § 3; RRS § 2308. Formerly RCW 10.58.020 and 10.61.020.]

*Conviction of attempts or lesser or included crimes: RCW 10.61.003, 10.61.006, 10.61.010.*

**10.58.030 Confession as evidence.** The confession of a defendant made under inducement, with all the circumstances, may be given as evidence against him or her, except when made under the influence of fear produced by threats; but a confession made under inducement is not sufficient to warrant a conviction without corroborating testimony. [2010

c 8 § 1054; Code 1881 § 1070; 1873 p 234 § 232; 1854 p 117 § 96; RRS § 2151.]

### 10.58.035 Statement of defendant—Admissibility.

(1) In criminal and juvenile offense proceedings where independent proof of the corpus delicti is absent, and the alleged victim of the crime is dead or incompetent to testify, a lawfully obtained and otherwise admissible confession, admission, or other statement of the defendant shall be admissible into evidence if there is substantial independent evidence that would tend to establish the trustworthiness of the confession, admission, or other statement of the defendant.

(2) In determining whether there is substantial independent evidence that the confession, admission, or other statement of the defendant is trustworthy, the court shall consider, but is not limited to:

(a) Whether there is any evidence corroborating or contradicting the facts set out in the statement, including the elements of the offense;

(b) The character of the witness reporting the statement and the number of witnesses to the statement;

(c) Whether a record of the statement was made and the timing of the making of the record in relation to the making of the statement; and/or

(d) The relationship between the witness and the defendant.

(3) Where the court finds that the confession, admission, or other statement of the defendant is sufficiently trustworthy to be admitted, the court shall issue a written order setting forth the rationale for admission.

(4) Nothing in this section may be construed to prevent the defendant from arguing to the jury or judge in a bench trial that the statement is not trustworthy or that the evidence is otherwise insufficient to convict. [2003 c 179 § 1.]

**10.58.038 Polygraph examinations—Victims of alleged sex offenses.** A law enforcement officer, prosecuting attorney, or other government official may not ask or require a victim of an alleged sex offense to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation of the offense. The refusal of a victim to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth telling device shall not by itself prevent the investigation, charging, or prosecution of the offense. For the purposes of this section, "sex offense" is any offense under chapter 9A.44 RCW. [2007 c 202 § 1.]

**10.58.040 Intent to defraud.** Whenever an intent to defraud shall be made an element of an offense, it shall be sufficient if an intent appears to defraud any person, association or body politic or corporate whatsoever. [1909 c 249 § 40; RRS § 2292.]

**10.58.060 Ownership—Proof of.** In the prosecution of any offense committed upon, or in relation to, or in any way affecting any real estate, or any offense committed in stealing, embezzling, destroying, injuring, or fraudulently receiving or concealing any money, goods, or other personal estate, it shall be sufficient, and shall not be deemed a variance, if it be proved on trial that at the time when such offense was committed, either the actual or constructive possession, or the

general or special property in the whole, or any part of such real or personal estate, was in the person or community alleged in the indictment or other accusation to be the owner thereof. [Code 1881 § 963; 1854 p 99 § 133; RRS § 2156.]

*Indictment or information, certain defects or imperfections deemed immaterial: RCW 10.37.056.*

**10.58.080 View of place of crime permissible.** The court may order a view by any jury impaneled to try a criminal case. [Code 1881 § 1090; 1873 p 237 § 251; 1854 p 120 § 115; RRS § 2160.]

**10.58.090 Sex Offenses—Admissibility.** (1) In a criminal action in which the defendant is accused of a sex offense, evidence of the defendant's commission of another sex offense or sex offenses is admissible, notwithstanding Evidence Rule 404(b), if the evidence is not inadmissible pursuant to Evidence Rule 403.

(2) In a case in which the state intends to offer evidence under this rule, the attorney for the state shall disclose the evidence to the defendant, including statements of witnesses or a summary of the substance of any testimony that is expected to be offered, at least fifteen days before the scheduled date of trial or at such later time as the court may allow for good cause.

(3) This section shall not be construed to limit the admission or consideration of evidence under any other evidence rule.

(4) For purposes of this section, "sex offense" means:

(a) Any offense defined as a sex offense by RCW 9.94A.030;

(b) Any violation under RCW 9A.44.096 (sexual misconduct with a minor in the second degree); and

(c) Any violation under RCW 9.68A.090 (communication with a minor for immoral purposes).

(5) For purposes of this section, uncharged conduct is included in the definition of "sex offense."

(6) When evaluating whether evidence of the defendant's commission of another sexual offense or offenses should be excluded pursuant to Evidence Rule 403, the trial judge shall consider the following factors:

(a) The similarity of the prior acts to the acts charged;

(b) The closeness in time of the prior acts to the acts charged;

(c) The frequency of the prior acts;

(d) The presence or lack of intervening circumstances;

(e) The necessity of the evidence beyond the testimonies already offered at trial;

(f) Whether the prior act was a criminal conviction;

(g) Whether the probative value is substantially outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice, confusion of the issues, or misleading the jury, or by considerations of undue delay, waste of time, or needless presentation of cumulative evidence; and

(h) Other facts and circumstances. [2008 c 90 § 2.]

**Purpose—Exception to evidence rule—2008 c 90:** "In Washington, the legislature and the courts share the responsibility for enacting rules of evidence. The court's authority for enacting rules of evidence arises from a statutory delegation of that responsibility to the court and from Article IV, section 1 of the state Constitution. *State v. Fields*, 85 Wn.2d 126, 129, 530 P.2d 284 (1975).

The legislature's authority for enacting rules of evidence arises from

the Washington supreme court's prior classification of such rules as substantive law. See *State v. Sears*, 4 Wn.2d 200, 215, 103 P.2d 337 (1940) (the legislature has the power to enact laws which create rules of evidence); *State v. Pavelich*, 153 Wash. 379, 279 P. 1102 (1929) ("rules of evidence are substantive law").

The legislature adopts this exception to Evidence Rule 404(b) to ensure that juries receive the necessary evidence to reach a just and fair verdict." [2008 c 90 § 1.]

**Application—2008 c 90 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act applies to any case that is tried on or after its adoption." [2008 c 90 § 3.]

**Reviser's note:** Section 2, chapter 90, Laws of 2008 was approved by the legislature on March 20, 2008, with an effective date of June 12, 2008.

## Chapter 10.61 RCW VERDICTS

### Sections

10.61.003 Degree offenses—Inferior degree—Attempt.

10.61.006 Other cases—Included offenses.

10.61.010 Conviction of lesser crime.

10.61.035 Conviction or acquittal—Several defendants.

10.61.060 Reconsideration of verdict.

**Rules of court: Verdicts—CrR 6.16.**

*Former acquittal or conviction—Offense embraces other degrees and included offenses: RCW 10.43.020, 10.43.050.*

**10.61.003 Degree offenses—Inferior degree—Attempt.** Upon an indictment or information for an offense consisting of different degrees, the jury may find the defendant not guilty of the degree charged in the indictment or information, and guilty of any degree inferior thereto, or of an attempt to commit the offense. [1891 c 28 § 75; Code 1881 § 1097; 1854 p 120 § 122; RRS § 2167. Formerly RCW 10.61.010, part.] [SLC-RO-11]

*Where doubt as to degree, conviction of lowest: RCW 10.58.020.*

**10.61.006 Other cases—Included offenses.** In all other cases the defendant may be found guilty of an offense the commission of which is necessarily included within that with which he or she is charged in the indictment or information. [2010 c 8 § 1055; 1891 c 28 § 76; Code 1881 § 1098; 1854 p 120 § 123; RRS § 2168. Formerly RCW 10.61.010, part.] [SLC-RO-11]

**10.61.010 Conviction of lesser crime.** Upon the trial of an indictment or information, the defendant may be convicted of the crime charged therein, or of a lesser degree of the same crime, or of an attempt to commit the crime so charged, or of an attempt to commit a lesser degree of the same crime. Whenever the jury shall find a verdict of guilty against a person so charged, they shall in their verdict specify the degree or attempt of which the accused is guilty. [1909 c 249 § 11; RRS § 2263. FORMER PARTS OF SECTION: (i) 1891 c 28 § 75; Code 1881 § 1097; 1854 p 120 § 122; RRS § 2167, now codified as RCW 10.61.003. (ii) 1891 c 28 § 76; Code 1881 § 1098; 1854 p 120 § 123; RRS § 2168, now codified as RCW 10.61.006.] [SLC-RO-11]

**10.61.035 Conviction or acquittal—Several defendants.** Upon an indictment or information against several defendants any one or more may be convicted or acquitted. [1891 c 28 § 37; Code 1881 § 1022; 1873 p 228 § 205; 1869 p 243 § 200; RRS § 2073. Formerly RCW 10.61.030, part.]

**Rules of court:** *This section superseded in part by CrR 6.16. See comment after CrR 6.16.*

*Discharging defendant to give evidence: RCW 10.46.110.*

**10.61.060 Reconsideration of verdict.** When there is a verdict of conviction in which it appears to the court that the jury have mistaken the law, the court may explain the reason for that opinion, and direct the jury to reconsider the verdict; and if after such reconsideration they return the same verdict it must be entered, but it shall be good cause for new trial. When there is a verdict of acquittal the court cannot require the jury to reconsider it. [1891 c 28 § 78; Code 1881 § 1100; 1873 p 239 § 261; 1854 p 121 § 125; RRS § 2170.]

## Chapter 10.64 RCW JUDGMENTS AND SENTENCES

### Sections

10.64.015	Judgment to include costs—Exception.
10.64.025	Detention of defendant.
10.64.027	Conditions of release.
10.64.060	Form of sentence to penitentiary.
10.64.070	Recognizance to maintain good behavior or keep the peace.
10.64.075	Breach of recognizance conditions.
10.64.080	Judgments a lien on realty.
10.64.100	Final record—What to contain.
10.64.110	Fingerprint of defendant in felony convictions.
10.64.120	Referral assessments—Probation department oversight committee.
10.64.140	Loss of voting rights—Acknowledgment.

**Rules of court:** *Judgments and sentencing—CrR 7.1 through 7.4.*

*Assessments required of other convicted persons  
offender supervision: RCW 9.94A.780.  
parolees: RCW 72.04A.120.*

*Excessive bail or fines, cruel punishment prohibited: State Constitution Art. 1 § 14.*

**10.64.015 Judgment to include costs—Exception.** When the defendant is found guilty, the court shall render judgment accordingly, and the defendant shall be liable for all costs, unless the court or jury trying the cause expressly find otherwise. [Code 1881 § 1104; 1873 p 241 § 272; 1854 p 121 § 129; RRS § 2187. Formerly RCW 10.64.010, part.]

*Requiring defendant to pay costs—Procedure: RCW 10.01.160, 10.01.170, chapter 10.82 RCW.*

**10.64.025 Detention of defendant.** (1) A defendant who has been found guilty of a felony and is awaiting sentencing shall be detained unless the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the defendant is not likely to flee or to pose a danger to the safety of any other person or the community if released. Any bail bond that was posted on behalf of a defendant shall, upon the defendant's conviction, be exonerated.

(2) A defendant who has been found guilty of one of the following offenses shall be detained pending sentencing: Rape in the first or second degree (RCW 9A.44.040 and 9A.44.050); rape of a child in the first, second, or third degree (RCW 9A.44.073, 9A.44.076, and 9A.44.079); child molestation in the first, second, or third degree (RCW 9A.44.083, 9A.44.086, and 9A.44.089); sexual misconduct with a minor in the first or second degree (RCW 9A.44.093 and 9A.44.096); indecent liberties (RCW 9A.44.100); incest (RCW 9A.64.020); luring (RCW 9A.40.090); human trafficking in the first or second degree (RCW 9A.40.100); pro-

moting commercial sexual abuse of a minor (RCW 9.68A.101); any class A or B felony that is a sexually motivated offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030; a felony violation of RCW 9.68A.090; or any offense that is, under chapter 9A.28 RCW, a criminal attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit one of those offenses. [2011 c 111 § 4; 1996 c 275 § 10; 1989 c 276 § 2.]

**Finding—1996 c 275:** See note following RCW 9.94A.505.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.64.027 Conditions of release.** In order to minimize the trauma to the victim, the court may attach conditions on release of a defendant under RCW 10.64.025 regarding the whereabouts of the defendant, contact with the victim, or other conditions. [1989 c 276 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.64.060 Form of sentence to penitentiary.** In every case where imprisonment in the penitentiary is awarded against any convict, the form of the sentence shall be, that he or she be punished by confinement at hard labor; and he or she may also be sentenced to solitary imprisonment for such term as the court shall direct, not exceeding twenty days at any one time; and in the execution of such punishment the solitary shall precede the punishment by hard labor, unless the court shall otherwise order. [2010 c 8 § 1056; Code 1881 § 1127; 1873 p 243 § 285; 1854 p 124 § 149; RRS § 2208.]

*Indeterminate sentences: Chapter 9.95 RCW.*

*Sentencing, 1981 act: Chapter 9.94A RCW.*

**10.64.070 Recognizance to maintain good behavior or keep the peace.** Every court before whom any person shall be convicted upon an indictment or information for an offense not punishable with death or imprisonment in the penitentiary may, in addition to the punishment prescribed by law, require such person to recognize with sufficient sureties in a reasonable sum to keep the peace, or to be of good behavior, or both, for any term not exceeding one year, and to stand committed until he or she shall so recognize. [2010 c 8 § 1057; 1891 c 28 § 83; Code 1881 § 1121; 1873 p 242 § 279; 1854 p 123 § 143; RRS § 2202. FORMER PART OF SECTION: Code 1881 § 1122; 1873 p 242 § 280; 1854 p 123 § 144; RRS § 2203, now codified as RCW 10.64.075.]

**10.64.075 Breach of recognizance conditions.** In case of the breach of the conditions of any such recognizance, the same proceedings shall be had that are by law prescribed in relation to recognizances to keep the peace. [Code 1881 § 1122; 1873 p 242 § 280; 1854 p 123 § 144; RRS § 2203. Formerly RCW 10.64.070, part.]

**10.64.080 Judgments a lien on realty.** Judgments for fines in all criminal actions rendered, are, and may be made liens upon the real estate of the defendant in the same manner, and with like effect as judgments in civil actions. [Code 1881 § 1111; RRS § 2188.]

**10.64.100 Final record—What to contain.** The clerk of the court shall make a final record of all the proceedings in a criminal prosecution within six months after the same shall have been decided, which shall contain a copy of the minutes



of the challenge to the panel of the grand jury, the indictment or information, journal entries, pleadings, minutes of challenges to panel of petit jurors, judgment, orders, or decision, and bill of exceptions. [1891 c 28 § 85; Code 1881 § 1134; 1873 p 245 § 292; 1854 p 125 § 156; RRS § 2224.]

**10.64.110 Fingerprint of defendant in felony convictions.** Following June 15, 1977, there shall be affixed to the original of every judgment and sentence of a felony conviction in every court in this state and every order adjudicating a juvenile to be a delinquent based upon conduct which would be a felony if committed by an adult, a fingerprint of the defendant or juvenile who is the subject of the order. When requested by the clerk of the court, the actual affixing of fingerprints shall be done by a representative of the office of the county sheriff.

The clerk of the court shall attest that the fingerprints appearing on the judgment in sentence, order of adjudication of delinquency, or docket, is that of the individual who is the subject of the judgment or conviction, order, or docket entry. [1977 ex.s. c 259 § 1.]

**10.64.120 Referral assessments—Probation department oversight committee.** (1) Every judge of a court of limited jurisdiction shall have the authority to levy upon a person a monthly assessment not to exceed one hundred dollars for services provided whenever the person is referred by the court to the misdemeanor probation department for evaluation or supervision services. The assessment may also be made by a judge in superior court when such misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor cases are heard in the superior court.

(2) For the purposes of this section the administrative office of the courts shall define a probation department and adopt rules for the qualifications of probation officers based on occupational and educational requirements developed by an oversight committee. This oversight committee shall include a representative from the district and municipal court judges' association, the misdemeanor corrections association, the administrative office of the courts, and associations of cities and counties. The oversight committee shall consider qualifications that provide the training and education necessary to (a) conduct presentencing and postsentencing background investigations, including sentencing recommendations to the court regarding jail terms, alternatives to incarceration, and conditions of release; and (b) provide ongoing supervision and assessment of offenders' needs and the risk they pose to the community.

(3) It shall be the responsibility of the probation services office to implement local procedures approved by the court of limited jurisdiction to ensure collection and payment of such fees into the general fund of the city or county treasury.

(4) Revenues raised under this section shall be used to fund programs for probation services and shall be in addition to those funds provided in RCW 3.62.050.

(5) Assessments and fees levied upon a probationer under this section must be suspended while the probationer is being supervised by another state under RCW 9.94A.745, the interstate compact for adult offender supervision. [2005 c 400 § 7; 2005 c 282 § 22; 1996 c 298 § 6; 1991 c 247 § 3; 1982 c 207 § 4.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2005 c 282 § 22 and by 2005 c 400 § 7, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Application—Effective date—2005 c 400:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.74504.

**10.64.140 Loss of voting rights—Acknowledgment.**

(1) When a person is convicted of a felony, the court shall require the defendant to sign a statement acknowledging that:

(a) The defendant's right to vote has been lost due to the felony conviction;

(b) If the defendant is registered to vote, the voter registration will be canceled;

(c) The right to vote is provisionally restored as long as the defendant is not under the authority of the department of corrections;

(d) The defendant must reregister before voting;

(e) The provisional right to vote may be revoked if the defendant fails to comply with all the terms of his or her legal financial obligations or an agreement for the payment of legal financial obligations;

(f) The right to vote may be permanently restored by one of the following for each felony conviction:

(i) A certificate of discharge issued by the sentencing court, as provided in RCW 9.94A.637;

(ii) A court order issued by the sentencing court restoring the right, as provided in RCW 9.92.066;

(iii) A final order of discharge issued by the indeterminate sentence review board, as provided in RCW 9.96.050; or

(iv) A certificate of restoration issued by the governor, as provided in RCW 9.96.020; and

(g) Voting before the right is restored is a class C felony under RCW 29A.84.660.

(2) For the purposes of this section, a person is under the authority of the department of corrections if the person is:

(a) Serving a sentence of confinement in the custody of the department of corrections; or

(b) Subject to community custody as defined in RCW 9.94A.030. [2009 c 325 § 5; 2005 c 246 § 1.]

**Effective date—2005 c 246:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2006." [2005 c 246 § 26.]

**Chapter 10.66 RCW**

**DRUG TRAFFICKERS—OFF-LIMITS ORDERS**

Sections

10.66.005	Findings.
10.66.010	Definitions.
10.66.020	When order may be issued.
10.66.030	Hearing—Summons.
10.66.040	Ex parte temporary order—Hearing—Notice.
10.66.050	Additional relief—PADT area.
10.66.060	Bond or security.
10.66.070	Appearance of party.
10.66.080	Notice of order to law enforcement agency.
10.66.090	Penalties.
10.66.100	Additional penalties.
10.66.110	Jurisdiction.
10.66.120	Venue.
10.66.130	Modification of order—Notice to law enforcement agency.
10.66.900	Severability—1989 c 271.

**10.66.005 Findings.** The legislature finds that drug abuse is escalating at an alarming rate. New protections need to be established to address this drug crisis which is threaten-

ing every stratum of our society. Prohibiting known drug traffickers from frequenting areas for continuous drug activity is one means of addressing this pervasive problem. [1989 c 271 § 213.]

**10.66.010 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter:

(1) "Applicant" means any person who owns, occupies, or has a substantial interest in property, or who is a neighbor to property which is adversely affected by drug trafficking, including:

(a) A "family or household member" as defined by \*RCW 10.99.020(1), who has a possessory interest in a residence as an owner or tenant, at least as great as a known drug trafficker's interest;

(b) An owner or lessor;

(c) An owner, tenant, or resident who lives or works in a designated PADT area; or

(d) A city or prosecuting attorney for any jurisdiction in this state where drug trafficking is occurring.

(2) "Drug" or "drugs" means a controlled substance as defined in chapter 69.50 RCW or an "imitation controlled substance" as defined in RCW 69.52.020.

(3) "Known drug trafficker" means any person who has been convicted of a drug offense in this state, another state, or federal court who subsequently has been arrested for a drug offense in this state. For purposes of this definition, "drug offense" means a felony violation of chapter 69.50 or 69.52 RCW or equivalent law in another jurisdiction that involves the manufacture, distribution, or possession with intent to manufacture or distribute, of a controlled substance or imitation controlled substance.

(4) "Off-limits orders" means an order issued by a superior or district court in the state of Washington that enjoins known drug traffickers from entering or remaining in a designated PADT area.

(5) "Protected against drug trafficking area" or "PADT area" means any specifically described area, public or private, contained in an off-limits order. The perimeters of a PADT area shall be defined using street names and numbers and shall include all real property contained therein, where drug sales, possession of drugs, pedestrian or vehicular traffic attendant to drug activity, or other activity associated with drug offenses confirms a pattern associated with drug trafficking. The area may include the full width of streets, alleys and sidewalks on the perimeter, common areas, planting strips, parks and parking areas within the area described using the streets as boundaries. [1989 c 271 § 214.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 10.99.020 was amended by 2004 c 18 § 2, changing subsection (1) to subsection (3).

**10.66.020 When order may be issued.** A court may enter an off-limits order enjoining a known drug trafficker who has been associated with drug trafficking in an area that the court finds to be a PADT area, from entering or remaining in a designated PADT area for up to one year. This relief may be ordered pursuant to applications for injunctive relief or as part of a criminal proceeding as follows:

(1) In a civil action, including an action brought under this chapter;

(2) In a nuisance abatement action pursuant to chapter 7.43 RCW;

(3) In an eviction action to exclude known drug traffickers or tenants who were evicted for allowing drug trafficking to occur on the premises which were the subject of the eviction action;

(4) As a condition of pretrial release of a known drug trafficker awaiting trial on drug charges. The order shall be in effect until the time of sentencing or dismissal of the criminal charges; or

(5) As a condition of sentencing of any known drug trafficker convicted of a drug offense. The order may include all periods of community placement or community supervision. [1989 c 271 § 215.]

**10.66.030 Hearing—Summons.** Upon the filing of an application for an off-limits order under RCW 10.66.020 (1), (2), or (3), the court shall set a hearing fourteen days from the filing of the application, or as soon thereafter as the hearing can be scheduled. If the respondent has not already been served with a summons, the application shall be served on the respondent not less than five court days before the hearing. If timely service cannot be made, the court may set a new hearing date. [1989 c 271 § 216.]

**10.66.040 Ex parte temporary order—Hearing—Notice.** Upon filing an application for an off-limits order under this chapter, an applicant may obtain an ex parte temporary off-limits order, with or without notice, only upon a showing that serious or irreparable harm will result to the applicant if the temporary off-limits order is not granted. An ex parte temporary off-limits order shall be effective for a fixed period not to exceed fourteen days, but the court may reissue the order upon a showing of good cause. A hearing on a one-year off-limits order, as provided in this chapter, shall be set for fourteen days from the issuance of the temporary order. The respondent shall be personally served with a copy of the temporary off-limits order along with a copy of the application and notice of the date set for the full hearing. At the hearing, if the court finds that respondent is a known drug trafficker who has engaged in drug trafficking in a particular area, and that the area is associated with a pattern of drug activities, the court shall issue a one-year off-limits order prohibiting the respondent from having any contact with the PADT area. At any time within three months before the expiration of the order, the applicant may apply for a renewal of the order by filing a new petition under this chapter. [1989 c 271 § 217.]

**10.66.050 Additional relief—PADT area.** In granting a temporary off-limits order or a one-year off-limits order, the court shall have discretion to grant additional relief as the court considers proper to achieve the purposes of this chapter. The PADT area defined in any off-limits order must be reasonably related to the area or areas impacted by the unlawful drug activity as described by the applicant in any civil action under RCW 10.66.020 (1), (2), or (3). The court in its discretion may allow a respondent, who is the subject of any order issued under RCW 10.66.020 as part of a civil or criminal proceeding, to enter an off-limits area or areas for health or employment reasons, subject to conditions prescribed by the

court. Upon request, a certified copy of the order shall be provided to the applicant by the clerk of the court. [1999 c 143 § 46; 1989 c 271 § 218.]

**10.66.060 Bond or security.** A temporary off-limits order or a one-year off-limits order may not issue under this chapter except upon the giving of a bond or security by the applicant. The court shall set the bond or security in the amount the court deems proper, but not less than one thousand dollars, for the payment of costs and damages that may be incurred by any party who is found to have been wrongfully restrained or enjoined. A bond or security shall not be required of the state of Washington, municipal corporations, or political subdivisions of the state of Washington. [1989 c 271 § 219.]

**10.66.070 Appearance of party.** Nothing in this chapter shall preclude a party from appearing in person or by counsel. [1989 c 271 § 220.]

**10.66.080 Notice of order to law enforcement agency.** A copy of an off-limits order granted under this chapter shall be forwarded by the court to the local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the PADT area specified in the order on or before the next judicial day following issuance of the order. Upon receipt of the order, the law enforcement agency shall promptly enter it into an appropriate law enforcement information system. [1989 c 271 § 221.]

**10.66.090 Penalties.** (1) A person who willfully disobeys an off-limits order issued under this chapter is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(2) A person is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW if the person willfully disobeys an off-limits order in violation of the terms of the order and also either:

- (a) Enters or remains in a PADT area that is within one thousand feet of any school; or
- (b) Is convicted of a second or subsequent violation of this chapter. [2003 c 53 § 93; 1989 c 271 § 223.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**10.66.100 Additional penalties.** Any person who willfully disobeys an off-limits order issued under this chapter shall be subject to criminal penalties as provided in this chapter and may also be found in contempt of court and subject to penalties under chapter 7.21 RCW. [1999 c 143 § 47; 1989 c 271 § 222.]

**10.66.110 Jurisdiction.** The superior courts shall have jurisdiction of all civil actions and all felony criminal proceedings brought under this chapter. Courts of limited jurisdiction shall have jurisdiction of all misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor criminal actions brought under this chapter. [1989 c 271 § 224.]

**10.66.120 Venue.** For the purposes of this chapter, an action may be brought in any county in which any element of the alleged drug trafficking activities occurred. [1989 c 271 § 225.]

**10.66.130 Modification of order—Notice to law enforcement agency.** Upon application, notice to all parties, and a hearing, the court may modify the terms of an off-limits order. When an order is terminated, modified, or amended before its expiration date, the clerk of the court shall forward, on or before the next judicial day, a true copy of the amended order to the law enforcement agency specified in the order. Upon receipt of an order, the law enforcement agency shall promptly enter it into an appropriate law enforcement information system. [1989 c 271 § 226.]

**10.66.900 Severability—1989 c 271.** See note following RCW 9.94A.510.

## Chapter 10.70 RCW

### COMMITMENTS

(Formerly: Commitments and executions)

#### Sections

- 10.70.010 Commitment until fine and costs are paid.
- 10.70.020 Mittimus upon sentence to imprisonment.
- 10.70.140 Aliens committed—Notice to immigration authority.
- 10.70.150 Aliens committed—Copies of clerk's records.

*Execution of death sentence: Chapter 10.95 RCW.*

#### **10.70.010 Commitment until fine and costs are paid.**

When the defendant is adjudged to pay a fine and costs, the court shall order him or her to be committed to the custody of the sheriff until the fine and costs are paid or secured as provided by law. [2010 c 8 § 1058; Code 1881 § 1119; 1873 p 242 § 277; 1854 p 123 § 141; RRS § 2200.]

*Commitment for failure to pay fine and costs—Execution against defendant's property: RCW 10.82.030.*

*Stay of execution for sixty days on recognizance: RCW 10.82.020, 10.82.025.*

#### **10.70.020 Mittimus upon sentence to imprisonment.**

When any person shall be sentenced to be imprisoned in the penitentiary or county jail, the clerk of the court shall, as soon as may be, make out and deliver to the sheriff of the county, or his or her deputy, a transcript from the minutes of the court of such conviction and sentence, duly certified by such clerk, which shall be sufficient authority for such sheriff to execute the sentence, who shall execute it accordingly. [2010 c 8 § 1059; Code 1881 § 1126; 1873 p 243 § 284; 1854 p 124 § 148; RRS § 2207.]

#### **10.70.140 Aliens committed—Notice to immigration authority.**

Whenever any person shall be committed to a state correctional facility, the county jail, or any other state or county institution which is supported wholly or in part by public funds, it shall be the duty of the warden, superintendent, sheriff or other officer in charge of such state or county institution to at once inquire into the nationality of such person, and if it shall appear that such person is an alien, to immediately notify the United States immigration officer in charge of the district in which such penitentiary, reformatory, jail or other institution is located, of the date of and the reasons for such alien commitment, the length of time for which committed, the country of which the person is a citizen, and the date on which and the port at which the person last

entered the United States. [1992 c 7 § 29; 1925 ex.s. c 169 § 1; RRS § 2206-1.]

**10.70.150 Aliens committed—Copies of clerk's records.** Upon the official request of the United States immigration officer in charge of the territory or district in which is located any court committing any alien to any state or county institution which is supported wholly or in part by public funds, it shall be the duty of the clerk of such court to furnish without charge a certified copy of the complaint, information or indictment and the judgment and sentence and any other record pertaining to the case of the convicted alien. [1925 ex.s. c 169 § 2; RRS § 2206-2.]

## Chapter 10.73 RCW CRIMINAL APPEALS

### Sections

10.73.010	Appeal by defendant.
10.73.040	Bail pending appeal.
10.73.090	Collateral attack—One year time limit.
10.73.100	Collateral attack—When one year limit not applicable.
10.73.110	Collateral attack—One year time limit—Duty of court to advise defendant.
10.73.120	Collateral attack—One year time limit—Duty of department of corrections to advise.
10.73.130	Collateral attack—One year time limit—Applicability.
10.73.140	Collateral attack—Subsequent petitions.
10.73.150	Right to counsel.
10.73.160	Court fees and costs.
10.73.170	DNA testing requests.
10.73.900	Severability—1989 c 395.

*Effect of appellate review by defendant: RCW 9.95.060, 9.95.062.*

**10.73.010 Appeal by defendant.** Appeal by defendant, see Rules of Court.

**10.73.040 Bail pending appeal.** In all criminal actions, except capital cases in which the proof of guilt is clear or the presumption great, upon an appeal being taken from a judgment of conviction, the court in which the judgment was rendered, or a judge thereof, must, by an order entered in the journal or filed with the clerk, fix and determine the amount of bail to be required of the appellant; and the appellant shall be committed until a bond to the state of Washington in the sum so fixed be executed on his or her behalf by at least two sureties possessing the qualifications required for sureties on appeal bonds, such bond to be conditioned that the appellant shall appear whenever required, and stand to and abide by the judgment or orders of the appellate court, and any judgment and order of the superior court that may be rendered or made in pursuance thereof. If the appellant be already at large on bail, his or her sureties shall be liable to the amount of their bond, in the same manner and upon the same conditions as if they had executed the bond prescribed by this section; but the court may by order require a new bond in a larger amount or with new sureties, and may commit the appellant until the order be complied with. [2010 c 8 § 1060; 1999 c 143 § 48; 1893 c 61 § 31; RRS § 1747.]

**10.73.090 Collateral attack—One year time limit.** (1) No petition or motion for collateral attack on a judgment and sentence in a criminal case may be filed more than one year after the judgment becomes final if the judgment and sen-

tence is valid on its face and was rendered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(2) For the purposes of this section, "collateral attack" means any form of postconviction relief other than a direct appeal. "Collateral attack" includes, but is not limited to, a personal restraint petition, a habeas corpus petition, a motion to vacate judgment, a motion to withdraw guilty plea, a motion for a new trial, and a motion to arrest judgment.

(3) For the purposes of this section, a judgment becomes final on the last of the following dates:

- The date it is filed with the clerk of the trial court;
- The date that an appellate court issues its mandate disposing of a timely direct appeal from the conviction; or
- The date that the United States Supreme Court denies a timely petition for certiorari to review a decision affirming the conviction on direct appeal. The filing of a motion to reconsider denial of certiorari does not prevent a judgment from becoming final. [1989 c 395 § 1.]

**10.73.100 Collateral attack—When one year limit not applicable.** The time limit specified in RCW 10.73.090 does not apply to a petition or motion that is based solely on one or more of the following grounds:

(1) Newly discovered evidence, if the defendant acted with reasonable diligence in discovering the evidence and filing the petition or motion;

(2) The statute that the defendant was convicted of violating was unconstitutional on its face or as applied to the defendant's conduct;

(3) The conviction was barred by double jeopardy under Amendment V of the United States Constitution or Article I, section 9 of the state Constitution;

(4) The defendant pled not guilty and the evidence introduced at trial was insufficient to support the conviction;

(5) The sentence imposed was in excess of the court's jurisdiction; or

(6) There has been a significant change in the law, whether substantive or procedural, which is material to the conviction, sentence, or other order entered in a criminal or civil proceeding instituted by the state or local government, and either the legislature has expressly provided that the change in the law is to be applied retroactively, or a court, in interpreting a change in the law that lacks express legislative intent regarding retroactive application, determines that sufficient reasons exist to require retroactive application of the changed legal standard. [1989 c 395 § 2.]

**10.73.110 Collateral attack—One year time limit—Duty of court to advise defendant.** At the time judgment and sentence is pronounced in a criminal case, the court shall advise the defendant of the time limit specified in RCW 10.73.090 and 10.73.100. [1989 c 395 § 4.]

**10.73.120 Collateral attack—One year time limit—Duty of department of corrections to advise.** As soon as practicable after July 23, 1989, the department of corrections shall attempt to advise the following persons of the time limit specified in RCW 10.73.090 and 10.73.100: Every person who, on July 23, 1989, is serving a term of incarceration, probation, parole, or community supervision pursuant to conviction of a felony. [1989 c 395 § 5.]

**10.73.130 Collateral attack—One year time limit—Applicability.** RCW 10.73.090 and 10.73.100 apply only to petitions and motions filed more than one year after July 23, 1989. [1989 c 395 § 6.]

**10.73.140 Collateral attack—Subsequent petitions.** If a person has previously filed a petition for personal restraint, the court of appeals will not consider the petition unless the person certifies that he or she has not filed a previous petition on similar grounds, and shows good cause why the petitioner did not raise the new grounds in the previous petition. Upon receipt of a personal restraint petition, the court of appeals shall review the petition and determine whether the person has previously filed a petition or petitions and if so, compare them. If upon review, the court of appeals finds that the petitioner has previously raised the same grounds for review, or that the petitioner has failed to show good cause why the ground was not raised earlier, the court of appeals shall dismiss the petition on its own motion without requiring the state to respond to the petition. Upon receipt of a first or subsequent petition, the court of appeals shall, whenever possible, review the petition and determine if the petition is based on frivolous grounds. If frivolous, the court of appeals shall dismiss the petition on its own motion without first requiring the state to respond to the petition. [1989 c 395 § 9.]

**10.73.150 Right to counsel.** Counsel shall be provided at state expense to an adult offender convicted of a crime and to a juvenile offender convicted of an offense when the offender is indigent or indigent and able to contribute as those terms are defined in RCW 10.101.010 and the offender:

- (1) Files an appeal as a matter of right;
- (2) Responds to an appeal filed as a matter of right or responds to a motion for discretionary review or petition for review filed by the state;
- (3) Is under a sentence of death and requests counsel be appointed to file and prosecute a motion or petition for collateral attack as defined in RCW 10.73.090. Counsel may be provided at public expense to file or prosecute a second or subsequent collateral attack on the same judgment and sentence, if the court determines that the collateral attack is not barred by RCW 10.73.090 or 10.73.140;
- (4) Is not under a sentence of death and requests counsel to prosecute a collateral attack after the chief judge has determined that the issues raised by the petition are not frivolous, in accordance with the procedure contained in rules of appellate procedure 16.11. Counsel shall not be provided at public expense to file or prosecute a second or subsequent collateral attack on the same judgment and sentence;
- (5) Responds to a collateral attack filed by the state or responds to or prosecutes an appeal from a collateral attack that was filed by the state;
- (6) Prosecutes a motion or petition for review after the supreme court or court of appeals has accepted discretionary review of a decision of a court of limited jurisdiction; or
- (7) Prosecutes a motion or petition for review after the supreme court has accepted discretionary review of a court of appeals decision. [1995 c 275 § 2.]

**Finding—1995 c 275:** "The legislature is aware that the constitutional requirements of equal protection and due process require that counsel be pro-

vided for indigent persons and persons who are indigent and able to contribute for the first appeal as a matter of right from a judgment and sentence in a criminal case or a juvenile offender proceeding, and no further. There is no constitutional right to appointment of counsel at public expense to collaterally attack a judgment and sentence in a criminal case or juvenile offender proceeding or to seek discretionary review of a lower appellate court decision.

The legislature finds that it is appropriate to extend the right to counsel at state expense beyond constitutional requirements in certain limited circumstances to persons who are indigent and persons who are indigent and able to contribute as those terms are defined in RCW 10.101.010." [1995 c 275 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.73.160 Court fees and costs.** (1) The court of appeals, supreme court, and superior courts may require an adult or a juvenile convicted of an offense or the parents or another person legally obligated to support a juvenile offender to pay appellate costs.

(2) Appellate costs are limited to expenses specifically incurred by the state in prosecuting or defending an appeal or collateral attack from a criminal conviction or sentence or a juvenile offender conviction or disposition. Appellate costs shall not include expenditures to maintain and operate government agencies that must be made irrespective of specific violations of the law. Expenses incurred for producing a verbatim report of proceedings and clerk's papers may be included in costs the court may require a convicted defendant or juvenile offender to pay.

(3) Costs, including recoupment of fees for court-appointed counsel, shall be requested in accordance with the procedures contained in Title 14 of the rules of appellate procedure and in Title 9 of the rules for appeal of decisions of courts of limited jurisdiction. An award of costs shall become part of the trial court judgment and sentence. An award of costs in juvenile cases shall also become part of any order previously entered in the trial court pursuant to RCW 13.40.145.

(4) A defendant or juvenile offender who has been sentenced to pay costs and who is not in contumacious default in the payment may at any time petition the court that sentenced the defendant or juvenile offender for remission of the payment of costs or of any unpaid portion. If it appears to the satisfaction of the sentencing court that payment of the amount due will impose manifest hardship on the defendant, the defendant's immediate family, or the juvenile offender, the sentencing court may remit all or part of the amount due in costs, or modify the method of payment under RCW 10.01.170.

(5) The parents or another person legally obligated to support a juvenile offender who has been ordered to pay appellate costs pursuant to RCW 13.40.145 and who is not in contumacious default in the payment may at any time petition the court that sentenced the juvenile offender for remission of the payment of costs or of any unpaid portion. If it appears to the satisfaction of the sentencing court that payment of the amount due will impose manifest hardship on the parents or another person legally obligated to support a juvenile offender or on their immediate families, the sentencing court may remit all or part of the amount due in costs, or may modify the method of payment. [1995 c 275 § 3.]

**Finding—Severability—1995 c 275:** See notes following RCW 10.73.150.

**10.73.170 DNA testing requests.** (1) A person convicted of a felony in a Washington state court who currently is serving a term of imprisonment may submit to the court that entered the judgment of conviction a verified written motion requesting DNA testing, with a copy of the motion provided to the state office of public defense.

(2) The motion shall:

(a) State that:

(i) The court ruled that DNA testing did not meet acceptable scientific standards; or

(ii) DNA testing technology was not sufficiently developed to test the DNA evidence in the case; or

(iii) The DNA testing now requested would be significantly more accurate than prior DNA testing or would provide significant new information;

(b) Explain why DNA evidence is material to the identity of the perpetrator of, or accomplice to, the crime, or to sentence enhancement; and

(c) Comply with all other procedural requirements established by court rule.

(3) The court shall grant a motion requesting DNA testing under this section if such motion is in the form required by subsection (2) of this section, and the convicted person has shown the likelihood that the DNA evidence would demonstrate innocence on a more probable than not basis.

(4) Upon written request to the court that entered a judgment of conviction, a convicted person who demonstrates that he or she is indigent under RCW 10.101.010 may request appointment of counsel solely to prepare and present a motion under this section, and the court, in its discretion, may grant the request. Such motion for appointment of counsel shall comply with all procedural requirements established by court rule.

(5) DNA testing ordered under this section shall be performed by the Washington state patrol crime laboratory. Contact with victims shall be handled through victim/witness divisions.

(6) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon motion of defense counsel or the court's own motion, a sentencing court in a felony case may order the preservation of any biological material that has been secured in connection with a criminal case, or evidence samples sufficient for testing, in accordance with any court rule adopted for the preservation of evidence. The court must specify the samples to be maintained and the length of time the samples must be preserved. [2005 c 5 § 1; 2003 c 100 § 1; 2001 c 301 § 1; 2000 c 92 § 1.]

**Effective date—2005 c 5:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 9, 2005]." [2005 c 5 § 2.]

**Intent—2000 c 92:** "Nothing in chapter 92, Laws of 2000 is intended to create a legal right or cause of action. Nothing in chapter 92, Laws of 2000 is intended to deny or alter any existing legal right or cause of action. Nothing in chapter 92, Laws of 2000 should be interpreted to deny postconviction DNA testing requests under existing law by convicted and incarcerated persons who were sentenced to confinement for a term less than life or the death penalty." [2000 c 92 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.73.900 Severability—1989 c 395.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the

provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1989 c 395 § 7.]

## Chapter 10.77 RCW

### CRIMINALLY INSANE—PROCEDURES

#### Sections

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- 10.77.920 Chapter successor to chapter 10.76 RCW.
- 10.77.930 Effective date—1973 1st ex.s. c 117.
- 10.77.940 Equal application of 1989 c 420—Evaluation for developmental disability.
- 10.77.950 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.

**Rules of court:** Cf. CrR 4.2(c).

*Individuals with mental illness, commitment:* Chapter 71.05 RCW.

*Protocols required:* RCW 71.05.214.

**10.77.010 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

(1) "Admission" means acceptance based on medical necessity, of a person as a patient.

(2) "Commitment" means the determination by a court that a person should be detained for a period of either evaluation or treatment, or both, in an inpatient or a less-restrictive setting.

(3) "Conditional release" means modification of a court-ordered commitment, which may be revoked upon violation of any of its terms.

(4) A "criminally insane" person means any person who has been acquitted of a crime charged by reason of insanity, and thereupon found to be a substantial danger to other persons or to present a substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts jeopardizing public safety or security unless kept under further control by the court or other persons or institutions.

(5) "Department" means the state department of social and health services.

(6) "Designated mental health professional" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 71.05.020.

(7) "Detention" or "detain" means the lawful confinement of a person, under the provisions of this chapter, pending evaluation.

(8) "Developmental disabilities professional" means a person who has specialized training and three years of experience in directly treating or working with persons with developmental disabilities and is a psychiatrist or psychologist, or a social worker, and such other developmental disabilities professionals as may be defined by rules adopted by the secretary.

(9) "Developmental disability" means the condition as defined in \*RCW 71A.10.020(3).

(10) "Discharge" means the termination of hospital medical authority. The commitment may remain in place, be terminated, or be amended by court order.

(11) "Furlough" means an authorized leave of absence for a resident of a state institution operated by the department designated for the custody, care, and treatment of the criminally insane, consistent with an order of conditional release from the court under this chapter, without any requirement that the resident be accompanied by, or be in the custody of, any law enforcement or institutional staff, while on such unescorted leave.

(12) "Habilitative services" means those services provided by program personnel to assist persons in acquiring and maintaining life skills and in raising their levels of physical, mental, social, and vocational functioning. Habilitative services include education, training for employment, and ther-

apy. The habilitative process shall be undertaken with recognition of the risk to the public safety presented by the person being assisted as manifested by prior charged criminal conduct.

(13) "History of one or more violent acts" means violent acts committed during: (a) The ten-year period of time prior to the filing of criminal charges; plus (b) the amount of time equal to time spent during the ten-year period in a mental health facility or in confinement as a result of a criminal conviction.

(14) "Immediate family member" means a spouse, child, stepchild, parent, stepparent, grandparent, sibling, or domestic partner.

(15) "Incompetency" means a person lacks the capacity to understand the nature of the proceedings against him or her or to assist in his or her own defense as a result of mental disease or defect.

(16) "Indigent" means any person who is financially unable to obtain counsel or other necessary expert or professional services without causing substantial hardship to the person or his or her family.

(17) "Individualized service plan" means a plan prepared by a developmental disabilities professional with other professionals as a team, for an individual with developmental disabilities, which shall state:

(a) The nature of the person's specific problems, prior charged criminal behavior, and habilitation needs;

(b) The conditions and strategies necessary to achieve the purposes of habilitation;

(c) The intermediate and long-range goals of the habilitation program, with a projected timetable for the attainment;

(d) The rationale for using this plan of habilitation to achieve those intermediate and long-range goals;

(e) The staff responsible for carrying out the plan;

(f) Where relevant in light of past criminal behavior and due consideration for public safety, the criteria for proposed movement to less-restrictive settings, criteria for proposed eventual release, and a projected possible date for release; and

(g) The type of residence immediately anticipated for the person and possible future types of residences.

(18) "Professional person" means:

(a) A psychiatrist licensed as a physician and surgeon in this state who has, in addition, completed three years of graduate training in psychiatry in a program approved by the American medical association or the American osteopathic association and is certified or eligible to be certified by the American board of psychiatry and neurology or the American osteopathic board of neurology and psychiatry;

(b) A psychologist licensed as a psychologist pursuant to chapter 18.83 RCW; or

(c) A social worker with a master's or further advanced degree from a social work educational program accredited and approved as provided in RCW 18.320.010.

(19) "Registration records" include all the records of the department, regional support networks, treatment facilities, and other persons providing services to the department, county departments, or facilities which identify persons who are receiving or who at any time have received services for mental illness.

(20) "Release" means legal termination of the court-ordered commitment under the provisions of this chapter.

(21) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department of social and health services or his or her designee.

(22) "Treatment" means any currently standardized medical or mental health procedure including medication.

(23) "Treatment records" include registration and all other records concerning persons who are receiving or who at any time have received services for mental illness, which are maintained by the department, by regional support networks and their staffs, and by treatment facilities. Treatment records do not include notes or records maintained for personal use by a person providing treatment services for the department, regional support networks, or a treatment facility if the notes or records are not available to others.

(24) "Violent act" means behavior that: (a)(i) Resulted in; (ii) if completed as intended would have resulted in; or (iii) was threatened to be carried out by a person who had the intent and opportunity to carry out the threat and would have resulted in, homicide, nonfatal injuries, or substantial damage to property; or (b) recklessly creates an immediate risk of serious physical injury to another person. As used in this subsection, "nonfatal injuries" means physical pain or injury, illness, or an impairment of physical condition. "Nonfatal injuries" shall be construed to be consistent with the definition of "bodily injury," as defined in RCW 9A.04.110. [2011 c 89 § 4; 2010 c 262 § 2; 2005 c 504 § 106; 2004 c 157 § 2; 2000 c 94 § 12. Prior: 1999 c 143 § 49; 1999 c 13 § 2; 1998 c 297 § 29; 1993 c 31 § 4; 1989 c 420 § 3; 1983 c 122 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 1.]

\***Reviser's note:** RCW 71A.10.020 was amended by 2011 1st sp.s. c 30 § 3, changing subsection (3) to subsection (4).

**Effective date—2011 c 89:** See note following RCW 18.320.005.

**Findings—2011 c 89:** See RCW 18.320.005.

**Findings—Intent—Severability—Application—Construction—Captions, part headings, subheadings not law—Adoption of rules—Effective dates—2005 c 504:** See notes following RCW 71.05.027.

**Alphabetization—Correction of references—2005 c 504:** See note following RCW 71.05.020.

**Findings—Intent—2004 c 157:** "The legislature finds that recent state and federal case law requires clarification of state statutes with regard to competency evaluations and involuntary medication ordered in the context of competency restoration.

The legislature finds that the court in *Born v. Thompson*, 117 Wn. App. 57 (2003) interpreted the term "nonfatal injuries" in a manner that conflicts with the stated intent of the legislature to: "(1) Clarify that it is the nature of a person's current conduct, current mental condition, history, and likelihood of committing future acts that pose a threat to public safety or himself or herself, rather than simple categorization of offenses, that should determine treatment procedures and level; ... and (3) provide additional opportunities for mental health treatment for persons whose conduct threatens himself or herself or threatens public safety and has led to contact with the criminal justice system" as stated in section 1, chapter 297, Laws of 1998. Consequently, the legislature intends to clarify that it intended "nonfatal injuries" to be interpreted in a manner consistent with the purposes of the competency restoration statutes.

The legislature also finds that the decision in *Sell v. United States*, \_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_ (2003), requires a determination whether a particular criminal offense is "serious" in the context of competency restoration and the state's duty to protect the public. The legislature further finds that, in order to adequately protect the public and in order to provide additional opportunities for mental health treatment for persons whose conduct threatens themselves or threatens public safety and has led to contact with the criminal justice system in the state, the determination of those criminal offenses that are "serious" offenses must be made consistently throughout the state. In order to facilitate this consistency, the legislature intends to determine those offenses that

are serious in every case as well as the standards by which other offenses may be determined to be serious. The legislature also intends to clarify that a court may, to the extent permitted by federal law and required by the *Sell* decision, inquire into the civil commitment status of a defendant and may be told, if known." [2004 c 157 § 1.]

**Severability—2004 c 157:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2004 c 157 § 7.]

**Effective date—2004 c 157:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 26, 2004]." [2004 c 157 § 8.]

**Purpose—Construction—1999 c 13:** "The purpose of this act is to make technical nonsubstantive changes to chapters 10.77 and 71.05 RCW. No provision of this act shall be construed as a substantive change in the provisions dealing with persons charged with crimes who are subject to evaluation under chapter 10.77 or 71.05 RCW." [1999 c 13 § 1.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.77.020 Rights of person under this chapter.** (1) At any and all stages of the proceedings pursuant to this chapter, any person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall be entitled to the assistance of counsel, and if the person is indigent the court shall appoint counsel to assist him or her. A person may waive his or her right to counsel; but such waiver shall only be effective if a court makes a specific finding that he or she is or was competent to so waive. In making such findings, the court shall be guided but not limited by the following standards: Whether the person attempting to waive the assistance of counsel, does so understanding:

- (a) The nature of the charges;
- (b) The statutory offense included within them;
- (c) The range of allowable punishments thereunder;
- (d) Possible defenses to the charges and circumstances in mitigation thereof; and
- (e) All other facts essential to a broad understanding of the whole matter.

(2) Whenever any person is subjected to an examination pursuant to any provision of this chapter, he or she may retain an expert or professional person to perform an examination in his or her behalf. In the case of a person who is indigent, the court shall upon his or her request assist the person in obtaining an expert or professional person to perform an examination or participate in the hearing on his or her behalf. An expert or professional person obtained by an indigent person pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be compensated for his or her services out of funds of the department, in an amount determined by the secretary to be fair and reasonable.

(3) Any time the defendant is being examined by court appointed experts or professional persons pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, the defendant shall be entitled to have his or her attorney present.

(4) In a competency evaluation conducted under this chapter, the defendant may refuse to answer any question if he or she believes his or her answers may tend to incriminate him or her or form links leading to evidence of an incriminating nature.

(5) In a sanity evaluation conducted under this chapter, if a defendant refuses to answer questions or to participate in an examination conducted in response to the defendant's asser-



tion of an insanity defense, the court shall exclude from evidence at trial any testimony or evidence from any expert or professional person obtained or retained by the defendant. [2006 c 109 § 1; 1998 c 297 § 30; 1993 c 31 § 5; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 2; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 2.]

**Application—2006 c 109:** "This act applies to all examinations performed on or after June 7, 2006." [2006 c 109 § 2.]

**Severability—2006 c 109:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2006 c 109 § 3.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

**10.77.025 Maximum term of commitment or treatment.** (1) Whenever any person has been: (a) Committed to a correctional facility or inpatient treatment under any provision of this chapter; or (b) ordered to undergo alternative treatment following his or her acquittal by reason of insanity of a crime charged, such commitment or treatment cannot exceed the maximum possible penal sentence for any offense charged for which the person was committed, or was acquitted by reason of insanity.

(2) Whenever any person committed under any provision of this chapter has not been released within seven days of the maximum possible penal sentence under subsection (1) of this section, and the professional person in charge of the facility believes that the person presents a likelihood of serious harm or is gravely disabled due to a mental disorder, the professional person shall, prior to the expiration of the maximum penal sentence, notify the appropriate \*county designated mental health professional of the impending expiration and provide a copy of all relevant information regarding the person, including the likely release date and shall indicate why the person should not be released.

(3) A \*county designated mental health professional who receives notice and records under subsection (2) of this section shall, prior to the date of the expiration of the maximum sentence, determine whether to initiate proceedings under chapter 71.05 RCW. [2000 c 94 § 13; 1998 c 297 § 31.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The term "county designated mental health professional" as defined in RCW 10.77.010 was changed to "designated mental health professional" by 2005 c 504 § 106.

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

**10.77.027 Eligible for commitment regardless of cause.** When a \*county designated mental health professional or a professional person has determined that a person has a mental disorder, and is otherwise committable, the cause of the person's mental disorder shall not make the person ineligible for commitment under chapter 71.05 RCW. [2004 c 166 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The term "county designated mental health professional" as defined in RCW 10.77.010 was changed to "designated mental health professional" by 2005 c 504 § 106.

**Severability—Effective dates—2004 c 166:** See notes following RCW 71.05.040.

**10.77.030 Establishing insanity as a defense.** (1) Evidence of insanity is not admissible unless the defendant, at the time of arraignment or within ten days thereafter or at

such later time as the court may for good cause permit, files a written notice of his or her intent to rely on such a defense.

(2) Insanity is a defense which the defendant must establish by a preponderance of the evidence.

(3) No condition of mind proximately induced by the voluntary act of a person charged with a crime shall constitute insanity. [1998 c 297 § 32; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 3.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

**10.77.040 Instructions to jury on special verdict.** Whenever the issue of insanity is submitted to the jury, the court shall instruct the jury to return a special verdict in substantially the following form:

- |   | answer<br>yes or no |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. Did the defendant commit the act charged?  | .....               |
| 2. If your answer to number 1 is yes, do you acquit him or her because of insanity existing at the time of the act charged?   | .....               |
| 3. If your answer to number 2 is yes, is the defendant a substantial danger to other persons unless kept under further control by the court or other persons or institutions?   | .....               |
| 4. If your answer to number 2 is yes, does the defendant present a substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts jeopardizing public safety or security unless kept under further control by the court or other persons or institutions? | .....               |
| 5. If your answers to either number 3 or number 4 is yes, is it in the best interests of the defendant and others that the defendant be placed in treatment that is less restrictive than detention in a state mental hospital?               | .....               |

[1998 c 297 § 33; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 4; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 4.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

**10.77.050 Mental incapacity as bar to proceedings.** No incompetent person shall be tried, convicted, or sentenced for the commission of an offense so long as such incapacity continues. [1974 ex.s. c 198 § 5; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 5.]

**10.77.060 Plea of not guilty due to insanity—Doubt as to competency—Evaluation—Bail—Report.** (1)(a) Whenever a defendant has pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity, or there is reason to doubt his or her competency, the court on its own motion or on the motion of any party shall either appoint or request the secretary to designate a qualified expert or professional person, who shall be approved by the prosecuting attorney, to evaluate and report upon the mental condition of the defendant.

(b) The signed order of the court shall serve as authority for the evaluator to be given access to all records held by any mental health, medical, educational, or correctional facility that relate to the present or past mental, emotional, or physical condition of the defendant. If the court is advised by any party that the defendant may have a developmental disability, the evaluation must be performed by a developmental disabilities professional.

(c) The evaluator shall assess the defendant in a jail, detention facility, in the community, or in court to determine whether a period of inpatient commitment will be necessary to complete an accurate evaluation. If inpatient commitment is needed, the signed order of the court shall serve as authority for the evaluator to request the jail or detention facility to transport the defendant to a hospital or secure mental health facility for a period of commitment not to exceed fifteen days from the time of admission to the facility. Otherwise, the evaluator shall complete the evaluation.

(d) The court may commit the defendant for evaluation to a hospital or secure mental health facility without an assessment if: (i) The defendant is charged with murder in the first or second degree; (ii) the court finds that it is more likely than not that an evaluation in the jail will be inadequate to complete an accurate evaluation; or (iii) the court finds that an evaluation outside the jail setting is necessary for the health, safety, or welfare of the defendant. The court shall not order an initial inpatient evaluation for any purpose other than a competency evaluation.

(e) The order shall indicate whether, in the event the defendant is committed to a hospital or secure mental health facility for evaluation, all parties agree to waive the presence of the defendant or to the defendant's remote participation at a subsequent competency hearing or presentation of an agreed order if the recommendation of the evaluator is for continuation of the stay of criminal proceedings, or if the opinion of the evaluator is that the defendant remains incompetent and there is no remaining restoration period, and the hearing is held prior to the expiration of the authorized commitment period.

(f) When a defendant is ordered to be committed for inpatient evaluation under this subsection (1), the court may delay granting bail until the defendant has been evaluated for competency or sanity and appears before the court. Following the evaluation, in determining bail the court shall consider: (i) Recommendations of the evaluator regarding the defendant's competency, sanity, or diminished capacity; (ii) whether the defendant has a recent history of one or more violent acts; (iii) whether the defendant has previously been acquitted by reason of insanity or found incompetent; (iv) whether it is reasonably likely the defendant will fail to appear for a future court hearing; and (v) whether the defendant is a threat to public safety.

(2) The court may direct that a qualified expert or professional person retained by or appointed for the defendant be permitted to witness the evaluation authorized by subsection (1) of this section, and that the defendant shall have access to all information obtained by the court appointed experts or professional persons. The defendant's expert or professional person shall have the right to file his or her own report following the guidelines of subsection (3) of this section. If the defendant is indigent, the court shall upon the request of the

defendant assist him or her in obtaining an expert or professional person.

(3) The report of the evaluation shall include the following:

(a) A description of the nature of the evaluation;

(b) A diagnosis or description of the current mental status of the defendant;

(c) If the defendant suffers from a mental disease or defect, or has a developmental disability, an opinion as to competency;

(d) If the defendant has indicated his or her intention to rely on the defense of insanity pursuant to RCW 10.77.030, and an evaluation and report by an expert or professional person has been provided concluding that the defendant was criminally insane at the time of the alleged offense, an opinion as to the defendant's sanity at the time of the act, and an opinion as to whether the defendant presents a substantial danger to other persons, or presents a substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts jeopardizing public safety or security, unless kept under further control by the court or other persons or institutions, provided that no opinion shall be rendered under this subsection (3)(d) unless the evaluator or court determines that the defendant is competent to stand trial;

(e) When directed by the court, if an evaluation and report by an expert or professional person has been provided concluding that the defendant lacked the capacity at the time of the offense to form the mental state necessary to commit the charged offense, an opinion as to the capacity of the defendant to have a particular state of mind which is an element of the offense charged;

(f) An opinion as to whether the defendant should be evaluated by a designated mental health professional under chapter 71.05 RCW.

(4) The secretary may execute such agreements as appropriate and necessary to implement this section and may choose to designate more than one evaluator. [2012 c 256 § 3; 2004 c 9 § 1; 2000 c 74 § 1; 1998 c 297 § 34; 1989 c 420 § 4; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 6; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 6.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2012 c 256:** See notes following RCW 10.77.068.

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.77.065 Mental condition evaluations—Reports and recommendations required—Discharge of defendant when determined competent to stand trial.**

(1)(a)(i) The expert conducting the evaluation shall provide his or her report and recommendation to the court in which the criminal proceeding is pending. For a competency evaluation of a defendant who is released from custody, if the evaluation cannot be completed within twenty-one days due to a lack of cooperation by the defendant, the evaluator shall notify the court that he or she is unable to complete the evaluation because of such lack of cooperation.

(ii) A copy of the report and recommendation shall be provided to the designated mental health professional, the prosecuting attorney, the defense attorney, and the professional person at the local correctional facility where the defendant is being held, or if there is no professional person,

to the person designated under (a)(iv) of this subsection. Upon request, the evaluator shall also provide copies of any source documents relevant to the evaluation to the designated mental health professional.

(iii) Any facility providing inpatient services related to competency shall discharge the defendant as soon as the facility determines that the defendant is competent to stand trial. Discharge shall not be postponed during the writing and distribution of the evaluation report. Distribution of an evaluation report by a facility providing inpatient services shall ordinarily be accomplished within two working days or less following the final evaluation of the defendant. If the defendant is discharged to the custody of a local correctional facility, the local correctional facility must continue the medication regimen prescribed by the facility, when clinically appropriate, unless the defendant refuses to cooperate with medication.

(iv) If there is no professional person at the local correctional facility, the local correctional facility shall designate a professional person as defined in RCW 71.05.020 or, in cooperation with the regional support network, a professional person at the regional support network to receive the report and recommendation.

(v) Upon commencement of a defendant's evaluation in the local correctional facility, the local correctional facility must notify the evaluator of the name of the professional person, or person designated under (a)(iv) of this subsection, to receive the report and recommendation.

(b) If the evaluator concludes, under RCW 10.77.060(3)(f), the person should be evaluated by a designated mental health professional under chapter 71.05 RCW, the court shall order such evaluation be conducted prior to release from confinement when the person is acquitted or convicted and sentenced to confinement for twenty-four months or less, or when charges are dismissed pursuant to a finding of incompetent to stand trial.

(2) The designated mental health professional shall provide written notification within twenty-four hours of the results of the determination whether to commence proceedings under chapter 71.05 RCW. The notification shall be provided to the persons identified in subsection (1)(a) of this section.

(3) The prosecuting attorney shall provide a copy of the results of any proceedings commenced by the designated mental health professional under subsection (2) of this section to the secretary.

(4) The fact of admission and all information and records compiled, obtained, or maintained in the course of providing services under this chapter may also be disclosed to the courts solely to prevent the entry of any evaluation or treatment order that is inconsistent with any order entered under chapter 71.05 RCW. [2012 c 256 § 4; 2008 c 213 § 1; 2000 c 74 § 2; 1998 c 297 § 35.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2012 c 256:** See notes following RCW 10.77.068.

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### **10.77.068 Competency to stand trial, admissions for inpatient services—Performance targets—Duties of the**

**department—Report—New entitlement or cause of action not created—No basis for contempt or motion to dismiss.** (1)(a) The legislature establishes the following performance targets for the timeliness of the completion of accurate and reliable evaluations of competency to stand trial and admissions for inpatient services related to competency to proceed or stand trial for adult criminal defendants. The legislature recognizes that these targets may not be achievable in all cases without compromise to quality of evaluation services, but intends for the department to manage, allocate, and request appropriations for resources in order to meet these targets whenever possible without sacrificing the accuracy of competency evaluations, and to otherwise make sustainable improvements and track performance related to the timeliness of competency services:

(i) For a state hospital to extend an offer of admission to a defendant in pretrial custody for legally authorized treatment or evaluation services related to competency, or to extend an offer of admission for legally authorized services following dismissal of charges based on incompetent to proceed or stand trial, seven days or less;

(ii) For completion of a competency evaluation in jail and distribution of the evaluation report for a defendant in pretrial custody, seven days or less;

(iii) For completion of a competency evaluation in the community and distribution of the evaluation report for a defendant who is released from custody and makes a reasonable effort to cooperate with the evaluation, twenty-one days or less.

(b) The time periods measured in these performance targets shall run from the date on which the state hospital receives the court referral and charging documents, discovery, and criminal history information related to the defendant. The targets in (a)(i) and (ii) of this subsection shall be phased in over a six-month period from May 1, 2012. The target in (a)(iii) of this subsection shall be phased in over a twelve-month period from May 1, 2012.

(c) The legislature recognizes the following nonexclusive list of circumstances that may place achievement of targets for completion of competency services described in (a) of this subsection out of the department's reach in an individual case without aspersion to the efforts of the department:

(i) Despite a timely request, the department has not received necessary medical clearance information regarding the current medical status of a defendant in pretrial custody for the purposes of admission to a state hospital;

(ii) The individual circumstances of the defendant make accurate completion of an evaluation of competency to proceed or stand trial dependent upon review of medical history information which is in the custody of a third party and cannot be immediately obtained by the department. Completion of a competency evaluation shall not be postponed for procurement of medical history information which is merely supplementary to the competency determination;

(iii) Completion of the referral is frustrated by lack of availability or participation by counsel, jail or court personnel, interpreters, or the defendant; or

(iv) An unusual spike in the receipt of evaluation referrals or in the number of defendants requiring restoration services has occurred, causing temporary delays until the unex-

pected excess demand for competency services can be resolved.

(2) The department shall:

(a) Develop, document, and implement procedures to monitor the clinical status of defendants admitted to a state hospital for competency services that allow the state hospital to accomplish early discharge for defendants for whom clinical objectives have been achieved or may be achieved before expiration of the commitment period;

(b) Investigate the extent to which patients admitted to a state hospital under this chapter overstay time periods authorized by law and take reasonable steps to limit the time of commitment to authorized periods; and

(c) Establish written standards for the productivity of forensic evaluators and utilize these standards to internally review the performance of forensic evaluators.

(3) Following any quarter in which a state hospital has failed to meet one or more of the performance targets in subsection (1) of this section after full implementation of the performance target, the department shall report to the executive and the legislature the extent of this deviation and describe any corrective action being taken to improve performance. This report must be made publicly available. An average may be used to determine timeliness under this subsection.

(4) Beginning December 1, 2013, the department shall report annually to the legislature and the executive on the timeliness of services related to competency to proceed or stand trial and the timeliness with which court referrals accompanied by charging documents, discovery, and criminal history information are provided to the department relative to the signature date of the court order. The report must be in a form that is accessible to the public and that breaks down performance by county.

(5) This section does not create any new entitlement or cause of action related to the timeliness of competency evaluations or admission for inpatient services related to competency to proceed or stand trial, nor can it form the basis for contempt sanctions under chapter 7.21 RCW or a motion to dismiss criminal charges. [2012 c 256 § 2.]

**Purpose—2012 c 256:** "The purpose of this act is to sustainably improve the timeliness of services related to competency to stand trial by setting performance expectations, establishing new mechanisms for accountability, and enacting reforms to ensure that forensic resources are expended in an efficient and clinically appropriate manner without diminishing the quality of competency services, and to reduce the time defendants with mental illness spend in jail awaiting evaluation and restoration of competency." [2012 c 256 § 1.]

**Effective date—2012 c 256:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect May 1, 2012." [2012 c 256 § 14.]

**10.77.070 Examination rights of defendant's expert or professional person.** When the defendant wishes to be examined by a qualified expert or professional person of his or her own choice such examiner shall be permitted to have reasonable access to the defendant for the purpose of such examination, as well as to all relevant medical and psychological records and reports. [1998 c 297 § 36; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 7.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

**10.77.080 Motion for acquittal on grounds of insanity—Hearing—Findings.** The defendant may move the court for a judgment of acquittal on the grounds of insanity: PROVIDED, That a defendant so acquitted may not later contest the validity of his or her detention on the grounds that he or she did not commit the acts charged. At the hearing upon the motion the defendant shall have the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that he or she was insane at the time of the offense or offenses with which he or she is charged. If the court finds that the defendant should be acquitted by reason of insanity, it shall enter specific findings in substantially the same form as set forth in RCW 10.77.040. If the motion is denied, the question may be submitted to the trier of fact in the same manner as other issues of fact. [1998 c 297 § 37; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 7; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 8.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

**10.77.084 Stay of proceedings—Treatment—Restoration of competency—Commitment—Other procedures.**

(1)(a) If at any time during the pendency of an action and prior to judgment the court finds, following a report as provided in RCW 10.77.060, a defendant is incompetent, the court shall order the proceedings against the defendant be stayed except as provided in subsection (4) of this section.

(b) At the end of the mental health treatment and restoration period, if any, or at any time a professional person determines competency has been, or is unlikely to be, restored, the defendant shall be returned to court for a hearing. The parties may agree to waive the defendant's presence or to remote participation by the defendant at a hearing or presentation of an agreed order if the recommendation of the evaluator is for the continuation of the stay of criminal proceedings, or if the opinion of the evaluator is that the defendant remains incompetent and there is no remaining restoration period, and the hearing is held prior to expiration of the defendant's authorized period of commitment, in which case the department shall promptly notify the court and parties of the date of the defendant's admission and expiration of commitment so that a timely hearing date may be scheduled. If, after notice and hearing, competency has been restored, the stay entered under (a) of this subsection shall be lifted. If competency has not been restored, the proceedings shall be dismissed without prejudice. If the court concludes that competency has not been restored, but that further treatment within the time limits established by RCW 10.77.086 or 10.77.088 is likely to restore competency, the court may order that treatment for purposes of competency restoration be continued. Such treatment may not extend beyond the combination of time provided for in RCW 10.77.086 or 10.77.088.

(c) If at any time during the proceeding the court finds, following notice and hearing, a defendant is not likely to regain competency, the proceedings shall be dismissed without prejudice and the defendant shall be evaluated for civil commitment proceedings.

(2) If the defendant is referred for evaluation by a designated mental health professional under this chapter, the designated mental health professional shall provide prompt written notification of the results of the evaluation and whether the person was detained. The notification shall be provided to the court in which the criminal action was pending, the

prosecutor, the defense attorney in the criminal action, and the facility that evaluated the defendant for competency.

(3) The fact that the defendant is unfit to proceed does not preclude any pretrial proceedings which do not require the personal participation of the defendant.

(4) A defendant receiving medication for either physical or mental problems shall not be prohibited from standing trial, if the medication either enables the defendant to understand the proceedings against him or her and to assist in his or her own defense, or does not disable him or her from so understanding and assisting in his or her own defense.

(5) At or before the conclusion of any commitment period provided for by this section, the facility providing evaluation and treatment shall provide to the court a written report of evaluation which meets the requirements of RCW 10.77.060(3). For defendants charged with a felony, the report following the second competency restoration period or first competency restoration period if the defendant's incompetence is determined to be solely due to a developmental disability or the evaluator concludes that the defendant is not likely to regain competency must include an assessment of the defendant's future dangerousness which is evidence-based regarding predictive validity. [2012 c 256 § 5; 2007 c 375 § 3.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2012 c 256:** See notes following RCW 10.77.068.

**Findings—Purpose—Construction—Severability—2007 c 375:** See notes following RCW 10.31.110.

**Captions not law—2007 c 375:** "Captions used in this act are not any part of the law." [2007 c 375 § 19.]

**10.77.0845 Evaluation and determination of individual with developmental disability—Program placement—Admissions, limitation.** (1) A defendant found incompetent by the court under RCW 10.77.084 must be evaluated at the direction of the secretary and a determination made whether the defendant is an individual with a developmental disability. Such evaluation and determination must be accomplished as soon as possible following the court's placement of the defendant in the custody of the secretary.

(2) When appropriate, and subject to available funds, if the defendant is determined to be an individual with a developmental disability, he or she may be placed in a program specifically reserved for the treatment and training of persons with developmental disabilities where the defendant has the right to habilitation according to an individualized service plan specifically developed for the particular needs of the defendant. A copy of the evaluation must be sent to the program.

(a) The program must be separate from programs serving persons involved in any other treatment or habilitation program.

(b) The program must be appropriately secure under the circumstances and must be administered by developmental disabilities professionals who shall direct the habilitation efforts.

(c) The program must provide an environment affording security appropriate with the charged criminal behavior and necessary to protect the public safety.

(3) The department may limit admissions of such persons to this specialized program in order to ensure that expen-

ditures for services do not exceed amounts appropriated by the legislature and allocated by the department for such services.

(4) The department may establish admission priorities in the event that the number of eligible persons exceeds the limits set by the department. [2012 c 256 § 7.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2012 c 256:** See notes following RCW 10.77.068.

**10.77.086 Commitment—Procedure in felony charge.** (1)(a) If the defendant is charged with a felony and determined to be incompetent, until he or she has regained the competency necessary to understand the proceedings against him or her and assist in his or her own defense, or has been determined unlikely to regain competency pursuant to RCW 10.77.084(1)(b), but in any event for a period of no longer than ninety days, the court:

(i) Shall commit the defendant to the custody of the secretary who shall place such defendant in an appropriate facility of the department for evaluation and treatment; or

(ii) May alternatively order the defendant to undergo evaluation and treatment at some other facility as determined by the department, or under the guidance and control of a professional person.

(b) For a defendant whose highest charge is a class C felony, or a class B felony that is not classified as violent under RCW 9.94A.030, the maximum time allowed for the initial period of commitment for competency restoration is forty-five days.

(2) On or before expiration of the initial period of commitment under subsection (1) of this section the court shall conduct a hearing, at which it shall determine whether or not the defendant is incompetent.

(3) If the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that a defendant charged with a felony is incompetent, the court shall have the option of extending the order of commitment or alternative treatment for an additional period of ninety days, but the court must at the time of extension set a date for a prompt hearing to determine the defendant's competency before the expiration of the second restoration period. The defendant, the defendant's attorney, or the prosecutor has the right to demand that the hearing be before a jury. No extension shall be ordered for a second or third restoration period as provided in subsection (4) of this section if the defendant's incompetence has been determined by the secretary to be solely the result of a developmental disability which is such that competence is not reasonably likely to be regained during an extension.

(4) For persons charged with a felony, at the hearing upon the expiration of the second restoration period or at the end of the first restoration period, in the case of a defendant with a developmental disability, if the jury or court finds that the defendant is incompetent, the charges shall be dismissed without prejudice, and the court shall either order the release of the defendant or order the defendant be committed to a hospital or secure mental health facility for up to seventy-two hours starting from admission to the facility, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, for evaluation for the purpose of filing a civil commitment petition. The criminal charges shall not be dismissed if the court or jury finds that: (a) The defendant (i) is a substantial danger to other persons; or (ii)

presents a substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts jeopardizing public safety or security; and (b) there is a substantial probability that the defendant will regain competency within a reasonable period of time. In the event that the court or jury makes such a finding, the court may extend the period of commitment for up to an additional six months. [2012 c 256 § 6; 2007 c 375 § 4.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2012 c 256:** See notes following RCW 10.77.068.

**Findings—Purpose—Construction—Severability—2007 c 375:** See notes following RCW 10.31.110.

**Captions not law—2007 c 375:** See note following RCW 10.77.084.

**10.77.088 Placement—Procedure in nonfelony charge.** (1)(a) If the defendant is charged with a nonfelony crime which is a serious offense as identified in RCW 10.77.092 and found by the court to be not competent, then the court shall order the secretary to place the defendant:

(i) At a secure mental health facility in the custody of the department or an agency designated by the department for mental health treatment and restoration of competency. The placement shall not exceed fourteen days in addition to any unused time of the evaluation under RCW 10.77.060. The court shall compute this total period and include its computation in the order. The fourteen-day period plus any unused time of the evaluation under RCW 10.77.060 shall be considered to include only the time the defendant is actually at the facility and shall be in addition to reasonable time for transport to or from the facility;

(ii) On conditional release for up to ninety days for mental health treatment and restoration of competency; or

(iii) Any combination of this subsection.

(b)(i) If the proceedings are dismissed under RCW 10.77.084 and the defendant was on conditional release at the time of dismissal, the court shall order the designated mental health professional within that county to evaluate the defendant pursuant to chapter 71.05 RCW. The evaluation may be conducted in any location chosen by the professional.

(ii) If the defendant was in custody and not on conditional release at the time of dismissal, the defendant shall be detained and sent to an evaluation and treatment facility for up to seventy-two hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, for evaluation for purposes of filing a petition under chapter 71.05 RCW. The seventy-two-hour period shall commence upon the next nonholiday weekday following the court order and shall run to the end of the last nonholiday weekday within the seventy-two-hour period.

(2) If the defendant is charged with a nonfelony crime that is not a serious offense as defined in RCW 10.77.092:

The court may stay or dismiss proceedings and detain the defendant for sufficient time to allow the designated mental health professional to evaluate the defendant and consider initial detention proceedings under chapter 71.05 RCW. The court must give notice to all parties at least twenty-four hours before the dismissal of any proceeding under this subsection, and provide an opportunity for a hearing on whether to dismiss the proceedings. [2007 c 375 § 5.]

**Findings—Purpose—Construction—Severability—2007 c 375:** See notes following RCW 10.31.110.

**Captions not law—2007 c 375:** See note following RCW 10.77.084.

**10.77.091 Placement—Secure facility—Treatment and rights—Custody—Reports. (Expires June 30, 2015.)**

(1) If the secretary determines in writing that a person committed to the custody of the secretary for treatment as criminally insane presents an unreasonable safety risk which, based on behavior, clinical history, and facility security is not manageable in a state hospital setting, the secretary may place the person in any secure facility operated by the secretary or the secretary of the department of corrections. Any person affected by this provision shall receive appropriate mental health treatment governed by a formalized treatment plan targeted at mental health rehabilitation needs and shall be afforded his or her rights under RCW 10.77.140, 10.77.150, and 10.77.200. The secretary of the department of social and health services shall retain legal custody of any person placed under this section and review any placement outside of a department mental health hospital every three months, or sooner if warranted by the person's mental health status, to determine if the placement remains appropriate.

(2) Beginning December 1, 2010, and every six months thereafter, the secretary shall report to the governor and the appropriate committees of the legislature regarding the use of the authority under this section to transfer persons to a secure facility. The report shall include information related to the number of persons who have been placed in a secure facility operated by the secretary or the secretary of the department of corrections, and the length of time that each such person has been in the secure facility.

(3) This section expires June 30, 2015. [2010 c 263 § 2.]

**10.77.092 Involuntary medication—Serious offenses.**

(1) For purposes of determining whether a court may authorize involuntary medication for the purpose of competency restoration pursuant to RCW 10.77.084, a pending charge involving any one or more of the following crimes is a serious offense per se in the context of competency restoration:

(a) Any violent offense, sex offense, serious traffic offense, and most serious offense, as those terms are defined in RCW 9.94A.030;

(b) Any offense, except nonfelony counterfeiting offenses, included in crimes against persons in RCW 9.94A.411;

(c) Any offense contained in chapter 9.41 RCW (firearms and dangerous weapons);

(d) Any offense listed as domestic violence in RCW 10.99.020;

(e) Any offense listed as a harassment offense in chapter 9A.46 RCW;

(f) Any violation of chapter 69.50 RCW that is a class B felony; or

(g) Any city or county ordinance or statute that is equivalent to an offense referenced in this subsection.

(2)(a) In a particular case, a court may determine that a pending charge not otherwise defined as serious by state or federal law or by a city or county ordinance is, nevertheless, a serious offense within the context of competency restoration treatment when the conduct in the charged offense falls within the standards established in (b) of this subsection.

(b) To determine that the particular case is a serious offense within the context of competency restoration, the court must consider the following factors and determine that

one or more of the following factors creates a situation in which the offense is serious:

(i) The charge includes an allegation that the defendant actually inflicted bodily or emotional harm on another person or that the defendant created a reasonable apprehension of bodily or emotional harm to another;

(ii) The extent of the impact of the alleged offense on the basic human need for security of the citizens within the jurisdiction;

(iii) The number and nature of related charges pending against the defendant;

(iv) The length of potential confinement if the defendant is convicted; and

(v) The number of potential and actual victims or persons impacted by the defendant's alleged acts. [2008 c 213 § 2; 2004 c 157 § 3.]

**Findings—Intent—Severability—Effective date—2004 c 157:** See notes following RCW 10.77.010.

**10.77.093 Involuntary medication—Civil commitment.** When the court must make a determination whether to order involuntary medications for the purpose of competency restoration or for maintenance of competency, the court shall inquire, and shall be told, and to the extent that the prosecutor or defense attorney is aware, whether the defendant is the subject of a pending civil commitment proceeding or has been ordered into involuntary treatment pursuant to a civil commitment proceeding. [2004 c 157 § 4.]

**Findings—Intent—Severability—Effective date—2004 c 157:** See notes following RCW 10.77.010.

**10.77.094 Antipsychotic medication, administration.**

(1) A state hospital may administer antipsychotic medication without consent to an individual who is committed under this chapter as criminally insane by following the same procedures applicable to the administration of antipsychotic medication without consent to a civilly committed patient under RCW 71.05.217, except for the following:

(a) The maximum period during which the court may authorize the administration of medication without consent under a single involuntary medication petition shall be the time remaining on the individual's current order of commitment or one hundred eighty days, whichever is shorter; and

(b) A petition for involuntary medication may be filed in either the superior court of the county that ordered the commitment or the superior court of the county in which the individual is receiving treatment, provided that a copy of any order that is entered must be provided to the superior court of the county that ordered the commitment following the hearing. The superior court of the county of commitment shall retain exclusive jurisdiction over all hearings concerning the release of the patient.

(2) The state has a compelling interest in providing antipsychotic medication to a patient who has been committed as criminally insane when refusal of antipsychotic medication would result in a likelihood of serious harm or substantial deterioration or substantially prolong the length of involuntary commitment and there is no less intrusive course of treatment than medication that is in the best interest of the patient. [2012 c 256 § 12.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2012 c 256:** See notes following RCW 10.77.068.

**10.77.095 Findings—Developmental disabilities.** The legislature finds that among those persons who endanger the safety of others by committing crimes are a small number of persons with developmental disabilities. While their conduct is not typical of the vast majority of persons with developmental disabilities who are responsible citizens, for their own welfare and for the safety of others the state may need to exercise control over those few dangerous individuals who are developmentally disabled, have been charged with crimes that involve a threat to public safety or security, and have been found either incompetent to stand trial or not guilty by reason of insanity. The legislature finds, however, that the use of civil commitment procedures under chapter 71.05 RCW to effect state control over dangerous developmentally disabled persons has resulted in their commitment to institutions for the mentally ill. The legislature finds that existing programs in mental institutions may be inappropriate for persons who are developmentally disabled because the services provided in mental institutions are oriented to persons with mental illness, a condition not necessarily associated with developmental disabilities. Therefore, the legislature believes that, where appropriate, and subject to available funds, persons with developmental disabilities who have been charged with crimes that involve a threat to public safety or security and have been found incompetent to stand trial or not guilty by reason of insanity should receive state services addressing their needs, that such services must be provided in conformance with an individual habilitation plan, and that their initial treatment should be separate and discrete from treatment for persons involved in any other treatment or habilitation program in a manner consistent with the needs of public safety. [1998 c 297 § 28; 1989 c 420 § 1. Formerly RCW 10.77.005.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

**10.77.097 Records and reports accompany defendant upon transfer.** A copy of relevant records and reports as defined by the department, in consultation with the department of corrections, made pursuant to this chapter, and including relevant information necessary to meet the requirements of RCW 10.77.065(1) and 10.77.084, shall accompany the defendant upon transfer to a mental health facility or a correctional institution or facility. [2008 c 213 § 3; 2000 c 74 § 4; 1998 c 297 § 47.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.77.100 Experts or professional persons as witnesses.** Subject to the rules of evidence, experts or professional persons who have reported pursuant to this chapter may be called as witnesses at any proceeding held pursuant to this chapter. Both the prosecution and the defendant may summon any other qualified expert or professional persons to testify. [1974 ex.s. c 198 § 9; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 10.]

**10.77.110 Acquittal of crime.** (1) If a defendant is acquitted of a crime by reason of insanity, and it is found that he or she is not a substantial danger to other persons, and does not present a substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts jeopardizing public safety or security, unless kept under further control by the court or other persons or institutions, the court shall direct the defendant's release. If it is found that such defendant is a substantial danger to other persons, or presents a substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts jeopardizing public safety or security, unless kept under further control by the court or other persons or institutions, the court shall order his or her hospitalization, or any appropriate alternative treatment less restrictive than detention in a state mental hospital, pursuant to the terms of this chapter.

(2) If the defendant has been found not guilty by reason of insanity and a substantial danger, or presents a substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts jeopardizing public safety or security, so as to require treatment then the secretary shall immediately cause the defendant to be evaluated to ascertain if the defendant is developmentally disabled. When appropriate, and subject to available funds, the defendant may be committed to a program specifically reserved for the treatment and training of developmentally disabled persons. A person so committed shall receive habilitation services according to an individualized service plan specifically developed to treat the behavior which was the subject of the criminal proceedings. The treatment program shall be administered by developmental disabilities professionals and others trained specifically in the needs of developmentally disabled persons. The treatment program shall provide physical security to a degree consistent with the finding that the defendant is dangerous and may incorporate varying conditions of security and alternative sites when the dangerousness of any particular defendant makes this necessary. The department may limit admissions to this specialized program in order to ensure that expenditures for services do not exceed amounts appropriated by the legislature and allocated by the department for such services. The department may establish admission priorities in the event that the number of eligible persons exceeds the limits set by the department.

(3) If it is found that such defendant is not a substantial danger to other persons, and does not present a substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts jeopardizing public safety or security, but that he or she is in need of control by the court or other persons or institutions, the court shall direct the defendant's conditional release. [2000 c 94 § 14; 1998 c 297 § 39; 1989 c 420 § 6; 1983 c 25 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 215 § 4; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 10; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 11.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

**10.77.120 Care and treatment of committed person—Hearings—Release.** (1) The secretary shall provide adequate care and individualized treatment to persons found criminally insane at one or several of the state institutions or facilities under the direction and control of the secretary. In order that the secretary may adequately determine the nature of the mental illness or developmental disability of the person committed as criminally insane, all persons who are committed to the secretary as criminally insane shall be promptly examined by qualified personnel in order to provide a proper

evaluation and diagnosis of such individual. The examinations of all persons with developmental disabilities committed under this chapter shall be performed by developmental disabilities professionals. Any person so committed shall not be released from the control of the secretary except by order of a court of competent jurisdiction made after a hearing and judgment of release.

(2) Whenever there is a hearing which the committed person is entitled to attend, the secretary shall send the person in the custody of one or more department employees to the county in which the hearing is to be held at the time the case is called for trial. During the time the person is absent from the facility, the person may be confined in a facility designated by and arranged for by the department, but shall at all times be deemed to be in the custody of the department employee and provided necessary treatment. If the decision of the hearing remits the person to custody, the department employee shall return the person to such institution or facility designated by the secretary. If the state appeals an order of release, such appeal shall operate as a stay, and the person shall remain in custody and be returned to the institution or facility designated by the secretary until a final decision has been rendered in the cause. [2010 c 263 § 4; 2000 c 94 § 15; 1989 c 420 § 7; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 11; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 12.]

**10.77.140 Periodic examinations—Developmentally disabled—Reports—Notice to court.** Each person committed to a hospital or other facility or conditionally released pursuant to this chapter shall have a current examination of his or her mental condition made by one or more experts or professional persons at least once every six months. The person may retain, or if the person is indigent and so requests, the court may appoint a qualified expert or professional person to examine him or her, and such expert or professional person shall have access to all hospital records concerning the person. In the case of a committed or conditionally released person who is developmentally disabled, the expert shall be a developmental disabilities professional. The secretary, upon receipt of the periodic report, shall provide written notice to the court of commitment of compliance with the requirements of this section. [1998 c 297 § 40; 1989 c 420 § 8; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 12; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 14.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

**10.77.145 Authorization to leave facility where person is confined prohibited—Exceptions—Approval by secretary—Notification to county or city law enforcement agency.** (1) No person committed to the custody of the department for the determination of competency to stand trial under RCW 10.77.060, the restoration of competency for trial under RCW 10.77.084, 10.77.086, or 10.77.088, or following an acquittal by reason of insanity shall be authorized to leave the facility where the person is confined, except in the following circumstances:

(a) In accordance with conditional release or furlough authorized by a court;

(b) For necessary medical or legal proceedings not available in the facility where the person is confined;



(c) For visits to the bedside of a member of the person's immediate family who is seriously ill; or

(d) For attendance at the funeral of a member of the person's immediate family.

(2) Unless ordered otherwise by a court, no leave under subsection (1) of this section shall be authorized unless the person who is the subject of the authorization is escorted by a person approved by the secretary. During the authorized leave, the person approved by the secretary must be in visual or auditory contact at all times with the person on authorized leave.

(3) Prior to the authorization of any leave under subsection (1) of this section, the secretary must give notification to any county or city law enforcement agency having jurisdiction in the location of the leave destination. [2010 c 262 § 1.]

**10.77.150 Conditional release—Application—Secretary's recommendation—Order—Procedure.** (1) Persons examined pursuant to RCW 10.77.140 may make application to the secretary for conditional release. The secretary shall, after considering the reports of experts or professional persons conducting the examination pursuant to RCW 10.77.140, forward to the court of the county which ordered the person's commitment the person's application for conditional release as well as the secretary's recommendations concerning the application and any proposed terms and conditions upon which the secretary reasonably believes the person can be conditionally released. Conditional release may also contemplate partial release for work, training, or educational purposes.

(2) In instances in which persons examined pursuant to RCW 10.77.140 have not made application to the secretary for conditional release, but the secretary, after considering the reports of experts or professional persons conducting the examination pursuant to RCW 10.77.140, reasonably believes the person may be conditionally released, the secretary may submit a recommendation for release to the court of the county that ordered the person's commitment. The secretary's recommendation must include any proposed terms and conditions upon which the secretary reasonably believes the person may be conditionally released. Conditional release may also include partial release for work, training, or educational purposes. Notice of the secretary's recommendation under this subsection must be provided to the person for whom the secretary has made the recommendation for release and to his or her attorney.

(3)(a) The court of the county which ordered the person's commitment, upon receipt of an application or recommendation for conditional release with the secretary's recommendation for conditional release terms and conditions, shall within thirty days schedule a hearing. The court may schedule a hearing on applications recommended for disapproval by the secretary.

(b) The prosecuting attorney shall represent the state at such hearings and shall have the right to have the patient examined by an expert or professional person of the prosecuting attorney's choice. If the committed person is indigent, and he or she so requests, the court shall appoint a qualified expert or professional person to examine the person on his or her behalf.

(c) The issue to be determined at such a hearing is whether or not the person may be released conditionally without substantial danger to other persons, or substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts jeopardizing public safety or security.

(d) The court, after the hearing, shall rule on the secretary's recommendations, and if it disapproves of conditional release, may do so only on the basis of substantial evidence. The court may modify the suggested terms and conditions on which the person is to be conditionally released. Pursuant to the determination of the court after hearing, the committed person shall thereupon be released on such conditions as the court determines to be necessary, or shall be remitted to the custody of the secretary. If the order of conditional release includes a requirement for the committed person to report to a community corrections officer, the order shall also specify that the conditionally released person shall be under the supervision of the secretary of corrections or such person as the secretary of corrections may designate and shall follow explicitly the instructions of the secretary of corrections including reporting as directed to a community corrections officer, remaining within prescribed geographical boundaries, and notifying the community corrections officer prior to making any change in the offender's address or employment. If the order of conditional release includes a requirement for the committed person to report to a community corrections officer, the community corrections officer shall notify the secretary or the secretary's designee, if the person is not in compliance with the court-ordered conditions of release.

(4) If the court determines that receiving regular or periodic medication or other medical treatment shall be a condition of the committed person's release, then the court shall require him or her to report to a physician or other medical or mental health practitioner for the medication or treatment. In addition to submitting any report required by RCW 10.77.160, the physician or other medical or mental health practitioner shall immediately upon the released person's failure to appear for the medication or treatment or upon a change in mental health condition that renders the patient a potential risk to the public report to the court, to the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the released person was committed, to the secretary, and to the supervising community corrections officer.

(5) Any person, whose application for conditional release has been denied, may reapply after a period of six months from the date of denial. [2010 c 263 § 5; 1998 c 297 § 41; 1993 c 31 § 6; 1982 c 112 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 13; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 15.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

**10.77.152 Conditional release—Application—County of origin.** (1) In determining whether to support an application for conditional release on behalf of a person committed as criminally insane which would permit the person to reside outside of a state hospital, the secretary may not support a conditional release application to a location outside the person's county of origin unless it is determined by the secretary that the person's return to his or her county of origin would be inappropriate considering any court-issued protection orders, victim safety concerns, the availability of appro-

appropriate treatment, negative influences on the person, or the location of family or other persons or organizations offering support to the person. When the department assists in developing a placement under this section which is outside of the county of origin, and there are two or more options for placement, it shall endeavor to develop the placement in a manner that does not have a disproportionate effect on a single county.

(2) If the committed person is not conditionally released to his or her county of origin, the department shall provide the law and justice council of the county in which the person is conditionally released with a written explanation.

(3) For purposes of this section, the offender's county of origin means the county of the court which ordered the person's commitment. [2011 c 94 § 1.]

**10.77.155 Conditional release, furlough—Secretary's recommendation.** No court may, without a hearing, enter an order conditionally releasing or authorizing the furlough of a person committed under this chapter, unless the secretary has recommended the release or furlough. If the secretary has not recommended the release or furlough, a hearing shall be held under RCW 10.77.150. [1994 c 150 § 1.]

**10.77.160 Conditional release—Reports.** When a conditionally released person is required by the terms of his or her conditional release to report to a physician, department of corrections community corrections officer, or medical or mental health practitioner on a regular or periodic basis, the physician, department of corrections community corrections officer, medical or mental health practitioner, or other such person shall monthly, for the first six months after release and semiannually thereafter, or as otherwise directed by the court, submit to the court, the secretary, the institution from which released, and to the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the person was committed, a report stating whether the person is adhering to the terms and conditions of his or her conditional release, and detailing any arrests or criminal charges filed and any significant change in the person's mental health condition or other circumstances. [2010 c 263 § 6; 1993 c 31 § 7; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 16.]

**10.77.163 Furlough—Notice—Temporary restraining order.** (1) Before a person committed under this chapter is permitted temporarily to leave a treatment facility for any period of time without constant accompaniment by facility staff, the superintendent, professional person in charge of a treatment facility, or his or her professional designee shall in writing notify the prosecuting attorney of any county to which the person is released and the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the criminal charges against the committed person were dismissed, of the decision conditionally to release the person. The notice shall be provided at least forty-five days before the anticipated release and shall describe the conditions under which the release is to occur.

(2) In addition to the notice required by subsection (1) of this section, the superintendent of each state institution designated for the custody, care, and treatment of persons committed under this chapter shall notify appropriate law enforcement agencies through the state patrol communications net-

work of the furloughs of persons committed under RCW 10.77.086 or 10.77.110. Notification shall be made at least thirty days before the furlough, and shall include the name of the person, the place to which the person has permission to go, and the dates and times during which the person will be on furlough.

(3) Upon receiving notice that a person committed under this chapter is being temporarily released under subsection (1) of this section, the prosecuting attorney may seek a temporary restraining order to prevent the release of the person on the grounds that the person is dangerous to self or others.

(4) The notice requirements contained in this section shall not apply to emergency medical furloughs.

(5) The existence of the notice requirements contained in this section shall not require any extension of the release date in the event the release plan changes after notification.

(6) The notice provisions of this section are in addition to those provided in RCW 10.77.205. [2008 c 213 § 4; 1994 c 129 § 4; 1990 c 3 § 106; 1989 c 420 § 9; 1983 c 122 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—1994 c 129:** See note following RCW 4.24.550.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.77.165 Escape or disappearance—Notification requirements.** (1) In the event of an escape by a person committed under this chapter from a state facility or the disappearance of such a person on conditional release or other authorized absence, the superintendent shall provide notification of the person's escape or disappearance for the public's safety or to assist in the apprehension of the person.

(a) The superintendent shall notify:

(i) State and local law enforcement officers located in the city and county where the person escaped and in the city and county which had jurisdiction of the person on the date of the applicable offense;

(ii) Other appropriate governmental agencies; and

(iii) The person's relatives.

(b) The superintendent shall provide the same notification as required by (a) of this subsection to the following, if such notice has been requested in writing about a specific person committed under this chapter:

(i) The victim of the crime for which the person was convicted or the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide;

(ii) Any witnesses who testified against the person in any court proceedings if the person was charged with a violent offense; and

(iii) Any other appropriate persons.

(2) Information regarding victims, next of kin, or witnesses requesting the notice, information regarding any other person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney to receive the notice, and the notice are confidential and shall not be available to the person committed under this chapter.

(3) The notice provisions of this section are in addition to those provided in RCW 10.77.205. [2011 c 305 § 6; 2010 c 28 § 1; 1993 c 31 § 8; 1990 c 3 § 107; 1989 c 420 § 10; 1983 c 122 § 3.]

**Findings—2011 c 305:** See note following RCW 74.09.295.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.77.170 Payments to conditionally released persons.** As funds are available, the secretary may provide payment to a person conditionally released pursuant to RCW

10.77.150, consistent with the provisions of RCW 72.02.100 and 72.02.110, and may adopt rules and regulations to do so. [1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 17.]

**10.77.180 Conditional release—Periodic review of case.** Each person conditionally released pursuant to RCW 10.77.150 shall have his or her case reviewed by the court which conditionally released him or her no later than one year after such release and no later than every two years thereafter, such time to be scheduled by the court. Review may occur in a shorter time or more frequently, if the court, in its discretion, on its own motion, or on motion of the person, the secretary of social and health services, the secretary of corrections, medical or mental health practitioner, or the prosecuting attorney, so determines. The sole question to be determined by the court is whether the person shall continue to be conditionally released. The court in making its determination shall be aided by the periodic reports filed pursuant to RCW 10.77.140 and 10.77.160, and the opinions of the secretary and other experts or professional persons. [1998 c 297 § 42; 1993 c 31 § 9; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 14; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 18.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

**10.77.190 Conditional release—Revocation or modification of terms—Procedure.** (1) Any person submitting reports pursuant to RCW 10.77.160, the secretary, or the prosecuting attorney may petition the court to, or the court on its own motion may schedule an immediate hearing for the purpose of modifying the terms of conditional release if the petitioner or the court believes the released person is failing to adhere to the terms and conditions of his or her conditional release or is in need of additional care and treatment.

(2) If the prosecuting attorney, the secretary of social and health services, the secretary of corrections, or the court, after examining the report filed with them pursuant to RCW 10.77.160, or based on other information received by them, reasonably believes that a conditionally released person is failing to adhere to the terms and conditions of his or her conditional release the court or secretary of social and health services or the secretary of corrections may order that the conditionally released person be apprehended and taken into custody. The court shall be notified of the apprehension before the close of the next judicial day. The court shall schedule a hearing within thirty days to determine whether or not the person's conditional release should be modified or revoked. Both the prosecuting attorney and the conditionally released person shall have the right to request an immediate mental examination of the conditionally released person. If the conditionally released person is indigent, the court or secretary of social and health services or the secretary of corrections or their designees shall, upon request, assist him or her in obtaining a qualified expert or professional person to conduct the examination.

(3) If the hospital or facility designated to provide outpatient care determines that a conditionally released person presents a threat to public safety, the hospital or facility shall immediately notify the secretary of social and health services or the secretary of corrections or their designees. The secre-

tary shall order that the conditionally released person be apprehended and taken into custody.

(4) The court, upon receiving notification of the apprehension, shall promptly schedule a hearing. The issue to be determined is whether the conditionally released person did or did not adhere to the terms and conditions of his or her release, or whether the person presents a threat to public safety. Pursuant to the determination of the court upon such hearing, the conditionally released person shall either continue to be conditionally released on the same or modified conditions or his or her conditional release shall be revoked and he or she shall be committed subject to release only in accordance with provisions of this chapter. [2010 c 263 § 7; 1998 c 297 § 43; 1993 c 31 § 10; 1982 c 112 § 2; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 15; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 19.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

**10.77.195 Conditional release—Court approval—Compliance—Secretary to coordinate with designated treatment providers, department of corrections staff, and local law enforcement—Rules.** For persons who have received court approval for conditional release, the secretary or the secretary's designee shall supervise the person's compliance with the court-ordered conditions of release. The level of supervision provided by the secretary shall correspond to the level of the person's public safety risk. In undertaking supervision of persons under this section, the secretary shall coordinate with any treatment providers designated pursuant to RCW 10.77.150(3), any department of corrections staff designated pursuant to RCW 10.77.150(2), and local law enforcement, if appropriate. The secretary shall adopt rules to implement this section. [2010 c 263 § 9.]

**10.77.200 Release—Procedure.** (1) Upon application by the committed or conditionally released person, the secretary shall determine whether or not reasonable grounds exist for release. In making this determination, the secretary may consider the reports filed under RCW 10.77.060, 10.77.110, 10.77.140, and 10.77.160, and other reports and evaluations provided by professionals familiar with the case. If the secretary approves the release he or she then shall authorize the person to petition the court.

(2) In instances in which persons have not made application for release, but the secretary believes, after consideration of the reports filed under RCW 10.77.060, 10.77.110, 10.77.140, and 10.77.160, and other reports and evaluations provided by professionals familiar with the case, that reasonable grounds exist for release, the secretary may petition the court. If the secretary petitions the court for release under this subsection, notice of the petition must be provided to the person who is the subject of the petition and to his or her attorney.

(3) The petition shall be served upon the court and the prosecuting attorney. The court, upon receipt of the petition for release, shall within forty-five days order a hearing. Continuance of the hearing date shall only be allowed for good cause shown. The prosecuting attorney shall represent the state, and shall have the right to have the petitioner examined by an expert or professional person of the prosecuting attorney's choice. If the petitioner is indigent, and the person so

requests, the court shall appoint a qualified expert or professional person to examine him or her. If the petitioner has a developmental disability, the examination shall be performed by a developmental disabilities professional. The hearing shall be before a jury if demanded by either the petitioner or the prosecuting attorney. The burden of proof shall be upon the petitioner to show by a preponderance of the evidence that the petitioner no longer presents, as a result of a mental disease or defect, a substantial danger to other persons, or a substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts jeopardizing public safety or security, unless kept under further control by the court or other persons or institutions.

(4) For purposes of this section, a person affected by a mental disease or defect in a state of remission is considered to have a mental disease or defect requiring supervision when the disease may, with reasonable medical probability, occasionally become active and, when active, render the person a danger to others. Upon a finding that the petitioner has a mental disease or defect in a state of remission under this subsection, the court may deny release, or place or continue such a person on conditional release.

(5) Nothing contained in this chapter shall prohibit the patient from petitioning the court for release or conditional release from the institution in which he or she is committed. The issue to be determined on such proceeding is whether the petitioner, as a result of a mental disease or defect, is a substantial danger to other persons, or presents a substantial likelihood of committing criminal acts jeopardizing public safety or security, unless kept under further control by the court or other persons or institutions.

(6) Nothing contained in this chapter shall prohibit the committed person from petitioning for release by writ of habeas corpus. [2010 c 263 § 8; 2000 c 94 § 16; 1998 c 297 § 44; 1993 c 31 § 11; 1989 c 420 § 11; 1983 c 25 § 2; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 16; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 20.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

#### **10.77.205 Sexual or violent offenders—Notice of release, escape, etc.—Definitions.**

(1)(a) At the earliest possible date, and in no event later than thirty days before conditional release, release, authorized furlough pursuant to RCW 10.77.163, or transfer to a less-restrictive facility than a state mental hospital, the superintendent shall send written notice of the conditional release, release, authorized furlough, or transfer of a person who has been found not guilty of a sex, violent, or felony harassment offense by reason of insanity and who is now in the custody of the department pursuant to this chapter, to the following:

(i) The chief of police of the city, if any, in which the person will reside; and

(ii) The sheriff of the county in which the person will reside.

(b) The same notice as required by (a) of this subsection shall be sent to the following, if such notice has been requested in writing about a specific person committed under this chapter:

(i) The victim of the crime for which the person was committed or the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide;

(ii) Any witnesses who testified against the person in any court proceedings; and

(iii) Any person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney.

Information regarding victims, next of kin, or witnesses requesting the notice, information regarding any other person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney to receive the notice, and the notice are confidential and shall not be available to the person committed under this chapter.

(c) In addition to the notice requirements of (a) and (b) of this subsection, the superintendent shall comply with RCW 10.77.163.

(d) The thirty-day notice requirement contained in (a) and (b) of this subsection shall not apply to emergency medical furloughs.

(e) The existence of the notice requirements in (a) and (b) of this subsection shall not require any extension of the release date in the event the release plan changes after notification.

(2) If a person who has been found not guilty of a sex, violent, or felony harassment offense by reason of insanity and who is committed under this chapter escapes, the superintendent shall immediately notify, by the most reasonable and expedient means available, the chief of police of the city and the sheriff of the county in which the person resided immediately before the person's arrest. If previously requested, the superintendent shall also notify the witnesses and the victim, if any, of the crime for which the person was committed or the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide. The superintendent shall also notify appropriate persons pursuant to RCW 10.77.165. If the person is recaptured, the secretary shall send notice to the persons designated in this subsection as soon as possible but in no event later than two working days after the department learns of such recapture.

(3) If the victim, the victim's next of kin, or any witness is under the age of sixteen, the notice required by this section shall be sent to the parents or legal guardian of the child.

(4) The department shall send the notices required by this chapter to the last address provided to the department by the requesting party. The requesting party shall furnish the department with a current address.

(5) For purposes of this section the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) "Violent offense" means a violent offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

(b) "Sex offense" means a sex offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

(c) "Next of kin" means a person's spouse, state registered domestic partner, parents, siblings, and children;

(d) "Authorized furlough" means a furlough granted after compliance with RCW 10.77.163;

(e) "Felony harassment offense" means a crime of harassment as defined in RCW 9A.46.060 that is a felony. [2009 c 521 § 27; 2000 c 94 § 17; 1994 c 129 § 5; 1992 c 186 § 8; 1990 c 3 § 104.]

**Findings—Intent—1994 c 129:** See note following RCW 4.24.550.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **10.77.207 Persons acquitted of sex offense due to insanity—Release of information authorized.**

In addition

to any other information required to be released under this chapter, the department is authorized, pursuant to RCW 4.24.550, to release relevant information necessary to protect the public concerning a person who was acquitted of a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 due to insanity and was subsequently committed to the department pursuant to this chapter. [1990 c 3 § 105.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.77.210 Right to adequate care and treatment—Records and reports.** (1) Any person involuntarily detained, hospitalized, or committed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall have the right to adequate care and individualized treatment. The person who has custody of the patient or is in charge of treatment shall keep records detailing all medical, expert, and professional care and treatment received by a committed person, and shall keep copies of all reports of periodic examinations of the patient that have been filed with the secretary pursuant to this chapter. Except as provided in RCW 10.77.205 and 4.24.550 regarding the release of information concerning insane offenders who are acquitted of sex offenses and subsequently committed pursuant to this chapter, all records and reports made pursuant to this chapter, shall be made available only upon request, to the committed person, to his or her attorney, to his or her personal physician, to the supervising community corrections officer, to the prosecuting attorney, to the court, to the protection and advocacy agency, or other expert or professional persons who, upon proper showing, demonstrates a need for access to such records. All records and reports made pursuant to this chapter shall also be made available, upon request, to the department of corrections or the indeterminate sentence review board if the person was on parole, probation, or community supervision at the time of detention, hospitalization, or commitment or the person is subsequently convicted for the crime for which he or she was detained, hospitalized, or committed pursuant to this chapter.

(2) All relevant records and reports as defined by the department in rule shall be made available, upon request, to criminal justice agencies as defined in RCW 10.97.030. [1998 c 297 § 45; 1993 c 31 § 12; 1990 c 3 § 108; 1989 c 420 § 12; 1983 c 196 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 21.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.77.2101 Implementation of legislative intent.** In developing rules under RCW 10.77.210(2), the department shall implement the following legislative intent: Increasing public safety; and making decisions based on a person's current conduct and mental condition rather than the classification of the charges. [1998 c 297 § 46.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

**10.77.220 Incarceration in correctional institution or facility prohibited—Exceptions.** No person confined pursuant to this chapter shall be incarcerated in a state correctional institution or facility: PROVIDED, That nothing herein shall prohibit confinement in a mental health facility located wholly within a correctional institution. Confinement

in a county jail or other local facility while awaiting either placement in a treatment program or a court hearing pursuant to this chapter is permitted for no more than seven days. [1982 c 112 § 3; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 17; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 22.]

**10.77.230 Appellate review.** Either party may seek appellate review of the judgment of any hearing held pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. [1988 c 202 § 16; 1974 ex.s. c 198 § 18; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 23.]

**Rules of court:** Cf. *RAP 2.2, 18.22.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.77.240 Existing rights not affected.** Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit a person presently committed from exercising a right presently available to him or her for obtaining release from confinement, including the right to petition for a writ of habeas corpus. [1999 c 13 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 24.]

**Purpose—Construction—1999 c 13:** See note following RCW 10.77.010.

**10.77.250 Responsibility for costs—Reimbursement.** The department shall be responsible for all costs relating to the evaluation and treatment of persons committed to it pursuant to any provisions of this chapter, and the logistical and supportive services pertaining thereto. Reimbursement may be obtained by the department pursuant to RCW 43.20B.330. [1987 c 75 § 1; 1985 c 245 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 25.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.77.260 Violent act—Presumptions.** (1) In determining whether a defendant has committed a violent act the court must:

(a) Presume that a past conviction, guilty plea, or finding of not guilty by reason of insanity establishes the elements necessary for the crime charged;

(b) Consider that the elements of a crime may not be sufficient in themselves to establish that the defendant committed a violent act; and

(c) Presume that the facts underlying the elements, if unrebutted, are sufficient to establish that the defendant committed a violent act.

(2) The presumptions in subsection (1) of this section are rebuttable.

(3) In determining the facts underlying the elements of any crime under subsection (1) of this section, the court may consider information including, but not limited to, the following material relating to the crime:

(a) Affidavits or declarations made under penalty of perjury;

(b) Criminal history record information, as defined in chapter 10.97 RCW; and

(c) Its own or certified copies of another court's records such as criminal complaints, certifications of probable cause to detain, dockets, and orders on judgment and sentencing. [2000 c 74 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.77.270 Independent public safety review panel—Members—Secretary to submit recommendation—**

**Access to records—Support, rules—Report.** (1) The secretary shall establish an independent public safety review panel for the purpose of advising the secretary and the courts with respect to persons who have been found not guilty by reason of insanity. The panel shall provide advice regarding all recommendations: (a) For a change in commitment status; (b) to allow furloughs or temporary leaves accompanied by staff; or (c) to permit movement about the grounds of the treatment facility, with or without the accompaniment of staff.

(2) The members of the public safety review panel shall be appointed by the governor for a renewable term of three years and shall include the following:

- (a) A psychiatrist;
- (b) A licensed clinical psychologist;
- (c) A representative of the department of corrections;
- (d) A prosecutor or a representative of a prosecutor's association;
- (e) A representative of law enforcement or a law enforcement association;
- (f) A consumer and family advocate representative; and
- (g) A public defender or a representative of a defender's association.

(3) Thirty days prior to issuing a recommendation for conditional release under RCW 10.77.150 or forty-five days prior to issuing a recommendation for release under RCW 10.77.200, the secretary shall submit its recommendation with the committed person's application and the department's risk assessment to the public safety review panel. The public safety review panel shall complete an independent assessment of the public safety risk entailed by the secretary's proposed conditional release recommendation or release recommendation and provide this assessment in writing to the secretary. The public safety review panel may, within funds appropriated for this purpose, request additional evaluations of the committed person. The public safety review panel may indicate whether it is in agreement with the secretary's recommendation, or whether it would issue a different recommendation. The secretary shall provide the panel's assessment when it is received along with any supporting documentation, including all previous reports of evaluations of the committed person in the person's hospital record, to the court, prosecutor in the county that ordered the person's commitment, and counsel for the committed person.

(4) The secretary shall notify the public safety review panel at appropriate intervals concerning any changes in the commitment or custody status of persons found not guilty by reason of insanity. The panel shall have access, upon request, to a committed person's complete hospital record.

(5) The department shall provide administrative and financial support to the public safety review panel. The department, in consultation with the public safety review panel, may adopt rules to implement this section.

(6) By December 1, 2014, the public safety review panel shall report to the appropriate legislative committees the following:

- (a) Whether the public safety review panel has observed a change in statewide consistency of evaluations and decisions concerning changes in the commitment status of persons found not guilty by reason of insanity;

- (b) Whether the public safety review panel should be given the authority to make release decisions and monitor release conditions;

- (c) Any other issues the public safety review panel deems relevant. [2010 c 263 § 1.]

**10.77.810 Joint legislative audit and review committee assessment—Report.** The joint legislative audit and review committee shall make an independent assessment of the performance of the state hospitals with respect to provisions specified in RCW 10.77.068, but shall not be required to independently evaluate the exercise of clinical judgment. A report shall be made to the legislature reflecting the committee's findings and recommendations both six and eighteen months following May 1, 2012. The department of social and health services shall cooperate in a timely manner with requests for data and assistance related to this assessment. [2012 c 256 § 9.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2012 c 256:** See notes following RCW 10.77.068.

**10.77.820 Washington state institute for public policy study—Report.** The Washington state institute for public policy shall study and report to the legislature the benefit of standardizing protocols used for treatment to restore competency to stand trial in Washington and during what clinically appropriate time period said treatment may be expected to be effective. The department of social and health services shall cooperate in a timely manner with data requests in service of this study. [2012 c 256 § 10.]

**Purpose—Effective date—2012 c 256:** See notes following RCW 10.77.068.

**10.77.900 Savings—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 117.** (1) Any acts done before July 1, 1973 and any proceedings then pending and any constitutional right or any action taken in any proceeding pending under statutes in effect prior to July 1, 1973 are not impaired by this chapter.

(2) This chapter shall also apply to persons committed under prior law as incompetent to stand trial or as being criminally insane and to any proceedings in court then pending or thereafter commenced regardless of when the proceedings were commenced, except to the extent that in the opinion of the court, the former procedure should continue to be made applicable in a particular case in the interest of justice or because of infeasibility of application of the procedures of this chapter. [1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 26.]

**10.77.910 Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 117.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or its application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 27.]

**10.77.920 Chapter successor to \*chapter 10.76 RCW.** Sections 1 through 27 of this act shall constitute a new chapter in Title 10 RCW, and shall be considered the successor chapter to \*chapter 10.76 RCW. [1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 28.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Chapter 10.76 RCW was repealed by 1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 29.

**10.77.930 Effective date—1973 1st ex.s. c 117.** This act shall take effect on July 1, 1973. [1973 1st ex.s. c 117 § 30.]

**10.77.940 Equal application of 1989 c 420—Evaluation for developmental disability.** The provisions of chapter 420, Laws of 1989 shall apply equally to persons in the custody of the department on May 13, 1989, who were found by a court to be not guilty by reason of insanity or incompetent to stand trial, or who have been found to have committed acts constituting a felony pursuant to RCW 71.05.280(3) and present a substantial likelihood of repeating similar acts, and the secretary shall cause such persons to be evaluated to ascertain if such persons are developmentally disabled for placement in a program specifically reserved for the treatment and training of persons with developmental disabilities. [1999 c 13 § 4; 1989 c 420 § 17.]

**Purpose—Construction—1999 c 13:** See note following RCW 10.77.010.

**10.77.950 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 26.]

## Chapter 10.79 RCW SEARCHES AND SEIZURES

### Sections

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**Rules of court:** Search and seizure—CrR 2.3; CrRLJ 2.3.

*Alcoholic beverage control, search and seizure:* Chapter 66.32 RCW.

*Controlled substances, search and seizure:* RCW 69.50.509.

**10.79.015 Other grounds for issuance of search warrant.** Any such magistrate, when satisfied that there is reasonable cause, may also, upon like complaint made on oath, issue search warrant in the following cases, to wit:

(1) To search for and seize any counterfeit or spurious coin, or forged instruments, or tools, machines or materials, prepared or provided for making either of them.

(2) To search for and seize any gaming apparatus used or kept, and to be used in any unlawful gaming house, or in any building, apartment or place, resorted to for the purpose of unlawful gaming.

(3) To search for and seize any evidence material to the investigation or prosecution of any homicide or any felony: PROVIDED, That if the evidence is sought to be secured from any radio or television station or from any regularly published newspaper, magazine or wire service, or from any employee of such station, wire service or publication, the evidence shall be secured only through a subpoena duces tecum unless: (a) There is probable cause to believe that the person or persons in possession of the evidence may be involved in the crime under investigation; or (b) there is probable cause to believe that the evidence sought to be seized will be destroyed or hidden if subpoena duces tecum procedures are followed. As used in this subsection, "person or persons" includes both natural and judicial persons.

(4) To search for and seize any instrument, apparatus or device used to obtain telephone or telegraph service in violation of RCW 9.26A.110 or 9.26A.115. [2003 c 53 § 94; 1980 c 52 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 75 § 2; 1969 c 83 § 1; 1949 c 86 § 1; Code 1881 § 986; 1873 p 216 § 154; 1854 p 101 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 2238. Formerly RCW 10.79.010, part.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**10.79.020 To whom directed—Contents.** All such warrants shall be directed to the sheriff of the county, or his or her deputy, or to any constable of the county, commanding such officer to search the house or place where the stolen property or other things for which he or she is required to search are believed to be concealed, which place and property, or things to be searched for shall be designated and described in the warrant, and to bring such stolen property or other things, when found, and the person in whose possession the same shall be found, before the magistrate who shall issue the warrant, or before some other magistrate or court having cognizance of the case. [2010 c 8 § 1061; Code 1881 § 969; 1873 p 216 § 155; 1854 p 101 § 3; RRS § 2239.]

**10.79.040 Search without warrant unlawful—Penalty.** (1) It shall be unlawful for any police officer or other peace officer to enter and search any private dwelling house or place of residence without the authority of a search warrant issued upon a complaint as by law provided.

(2) Any police officer or other peace officer violating the provisions of this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2010 c 8 § 1062; 2003 c 53 § 95; 1921 c 71 § 1; RRS § 2240-1. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1921 c 71 § 2; RRS § 2240-2, now codified as RCW 10.79.045.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**10.79.050 Restoration of stolen property to owner—Duties of officers.** All property obtained by larceny, robbery or burglary, shall be restored to the owner; and no sale, whether in good faith on the part of the purchaser or not, shall divest the owner of his or her rights to such property; and it shall be the duty of the officer who shall arrest any person charged as principal or accessory in any robbery or larceny, to secure the property alleged to have been stolen, and he or she shall be answerable for the same, and shall annex a schedule thereof to his or her return of the warrant. [2010 c 8 § 1063; Code 1881 § 851; 1873 p 192 § 57; 1854 p 84 § 51; RRS § 2129.]

**10.79.060 Strip, body cavity searches—Legislative intent.** It is the intent of the legislature to establish policies regarding the practice of strip searching persons booked into holding, detention, or local correctional facilities. It is the intent of the legislature to restrict the practice of strip searching and body cavity searching persons booked into holding, detention, or local correctional facilities to those situations where such searches are necessary. [1983 1st ex.s. c 42 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.79.070 Strip, body cavity searches—Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout RCW 10.79.060 through 10.79.110.

(1) "Strip search" means having a person remove or arrange some or all of his or her clothing so as to permit an inspection of the genitals, buttocks, anus, or undergarments of the person or breasts of a female person.

(2) "Body cavity search" means the touching or probing of a person's body cavity, whether or not there is actual penetration of the body cavity.

(3) "Body cavity" means the stomach or rectum of a person and the vagina of a female person.

(4) "Law enforcement agency" and "law enforcement officer" include local departments of corrections created pursuant to \*RCW 70.48.090(3) and employees thereof. [1983 1st ex.s. c 42 § 2.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 70.48.090 was amended by 2007 c 13 § 1, changing subsection (3) to subsection (4).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.79.080 Strip, body cavity searches—Warrant, authorization, report.** (1) No person may be subjected to a body cavity search by or at the direction of a law enforcement agency unless a search warrant is issued pursuant to superior court criminal rules.

(2) No law enforcement officer may seek a warrant for a body cavity search without first obtaining specific authorization for the body cavity search from the ranking shift supervisor of the law enforcement authority. Authorization for the body cavity search may be obtained electronically: PROVIDED, That such electronic authorization shall be reduced to writing by the law enforcement officer seeking the authorization and signed by the ranking supervisor as soon as possible thereafter.

(3) Before any body cavity search is authorized or conducted, a thorough pat-down search, a thorough electronic metal-detector search, and a thorough clothing search, where

appropriate, must be used to search for and seize any evidence of a crime, contraband, fruits of crime, things otherwise criminally possessed, weapons, or other things by means of which a crime has been committed or reasonably appears about to be committed. No body cavity search shall be authorized or conducted unless these other methods do not satisfy the safety, security, or evidentiary concerns of the law enforcement agency.

(4) A law enforcement officer requesting a body cavity search shall prepare and sign a report regarding the body cavity search. The report shall include:

(a) A copy of the written authorization required under subsection (2) of this section;

(b) A copy of the warrant and any supporting documents required under subsection (1) of this section;

(c) The name and sex of all persons conducting or observing the search;

(d) The time, date, place, and description of the search; and

(e) A statement of the results of the search and a list of any items removed from the person as a result of the search.

The report shall be retained as part of the law enforcement agency's records. [1983 1st ex.s. c 42 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.79.090 Strip, body cavity searches—Medical care not precluded.** Nothing in RCW 10.79.080 or this section may be construed as precluding or preventing the administration of medical care to persons requiring immediate medical care or requesting medical care. [1983 1st ex.s. c 42 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.79.100 Strip, body cavity searches—Standards for conducting.** (1) Persons conducting a strip search shall not touch the person being searched except as reasonably necessary to effectuate the strip search of the person.

(2) Any body cavity search must be performed under sanitary conditions and conducted by a physician, registered nurse, or physician's assistant, licensed to practice in this state, who is trained in the proper medical process and the potential health problems associated with a body cavity search. No health professional authorized by this subsection to conduct a body cavity search shall be held liable in any civil action if the search is conducted in a manner that meets the standards and requirements of RCW 4.24.290 and 7.70.040.

(3) Except as provided in subsection (7) of this section, a strip search or body cavity search, as well as presearch undressing or postsearch dressing, shall occur at a location made private from the observation of persons not physically conducting the search. A strip search or body cavity search shall be performed or observed only by persons of the same sex as the person being searched, except for licensed medical professionals as required by subsection (2) of this section.

(4) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, no person may be present or observe during the search unless the person is necessary to conduct the search or to ensure the safety of those persons conducting the search.

(5) Nothing in this section prohibits a person upon whom a body cavity search is to be performed from having a readily available person of his or her choosing present at the time the



search is conducted. However, the person chosen shall not be a person being held in custody by a law enforcement agency.

(6) RCW 10.79.080 and this section shall not be interpreted as expanding or diminishing the authority of a law enforcement officer with respect to searches incident to arrest or investigatory stop in public.

(7) A strip search of a person housed in a holding, detention, or local correctional facility to search for and seize a weapon may be conducted at other than a private location if there arises a specific threat to institutional security that reasonably requires such a search or if all persons in the facility are being searched for the discovery of weapons or contraband. [1983 1st ex.s. c 42 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.79.110 Strip, body cavity searches—Actions for damages, injunctive relief.** (1) A person who suffers damage or harm as a result of a violation of RCW 10.79.080, 10.79.090, 10.79.100, or 10.79.130 through 10.79.170 may bring a civil action to recover actual damages sustained by him or her. The court may, in its discretion, award injunctive and declaratory relief as it deems necessary.

(2) RCW 10.79.080, 10.79.090, 10.79.100, and 10.79.130 through 10.79.170 shall not be construed as limiting any constitutional, common law, or statutory right of any person regarding any action for damages or injunctive relief, or as precluding the prosecution under another provision of law of any law enforcement officer or other person who has violated RCW 10.79.080, 10.79.090, 10.79.100, or 10.79.130 through 10.79.170. [1986 c 88 § 7; 1983 1st ex.s. c 42 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.79.120 Strip, body cavity searches—Application of RCW 10.79.130 through 10.79.160.** RCW 10.79.130 through 10.79.160 apply to any person in custody at a holding, detention, or local correctional facility, other than a person committed to incarceration by order of a court, regardless of whether an arrest warrant or other court order was issued before the person was arrested or otherwise taken into custody unless the court issuing the warrant has determined that the person shall not be released on personal recognizance, bail, or bond. RCW 10.79.130 through 10.79.160 do not apply to a person held for post-conviction incarceration for a criminal offense. The definitions and remedies provided by RCW 10.79.070 and 10.79.110 apply to RCW 10.79.130 through 10.79.160. [1986 c 88 § 1.]

**10.79.130 Strip, body cavity searches—Warrant required—Exceptions.** (1) No person to whom this section is made applicable by RCW 10.79.120 may be strip searched without a warrant unless:

(a) There is a reasonable suspicion to believe that a strip search is necessary to discover weapons, criminal evidence, contraband, or other thing concealed on the body of the person to be searched, that constitutes a threat to the security of a holding, detention, or local correctional facility;

(b) There is probable cause to believe that a strip search is necessary to discover other criminal evidence concealed on the body of the person to be searched, but not constituting a threat to facility security; or

(c) There is a reasonable suspicion to believe that a strip search is necessary to discover a health condition requiring immediate medical attention.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1) of this section, a reasonable suspicion is deemed to be present when the person to be searched has been arrested for:

(a) A violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 or any successor statute;

(b) An offense involving escape, burglary, or the use of a deadly weapon; or

(c) An offense involving possession of a drug or controlled substance under chapter 69.41, 69.50, or 69.52 RCW or any successor statute. [1986 c 88 § 2.]

**10.79.140 Strip, body cavity searches—Uncategorized searches—Determination of reasonable suspicion, probable cause—Less-intrusive alternatives.** (1) A person to whom this section is made applicable by RCW 10.79.120 who has not been arrested for an offense within one of the categories specified in RCW 10.79.130(2) may nevertheless be strip searched, but only upon an individualized determination of reasonable suspicion or probable cause as provided in this section.

(2) With the exception of those situations in which reasonable suspicion is deemed to be present under RCW 10.79.130(2), no strip search may be conducted without the specific prior written approval of the jail unit supervisor on duty. Before any strip search is conducted, reasonable efforts must be made to use other less-intrusive means, such as pat-down, electronic metal detector, or clothing searches, to determine whether a weapon, criminal evidence, contraband, or other thing is concealed on the body, or whether a health condition requiring immediate medical attention is present. The determination of whether reasonable suspicion or probable cause exists to conduct a strip search shall be made only after such less-intrusive means have been used and shall be based on a consideration of all information and circumstances known to the officer authorizing the strip search, including but not limited to the following factors:

(a) The nature of the offense for which the person to be searched was arrested;

(b) The prior criminal record of the person to be searched; and

(c) Physically violent behavior of the person to be searched, during or after the arrest. [1986 c 88 § 3.]

**10.79.150 Strip, body cavity searches—Written record required, contents—Unnecessary persons prohibited.** (1) A written record of any strip search shall be maintained in the individual file of each person strip searched.

(2) With respect to any strip search conducted under RCW 10.79.140, the record shall contain the following information:

(a) The name of the supervisor authorizing the strip search;

(b) The specific facts constituting reasonable suspicion to believe that the strip search was necessary;

(c) The name and serial number of the officer conducting the strip search and of all other persons present or observing during any part of the strip search;

(d) The time, date, and place of the strip search; and

(e) Any weapons, criminal evidence, contraband, or other thing, or health condition discovered as a result of the strip search.

(3) With respect to any strip search conducted under RCW 10.79.130(2), the record shall contain, in addition to the offense or offenses for which the person searched was arrested, the information required by subsection (2)(c), (d), and (e) of this section.

(4) The record may be included or incorporated in existing forms used by the facility, including the booking form required under the Washington Administrative Code. A notation of the name of the person strip searched shall also be entered in the log of daily activities or other chronological record, if any, maintained pursuant to the Washington Administrative Code.

(5) Except at the request of the person to be searched, no person may be present or observe during the strip search unless necessary to conduct the search. [1986 c 88 § 4.]

**10.79.160 Strip, body cavity searches—Physical examinations for public health purposes excluded.** Physical examinations conducted by licensed medical professionals solely for public health purposes under separate statutory authority shall not be considered searches for purposes of RCW 10.79.120, 10.79.130, and 10.79.140. [1986 c 88 § 5.]

**10.79.170 Strip, body cavity searches—Nonliability when search delayed.** No governmental entity and no employee or contracting agent of a governmental entity shall be liable for injury, death, or damage caused by a person in custody when the injury, death, or damage is caused by or made possible by contraband that would have been discovered sooner but for the delay caused by having to seek a search warrant under RCW 10.79.080 or 10.79.130 through 10.79.160. [1986 c 88 § 6.]

## Chapter 10.82 RCW

### COLLECTION AND DISPOSITION OF FINES AND COSTS

#### Sections

10.82.010	Execution for fines and costs.
10.82.020	Stay of execution for sixty days on recognizance.
10.82.025	Effect of recognizance—Execution of judgment after sixty days.
10.82.030	Commitment for failure to pay fine and costs—Execution against defendant's property—Reduction by payment, labor, or confinement.
10.82.040	Commitment for failure to pay fine and costs—Reduction of amount by performance of labor.
10.82.070	Disposition of monetary payments.
10.82.080	Unlawful receipt of public assistance—Deduction from subsequent assistance payments—Restitution payments.
10.82.090	Interest on judgments—Disposition of nonrestitution interest.

*City, county jail prisoners may be compelled to work:* RCW 9.92.130, 9.92.140, 36.28.100.

*Defendant liable for costs:* RCW 10.64.015.

*Fine and costs—Collection procedure, liability for, commitment for failure to pay, execution:* RCW 10.01.160 through 10.01.180.

*Jury fee disposition:* RCW 10.46.190.

*Payment of fine and costs in installments:* RCW 9.92.070, 10.01.170.

**10.82.010 Execution for fines and costs.** Upon a judgment for fine and costs, and for all adjudged costs, execution

shall be issued against the property of the defendant, and returned in the same manner as in civil actions. [Code 1881 § 1120; 1873 p 242 § 278; 1854 p 123 § 142; RRS § 2201.]

*Judgments a lien on realty:* RCW 10.64.080.

**10.82.020 Stay of execution for sixty days on recognizance.** Every defendant against whom a judgment has been rendered for fine and costs, may stay the execution for the fine assessed and costs for sixty days from the rendition of the judgment, by procuring one or more sufficient sureties, to enter into a recognizance in open court, acknowledging themselves to be bail for such fine and costs. [Code 1881 § 1123; 1873 p 242 § 281; 1854 p 124 § 145; RRS § 2204. FORMER PART OF SECTION: Code 1881 § 1124; 1873 p 243 § 282; 1854 p 124 § 146; RRS § 2205, now codified as RCW 10.82.025.]

**10.82.025 Effect of recognizance—Execution of judgment after sixty days.** Such sureties shall be approved by the clerk, and the entry of the recognizance shall be written immediately following the judgment, and signed by the bail, and shall have the same effect as a judgment, and if the fine or costs be not paid at the expiration of the sixty days, a joint execution shall issue against the defendant and the bail, and an execution against the body of the defendant, who shall be committed to jail, to be released as provided in \*this act, in committal for default to pay or secure the fine and costs. [Code 1881 § 1124; 1873 p 243 § 282; 1854 p 124 § 146; RRS § 2205. Formerly RCW 10.82.020, part.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The term "this act" apparently refers to "An act to regulate the practice and pleadings in prosecutions for crimes" first enacted by Laws of 1854, page 100.

**10.82.030 Commitment for failure to pay fine and costs—Execution against defendant's property—Reduction by payment, labor, or confinement.** If any person ordered into custody until the fine and costs adjudged against him or her be paid shall not, within five days, pay, or cause the payment of the same to be made, the clerk of the court shall issue a warrant to the sheriff commanding him or her to imprison such defendant in the county jail until the amount of such fine and costs owing are paid. Execution may at any time issue against the property of the defendant for that portion of such fine and costs not reduced by the application of this section. The amount of such fine and costs owing shall be the whole of such fine and costs reduced by the amount of any portion thereof paid, and an amount established by the county legislative authority for every day the defendant performs labor as provided in RCW 10.82.040, and a lesser amount established by the county legislative authority for every day the defendant does not perform such labor while imprisoned. [2010 c 8 § 1064; 1991 c 183 § 1; 1983 c 276 § 2; 1967 c 200 § 4; 1891 c 28 § 84; 1883 p 38 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 1125; 1873 p 243 § 283; 1854 p 124 § 147; RRS § 2206. Formerly RCW 10.82.030 and 10.82.050.]

*Commitment until fines and costs are paid:* RCW 10.70.010.

*Fine and costs, liability of defendant, collection procedure, contempt, commitment, execution:* RCW 10.01.160 through 10.01.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.82.040 Commitment for failure to pay fine and costs—Reduction of amount by performance of labor.** When a defendant is committed to jail, on failure to pay any fines and costs, he or she shall, under the supervision of the county sheriff and subject to the terms of any ordinances adopted by the county commissioners, be permitted to perform labor to reduce the amount owing of the fine and costs. [2010 c 8 § 1065; 1967 c 200 § 5; 1883 p 38 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 1129; 1877 p 206 § 8; 1873 p 243 § 287; 1854 p 124 § 151; RRS § 2209, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.82.070 Disposition of monetary payments.** (1) All sums of money derived from costs, fines, penalties, and forfeitures imposed or collected, in whole or in part, by a superior court for violation of orders of injunction, mandamus and other like writs, for contempt of court, or for breach of the penal laws shall be paid in cash by the person collecting the same, within twenty days after the collection, to the county treasurer of the county in which the same have accrued.

(2) Except as provided in RCW 9A.88.120 and 10.99.080, the county treasurer shall remit monthly thirty-two percent of the money received under this section except for certain costs to the state treasurer for deposit in the state general fund and shall deposit the remainder as provided by law. "Certain costs" as used in this subsection, means those costs awarded to prevailing parties in civil actions under RCW 4.84.010 or 36.18.040, or those costs awarded against convicted defendants in criminal actions under RCW 10.01.160, 10.46.190, or 36.18.040, or other similar statutes if such costs are specifically designated as costs by the court and are awarded for the specific reimbursement of costs incurred by the state or county in the prosecution of the case, including the fees of defense counsel. Costs or assessments awarded to dedicated accounts, state or local, are not subject to this state allocation or to RCW 7.68.035.

(3) All fees, fines, forfeitures and penalties collected or assessed by a district court because of the violation of a state law shall be remitted as provided in chapter 3.62 RCW as now exists or is later amended. All fees, fines, forfeitures, and penalties collected or assessed by a superior court in cases on appeal from a lower court shall be remitted to the municipal or district court from which the cases were appealed. [2012 c 136 § 6; 2012 c 134 § 8; 2009 c 479 § 13; 2004 c 15 § 6; 1995 c 292 § 3; 1988 c 169 § 5; 1987 c 202 § 169; 1985 c 389 § 7; 1984 c 258 § 313; 1969 ex.s. c 199 § 11; 1967 c 122 § 1; 1965 c 158 § 16; 1919 c 30 § 1; 1909 p 323 § 9; 1897 c 118 § 113; 1895 c 68 § 1; 1890 p 383 § 89; 1886 p 20 § 58; Code 1881 § 3211; 1873 p 421 § 3; RRS § 4940. Formerly codified as RCW 9.01.140.]

**Effective date—2009 c 479:** See note following RCW 2.56.030.

**Intent—2004 c 15:** See note following RCW 10.99.080.

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.34.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.82.080 Unlawful receipt of public assistance—Deduction from subsequent assistance payments—Restitution payments.** (1) When a superior court has, as a condition of the sentence for a person convicted of the unlawful

receipt of public assistance, ordered restitution to the state of that overpayment or a portion thereof:

(a) The department of social and health services shall deduct the overpayment from subsequent assistance payments as provided in RCW 43.20B.630, when the person is receiving public assistance; or

(b) Ordered restitution payments may be made at the direction of the court to the clerk of the appropriate county or directly to the department of social and health services when the person is not receiving public assistance.

(2) However, if payments are received by the county clerk, each payment shall be transmitted to the department of social and health services within forty-five days after receipt by the county. [1987 c 75 § 2; 1985 c 245 § 2; 1982 c 201 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.82.090 Interest on judgments—Disposition of nonrestitution interest.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, financial obligations imposed on a judgment shall bear interest from the date of the judgment until payment, at the rate applicable to civil judgments. All nonrestitution interest retained by the court shall be split twenty-five percent to the state treasurer for deposit in the state general fund, twenty-five percent to the state treasurer for deposit in the judicial information system account as provided in RCW 2.68.020, twenty-five percent to the county current expense fund, and twenty-five percent to the county current expense fund to fund local courts.

(2) The court may, on motion by the offender, following the offender's release from total confinement, reduce or waive the interest on legal financial obligations levied as a result of a criminal conviction as follows:

(a) The court shall waive all interest on the portions of the legal financial obligations that are not restitution that accrued during the term of total confinement for the conviction giving rise to the financial obligations, provided the offender shows that the interest creates a hardship for the offender or his or her immediate family;

(b) The court may reduce interest on the restitution portion of the legal financial obligations only if the principal has been paid in full;

(c) The court may otherwise reduce or waive the interest on the portions of the legal financial obligations that are not restitution if the offender shows that he or she has personally made a good faith effort to pay and that the interest accrual is causing a significant hardship. For purposes of this section, "good faith effort" means that the offender has either (i) paid the principal amount in full; or (ii) made at least fifteen monthly payments within an eighteen-month period, excluding any payments mandatorily deducted by the department of corrections;

(d) For purposes of (a) through (c) of this subsection, the court may reduce or waive interest on legal financial obligations only as an incentive for the offender to meet his or her legal financial obligations. The court may grant the motion, establish a payment schedule, and retain jurisdiction over the offender for purposes of reviewing and revising the reduction or waiver of interest.

(3) This section applies to persons convicted as adults or adjudicated in juvenile court. [2011 c 106 § 2; 2009 c 479 § 14; 2004 c 121 § 1; 1995 c 291 § 7; 1989 c 276 § 3.]

**Finding—2011 c 106:** "(1) The legislature finds that it is in the interest of the public to promote the reintegration into society of individuals convicted of crimes. Research indicates that legal financial obligations may constitute a significant barrier to successful reintegration. The legislature further recognizes that the accrual of interest on nonrestitution debt during the term of incarceration results in many individuals leaving prison with insurmountable debt. These circumstances make it less likely that restitution will be paid in full and more likely that former offenders and their families will remain in poverty. In order to foster reintegration, this act creates a mechanism for courts to eliminate interest accrued on nonrestitution debt during incarceration and improves incentives for payment of legal financial obligations.

(2) At the same time, the legislature believes that payment of legal financial obligations is an important part of taking personal responsibility for one's actions. The legislature therefore, supports the efforts of county clerks in taking collection action against those who do not make a good faith effort to pay." [2011 c 106 § 1.]

**Effective date—2009 c 479:** See note following RCW 2.56.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**Chapter 10.85 RCW  
REWARDS**

Sections

- 10.85.030 Rewards by counties, cities, towns, port commissions authorized.
- 10.85.040 Conflicting claims.
- 10.85.050 Payment of rewards.
- 10.85.900 Severability—1979 ex.s. c 53.

*Offer of rewards by governor: RCW 43.06.010(8).*

**10.85.030 Rewards by counties, cities, towns, port commissions authorized.** The legislative authority of any county in the state, a port commission, or the governing body of a city or town, when in its opinion the public good requires it, is hereby authorized to offer and pay a suitable reward to any person or persons for information leading to:

(a) The arrest of a specified person or persons convicted of or charged with any criminal offense; or

(b) The arrest and conviction of a person or persons committing a specified criminal offense.

In the event of crimes against county, port district, city, or town property, including but not limited to road signs, vehicles, buildings, or any other type of county, port district, city, or town property, the legislative authority of any county, a port commission, or the governing body of a city or town may offer and pay a suitable reward to any person or persons who shall furnish information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person of any offense against this county, port district, city, or town property, including but not limited to those offenses set forth in RCW 9A.48.070 through 9A.48.090, whether or not the offense is a felony, gross misdemeanor, or misdemeanor. [1986 c 185 § 1; 1981 c 211 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 53 § 1; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 25 § 1; 1886 p 124 § 1; RRS § 2249.]

**10.85.040 Conflicting claims.** When more than one claimant applies for the payment of any reward, offered by any county legislative authority, board of commissioners of a port district, or city or town governing body, the county legislative authority, board of commissioners of a port district, or city or town governing body shall determine to whom the

same shall be paid, and if to more than one person, in what proportion to each; and their determination shall be final and conclusive. [1986 c 185 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 53 § 2; 1886 p 124 § 3; RRS § 2251.]

**10.85.050 Payment of rewards.** Whenever any reward has been offered by any county legislative authority, board of commissioners of a port district, or city or town governing body in the state under RCW 10.85.030, the person or persons providing the information shall be entitled to the reward, and the county legislative authority, board of commissioners of a port district, or city or town governing body which has offered the reward is authorized to draw a warrant or warrants out of any money in the county, port district, or city or town treasury, as appropriate, not otherwise appropriated. [1986 c 185 § 3; 1979 ex.s. c 53 § 3; 1886 p 124 § 2; RRS § 2250.]

**10.85.900 Severability—1979 ex.s. c 53.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1979 ex.s. c 53 § 6.]

**Chapter 10.88 RCW  
UNIFORM CRIMINAL EXTRADITION ACT**

Sections

- 10.88.200 Definitions.
- 10.88.210 Authority of governor.
- 10.88.220 Demand for extradition—Requirements.
- 10.88.230 Investigation of demand—Report.
- 10.88.240 Return or surrender of person charged in another state.
- 10.88.250 Surrender of person charged with crime committed in state other than demanding state.
- 10.88.260 Warrant of arrest.
- 10.88.270 Authority of officer or other person under warrant.
- 10.88.280 Authority to command assistance.
- 10.88.290 Rights of person arrested.
- 10.88.300 Delivery of person in violation of RCW 10.88.290—Penalty.
- 10.88.310 Confinement of prisoner.
- 10.88.320 Charge or complaint—Warrant of arrest.
- 10.88.330 Arrest without warrant.
- 10.88.340 Preliminary examination—Commitment.
- 10.88.350 Bail.
- 10.88.360 Failure to make timely arrest or demand for extradition.
- 10.88.370 Failure to appear—Bond forfeiture—Arrest—Recovery on bond.
- 10.88.380 Pending criminal prosecution in this state.
- 10.88.390 Recall or reissuance of warrant.
- 10.88.400 Demand by governor of this state for extradition—Warrant—Agent.
- 10.88.410 Application for requisition for return of person—Contents—Affidavits—Copies.
- 10.88.415 Delivery without governor's warrant.
- 10.88.420 Civil process—Service on extradited person.
- 10.88.430 Waiver of extradition.
- 10.88.440 Rights, powers, privileges or jurisdiction of state not waived.
- 10.88.450 Trial for other crimes.
- 10.88.460 Extradition or surrender of obligor—Uniform interstate family support act.
- 10.88.900 Construction—1971 ex.s. c 46.
- 10.88.910 Short title.
- 10.88.920 Effective date—1971 ex.s. c 46.
- 10.88.930 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 46.

*Fugitives of this state: Chapter 10.34 RCW.*

*Interstate compact on juveniles: Chapter 13.24 RCW.*

*Return of parole violators from another state: RCW 9.95.280 through 9.95.300.*

**10.88.200 Definitions.** Where appearing in this chapter, the term "governor" includes any person performing the

functions of governor by authority of the law of this state. The term "executive authority" includes the governor, and any person performing the functions of governor in a state other than this state, and the term "state" referring to a state other than this state refers to any other state, or the District of Columbia, or territory organized or unorganized of the United States of America. [1971 ex.s. c 46 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** Throughout this chapter, the phrase "this act" has been changed to "this chapter." This act [1971 ex.s. c 46] consists of this chapter, the 1971 amendment of RCW 26.21.050, and the repeal of RCW 10.88.010 through 10.88.060.

**10.88.210 Authority of governor.** Subject to the provisions of this chapter, the provisions of the Constitution of the United States controlling, and any and all acts of congress enacted in pursuance thereof, the governor of this state may in his or her discretion have arrested and delivered up to the executive authority of any other state of the United States any person charged in that state with treason, felony, or other crime, who has fled from justice and is found in this state. [2010 c 8 § 1066; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 2.]

**10.88.220 Demand for extradition—Requirements.** No demand for the extradition of a person charged with crime in another state shall be recognized by the governor unless in writing alleging, except in cases arising under RCW 10.88.250, that the accused was present in the demanding state at the time of the commission of the alleged crime, and that thereafter he or she fled from the state, and accompanied by a copy of an indictment found or by information supported by affidavit in the state having jurisdiction of the crime, or by a copy of an affidavit made before a magistrate there, together with a copy of any warrant which was issued thereupon; or by a copy of a judgment of conviction or of a sentence imposed in execution thereof, together with a statement by the executive authority of the demanding state that the person claimed has escaped from confinement or has broken the terms of his or her bail, probation, or parole. The indictment, information, or affidavit made before the magistrate must substantially charge the person demanded with having committed a crime under the law of that state; and the copy of indictment, information, affidavit, judgment of conviction, or sentence must be certified or authenticated by the executive authority making the demand. [2010 c 8 § 1067; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 3.]

**10.88.230 Investigation of demand—Report.** When a demand shall be made upon the governor of this state by the executive authority of another state for the surrender of a person so charged with crime, the governor may call upon the attorney general or any prosecuting officer in this state to investigate or assist in investigating the demand, and to report to him or her the situation and circumstances of the person so demanded, and whether he or she ought to be surrendered. [2010 c 8 § 1068; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 4.]

**10.88.240 Return or surrender of person charged in another state.** When it is desired to have returned to this state a person charged in this state with a crime, and such person is imprisoned or is held under criminal proceedings then pending against him or her in another state, the governor of

this state may agree with the executive authority of such other state for the extradition of such person before the conclusion of such proceedings or his or her term of sentence in such other state, upon condition that such person be returned to such other state at the expense of this state as soon as the prosecution in this state is terminated.

The governor of this state may also surrender on demand of the executive authority of any other state any person in this state who is charged in the manner provided in RCW 10.88.410 with having violated the laws of the state whose executive authority is making the demand, even though such person left the demanding state involuntarily. [2010 c 8 § 1069; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 5.]

**10.88.250 Surrender of person charged with crime committed in state other than demanding state.** The governor of this state may also surrender, on demand of the executive authority of any other state, any person in this state charged in such other state in the manner provided in RCW 10.88.220 with committing an act in this state, or in a third state, intentionally resulting in a crime in the state whose executive authority is making the demand, and the provisions of this chapter not otherwise inconsistent, shall apply to such cases, even though the accused was not in that state at the time of the commission of the crime, and has not fled therefrom. [1971 ex.s. c 46 § 6.]

**10.88.260 Warrant of arrest.** If the governor decides that the demand should be complied with, he or she shall sign a warrant of arrest, which shall be sealed with the state seal, and be directed to any peace officer or other person whom he or she may think fit to entrust with the execution thereof. The warrant must substantially recite the facts necessary to the validity of its issuance. [2010 c 8 § 1070; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 7.]

**10.88.270 Authority of officer or other person under warrant.** Such warrant shall authorize the peace officer or other person to whom directed to arrest the accused at any time and any place where he or she may be found within the state and to command the aid of all peace officers or other persons in the execution of the warrant, and to deliver the accused, subject to the provisions of this chapter to the duly authorized agent of the demanding state. [2010 c 8 § 1071; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 8.]

**10.88.280 Authority to command assistance.** Every such peace officer or other person empowered to make the arrest, shall have the same authority, in arresting the accused, to command assistance therein, as peace officers have by law in the execution of any criminal process directed to them, with like penalties against those who refuse their assistance. [1971 ex.s. c 46 § 9.]

**10.88.290 Rights of person arrested.** No person arrested upon such warrant shall be delivered over to the agent whom the executive authority demanding him or her shall have appointed to receive him or her unless he or she shall first be taken forthwith before a judge of a court of record in this state, who shall inform him or her of the demand made for his or her surrender and of the crime with

which he or she is charged, and that he or she has the right to demand and procure legal counsel; and if the prisoner or his or her counsel shall state that he or she or they desire to test the legality of his or her arrest, the judge of such court of record shall fix a reasonable time to be allowed him or her within which to apply for a writ of habeas corpus. When such writ is applied for, notice thereof, and of the time and place of hearing thereon, shall be given to the prosecuting officer of the county in which the arrest is made and in which the accused is in custody, and to the said agent of the demanding state: PROVIDED, That the hearing provided for in this section shall not be available except as may be constitutionally required if a hearing on the legality of arrest has been held pursuant to RCW 10.88.320 or 10.88.330. [2010 c 8 § 1072; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 10.]

**10.88.300 Delivery of person in violation of RCW 10.88.290—Penalty.** Any officer who shall deliver to the agent for extradition of the demanding state a person in his or her custody under the governor's warrant, in wilful [willful] disobedience to RCW 10.88.290, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor and, on conviction, shall be imprisoned in the county jail for up to three hundred sixty-four days, or be fined not more than one thousand dollars, or both. [2011 c 96 § 14; 2010 c 8 § 1073; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 11.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

**10.88.310 Confinement of prisoner.** The officer or persons executing the governor's warrant of arrest, or the agent of the demanding state to whom the prisoner may have been delivered may, when necessary, confine the prisoner in the jail of any county or city through which he or she may pass; and the keeper of such jail must receive and safely keep the prisoner until the officer or person having charge of him or her is ready to proceed on his or her route, such officer or person being chargeable with the expense of keeping.

The officer or agent of a demanding state to whom a prisoner may have been delivered following extradition proceedings in another state, or to whom a prisoner may have been delivered after waiving extradition in such other state, and who is passing through this state with such a prisoner for the purpose of immediately returning such prisoner to the demanding state may, when necessary, confine the prisoner in the jail of any county or city through which he or she may pass; and the keeper of such jail must receive and safely keep the prisoner until the officer or agent having charge of him or her is ready to proceed on his or her route, such officer or agent, however, being chargeable with the expense of keeping: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That such officer or agent shall produce and show to the keeper of such jail satisfactory written evidence of the fact that he or she is actually transporting such prisoner to the demanding state after a requisition by the executive authority of such demanding state. Such prisoner shall not be entitled to demand a new requisition while in this state. [2010 c 8 § 1074; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 12.]

**10.88.320 Charge or complaint—Warrant of arrest.** Whenever any person within this state shall be charged on the oath of any credible person before any judge or magistrate of this state with the commission of any crime in any other state

and, except in cases arising under RCW 10.88.250, with having fled from justice, or with having been convicted of a crime in that state and having escaped from confinement, or having broken the terms of his or her bail, probation, or parole, or whenever complaint shall have been made before any judge or magistrate in this state setting forth on the affidavit of any credible person in another state that a crime has been committed in such other state and that the accused has been charged in such state with the commission of the crime, and, except in cases arising under RCW 10.88.250, has fled from justice, or with having been convicted of a crime in that state and having escaped from confinement, or having broken the terms of his or her bail, probation, or parole and is believed to be in this state, the judge or magistrate shall issue a warrant directed to any peace officer commanding him or her to apprehend the person named therein, wherever he or she may be found in this state, and to bring him or her before the same or any other judge, magistrate or court who or which may be available in or convenient of access to the place where the arrest may be made, to answer the charge or complaint and affidavit, and a certified copy of the sworn charge or complaint and affidavit upon which the warrant is issued shall be attached to the warrant. [2010 c 8 § 1075; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 13.]

**10.88.330 Arrest without warrant.** (1) The arrest of a person may be lawfully made also by any peace officer or a private person, without a warrant upon reasonable information that the accused stands charged in the courts of a state with a crime punishable by death or imprisonment for a term exceeding one year, but when so arrested the accused must be taken before a judge or magistrate with all practicable speed and complaint must be made against him or her under oath setting forth the ground for the arrest as in RCW 10.88.320; and thereafter his or her answer shall be heard as if he or she had been arrested on a warrant.

(2) An officer of the United States customs service or the immigration and naturalization service may, without a warrant, arrest a person if:

(a) The officer is on duty;

(b) One or more of the following situations exists:

(i) The person commits an assault or other crime involving physical harm, defined and punishable under chapter 9A.36 RCW, against the officer or against any other person in the presence of the officer;

(ii) The person commits an assault or related crime while armed, defined and punishable under chapter 9.41 RCW, against the officer or against any other person in the presence of the officer;

(iii) The officer has reasonable cause to believe that a crime as defined in (b)(i) or (ii) of this subsection has been committed and reasonable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed it;

(iv) The officer has reasonable cause to believe that a felony has been committed and reasonable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed it; or

(v) The officer has received positive information by written, telegraphic, teletypic, telephonic, radio, or other authoritative source that a peace officer holds a warrant for the person's arrest; and

(c) The regional commissioner of customs certifies to the state of Washington that the customs officer has received proper training within the agency to enable that officer to enforce or administer this subsection. [2010 c 8 § 1076; 1979 ex.s. c 244 § 16; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 14.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.88.340 Preliminary examination—Commitment.**

If from the examination before the judge or magistrate it appears that the person held is the person charged with having committed the crime alleged and, except in cases arising under RCW 10.88.250, that he or she has fled from justice, the judge or magistrate must, by a warrant reciting the accusation, commit him or her to the county jail for such a time not exceeding thirty days and specified in the warrant, as will enable the arrest of the accused to be made under a warrant of the governor on a requisition of the executive authority of the state having jurisdiction of the offense, unless the accused give bail as provided in RCW 10.88.350, or until he or she shall be legally discharged. [2010 c 8 § 1077; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 15.]

**10.88.350 Bail.** Unless the offense with which the prisoner is charged is shown to be an offense punishable by death or life imprisonment under the laws of the state in which it was committed, a judge or magistrate in this state may admit the person arrested to bail by bond, with sufficient sureties, and in such sum as he or she deems proper, conditioned for his or her appearance before him or her at a time specified in such a bond, and for his or her surrender, to be arrested upon the warrant of the governor of this state. [2010 c 8 § 1078; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 16.]

**10.88.360 Failure to make timely arrest or demand for extradition.** If the accused is not arrested under warrant of the governor by the expiration of the time specified in the warrant or bond, a judge or magistrate may discharge him or her or may recommit him or her for a further period not to exceed sixty days, or a judge or magistrate judge may again take bail for his or her appearance and surrender, as provided in RCW 10.88.350, but within a period not to exceed sixty days after the date of such new bond: PROVIDED, That the governor may, except in cases in which the offense is punishable under laws of the demanding state by death or life imprisonment, deny a demand for extradition when such demand is not received by the governor before the expiration of one hundred twenty days from the date of arrest in this state of the alleged fugitive, in the absence of a showing of good cause for such delay. [2010 c 8 § 1079; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 17.]

**10.88.370 Failure to appear—Bond forfeiture—Arrest—Recovery on bond.** If the prisoner is admitted to bail, and fails to appear and surrender himself or herself according to the conditions of his or her bond, the judge, or magistrate by proper order, shall declare the bond forfeited and order his or her immediate arrest without warrant if he or she be within this state. Recovery may be had on such bond in the name of the state as in the case of other bonds given by the accused in criminal proceedings within this state. [2010 c 8 § 1080; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 18.]

**10.88.380 Pending criminal prosecution in this state.**

If a criminal prosecution has been instituted against such person under the laws of this state and is still pending the governor, in his or her discretion, either may surrender him or her on demand of the executive authority of another state or hold him or her until he or she has been tried and discharged or convicted and punished in this state. [2010 c 8 § 1081; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 19.]

**10.88.390 Recall or reissuance of warrant.** The governor may recall his or her warrant of arrest or may issue another warrant whenever he or she deems proper. [2010 c 8 § 1082; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 20.]

**10.88.400 Demand by governor of this state for extradition—Warrant—Agent.** Whenever the governor of this state shall demand a person charged with crime or with escaping from confinement or breaking the terms of his or her bail, probation, or parole in this state, from the executive authority of any other state, or from the appropriate authority of the District of Columbia authorized to receive such demand under the laws of the United States, he or she shall issue a warrant under the seal of this state, to some agent, commanding him or her to receive the person so charged if delivered to him or her and convey him or her to the proper officer of the county in this state in which the offense was committed. [2010 c 8 § 1083; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 21.]

**10.88.410 Application for requisition for return of person—Contents—Affidavits—Copies.** (1) When the return to this state of a person charged with crime in this state is required, the prosecuting attorney shall present to the governor his or her written application for a requisition for the return of the person charged, in which application shall be stated the name of the person so charged, the crime charged against him or her, the approximate time, place, and circumstances of its commission, the state in which he or she is believed to be, including the location of the accused therein at the time the application is made and certifying that, in the opinion of the said prosecuting attorney the ends of justice require the arrest and return of the accused to this state for trial and that the proceeding is not instituted to enforce a private claim.

(2) When the return to this state is required of a person who has been convicted of a crime in this state and has escaped from confinement or broken the terms of his or her bail, probation, or parole, the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the offense was committed, the parole board, or the warden of the institution or sheriff of the county, from which escape was made, shall present to the governor a written application for a requisition for the return of such person, in which application shall be stated the name of the person, the crime of which he or she was convicted, the circumstances of his or her escape from confinement or of the breach of the terms of his or her bail, probation, or parole, the state in which he or she is believed to be, including the location of the person therein at the time application is made.

(3) The application shall be verified by affidavit, shall be executed in duplicate, and shall be accompanied by two certified copies of the indictment returned, or information and affidavit filed, or of the complaint made to the judge or mag-

istrate, stating the offense with which the accused is charged, or of the judgment of conviction or of the sentence. The prosecuting officer, parole board, warden, or sheriff may also attach such further affidavits and other documents in duplicate as he or she shall deem proper to be submitted with such application. One copy of the application, with the action of the governor indicated by endorsement thereon, and one of the certified copies of the indictment, complaint, information, and affidavits, or of the judgment of conviction or of the sentence shall be filed in the office of the secretary of state to remain of record in that office. The other copies of all papers shall be forwarded with the governor's requisition. [2010 c 8 § 1084; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 22.]

**10.88.415 Delivery without governor's warrant.** A law enforcement agency shall deliver a person in custody to the accredited agent or agents of a demanding state without the governor's warrant provided that:

(1) Such person is alleged to have broken the terms of his or her probation, parole, bail, or any other release of the demanding state; and

(2) The law enforcement agency has received from the demanding state an authenticated copy of a prior waiver of extradition signed by such person as a term of his or her probation, parole, bail, or any other release of the demanding state and photographs or fingerprints or other evidence properly identifying the person as the person who signed the waiver. [2001 c 264 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.88.420 Civil process—Service on extradited person.** A person brought into this state by, or after waiver of, extradition based on a criminal charge shall not be subject to service of personal process in civil actions arising out of the same facts as the criminal proceeding to answer which he or she is being or has been returned, until he or she has been finally convicted in the criminal proceeding, or, if acquitted, until he or she has had reasonable opportunity to return to the state from which he or she was extradited. [2010 c 8 § 1085; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 23.]

**10.88.430 Waiver of extradition.** Any person arrested in this state charged with having committed any crime in another state or alleged to have escaped from confinement, or broken the terms of his or her bail, probation, or parole may waive the issuance and service of the warrant provided for in RCW 10.88.260 and 10.88.270 and all other procedure incidental to extradition proceedings, by executing or subscribing in the presence of a judge of any court of record within this state a writing which states that he or she consents to return to the demanding state: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That before such waiver shall be executed or subscribed by such person it shall be the duty of such judge to inform such person of his or her rights to the issuance and service of a warrant of extradition and to obtain a writ of habeas corpus as provided for in RCW 10.88.290.

If and when such consent has been duly executed it shall forthwith be forwarded to the office of the governor of this state and filed therein. The judge shall direct the officer having such person in custody to deliver forthwith such person to the duly accredited agent or agents of the demanding state,

and shall deliver or cause to be delivered to such agent or agents a copy of such consent: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That nothing in this section shall be deemed to limit the rights of the accused person to return voluntarily and without formality to the demanding state, nor shall this waiver procedure be deemed to be an exclusive procedure or to limit the powers, rights, or duties of the officers of the demanding state or of this state. [2010 c 8 § 1086; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 24.]

**10.88.440 Rights, powers, privileges or jurisdiction of state not waived.** Nothing in this chapter contained shall be deemed to constitute a waiver by this state of its right, power or privilege to try such demanded person for crime committed within this state, or of its right, power or privilege to regain custody of such person by extradition proceedings or otherwise for the purpose of trial, sentence or punishment for any crime committed within this state, nor shall any proceedings had under this chapter which result in, or fail to result in, extradition be deemed a waiver by this state of any of its rights, privileges or jurisdiction in any way whatsoever. [1971 ex.s. c 46 § 25.]

**10.88.450 Trial for other crimes.** After a person has been brought back to this state by, or after waiver of extradition proceedings, he or she may be tried in this state for other crimes which he or she may be charged with having committed here as well as that specified in the requisition for his or her extradition. [2010 c 8 § 1087; 1971 ex.s. c 46 § 26.]

**10.88.460 Extradition or surrender of obligor—Uniform interstate family support act.** See chapter 26.21A RCW.

**10.88.900 Construction—1971 ex.s. c 46.** The provisions of this chapter shall be so interpreted and construed as to effectuate its general purposes to make uniform the law of those states which enact it, to the extent which it has been enacted by this state. [1971 ex.s. c 46 § 27.]

**10.88.910 Short title.** RCW 10.88.200 through 10.88.450 shall be known and may be cited as the Uniform Criminal Extradition Act. [1971 ex.s. c 46 § 28.]

**10.88.920 Effective date—1971 ex.s. c 46.** This act shall become effective on July 1, 1971. [1971 ex.s. c 46 § 29.]

**10.88.930 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 46.** If any provisions of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable. [1971 ex.s. c 46 § 32.]

## Chapter 10.89 RCW

### UNIFORM ACT ON FRESH PURSUIT

#### Sections

10.89.010 Authority of foreign peace officer.  
10.89.020 Preliminary examination by magistrate.



10.89.030	Construction as to lawfulness of arrest.
10.89.040	"State" includes District of Columbia.
10.89.050	"Fresh pursuit" defined.
10.89.060	Duty to send copies to other states.
10.89.070	Severability—1943 c 261.
10.89.080	Short title.

**10.89.010 Authority of foreign peace officer.** Any member of a duly organized state, county or municipal peace unit of another state of the United States who enters this state in fresh pursuit, and continues within this state in such fresh pursuit, of a person in order to arrest the person on the ground that he or she is believed to have committed a felony in such other state or a violation of the laws of such other state relating to driving while intoxicated, driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, driving while impaired, or reckless driving shall have the same authority to arrest and hold such person in custody as has any member of any duly organized state, county or municipal peace unit of this state, to arrest and hold in custody a person on the ground that he or she is believed to have committed a felony or a violation of the laws of such other state relating to driving while intoxicated, driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, driving while impaired, or reckless driving in this state. [1998 c 205 § 1; 1943 c 261 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2252-1. Formerly RCW 10.88.070.]

**10.89.020 Preliminary examination by magistrate.** If an arrest is made in this state by an officer of another state in accordance with the provisions of RCW 10.89.010, he or she shall, without unnecessary delay, take the person arrested before a magistrate of the county in which the arrest was made, who shall conduct a hearing for the purpose of determining the lawfulness of the arrest. If the magistrate determines that the arrest was lawful, he or she shall commit the person arrested to await for a reasonable time the issuance of an extradition warrant by the governor of this state. If the magistrate determines that the arrest was unlawful, he or she shall discharge the person arrested. [2010 c 8 § 1088; 1943 c 261 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2252-2. Formerly RCW 10.88.080.]

**10.89.030 Construction as to lawfulness of arrest.** RCW 10.89.010 shall not be construed so as to make unlawful any arrest in this state which otherwise would be lawful. [1943 c 261 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2252-3. Formerly RCW 10.88.100.]

**10.89.040 "State" includes District of Columbia.** For the purpose of this chapter the word "state" shall include the District of Columbia. [1943 c 261 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2252-4. Formerly RCW 10.88.110.]

**10.89.050 "Fresh pursuit" defined.** The term "fresh pursuit" as used in this chapter, shall include fresh pursuit as defined by the common law, and also the pursuit of a person who has committed a felony or who reasonably is suspected of having committed a felony or a violation of such other state relating to driving while intoxicated, driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, driving while impaired, or reckless driving. It shall also include the pursuit of a person suspected of having committed a supposed felony, or a supposed violation of the laws relating to driving while intoxi-

cated, driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, driving while impaired, or reckless driving, though no felony or violation of the laws relating to driving while intoxicated, driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, driving while impaired, or reckless driving actually has been committed, if there is reasonable ground for believing that a felony or a violation of the laws relating to driving while intoxicated, driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, driving while impaired, or reckless driving has been committed. Fresh pursuit as used herein shall not necessarily imply instant pursuit, but pursuit without unreasonable delay. [1998 c 205 § 2; 1943 c 261 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2252-5. Formerly RCW 10.88.090.]

**10.89.060 Duty to send copies to other states.** Upon the passage and approval by the governor of this chapter, it shall be the duty of the secretary of state, or other officer, to certify a copy of this chapter to the executive department of each of the states of the United States. [1943 c 261 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2252-6.]

**10.89.070 Severability—1943 c 261.** If any part of this chapter is for any reason declared void, it is declared to be the intent of this chapter that such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this chapter. [1943 c 261 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2252-7.]

**10.89.080 Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the "Uniform Act on Fresh Pursuit." [1943 c 261 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 2252-8.]

## Chapter 10.91 RCW UNIFORM RENDITION OF ACCUSED PERSONS ACT

### Sections

10.91.010	Arrest and return of released person charged in another state—Violation of release conditions—Request—Documents—Warrant—Investigation.
10.91.020	Preliminary hearing—Waiver—Conditions of release.
10.91.030	Preliminary hearing—Investigation report—Findings—Order authorizing return.
10.91.040	"Judicial officer of this state," "judicial officer" defined.
10.91.050	Costs.
10.91.900	Severability—1971 ex.s. c 17.
10.91.910	Construction—1971 ex.s. c 17.
10.91.920	Short title.

### **10.91.010 Arrest and return of released person charged in another state—Violation of release conditions—Request—Documents—Warrant—Investigation.**

(1) If a person who has been charged with crime in another state and released from custody prior to final judgment, including the final disposition of any appeal, is alleged to have violated the terms and conditions of his or her release, and is present in this state, a designated agent of the court, judge, or magistrate which authorized the release may request the issuance of a warrant for the arrest of the person and an order authorizing his or her return to the demanding court, judge, or magistrate. Before the warrant is issued, the designated agent must file with a judicial officer of this state the following documents:

(a) An affidavit stating the name and whereabouts of the person whose removal is sought, the crime with which the

person was charged, the time and place of the crime charged, and the status of the proceedings against him or her;

(b) A certified copy of the order or other document specifying the terms and conditions under which the person was released from custody; and

(c) A certified copy of an order of the demanding court, judge, or magistrate stating the manner in which the terms and the conditions of the release have been violated and designating the affiant its agent for seeking removal of the person.

(2) Upon initially determining that the affiant is a designated agent of the demanding court, judge, or magistrate, and that there is a probable cause for believing that the person whose removal is sought has violated the terms or conditions of his or her release, the judicial officer shall issue a warrant to a law enforcement officer of this state for the person's arrest.

(3) The judicial officer shall notify the prosecuting attorney of his or her action and shall direct him or her to investigate the case to ascertain the validity of the affidavits and documents required by subsection (1) of this section and the identity and authority of the affiant. [2010 c 8 § 1089; 1971 ex.s. c 17 § 2.]

**10.91.020 Preliminary hearing—Waiver—Conditions of release.** (1) The person whose removal is sought shall be brought before the judicial officer without unnecessary delay upon arrest pursuant to the warrant; whereupon the judicial officer shall set a time and place for hearing, and shall advise the person of his or her right to have the assistance of counsel, to confront the witnesses against him or her, and to produce evidence in his or her own behalf at the hearing.

(2) The person whose removal is sought may at this time in writing waive the hearing and agree to be returned to the demanding court, judge, or magistrate. If a waiver is executed, the judicial officer shall issue an order pursuant to RCW 10.91.030.

(3) The judicial officer may impose conditions of release authorized by the laws of this state which will reasonably assure the appearance at the hearing of the person whose removal is sought. [2010 c 8 § 1090; 1971 ex.s. c 17 § 3.]

**10.91.030 Preliminary hearing—Investigation report—Findings—Order authorizing return.** The prosecuting attorney shall appear at the hearing and report to the judicial officer the results of his or her investigation. If the judicial officer finds that the affiant is a designated agent of the demanding court, judge, or magistrate and that the person whose removal is sought was released from custody by the demanding court, judge, or magistrate, and that the person has violated the terms or conditions of his or her release, the judicial officer shall issue an order authorizing the return of the person to the custody of the demanding court, judge, or magistrate forthwith. [2010 c 8 § 1091; 1971 ex.s. c 17 § 4.]

**10.91.040 "Judicial officer of this state," "judicial officer" defined.** For the purpose of this chapter "judicial officer of this state" and "judicial officer" mean a judge of the superior or district court. [1987 c 202 § 170; 1971 ex.s. c 17 § 5.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**10.91.050 Costs.** The costs of the procedures required by this chapter shall be borne by the demanding state, except when the designated agent is not a public official. In any case when the designated agent is not a public official, he or she shall bear the cost of such procedures. [2010 c 8 § 1092; 1971 ex.s. c 17 § 9.]

**10.91.900 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 17.** If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable. [1971 ex.s. c 17 § 6.]

**10.91.910 Construction—1971 ex.s. c 17.** This chapter shall be so construed as to effectuate its general purpose to make uniform the law of those states which enact it. [1971 ex.s. c 17 § 7.]

**10.91.920 Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the "Uniform Rendition of Accused Persons Act." [1971 ex.s. c 17 § 8.]

## Chapter 10.92 RCW TRIBAL POLICE OFFICERS

### Sections

10.92.010	Definitions.
10.92.020	Powers—Authority to act as general authority Washington peace officer—Public liability and property damage insurance—Training requirements—Issuance of citation, notice of infraction, or incident report—Jurisdiction—Civil liability—Sovereign tribal governments—Interlocal agreement.

**10.92.010 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "General authority Washington peace officer" means an officer authorized to enforce the criminal and traffic laws of the state of Washington generally.

(2) "Tribal police officer" means any person in the employ of one of the federally recognized sovereign tribal governments, whose traditional lands and territories lie within the borders of the state of Washington, to enforce the criminal laws of that government. [2008 c 224 § 1.]

**Effective date—2008 c 224:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2008." [2008 c 224 § 4.]

**10.92.020 Powers—Authority to act as general authority Washington peace officer—Public liability and property damage insurance—Training requirements—Issuance of citation, notice of infraction, or incident report—Jurisdiction—Civil liability—Sovereign tribal governments—Interlocal agreement.** (1) Tribal police officers under subsection (2) of this section shall be recognized and authorized to act as general authority Washington peace officers. A tribal police officer recognized and authorized to act as a general authority Washington peace officer under this section has the same powers as any other general authority Washington peace officer to enforce state laws in

Washington, including the power to make arrests for violations of state laws.

(2) A tribal police officer may exercise the powers of law enforcement of a general authority Washington peace officer under this section, subject to the following:

(a) The appropriate sovereign tribal nation shall submit to the department of enterprise services proof of public liability and property damage insurance for vehicles operated by the peace officers and police professional liability insurance from a company licensed to sell insurance in the state. For purposes of determining adequacy of insurance liability, the sovereign tribal government must submit with the proof of liability insurance a copy of the interlocal agreement between the sovereign tribal government and the local governments that have shared jurisdiction under this chapter where such an agreement has been reached pursuant to subsection (10) of this section.

(i) Within the thirty days of receipt of the information from the sovereign tribal nation, the department of enterprise services shall either approve or reject the adequacy of insurance, giving consideration to the scope of the interlocal agreement. The adequacy of insurance under this chapter shall be subject to annual review by the department of enterprise services.

(ii) Each policy of insurance issued under this chapter must include a provision that the insurance shall be available to satisfy settlements or judgments arising from the tortious conduct of tribal police officers when acting in the capacity of a general authority Washington peace officer, and that to the extent of policy coverage neither the sovereign tribal nation nor the insurance carrier will raise a defense of sovereign immunity to preclude an action for damages under state or federal law, the determination of fault in a civil action, or the payment of a settlement or judgment arising from the tortious conduct.

(b) The appropriate sovereign tribal nation shall submit to the department of enterprise services proof of training requirements for each tribal police officer. To be authorized as a general authority Washington peace officer, a tribal police officer must successfully complete the requirements set forth under RCW 43.101.157. Any applicant not meeting the requirements for certification as a tribal police officer may not act as a general authority Washington peace officer under this chapter. The criminal justice training commission shall notify the department of enterprise services if:

(i) A tribal police officer authorized under this chapter as a general authority Washington state peace officer has been decertified pursuant to RCW 43.101.157; or

(ii) An appropriate sovereign tribal government is otherwise in noncompliance with RCW 43.101.157.

(3) A copy of any citation or notice of infraction issued, or any incident report taken, by a tribal police officer acting in the capacity of a general authority Washington peace officer as authorized by this chapter must be submitted within three days to the police chief or sheriff within whose jurisdiction the action was taken. Any citation issued under this chapter shall be to a Washington court, except that any citation issued to Indians within the exterior boundaries of an Indian reservation may be cited to a tribal court. Any arrest made or citation issued not in compliance with this chapter is not enforceable.

(4) Any authorization granted under this chapter shall not in any way expand the jurisdiction of any tribal court or other tribal authority.

(5) The authority granted under this chapter shall be coextensive with the exterior boundaries of the reservation, except that an officer commissioned under this section may act as authorized under RCW 10.93.070 beyond the exterior boundaries of the reservation.

(6) For purposes of civil liability under this chapter, a tribal police officer shall not be considered an employee of the state of Washington or any local government except where a state or local government has deputized a tribal police officer as a specially commissioned officer. Neither the state of Washington and its individual employees nor any local government and its individual employees shall be liable for the authorization of tribal police officers under this chapter, nor for the negligence or other misconduct of tribal officers. The authorization of tribal police officers under this chapter shall not be deemed to have been a nondelegable duty of the state of Washington or any local government.

(7) Nothing in this chapter impairs or affects the existing status and sovereignty of those sovereign tribal governments whose traditional lands and territories lie within the borders of the state of Washington as established under the laws of the United States.

(8) Nothing in this chapter limits, impairs, or nullifies the authority of a county sheriff to appoint duly commissioned state or federally certified tribal police officers as deputy sheriffs authorized to enforce the criminal and traffic laws of the state of Washington.

(9) Nothing in this chapter limits, impairs, or otherwise affects the existing authority under state or federal law of state or local law enforcement officers to enforce state law within the exterior boundaries of an Indian reservation or to enter Indian country in fresh pursuit, as defined in RCW 10.93.120, of a person suspected of violating state law, where the officer would otherwise not have jurisdiction.

(10) An interlocal agreement pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW is required between the sovereign tribal government and all local government law enforcement agencies that will have shared jurisdiction under this chapter prior to authorization taking effect under this chapter. Nothing in this chapter shall limit, impair, or otherwise affect the implementation of an interlocal agreement completed pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW by July 1, 2008, between a sovereign tribal government and a local government law enforcement agency for cooperative law enforcement.

(a) Sovereign tribal governments that meet all of the requirements of subsection (2) of this section, but do not have an interlocal agreement pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW and seek authorization under this chapter, may submit proof of liability insurance and training certification to the department of enterprise services. Upon confirmation of receipt of the information from the department of enterprise services, the sovereign tribal government and the local government law enforcement agencies that will have shared jurisdiction under this chapter have one year to enter into an interlocal agreement pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW. If the sovereign tribal government and the local government law enforcement agencies that will have shared jurisdiction under this chapter are not able to reach agreement after one year, the sovereign

tribal governments and the local government law enforcement agencies shall submit to binding arbitration pursuant to chapter 7.04A RCW with the American arbitration association or successor agency for purposes of completing an agreement prior to authorization going into effect.

(b) For the purposes of (a) of this subsection, those sovereign tribal government and local government law enforcement agencies that must enter into binding arbitration shall submit to last best offer arbitration. For purposes of accepting a last best offer, the arbitrator must consider other interlocal agreements between sovereign tribal governments and local law enforcement agencies in Washington state, any model policy developed by the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs or successor agency, and national best practices. [2011 1st sp.s. c 43 § 519; 2008 c 224 § 2.]

**Effective date—Purpose—2011 1st sp.s. c 43:** See notes following RCW 43.19.003.

**Effective date—2008 c 224:** See note following RCW 10.92.010.

### Chapter 10.93 RCW WASHINGTON MUTUAL AID PEACE OFFICERS POWERS ACT

#### Sections

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**10.93.001 Short title—Legislative intent—Construction.** (1) This chapter may be known and cited as the Washington mutual aid peace officer powers act of 1985.

(2) It is the intent of the legislature that current artificial barriers to mutual aid and cooperative enforcement of the laws among general authority local, state, and federal agencies be modified pursuant to this chapter.

(3) This chapter shall be liberally construed to effectuate the intent of the legislature to modify current restrictions upon the limited territorial and enforcement authority of general authority peace officers and to effectuate mutual aid among agencies.

(4) The modification of territorial and enforcement authority of the various categories of peace officers covered by this chapter shall not create a duty to act in extraterritorial situations beyond any duty which may otherwise be imposed by law or which may be imposed by the primary commissioning agency. [1985 c 89 § 1.]

**10.93.020 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, the following terms have the meanings indicated unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "General authority Washington law enforcement agency" means any agency, department, or division of a

municipal corporation, political subdivision, or other unit of local government of this state, and any agency, department, or division of state government, having as its primary function the detection and apprehension of persons committing infractions or violating the traffic or criminal laws in general, as distinguished from a limited authority Washington law enforcement agency, and any other unit of government expressly designated by statute as a general authority Washington law enforcement agency. The Washington state patrol and the department of fish and wildlife are general authority Washington law enforcement agencies.

(2) "Limited authority Washington law enforcement agency" means any agency, political subdivision, or unit of local government of this state, and any agency, department, or division of state government, having as one of its functions the apprehension or detection of persons committing infractions or violating the traffic or criminal laws relating to limited subject areas, including but not limited to, the state departments of natural resources and social and health services, the state gambling commission, the state lottery commission, the state parks and recreation commission, the state utilities and transportation commission, the state liquor control board, the office of the insurance commissioner, and the state department of corrections.

(3) "General authority Washington peace officer" means any full-time, fully compensated and elected, appointed, or employed officer of a general authority Washington law enforcement agency who is commissioned to enforce the criminal laws of the state of Washington generally.

(4) "Limited authority Washington peace officer" means any full-time, fully compensated officer of a limited authority Washington law enforcement agency empowered by that agency to detect or apprehend violators of the laws in some or all of the limited subject areas for which that agency is responsible. A limited authority Washington peace officer may be a specially commissioned Washington peace officer if otherwise qualified for such status under this chapter.

(5) "Specially commissioned Washington peace officer", for the purposes of this chapter, means any officer, whether part-time or full-time, compensated or not, commissioned by a general authority Washington law enforcement agency to enforce some or all of the criminal laws of the state of Washington, who does not qualify under this chapter as a general authority Washington peace officer for that commissioning agency, specifically including reserve peace officers, and specially commissioned full-time, fully compensated peace officers duly commissioned by the states of Oregon or Idaho or any such peace officer commissioned by a unit of local government of Oregon or Idaho. A reserve peace officer is an individual who is an officer of a Washington law enforcement agency who does not serve such agency on a full-time basis but who, when called by the agency into active service, is fully commissioned on the same basis as full-time peace officers to enforce the criminal laws of the state.

(6) "Federal peace officer" means any employee or agent of the United States government who has the authority to carry firearms and make warrantless arrests and whose duties involve the enforcement of criminal laws of the United States.

(7) "Agency with primary territorial jurisdiction" means a city or town police agency which has responsibility for

police activity within its boundaries; or a county police or sheriff's department which has responsibility with regard to police activity in the unincorporated areas within the county boundaries; or a statutorily authorized port district police agency or four-year state college or university police agency which has responsibility for police activity within the statutorily authorized enforcement boundaries of the port district, state college, or university.

(8) "Primary commissioning agency" means (a) the employing agency in the case of a general authority Washington peace officer, a limited authority Washington peace officer, an Indian tribal peace officer, or a federal peace officer, and (b) the commissioning agency in the case of a specially commissioned Washington peace officer (i) who is performing functions within the course and scope of the special commission and (ii) who is not also a general authority Washington peace officer, a limited authority Washington peace officer, an Indian tribal peace officer, or a federal peace officer.

(9) "Primary function of an agency" means that function to which greater than fifty percent of the agency's resources are allocated.

(10) "Mutual law enforcement assistance" includes, but is not limited to, one or more law enforcement agencies aiding or assisting one or more other such agencies through loans or exchanges of personnel or of material resources, for law enforcement purposes. [2006 c 284 § 16; 2002 c 128 § 1; 1994 c 264 § 3; 1988 c 36 § 5; 1985 c 89 § 2.]

**Severability—Effective date—2006 c 284:** See RCW 48.135.900 and 48.135.901.

**10.93.030 Reporting use of authority under this chapter.** The circumstances surrounding any actual exercise of peace officer authority under this chapter shall be timely reported, after the fact, to the Washington law enforcement agency with primary territorial jurisdiction and shall be subject to any reasonable reporting procedure which may be established by such agency. [1985 c 89 § 3.]

**10.93.040 Liability for exercise of authority.** Any liability or claim of liability which arises out of the exercise or alleged exercise of authority by an officer acting within the course and scope of the officer's duties as a peace officer under this chapter is the responsibility of the primary commissioning agency unless the officer acts under the direction and control of another agency or unless the liability is otherwise allocated under a written agreement between the primary commissioning agency and another agency. [1985 c 89 § 4.]

**10.93.050 Supervisory control over peace officers.** All persons exercising peace officer powers under this chapter are subject to supervisory control of and limitations imposed by the primary commissioning agency, but the primary commissioning agency may, by agreement with another agency, temporarily delegate supervision over the peace officer to another agency. [1985 c 89 § 5.]

**10.93.060 Privileges and immunities applicable.** All of the privileges and immunities from liability, exemption from laws, ordinances, and rules, all pension, relief, disabil-

ity, worker's compensation insurance, and other benefits which apply to the activity of officers, agents, or employees of any law enforcement agency when performing their respective functions within the territorial limits of their respective agencies shall apply to them and to their primary commissioning agencies to the same degree and extent while such persons are engaged in the performance of authorized functions and duties under this chapter. [1985 c 89 § 6.]

**10.93.070 General authority peace officer—Powers of, circumstances.** In addition to any other powers vested by law, a general authority Washington peace officer who possesses a certificate of basic law enforcement training or a certificate of equivalency or has been exempted from the requirement therefor by the Washington state criminal justice training commission may enforce the traffic or criminal laws of this state throughout the territorial bounds of this state, under the following enumerated circumstances:

(1) Upon the prior written consent of the sheriff or chief of police in whose primary territorial jurisdiction the exercise of the powers occurs;

(2) In response to an emergency involving an immediate threat to human life or property;

(3) In response to a request for assistance pursuant to a mutual law enforcement assistance agreement with the agency of primary territorial jurisdiction or in response to the request of a peace officer with enforcement authority;

(4) When the officer is transporting a prisoner;

(5) When the officer is executing an arrest warrant or search warrant; or

(6) When the officer is in fresh pursuit, as defined in RCW 10.93.120. [1985 c 89 § 7.]

**10.93.080 Limited authority peace officer—No additional powers.** A limited authority Washington peace officer shall have no additional powers by virtue of this chapter but shall be limited to those powers already vested by law or hereafter created by separate enactment. [1985 c 89 § 8.]

**10.93.090 Specially commissioned peace officer—Powers of, circumstances.** A specially commissioned Washington peace officer who has successfully completed a course of basic training prescribed or approved for such officers by the Washington state criminal justice training commission may exercise any authority which the special commission vests in the officer, throughout the territorial bounds of the state, outside of the officer's primary territorial jurisdiction under the following circumstances:

(1) The officer is in fresh pursuit, as defined in RCW 10.93.120; or

(2) The officer is acting pursuant to mutual law enforcement assistance agreement between the primary commissioning agency and the agency with primary territorial jurisdiction. [1985 c 89 § 9.]

**10.93.100 Federal peace officers—No additional powers.** Federal peace officers shall have no additional powers by virtue of this chapter but shall be limited to those powers already vested by law or hereafter created by separate enactment. [1985 c 89 § 10.]

**10.93.110 Attorney general—No additional powers.** The attorney general shall have no additional powers by virtue of this chapter but shall be limited to those powers already vested by law or hereafter created by separate enactment. [1985 c 89 § 11.]

**10.93.120 Fresh pursuit, arrest.** (1) Any peace officer who has authority under Washington law to make an arrest may proceed in fresh pursuit of a person (a) who is reasonably believed to have committed a violation of traffic or criminal laws, or (b) for whom such officer holds a warrant of arrest, and such peace officer shall have the authority to arrest and to hold such person in custody anywhere in the state.

(2) The term "fresh pursuit," as used in this chapter, includes, without limitation, fresh pursuit as defined by the common law. Fresh pursuit does not necessarily imply immediate pursuit, but pursuit without unreasonable delay. [1985 c 89 § 12.]

**10.93.130 Contracting authority of law enforcement agencies.** Under the interlocal cooperation act, chapter 39.34 RCW, any law enforcement agency referred to by this chapter may contract with any other such agency and may also contract with any law enforcement agency of another state, or such state's political subdivision, to provide mutual law enforcement assistance. The agency with primary territorial jurisdiction may require that officers from participating agencies meet reasonable training or certification standards or other reasonable standards. [1985 c 89 § 13.]

**10.93.140 State patrol, fish and wildlife exempted.** This chapter does not limit the scope of jurisdiction and authority of the Washington state patrol and the department of fish and wildlife as otherwise provided by law, and these agencies shall not be bound by the reporting requirements of RCW 10.93.030. [2002 c 128 § 2; 1985 c 89 § 14.]

**10.93.900 Effective date—1985 c 89.** This act shall take effect July 1, 1985. [1985 c 89 § 17.]

**Chapter 10.95 RCW**

**CAPITAL PUNISHMENT—AGGRAVATED FIRST DEGREE MURDER**

Sections

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*Homicide: Chapter 9A.32 RCW.*

**10.95.010 Court rules.** No rule promulgated by the supreme court of Washington pursuant to RCW 2.04.190 and 2.04.200, now or in the future, shall be construed to supersede or alter any of the provisions of this chapter. [1981 c 138 § 1.]

**10.95.020 Definition.** A person is guilty of aggravated first degree murder, a class A felony, if he or she commits first degree murder as defined by RCW 9A.32.030(1)(a), as now or hereafter amended, and one or more of the following aggravating circumstances exist:

(1) The victim was a law enforcement officer, corrections officer, or firefighter who was performing his or her official duties at the time of the act resulting in death and the victim was known or reasonably should have been known by the person to be such at the time of the killing;

(2) At the time of the act resulting in the death, the person was serving a term of imprisonment, had escaped, or was on authorized or unauthorized leave in or from a state facility or program for the incarceration or treatment of persons adjudicated guilty of crimes;

(3) At the time of the act resulting in death, the person was in custody in a county or county-city jail as a consequence of having been adjudicated guilty of a felony;

(4) The person committed the murder pursuant to an agreement that he or she would receive money or any other thing of value for committing the murder;

(5) The person solicited another person to commit the murder and had paid or had agreed to pay money or any other thing of value for committing the murder;

(6) The person committed the murder to obtain or maintain his or her membership or to advance his or her position in the hierarchy of an organization, association, or identifiable group;

(7) The murder was committed during the course of or as a result of a shooting where the discharge of the firearm, as defined in RCW 9.41.010, is either from a motor vehicle or from the immediate area of a motor vehicle that was used to transport the shooter or the firearm, or both, to the scene of the discharge;

(8) The victim was:

(a) A judge; juror or former juror; prospective, current, or former witness in an adjudicative proceeding; prosecuting attorney; deputy prosecuting attorney; defense attorney; a member of the indeterminate sentence review board; or a probation or parole officer; and

(b) The murder was related to the exercise of official duties performed or to be performed by the victim;

(9) The person committed the murder to conceal the commission of a crime or to protect or conceal the identity of any person committing a crime, including, but specifically not limited to, any attempt to avoid prosecution as a persistent offender as defined in RCW 9.94A.030;

(10) There was more than one victim and the murders were part of a common scheme or plan or the result of a single act of the person;

(11) The murder was committed in the course of, in furtherance of, or in immediate flight from one of the following crimes:

(a) Robbery in the first or second degree;

(b) Rape in the first or second degree;

(c) Burglary in the first or second degree or residential burglary;

(d) Kidnapping in the first degree; or

(e) Arson in the first degree;

(12) The victim was regularly employed or self-employed as a newsreporter and the murder was committed to obstruct or hinder the investigative, research, or reporting activities of the victim;

(13) At the time the person committed the murder, there existed a court order, issued in this or any other state, which prohibited the person from either contacting the victim, molesting the victim, or disturbing the peace of the victim, and the person had knowledge of the existence of that order;

(14) At the time the person committed the murder, the person and the victim were "family or household members" as that term is defined in \*RCW 10.99.020(1), and the person had previously engaged in a pattern or practice of three or more of the following crimes committed upon the victim within a five-year period, regardless of whether a conviction resulted:

(a) Harassment as defined in RCW 9A.46.020; or

(b) Any criminal assault. [2003 c 53 § 96; 1998 c 305 § 1. Prior: 1995 c 129 § 17 (Initiative Measure No. 159); 1994 c 121 § 3; 1981 c 138 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 10.99.020 was amended by 2004 c 18 § 2, changing subsection (1) to subsection (3).

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Findings and intent—Short title—Severability—Captions not law—1995 c 129:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.510.

**10.95.030 Sentences for aggravated first degree murder.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, any person convicted of the crime of aggravated first degree murder shall be sentenced to life imprisonment without possibility of release or parole. A person sentenced to life imprisonment under this section shall not have that sentence suspended, deferred, or commuted by any judicial officer and the indeterminate sentence review board or its successor may not parole such prisoner nor reduce the period of confinement in any manner whatsoever including but not limited to any sort of good-time calculation. The department of social and health services or its successor or any executive official may not permit such prisoner to participate in any sort of release or furlough program.

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(2) If, pursuant to a special sentencing proceeding held under RCW 10.95.050, the trier of fact finds that there are not sufficient mitigating circumstances to merit leniency, the sentence shall be death. In no case, however, shall a person be sentenced to death if the person had an intellectual disability at the time the crime was committed, under the definition of intellectual disability set forth in (a) of this subsection. A diagnosis of intellectual disability shall be documented by a licensed psychiatrist or licensed psychologist designated by the court, who is an expert in the diagnosis and evaluation of intellectual disabilities. The defense must establish an intellectual disability by a preponderance of the evidence and the court must make a finding as to the existence of an intellectual disability.

(a) "Intellectual disability" means the individual has: (i) Significantly subaverage general intellectual functioning; (ii) existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior; and (iii) both significantly subaverage general intellectual functioning and deficits in adaptive behavior were manifested during the developmental period.

(b) "General intellectual functioning" means the results obtained by assessment with one or more of the individually administered general intelligence tests developed for the purpose of assessing intellectual functioning.

(c) "Significantly subaverage general intellectual functioning" means intelligence quotient seventy or below.

(d) "Adaptive behavior" means the effectiveness or degree with which individuals meet the standards of personal independence and social responsibility expected for his or her age.

(e) "Developmental period" means the period of time between conception and the eighteenth birthday. [2010 c 94 § 3; 1993 c 479 § 1; 1981 c 138 § 3.]

**Purpose—2010 c 94:** See note following RCW 44.04.280.

**10.95.040 Special sentencing proceeding—Notice—Filing—Service.** (1) If a person is charged with aggravated first degree murder as defined by RCW 10.95.020, the prosecuting attorney shall file written notice of a special sentencing proceeding to determine whether or not the death penalty should be imposed when there is reason to believe that there are not sufficient mitigating circumstances to merit leniency.

(2) The notice of special sentencing proceeding shall be filed and served on the defendant or the defendant's attorney within thirty days after the defendant's arraignment upon the charge of aggravated first degree murder unless the court, for good cause shown, extends or reopens the period for filing and service of the notice. Except with the consent of the prosecuting attorney, during the period in which the prosecuting attorney may file the notice of special sentencing proceeding, the defendant may not tender a plea of guilty to the charge of aggravated first degree murder nor may the court accept a plea of guilty to the charge of aggravated first degree murder or any lesser included offense.

(3) If a notice of special sentencing proceeding is not filed and served as provided in this section, the prosecuting attorney may not request the death penalty. [1981 c 138 § 4.]

**10.95.050 Special sentencing proceeding—When held—Jury to decide matters presented—Waiver—Reconvening same jury—Impanelling new jury—**

**Peremptory challenges.** (1) If a defendant is adjudicated guilty of aggravated first degree murder, whether by acceptance of a plea of guilty, by verdict of a jury, or by decision of the trial court sitting without a jury, a special sentencing proceeding shall be held if a notice of special sentencing proceeding was filed and served as provided by RCW 10.95.040. No sort of plea, admission, or agreement may abrogate the requirement that a special sentencing proceeding be held.

(2) A jury shall decide the matters presented in the special sentencing proceeding unless a jury is waived in the discretion of the court and with the consent of the defendant and the prosecuting attorney.

(3) If the defendant's guilt was determined by a jury verdict, the trial court shall reconvene the same jury to hear the special sentencing proceeding. The proceeding shall commence as soon as practicable after completion of the trial at which the defendant's guilt was determined. If, however, unforeseen circumstances make it impracticable to reconvene the same jury to hear the special sentencing proceeding, the trial court may dismiss that jury and convene a jury pursuant to subsection (4) of this section.

(4) If the defendant's guilt was determined by plea of guilty or by decision of the trial court sitting without a jury, or if a retrial of the special sentencing proceeding is necessary for any reason including but not limited to a mistrial in a previous special sentencing proceeding or as a consequence of a remand from an appellate court, the trial court shall impanel a jury of twelve persons plus whatever alternate jurors the trial court deems necessary. The defense and prosecution shall each be allowed to peremptorily challenge twelve jurors. If there is more than one defendant, each defendant shall be allowed an additional peremptory challenge and the prosecution shall be allowed a like number of additional challenges. If alternate jurors are selected, the defense and prosecution shall each be allowed one peremptory challenge for each alternate juror to be selected and if there is more than one defendant each defendant shall be allowed an additional peremptory challenge for each alternate juror to be selected and the prosecution shall be allowed a like number of additional challenges. [1981 c 138 § 5.]

**10.95.060 Special sentencing proceeding—Jury instructions—Opening statements—Evidence—Arguments—Question for jury.** (1) At the commencement of the special sentencing proceeding, the trial court shall instruct the jury as to the nature and purpose of the proceeding and as to the consequences of its decision, as provided in RCW 10.95.030.

(2) At the special sentencing proceeding both the prosecution and defense shall be allowed to make an opening statement. The prosecution shall first present evidence and then the defense may present evidence. Rebuttal evidence may be presented by each side. Upon conclusion of the evidence, the court shall instruct the jury and then the prosecution and defense shall be permitted to present argument. The prosecution shall open and conclude the argument.

(3) The court shall admit any relevant evidence which it deems to have probative value regardless of its admissibility under the rules of evidence, including hearsay evidence and evidence of the defendant's previous criminal activity regardless of whether the defendant has been charged or convicted

as a result of such activity. The defendant shall be accorded a fair opportunity to rebut or offer any hearsay evidence.

In addition to evidence of whether or not there are sufficient mitigating circumstances to merit leniency, if the jury sitting in the special sentencing proceeding has not heard evidence of the aggravated first degree murder of which the defendant stands convicted, both the defense and prosecution may introduce evidence concerning the facts and circumstances of the murder.

(4) Upon conclusion of the evidence and argument at the special sentencing proceeding, the jury shall retire to deliberate upon the following question: "Having in mind the crime of which the defendant has been found guilty, are you convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that there are not sufficient mitigating circumstances to merit leniency?"

In order to return an affirmative answer to the question posed by this subsection, the jury must so find unanimously. [1981 c 138 § 6.]

**10.95.070 Special sentencing proceeding—Factors which jury may consider in deciding whether leniency merited.** In deciding the question posed by RCW 10.95.060(4), the jury, or the court if a jury is waived, may consider any relevant factors, including but not limited to the following:

(1) Whether the defendant has or does not have a significant history, either as a juvenile or an adult, of prior criminal activity;

(2) Whether the murder was committed while the defendant was under the influence of extreme mental disturbance;

(3) Whether the victim consented to the act of murder;

(4) Whether the defendant was an accomplice to a murder committed by another person where the defendant's participation in the murder was relatively minor;

(5) Whether the defendant acted under duress or domination of another person;

(6) Whether, at the time of the murder, the capacity of the defendant to appreciate the wrongfulness of his or her conduct or to conform his or her conduct to the requirements of law was substantially impaired as a result of mental disease or defect. However, a person found to have an intellectual disability under RCW 10.95.030(2) may in no case be sentenced to death;

(7) Whether the age of the defendant at the time of the crime calls for leniency; and

(8) Whether there is a likelihood that the defendant will pose a danger to others in the future. [2010 c 94 § 4; 1993 c 479 § 2; 1981 c 138 § 7.]

**Purpose—2010 c 94:** See note following RCW 44.04.280.

**10.95.080 When sentence to death or sentence to life imprisonment shall be imposed.** (1) If a jury answers affirmatively the question posed by RCW 10.95.060(4), or when a jury is waived as allowed by RCW 10.95.050(2) and the trial court answers affirmatively the question posed by RCW 10.95.060(4), the defendant shall be sentenced to death. The trial court may not suspend or defer the execution or imposition of the sentence.

(2) If the jury does not return an affirmative answer to the question posed in RCW 10.95.060(4), the defendant shall



be sentenced to life imprisonment as provided in RCW 10.95.030(1). [1981 c 138 § 8.]

**10.95.090 Sentence if death sentence commuted, held invalid, or if death sentence established by chapter held invalid.** If any sentence of death imposed pursuant to this chapter is commuted by the governor, or held to be invalid by a final judgment of a court after all avenues of appeal have been exhausted by the parties to the action, or if the death penalty established by this chapter is held to be invalid by a final judgment of a court which is binding on all courts in the state, the sentence for aggravated first degree murder if there was an affirmative response to the question posed by RCW 10.95.060(4) shall be life imprisonment as provided in RCW 10.95.030(1). [1981 c 138 § 9.]

**10.95.100 Mandatory review of death sentence by supreme court—Notice—Transmittal—Contents of notice—Jurisdiction.** Whenever a defendant is sentenced to death, upon entry of the judgment and sentence in the trial court the sentence shall be reviewed on the record by the supreme court of Washington.

Within ten days of the entry of a judgment and sentence imposing the death penalty, the clerk of the trial court shall transmit notice thereof to the clerk of the supreme court of Washington and to the parties. The notice shall include the caption of the case, its cause number, the defendant's name, the crime or crimes of which the defendant was convicted, the sentence imposed, the date of entry of judgment and sentence, and the names and addresses of the attorneys for the parties. The notice shall vest with the supreme court of Washington the jurisdiction to review the sentence of death as provided by this chapter. The failure of the clerk of the trial court to transmit the notice as required shall not prevent the supreme court of Washington from conducting the sentence review as provided by chapter 138, Laws of 1981. [1981 c 138 § 10.]

**10.95.110 Verbatim report of trial proceedings—Preparation—Transmittal to supreme court—Clerk's papers—Receipt.** (1) Within ten days after the entry of a judgment and sentence imposing the death penalty, the clerk of the trial court shall cause the preparation of a verbatim report of the trial proceedings to be commenced.

(2) Within five days of the filing and approval of the verbatim report of proceedings, the clerk of the trial court shall transmit such verbatim report of proceedings together with copies of all of the clerk's papers to the clerk of the supreme court of Washington. The clerk of the supreme court of Washington shall forthwith acknowledge receipt of these documents by providing notice of receipt to the clerk of the trial court, the defendant or his or her attorney, and the prosecuting attorney. [1981 c 138 § 11.]

**10.95.120 Information report—Form—Contents—Submission to supreme court, defendant, prosecuting attorney.** In all cases in which a person is convicted of aggravated first degree murder, the trial court shall, within thirty days after the entry of the judgment and sentence, submit a report to the clerk of the supreme court of Washington, to the defendant or his or her attorney, and to the prosecuting

attorney which provides the information specified under subsections (1) through (8) of this section. The report shall be in the form of a standard questionnaire prepared and supplied by the supreme court of Washington and shall include the following:

(1) Information about the defendant, including the following:

(a) Name, date of birth, gender, marital status, and race and/or ethnic origin;

(b) Number and ages of children;

(c) Whether his or her parents are living, and date of death where applicable;

(d) Number of children born to his or her parents;

(e) The defendant's educational background, intelligence level, and intelligence quotient;

(f) Whether a psychiatric evaluation was performed, and if so, whether it indicated that the defendant was:

(i) Able to distinguish right from wrong;

(ii) Able to perceive the nature and quality of his or her act; and

(iii) Able to cooperate intelligently with his or her defense;

(g) Any character or behavior disorders found or other pertinent psychiatric or psychological information;

(h) The work record of the defendant;

(i) A list of the defendant's prior convictions including the offense, date, and sentence imposed; and

(j) The length of time the defendant has resided in Washington and the county in which he or she was convicted.

(2) Information about the trial, including:

(a) The defendant's plea;

(b) Whether defendant was represented by counsel;

(c) Whether there was evidence introduced or instructions given as to defenses to aggravated first degree murder, including excusable homicide, justifiable homicide, insanity, duress, entrapment, alibi, intoxication, or other specific defense;

(d) Any other offenses charged against the defendant and tried at the same trial and whether they resulted in conviction;

(e) What aggravating circumstances were alleged against the defendant and which of these circumstances was found to have been applicable; and

(f) Names and charges filed against other defendant(s) if tried jointly and disposition of the charges.

(3) Information concerning the special sentencing proceeding, including:

(a) The date the defendant was convicted and date the special sentencing proceeding commenced;

(b) Whether the jury for the special sentencing proceeding was the same jury that returned the guilty verdict, providing an explanation if it was not;

(c) Whether there was evidence of mitigating circumstances;

(d) Whether there was, in the court's opinion, credible evidence of the mitigating circumstances as provided in RCW 10.95.070;

(e) The jury's answer to the question posed in RCW 10.95.060(4);

(f) The sentence imposed.

(4) Information about the victim, including:

- (a) Whether he or she was related to the defendant by blood or marriage;
  - (b) The victim's occupation and whether he or she was an employer or employee of the defendant;
  - (c) Whether the victim was acquainted with the defendant, and if so, how well;
  - (d) The length of time the victim resided in Washington and the county;
  - (e) Whether the victim was the same race and/or ethnic origin as the defendant;
  - (f) Whether the victim was the same sex as the defendant;
  - (g) Whether the victim was held hostage during the crime and if so, how long;
  - (h) The nature and extent of any physical harm or torture inflicted upon the victim prior to death;
  - (i) The victim's age; and
  - (j) The type of weapon used in the crime, if any.
- (5) Information about the representation of the defendant, including:
- (a) Date counsel secured;
  - (b) Whether counsel was retained or appointed, including the reason for appointment;
  - (c) The length of time counsel has practiced law and nature of his or her practice; and
  - (d) Whether the same counsel served at both the trial and special sentencing proceeding, and if not, why not.
- (6) General considerations, including:
- (a) Whether the race and/or ethnic origin of the defendant, victim, or any witness was an apparent factor at trial;
  - (b) What percentage of the county population is the same race and/or ethnic origin of the defendant;
  - (c) Whether members of the defendant's or victim's race and/or ethnic origin were represented on the jury;
  - (d) Whether there was evidence that such members were systematically excluded from the jury;
  - (e) Whether the sexual orientation of the defendant, victim, or any witness was a factor in the trial;
  - (f) Whether any specific instruction was given to the jury to exclude race, ethnic origin, or sexual orientation as an issue;
  - (g) Whether there was extensive publicity concerning the case in the community;
  - (h) Whether the jury was instructed to disregard such publicity;
  - (i) Whether the jury was instructed to avoid any influence of passion, prejudice, or any other arbitrary factor when considering its verdict or its findings in the special sentencing proceeding;
  - (j) The nature of the evidence resulting in such instruction; and
  - (k) General comments of the trial judge concerning the appropriateness of the sentence considering the crime, defendant, and other relevant factors.
- (7) Information about the chronology of the case, including the date that:
- (a) The defendant was arrested;
  - (b) Trial began;
  - (c) The verdict was returned;
  - (d) Post-trial motions were ruled on;
  - (e) Special sentencing proceeding began;

- (f) Sentence was imposed;
  - (g) Trial judge's report was completed; and
  - (h) Trial judge's report was filed.
- (8) The trial judge shall sign and date the questionnaire when it is completed. [1981 c 138 § 12.]

**10.95.130 Questions posed for determination by supreme court in death sentence review—Review in addition to appeal—Consolidation of review and appeal.** (1) The sentence review required by RCW 10.95.100 shall be in addition to any appeal. The sentence review and an appeal shall be consolidated for consideration. The defendant and the prosecuting attorney may submit briefs within the time prescribed by the court and present oral argument to the court.

(2) With regard to the sentence review required by chapter 138, Laws of 1981, the supreme court of Washington shall determine:

(a) Whether there was sufficient evidence to justify the affirmative finding to the question posed by RCW 10.95.060(4); and

(b) Whether the sentence of death is excessive or disproportionate to the penalty imposed in similar cases, considering both the crime and the defendant. For the purposes of this subsection, "similar cases" means cases reported in the Washington Reports or Washington Appellate Reports since January 1, 1965, in which the judge or jury considered the imposition of capital punishment regardless of whether it was imposed or executed, and cases in which reports have been filed with the supreme court under RCW 10.95.120;

(c) Whether the sentence of death was brought about through passion or prejudice; and

(d) Whether the defendant had an intellectual disability within the meaning of RCW 10.95.030(2). [2010 c 94 § 5; 1993 c 479 § 3; 1981 c 138 § 13.]

**Purpose—2010 c 94:** See note following RCW 44.04.280.

**10.95.140 Invalidation of sentence, remand for resentencing—Affirmation of sentence, remand for execution.** Upon completion of a sentence review:

(1) The supreme court of Washington shall invalidate the sentence of death and remand the case to the trial court for resentencing in accordance with RCW 10.95.090 if:

(a) The court makes a negative determination as to the question posed by RCW 10.95.130(2)(a); or

(b) The court makes an affirmative determination as to any of the questions posed by RCW 10.95.130(2) (b), (c), or (d).

(2) The court shall affirm the sentence of death and remand the case to the trial court for execution in accordance with RCW 10.95.160 if:

(a) The court makes an affirmative determination as to the question posed by RCW 10.95.130(2)(a); and

(b) The court makes a negative determination as to the questions posed by RCW 10.95.130(2) (b), (c), and (d). [1993 c 479 § 4; 1981 c 138 § 14.]

**10.95.150 Time limit for appellate review of death sentence and filing opinion.** In all cases in which a sentence of death has been imposed, the appellate review, if any, and sentence review to or by the supreme court of Washington

shall be decided and an opinion on the merits shall be filed within one year of receipt by the clerk of the supreme court of Washington of the verbatim report of proceedings and clerk's papers filed under RCW 10.95.110. If this time requirement is not met, the chief justice of the supreme court of Washington shall state on the record the extraordinary and compelling circumstances causing the delay and the facts supporting such circumstances. A failure to comply with the time requirements of this subsection shall in no way preclude the ultimate execution of a sentence of death. [1988 c 202 § 17; 1981 c 138 § 15.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.95.160 Death warrant—Issuance—Form—Time for execution of judgment and sentence.** (1) If a death sentence is affirmed and the case remanded to the trial court as provided in RCW 10.95.140(2), a death warrant shall forthwith be issued by the clerk of the trial court, which shall be signed by a judge of the trial court and attested by the clerk thereof under the seal of the court. The warrant shall be directed to the superintendent of the state penitentiary and shall state the conviction of the person named therein and the judgment and sentence of the court, and shall appoint a day on which the judgment and sentence of the court shall be executed by the superintendent, which day shall not be less than thirty nor more than ninety days from the date the trial court receives the remand from the supreme court of Washington.

(2) If the date set for execution under subsection (1) of this section is stayed by a court of competent jurisdiction for any reason, the new execution date is automatically set at thirty judicial days after the entry of an order of termination or vacation of the stay by such court unless the court invalidates the conviction, sentence, or remands for further judicial proceedings. The presence of the inmate under sentence of death shall not be required for the court to vacate or terminate the stay according to this section. [1990 c 263 § 1; 1981 c 138 § 16.]

**10.95.170 Imprisonment of defendant.** The defendant shall be imprisoned in the state penitentiary within ten days after the trial court enters a judgment and sentence imposing the death penalty and shall be imprisoned both prior to and subsequent to the issuance of the death warrant as provided in RCW 10.95.160. During such period of imprisonment, the defendant shall be confined in the segregation unit, where the defendant may be confined with other prisoners not under sentence of death, but prisoners under sentence of death shall be assigned to single-person cells. [1983 c 255 § 1; 1981 c 138 § 17.]

*Convicted female persons, commitment and procedure as to death sentences: RCW 72.02.250.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.95.180 Death penalty—How executed.** (1) The punishment of death shall be supervised by the superintendent of the penitentiary and shall be inflicted by intravenous injection of a substance or substances in a lethal quantity sufficient to cause death and until the defendant is dead, or, at the election of the defendant, by hanging by the neck until the defendant is dead. In any case, death shall be pronounced by a licensed physician.

(2) All executions, for both men and women, shall be carried out within the walls of the state penitentiary. [1996 c 251 § 1; 1986 c 194 § 1; 1981 c 138 § 18.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.95.185 Witnesses.** (1) Not less than twenty days prior to a scheduled execution, judicial officers, law enforcement representatives, media representatives, representatives of the families of the victims, and representatives from the family of the defendant who wish to attend and witness the execution, must submit an application to the superintendent. Such application must designate the relationship and reason for wishing to attend.

(2) Not less than fifteen days prior to the scheduled execution, the superintendent shall designate the total number of individuals who will be allowed to attend and witness the planned execution. The superintendent shall determine the number of witnesses that will be allowed in each of the following categories:

(a) No less than five media representatives with consideration to be given to news organizations serving communities affected by the crimes or by the commission of the execution of the defendant.

(b) Judicial officers.

(c) Representatives of the families of the victims.

(d) Representatives from the family of the defendant.

(e) Up to two law enforcement representatives. The chief executive officer of the agency that investigated the crime shall designate the law enforcement representatives.

After the list is composed, the superintendent shall serve this list on all parties who have submitted an application pursuant to this section. The superintendent shall develop and implement procedures to determine the persons within each of the categories listed in this subsection who will be allowed to attend and witness the execution.

(3) Not less than ten days prior to the scheduled execution, the superintendent shall file the witness list with the superior court from which the conviction and death warrant was issued with a petition asking that the court enter an order certifying this list as a final order identifying the witnesses to attend the execution. The final order of the court certifying the witness list shall not be entered less than five days after the filing of the petition.

(4) Unless a show cause petition is filed with the superior court from which the conviction and death warrant was issued within five days of the filing of the superintendent's petition, the superintendent's list, by order of the superior court, becomes final, and no other party has standing to challenge its appropriateness.

(5) In no case may the superintendent or the superior court order or allow more than seventeen individuals other than required staff to witness a planned execution.

(6) All witnesses must adhere to the search and security provisions of the department of corrections' policy regarding the witnessing of an execution.

(7) The superior court from which the conviction and death warrant was issued is the exclusive court for seeking judicial process for the privilege of attending and witnessing an execution.

(8) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Judicial officer" means: (i) The superior court judge who signed the death warrant issued pursuant to RCW 10.95.160 for the execution of the individual, (ii) the current prosecuting attorney or a deputy prosecuting attorney of the county from which the final judgment and sentence and death warrant were issued, and (iii) the most recent attorney of record representing the individual sentenced to death.

(b) "Law enforcement representatives" means those law enforcement officers responsible for investigating the crime for which the defendant was sentenced to death.

(c) "Media representatives" means representatives from news organizations of all forms of media serving the state.

(d) "Representatives of the families of the victims" means representatives from the immediate families of the victim(s) of the individual sentenced to death, including victim advocates of the immediate family members. Victim advocates shall include any person working or volunteering for a recognized victim advocacy group or a prosecutor-based or law enforcement-based agency on behalf of victims or witnesses.

(e) "Representative from the family of the defendant" means a representative from the immediate family of the individual sentenced to death.

(f) "Superintendent" means the superintendent of the Washington state penitentiary. [1999 c 332 § 1; 1993 c 463 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.95.190 Death warrant—Record—Return to trial court.** (1) The superintendent of the state penitentiary shall keep in his or her office as part of the public records a book in which shall be kept a copy of each death warrant together with a complete statement of the superintendent's acts pursuant to such warrants.

(2) Within twenty days after each execution of a sentence of death, the superintendent of the state penitentiary shall return the death warrant to the clerk of the trial court from which it was issued with the superintendent's return thereon showing all acts and proceedings done by him or her thereunder. [1981 c 138 § 19.]

**10.95.200 Proceedings for failure to execute on day named.** Whenever the day appointed for the execution of a defendant shall have passed, from any cause, other than the issuance of a stay by a court of competent jurisdiction, without the execution of such defendant having occurred, the trial court which issued the original death warrant shall issue a new death warrant in accordance with RCW 10.95.160. The defendant's presence before the court is not required. However, nothing in this section shall be construed as restricting the defendant's right to be represented by counsel in connection with issuance of a new death warrant. [1990 c 263 § 2; 1987 c 286 § 1; 1981 c 138 § 20.]

**10.95.900 Severability—1981 c 138.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1981 c 138 § 22.]

**10.95.901 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 28.]

## Chapter 10.96 RCW CRIMINAL PROCESS RECORDS

### Sections

10.96.005	Findings.
10.96.010	Definitions.
10.96.020	Production of records.
10.96.030	Authenticity of records—Verification—Affidavit, declaration, or certification.
10.96.040	Service of process issued by or in another state.
10.96.050	Recipients' immunity from liability.
10.96.060	Issuance of criminal process.

**10.96.005 Findings.** The legislature finds that many businesses, associations, and organizations providing goods and services to the public, conducting other activity in Washington, or otherwise affecting residents of Washington now operate nationally or globally and often maintain their business records in a location outside the state of Washington. The legislature further finds that bringing persons or organizations committing crimes in Washington to justice is a matter of great public interest because crimes have a significant effect on businesses, associations, and other organizations that conduct business in Washington, as well as on Washington citizens. Crimes result in significant harm and losses to persons, businesses, associations, and other organizations victimized, as well as persons not directly victimized when businesses or others more directly affected by the crimes must raise prices to cover crime losses. The ability of law enforcement and the criminal justice system to effectively perform their duties to the public often depends upon law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and criminal defense attorneys being able to obtain and use records relevant to crimes that affect Washington's citizens, businesses, associations, organizations, and others who provide goods or services, or conduct other activity in Washington. In the course of fulfilling their duties to the public, law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and criminal defense attorneys must frequently obtain records from these entities, and be able to use the records in court. The ability to obtain and use these records has an impact on Washington citizens because it affects the ability to enforce Washington's criminal laws and affects the deterrence value arising from criminal prosecution. Effectively combating crime requires laws facilitating and requiring that all those who possess records relevant to a criminal investigation comply with the legal process issued in

connection with criminal investigations or litigation. [2008 c 21 § 1.]

**10.96.010 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Adverse result" includes one or more of the following possible consequences:

- (a) Danger to the life or physical safety of an individual;
- (b) A flight from prosecution;
- (c) The destruction of, potential loss of, or tampering with evidence;
- (d) The intimidation of potential witnesses;
- (e) Jeopardy to an investigation or undue delay of a trial.

(2) "Applicant" means a law enforcement officer, prosecuting attorney, deputy or special deputy prosecuting attorney, or defense attorney who is seeking criminal process under RCW 10.96.020.

(3) "Criminal process" means a search warrant or legal process issued pursuant to RCW 10.79.015 and CrR 2.3; any process issued pursuant to chapter 9.73, 9A.82, 10.27, or 10.29 RCW; and any other legal process signed by a judge of the superior court and issued in a criminal matter which allows the search for or commands production of records that are in the actual or constructive possession of the recipient, regardless of whether the recipient or the records are physically located within the state.

(4) "Defense attorney" means an attorney of record for a person charged with a crime when the attorney is seeking the issuance of criminal process for the defense of the criminal case.

(5) "Properly served" means delivery by hand or in a manner reasonably allowing for proof of delivery if delivered by United States mail, overnight delivery service, or facsimile to the recipient addressee of criminal process.

(6) "Recipient" means a person, as defined in RCW 9A.04.110, or a business, as defined in RCW 5.45.010, that has conducted business or engaged in transactions occurring at least in part in this state upon whom criminal process issued under this chapter is properly served. [2008 c 21 § 2.]

**10.96.020 Production of records.** This section shall apply to any criminal process allowing for search of or commanding production of records that are in the actual or constructive possession of a recipient who receives service outside Washington, regardless of whether the recipient or the records are physically located within the state.

(1) When properly served with criminal process issued under this section, the recipient shall provide the applicant all records sought pursuant to the criminal process. The records shall be produced within twenty business days of receipt of the criminal process, unless the process requires earlier production. An applicant may consent to a recipient's request for additional time to comply with the criminal process.

(2) Criminal process issued under this section must contain the following language in bold type on the first page of the document: "This [warrant, subpoena, order] is issued pursuant to RCW [insert citation to this statute]. A response is due within twenty business days of receipt, unless a shorter time is stated herein, or the applicant consents to a recipient's request for additional time to comply."

(3) If the judge finds reason to suspect that failure to produce records within twenty business days would cause an adverse result, the criminal process may require production of records within less than twenty business days. A court may reasonably extend the time required for production of the records upon finding that the recipient has shown good cause for that extension and that an extension of time would not cause an adverse result.

(4) When properly served with criminal process issued under this section, a recipient who seeks to quash the criminal process must seek relief from the court where the criminal process was issued, within the time originally required for production of records. The court shall hear and decide the motion no later than five court days after the motion is filed. An applicant's consent, under subsection (1) of this section, to a recipient's request for additional time to comply with the criminal process does not extend the date by which a recipient must seek the relief designated in this section. [2008 c 21 § 3.]

**10.96.030 Authenticity of records—Verification—Affidavit, declaration, or certification.** (1) Upon written request from the applicant, or if ordered by the court, the recipient of criminal process shall verify the authenticity of records that it produces by providing an affidavit, declaration, or certification that complies with subsection (2) of this section. The requirements of RCW 5.45.020 regarding business records as evidence may be satisfied by an affidavit, declaration, or certification that complies with subsection (2) of this section, without the need for testimony from the custodian of records, regardless of whether the business records were produced by a foreign or Washington state entity.

(2) To be admissible without testimony from the custodian of records, business records must be accompanied by an affidavit, declaration, or certification by its record custodian or other qualified person that includes contact information for the witness completing the document and attests to the following:

(a) The witness is the custodian of the record or sets forth evidence that the witness is qualified to testify about the record;

(b) The record was made at or near the time of the act, condition, or event set forth in the record by, or from information transmitted by, a person with knowledge of those matters;

(c) The record was made in the regular course of business;

(d) The identity of the record and the mode of its preparation; and

(e) Either that the record is the original or that it is a duplicate that accurately reproduces the original.

(3) A party intending to offer a record into evidence under this section must provide written notice of that intention to all adverse parties, and must make the record and affidavit, declaration, or certification available for inspection sufficiently in advance of their offer into evidence to provide an adverse party with a fair opportunity to challenge them. A motion opposing admission in evidence of the record shall be made and determined by the court before trial and with sufficient time to allow the party offering the record time, if the motion is granted, to produce the custodian of the record or

other qualified person at trial, without creating hardship on the party or on the custodian or other qualified person.

(4) Failure by a party to timely file a motion under subsection (4) of this section shall constitute a waiver of objection to admission of the evidence, but the court for good cause shown may grant relief from the waiver. When the court grants relief from the waiver, and thereafter determines the custodian of the record shall appear, a continuance of the trial may be granted to provide the proponent of the record sufficient time to arrange for the necessary witness to appear.

(5) Nothing in this section precludes either party from calling the custodian of record of the record or other witness to testify regarding the record. [2008 c 21 § 4.]

**10.96.040 Service of process issued by or in another state.** A Washington recipient, when served with process that was issued by or in another state that on its face purports to be valid criminal process shall comply with that process as if that process had been issued by a Washington court. [2008 c 21 § 5.]

**10.96.050 Recipients' immunity from liability.** A recipient of criminal process or process under RCW 10.96.010 and 10.96.040, and any other person that responds to such process is immune from civil and criminal liability for complying with the process, and for any failure to provide notice of any disclosure to the person who is the subject of or identified in the disclosure. [2008 c 21 § 6.]

**10.96.060 Issuance of criminal process.** A judge of the superior court may issue any criminal process to any recipient at any address, within or without the state, for any matter over which the court has criminal jurisdiction pursuant to RCW 9A.04.030. This section does not limit a court's authority to issue warrants or legal process under other provisions of state law. [2008 c 21 § 7.]

## Chapter 10.97 RCW

### WASHINGTON STATE CRIMINAL RECORDS PRIVACY ACT

#### Sections

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*Public records: Chapter 42.56 RCW.*

*Records of community sexual assault program and underserved populations provider not available as part of discovery: RCW 70.125.065.*

**10.97.010 Declaration of policy.** The legislature declares that it is the policy of the state of Washington to provide for the completeness, accuracy, confidentiality, and

security of criminal history record information and victim, witness, and complainant record information as defined in this chapter. [1977 ex.s. c 314 § 1.]

**10.97.020 Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the Washington State Criminal Records Privacy Act. [1977 ex.s. c 314 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** The phrase "This 1977 amendatory act" has been changed to "This chapter." This 1977 amendatory act [1977 ex.s. c 314] consists of chapter 10.97 RCW and the amendments of RCW 42.17.310, 43.43.705, 43.43.710, 43.43.730, and 43.43.810.

**10.97.030 Definitions.** For purposes of this chapter, the definitions of terms in this section shall apply.

(1) "Criminal history record information" means information contained in records collected by criminal justice agencies, other than courts, on individuals, consisting of identifiable descriptions and notations of arrests, detentions, indictments, informations, or other formal criminal charges, and any disposition arising therefrom, including acquittals by reason of insanity, dismissals based on lack of competency, sentences, correctional supervision, and release.

The term includes information contained in records maintained by or obtained from criminal justice agencies, other than courts, which records provide individual identification of a person together with any portion of the individual's record of involvement in the criminal justice system as an alleged or convicted offender, except:

(a) Posters, announcements, or lists for identifying or apprehending fugitives or wanted persons;

(b) Original records of entry maintained by criminal justice agencies to the extent that such records are compiled and maintained chronologically and are accessible only on a chronological basis;

(c) Court indices and records of public judicial proceedings, court decisions, and opinions, and information disclosed during public judicial proceedings;

(d) Records of traffic violations which are not punishable by a maximum term of imprisonment of more than ninety days;

(e) Records of any traffic offenses as maintained by the department of licensing for the purpose of regulating the issuance, suspension, revocation, or renewal of drivers' or other operators' licenses and pursuant to RCW 46.52.130;

(f) Records of any aviation violations or offenses as maintained by the department of transportation for the purpose of regulating pilots or other aviation operators, and pursuant to RCW 47.68.330;

(g) Announcements of executive clemency;

(h) Intelligence, analytical, or investigative reports and files.

(2) "Nonconviction data" consists of all criminal history record information relating to an incident which has not led to a conviction or other disposition adverse to the subject, and for which proceedings are no longer actively pending. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that proceedings are no longer actively pending if more than one year has elapsed since arrest, citation, charge, or service of warrant and no disposition has been entered.

(3) "Conviction record" means criminal history record information relating to an incident which has led to a conviction or other disposition adverse to the subject.

(4) "Conviction or other disposition adverse to the subject" means any disposition of charges other than: (a) A decision not to prosecute; (b) a dismissal; or (c) acquittal; with the following exceptions, which shall be considered dispositions adverse to the subject: An acquittal due to a finding of not guilty by reason of insanity and a dismissal by reason of incompetency, pursuant to chapter 10.77 RCW; and a dismissal entered after a period of probation, suspension, or deferral of sentence.

(5) "Criminal justice agency" means: (a) A court; or (b) a government agency which performs the administration of criminal justice pursuant to a statute or executive order and which allocates a substantial part of its annual budget to the administration of criminal justice.

(6) "The administration of criminal justice" means performance of any of the following activities: Detection, apprehension, detention, pretrial release, post-trial release, prosecution, adjudication, correctional supervision, or rehabilitation of accused persons or criminal offenders. The term also includes criminal identification activities and the collection, storage, dissemination of criminal history record information, and the compensation of victims of crime.

(7) "Disposition" means the formal conclusion of a criminal proceeding at whatever stage it occurs in the criminal justice system.

(8) "Dissemination" means disclosing criminal history record information or disclosing the absence of criminal history record information to any person or agency outside the agency possessing the information, subject to the following exceptions:

(a) When criminal justice agencies jointly participate in the maintenance of a single recordkeeping department as an alternative to maintaining separate records, the furnishing of information by that department to personnel of any participating agency is not a dissemination;

(b) The furnishing of information by any criminal justice agency to another for the purpose of processing a matter through the criminal justice system, such as a police department providing information to a prosecutor for use in preparing a charge, is not a dissemination;

(c) The reporting of an event to a recordkeeping agency for the purpose of maintaining the record is not a dissemination. [2012 c 125 § 1; 1999 c 49 § 1; 1998 c 297 § 49; 1990 c 3 § 128; 1979 ex.s. c 36 § 1; 1979 c 158 § 5; 1977 ex.s. c 314 § 3.]

**Effective dates—Severability—Intent—1998 c 297:** See notes following RCW 71.05.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.97.040 Information required—Exceptions.** No criminal justice agency shall disseminate criminal history record information pertaining to an arrest, detention, indictment, information, or other formal criminal charge made after December 31, 1977, unless the record disseminated states the disposition of such charge to the extent dispositions have been made at the time of the request for the information: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That if a disposition occurring within ten days immediately preceding the dissemination has

not been reported to the agency disseminating the criminal history record information, or if information has been received by the agency within the seventy-two hours immediately preceding the dissemination, that information shall not be required to be included in the dissemination: PROVIDED FURTHER, That when another criminal justice agency requests criminal history record information, the disseminating agency may disseminate specific facts and incidents which are within its direct knowledge without furnishing disposition data as otherwise required by this section, unless the disseminating agency has received such disposition data from either: (1) the state patrol, or (2) the court or other criminal justice agency required to furnish disposition data pursuant to RCW 10.97.045.

No criminal justice agency shall disseminate criminal history record information which shall include information concerning a felony or gross misdemeanor without first making inquiry of the identification section of the Washington state patrol for the purpose of obtaining the most current and complete information available, unless one or more of the following circumstances exists:

(1) The information to be disseminated is needed for a purpose in the administration of criminal justice for which time is of the essence and the identification section is technically or physically incapable of responding within the required time;

(2) The full information requested and to be disseminated relates to specific facts or incidents which are within the direct knowledge of the agency which disseminates the information;

(3) The full information requested and to be disseminated is contained in a criminal history record information summary received from the identification section by the agency which is to make the dissemination not more than thirty days preceding the dissemination to be made;

(4) The statute, executive order, court rule, or court order pursuant to which the information is to be disseminated refers solely to information in the files of the agency which makes the dissemination;

(5) The information requested and to be disseminated is for the express purpose of research, evaluative, or statistical activities to be based upon information maintained in the files of the agency or agencies from which the information is directly sought; or

(6) A person who is the subject of the record requests the information and the agency complies with the requirements in RCW 10.97.080 as now or hereafter amended. [1979 ex.s. c 36 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 314 § 4.]

**10.97.045 Disposition data to initiating agency and state patrol.** Whenever a court or other criminal justice agency reaches a disposition of a criminal proceeding, the court or other criminal justice agency shall furnish the disposition data to the agency initiating the criminal history record for that charge and to the identification section of the Washington state patrol as required under RCW 43.43.745. [1979 ex.s. c 36 § 6.]

**10.97.050 Restricted, unrestricted information—Records.** (1) Conviction records may be disseminated without restriction.

(2) Any criminal history record information which pertains to an incident that occurred within the last twelve months for which a person is currently being processed by the criminal justice system, including the entire period of correctional supervision extending through final discharge from parole, when applicable, may be disseminated without restriction.

(3) Criminal history record information which includes nonconviction data may be disseminated by a criminal justice agency to another criminal justice agency for any purpose associated with the administration of criminal justice, or in connection with the employment of the subject of the record by a criminal justice or juvenile justice agency. A criminal justice agency may respond to any inquiry from another criminal justice agency without any obligation to ascertain the purpose for which the information is to be used by the agency making the inquiry.

(4) Criminal history record information which includes nonconviction data may be disseminated by a criminal justice agency to implement a statute, ordinance, executive order, or a court rule, decision, or order which expressly refers to records of arrest, charges, or allegations of criminal conduct or other nonconviction data and authorizes or directs that it be available or accessible for a specific purpose.

(5) Criminal history record information which includes nonconviction data may be disseminated to individuals and agencies pursuant to a contract with a criminal justice agency to provide services related to the administration of criminal justice. Such contract must specifically authorize access to criminal history record information, but need not specifically state that access to nonconviction data is included. The agreement must limit the use of the criminal history record information to stated purposes and insure the confidentiality and security of the information consistent with state law and any applicable federal statutes and regulations.

(6) Criminal history record information which includes nonconviction data may be disseminated to individuals and agencies for the express purpose of research, evaluative, or statistical activities pursuant to an agreement with a criminal justice agency. Such agreement must authorize the access to nonconviction data, limit the use of that information which identifies specific individuals to research, evaluative, or statistical purposes, and contain provisions giving notice to the person or organization to which the records are disseminated that the use of information obtained therefrom and further dissemination of such information are subject to the provisions of this chapter and applicable federal statutes and regulations, which shall be cited with express reference to the penalties provided for a violation thereof.

(7) Every criminal justice agency that maintains and disseminates criminal history record information must maintain information pertaining to every dissemination of criminal history record information except a dissemination to the effect that the agency has no record concerning an individual. Information pertaining to disseminations shall include:

- (a) An indication of to whom (agency or person) criminal history record information was disseminated;
- (b) The date on which the information was disseminated;
- (c) The individual to whom the information relates; and
- (d) A brief description of the information disseminated.

The information pertaining to dissemination required to be maintained shall be retained for a period of not less than one year.

(8) In addition to the other provisions in this section allowing dissemination of criminal history record information, RCW 4.24.550 governs dissemination of information concerning offenders who commit sex offenses as defined by RCW 9.94A.030. Criminal justice agencies, their employees, and officials shall be immune from civil liability for dissemination on criminal history record information concerning sex offenders as provided in RCW 4.24.550. [2012 c 125 § 2; 2005 c 421 § 9; 1990 c 3 § 129; 1977 ex.s. c 314 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.97.060 Deletion of certain information, conditions.** Criminal history record information which consists of nonconviction data only shall be subject to deletion from criminal justice agency files which are available and generally searched for the purpose of responding to inquiries concerning the criminal history of a named or otherwise identified individual when two years or longer have elapsed since the record became nonconviction data as a result of the entry of a disposition favorable to the defendant, or upon the passage of three years from the date of arrest or issuance of a citation or warrant for an offense for which a conviction was not obtained unless the defendant is a fugitive, or the case is under active prosecution according to a current certification made by the prosecuting attorney.

Such criminal history record information consisting of nonconviction data shall be deleted upon the request of the person who is the subject of the record: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the criminal justice agency maintaining the data may, at its option, refuse to make the deletion if:

- (1) The disposition was a deferred prosecution or similar diversion of the alleged offender;
- (2) The person who is the subject of the record has had a prior conviction for a felony or gross misdemeanor;
- (3) The individual who is the subject of the record has been arrested for or charged with another crime during the intervening period.

Nothing in this chapter is intended to restrict the authority of any court, through appropriate judicial proceedings, to order the modification or deletion of a record in a particular cause or concerning a particular individual or event. [1977 ex.s. c 314 § 6.]

**10.97.070 Disclosure of suspect's identity to victim.**

(1) Criminal justice agencies may, in their discretion, disclose to persons who have suffered physical loss, property damage, or injury compensable through civil action, the identity of persons suspected as being responsible for such loss, damage, or injury together with such information as the agency reasonably believes may be of assistance to the victim in obtaining civil redress. Such disclosure may be made without regard to whether the suspected offender is an adult or a juvenile, whether charges have or have not been filed, or a prosecuting authority has declined to file a charge or a charge has been dismissed.

(2) Unless the agency determines release would interfere with an ongoing criminal investigation, in any action brought pursuant to this chapter, criminal justice agencies shall dis-



close identifying information, including photographs of suspects, if the acts are alleged by the plaintiff or victim to be a violation of RCW 9A.50.020.

(3) The disclosure by a criminal justice agency of investigative information pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall not establish a duty to disclose any additional information concerning the same incident or make any subsequent disclosure of investigative information, except to the extent an additional disclosure is compelled by legal process. [1993 c 128 § 10; 1977 ex.s. c 314 § 7.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.97.080 Inspection of information by subject—Challenges and corrections.** All criminal justice agencies shall permit an individual who is, or who believes that he or she may be, the subject of a criminal record maintained by that agency, to appear in person during normal business hours of that criminal justice agency and request to see the criminal history record information held by that agency pertaining to the individual. The individual's right to access and review of criminal history record information shall not extend to data contained in intelligence, investigative, or other related files, and shall not be construed to include any information other than that defined as criminal history record information by this chapter.

Every criminal justice agency shall adopt rules and make available forms to facilitate the inspection and review of criminal history record information by the subjects thereof, which rules may include requirements for identification, the establishment of reasonable periods of time to be allowed an individual to examine the record, and for assistance by an individual's counsel, interpreter, or other appropriate persons.

No person shall be allowed to retain or mechanically reproduce any nonconviction data except for the person who is the subject of the record. Such person may retain a copy of their personal nonconviction data information on file, if the criminal justice agency has verified the identities of those who seek to inspect them. Criminal justice agencies may impose such additional restrictions, including fingerprinting, as are reasonably necessary both to assure the record's security and to verify the identities of those who seek to inspect them. The criminal justice agency may charge a reasonable fee for fingerprinting or providing a copy of the personal nonconviction data information pursuant to this section. The provisions of chapter 42.56 RCW shall not be construed to require or authorize copying of nonconviction data for any other purpose.

The Washington state patrol shall establish rules for the challenge of records which an individual declares to be inaccurate or incomplete, and for the resolution of any disputes between individuals and criminal justice agencies pertaining to the accuracy and completeness of criminal history record information. The Washington state patrol shall also adopt rules for the correction of criminal history record information and the dissemination of corrected information to agencies and persons to whom inaccurate or incomplete information was previously disseminated. Such rules may establish time limitations of not less than ninety days upon the requirement for disseminating corrected information. [2012 c 125 § 3;

2010 c 8 § 1093; 2005 c 274 § 206; 1979 ex.s. c 36 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 314 § 8.]

**Part headings not law—Effective date—2005 c 274:** See RCW 42.56.901 and 42.56.902.

**10.97.090 Administration by state patrol.** The Washington state patrol is hereby designated the agency of state government responsible for the administration of the 1977 Washington State Criminal Records Privacy Act. The Washington state patrol may adopt any rules and regulations necessary for the performance of the administrative functions provided for in this chapter.

The Washington state patrol shall have the following specific administrative duties:

(1) To establish by rule and regulation standards for the security of criminal history information systems in order that such systems and the data contained therein be adequately protected from fire, theft, loss, destruction, other physical hazard, or unauthorized access;

(2) To establish by rule and regulation standards for personnel employed by criminal justice of other state and local government agencies in positions with responsibility for maintenance and dissemination of criminal history record information; and

(3) To contract with the Washington state auditor or other public or private agency, organization, or individual to perform audits of criminal history record information systems. [1979 ex.s. c 36 § 4; 1977 ex.s. c 314 § 9.]

**10.97.100 Fees.** Criminal justice agencies shall be authorized to establish and collect reasonable fees for the dissemination of criminal history record information to agencies and persons other than criminal justice agencies. [1977 ex.s. c 314 § 10.]

**10.97.110 Civil remedies—Criminal prosecution not affected.** Any person may maintain an action to enjoin a continuance of any act or acts in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter, and if injured thereby, for the recovery of damages and for the recovery of reasonable attorneys' fees. If, in such action, the court shall find that the defendant is violating or has violated any of the provisions of this chapter, it shall enjoin the defendant from a continuance thereof, and it shall not be necessary that actual damages to the plaintiff be alleged or proved. In addition to such injunctive relief, the plaintiff in said action shall be entitled to recover from the defendant the amount of the actual damages, if any, sustained by him or her if actual damages to the plaintiff are alleged and proved. In any suit brought to enjoin a violation of this chapter, the prevailing party may be awarded reasonable attorneys' fees, including fees incurred upon appeal. Commencement, pendency, or conclusion of a civil action for injunction or damages shall not affect the liability of a person or agency to criminal prosecution for a violation of this chapter. [2010 c 8 § 1094; 1979 ex.s. c 36 § 5; 1977 ex.s. c 314 § 11.]

**10.97.120 Criminal penalties—Civil action not affected.** Violation of the provisions of this chapter shall constitute a misdemeanor, and any person whether as principal, agent, officer, or director for himself or herself or for another person, or for any firm or corporation, public or pri-

vate, or any municipality who or which shall violate any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor for each single violation. Any criminal prosecution shall not affect the right of any person to bring a civil action as authorized by this chapter or otherwise authorized by law. [2010 c 8 § 1095; 1977 ex.s. c 314 § 12.]

**10.97.130 Child victims of sexual assaults, identification confidential.** Information identifying child victims under age eighteen who are victims of sexual assaults is confidential and not subject to release to the press or public without the permission of the child victim or the child's legal guardian. Identifying information includes the child victim's name, addresses, location, photographs, and in cases in which the child victim is a relative or stepchild of the alleged perpetrator, identification of the relationship between the child and the alleged perpetrator. Information identifying the child victim of sexual assault may be released to law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, defense attorneys, or private or governmental agencies that provide services to the child victim of sexual assault. Prior to release of any criminal history record information, the releasing agency shall delete any information identifying a child victim of sexual assault from the information except as provided in this section. [1992 c 188 § 8.]

**Findings—Intent—Severability—1992 c 188:** See notes following RCW 7.69A.020.

**10.97.140 Construction.** Nothing in RCW 40.14.060 or 40.14.070 or chapter 42.56 RCW precludes dissemination of criminal history record information, including nonconviction data, for the purposes of this chapter. [2005 c 274 § 207; 1999 c 326 § 4.]

**Part headings not law—Effective date—2005 c 274:** See RCW 42.56.901 and 42.56.902.

## Chapter 10.98 RCW CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION ACT

### Sections

10.98.010	Purpose.
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10.98.040	Definitions.
10.98.050	Officials' duties.
10.98.060	Arrest and fingerprint form.
10.98.070	National crime information center interstate identification index.
10.98.080	State identification number, furnishing of.
10.98.090	Disposition forms—Coding.
10.98.100	Compliance audit.
10.98.110	Tracking felony cases.
10.98.130	Local jail reports.
10.98.140	Criminal justice forecasting—Sentencing records.
10.98.150	Status reports on felons.
10.98.160	Procedures, development considerations—Washington integrated justice information board, review and recommendations.

**10.98.010 Purpose.** The purpose of this chapter is to provide a system of reporting and disseminating felony criminal justice information that provides: (1) Timely and accurate criminal histories for filing and sentencing under the sentencing reform act of 1981, (2) identification and tracking of felons, and (3) data for statewide planning and forecasting of the felon population. [1984 c 17 § 1.]

**10.98.020 Short title.** This chapter may be known and cited as the criminal justice information act. [1984 c 17 § 2.]

**10.98.030 Source of conviction histories.** The Washington state patrol identification, child abuse, and criminal history section as established in \*RCW 43.43.700 shall be the primary source of felony conviction histories for filings, plea agreements, and sentencing on felony cases. [1999 c 143 § 50; 1984 c 17 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 43.43.700 was amended by 2006 c 294 § 1, renaming the "identification, child abuse, and criminal history section" as the "identification and criminal history section."

**10.98.040 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Arrest and fingerprint form" means the reporting form prescribed by the \*identification, child abuse, and criminal history section to initiate compiling arrest and identification information.

(2) "Chief law enforcement officer" includes the sheriff or director of public safety of a county, the chief of police of a city or town, and chief officers of other law enforcement agencies operating within the state.

(3) "Department" means the department of corrections.

(4) "Disposition" means the conclusion of a criminal proceeding at any stage it occurs in the criminal justice system. Disposition includes but is not limited to temporary or permanent outcomes such as charges dropped by police, charges not filed by the prosecuting attorney, deferred prosecution, defendant absconded, charges filed by the prosecuting attorney pending court findings such as not guilty, dismissed, guilty, or guilty—case appealed to higher court.

(5) "Disposition report" means the reporting form prescribed by the \*identification, child abuse, and criminal history section to report the legal procedures taken after completing an arrest and fingerprint form. The disposition report shall include but not be limited to the following types of information:

- The type of disposition;
- The statutory citation for the arrests;
- The sentence structure if the defendant was convicted of a felony;
- The state identification number; and
- Identification information and other information that is prescribed by the \*identification, child abuse, and criminal history section.

(6) "Fingerprints" means the fingerprints taken from arrested or charged persons under the procedures prescribed by the Washington state patrol \*identification, child abuse, and criminal history section.

(7) "Prosecuting attorney" means the public or private attorney prosecuting a criminal case.

(8) "Section" refers to the Washington state patrol \*section on identification, child abuse, and criminal history.

(9) "Sentence structure" means itemizing the components of the felony sentence. The sentence structure shall include but not be limited to the total or partial confinement sentenced, and whether the sentence is prison or jail, community supervision, fines, restitution, or community restitution.

[2002 c 175 § 18; 1999 c 143 § 51; 1985 c 201 § 1; 1984 c 17 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The "identification, child abuse, and criminal history section" was renamed the "identification and criminal history section" by 2006 c 294 § 1.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**10.98.050 Officials' duties.** (1) It is the duty of the chief law enforcement officer or the local director of corrections to transmit within seventy-two hours from the time of arrest to the section fingerprints together with other identifying data as may be prescribed by the section, and statutory violations of any person lawfully arrested, fingerprinted, and photographed under RCW 43.43.735. The disposition report shall be transmitted to the prosecuting attorney, county clerk, or appropriate court of limited jurisdiction, whichever is responsible for transmitting the report to the section under RCW 10.98.010.

(2) At the preliminary hearing or the arraignment of a felony case, the judge shall ensure that the felony defendants have been fingerprinted and an arrest and fingerprint form transmitted to the section. In cases where fingerprints have not been taken, the judge shall order the chief law enforcement officer of the jurisdiction or the local director of corrections, or, in the case of a juvenile, the juvenile court administrator to initiate an arrest and fingerprint form and transmit it to the section. The disposition report shall be transmitted to the prosecuting attorney. [1999 c 49 § 2; 1989 c 6 § 1; 1987 c 450 § 6; 1985 c 201 § 2; 1984 c 17 § 5.]

**10.98.060 Arrest and fingerprint form.** The arrest and fingerprint form shall include but not be limited to the following:

(1) Unique numbers associated with the arrest charges. The unique numbering system may be controlled by the local law enforcement agency, however the section shall approve of the numbering system and maintain a current catalog of approved local numbering systems. The purpose of the unique numbering system is to allow tracking of arrest charges through disposition;

(2) An organization code;

(3) Date of arrest;

(4) Local identification number;

(5) The prescribed fingerprints;

(6) Individual identification information and other information prescribed by the section. [1984 c 17 § 6.]

**10.98.070 National crime information center interstate identification index.** The section shall be the sole recipient of arrest and fingerprint forms described in RCW 10.98.060, fingerprint forms described in RCW 43.43.760, and disposition reports for forwarding to the federal bureau of investigation as required for participation in the national crime information center interstate identification index. The section shall comply with national crime information center interstate identification index regulations to maintain availability of out-of-state criminal history information. [1984 c 17 § 7.]

**10.98.080 State identification number, furnishing of.** The section shall promptly furnish a state identification num-

ber to the originating agency and to the prosecuting attorney who received a copy of the arrest and fingerprint form. In the case of juvenile felony-like adjudications, the section shall furnish, upon request, the state identification number to the juvenile information section of the administrative office of the courts. [2005 c 282 § 23; 1985 c 201 § 3; 1984 c 17 § 8.]

**10.98.090 Disposition forms—Coding.** (1) In all cases where an arrest and fingerprint form is transmitted to the section, the originating agency shall code the form indicating which agency is initially responsible for reporting the disposition to the section. Coding shall include but not be limited to the prosecuting attorney, superior court, district court, municipal court, or the originating agency.

(2) In the case of a superior court or felony disposition, the county clerk or prosecuting attorney shall promptly transmit the completed disposition information to the section. In a county where the judicial information system or other secure method of electronic transfer of information has been implemented between the court and the section, the county clerk shall electronically provide the disposition information. In the case of a felony conviction in a county without the judicial information system or other secure method of electronic transfer of information between the court and the section, the prosecuting attorney shall attach a copy of the judgment and sentence form to the disposition form transmitted to the section. In the case of a lower court disposition, the district or municipal court administrator shall either promptly transmit the completed disposition form or, in a county where the judicial information system or other secure method of electronic transfer of information has been implemented between the court and the section, electronically provide the disposition information to the section. For all other dispositions the originating agency shall promptly transmit the completed disposition form to the section. [1998 c 197 § 1; 1985 c 201 § 4; 1984 c 17 § 9.]

**10.98.100 Compliance audit.** The section shall administer a compliance audit at least once annually for each prosecuting attorney, district and municipal court, and originating agency to ensure that all disposition reports have been received and added to the criminal offender record information described in \*RCW 43.43.705. The section shall prepare listings of all arrests charged and listed in the criminal offender record information for which no disposition report has been received and which has been outstanding for more than nine months since the date of arrest. Each prosecuting attorney, district and municipal court, and originating agency shall be furnished a list of outstanding disposition reports. Cases pending prosecution shall be considered outstanding dispositions in the compliance audit. Within forty-five days, the prosecuting attorney, district and municipal court, and originating agency shall provide the section with a current disposition report for each outstanding disposition. The section shall assist prosecuting attorneys with the compliance audit by cross-checking outstanding cases with the administrative office of the courts and the department of corrections. The section may provide technical assistance to prosecuting attorneys, district or municipal courts, or originating agencies for their compliance audits. The results of compliance audits shall be published annually and distributed to legislative

committees dealing with criminal justice issues, the office of financial management, and criminal justice agencies and associations. [2005 c 282 § 24; 1985 c 201 § 5; 1984 c 17 § 10.]

**\*Reviser’s note:** RCW 43.43.705 was amended by 2006 c 294 § 2, changing the definition of "criminal offender record information" to "criminal history record information."

**10.98.110 Tracking felony cases.** (1) The department shall maintain records to track felony cases for convicted felons sentenced either to a term of confinement exceeding one year or ordered under the supervision of the department and felony cases under the jurisdiction of the department pursuant to interstate compact agreements.

(2) Tracking shall begin at the time the department receives a judgment and sentence form from a prosecuting attorney and shall include the collection and updating of felons’ criminal records from the time of sentencing through discharge.

(3) The department of corrections shall collect information for tracking felons from its offices and from information provided by county clerks, the Washington state patrol \*identification, child abuse, and criminal history section, the office of financial management, and any other public or private agency that provides services to help individuals complete their felony sentences. [1999 c 143 § 52; 1993 c 31 § 1; 1987 c 462 § 2; 1984 c 17 § 11.]

**\*Reviser’s note:** The "identification, child abuse, and criminal history section" was renamed the "identification and criminal history section" by 2006 c 294 § 1.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.98.130 Local jail reports.** Local jails shall report to the office of financial management and that office shall transmit to the department the information on all persons convicted of felonies or incarcerated for noncompliance with a felony sentence who are admitted or released from the jails and shall promptly respond to requests of the department for such data. Information transmitted shall include but not be limited to the state identification number, whether the reason for admission to jail was a felony conviction or noncompliance with a felony sentence, and the dates of the admission and release.

The office of financial management may contract with a state or local governmental agency, or combination thereof, or a private organization for the information collection and transmittal under this section. [1988 c 152 § 1; 1987 c 462 § 3; 1984 c 17 § 13.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.98.140 Criminal justice forecasting—Sentencing records.** (1) The section, the department, and the office of financial management shall be the primary sources of information for criminal justice forecasting. The information maintained by these agencies shall be complete, accurate, and sufficiently timely to support state criminal justice forecasting.

(2) The caseload forecast council shall keep records on all sentencing above or below the standard range defined by chapter 9.94A RCW. As a minimum, the records shall include the name of the offender, the crimes for which the

offender was sentenced, the name and county of the sentencing judge, and the deviation from the standard range. Such records shall be made available to public officials upon request. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 32; 1987 c 462 § 4; 1985 c 201 § 6; 1984 c 17 § 14.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.98.150 Status reports on felons.** The section and the department shall provide prompt responses to the requests of law enforcement agencies and jails regarding the status of suspected or convicted felons. Dissemination of individual identities, criminal histories, or the whereabouts of a suspected or convicted felon shall be in accordance with chapter 10.97 RCW, the Washington state criminal records privacy act. [1984 c 17 § 15.]

**10.98.160 Procedures, development considerations—Washington integrated justice information board, review and recommendations.** In the development and modification of the procedures, definitions, and reporting capabilities of the section, the department, the office of financial management, and the responsible agencies and persons shall consider the needs of other criminal justice agencies such as the administrative office of the courts, local law enforcement agencies, local jails, the indeterminate sentence review board, the clemency board, prosecuting attorneys, and affected state agencies such as the office of financial management and legislative committees dealing with criminal justice issues. The Washington integrated justice information board shall review and provide recommendations to state justice agencies and the courts for development and modification of the statewide justice information network. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 33; 2005 c 282 § 25; 2003 c 104 § 2; 1999 c 143 § 53; 1987 c 462 § 5; 1984 c 17 § 16.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**Chapter 10.99 RCW**

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE—OFFICIAL RESPONSE**

Sections	
10.99.010	Purpose—Intent.
10.99.020	Definitions.
10.99.030	Law enforcement officers—Training, powers, duties—Domestic violence reports.
10.99.040	Duties of court—No-contact order.
10.99.045	Appearances by defendant—Defendant’s history—No-contact order.
10.99.050	Victim contact—Restriction, prohibition—Violation, penalties—Written order—Procedures—Notice of change.
10.99.055	Enforcement of orders.
10.99.060	Prosecutor’s notice to victim—Description of available procedures.
10.99.070	Liability of peace officers.
10.99.080	Penalty assessment.
10.99.090	Policy adoption and implementation.
10.99.100	Sentencing—Factors—Defendant’s criminal history.
10.99.900	Severability—1979 ex.s. c 105.
10.99.901	Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.

*Arrest without warrant in domestic violence cases: RCW 10.31.100(2).*

*Domestic violence prevention: Chapter 26.50 RCW.*

*Rape crisis centers: Chapters 70.123 and 70.125 RCW.*

*Shelters for victims of domestic violence: Chapter 70.123 RCW.*

*Victims, survivors, and witnesses of crimes: Chapter 7.69 RCW.*

**10.99.010 Purpose—Intent.** The purpose of this chapter is to recognize the importance of domestic violence as a serious crime against society and to assure the victim of domestic violence the maximum protection from abuse which the law and those who enforce the law can provide. The legislature finds that the existing criminal statutes are adequate to provide protection for victims of domestic violence. However, previous societal attitudes have been reflected in policies and practices of law enforcement agencies and prosecutors which have resulted in differing treatment of crimes occurring between cohabitants and of the same crimes occurring between strangers. Only recently has public perception of the serious consequences of domestic violence to society and to the victims led to the recognition of the necessity for early intervention by law enforcement agencies. It is the intent of the legislature that the official response to cases of domestic violence shall stress the enforcement of the laws to protect the victim and shall communicate the attitude that violent behavior is not excused or tolerated. Furthermore, it is the intent of the legislature that criminal laws be enforced without regard to whether the persons involved are or were married, cohabiting, or involved in a relationship. [1979 ex.s. c 105 § 1.]

**10.99.020 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Agency" means a general authority Washington law enforcement agency as defined in RCW 10.93.020.

(2) "Association" means the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs.

(3) "Family or household members" means spouses, former spouses, persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time, adult persons related by blood or marriage, adult persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past, persons sixteen years of age or older who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past and who have or have had a dating relationship, persons sixteen years of age or older with whom a person sixteen years of age or older has or has had a dating relationship, and persons who have a biological or legal parent-child relationship, including stepparents and stepchildren and grandparents and grandchildren.

(4) "Dating relationship" has the same meaning as in RCW 26.50.010.

(5) "Domestic violence" includes but is not limited to any of the following crimes when committed by one family or household member against another:

- (a) Assault in the first degree (RCW 9A.36.011);
- (b) Assault in the second degree (RCW 9A.36.021);
- (c) Assault in the third degree (RCW 9A.36.031);
- (d) Assault in the fourth degree (RCW 9A.36.041);
- (e) Drive-by shooting (RCW 9A.36.045);
- (f) Reckless endangerment (RCW 9A.36.050);
- (g) Coercion (RCW 9A.36.070);
- (h) Burglary in the first degree (RCW 9A.52.020);

(i) Burglary in the second degree (RCW 9A.52.030);

(j) Criminal trespass in the first degree (RCW 9A.52.070);

(k) Criminal trespass in the second degree (RCW 9A.52.080);

(l) Malicious mischief in the first degree (RCW 9A.48.070);

(m) Malicious mischief in the second degree (RCW 9A.48.080);

(n) Malicious mischief in the third degree (RCW 9A.48.090);

(o) Kidnapping in the first degree (RCW 9A.40.020);

(p) Kidnapping in the second degree (RCW 9A.40.030);

(q) Unlawful imprisonment (RCW 9A.40.040);

(r) Violation of the provisions of a restraining order, no-contact order, or protection order restraining or enjoining the person or restraining the person from going onto the grounds of or entering a residence, workplace, school, or day care, or prohibiting the person from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of a location (RCW 10.99.040, 10.99.050, 26.09.300, 26.10.220, 26.26.138, 26.44.063, 26.44.150, 26.50.060, 26.50.070, 26.50.130, 26.52.070, or 74.34.145);

(s) Rape in the first degree (RCW 9A.44.040);

(t) Rape in the second degree (RCW 9A.44.050);

(u) Residential burglary (RCW 9A.52.025);

(v) Stalking (RCW 9A.46.110); and

(w) Interference with the reporting of domestic violence (RCW 9A.36.150).

(6) "Employee" means any person currently employed with an agency.

(7) "Sworn employee" means a general authority Washington peace officer as defined in RCW 10.93.020, any person appointed under RCW 35.21.333, and any person appointed or elected to carry out the duties of the sheriff under chapter 36.28 RCW.

(8) "Victim" means a family or household member who has been subjected to domestic violence. [2004 c 18 § 2; 2000 c 119 § 5; 1997 c 338 § 53; 1996 c 248 § 5; 1995 c 246 § 21; 1994 c 121 § 4; 1991 c 301 § 3; 1986 c 257 § 8; 1984 c 263 § 20; 1979 ex.s. c 105 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—2004 c 18:** "The legislature reaffirms its determination to reduce the incident rate of domestic violence. The legislature finds it is appropriate to help reduce the incident rate of domestic violence by addressing the need for improved coordination and accountability among general authority Washington law enforcement agencies and general authority Washington peace officers when reports of domestic violence are made and the alleged perpetrator is a general authority Washington peace officer. The legislature finds that coordination and accountability will be improved if general authority Washington law enforcement agencies adopt policies that meet statewide minimum requirements for training, reporting, interagency cooperation, investigation, and collaboration with groups serving victims of domestic violence. The legislature intends to provide maximum flexibility to general authority Washington law enforcement agencies, consistent with the purposes of this act, in their efforts to improve coordination and accountability when incidents of domestic violence committed or allegedly committed by general authority Washington peace officers are reported." [2004 c 18 § 1.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—1991 c 301:** "The legislature finds that:

The collective costs to the community for domestic violence include the systematic destruction of individuals and their families, lost lives, lost productivity, and increased health care, criminal justice, and social service costs.

Children growing up in violent homes are deeply affected by the violence as it happens and could be the next generation of batterers and victims.

Many communities have made headway in addressing the effects of domestic violence and have devoted energy and resources to stopping this violence. However, the process for breaking the cycle of abuse is lengthy. No single system intervention is enough in itself.

An integrated system has not been adequately funded and structured to assure access to a wide range of services, including those of the law/safety/justice system, human service system, and health care system. These services need to be coordinated and multidisciplinary in approach and address the needs of victims, batterers, and children from violent homes.

Given the lethal nature of domestic violence and its effect on all within its range, the community has a vested interest in the methods used to stop and prevent future violence. Clear standards of quality are needed so that perpetrator treatment programs receiving public funds or court-ordered referrals can be required to comply with these standards.

While incidents of domestic violence are not caused by perpetrator's use of alcohol and illegal substances, substance abuse may be a contributing factor to domestic violence and the injuries and deaths that result from it.

There is a need for consistent training of professionals who deal frequently with domestic violence or are in a position to identify domestic violence and provide support and information.

Much has been learned about effective interventions in domestic violence situations; however, much is not yet known and further study is required to know how to best stop this violence." [1991 c 301 § 1.]

*Domestic violence defined under the Domestic Violence Prevention Act: RCW 26.50.010.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.99.030 Law enforcement officers—Training, powers, duties—Domestic violence reports.** (1) All training relating to the handling of domestic violence complaints by law enforcement officers shall stress enforcement of criminal laws in domestic situations, availability of community resources, and protection of the victim. Law enforcement agencies and community organizations with expertise in the issue of domestic violence shall cooperate in all aspects of such training.

(2) The criminal justice training commission shall implement by January 1, 1997, a course of instruction for the training of law enforcement officers in Washington in the handling of domestic violence complaints. The basic law enforcement curriculum of the criminal justice training commission shall include at least twenty hours of basic training instruction on the law enforcement response to domestic violence. The course of instruction, the learning and performance objectives, and the standards for the training shall be developed by the commission and focus on enforcing the criminal laws, safety of the victim, and holding the perpetrator accountable for the violence. The curriculum shall include training on the extent and prevalence of domestic violence, the importance of criminal justice intervention, techniques for responding to incidents that minimize the likelihood of officer injury and that promote victim safety, investigation and interviewing skills, evidence gathering and report writing, assistance to and services for victims and children, verification and enforcement of court orders, liability, and any additional provisions that are necessary to carry out the intention of this subsection.

(3) The criminal justice training commission shall develop and update annually an in-service training program to familiarize law enforcement officers with the domestic violence laws. The program shall include techniques for handling incidents of domestic violence that minimize the likelihood of injury to the officer and that promote the safety of all

parties. The commission shall make the training program available to all law enforcement agencies in the state.

(4) Development of the training in subsections (2) and (3) of this section shall be conducted in conjunction with agencies having a primary responsibility for serving victims of domestic violence with emergency shelter and other services, and representatives to the statewide organization providing training and education to these organizations and to the general public.

(5) The primary duty of peace officers, when responding to a domestic violence situation, is to enforce the laws allegedly violated and to protect the complaining party.

(6)(a) When a peace officer responds to a domestic violence call and has probable cause to believe that a crime has been committed, the peace officer shall exercise arrest powers with reference to the criteria in RCW 10.31.100. The officer shall notify the victim of the victim's right to initiate a criminal proceeding in all cases where the officer has not exercised arrest powers or decided to initiate criminal proceedings by citation or otherwise. The parties in such cases shall also be advised of the importance of preserving evidence.

(b) A peace officer responding to a domestic violence call shall take a complete offense report including the officer's disposition of the case.

(7) When a peace officer responds to a domestic violence call, the officer shall advise victims of all reasonable means to prevent further abuse, including advising each person of the availability of a shelter or other services in the community, and giving each person immediate notice of the legal rights and remedies available. The notice shall include handing each person a copy of the following statement:

"IF YOU ARE THE VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, you can ask the city or county prosecuting attorney to file a criminal complaint. You also have the right to file a petition in superior, district, or municipal court requesting an order for protection from domestic abuse which could include any of the following: (a) An order restraining your abuser from further acts of abuse; (b) an order directing your abuser to leave your household; (c) an order preventing your abuser from entering your residence, school, business, or place of employment; (d) an order awarding you or the other parent custody of or visitation with your minor child or children; and (e) an order restraining your abuser from molesting or interfering with minor children in your custody. The forms you need to obtain a protection order are available in any municipal, district, or superior court.

Information about shelters and alternatives to domestic violence is available from a statewide twenty-four-hour toll-free hot line at (include appropriate phone number). The battered women's shelter and other resources in your area are . . . . (include local information)"

(8) The peace officer may offer, arrange, or facilitate transportation for the victim to a hospital for treatment of injuries or to a place of safety or shelter.

(9) The law enforcement agency shall forward the offense report to the appropriate prosecutor within ten days of making such report if there is probable cause to believe that an offense has been committed, unless the case is under active investigation.

(10) Each law enforcement agency shall make as soon as practicable a written record and shall maintain records of all incidents of domestic violence reported to it.

(11) Records kept pursuant to subsections (6) and (10) of this section shall be made identifiable by means of a departmental code for domestic violence.

(12) Commencing January 1, 1994, records of incidents of domestic violence shall be submitted, in accordance with procedures described in this subsection, to the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs by all law enforcement agencies. The Washington criminal justice training commission shall amend its contract for collection of statewide crime data with the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs:

(a) To include a table, in the annual report of crime in Washington produced by the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs pursuant to the contract, showing the total number of actual offenses and the number and percent of the offenses that are domestic violence incidents for the following crimes: (i) Criminal homicide, with subtotals for murder and nonnegligent homicide and manslaughter by negligence; (ii) forcible rape, with subtotals for rape by force and attempted forcible rape; (iii) robbery, with subtotals for firearm, knife or cutting instrument, or other dangerous weapon, and strongarm robbery; (iv) assault, with subtotals for firearm, knife or cutting instrument, other dangerous weapon, hands, feet, aggravated, and other nonaggravated assaults; (v) burglary, with subtotals for forcible entry, nonforcible unlawful entry, and attempted forcible entry; (vi) larceny theft, except motor vehicle theft; (vii) motor vehicle theft, with subtotals for autos, trucks and buses, and other vehicles; (viii) arson; and (ix) violations of the provisions of a protection order or no-contact order restraining the person from going onto the grounds of or entering a residence, workplace, school, or day care, provided that specific appropriations are subsequently made for the collection and compilation of data regarding violations of protection orders or no-contact orders;

(b) To require that the table shall continue to be prepared and contained in the annual report of crime in Washington until that time as comparable or more detailed information about domestic violence incidents is available through the Washington state incident based reporting system and the information is prepared and contained in the annual report of crime in Washington; and

(c) To require that, in consultation with interested persons, the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs prepare and disseminate procedures to all law enforcement agencies in the state as to how the agencies shall code and report domestic violence incidents to the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs. [1996 c 248 § 6; 1995 c 246 § 22; 1993 c 350 § 3; 1984 c 263 § 21; 1981 c 145 § 5; 1979 ex.s. c 105 § 3.]

**Findings—Severability—1993 c 350:** See notes following RCW 26.50.035.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### 10.99.040 Duties of court—No-contact order. (1)

Because of the serious nature of domestic violence, the court in domestic violence actions:

(a) Shall not dismiss any charge or delay disposition because of concurrent dissolution or other civil proceedings;

(b) Shall not require proof that either party is seeking a dissolution of marriage prior to instigation of criminal proceedings;

(c) Shall waive any requirement that the victim's location be disclosed to any person, other than the attorney of a criminal defendant, upon a showing that there is a possibility of further violence: PROVIDED, That the court may order a criminal defense attorney not to disclose to his or her client the victim's location; and

(d) Shall identify by any reasonable means on docket sheets those criminal actions arising from acts of domestic violence.

(2)(a) Because of the likelihood of repeated violence directed at those who have been victims of domestic violence in the past, when any person charged with or arrested for a crime involving domestic violence is released from custody before arraignment or trial on bail or personal recognizance, the court authorizing the release may prohibit that person from having any contact with the victim. The jurisdiction authorizing the release shall determine whether that person should be prohibited from having any contact with the victim. If there is no outstanding restraining or protective order prohibiting that person from having contact with the victim, the court authorizing release may issue, by telephone, a no-contact order prohibiting the person charged or arrested from having contact with the victim or from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of a location.

(b) In issuing the order, the court shall consider the provisions of RCW 9.41.800.

(c) The no-contact order shall also be issued in writing as soon as possible, and shall state that it may be extended as provided in subsection (3) of this section. By January 1, 2011, the administrative office of the courts shall develop a pattern form for all no-contact orders issued under this chapter. A no-contact order issued under this chapter must substantially comply with the pattern form developed by the administrative office of the courts.

(3) At the time of arraignment the court shall determine whether a no-contact order shall be issued or extended. So long as the court finds probable cause, the court may issue or extend a no-contact order even if the defendant fails to appear at arraignment. The no-contact order shall terminate if the defendant is acquitted or the charges are dismissed. If a no-contact order is issued or extended, the court may also include in the conditions of release a requirement that the defendant submit to electronic monitoring. If electronic monitoring is ordered, the court shall specify who shall provide the monitoring services, and the terms under which the monitoring shall be performed. Upon conviction, the court may require as a condition of the sentence that the defendant reimburse the providing agency for the costs of the electronic monitoring.

(4)(a) Willful violation of a court order issued under subsection (2), (3), or (7) of this section is punishable under RCW 26.50.110.

(b) The written order releasing the person charged or arrested shall contain the court's directives and shall bear the legend: "Violation of this order is a criminal offense under chapter 26.50 RCW and will subject a violator to arrest; any assault, drive-by shooting, or reckless endangerment that is a violation of this order is a felony. You can be arrested even if any person protected by the order invites or allows you to violate the order's prohibitions. You have the sole responsibility to avoid or refrain from violating the order's provisions. Only the court can change the order."

(c) A certified copy of the order shall be provided to the victim.

(5) If a no-contact order has been issued prior to charging, that order shall expire at arraignment or within seventy-two hours if charges are not filed.

(6) Whenever a no-contact order is issued, modified, or terminated under subsection (2) or (3) of this section, the clerk of the court shall forward a copy of the order on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order. Upon receipt of the copy of the order the law enforcement agency shall enter the order for one year or until the expiration date specified on the order into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. Entry into the computer-based criminal intelligence information system constitutes notice to all law enforcement agencies of the existence of the order. The order is fully enforceable in any jurisdiction in the state. Upon receipt of notice that an order has been terminated under subsection (3) of this section, the law enforcement agency shall remove the order from the computer-based criminal intelligence information system.

(7) All courts shall develop policies and procedures by January 1, 2011, to grant victims a process to modify or rescind a no-contact order issued under this chapter. The administrative office of the courts shall develop a model policy to assist the courts in implementing the requirements of this subsection. [2012 c 223 § 3; 2010 c 274 § 309; 2000 c 119 § 18; 1997 c 338 § 54; 1996 c 248 § 7; 1995 c 246 § 23; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 449; 1992 c 86 § 2; 1991 c 301 § 4; 1985 c 303 § 10; 1984 c 263 § 22; 1983 c 232 § 7; 1981 c 145 § 6; 1979 ex.s. c 105 § 4.]

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**Finding—1991 c 301:** See note following RCW 10.99.020.

*Child abuse, temporary restraining order:* RCW 26.44.063.

*Orders for protection in cases of domestic violence:* RCW 26.50.030, 26.50.070.

*Temporary restraining order:* RCW 26.09.060.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.99.045 Appearances by defendant—Defendant's history—No-contact order.** (1) A defendant arrested for an offense involving domestic violence as defined by RCW 10.99.020 shall be required to appear in person before a magistrate within one judicial day after the arrest.

(2) A defendant who is charged by citation, complaint, or information with an offense involving domestic violence as

defined by RCW 10.99.020 and not arrested shall appear in court for arraignment in person as soon as practicable, but in no event later than fourteen days after the next day on which court is in session following the issuance of the citation or the filing of the complaint or information.

(3)(a) At the time of the appearances provided in subsection (1) or (2) of this section, the court shall determine the necessity of imposing a no-contact order or other conditions of pretrial release according to the procedures established by court rule for a preliminary appearance or an arraignment. The court may include in the order any conditions authorized under RCW 9.41.800 and 10.99.040.

(b) For the purposes of (a) of this subsection, the prosecutor shall provide for the court's review:

(i) The defendant's criminal history, if any, that occurred in Washington or any other state;

(ii) If available, the defendant's criminal history that occurred in any tribal jurisdiction; and

(iii) The defendant's individual order history.

(c) For the purposes of (b) of this subsection, criminal history includes all previous convictions and orders of deferred prosecution, as reported through the judicial information system or otherwise available to the court or prosecutor, current to within the period specified in (d) of this subsection before the date of the appearance.

(d) The periods applicable to previous convictions and orders of deferred prosecution are:

(i) One working day, in the case of previous actions of courts that fully participate in the state judicial information system; and

(ii) Seven calendar days, in the case of previous actions of courts that do not fully participate in the judicial information system. For the purposes of this subsection, "fully participate" means regularly providing records to and receiving records from the system by electronic means on a daily basis.

(4) Appearances required pursuant to this section are mandatory and cannot be waived.

(5) The no-contact order shall be issued and entered with the appropriate law enforcement agency pursuant to the procedures outlined in RCW 10.99.040 (2) and (6). [2010 c 274 § 301; 2000 c 119 § 19; 1998 c 55 § 2; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 450; 1984 c 263 § 23; 1983 c 232 § 8; 1981 c 145 § 7.]

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.99.050 Victim contact—Restriction, prohibition—Violation, penalties—Written order—Procedures—Notice of change.** (1) When a defendant is found guilty of a crime and a condition of the sentence restricts the defendant's ability to have contact with the victim, such condition shall be recorded and a written certified copy of that order shall be provided to the victim.

(2)(a) Willful violation of a court order issued under this section is punishable under RCW 26.50.110.

(b) The written order shall contain the court's directives and shall bear the legend: Violation of this order is a criminal offense under chapter 26.50 RCW and will subject a violator to arrest; any assault, drive-by shooting, or reckless endangerment that is a violation of this order is a felony.



(3) Whenever an order prohibiting contact is issued pursuant to this section, the clerk of the court shall forward a copy of the order on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order. Upon receipt of the copy of the order the law enforcement agency shall enter the order for one year or until the expiration date specified on the order into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. Entry into the computer-based criminal intelligence information system constitutes notice to all law enforcement agencies of the existence of the order. The order is fully enforceable in any jurisdiction in the state.

(4) If an order prohibiting contact issued pursuant to this section is modified or terminated, the clerk of the court shall notify the law enforcement agency specified in the order on or before the next judicial day. Upon receipt of notice that an order has been terminated, the law enforcement agency shall remove the order from any computer-based criminal intelligence system. [2000 c 119 § 20; 1997 c 338 § 55; 1996 c 248 § 8; 1991 c 301 § 5; 1985 c 303 § 12; 1984 c 263 § 24; 1979 ex.s. c 105 § 5.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—1991 c 301:** See note following RCW 10.99.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.99.055 Enforcement of orders.** A peace officer in this state shall enforce an order issued by any court in this state restricting a defendant's ability to have contact with a victim by arresting and taking the defendant into custody, pending release on bail, personal recognizance, or court order, when the officer has probable cause to believe that the defendant has violated the terms of that order. [1984 c 263 § 25; 1983 c 232 § 9; 1981 c 145 § 8.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**10.99.060 Prosecutor's notice to victim—Description of available procedures.** The public attorney responsible for making the decision whether or not to prosecute shall advise the victim of that decision within five days, and, prior to making that decision shall advise the victim, upon the victim's request, of the status of the case. Notification to the victim that charges will not be filed shall include a description of the procedures available to the victim in that jurisdiction to initiate a criminal proceeding. [1979 ex.s. c 105 § 6.]

**10.99.070 Liability of peace officers.** A peace officer shall not be held liable in any civil action for an arrest based on probable cause, enforcement in good faith of a court order, or any other action or omission in good faith under this chapter arising from an alleged incident of domestic violence brought by any party to the incident. [1979 ex.s. c 105 § 7.]

**10.99.080 Penalty assessment.** (1) All superior courts, and courts organized under Title 3 or 35 RCW, may impose a penalty assessment not to exceed one hundred dollars on any person convicted of a crime involving domestic violence. The assessment shall be in addition to, and shall not supersede, any other penalty, restitution, fines, or costs provided by law.

(2) Revenue from the assessment shall be used solely for the purposes of establishing and funding domestic violence advocacy and domestic violence prevention and prosecution programs in the city or county of the court imposing the assessment. Revenue from the assessment shall not be used for indigent criminal defense. If the city or county does not have domestic violence advocacy or domestic violence prevention and prosecution programs, cities and counties may use the revenue collected from the assessment to contract with recognized community-based domestic violence program providers.

(3) The assessment imposed under this section shall not be subject to any state or local remittance requirements under chapter 3.46, 3.50, 3.62, 7.68, 10.82, or 35.20 RCW.

(4) For the purposes of this section, "convicted" includes a plea of guilty, a finding of guilt regardless of whether the imposition of the sentence is deferred or any part of the penalty is suspended, or the levying of a fine. For the purposes of this section, "domestic violence" has the same meaning as that term is defined under RCW 10.99.020 and includes violations of equivalent local ordinances.

(5) When determining whether to impose a penalty assessment under this section, judges are encouraged to solicit input from the victim or representatives for the victim in assessing the ability of the convicted offender to pay the penalty, including information regarding current financial obligations, family circumstances, and ongoing restitution. [2004 c 15 § 2.]

**Intent—2004 c 15:** "The legislature recognizes that domestic violence is a growing and more visible public safety problem in Washington state than ever before, and that domestic violence-related incidents have a significant bearing on overall law enforcement and court caseloads. The legislature further recognizes the growing costs associated with domestic violence prevention and advocacy programs established by local governments and by community-based organizations.

It is the legislature's intent to establish a penalty in law that will hold convicted domestic violence offenders accountable while requiring them to pay penalties to offset the costs of domestic violence advocacy and prevention programs. It is the legislature's intent that the penalties imposed against convicted domestic violence offenders under section 2 of this act be used for established domestic violence prevention and prosecution programs. It is the legislature's intent that the revenue from the penalty assessment shall be in addition to existing sources of funding to enhance or help prevent the reduction and elimination of domestic violence prevention and prosecution programs." [2004 c 15 § 1.]

**10.99.090 Policy adoption and implementation.** (1) By December 1, 2004, the association shall develop a written model policy on domestic violence committed or allegedly committed by sworn employees of agencies. In developing the policy, the association shall convene a work group consisting of representatives from the following entities and professions:

(a) Statewide organizations representing state and local enforcement officers;

(b) A statewide organization providing training and education for agencies having the primary responsibility of serving victims of domestic violence with emergency shelter and other services; and

(c) Any other organization or profession the association determines to be appropriate.

(2) Members of the work group shall serve without compensation.

(3) The model policy shall provide due process for employees and, at a minimum, meet the following standards:

(a) Provide prehire screening procedures reasonably calculated to disclose whether an applicant for a sworn employee position:

(i) Has committed or, based on credible sources, has been accused of committing an act of domestic violence;

(ii) Is currently being investigated for an allegation of child abuse or neglect or has previously been investigated for founded allegations of child abuse or neglect; or

(iii) Is currently or has previously been subject to any order under RCW 26.44.063, this chapter, chapter 10.14 or 26.50 RCW, or any equivalent order issued by another state or tribal court;

(b) Provide for the mandatory, immediate response to acts or allegations of domestic violence committed or allegedly committed by a sworn employee of an agency;

(c) Provide to a sworn employee, upon the request of the sworn employee or when the sworn employee has been alleged to have committed an act of domestic violence, information on programs under RCW 26.50.150;

(d) Provide for the mandatory, immediate reporting by employees when an employee becomes aware of an allegation of domestic violence committed or allegedly committed by a sworn employee of the agency employing the sworn employee;

(e) Provide procedures to address reporting by an employee who is the victim of domestic violence committed or allegedly committed by a sworn employee of an agency;

(f) Provide for the mandatory, immediate self-reporting by a sworn employee to his or her employing agency when an agency in any jurisdiction has responded to a domestic violence call in which the sworn employee committed or allegedly committed an act of domestic violence;

(g) Provide for the mandatory, immediate self-reporting by a sworn employee to his or her employing agency if the employee is currently being investigated for an allegation of child abuse or neglect or has previously been investigated for founded allegations of child abuse or neglect, or is currently or has previously been subject to any order under RCW 26.44.063, this chapter, chapter 10.14 or 26.50 RCW, or any equivalent order issued by another state or tribal court;

(h) Provide for the performance of prompt separate and impartial administrative and criminal investigations of acts or allegations of domestic violence committed or allegedly committed by a sworn employee of an agency;

(i) Provide for appropriate action to be taken during an administrative or criminal investigation of acts or allegations of domestic violence committed or allegedly committed by a sworn employee of an agency. The policy shall provide procedures to address, in a manner consistent with applicable law and the agency's ability to maintain public safety within its jurisdiction, whether to relieve the sworn employee of agency-issued weapons and other agency-issued property and whether to suspend the sworn employee's power of arrest or other police powers pending resolution of any investigation;

(j) Provide for prompt and appropriate discipline or sanctions when, after an agency investigation, it is determined that a sworn employee has committed an act of domestic violence;

(k) Provide that, when there has been an allegation of domestic violence committed or allegedly committed by a sworn employee, the agency immediately make available to the alleged victim the following information:

(i) The agency's written policy on domestic violence committed or allegedly committed by sworn employees;

(ii) Information, including but not limited to contact information, about public and private nonprofit domestic violence advocates and services; and

(iii) Information regarding relevant confidentiality policies related to the victim's information;

(l) Provide procedures for the timely response, consistent with chapters 42.56 and 10.97 RCW, to an alleged victim's inquiries into the status of the administrative investigation and the procedures the agency will follow in an investigation of domestic violence committed or allegedly committed by a sworn employee;

(m) Provide procedures requiring an agency to immediately notify the employing agency of a sworn employee when the notifying agency becomes aware of acts or allegations of domestic violence committed or allegedly committed by the sworn employee within the jurisdiction of the notifying agency; and

(n) Provide procedures for agencies to access and share domestic violence training within their jurisdiction and with other jurisdictions.

(4) By June 1, 2005, every agency shall adopt and implement a written policy on domestic violence committed or allegedly committed by sworn employees of the agency that meet the minimum standards specified in this section. In lieu of developing its own policy, the agency may adopt the model policy developed by the association under this section. In developing its own policy, or before adopting the model policy, the agency shall consult public and private nonprofit domestic violence advocates and any other organizations and professions the agency finds appropriate.

(5)(a) Except as provided in this section, not later than June 30, 2006, every sworn employee of an agency shall be trained by the agency on the agency's policy required under this section.

(b) Sworn employees hired by an agency on or after March 1, 2006, shall, within six months of beginning employment, be trained by the agency on the agency's policy required under this section.

(6)(a) By June 1, 2005, every agency shall provide a copy of its policy developed under this section to the association and shall provide a statement notifying the association of whether the agency has complied with the training required under this section. The copy and statement shall be provided in electronic format unless the agency is unable to do so. The agency shall provide the association with any revisions to the policy upon adoption.

(b) The association shall maintain a copy of each agency's policy and shall provide to the governor and legislature not later than January 1, 2006, a list of those agencies that have not developed and submitted policies and those agencies that have not stated their compliance with the training required under this section.

(c) The association shall, upon request and within its resources, provide technical assistance to agencies in developing their policies. [2005 c 274 § 209; 2004 c 18 § 3.]

**Part headings not law—Effective date—2005 c 274:** See RCW 42.56.901 and 42.56.902.

**Findings—Intent—2004 c 18:** See note following RCW 10.99.020.

**10.99.100 Sentencing—Factors—Defendant's criminal history.** (1) In sentencing for a crime of domestic violence as defined in this chapter, courts of limited jurisdiction shall consider, among other factors, whether:

(a) The defendant suffered a continuing pattern of coercion, control, or abuse by the victim of the offense and the offense is a response to that coercion, control, or abuse;

(b) The offense was part of an ongoing pattern of psychological, physical, or sexual abuse of a victim or multiple victims manifested by multiple incidents over a prolonged period of time; and

(c) The offense occurred within sight or sound of the victim's or the offender's minor children under the age of eighteen years.

(2)(a) In sentencing for a crime of domestic violence as defined in this chapter, the prosecutor shall provide for the court's review:

(i) The defendant's criminal history, if any, that occurred in Washington or any other state;

(ii) If available, the defendant's prior criminal history that occurred in any tribal jurisdiction; and

(iii) The defendant's individual order history.

(b) For the purposes of (a) of this subsection, criminal history includes all previous convictions and orders of deferred prosecution, as reported through the judicial information system or otherwise available to the court or prosecutor, current to within the period specified in (c) of this subsection before the date of sentencing.

(c) The periods applicable to previous convictions and orders of deferred prosecution are:

(i) One working day, in the case of previous actions of courts that fully participate in the state judicial information system; and

(ii) Seven calendar days, in the case of previous actions of courts that do not fully participate in the judicial information system. For the purposes of this subsection, "fully participate" means regularly providing records to and receiving records from the system by electronic means on a daily basis. [2010 c 274 § 404.]

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**10.99.900 Severability—1979 ex.s. c 105.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1979 ex.s. c 105 § 9.]

**10.99.901 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that

such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 29.]

## Chapter 10.101 RCW INDIGENT DEFENSE SERVICES

### Sections

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10.101.070	County moneys.
10.101.080	City moneys.
10.101.900	Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.

**10.101.005 Legislative finding.** The legislature finds that effective legal representation must be provided for indigent persons and persons who are indigent and able to contribute, consistent with the constitutional requirements of fairness, equal protection, and due process in all cases where the right to counsel attaches. [2005 c 157 § 1; 1989 c 409 § 1.]

**10.101.010 Definitions.** The following definitions shall be applied in connection with this chapter:

(1) "Anticipated cost of counsel" means the cost of retaining private counsel for representation on the matter before the court.

(2) "Available funds" means liquid assets and disposable net monthly income calculated after provision is made for bail obligations. For the purpose of determining available funds, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) "Liquid assets" means cash, savings accounts, bank accounts, stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, equity in real estate, and equity in motor vehicles. A motor vehicle necessary to maintain employment and having a market value not greater than three thousand dollars shall not be considered a liquid asset.

(b) "Income" means salary, wages, interest, dividends, and other earnings which are reportable for federal income tax purposes, and cash payments such as reimbursements received from pensions, annuities, social security, and public assistance programs. It includes any contribution received from any family member or other person who is domiciled in the same residence as the defendant and who is helping to defray the defendant's basic living costs.

(c) "Disposable net monthly income" means the income remaining each month after deducting federal, state, or local income taxes, social security taxes, contributory retirement, union dues, and basic living costs.

(d) "Basic living costs" means the average monthly amount spent by the defendant for reasonable payments toward living costs, such as shelter, food, utilities, health care, transportation, clothing, loan payments, support payments, and court-imposed obligations.

(3) "Indigent" means a person who, at any stage of a court proceeding, is:

(a) Receiving one of the following types of public assistance: Temporary assistance for needy families, aged, blind, or disabled assistance benefits, medical care services under RCW 74.09.035, pregnant women assistance benefits, poverty-related veterans' benefits, food stamps or food stamp benefits transferred electronically, refugee resettlement benefits, medicaid, or supplemental security income; or

(b) Involuntarily committed to a public mental health facility; or

(c) Receiving an annual income, after taxes, of one hundred twenty-five percent or less of the current federally established poverty level; or

(d) Unable to pay the anticipated cost of counsel for the matter before the court because his or her available funds are insufficient to pay any amount for the retention of counsel.

(4) "Indigent and able to contribute" means a person who, at any stage of a court proceeding, is unable to pay the anticipated cost of counsel for the matter before the court because his or her available funds are less than the anticipated cost of counsel but sufficient for the person to pay a portion of that cost. [2011 1st sp.s. c 36 § 12; 2010 1st sp.s. c 8 § 12; 1998 c 79 § 2; 1997 c 59 § 3; 1989 c 409 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Findings—Intent—2011 1st sp.s. c 36:** See RCW 74.62.005.

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 36:** See note following RCW 74.62.005.

**Findings—Intent—Short title—Effective date—2010 1st sp.s. c 8:** See notes following RCW 74.04.225.

**10.101.020 Determination of indigency—Provisional appointment—Promissory note.** (1) A determination of indigency shall be made for all persons wishing the appointment of counsel in criminal, juvenile, involuntary commitment, and dependency cases, and any other case where the right to counsel attaches. The court or its designee shall determine whether the person is indigent pursuant to the standards set forth in this chapter.

(2) In making the determination of indigency, the court shall also consider the anticipated length and complexity of the proceedings and the usual and customary charges of an attorney in the community for rendering services, and any other circumstances presented to the court which are relevant to the issue of indigency. The appointment of counsel shall not be denied to the person because the person's friends or relatives, other than a spouse who was not the victim of any offense or offenses allegedly committed by the person, have resources adequate to retain counsel, or because the person has posted or is capable of posting bond.

(3) The determination of indigency shall be made upon the defendant's initial contact with the court or at the earliest time circumstances permit. The court or its designee shall keep a written record of the determination of indigency. Any information given by the accused under this section or sections shall be confidential and shall not be available for use by the prosecution in the pending case.

(4) If a determination of eligibility cannot be made before the time when the first services are to be rendered, the court shall appoint an attorney on a provisional basis. If the

court subsequently determines that the person receiving the services is ineligible, the court shall notify the person of the termination of services, subject to court-ordered reinstatement.

(5) All persons determined to be indigent and able to contribute, shall be required to execute a promissory note at the time counsel is appointed. The person shall be informed whether payment shall be made in the form of a lump sum payment or periodic payments. The payment and payment schedule must be set forth in writing. The person receiving the appointment of counsel shall also sign an affidavit swearing under penalty of perjury that all income and assets reported are complete and accurate. In addition, the person must swear in the affidavit to immediately report any change in financial status to the court.

(6) The office or individual charged by the court to make the determination of indigency shall provide a written report and opinion as to indigency on a form prescribed by the office of public defense, based on information obtained from the defendant and subject to verification. The form shall include information necessary to provide a basis for making a determination with respect to indigency as provided by this chapter. [1997 c 41 § 5; 1989 c 409 § 3.]

**10.101.030 Standards.** Each county or city under this chapter shall adopt standards for the delivery of public defense services, whether those services are provided by contract, assigned counsel, or a public defender office. Standards shall include the following: Compensation of counsel, duties and responsibilities of counsel, case load limits and types of cases, responsibility for expert witness fees and other costs associated with representation, administrative expenses, support services, reports of attorney activity and vouchers, training, supervision, monitoring and evaluation of attorneys, substitution of attorneys or assignment of contracts, limitations on private practice of contract attorneys, qualifications of attorneys, disposition of client complaints, cause for termination of contract or removal of attorney, and nondiscrimination. The standards endorsed by the Washington state bar association for the provision of public defense services should serve as guidelines to local legislative authorities in adopting standards. [2005 c 157 § 2; 1989 c 409 § 4.]

**10.101.040 Selection of defense attorneys.** City attorneys, county prosecutors, and law enforcement officers shall not select the attorneys who will provide indigent defense services. [1989 c 409 § 5.]

**10.101.050 Appropriated funds—Application, reports.** The Washington state office of public defense shall disburse appropriated funds to counties and cities for the purpose of improving the quality of public defense services. Counties may apply for up to their pro rata share as set forth in RCW 10.101.060 provided that counties conform to application procedures established by the office of public defense and improve the quality of services for both juveniles and adults. Cities may apply for moneys pursuant to the grant program set forth in RCW 10.101.080. In order to receive funds, each applying county or city must require that attorneys providing public defense services attend training approved by the office of public defense at least once per cal-

endar year. Each applying county or city shall report the expenditure for all public defense services in the previous calendar year, as well as case statistics for that year, including per attorney caseloads, and shall provide a copy of each current public defense contract to the office of public defense with its application. Each individual or organization that contracts to perform public defense services for a county or city shall report to the county or city hours billed for nonpublic defense legal services in the previous calendar year, including number and types of private cases. [2005 c 157 § 3.]

**10.101.060 Appropriated funds—Use requirements.**

(1)(a) Subject to the availability of funds appropriated for this purpose, the office of public defense shall disburse to applying counties that meet the requirements of RCW 10.101.050 designated funds under this chapter on a pro rata basis pursuant to the formula set forth in RCW 10.101.070 and shall disburse to eligible cities, funds pursuant to RCW 10.101.080. Each fiscal year for which it receives state funds under this chapter, a county or city must document to the office of public defense that it is meeting the standards for provision of indigent defense services as endorsed by the Washington state bar association or that the funds received under this chapter have been used to make appreciable demonstrable improvements in the delivery of public defense services, including the following:

(i) Adoption by ordinance of a legal representation plan that addresses the factors in RCW 10.101.030. The plan must apply to any contract or agency providing indigent defense services for the county or city;

(ii) Requiring attorneys who provide public defense services to attend training under RCW 10.101.050;

(iii) Requiring attorneys who handle the most serious cases to meet specified qualifications as set forth in the Washington state bar association endorsed standards for public defense services or participate in at least one case consultation per case with office of public defense resource attorneys who are so qualified. The most serious cases include all cases of murder in the first or second degree, persistent offender cases, and class A felonies. This subsection (1)(a)(iii) does not apply to cities receiving funds under RCW 10.101.050 through 10.101.080;

(iv) Requiring contracts to address the subject of compensation for extraordinary cases;

(v) Identifying funding specifically for the purpose of paying experts (A) for which public defense attorneys may file ex parte motions, or (B) which should be specifically designated within a public defender agency budget;

(vi) Identifying funding specifically for the purpose of paying investigators (A) for which public defense attorneys may file ex parte motions, and (B) which should be specifically designated within a public defender agency budget.

(b) The cost of providing counsel in cases where there is a conflict of interest shall not be borne by the attorney or agency who has the conflict.

(2) The office of public defense shall determine eligibility of counties and cities to receive state funds under this chapter. If a determination is made that a county or city receiving state funds under this chapter did not substantially comply with this section, the office of public defense shall

notify the county or city of the failure to comply and unless the county or city contacts the office of public defense and substantially corrects the deficiencies within ninety days after the date of notice, or some other mutually agreed period of time, the county's or city's eligibility to continue receiving funds under this chapter is terminated. If an applying county or city disagrees with the determination of the office of public defense as to the county's or city's eligibility, the county or city may file an appeal with the advisory committee of the office of public defense within thirty days of the eligibility determination. The decision of the advisory committee is final. [2005 c 157 § 4.]

**10.101.070 County moneys.** The moneys shall be distributed to each county determined to be eligible to receive moneys by the office of public defense as determined under this section. Ninety percent of the funding appropriated shall be designated as "county moneys" and shall be distributed as follows:

(1) Six percent of the county moneys appropriated shall be distributed as a base allocation among the eligible counties. A county's base allocation shall be equal to this six percent divided by the total number of eligible counties.

(2) Ninety-four percent of the county moneys appropriated shall be distributed among the eligible counties as follows:

(a) Fifty percent of this amount shall be distributed on a pro rata basis to each eligible county based upon the population of the county as a percentage of the total population of all eligible counties; and

(b) Fifty percent of this amount shall be distributed on a pro rata basis to each eligible county based upon the annual number of criminal cases filed in the county superior court as a percentage of the total annual number of criminal cases filed in the superior courts of all eligible counties.

(3) Under this section:

(a) The population of the county is the most recent number determined by the office of financial management;

(b) The annual number of criminal cases filed in the county superior court is determined by the most recent annual report of the courts of Washington, as published by the office of the administrator for the courts;

(c) Distributions and eligibility for distributions in the 2005-2007 biennium shall be based on 2004 figures for the annual number of criminal cases that are filed as described under (b) of this subsection. Future distributions shall be based on the most recent figures for the annual number of criminal cases that are filed as described under (b) of this subsection. [2005 c 157 § 5.]

**10.101.080 City moneys.** The moneys under RCW 10.101.050 shall be distributed to each city determined to be eligible under this section by the office of public defense. Ten percent of the funding appropriated shall be designated as "city moneys" and distributed as follows:

(1) The office of public defense shall administer a grant program to select the cities eligible to receive city moneys. Incorporated cities may apply for grants. Applying cities must conform to the requirements of RCW 10.101.050 and 10.101.060.

(2) City moneys shall be distributed in a timely manner to accomplish the goals of the grants.

(3) Criteria for award of grants shall be established by the office of public defense after soliciting input from the association of Washington cities. Award of the grants shall be determined by the office of public defense. [2007 c 59 § 1; 2005 c 157 § 6.]

**10.101.900 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 30.]

## Chapter 10.105 RCW

### PROPERTY INVOLVED IN A FELONY

#### Sections

- 10.105.010 Seizure and forfeiture.  
10.105.900 Application.

**10.105.010 Seizure and forfeiture.** (1) The following are subject to seizure and forfeiture and no property right exists in them: All personal property, including, but not limited to, any item, object, tool, substance, device, weapon, machine, vehicle of any kind, money, security, or negotiable instrument, which has been or was actually employed as an instrumentality in the commission of, or in aiding or abetting in the commission of any felony, or which was furnished or was intended to be furnished by any person in the commission of, as a result of, or as compensation for the commission of, any felony, or which was acquired in whole or in part with proceeds traceable to the commission of a felony. No property may be forfeited under this section until after there has been a superior court conviction of the owner of the property for the felony in connection with which the property was employed, furnished, or acquired.

A forfeiture of property encumbered by a bona fide security interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if at the time the security interest was created, the secured party neither had knowledge of nor consented to the commission of the felony.

(2) Personal property subject to forfeiture under this chapter may be seized by any law enforcement officer of this state upon process issued by any superior court having jurisdiction over the property. Seizure of personal property without process may be made if:

(a) The seizure is incident to an arrest or a search under a search warrant;

(b) The property subject to seizure has been the subject of a prior judgment in favor of the state in a criminal injunction or forfeiture proceeding;

(c) A law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the property is directly dangerous to health or safety; or

(d) The law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used in the commission of a felony.

(3) In the event of seizure pursuant to this section, proceedings for forfeiture shall be deemed commenced by the seizure. The law enforcement agency under whose authority the seizure was made shall cause notice to be served within fifteen days following the seizure on the owner of the property seized and the person in charge thereof and any person having any known right or interest therein, including any community property interest, of the seizure and intended forfeiture of the seized property. The notice of seizure may be served by any method authorized by law or court rule including but not limited to service by certified mail with return receipt requested. Service by mail shall be deemed complete upon mailing within the fifteen day period following the seizure. Notice of seizure in the case of property subject to a security interest that has been perfected by filing a financing statement in accordance with chapter 62A.9A RCW, or a certificate of title shall be made by service upon the secured party or the secured party's assignee at the address shown on the financing statement or the certificate of title.

(4) If no person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of items specified in subsection (1) of this section within forty-five days of the seizure, the item seized shall be deemed forfeited.

(5) If a person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of the seized property within forty-five days of the seizure, the law enforcement agency shall give the person or persons a reasonable opportunity to be heard as to the claim or right. The hearing shall be before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency or the chief law enforcement officer's designee, except where the seizing agency is a state agency as defined in RCW 34.12.020(4), the hearing shall be before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency or an administrative law judge appointed under chapter 34.12 RCW, except that any person asserting a claim or right may remove the matter to a court of competent jurisdiction. Removal may only be accomplished according to the rules of civil procedure. The person seeking removal of the matter must serve process against the state, county, political subdivision, or municipality that operates the seizing agency, and any other party of interest, in accordance with RCW 4.28.080 or 4.92.020, within forty-five days after the person seeking removal has notified the seizing law enforcement agency of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession. The court to which the matter is to be removed shall be the district court when the aggregate value of the property is within the jurisdictional limit set forth in RCW 3.66.020. A hearing before the seizing agency and any appeal therefrom shall be under Title 34 RCW. In a court hearing between two or more claimants to the property involved, the prevailing party shall be entitled to a judgment

for costs and reasonable attorney's fees. The burden of producing evidence shall be upon the person claiming to be the lawful owner or the person claiming to have the lawful right to possession of the property. The seizing law enforcement agency shall promptly return the property to the claimant upon a determination by the administrative law judge or court that the claimant is the present lawful owner or is lawfully entitled to possession of the property.

(6) When property is forfeited under this chapter, after satisfying any court-ordered victim restitution, the seizing law enforcement agency may:

(a) Retain it for official use or upon application by any law enforcement agency of this state release such property to such agency for the exclusive use of enforcing the criminal law;

(b) Sell that which is not required to be destroyed by law and which is not harmful to the public.

(7) By January 31st of each year, each seizing agency shall remit to the state treasurer an amount equal to ten percent of the net proceeds of any property forfeited during the preceding calendar year. Money remitted shall be deposited in the state general fund.

(a) The net proceeds of forfeited property is the value of the forfeitable interest in the property after deducting the cost of satisfying any bona fide security interest to which the property is subject at the time of seizure; and in the case of sold property, after deducting the cost of sale, including reasonable fees or commissions paid to independent selling agents.

(b) The value of sold forfeited property is the sale price. The value of retained forfeited property is the fair market value of the property at the time of seizure, determined when possible by reference to an applicable commonly used index, such as the index used by the department of licensing for valuation of motor vehicles. A seizing agency may use, but need not use, an independent qualified appraiser to determine the value of retained property. If an appraiser is used, the value of the property appraised is net of the cost of the appraisal. The value of destroyed property and retained firearms or illegal property is zero.

(c) Retained property and net proceeds not required to be paid to the state treasurer, or otherwise required to be spent under this section, shall be retained by the seizing law enforcement agency exclusively for the expansion and improvement of law enforcement activity. Money retained under this section may not be used to supplant preexisting funding sources. [2009 c 479 § 15; 1993 c 288 § 2.]

**Effective date—2009 c 479:** See note following RCW 2.56.030.

**10.105.900 Application.** This chapter does not apply to property subject to forfeiture under chapter 66.32 RCW, RCW 69.50.505, 9.41.098, 9.46.231, 9A.82.100, 9A.83.030, 7.48.090, or 77.15.070. [2003 c 39 § 6; 1994 c 218 § 18; 1993 c 288 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 10.108 RCW BLUE ALERT SYSTEM

### Sections

10.108.010	Declaration.
10.108.020	Definitions.
10.108.030	Blue alert system—Plan—Activation—Termination.
10.108.040	Liability immunity.

**10.108.010 Declaration.** There is currently no system in place in Washington state to expedite the apprehension of violent criminals who seriously injure or kill local, state, or federal law enforcement officers. Other states have adopted blue alert systems to achieve this objective. The legislature declares that it is necessary to create a statewide blue alert system to speed the apprehension of violent criminals who kill or seriously injure local, state, or federal law enforcement officers. [2012 c 37 § 1.]

**10.108.020 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Blue alert system" means a quick response system designed to issue and coordinate alerts following an attack upon a law enforcement officer.

(2) "Investigating law enforcement agency" means the law enforcement agency that has primary jurisdiction over the area or has been delegated and accepted investigatory responsibility in which a law enforcement officer has been seriously injured or killed.

(3) "Law enforcement agency" means a general [authority Washington] law enforcement agency as defined in RCW 10.93.020 and a limited [authority Washington] law enforcement agency as defined in RCW 10.93.020. Such agencies shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) The Washington state patrol;

(b) All law enforcement agencies and police departments of any political subdivision of the state; and

(c) The department of corrections.

(4) "Law enforcement officer" includes police officers, the attorney general and the attorney general's deputies, sheriffs and their regular deputies, corrections officers, tribal law enforcement officers, park rangers, state fire marshals, municipal fire marshals, sworn members of the city fire departments, county and district firefighters, and agents of the department of fish and wildlife. "Law enforcement officer" also includes an employee of a federal governmental agency who is authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of, or the incarceration of any person for, any violation of law, and who has statutory powers of arrest.

(5) "Officer's employing law enforcement agency" means the law enforcement agency by which the officer is employed. [2012 c 37 § 2.]

**10.108.030 Blue alert system—Plan—Activation—Termination.** (1) Within existing resources, the Washington state patrol, in partnership with the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs, shall develop and implement a plan, commonly known as a blue alert system, consistent with the Amber alert program, endangered missing person advisory plan, and the missing person clearinghouse, for vol-

untary cooperation between local, state, tribal, and other law enforcement agencies, state government agencies, radio and television stations, and cable and satellite systems to enhance the public's ability to assist in apprehending persons suspected of killing or seriously injuring a law enforcement officer. The blue alert system shall include the following:

(a) Procedures to provide support to the investigating law enforcement agency as a resource for the receipt and dissemination of information regarding the suspect and the suspect's whereabouts and/or method of escape;

(b) The process for reporting the information to designated media outlets in Washington; and

(c) Criteria for the investigating law enforcement agency to determine quickly whether an officer has been seriously injured or killed and a blue alert therefore needs to be requested.

(2) The investigating law enforcement agency may request activation of the blue alert system and notify appropriate participants in the blue alert system, when the investigating law enforcement agency believes that:

(a) A suspect has not been apprehended;

(b) A suspect may be a serious threat to the public;

(c) Sufficient information is available to disseminate to the public that could assist in locating and apprehending the suspect;

(d) Release of the information will not compromise the investigation; and

(e) Criteria to ensure that releasing the victim information is proper, as to avoid improper next of kin notification.

(3) When a blue alert is activated, the investigating law enforcement agency shall provide descriptive information under the criminal justice information act, chapter 10.98 RCW, and the national crime information center system.

(4) The investigating law enforcement agency shall terminate the blue alert with respect to a particular suspect when the suspect is located or the incident is otherwise resolved, or when the investigating law enforcement agency determines that the blue alert system is no longer an effective tool for locating and apprehending the suspect. [2012 c 37 § 3.]

**10.108.040 Liability immunity.** No cause of action shall be maintained for civil damages in any court of this state against any radio or television broadcasting station or cable television system, or the employees, officers, directors, managers, or agents of the radio or television broadcasting station or cable television system, based on the broadcast of information supplied by law enforcement officials pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit or restrict in any way any immunity or privilege a radio or television broadcasting station or cable television system may have under statute or common law for broadcasting or otherwise disseminating information. [2012 c 37 § 4.]



# Title 13

## JUVENILE COURTS AND JUVENILE OFFENDERS

### Chapters

- 13.04 Basic juvenile court act.**
- 13.06 Juvenile offenders—Consolidated juvenile services programs.**
- 13.16 Places of detention.**
- 13.20 Management of detention facilities—Counties with populations of one million or more.**
- 13.24 Interstate compact on juveniles.**
- 13.32A Family reconciliation act.**
- 13.34 Juvenile court act—Dependency and termination of parent-child relationship.**
- 13.36 Guardianship.**
- 13.38 Indian child welfare act.**
- 13.40 Juvenile justice act of 1977.**
- 13.50 Keeping and release of records by juvenile justice or care agencies.**
- 13.60 Missing children clearinghouse.**
- 13.64 Emancipation of minors.**
- 13.80 Learning and life skills grant program.**

*Action against parent for willful injury to property by minor:* RCW 4.24.190.

*Age of majority:* Chapter 26.28 RCW.

*Alcoholic beverage control:* Title 66 RCW.

#### Child

*abuse:* Chapter 26.44 RCW.

*custody, action by nonparent:* Chapter 26.10 RCW.

*custody or visitation, denial:* RCW 26.09.255.

*domestic violence prevention:* Chapter 26.50 RCW.

*labor:* Chapters 26.28, 28A.225, 49.12 RCW.

*welfare agencies:* Chapter 74.15 RCW.

*Children and family services:* Chapter 74.14A RCW.

*Compulsory school attendance:* Chapter 28A.225 RCW.

*Council for children and families:* Chapter 43.121 RCW.

*Firearms:* RCW 9.41.080, 9.41.240.

*Jurisdiction over Indians as to juvenile delinquency and dependent children:* Chapter 37.12 RCW.

*Juvenile laws and court processes and procedures—Informational materials:* RCW 2.56.130.

*Leaving children in parked automobile:* RCW 9.91.060.

*Out-of-home care—Social study required:* RCW 74.13.065.

*Public bodies may retain collection agencies to collect public debts—Fees:* RCW 19.16.500.

*Public institutions, division of children and youth services:* Chapter 72.05 RCW.

*Report of child abuse:* Chapter 26.44 RCW.

*State institutions:* Title 72 RCW.

*Tobacco:* RCW 26.28.080.

*Vacation and modification of judgments—Causes for enumerated:* RCW 4.72.010(5).

*Witnesses—Who are disqualified—Privileged communications:* RCW 5.60.060.

*Youth development and conservation corps:* Chapter 79A.05 RCW.

### Chapter 13.04 RCW

#### BASIC JUVENILE COURT ACT

(Formerly: Juvenile courts)

#### Sections

- 13.04.005 Short title.
- 13.04.011 Definitions.
- 13.04.021 Juvenile court—How constituted—Cases tried without jury.
- 13.04.030 Juvenile court—Exclusive original jurisdiction—Exceptions.
- 13.04.033 Appeal of court order—Procedure—Priority, when.
- 13.04.035 Administrator of juvenile court, probation counselor, and detention services—Appointment.
- 13.04.037 Administrator—Adoption of standards for detention facilities for juveniles—Revision and inspection.
- 13.04.040 Administrator—Appointment of probation counselors and persons in charge of detention facilities—Powers and duties, compensation—Collection of fines.
- 13.04.043 Administrator—Obtaining interpreters.
- 13.04.047 Administrator or staff—Health and dental examination and care—Consent.
- 13.04.050 Expenses of probation officers.
- 13.04.093 Hearings—Duties of prosecuting attorney or attorney general.
- 13.04.116 Juvenile not to be confined in jail or holding facility for adults, exceptions—Enforcement.
- 13.04.135 Establishment of house or room of detention.
- 13.04.145 Educational program for juveniles in detention facilities.
- 13.04.155 Notification to school principal of conviction, adjudication, or diversion agreement—Provision of information to teachers and other personnel—Confidentiality.
- 13.04.160 Fees not allowed.
- 13.04.180 Board of visitation.
- 13.04.240 Court order not deemed conviction of crime.
- 13.04.300 Juvenile may be both dependent and an offender.
- 13.04.450 Chapters 13.04 and 13.40 RCW as exclusive authority for adjudication and disposition of juvenile offenders—Chapter 10.22 RCW does not apply to proceedings under chapter 13.40 RCW.

*Division of children and youth services; construed in connection with and supplemental to the juvenile court law:* RCW 72.05.170 through 72.05.210.

*Educational aid for children with disabilities:* Chapter 28A.155 RCW.

*Juvenile may be both dependent and an offender:* RCW 13.04.300.

*Missing children clearinghouse and hot line:* Chapter 13.60 RCW.

*Record of traffic charges of juveniles to be furnished juvenile court:* RCW 46.20.293.

*Relinquishment of permanent care of child:* RCW 26.33.090.

*Schools designated close security institutions:* RCW 72.05.130.

*Temporary assistance for needy families:* Chapter 74.12 RCW.

*Transfer from minimum security to close security institution—Court order required:* RCW 72.05.130(3).

**13.04.005 Short title.** This chapter shall be known as the "basic juvenile court act". [1977 ex.s. c 291 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.04.011 Definitions.** For purposes of this title:  
(1) "Adjudication" has the same meaning as "conviction" in RCW 9.94A.030, but only for the purposes of sentencing under chapter 9.94A RCW;

(2) Except as specifically provided in RCW 13.40.020 and chapters 13.24 and 13.34 RCW, "juvenile," "youth," and

"child" mean any individual who is under the chronological age of eighteen years;

(3) "Juvenile offender" and "juvenile offense" have the meaning ascribed in RCW 13.40.020;

(4) "Court" when used without further qualification means the juvenile court judge(s) or commissioner(s);

(5) "Parent" or "parents," except as used in chapter 13.34 RCW, means that parent or parents who have the right of legal custody of the child. "Parent" or "parents" as used in chapter 13.34 RCW, means the biological or adoptive parents of a child unless the legal rights of that person have been terminated by judicial proceedings;

(6) "Custodian" means that person who has the legal right to custody of the child. [2011 c 330 § 2; 2010 c 150 § 4; 1997 c 338 § 6; 1992 c 205 § 119; 1979 c 155 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 2.]

**Intent—2011 c 330:** "The Washington state legislature has consistently provided national leadership on safe housing and support to foster youth transitioning out of foster care. Since 2006, the legislature has addressed the needs of foster youth aging out of care with medicaid to twenty-one (2007), foster care to twenty-one (2006), the independent youth housing program (2007), and Washington's alignment with the federal fostering connections act (2009). As a result of this national leadership to provide safe and basic housing to youth aging out of foster care, the programs have demonstrated the significant cost-benefit to providing safe housing to our youth exiting foster care.

The United States congress passed the fostering connections to success and increasing adoptions act of 2008 in order to give states another financial tool to continue to provide foster care services to dependent youth who turn eighteen years old while in foster care. However, substantially declining revenues have resulted in markedly decreased funds for states to use to meet the federal requirements necessary to help these youth. Current fiscal realities require that the scope of programs must be narrowed.

The Washington state legislature intends to serve, within the resources available, the maximum number of foster youth who are legally dependent on the state and who reach the age of eighteen while still in foster care. The legislature intends to provide these youth continued foster care services to support basic and healthy transition into adulthood. The legislature recognizes the extremely poor outcomes of unsupported foster youth aging out of the foster care system and is committed to ensuring that those foster youth who engage in positive, age-appropriate activities receive support. It is the intent of the legislature to fully engage in the fostering connections act by providing support, including extended court supervision to foster youth pursuing a high school diploma or GED to age twenty-one with the goal of increasing support to all children up to age twenty-one who are eligible under the federal fostering connections to success act as resources become available." [2011 c 330 § 1.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.04.021 Juvenile court—How constituted—Cases tried without jury.** (1) The juvenile court shall be a division of the superior court. In judicial districts having more than one judge of the superior court, the judges of such court shall annually assign one or more of their number to the juvenile court division. In any judicial district having a court commissioner, the court commissioner shall have the power, authority, and jurisdiction, concurrent with a juvenile court judge, to hear all cases under this chapter and to enter judgment and make orders with the same power, force, and effect as any judge of the juvenile court, subject to motion or demand by any party within ten days from the entry of the order or judgment by the court commissioner as provided in RCW 2.24.050. In any judicial district having a family law commissioner appointed pursuant to chapter 26.12 RCW, the family law commissioner shall have the power, authority, and juris-

dition, concurrent with a juvenile court judge, to hear cases under Title 13 RCW and chapter 28A.225 RCW as provided in RCW 26.12.010, and to enter judgment and make orders with the same power, force, and effect as any judge of the juvenile court, subject to motion or demand by any party within ten days from the entry of the order or judgment by the court commissioner as provided in RCW 2.24.050.

(2) Cases in the juvenile court shall be tried without a jury. [1999 c 397 § 5; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 538; 1988 c 232 § 3; 1979 c 155 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 3.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.04.030 Juvenile court—Exclusive original jurisdiction—Exceptions.** (1) Except as provided in this section, the juvenile courts in this state shall have exclusive original jurisdiction over all proceedings:

(a) Under the interstate compact on placement of children as provided in chapter 26.34 RCW;

(b) Relating to children alleged or found to be dependent as provided in chapter 26.44 RCW and in RCW 13.34.030 through 13.34.161;

(c) Relating to the termination of a parent and child relationship as provided in RCW 13.34.180 through 13.34.210;

(d) To approve or disapprove out-of-home placement as provided in RCW 13.32A.170;

(e) Relating to juveniles alleged or found to have committed offenses, traffic or civil infractions, or violations as provided in RCW 13.40.020 through 13.40.230, unless:

(i) The juvenile court transfers jurisdiction of a particular juvenile to adult criminal court pursuant to RCW 13.40.110;

(ii) The statute of limitations applicable to adult prosecution for the offense, traffic or civil infraction, or violation has expired;

(iii) The alleged offense or infraction is a traffic, fish, boating, or game offense, or traffic or civil infraction committed by a juvenile sixteen years of age or older and would, if committed by an adult, be tried or heard in a court of limited jurisdiction, in which instance the appropriate court of limited jurisdiction shall have jurisdiction over the alleged offense or infraction, and no guardian ad litem is required in any such proceeding due to the juvenile's age. If such an alleged offense or infraction and an alleged offense or infraction subject to juvenile court jurisdiction arise out of the same event or incident, the juvenile court may have jurisdiction of both matters. The jurisdiction under this subsection does not constitute "transfer" or a "decline" for purposes of \*RCW 13.40.110(1) or (e)(i) of this subsection. Courts of limited jurisdiction which confine juveniles for an alleged offense or infraction may place juveniles in juvenile detention facilities under an agreement with the officials responsible for the administration of the juvenile detention facility in RCW 13.04.035 and 13.20.060;

(iv) The alleged offense is a traffic or civil infraction, a violation of compulsory school attendance provisions under chapter 28A.225 RCW, or a misdemeanor, and a court of limited jurisdiction has assumed concurrent jurisdiction over those offenses as provided in \*\*RCW 13.04.0301; or

(v) The juvenile is sixteen or seventeen years old on the date the alleged offense is committed and the alleged offense is:

(A) A serious violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030;

(B) A violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 and the juvenile has a criminal history consisting of: (I) One or more prior serious violent offenses; (II) two or more prior violent offenses; or (III) three or more of any combination of the following offenses: Any class A felony, any class B felony, vehicular assault, or manslaughter in the second degree, all of which must have been committed after the juvenile's thirteenth birthday and prosecuted separately;

(C) Robbery in the first degree, rape of a child in the first degree, or drive-by shooting, committed on or after July 1, 1997;

(D) Burglary in the first degree committed on or after July 1, 1997, and the juvenile has a criminal history consisting of one or more prior felony or misdemeanor offenses; or

(E) Any violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 committed on or after July 1, 1997, and the juvenile is alleged to have been armed with a firearm.

(I) In such a case the adult criminal court shall have exclusive original jurisdiction, except as provided in (e)(v)(E)(II) and (III) of this subsection.

(II) The juvenile court shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the disposition of any remaining charges in any case in which the juvenile is found not guilty in the adult criminal court of the charge or charges for which he or she was transferred, or is convicted in the adult criminal court of a lesser included offense that is not also an offense listed in (e)(v) of this subsection. The juvenile court shall enter an order extending juvenile court jurisdiction if the juvenile has turned eighteen years of age during the adult criminal court proceedings pursuant to RCW 13.40.300. However, once the case is returned to juvenile court, the court may hold a decline hearing pursuant to RCW 13.40.110 to determine whether to retain the case in juvenile court for the purpose of disposition or return the case to adult criminal court for sentencing.

(III) The prosecutor and respondent may agree to juvenile court jurisdiction and waive application of exclusive adult criminal jurisdiction in (e)(v)(A) through (E) of this subsection and remove the proceeding back to juvenile court with the court's approval.

If the juvenile challenges the state's determination of the juvenile's criminal history under (e)(v) of this subsection, the state may establish the offender's criminal history by a preponderance of the evidence. If the criminal history consists of adjudications entered upon a plea of guilty, the state shall not bear a burden of establishing the knowing and voluntariness of the plea;

(f) Under the interstate compact on juveniles as provided in chapter 13.24 RCW;

(g) Relating to termination of a diversion agreement under RCW 13.40.080, including a proceeding in which the diveree has attained eighteen years of age;

(h) Relating to court validation of a voluntary consent to an out-of-home placement under chapter 13.34 RCW, by the parent or Indian custodian of an Indian child, except if the parent or Indian custodian and child are residents of or domiciled within the boundaries of a federally recognized Indian

reservation over which the tribe exercises exclusive jurisdiction;

(i) Relating to petitions to compel disclosure of information filed by the department of social and health services pursuant to RCW 74.13.042; and

(j) Relating to judicial determinations and permanency planning hearings involving developmentally disabled children who have been placed in out-of-home care pursuant to a voluntary placement agreement between the child's parent, guardian, or legal custodian and the department of social and health services.

(2) The family court shall have concurrent original jurisdiction with the juvenile court over all proceedings under this section if the superior court judges of a county authorize concurrent jurisdiction as provided in RCW 26.12.010.

(3) The juvenile court shall have concurrent original jurisdiction with the family court over child custody proceedings under chapter 26.10 RCW and parenting plans or residential schedules under chapters 26.09 and 26.26 RCW as provided for in RCW 13.34.155.

(4) A juvenile subject to adult superior court jurisdiction under subsection (1)(e)(i) through (v) of this section, who is detained pending trial, may be detained in a detention facility as defined in RCW 13.40.020 pending sentencing or a dismissal. [2009 c 526 § 1; 2009 c 454 § 1. Prior: 2005 c 290 § 1; 2005 c 238 § 1; 2000 c 135 § 2; prior: 1997 c 386 § 17; 1997 c 341 § 3; 1997 c 338 § 7; prior: 1995 c 312 § 39; 1995 c 311 § 15; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 519; 1988 c 14 § 1; 1987 c 170 § 1; 1985 c 354 § 29; 1984 c 272 § 1; 1981 c 299 § 1; 1980 c 128 § 6; 1979 c 155 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 4; 1937 c 65 § 1; 1929 c 176 § 1; 1921 c 135 § 1; 1913 c 160 § 2; RRS § 1987-2.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 13.40.110 was amended by 2009 c 454 § 3, changing subsection (1) to subsections (1) and (2).

\*\* (2) RCW 13.04.0301 was decodified September 2003.

(3) This section was amended by 2009 c 454 § 1 and by 2009 c 526 § 1, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Finding—Intent—1997 c 341:** "The legislature finds that a swift and certain response to a juvenile who begins engaging in acts of delinquency may prevent the offender from becoming a chronic or more serious offender. However, given pressing demands to address serious offenders, the system does not always respond to minor offenders expeditiously and effectively. Consequently, this act is adopted to implement an experiment to determine whether granting courts of limited jurisdiction concurrent jurisdiction over certain juvenile offenses will improve the system's effectiveness in curbing delinquency. The legislature may ascertain whether this approach might be successful on a larger scale by conducting an experiment with local governments, which are the laboratories of democracy." [1997 c 341 § 1.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Application of 1994 sp.s. c 7 amendments:** "Provisions governing exceptions to juvenile court jurisdiction in the amendments to RCW 13.04.030 contained in section 519, chapter 7, Laws of 1994 sp. sess. shall apply to serious violent and violent offenses committed on or after June 13, 1994. The criminal history which may result in loss of juvenile court jurisdiction upon the alleged commission of a serious violent or violent offense may have been acquired on, before, or after June 13, 1994." [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 540.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—Effective dates—Contingent expiration date—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

*Court commissioners:* Chapter 2.24 RCW, state Constitution Art. 4 § 23.

*Jurisdiction of superior courts:* State Constitution Art. 4 § 6 (Amendment 65).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.04.033 Appeal of court order—Procedure—Priority, when.** (1) Any person aggrieved by a final order of the court may appeal the order as provided by this section. All appeals in matters other than those related to commission of a juvenile offense shall be taken in the same manner as in other civil cases. Except as otherwise provided in this title, all appeals in matters related to the commission of a juvenile offense shall be taken in the same manner as criminal cases and the right to collateral relief shall be the same as in criminal cases. The order of the juvenile court shall stand pending the disposition of the appeal: PROVIDED, That the court or the appellate court may upon application stay the order.

(2) If the final order from which an appeal is taken grants the custody of the child to, or withholds it from, any of the parties, or if the child is committed as provided under this chapter, the appeal shall be given priority in hearing.

(3) In the absence of a specific direction from the party seeking review to file the notice, or the court-appointed guardian ad litem, the court may dismiss the review pursuant to RAP 18.9. To the extent that this enactment [1990 c 284] conflicts with the requirements of RAP 5.3(a) or RAP 5.3(b) this enactment [1990 c 284] shall supersede the conflicting rule. [1990 c 284 § 35; 1979 c 155 § 4; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 5.]

**Rules of court:** *Rules of Appellate Procedure.*

**Finding—Effective date—1990 c 284:** See notes following RCW 74.13.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.04.035 Administrator of juvenile court, probation counselor, and detention services—Appointment.** Juvenile court shall be administered by the superior court, except that by local court rule and agreement with the legislative authority of the county this service may be administered by the legislative authority of the county. Juvenile probation counselor and detention services shall be administered by the superior court, except that (1) by local court rule and agreement with the county legislative authority, these services may be administered by the county legislative authority; (2) if a consortium of three or more counties, located east of the Cascade mountains and whose combined population exceeds five hundred thirty thousand, jointly operates a juvenile correctional facility, the county legislative authorities may prescribe for alternative administration of the juvenile correctional facility by ordinance; and (3) in any county with a population of one million or more, probation and detention services shall be administered in accordance with chapter 13.20 RCW. The administrative body shall appoint an administrator of juvenile court, probation counselor, and detention services who shall be responsible for day-to-day administration of such services, and who may also serve in the capacity of a probation counselor. One person may, pursuant to the agreement of more than one administrative body, serve as administrator of more than one juvenile court. [1996 c 284 § 1; 1991 c 363 § 10; 1979 c 155 § 5; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 6.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

*Prosecuting attorney as party to juvenile court proceedings—Exception, procedure: RCW 13.40.090.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.04.037 Administrator—Adoption of standards for detention facilities for juveniles—Revision and inspection.** The administrator shall after consultation with the state planning agency established under Title II of the federal juvenile justice and delinquency prevention act of 1974 (P.L. No. 93-415; 42 U.S.C. 5611 et seq.) following a public hearing, and after approval of the body responsible for administering the juvenile court, and no later than one hundred eighty days after the effective date of chapter 291, Laws of 1977 ex. sess., adopt standards for the regulation and government of detention facilities for juveniles. Such standards may be revised from time to time, according to the procedure outlined in this section. Each detention facility shall keep a copy of such standards available for inspection at all times. Such standards shall be reviewed and the detention facilities shall be inspected annually by the administrator. [1977 ex.s. c 291 § 7.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.04.040 Administrator—Appointment of probation counselors and persons in charge of detention facilities—Powers and duties, compensation—Collection of fines.** The administrator shall, in any county or judicial district in the state, appoint or designate one or more persons of good character to serve as probation counselors during the pleasure of the administrator. The probation counselor shall:

(1) Receive and examine referrals to the juvenile court for the purpose of considering the filing of a petition or information pursuant to chapter 13.32A or 13.34 RCW or RCW 13.40.070;

(2) Make recommendations to the court regarding the need for continued detention or shelter care of a child unless otherwise provided in this title;

(3) Arrange and supervise diversion agreements as provided in RCW 13.40.080, and ensure that the requirements of such agreements are met except as otherwise provided in this title;

(4) Prepare predisposition studies as required in RCW 13.40.130, and be present at the disposition hearing to respond to questions regarding the predisposition study: PROVIDED, That such duties shall be performed by the department for cases relating to dependency or to the termination of a parent and child relationship which is filed by the department unless otherwise ordered by the court; and

(5) Supervise court orders of disposition to ensure that all requirements of the order are met.

All probation counselors shall possess all the powers conferred upon sheriffs and police officers to serve process and make arrests of juveniles under their supervision for the violation of any state law or county or city ordinance.

The administrator may, in any county or judicial district in the state, appoint one or more persons who shall have charge of detention rooms or houses of detention.

The probation counselors and persons appointed to have charge of detention facilities shall each receive compensation which shall be fixed by the legislative authority of the county, or in cases of joint counties, judicial districts of more than one county, or joint judicial districts such sums as shall be agreed upon by the legislative authorities of the counties affected, and such persons shall be paid as other county officers are paid.

The administrator is hereby authorized, and to the extent possible is encouraged to, contract with private agencies existing within the community for the provision of services to youthful offenders and youth who have entered into diversion agreements pursuant to RCW 13.40.080.

The administrator shall establish procedures for the collection of fines assessed under RCW 13.40.080 (2)(d) and (14) and for the payment of the fines into the county general fund. [2004 c 120 § 10; 1995 c 312 § 40; 1983 c 191 § 14; 1979 c 155 § 6; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 8; 1959 c 331 § 9; 1951 c 270 § 1; 1921 c 43 § 1; 1913 c 160 § 3; RRS § 1987-3.]

**Effective date—2004 c 120:** See note following RCW 13.40.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **13.04.043 Administrator—Obtaining interpreters.**

The administrator of juvenile court shall obtain interpreters as needed consistent with the intent and practice of chapter 2.43 RCW, to enable non-English speaking youth and their families to participate in detention, probation, or court proceedings and programs. [1993 c 415 § 6.]

**Intent—1993 c 415:** See note following RCW 2.56.031.

#### **13.04.047 Administrator or staff—Health and dental examination and care—Consent.**

(1) The administrator of the juvenile court or authorized staff may consent as provided in this section to the provision of health and dental examinations and care, and necessary treatment for medical and dental conditions requiring prompt attention, for juveniles lawfully detained at or sentenced to a detention facility. The treatment may include treatment provided at medical or dental facilities outside the juvenile detention facility and treatment provided within the juvenile detention facility for the period of time the youth is in the custody of the facility. Juveniles shall not be transported for treatment outside the facility if treatment services are available within the facility.

(2) The examination, care, and treatment may be provided without parental consent when prompt attention is required if the administrator of the juvenile court or authorized staff have been unable to secure permission for treatment from the parent or parents, guardian, or other person having custody of the child after reasonable attempts to do so before the provision of the medical and dental services.

(3) Treatment shall not be authorized for juveniles whose parent or parents, guardian, or other person having custody of the child informs the administrator of the juvenile court of objections to the treatment before the treatment is provided except where \*RCW 69.54.060 applies. [1983 c 267 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 69.54.060 was repealed by 1989 c 270 § 35.

*Employment of dental hygienist without supervision of dentist authorized: RCW 18.29.056.*

**13.04.050 Expenses of probation officers.** The probation officers, and assistant probation officers, and deputy probation officers in all counties of the state shall be allowed such necessary incidental expenses as may be authorized by the judge of the juvenile court, and the same shall be a charge upon the county in which the court appointing them has jurisdiction, and the expenses shall be paid out of the county treasury upon a written order of the judge of the juvenile court of said county directing the county auditor to draw his or her warrant upon the county treasurer for the specified amount of

such expenses. [2010 c 8 § 4001; 1913 c 160 § 4; RRS § 1987-4.]

**13.04.093 Hearings—Duties of prosecuting attorney or attorney general.** It shall be the duty of the prosecuting attorney to act in proceedings relating to the commission of a juvenile offense as provided in RCW 13.40.070 and 13.40.090 and in proceedings as provided in chapter 71.34 RCW. It shall be the duty of the prosecuting attorney to handle delinquency cases under chapter 13.24 RCW and it shall be the duty of the attorney general to handle dependency cases under chapter 13.24 RCW. It shall be the duty of the attorney general in contested cases brought by the department to present the evidence supporting any petition alleging dependency or seeking the termination of a parent and child relationship or any contested case filed under RCW 26.33.100 or approving or disapproving out-of-home placement: PROVIDED, That in each county with a population of less than two hundred ten thousand, the attorney general may contract with the prosecuting attorney of the county to perform the duties of the attorney general under this section. [1995 c 312 § 41; 1991 c 363 § 11; 1985 c 354 § 30; 1985 c 7 § 4; 1979 ex.s. c 165 § 6; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 9.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.04.116 Juvenile not to be confined in jail or holding facility for adults, exceptions—Enforcement.** (1) A juvenile shall not be confined in a jail or holding facility for adults, except:

(a) For a period not exceeding twenty-four hours excluding weekends and holidays and only for the purpose of an initial court appearance in a county where no juvenile detention facility is available, a juvenile may be held in an adult facility provided that the confinement is separate from the sight and sound of adult inmates; or

(b) For not more than six hours and pursuant to a lawful detention in the course of an investigation, a juvenile may be held in an adult facility provided that the confinement is separate from the sight and sound of adult inmates.

(2) For purposes of this section a juvenile is an individual under the chronological age of eighteen years who has not been transferred previously to adult courts.

(3) The department of social and health services shall monitor and enforce compliance with this section.

(4) This section shall not be construed to expand or limit the authority to lawfully detain juveniles. [1987 c 462 § 1; 1985 c 50 § 1.]

*Places of detention: Chapter 13.16 RCW.*

*Transfer of juvenile to department of corrections facility: RCW 13.40.280.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.04.135 Establishment of house or room of detention.** Counties containing more than fifty thousand inhabitants shall, and counties containing a lesser number of inhabitants may, provide and maintain at public expense, a detention room or house of detention, separated or removed from any jail, or police station, to be in charge of a matron, or other person of good character, wherein all children within the provisions of this chapter shall, when necessary, be sheltered.

[1983 c 98 § 2; 1945 c 121 § 1; 1913 c 160 § 13; Rem. Supp. 1945 1987-13. Formerly RCW 13.16.010.]

*Detention in facility under jurisdiction of juvenile court—Financial responsibility for cost of detention: RCW 13.34.161, 13.16.085.*

**13.04.145 Educational program for juveniles in detention facilities.** A program of education shall be provided for by the several counties and school districts of the state for common school age persons confined in each of the detention facilities staffed and maintained by the several counties of the state under this chapter and chapters 13.16 and 13.20 RCW. The division of duties, authority, and liabilities of the several counties and school districts of the state respecting the educational programs is the same in all respects as set forth in RCW 28A.190.030 through 28A.190.060 respecting programs of education for state residential school residents. For the purposes of this section, the terms "department of social and health services," "residential school" or "schools," and "superintendent or chief administrator of a residential school" as used in RCW 28A.190.030 through 28A.190.060 shall be respectively construed to mean "the several counties of the state," "detention facilities," and "the administrator of juvenile court detention services." Nothing in this section shall prohibit a school district from utilizing the services of an educational service district subject to RCW 28A.310.180. [1990 c 33 § 551; 1983 c 98 § 1.]

**Purpose—Statutory references—Severability—1990 c 33:** See RCW 28A.900.100 through 28A.900.102.

*Juvenile facilities, educational programs: RCW 28A.190.010.*

**13.04.155 Notification to school principal of conviction, adjudication, or diversion agreement—Provision of information to teachers and other personnel—Confidentiality.** (1) Whenever a minor enrolled in any common school is convicted in adult criminal court, or adjudicated or entered into a diversion agreement with the juvenile court on any of the following offenses, the court must notify the principal of the student's school of the disposition of the case, after first notifying the parent or legal guardian that such notification will be made:

- (a) A violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030;
- (b) A sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030;
- (c) Inhaling toxic fumes under chapter 9.47A RCW;
- (d) A controlled substances violation under chapter 69.50 RCW;
- (e) A liquor violation under RCW 66.44.270; and
- (f) Any crime under chapters 9.41, 9A.36, 9A.40, 9A.46, and 9A.48 RCW.

(2) The principal must provide the information received under subsection (1) of this section to every teacher of any student who qualifies under subsection (1) of this section and any other personnel who, in the judgment of the principal, supervises the student or for security purposes should be aware of the student's record. The principal must provide the information to teachers and other personnel based on any written records that the principal maintains or receives from a juvenile court administrator or a law enforcement agency regarding the student.

(3) Any information received by a principal or school personnel under this section is confidential and may not be further disseminated except as provided in RCW

28A.225.330, other statutes or case law, and the family and educational and privacy rights act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g et seq. [2000 c 27 § 1; 1997 c 266 § 7.]

**Findings—Intent—Severability—1997 c 266:** See notes following RCW 28A.600.455.

**13.04.160 Fees not allowed.** No fees shall be charged or collected by any officer or other person for filing petition, serving summons, or other process under this chapter. [1913 c 160 § 16; RRS § 1987-16.]

**13.04.180 Board of visitation.** In each county, the judge presiding over the juvenile court sessions, as defined in this chapter, may appoint a board of four reputable citizens, who shall serve without compensation, to constitute a board of visitation, whose duty it shall be to visit as often as twice a year all institutions, societies and associations within the county receiving children under this chapter, as well as all homes for children or other places where individuals are holding themselves out as caretakers of children, also to visit other institutions, societies and associations within the state receiving and caring for children, whenever requested to do so by the judge of the juvenile court: PROVIDED, The actual expenses of such board may be paid by the county commissioners when members thereof are requested to visit institutions outside of the county seat, and no member of the board shall be required to visit any institutions outside the county unless his or her actual traveling expenses shall be paid as aforesaid. Such visits shall be made by not less than two members of the board, who shall go together or make a joint report. The board of visitors shall report to the court from time to time the condition of children received by or in charge of such institutions, societies, associations, or individuals. It shall be the duty of every institution, society, or association, or individual receiving and caring for children to permit any member or members of the board of visitation to visit and inspect such institution, society, association or home where such child is kept, in all its departments, so that a full report may be made to the court. [2010 c 8 § 4002; 1913 c 160 § 18; RRS § 1987-18.]

**13.04.240 Court order not deemed conviction of crime.** An order of court adjudging a child a juvenile offender or dependent under the provisions of this chapter shall in no case be deemed a conviction of crime. [2010 c 150 § 1; 1961 c 302 § 16. Prior: 1913 c 160 § 10, part; RCW 13.04.090, part.]

**13.04.300 Juvenile may be both dependent and an offender.** Nothing in chapter 13.04, 13.06, 13.32A, 13.34, or 13.40 RCW may be construed to prevent a juvenile from being found both dependent and an offender if there exists a factual basis for such a finding. [1983 c 3 § 15; 1979 c 155 § 14.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.04.450 Chapters 13.04 and 13.40 RCW as exclusive authority for adjudication and disposition of juvenile offenders—Chapter 10.22 RCW does not apply to proceedings under chapter 13.40 RCW.** The provisions of chapters 13.04 and 13.40 RCW, as now or hereafter

amended, shall be the exclusive authority for the adjudication and disposition of juvenile offenders except where otherwise expressly provided. Chapter 10.22 RCW does not apply to juvenile offender proceedings, including diversion, under chapter 13.40 RCW. [1985 c 257 § 5; 1981 c 299 § 20.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**Chapter 13.06 RCW**

**JUVENILE OFFENDERS—CONSOLIDATED JUVENILE SERVICES PROGRAMS**

(Formerly: Probation services—Special supervision programs)

Sections

- 13.06.010 Intention.
- 13.06.020 State to share in cost.
- 13.06.030 Rules—Standards—"Consolidated juvenile services" defined.
- 13.06.040 Application by county or counties for state financial aid.
- 13.06.050 Conditions for receiving state funds—Criteria for distribution of funds—Annual report on programs to reduce racial disproportionality.

*Juvenile may be both dependent and an offender: RCW 13.04.300.*

**13.06.010 Intention.** It is the intention of the legislature in enacting this chapter to increase the protection afforded the citizens of this state, to require community planning, to provide necessary services and supervision for juvenile offenders in the community when appropriate, to reduce reliance on state-operated correctional institutions for offenders whose standard range disposition does not include commitment of the offender to the department, and to encourage the community to efficiently and effectively provide community services to juvenile offenders through consolidation of service delivery systems. [1983 c 191 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 165 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.06.020 State to share in cost.** From any state moneys made available for such purpose, the state of Washington, through the department of social and health services, shall, in accordance with this chapter and applicable departmental rules, share in the cost of providing services to juveniles. [1983 c 191 § 2; 1979 c 141 § 13; 1969 ex.s. c 165 § 2.]

**13.06.030 Rules—Standards—"Consolidated juvenile services" defined.** The department of social and health services shall adopt rules prescribing minimum standards for the operation of consolidated juvenile services programs for juvenile offenders and such other rules as may be necessary for the administration of the provisions of this chapter. Consolidated juvenile services is a mechanism through which the department of social and health services supports local county comprehensive program plans in providing services to offender groups. Standards shall be sufficiently flexible to support current programs which have demonstrated effectiveness and efficiency, to foster development of innovative and improved services for juvenile offenders, to permit direct contracting with private vendors, and to encourage community support for and assistance to local programs. The secretary of social and health services shall seek advice from appropriate juvenile justice system participants in developing standards and procedures for the operation of consolidated juvenile services programs and the distribution of funds

under this chapter. [1983 c 191 § 3; 1979 c 141 § 14; 1969 ex.s. c 165 § 3.]

**13.06.040 Application by county or counties for state financial aid.** Any county or group of counties may make application to the department of social and health services in the manner and form prescribed by the department for financial aid for the cost of consolidated juvenile services programs. Any such application must include a plan or plans for providing consolidated services to juvenile offenders in accordance with standards of the department. [1983 c 191 § 4; 1979 c 141 § 15; 1969 ex.s. c 165 § 4.]

**13.06.050 Conditions for receiving state funds—Criteria for distribution of funds—Annual report on programs to reduce racial disproportionality.** No county shall be entitled to receive any state funds provided by this chapter until its application and plan are approved, and unless and until the minimum standards prescribed by the department of social and health services are complied with and then only on such terms as are set forth in this section. In addition, any county making application for state funds under this chapter that also operates a juvenile detention facility must have standards of operations in place that include: Intake and admissions, medical and health care, communication, correspondence, visiting and telephone use, security and control, sanitation and hygiene, juvenile rights, rules and discipline, property, juvenile records, safety and emergency procedures, programming, release and transfer, training and staff development, and food service.

(1) The distribution of funds to a county or a group of counties shall be based on criteria including but not limited to the county's per capita income, regional or county at-risk populations, juvenile crime or arrest rates, rates of poverty, size of racial minority populations, existing programs, and the effectiveness and efficiency of consolidating local programs towards reducing commitments to state correctional facilities for offenders whose standard range disposition does not include commitment of the offender to the department and reducing reliance on other traditional departmental services.

(2) The secretary will reimburse a county upon presentation and approval of a valid claim pursuant to the provisions of this chapter based on actual performance in meeting the terms and conditions of the approved plan and contract. Funds received by participating counties under this chapter shall not be used to replace local funds for existing programs.

(3) The secretary, in conjunction with the human rights commission, shall evaluate the effectiveness of programs funded under this chapter in reducing racial disproportionality. The secretary shall investigate whether implementation of such programs has reduced disproportionality in counties with initially high levels of disproportionality. The analysis shall indicate which programs are cost-effective in reducing disproportionality in such areas as alternatives to detention, intake and risk assessment standards pursuant to RCW 13.40.038, alternatives to incarceration, and in the prosecution and adjudication of juveniles. The secretary shall report his or her findings to the legislature by December 1, 1994, and December 1 of each year thereafter. [1993 c 415 § 7; (2010 1st sp.s. c 37 § 910 expired June 30, 2011); 1983 c 191

§ 5; 1979 c 151 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 307 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 198 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 165 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 165 § 5.]

**Expiration date—2010 1st sp.s. c 37 § 910:** "Section 910 of this act expires June 30, 2011." [2010 1st sp.s. c 37 § 956.]

**Effective date—2010 1st sp.s. c 37:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 4, 2010]." [2010 1st sp.s. c 37 § 958.]

**Intent—1993 c 415:** See note following RCW 2.56.031.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### Chapter 13.16 RCW PLACES OF DETENTION

#### Sections

13.16.020	Lack of detention facilities constitutes emergency.
13.16.030	Mandatory function of counties.
13.16.040	Counties authorized to acquire facilities and employ adequate staffs.
13.16.050	Federal or state aid.
13.16.060	Statutory debt limits may be exceeded.
13.16.070	Bonds may be issued without vote of electors.
13.16.080	Allocation of budgeted funds.
13.16.085	Financial responsibility for cost of detention.
13.16.100	Motion pictures.

#### Child

*welfare agencies: Chapter 74.15 RCW.*

*welfare services: Chapter 74.13 RCW.*

*County juvenile detention facilities—Policy—Detention and risk assessment standards: RCW 13.40.038.*

*Employment of dental hygienist without supervision of a dentist authorized: RCW 18.29.056.*

**13.16.020 Lack of detention facilities constitutes emergency.** The attention of the legislature having been called to the absence of juvenile detention facilities in the various counties of the state, the legislature hereby declares that this situation constitutes an emergency demanding the invocation by the several counties affected of the emergency powers granted by virtue of RCW 36.40.140 through 36.40.200. [1945 c 188 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 2004-1.]

**13.16.030 Mandatory function of counties.** The construction, acquisition and maintenance of juvenile detention facilities for dependent, wayward and delinquent children, separate and apart from the detention facilities for adults, is hereby declared to be a mandatory function of the several counties of the state. [1945 c 188 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 2004-2.]

**13.16.040 Counties authorized to acquire facilities and employ adequate staffs.** Boards of county commissioners in the various counties now suffering from a lack of adequate detention facilities for dependent, delinquent and wayward children shall, in the manner provided by law, declare an emergency and appropriate, in the manner provided by law, sufficient funds to meet all demands for adequate care of dependent, delinquent and wayward children. All appropriations made under the provisions of RCW 13.16.020 through 13.16.080 are to be used exclusively for the acquisition, purchase, construction or leasing of real and personal property and the employment and payment of salaries for an adequate staff of juvenile officers and necessary clerical staff and assistants and for furnishing suitable food, clothing and rec-

reational facilities for dependent, delinquent and wayward children. [1945 c 188 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 2004-3.]

**13.16.050 Federal or state aid.** In connection with the financing of facilities and the employment of a staff of juvenile officers for dependent, delinquent and wayward children, the various boards of county commissioners affected shall attempt to secure such advances, loans, grants in aid, donations as gifts as may be secured from the federal government or any of its agencies or from the state government or from other public or private institutions or individuals. [1945 c 188 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 2004-4.]

**13.16.060 Statutory debt limits may be exceeded.** Appropriations made under authority and by virtue of RCW 13.16.020 through 13.16.080 and debts incurred by any county in carrying out the provisions of RCW 13.16.020 through 13.16.080 may exceed all statutory limitations otherwise applicable and limiting the debt any county may incur. [1945 c 188 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 2004-5.]

**13.16.070 Bonds may be issued without vote of electors.** In order to carry out the provisions of RCW 13.16.020 through 13.16.080 the several counties affected shall utilize any and all methods available to them by law for financing the program authorized by RCW 13.16.020 through 13.16.080 and may fund any and all debts incurred by the issuance of general obligation bonds of the county in the manner provided by law, without submitting the same to a vote of the people. [1945 c 188 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 2004-6.]

**13.16.080 Allocation of budgeted funds.** In order to carry out the provisions of RCW 13.16.020 through 13.16.080 the board of county commissioners is hereby authorized, any law to the contrary notwithstanding, to allocate any funds that may be available in any item or class of the budget as presently constituted to the fund to be used to carry out the provisions of RCW 13.16.020 through 13.16.080. [1945 c 188 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 2004-7.]

**13.16.085 Financial responsibility for cost of detention.** In any case in which a child under eighteen years of age has been placed in any detention facility under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the court may inquire into the facts concerning the necessity or propriety of such child's detention notwithstanding the fact that such child may not have been found to be either a dependent or a delinquent child.

The court may, either in the proceedings involving the question of dependency or delinquency of such child or in a separate proceeding, upon the parent or parents, guardian, or other person having custody of said child being duly summoned or voluntarily appearing, proceed to inquire into the necessity or propriety of such detention and into the ability of such person or persons to pay the cost of such detention.

If the court finds that such detention was necessary or proper for the welfare of the child or for the protection of the community, and if the court also finds the parent or parents, guardian, or other person having the custody of such child able to pay or contribute to the payment of the cost of such detention, the court may enter such order or decree as shall be



equitable in the premises, and may enforce the same by execution or in any way a court of equity may enforce its decrees. [1955 c 369 § 1.]

*Basic juvenile court act: Chapter 13.04 RCW.*

**13.16.100 Motion pictures.** Motion pictures unrated after November 1968 or rated R, X, or NC-17 by the motion picture association of America shall not be shown in juvenile detention facilities or facilities operated by the division of juvenile rehabilitation in the department of social and health services. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 807.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

### Chapter 13.20 RCW

## MANAGEMENT OF DETENTION FACILITIES— COUNTIES WITH POPULATIONS OF ONE MILLION OR MORE

(Formerly: Management of detention facilities—Class AA counties)

#### Sections

13.20.010	Board of managers—Appointment authorized—Composition.
13.20.020	Terms of office—Removal—Vacancies.
13.20.030	Chair—Quorum—Organization—Rules of procedure.
13.20.040	Powers and duties of board.
13.20.050	Compensation of members.
13.20.060	Transfer of administration of juvenile court services to county executive—Authorized—Advisory board—Procedure.

*Employment of dental hygienist without supervision of a dentist authorized: RCW 18.29.056.*

*Places of detention: Chapter 13.16 RCW.*

*Places of detention—Basic juvenile court act: Chapter 13.04 RCW.*

**13.20.010 Board of managers—Appointment authorized—Composition.** The judges of the superior court of any county with a population of one million or more are hereby authorized, by majority vote, to appoint a board of managers to administer, subject to the approval and authority of such superior court, the probation and detention services for dependent and delinquent children coming under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

Such board shall consist of four citizens of the county and the judge who has been selected to preside over the juvenile court. [1991 c 363 § 12; 1955 c 232 § 1.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**13.20.020 Terms of office—Removal—Vacancies.** The nonjudicial members of the board first appointed shall be appointed for the respective terms of one, two, three, and four years and until their successors are appointed and qualified; and thereafter their successors shall be appointed for terms of four years and until their successors are appointed and qualified.

Any such member of the board may be removed at any time by majority vote of the judges of the superior court.

Vacancies on the board may be filled at any time by majority vote of said judges, and such appointee shall hold office for the remainder of the term of the member in whose stead he or she was appointed. [2010 c 8 § 4003; 1955 c 232 § 2.]

**13.20.030 Chair—Quorum—Organization—Rules of procedure.** The judicial member of the board shall be the chair thereof; a majority thereof shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; and the board shall have authority to organize itself in such manner and to establish such rules of procedure as it deems proper for the performance of its duties. [2010 c 8 § 4004; 1955 c 232 § 3.]

**13.20.040 Powers and duties of board.** The juvenile court board of managers shall:

(1) Have general supervision and care of all physical structures and grounds connected with the rendition of probation and detention services and power to do everything necessary to the proper maintenance thereof within the limits of the appropriations authorized.

(2) Subject to the approval and authority of said superior court, the board of managers shall have authority and power to determine the type and extent of probation and detention services to be conducted in connection with the juvenile court, and authority over all matters concerning employment, job classifications, salary scales, qualifications, and number of personnel necessarily involved in the rendition of probation and detention services.

(3) Prepare, in accordance with the provisions of the county budget law, and file with the county auditor a detailed and itemized estimate, both of probable revenues from sources other than taxation and of all expenditures required for the rendition of the services under the jurisdiction of said board.

(4) Prepare and file with the superior court on July 1st of each year, and at such other times and in such form as the court shall require, a report of its operations. [1955 c 232 § 4.]

**13.20.050 Compensation of members.** No member of the board shall receive any compensation or emolument whatever for services as such board member. [1955 c 232 § 5.]

**13.20.060 Transfer of administration of juvenile court services to county executive—Authorized—Advisory board—Procedure.** In addition, and alternatively, to the authority granted by RCW 13.20.010, the judges of the superior court of any county with a population of one million or more operating under a county charter providing for an elected county executive are hereby authorized, by a majority vote, subject to approval by ordinance of the legislative authority of the county to transfer to the county executive the responsibility for, and administration of all or part of juvenile court services, including detention, intake and probation. The superior court and county executive of such county are further authorized to establish a five-member juvenile court advisory board to advise the county in its administration of such services, facilities and programs. If the advisory board is established, two members of the advisory board shall be appointed by the superior court, two members shall be appointed by the county executive, and one member shall be selected by the vote of the other four members. The county is authorized to contract or otherwise make arrangements with other public or private agencies to provide all or a part of such services, facilities and programs. Subsequent to any transfer

to the county of responsibility and administration of such services, facilities and programs pursuant to the foregoing authority, the judges of such superior court, by majority vote subject to the approval by ordinance of the legislative authority of the county, may retransfer the same to the superior court. [1991 c 363 § 13; 1975 1st ex.s. c 124 § 1.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

### Chapter 13.24 RCW

## INTERSTATE COMPACT FOR JUVENILES

### Sections

13.24.011	Execution of compact.
13.24.021	Designation of state council.
13.24.030	Supplementary agreements.
13.24.035	Governor authorized and directed to execute supplementary compact—Contents.
13.24.040	Financial arrangements.
13.24.050	Fees.
13.24.060	Responsibilities of state departments, agencies and officers.
13.24.900	Short title.

### 13.24.011 Execution of compact.

#### EXECUTION OF THE COMPACT

The governor is hereby authorized and directed to execute a compact on behalf of this state with any other state or states legally joining therein in the form substantially as follows. No provision of this compact will interfere with this state's authority to determine policy regarding juvenile offenders and nonoffenders within this state.

#### THE INTERSTATE COMPACT FOR JUVENILES

##### ARTICLE I - Purpose

The compacting states to this interstate compact recognize that each state is responsible for the proper supervision or return of juveniles, delinquents, and status offenders who are on probation or parole and who have absconded, escaped, or run away from supervision and control and in so doing have endangered their own safety and the safety of others. The compacting states also recognize that each state is responsible for the safe return of juveniles who have run away from home and in doing so have left their state of residence. The compacting states also recognize that congress, by enacting the crime control act, 4 U.S.C. Sec. 112 (1965), has authorized and encouraged compacts for cooperative efforts and mutual assistance in the prevention of crime.

It is the purpose of this compact, through means of joint and cooperative action among the compacting states, to: (1) Ensure that the adjudicated juveniles and status offenders subject to this compact are provided adequate supervision and services in the receiving state as ordered by the adjudicating judge or parole authority in the sending state; (2) ensure that the public safety interests of the citizens, including the victims of juvenile offenders, in both the sending and receiving states are adequately protected; (3) return juveniles who have run away, absconded, or escaped from supervision or control or have been accused of an offense to the state requesting their return; (4) make contracts for the cooperative institutionalization in public facilities in member states for delinquent youth needing special services; (5) provide for the effective tracking and supervision of juveniles; (6) equitably

allocate the costs, benefits, and obligations of the compacting states; (7) establish procedures to manage the movement between states of juvenile offenders released to the community under the jurisdiction of courts, juvenile departments, or any other criminal or juvenile justice agency that has jurisdiction over juvenile offenders; (8) ensure immediate notice to jurisdictions where defined offenders may travel or relocate across state lines; (9) establish procedures to resolve pending charges (detainers) against juvenile offenders before transfer or release to the community under the terms of this compact; (10) establish a system of uniform data collection on information pertaining to juveniles subject to this compact that allows access by authorized juvenile justice and criminal justice officials, and regular reporting of compact activities to heads of state executive, judicial, and legislative branches and juvenile and criminal justice administrators; (11) monitor compliance with rules governing interstate movement of juveniles and initiate interventions to address and correct noncompliance; (12) coordinate training and education regarding the regulation of interstate movement of juveniles for officials involved in such activity; and (13) coordinate the implementation and operation of the compact with the interstate compact for the placement of children, the interstate compact for adult offender supervision, and other compacts affecting juveniles particularly in those cases where concurrent or overlapping supervision issues arise. It is the policy of the compacting states that the activities conducted by the interstate commission created in this section are the formation of public policies and therefore are public business. Furthermore, the compacting states shall cooperate and observe their individual and collective duties and responsibilities for the prompt return and acceptance of juveniles subject to the provisions of this compact. The provisions of this compact shall be reasonably and liberally construed to accomplish the purposes and policies of the compact.

##### ARTICLE II - Definitions

As used in this compact, unless the context clearly requires a different construction:

(1) "Bylaws" means those bylaws established by the interstate commission for its governance, or for directing or controlling its actions or conduct.

(2) "Commissioner" means the voting representative of each compacting state appointed under Article III of this compact.

(3) "Compact administrator" means the individual in each compacting state appointed under the terms of this compact, responsible for the administration and management of the state's supervision and transfer of juveniles subject to the terms of this compact, the rules adopted by the interstate commission, and policies adopted by the state council under this compact.

(4) "Compacting state" means any state that has enacted the enabling legislation for this compact.

(5) "Court" means any court having jurisdiction over delinquent, neglected, or dependent children.

(6) "Deputy compact administrator" means the individual, if any, in each compacting state appointed to act on behalf of a compact administrator under the terms of this compact responsible for the administration and management of the state's supervision and transfer of juveniles subject to

the terms of this compact, the rules adopted by the interstate commission, and policies adopted by the state council under this compact.

(7) "Interstate commission" means the interstate commission for juveniles created by Article III of this compact.

(8) "Juvenile" means any person defined as a juvenile in any member state or by the rules of the interstate commission, including:

(a) An accused delinquent, meaning a person charged with an offense that, if committed by an adult, would be a criminal offense;

(b) An adjudicated delinquent, meaning a person found to have committed an offense that, if committed by an adult, would be a criminal offense;

(c) An accused status offender, meaning a person charged with an offense that would not be a criminal offense if committed by an adult;

(d) An adjudicated status offender, meaning a person found to have committed an offense that would not be a criminal offense if committed by an adult; and

(e) A nonoffender, meaning a person in need of supervision who has not been accused or adjudicated a status offender or delinquent.

(9) "Noncompacting state" means any state that has not enacted the enabling legislation for this compact.

(10) "Probation or parole" means any kind of supervision or conditional release of juveniles authorized under the laws of the compacting states.

(11) "Rule" means a written statement by the interstate commission issued under Article VI of this compact that is of general applicability, implements, interprets, or prescribes a policy or provision of the compact or an organizational, procedural, or practice requirement of the commission, and has the force and effect of statutory law in a compacting state. This includes the amendment, repeal, or suspension of an existing rule.

(12) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia (or its designee), the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Marianas Islands.

#### ARTICLE III - Interstate Commission for Juveniles

(1) The compacting states hereby create the "interstate commission for juveniles." The interstate commission shall be a body corporate and joint agency of the compacting states. The interstate commission shall have all the responsibilities, powers, and duties set forth in this section, and such additional powers as may be conferred upon it by subsequent action of the respective legislatures of the compacting states in accordance with the terms of this compact.

(2) The interstate commission shall consist of commissioners appointed by the appropriate appointing authority in each state under the rules and requirements of each compacting state and in consultation with the state council for interstate juvenile supervision. The commissioner shall be the compact administrator, deputy compact administrator, or designee from that state who shall serve on the interstate commission in such capacity under the applicable law of the compacting state.

(3) In addition to the commissioners who are the voting representatives of each state, the interstate commission shall

include individuals who are not commissioners, but who are members of interested organizations. Such noncommissioner members must include a member of the national organizations of governors, legislators, state chief justices, attorneys general, interstate compact for adult offender supervision, interstate compact for the placement of children, juvenile justice and juvenile corrections officials, and crime victims. All noncommissioner members of the interstate commission shall be nonvoting members. The interstate commission may provide in its bylaws for such additional nonvoting members, including members of other national organizations, in such numbers as shall be determined by the commission.

(4) Each compacting state represented at any meeting of the commission is entitled to one vote. A majority of the compacting states shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, unless a larger quorum is required by the bylaws of the interstate commission.

(5) The interstate commission shall meet at least once each calendar year. The chair may call additional meetings and, upon the request of a simple majority of the compacting states, shall call additional meetings. Public notice shall be given of all meetings and meetings shall be open to the public.

(6) The interstate commission shall establish an executive committee, which shall include commission officers, members, and others as determined by the bylaws. The executive committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the interstate commission during periods when the interstate commission is not in session, with the exception of rule making and/or amendment to the compact. The executive committee shall oversee the day-to-day activities of the administration of the compact managed by an executive director and interstate commission staff, administer enforcement and compliance with the compact, its bylaws, and rules, and perform such other duties as directed by the interstate commission or set forth in the bylaws.

(7) Each member of the interstate commission may cast a vote to which that compacting state is entitled and to participate in the business and affairs of the interstate commission. A member shall vote in person and shall not delegate a vote to another compacting state. However, a commissioner, in consultation with the state council, shall appoint another authorized representative, in the absence of the commissioner from that state, to cast a vote on behalf of the compacting state at a specified meeting. The bylaws may provide for members' participation in meetings by telephone or other means of telecommunication or electronic communication.

(8) The interstate commission's bylaws shall establish conditions and procedures under which the interstate commission shall make its information and official records available to the public for inspection or copying. The interstate commission may exempt from disclosure any information or official records to the extent they would adversely affect personal privacy rights or proprietary interests.

(9) Public notice shall be given of all meetings and all meetings shall be open to the public, except as set forth in the rules or as otherwise provided in the compact. The interstate commission and any of its committees may close a meeting to the public where it determines by two-thirds vote that an open meeting would be likely to:

(a) Relate solely to the interstate commission's internal personnel practices and procedures;

(b) Disclose matters specifically exempted from disclosure by statute;

(c) Disclose trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential;

(d) Involve accusing any person of a crime, or formally censuring any person;

(e) Disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(f) Disclose investigative records compiled for law enforcement purposes;

(g) Disclose information contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, or on behalf of or for the use of, the interstate commission with respect to a regulated person or entity for the purpose of regulation or supervision of such person or entity;

(h) Disclose information, the premature disclosure of which would significantly endanger the stability of a regulated person or entity; or

(i) Specifically relate to the interstate commission's issuance of a subpoena, or its participation in a civil action or other legal proceeding.

(10) For every closed meeting, the interstate commission's legal counsel shall publicly certify that, in the legal counsel's opinion, the meeting may be closed to the public, and shall reference each relevant exemptive provision. The interstate commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in any meeting and shall provide a full and accurate summary of any actions taken, and the reasons therefore, including a description of each of the views expressed on any item and the record of any roll call vote reflected in the vote of each member on the question. All documents considered in connection with any action shall be identified in the minutes.

(11) The interstate commission shall collect standardized data concerning the interstate movement of juveniles as directed through its rules that specify the data to be collected, the means of collection and data exchange, and reporting requirements. Such methods of data collection, exchange, and reporting shall insofar as is reasonably possible conform to current technology and coordinate its information functions with the appropriate repository of records.

#### ARTICLE IV - Powers and Duties of the Interstate Commission

The commission has the following powers and duties:

(1) Provide for dispute resolution among compacting states;

(2) Adopt rules to effect the purposes and obligations of this compact which shall have the force and effect of statutory law and shall be binding in the compacting states to the extent and in the manner provided in this compact;

(3) Oversee, supervise, and coordinate the interstate movement of juveniles subject to this compact and any bylaws adopted and rules adopted by the interstate commission;

(4) Enforce compliance with the compact provisions, the rules adopted by the interstate commission, and the bylaws,

using all necessary and proper means, including but not limited to the use of judicial process;

(5) Establish and maintain offices that are located within one or more of the compacting states;

(6) Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;

(7) Borrow, accept, hire, or contract for personnel services;

(8) Establish and appoint committees and hire staff that it deems necessary to carry out its functions including, but not limited to, an executive committee as required by Article III of this compact that may act on behalf of the interstate commission in carrying out its powers and duties;

(9) Elect or appoint officers, attorneys, employees, agents, or consultants, and to fix their compensation, define their duties and determine their qualifications, and to establish the interstate commission's personnel policies and programs relating to inter alia, conflicts of interest, rates of compensation, and qualifications of personnel;

(10) Accept any and all donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services, and to receive, use, and dispose of the donations and grants;

(11) Lease, purchase, accept contributions or donations of, or otherwise to own, hold, improve, or use any property, real, personal, or mixed;

(12) Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property, real, personal, or mixed;

(13) Establish a budget and make expenditures and levy dues as provided in Article VIII of this compact;

(14) Sue and be sued;

(15) Adopt a seal and bylaws governing the management and operation of the interstate commission;

(16) Perform such functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this compact;

(17) Report annually to the legislatures, governors, judiciary, and state councils of the compacting states concerning the activities of the interstate commission during the preceding year. Reports shall also include any recommendations adopted by the interstate commission;

(18) Coordinate education, training, and public awareness regarding the interstate movement of juveniles for officials involved in such activity;

(19) Establish uniform standards of the reporting, collecting, and exchanging of data; and

(20) Maintain its corporate books and records in accordance with the bylaws.

#### ARTICLE V - Organization and Operation of the Interstate Commission

##### Section A. Bylaws

The interstate commission shall, by a majority of the members present and voting, within twelve months after the first interstate commission meeting, adopt bylaws to govern its conduct as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of the compact, including, but not limited to:

(1) Establishing the fiscal year of the interstate commission;

(2) Establishing an executive committee and such other committees as may be necessary;

(3) Providing for the establishment of committees governing any general or specific delegation of any authority or function of the interstate commission;

(4) Providing reasonable procedures for calling and conducting meetings of the interstate commission, and ensuring reasonable notice of each such meeting;

(5) Establishing the titles and responsibilities of the officers of the interstate commission;

(6) Providing a mechanism for concluding the operations of the interstate commission and the return of any surplus funds that may exist upon the termination of the compact after the payment and/or reserving of all of its debts and obligations;

(7) Providing "start-up" rules for initial administration of the compact; and

(8) Establishing standards and procedures for compliance and technical assistance in carrying out the compact.

#### Section B. Officers and staff

(1) The interstate commission shall, by a majority of the members, elect annually from among its members a chair and a vice chair, each of whom has the authority and duties that are specified in the bylaws. The chair or, in the chair's absence or disability, the vice chair shall preside at all meetings of the interstate commission. The officers so elected shall serve without compensation or remuneration from the interstate commission. However, subject to the availability of budgeted funds, the officers shall be reimbursed for any ordinary and necessary costs and expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties and responsibilities as officers of the interstate commission.

(2) The interstate commission shall, through its executive committee, appoint or retain an executive director for such period, upon such terms and conditions, and for such compensation as the interstate commission deems appropriate. The executive director shall serve as secretary to the interstate commission, but shall not be a member and shall hire and supervise such other staff as authorized by the interstate commission.

#### Section C. Qualified immunity, defense, and indemnification

(1) The commission's executive director and employees are immune from suit and liability, either personally or in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to, loss of property, personal injury, or other civil liability caused or arising out of or relating to any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities. However, any such person is not protected from suit or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of any such person.

(2) The liability of any commissioner, or the employee or agent of a commissioner, acting within the scope of such person's employment or duties for acts, errors, or omissions occurring within such person's state may not exceed the limits of liability set forth under the constitution and laws of that state for state officials, employees, and agents. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to protect any such person from suit or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability

caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of any such person.

(3) The interstate commission shall defend the executive director or the employees or representatives of the interstate commission and, subject to the approval of the attorney general of the state represented by any commissioner of a compacting state, shall defend such commissioner or the commissioner's representatives or employees in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that the defendant had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, if the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on the part of such person.

(4) The interstate commission shall indemnify and hold the commissioner of a compacting state, or the commissioner's representatives or employees, or the interstate commission's representatives or employees, harmless in the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against such persons arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such persons had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of interstate commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, if the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on the part of such persons.

#### ARTICLE VI - Rule-making Functions of the Interstate Commission

(1) The interstate commission shall adopt and publish rules in order to effectively and efficiently achieve the purposes of the compact.

(2) Rule making shall occur pursuant to the criteria set forth in this article and the bylaws and rules adopted pursuant thereto. Such rule making shall substantially conform to the principles of the "model state administrative procedures act," 1981 Act, Uniform Laws Annotated, Vol. 15, p.1 (2000), or such other administrative procedures act, as the interstate commission deems appropriate consistent with due process requirements under the United States Constitution as now or hereafter interpreted by the United States supreme court. All rules and amendments become binding as of the date specified, as published with the final version of the rule as approved by the commission.

(3) When adopting a rule, the interstate commission shall, at a minimum:

(a) Publish the proposed rule's entire text stating the reason or reasons for that proposed rule;

(b) Allow and invite any and all persons to submit written data, facts, opinions, and arguments, which information shall be added to the record, and be made publicly available;

(c) Provide an opportunity for an informal hearing if petitioned by ten or more persons; and

(d) Adopt a final rule and its effective date, if appropriate, based on input from state or local officials, or interested parties.

(4) The interstate commission shall allow, not later than sixty days after a rule is adopted, any interested person to file

a petition in the United States district court for the District of Columbia or in the federal district court where the interstate commission's principal office is located for judicial review of such rule. If the court finds that the interstate commission's action is not supported by substantial evidence in the rule-making record, the court shall hold the rule unlawful and set it aside. For purposes of this subsection, evidence is substantial if it would be considered substantial evidence under the model state administrative procedures act.

(5) If a majority of the legislatures of the compacting states rejects a rule, those states may, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the compact, cause that rule to have no further force and effect in any compacting state.

(6) The existing rules governing the operation of the interstate compact on juveniles superseded by chapter 180, Laws of 2003 shall be null and void twelve months after the first meeting of the interstate commission created under this section.

(7) Upon determination by the interstate commission that a state of emergency exists, it may adopt an emergency rule that becomes effective immediately upon adoption. However, the usual rule-making procedures shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than ninety days after the effective date of the emergency rule.

#### ARTICLE VII - Oversight, Enforcement, and Dispute Resolution

##### by the Interstate Commission

##### Section A. Oversight

(1) The interstate commission shall oversee the administration and operations of the interstate movement of juveniles subject to this compact in the compacting states and shall monitor such activities being administered in noncompacting states that may significantly affect compacting states.

(2) The courts and executive agencies in each compacting state shall enforce this compact and shall take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes and intent. The provisions of this compact and the rules adopted under this section shall be received by all the judges, public officers, commissions, and departments of the state government as evidence of the authorized statute and administrative rules. All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact and the rules. In any judicial or administrative proceeding in a compacting state pertaining to the subject matter of this compact which may affect the powers, responsibilities, or actions of the interstate commission, it shall be entitled to receive all service of process in any such proceeding, and shall have standing to intervene in the proceeding for all purposes.

##### Section B. Dispute resolution

(1) The compacting states shall report to the interstate commission on all issues and activities necessary for the administration of the compact as well as issues and activities pertaining to compliance with the compact and its bylaws and rules.

(2) The interstate commission shall attempt, upon the request of a compacting state, to resolve any disputes or other

issues that are subject to the compact and that may arise among compacting states and between compacting and non-compacting states. The commission shall adopt a rule providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes among the compacting states.

(3) The interstate commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the provisions and rules of this compact using any or all means set forth in Article XI of this compact.

#### ARTICLE VIII - Finance

(1) The interstate commission shall pay or provide for the payment of the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.

(2) The interstate commission shall levy on and collect an annual assessment from each compacting state to cover the cost of the internal operations and activities of the interstate commission and its staff which must be in a total amount sufficient to cover the interstate commission's annual budget as approved each year. The aggregate annual assessment amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined by the interstate commission, taking into consideration the population of each compacting state and the volume of interstate movement of juveniles in each compacting state and shall adopt a rule binding upon all compacting states that governs the assessment.

(3) The interstate commission shall not incur any obligations of any kind before securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the interstate commission pledge the credit of any of the compacting states, except by and with the authority of the compacting state.

(4) The interstate commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the interstate commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the interstate commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant and the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the interstate commission.

#### ARTICLE IX - The State Council

Each member state shall create a state council for interstate juvenile supervision. While each state may determine the membership of its own state council, its membership must include at least one representative from the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of government, victims groups, and the compact administrator, deputy compact administrator, or designee. Each compacting state retains the right to determine the qualifications of the compact administrator or deputy compact administrator. Each state council will advise and may exercise oversight and advocacy concerning that state's participation in interstate commission activities and other duties as may be determined by that state, including but not limited to development of policy concerning operations and procedures of the compact within that state.

Pursuant to this compact, the governor shall designate an individual who shall be the compact administrator and who, acting jointly with like officers of other party states, shall promulgate rules and regulations to carry out more effectively the terms of the compact. The governor shall designate

the compact administrator from a list of six individuals, three of whom are recommended by the Washington association of juvenile court administrators and three of whom are recommended by the juvenile rehabilitation administration of the department of social and health services. The administrator shall serve subject to the pleasure of the governor. The administrator shall cooperate with all departments, agencies, and officers of and in the government of this state and its subdivisions in facilitating the proper administration of the compact or of any supplementary agreement or agreements entered into by this state.

#### ARTICLE X - Compacting States, Effective Date, and Amendment

(1) Any state, the District of Columbia or its designee, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Marianas Islands as defined in Article II of this compact is eligible to become a compacting state.

(2) The compact shall become effective and binding upon legislative enactment of the compact into law by no less than thirty-five of the states. The initial effective date shall be the later of July 1, 2004, or upon enactment into law by the thirty-fifth jurisdiction. Thereafter, it shall become effective and binding as to any other compacting state upon enactment of the compact into law by that state. The governors of non-member states or their designees shall be invited to participate in the activities of the interstate commission on a non-voting basis before adoption of the compact by all states and territories of the United States.

(3) The interstate commission may propose amendments to the compact for enactment by the compacting states. No amendment shall become effective and binding upon the interstate commission and the compacting states unless and until it is enacted into law by unanimous consent of the compacting states.

#### ARTICLE XI - Withdrawal, Default, Termination, and Judicial Enforcement

##### Section A. Withdrawal

(1) Once effective, the compact shall continue in force and remain binding upon each and every compacting state. However, a compacting state may withdraw from the compact by repealing the statute that enacted the compact into law.

(2) The effective date of withdrawal is the effective date of the repeal.

(3) The withdrawing state shall immediately notify the chair of the interstate commission in writing upon the introduction of legislation repealing this compact in the withdrawing state. The interstate commission shall notify the other compacting states of the withdrawing state's intent to withdraw within sixty days of its receipt thereof.

(4) The withdrawing state is responsible for all assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of withdrawal, including any obligations, the performance of which extend beyond the effective date of withdrawal.

(5) Reinstatement following withdrawal of any compacting state shall occur upon the withdrawing state reenacting

the compact or upon such later date as determined by the interstate commission.

##### Section B. Technical Assistance, Fines, Suspension, Termination, and Default

(1) If the interstate commission determines that any compacting state has at any time defaulted in the performance of any of its obligations or responsibilities under this compact, or the bylaws or adopted rules, the interstate commission may impose any or all of the following penalties:

(a) Remedial training and technical assistance as directed by the interstate commission;

(b) Alternative dispute resolution;

(c) Fines, fees, and costs in such amounts as set by the interstate commission; and

(d) Suspension or termination of membership in the compact, which shall be imposed only after all other reasonable means of securing compliance under the bylaws and rules have been exhausted and the interstate commission has determined that the offending state is in default. Immediate notice of suspension shall be given by the interstate commission to the governor, the chief justice or the chief judicial officer of the state, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and the state council. The grounds for default include, but are not limited to, failure of a compacting state to perform such obligations or responsibilities imposed upon it by this compact, the bylaws, or rules and any other grounds designated in commission bylaws and rules. The interstate commission shall immediately notify the defaulting state in writing of the penalty imposed by the interstate commission and of the default pending a cure of the default. The commission shall stipulate the conditions and the time period within which the defaulting state must cure its default. If the defaulting state fails to cure the default within the time period specified by the commission, the defaulting state shall be terminated from the compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the compacting states and all rights, privileges, and benefits conferred by this compact shall be terminated from the effective date of termination.

(2) Within sixty days of the effective date of termination of a defaulting state, the interstate commission shall notify the governor, the chief justice or chief judicial officer, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and the state council of such termination.

(3) The defaulting state is responsible for all assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination including any obligations, the performance of which extends beyond the effective date of termination.

(4) The interstate commission shall not bear any costs relating to the defaulting state unless otherwise mutually agreed upon in writing between the interstate commission and the defaulting state.

(5) Reinstatement following termination of any compacting state requires both a reenactment of the compact by the defaulting state and the approval of the interstate commission pursuant to the rules.

##### Section C. Judicial enforcement

The interstate commission may, by majority vote of the members, initiate legal action in the United States district

court for the District of Columbia or, at the discretion of the interstate commission, in the federal district where the interstate commission has its offices, to enforce compliance with the provisions of the compact, its rules, and bylaws against any compacting state in default. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation including reasonable attorneys' fees.

#### Section D. Dissolution of compact

(1) The compact dissolves effective upon the date of the withdrawal or default of the compacting state, which reduces membership in the compact to one compacting state.

(2) Upon the dissolution of this compact, the compact becomes null and void and shall be of no further force or effect, and the business and affairs of the interstate commission shall be concluded and any surplus funds shall be distributed in accordance with the bylaws.

#### ARTICLE XII - Severability and Construction

(1) The provisions of this compact are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, or provision is deemed unenforceable, the remaining provisions of the compact are enforceable.

(2) The provisions of this compact shall be liberally construed to effectuate its purposes.

#### ARTICLE XIII - Binding Effect of Compact and Other Laws

##### Section A. Other laws

(1) Nothing in this section prevents the enforcement of any other law of a compacting state that is consistent with this compact.

(2) All compacting states' laws other than state constitutions and other interstate compacts conflicting with this compact are superseded to the extent of the conflict.

##### Section B. Binding effect of the compact

(1) All lawful actions of the interstate commission, including all rules and bylaws adopted by the interstate commission, are binding upon the compacting states.

(2) All agreements between the interstate commission and the compacting states are binding in accordance with their terms.

(3) Upon the request of a party to a conflict over meaning or interpretation of interstate commission actions, and upon a majority vote of the compacting states, the interstate commission may issue advisory opinions regarding such meaning or interpretation.

(4) In the event any provision of this compact exceeds the constitutional limits imposed on the legislature of any compacting state, the obligations, duties, powers, or jurisdiction sought to be conferred by such provision upon the interstate commission shall be ineffective and such obligations, duties, powers, or jurisdiction shall remain in the compacting state and shall be exercised by the agency thereof to which such obligations, duties, powers, or jurisdiction are delegated by law in effect at the time this compact becomes effective. [2003 c 180 § 1.]

**Contingent effective date—2003 c 180:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2004, or when the interstate compact for juveniles is adopted by thirty-five

or more states, whichever occurs later." [2003 c 180 § 4.] Illinois was the 35th state to adopt the interstate compact for juveniles on August 26, 2008.

**13.24.021 Designation of state council.** Pursuant to the compact created in RCW 13.24.011, the governor is hereby authorized and empowered to designate a state council as required in Article IX of the compact. [2003 c 180 § 2.]

**Contingent effective date—2003 c 180:** See note following RCW 13.24.011.

**13.24.030 Supplementary agreements.** The compact administrator is hereby authorized and empowered to enter into supplementary agreements with appropriate officials of other states pursuant to the compact. In the event that such supplementary agreement shall require or contemplate the use of any institution or facility of this state or require or contemplate the provision of any service by this state, said supplementary agreement shall have no force or effect until approved by the head of the department or agency under whose jurisdiction said institution or facility is operated or whose department or agency will be charged with the rendering of such service. [1955 c 284 § 3.]

**13.24.035 Governor authorized and directed to execute supplementary compact—Contents.** (1) The governor is hereby authorized and directed to execute a compact amending and supplementing the interstate compact on juveniles on behalf of this state with any other state or states legally joining therein in the form substantially as set forth in subsection (2) of this section.

(2)(a) All provisions and procedures of Articles V and VI of the interstate compact on juveniles shall be construed to apply to any juvenile charged with being a delinquent by reason of a violation of any criminal law. Any juvenile charged with being a delinquent by reason of violating any criminal law, shall be returned to the requesting state upon a requisition to the state where the juvenile may be found. A petition in such case shall be filed in a court of competent jurisdiction in the requesting state where the violation of criminal law is alleged to have been committed. The petition may be filed regardless of whether the juvenile has left the state before or after the filing of the petition. The requisition described in Article V of the compact shall be forwarded by the judge of the court in which the petition has been filed.

(b) This amendment provides additional remedies and shall be binding only as among and between those party states which substantially execute the same. [1979 c 155 § 36.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.24.040 Financial arrangements.** The compact administrator, subject to the approval of the office of financial management, may make or arrange for any payments necessary to discharge any financial obligations imposed upon this state by the compact or by any supplementary agreement entered into thereunder. [1979 ex.s. c 86 § 1; 1955 c 284 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.24.050 Fees.** Any judge of this state who appoints counsel or guardian ad litem pursuant to the provision of the



compact may, in his or her discretion, fix a fee to be paid out of funds available for disposition by the court but no such fee shall exceed twenty-five dollars. [2010 c 8 § 4005; 1955 c 284 § 5.]

**13.24.060 Responsibilities of state departments, agencies and officers.** The courts, departments, agencies and officers of this state and its subdivisions shall enforce this compact and shall do all things appropriate to the effectuation of its purposes and intent which may be within their respective jurisdictions. [1955 c 284 § 6.]

**13.24.900 Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the "uniform interstate compact on juveniles." [1955 c 284 § 7.]

**Chapter 13.32A RCW**  
**FAMILY RECONCILIATION ACT**  
 (Formerly: Procedures for families in conflict)

Sections

- 13.32A.010 Legislative findings and intent.
- 13.32A.015 At-risk youth services—Intent.
- 13.32A.020 Short title.
- 13.32A.030 Definitions—Regulating leave from semi-secure facility.
- 13.32A.040 Family reconciliation services.
- 13.32A.042 Multidisciplinary team—Formation.
- 13.32A.044 Multidisciplinary team—Purpose—Authority.
- 13.32A.050 Officer taking child into custody—When authorized—Maximum time of custody—Transporting to crisis residential center—Report on suspected abuse or neglect.
- 13.32A.060 Officer taking child into custody—Procedure—Transporting to home, crisis residential center, custody of department, or juvenile detention facility.
- 13.32A.065 Officer taking child into custody—Placing in detention—Detention review hearing—Hearing on contempt (*as amended by 2000 c 123*).
- 13.32A.065 Officer taking child into custody—Placing in detention—Detention review hearing—Hearing on contempt (*as amended by 2000 c 162*).
- 13.32A.070 Immunity from liability for law enforcement officer and person with whom child is placed.
- 13.32A.080 Unlawful harboring of a minor—Penalty—Defense—Prosecution of adult for involving child in commission of offense.
- 13.32A.082 Providing shelter to minor—Requirement to notify parent, law enforcement, or department.
- 13.32A.084 Providing shelter to minor—Immunity from liability.
- 13.32A.085 Unlicensed youth shelter or unlicensed runaway and homeless youth program—Private right of action or claim.
- 13.32A.086 Duty of law enforcement agencies to identify runaway children under RCW 43.43.510.
- 13.32A.090 Duty to inform parents—Transportation to child's home or out-of-home placement—Notice to department.
- 13.32A.095 Unauthorized leave from crisis residential center—Notice to parents, law enforcement, and the department.
- 13.32A.100 Family reconciliation services for child in out-of-home placement.
- 13.32A.110 Interstate compact to apply, when.
- 13.32A.120 Out-of-home placement—Agreement, continuation—Petition to approve or continue.
- 13.32A.125 Temporary out-of-home placement in semi-secure crisis residential center.
- 13.32A.128 Child admitted to secure facility—Limitations.
- 13.32A.130 Child admitted to secure facility—Maximum hours of custody—Evaluation for semi-secure facility or release to department—Parental right to remove child—Reconciliation effort—Information to parent and child—Written statement of services and rights—Crisis residential center immunity from liability.
- 13.32A.140 Out-of-home placement—Child in need of services petition by department—Procedure.
- 13.32A.150 Out-of-home placement—Child in need of services petition by child or parent.
- 13.32A.152 Child in need of services petition—Service on parents—Notice to department—Petitions regarding Indian children.
- 13.32A.160 Out-of-home placement—Court action upon filing of child in need of services petition—Child placement.

- 13.32A.170 Out-of-home placement—Fact-finding hearing.
- 13.32A.175 Out-of-home placement—Contribution to child's support—Enforcement of order.
- 13.32A.177 Out-of-home placement—Determination of support payments.
- 13.32A.178 Out-of-home placement—Child support—Exceptions.
- 13.32A.179 Out-of-home placement—Disposition hearing—Court order—Dispositional plan—Child subject to contempt proceedings—Dismissal of order at request of department or parent.
- 13.32A.180 Out-of-home placement—Court order—No placement in secure residence.
- 13.32A.190 Out-of-home placement dispositional order—Review hearings—Time limitation on out-of-home placement—Termination of placement at request of parent.
- 13.32A.191 At-risk youth—Petition by parent.
- 13.32A.192 At-risk youth petition—Prehearing procedures.
- 13.32A.194 At-risk youth petition—Court procedures.
- 13.32A.196 At-risk youth petition—Dispositional hearing.
- 13.32A.197 Disposition hearing—Additional orders for specialized treatment—Review hearings—Limitation—Use of state funds.
- 13.32A.198 At-risk youth—Review by court.
- 13.32A.200 Hearings under chapter—Time or place—Public excluded.
- 13.32A.205 Acceptance of petitions by court—Damages.
- 13.32A.210 Foster home placement—Parental preferences.
- 13.32A.250 Failure to comply with order as civil contempt—Motion—Penalties.
- 13.32A.270 Youth who have been diverted—Alleged prostitution or prostitution loitering offenses—Services and treatment.
- 13.32A.300 No entitlement to services created by chapter.

*Consistency required in administration of statutes applicable to runaway youth, at-risk youth, and families in conflict: RCW 43.20A.770.*

*Family preservation services: Chapter 74.14C RCW.*

*Foster placement prevention: Chapter 74.14C RCW.*

*Implementation of chapters 13.32A and 13.34 RCW: RCW 74.13.036.*

*Juvenile may be both dependent and an offender: RCW 13.04.300.*

*Services for families-in-conflict: RCW 74.14A.020.*

*Transitional treatment program for gang and drug-involved juvenile offenders: RCW 13.40.310.*

**13.32A.010 Legislative findings and intent.** The legislature finds that within any group of people there exists a need for guidelines for acceptable behavior and that, presumptively, the experience and maturity of parents make them better qualified to establish guidelines beneficial to and protective of their children. The legislature further finds that it is the right and responsibility of adults to establish laws for the benefit and protection of the society; and that, in the same manner, the right and responsibility for establishing reasonable guidelines for the family unit belongs to the adults within that unit. Further, absent abuse or neglect, parents have the right to exercise control over their children. The legislature reaffirms its position stated in RCW 13.34.020 that the family unit is the fundamental resource of American life which should be nurtured and that it should remain intact in the absence of compelling evidence to the contrary.

The legislature recognizes there is a need for services and assistance for parents and children who are in conflict. These conflicts are manifested by children who exhibit various behaviors including: Running away, substance abuse, serious acting out problems, mental health needs, and other behaviors that endanger themselves or others.

The legislature finds many parents do not know their rights regarding their adolescent children and law enforcement. Parents and courts feel they have insufficient legal recourse for the chronic runaway child who is endangering himself or herself through his or her behavior. The legislature further recognizes that for chronic runaways whose behavior puts them in serious danger of harming themselves or others, secure facilities must be provided to allow opportunities for

assessment, treatment, and to assist parents and protect their children. The legislature intends to give tools to parents, courts, and law enforcement to keep families together and reunite them whenever possible.

The legislature recognizes that some children run away to protect themselves from abuse or neglect in their homes. Abused and neglected children should be dealt with pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW and it is not the intent of the legislature to handle dependency matters under this chapter.

The legislature intends services offered under this chapter be on a voluntary basis whenever possible to children and their families and that the courts be used as a last resort.

The legislature intends to increase the safety of children through the preservation of families and the provision of assessment, treatment, and placement services for children in need of services and at-risk youth including services and assessments conducted under chapter 13.32A RCW and RCW 74.13.033. Within available funds, the legislature intends to provide these services through crisis residential centers in which children and youth may safely reside for a limited period of time. The time in residence shall be used to conduct an assessment of the needs of the children, youth, and their families. The assessments are necessary to identify appropriate services and placement options that will reduce the likelihood that children will place themselves in dangerous or life-threatening situations.

The legislature recognizes that crisis residential centers provide an opportunity for children to receive short-term necessary support and nurturing in cases where there may be abuse or neglect. The legislature intends that center staff provide an atmosphere of concern, care, and respect for children in the center and their parents.

The legislature intends to provide for the protection of children who, through their behavior, are endangering themselves. The legislature intends to provide appropriate residential services, including secure facilities, to protect, stabilize, and treat children with serious problems. The legislature further intends to empower parents by providing them with the assistance they require to raise their children. [2000 c 123 § 1; 1995 c 312 § 1; 1979 c 155 § 15.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.015 At-risk youth services—Intent.** It is the intent of the legislature to:

- (1) Preserve, strengthen, and reconcile families experiencing problems with at-risk youth;
- (2) Provide a legal process by which parents who are experiencing problems with at-risk youth can request and receive assistance from juvenile courts in providing appropriate care, treatment, and supervision to such youth; and
- (3) Assess the effectiveness of the family reconciliation services program.

The legislature does not intend by this enactment to grant any parent the right to file an at-risk youth petition or receive juvenile court assistance in dealing with an at-risk youth. The purpose of chapter 276, Laws of 1990 is to create a process by which a parent of an at-risk youth may request and receive assistance subject to the availability of juvenile court services and resources. Recognizing that these services and resources are limited, the legislature intends that counties have the authority to impose reasonable limits on the utilization of

juvenile court services and resources in matters related to at-risk youth. Any responsibilities imposed upon the department under chapter 276, Laws of 1990 shall be contingent upon the availability of funds specifically appropriated by the legislature for such purpose. [1990 c 276 § 1.]

**13.32A.020 Short title.** This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the family reconciliation act. [1990 c 276 § 2; 1979 c 155 § 16.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.030 Definitions—Regulating leave from semi-secure facility.** As used in this chapter the following terms have the meanings indicated unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(1) "Abuse or neglect" means the injury, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, negligent treatment, or maltreatment of a child by any person under circumstances which indicate that the child's health, welfare, and safety is harmed, excluding conduct permitted under RCW 9A.16.100. An abused child is a child who has been subjected to child abuse or neglect as defined in this section.

(2) "Administrator" means the individual who has the daily administrative responsibility of a crisis residential center, or his or her designee.

(3) "At-risk youth" means a juvenile:

(a) Who is absent from home for at least seventy-two consecutive hours without consent of his or her parent;

(b) Who is beyond the control of his or her parent such that the child's behavior endangers the health, safety, or welfare of the child or any other person; or

(c) Who has a substance abuse problem for which there are no pending criminal charges related to the substance abuse.

(4) "Child," "juvenile," and "youth" mean any unemancipated individual who is under the chronological age of eighteen years.

(5) "Child in need of services" means a juvenile:

(a) Who is beyond the control of his or her parent such that the child's behavior endangers the health, safety, or welfare of the child or other person;

(b) Who has been reported to law enforcement as absent without consent for at least twenty-four consecutive hours on two or more separate occasions from the home of either parent, a crisis residential center, an out-of-home placement, or a court-ordered placement; and

(i) Has exhibited a serious substance abuse problem; or

(ii) Has exhibited behaviors that create a serious risk of harm to the health, safety, or welfare of the child or any other person;

(c)(i) Who is in need of: (A) Necessary services, including food, shelter, health care, clothing, or education; or (B) services designed to maintain or reunite the family;

(ii) Who lacks access to, or has declined to utilize, these services; and

(iii) Whose parents have evidenced continuing but unsuccessful efforts to maintain the family structure or are unable or unwilling to continue efforts to maintain the family structure; or

(d) Who is a "sexually exploited child".

(6) "Child in need of services petition" means a petition filed in juvenile court by a parent, child, or the department seeking adjudication of placement of the child.

(7) "Crisis residential center" means a secure or semi-secure facility established pursuant to chapter 74.13 RCW.

(8) "Custodian" means the person or entity who has the legal right to the custody of the child.

(9) "Department" means the department of social and health services.

(10) "Extended family member" means an adult who is a grandparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, uncle, aunt, or first cousin with whom the child has a relationship and is comfortable, and who is willing and available to care for the child.

(11) "Guardian" means that person or agency that (a) has been appointed as the guardian of a child in a legal proceeding other than a proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW, and (b) has the right to legal custody of the child pursuant to such appointment. The term "guardian" does not include a "dependency guardian" appointed pursuant to a proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW.

(12) "Multidisciplinary team" means a group formed to provide assistance and support to a child who is an at-risk youth or a child in need of services and his or her parent. The team shall include the parent, a department caseworker, a local government representative when authorized by the local government, and when appropriate, members from the mental health and substance abuse disciplines. The team may also include, but is not limited to, the following persons: Educators, law enforcement personnel, probation officers, employers, church persons, tribal members, therapists, medical personnel, social service providers, placement providers, and extended family members. The team members shall be volunteers who do not receive compensation while acting in a capacity as a team member, unless the member's employer chooses to provide compensation or the member is a state employee.

(13) "Out-of-home placement" means a placement in a foster family home or group care facility licensed pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW or placement in a home, other than that of the child's parent, guardian, or legal custodian, not required to be licensed pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW.

(14) "Parent" means the parent or parents who have the legal right to custody of the child. "Parent" includes custodian or guardian.

(15) "Secure facility" means a crisis residential center, or portion thereof, that has locking doors, locking windows, or a secured perimeter, designed and operated to prevent a child from leaving without permission of the facility staff.

(16) "Semi-secure facility" means any facility, including but not limited to crisis residential centers or specialized foster family homes, operated in a manner to reasonably assure that youth placed there will not run away. Pursuant to rules established by the department, the facility administrator shall establish reasonable hours for residents to come and go from the facility such that no residents are free to come and go at all hours of the day and night. To prevent residents from taking unreasonable actions, the facility administrator, where appropriate, may condition a resident's leaving the facility upon the resident being accompanied by the administrator or the administrator's designee and the resident may be required

to notify the administrator or the administrator's designee of any intent to leave, his or her intended destination, and the probable time of his or her return to the center.

(17) "Sexually exploited child" means any person under the age of eighteen who is a victim of the crime of commercial sex abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.100, promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.101, or promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.102.

(18) "Staff secure facility" means a structured group care facility licensed under rules adopted by the department with a ratio of at least one adult staff member to every two children.

(19) "Temporary out-of-home placement" means an out-of-home placement of not more than fourteen days ordered by the court at a fact-finding hearing on a child in need of services petition. [2010 c 289 § 1; 2000 c 123 § 2; 1997 c 146 § 1; 1996 c 133 § 9; 1995 c 312 § 3; 1990 c 276 § 3; 1985 c 257 § 6; 1979 c 155 § 17.]

**Effective date—2010 c 289:** "Section 1 of this act takes effect July 1, 2011." [2010 c 289 § 2.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.040 Family reconciliation services.** Families who are in conflict or who are experiencing problems with at-risk youth or a child who may be in need of services may request family reconciliation services from the department. The department may involve a local multidisciplinary team in its response in determining the services to be provided and in providing those services. Such services shall be provided to alleviate personal or family situations which present a serious and imminent threat to the health or stability of the child or family and to maintain families intact wherever possible. Family reconciliation services shall be designed to develop skills and supports within families to resolve problems related to at-risk youth, children in need of services, or family conflicts. These services may include but are not limited to referral to services for suicide prevention, psychiatric or other medical care, or psychological, mental health, drug or alcohol treatment, welfare, legal, educational, or other social services, as appropriate to the needs of the child and the family, and training in parenting, conflict management, and dispute resolution skills. [2000 c 123 § 3; 1995 c 312 § 5; 1994 c 304 § 3; 1990 c 276 § 4; 1981 c 298 § 1; 1979 c 155 § 18.]

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.042 Multidisciplinary team—Formation.** (1)(a) The administrator of a crisis residential center may convene a multidisciplinary team, which is to be locally based and administered, at the request of a child placed at the center or the child's parent.

(b) If the administrator has reasonable cause to believe that a child is a child in need of services and the parent is unavailable or unwilling to continue efforts to maintain the family structure, the administrator shall immediately convene a multidisciplinary team.

(c) A parent may disband a team twenty-four hours, excluding weekends and holidays, after receiving notice of

formation of the team under (b) of this subsection unless a petition has been filed under RCW 13.32A.140. If a petition has been filed the parent may not disband the team until the hearing is held under RCW 13.32A.179. The court may allow the team to continue if an out-of-home placement is ordered under RCW 13.32A.179(3). Upon the filing of an at-risk youth or dependency petition the team shall cease to exist, unless the parent requests continuation of the team or unless the out-of-home placement was ordered under RCW 13.32A.179(3).

(2) The secretary shall request participation of appropriate state agencies to assist in the coordination and delivery of services through the multidisciplinary teams. Those agencies that agree to participate shall provide the secretary all information necessary to facilitate forming a multidisciplinary team and the secretary shall provide this information to the administrator of each crisis residential center.

(3) The secretary shall designate within each region a department employee who shall have responsibility for coordination of the state response to a request for creation of a multidisciplinary team. The secretary shall advise the administrator of each crisis residential center of the name of the appropriate employee. Upon a request of the administrator to form a multidisciplinary team the employee shall provide a list of the agencies that have agreed to participate in the multidisciplinary team.

(4) The administrator shall also seek participation from representatives of mental health and drug and alcohol treatment providers as appropriate.

(5) A parent shall be advised of the request to form a multidisciplinary team and may select additional members of the multidisciplinary team. The parent or child may request any person or persons to participate including, but not limited to, educators, law enforcement personnel, court personnel, family therapists, licensed health care practitioners, social service providers, youth residential placement providers, other family members, church representatives, and members of their own community. The administrator shall assist in obtaining the prompt participation of persons requested by the parent or child.

(6) When an administrator of a crisis residential center requests the formation of a team, the state agencies must respond as soon as possible. [2000 c 123 § 4; 1995 c 312 § 13.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.044 Multidisciplinary team—Purpose—Authority.** (1) The purpose of the multidisciplinary team is to assist in a coordinated referral of the family to available social and health-related services.

(2) The team shall have the authority to evaluate the juvenile, and family members, if appropriate and agreed to by the parent, and shall:

(a) With parental input, develop a plan of appropriate available services and assist the family in obtaining those services;

(b) Make a referral to the designated chemical dependency specialist or the county designated mental health professional, if appropriate;

(c) Recommend no further intervention because the juvenile and his or her family have resolved the problem causing the family conflict; or

(d) With the parent's consent, work with them to achieve reconciliation of the child and family.

(3) At the first meeting of the multidisciplinary team, it shall choose a member to coordinate the team's efforts. The parent member of the multidisciplinary team must agree with the choice of coordinator. The team shall meet or communicate as often as necessary to assist the family.

(4) The coordinator of the multidisciplinary team may assist in filing a child in need of services petition when requested by the parent or child or an at-risk youth petition when requested by the parent. The multidisciplinary team shall have no standing as a party in any action under this title.

(5) If the administrator is unable to contact the child's parent, the multidisciplinary team may be used for assistance. If the parent has not been contacted within five days the administrator shall contact the department and request the case be reviewed for a dependency filing under chapter 13.34 RCW. [2000 c 123 § 5; 1995 c 312 § 14.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.050 Officer taking child into custody—When authorized—Maximum time of custody—Transporting to crisis residential center—Report on suspected abuse or neglect.** (1) A law enforcement officer shall take a child into custody:

(a) If a law enforcement agency has been contacted by the parent of the child that the child is absent from parental custody without consent; or

(b) If a law enforcement officer reasonably believes, considering the child's age, the location, and the time of day, that a child is in circumstances which constitute a danger to the child's safety or that a child is violating a local curfew ordinance; or

(c) If an agency legally charged with the supervision of a child has notified a law enforcement agency that the child has run away from placement; or

(d) If a law enforcement agency has been notified by the juvenile court that the court finds probable cause exists to believe that the child has violated a court placement order issued under this chapter or chapter 13.34 RCW or that the court has issued an order for law enforcement pick-up of the child under this chapter or chapter 13.34 RCW.

(2) Law enforcement custody shall not extend beyond the amount of time reasonably necessary to transport the child to a destination authorized by law and to place the child at that destination. Law enforcement custody continues until the law enforcement officer transfers custody to a person, agency, or other authorized entity under this chapter, or releases the child because no placement is available. Transfer of custody is not complete unless the person, agency, or entity to whom the child is released agrees to accept custody.

(3) If a law enforcement officer takes a child into custody pursuant to either subsection (1)(a) or (b) of this section and transports the child to a crisis residential center, the officer shall, within twenty-four hours of delivering the child to the center, provide to the center a written report detailing the reasons the officer took the child into custody. The center

shall provide the department with a copy of the officer's report.

(4) If the law enforcement officer who initially takes the juvenile into custody or the staff of the crisis residential center have reasonable cause to believe that the child is absent from home because he or she is abused or neglected, a report shall be made immediately to the department.

(5) Nothing in this section affects the authority of any political subdivision to make regulations concerning the conduct of minors in public places by ordinance or other local law.

(6) If a law enforcement officer has a reasonable suspicion that a child is being unlawfully harbored in violation of RCW 13.32A.080, the officer shall remove the child from the custody of the person harboring the child and shall transport the child to one of the locations specified in RCW 13.32A.060.

(7) No child may be placed in a secure facility except as provided in this chapter. [2000 c 123 § 6; 1997 c 146 § 2; 1996 c 133 § 10; 1995 c 312 § 6; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 505; 1990 c 276 § 5; 1986 c 288 § 1; 1985 c 257 § 7; 1981 c 298 § 2; 1979 c 155 § 19.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.060 Officer taking child into custody—Procedure—Transporting to home, crisis residential center, custody of department, or juvenile detention facility.** (1) An officer taking a child into custody under RCW 13.32A.050(1) (a) or (b) shall inform the child of the reason for such custody and shall:

(a) Transport the child to his or her home or to a parent at his or her place of employment, if no parent is at home. The parent may request that the officer take the child to the home of an adult extended family member, responsible adult, crisis residential center, the department, or a licensed youth shelter. In responding to the request of the parent, the officer shall take the child to a requested place which, in the officer's belief, is within a reasonable distance of the parent's home. The officer releasing a child into the custody of a parent, an adult extended family member, responsible adult, or a licensed youth shelter shall inform the person receiving the child of the reason for taking the child into custody and inform all parties of the nature and location of appropriate services available in the community; or

(b) After attempting to notify the parent, take the child to a designated crisis residential center's secure facility or a center's semi-secure facility if a secure facility is full, not available, or not located within a reasonable distance if:

(i) The child expresses fear or distress at the prospect of being returned to his or her home which leads the officer to believe there is a possibility that the child is experiencing some type of abuse or neglect;

(ii) It is not practical to transport the child to his or her home or place of the parent's employment; or

(iii) There is no parent available to accept custody of the child; or

(c) After attempting to notify the parent, if a crisis residential center is full, not available, or not located within a reasonable distance, request the department to accept custody of the child. If the department determines that an appropriate placement is currently available, the department shall accept custody and place the child in an out-of-home placement. Upon accepting custody of a child from the officer, the department may place the child in an out-of-home placement for up to seventy-two hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, without filing a child in need of services petition, obtaining parental consent, or obtaining an order for placement under chapter 13.34 RCW. Upon transferring a child to the department's custody, the officer shall provide written documentation of the reasons and the statutory basis for taking the child into custody. If the department declines to accept custody of the child, the officer may release the child after attempting to take the child to the following, in the order listed: The home of an adult extended family member; a responsible adult; or a licensed youth shelter. The officer shall immediately notify the department if no placement option is available and the child is released.

(2) An officer taking a child into custody under RCW 13.32A.050(1) (c) or (d) shall inform the child of the reason for custody. An officer taking a child into custody under RCW 13.32A.050(1)(c) may release the child to the supervising agency, or shall take the child to a designated crisis residential center's secure facility. If the secure facility is not available, not located within a reasonable distance, or full, the officer shall take the child to a semi-secure crisis residential center. An officer taking a child into custody under RCW 13.32A.050(1)(d) may place the child in a juvenile detention facility as provided in RCW 13.32A.065 or a secure facility, except that the child shall be taken to detention whenever the officer has been notified that a juvenile court has entered a detention order under this chapter or chapter 13.34 RCW.

(3) Every officer taking a child into custody shall provide the child and his or her parent or parents or responsible adult with a copy of the statement specified in RCW 13.32A.130(6).

(4) Whenever an officer transfers custody of a child to a crisis residential center or the department, the child may reside in the crisis residential center or may be placed by the department in an out-of-home placement for an aggregate total period of time not to exceed seventy-two hours excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Thereafter, the child may continue in out-of-home placement only if the parents have consented, a child in need of services petition has been filed, or an order for placement has been entered under chapter 13.34 RCW.

(5) The department shall ensure that all law enforcement authorities are informed on a regular basis as to the location of all designated secure and semi-secure facilities within centers in their jurisdiction, where children taken into custody under RCW 13.32A.050 may be taken. [2000 c 162 § 11; 2000 c 162 § 1; 2000 c 123 § 7; 1997 c 146 § 3; 1996 c 133 § 11; 1995 c 312 § 7; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 506; 1985 c 257 § 8; 1981 c 298 § 3; 1979 c 155 § 20.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2000 c 123 § 7 and by 2000 c 162 § 11, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.065 Officer taking child into custody—Placing in detention—Detention review hearing—Hearing on contempt (as amended by 2000 c 123).** (1) ~~((A child may be placed in detention after being taken into custody pursuant to RCW 13.32A.050(1)(d).))~~ If a child is placed in detention under RCW 13.32A.050(1)(d), the court shall hold a detention review hearing within twenty-four hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. The court shall release the child after twenty-four hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, unless:

(a) A motion and order to show why the child should not be held in contempt has been filed and served on the child at or before the detention hearing; and

(b) The court believes that the child would not appear at a hearing on contempt.

(2) If the court orders the child to remain in detention, the court shall set the matter for a hearing on contempt within seventy-two hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. [2000 c 123 § 8; 1996 c 133 § 12; 1981 c 298 § 4.]

**13.32A.065 Officer taking child into custody—Placing in detention—Detention review hearing—Hearing on contempt (as amended by 2000 c 162).** (1) A child may be placed in ~~((either (a) a secure facility that is a separate, secure section of a juvenile detention facility; or (b)))~~ detention after being taken into custody pursuant to RCW 13.32A.050(1)(d). ~~((In no case may a child in contempt be confined in a secure facility that is freestanding outside a juvenile detention facility.))~~ The court shall hold a detention review hearing within twenty-four hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. The court shall release the child after twenty-four hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, unless:

(a) A motion and order to show why the child should not be held in contempt has been filed and served on the child at or before the detention hearing; and

(b) The court believes that the child would not appear at a hearing on contempt.

(2) If the court ~~((finds that the conditions in subsection (1)(a) and (b) of this section have been met))~~ orders the child to remain in detention, the court ~~((may order the child to remain confined either in (a) a secure facility that is a separate, secure section of a juvenile detention facility; or (b) detention, and))~~ shall set the matter for a hearing on contempt within seventy-two hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. ~~((In no case may a child in contempt be confined in a secure facility that is freestanding outside a juvenile detention facility.))~~ [2000 c 162 § 12; 2000 c 162 § 2; 1996 c 133 § 12; 1981 c 298 § 4.]

**Reviser's note:** RCW 13.32A.065 was amended by 2000 c 123 § 8 without cognizance of its amendment by 2000 c 162 §§ 2 and 12. For rule of construction concerning sections amended more than once during the same legislative session, see RCW 1.12.025.

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.070 Immunity from liability for law enforcement officer and person with whom child is placed.** (1) A law enforcement officer acting in good faith pursuant to this chapter is immune from civil or criminal liability for such action.

(2) A person with whom a child is placed pursuant to this chapter and who acts reasonably and in good faith is immune from civil or criminal liability for the act of receiving the child. The immunity does not release the person from liability under any other law. [1996 c 133 § 13; 1995 c 312 § 8; 1986 c 288 § 2; 1981 c 298 § 5; 1979 c 155 § 21.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.080 Unlawful harboring of a minor—Penalty—Defense—Prosecution of adult for involving child in commission of offense.** (1)(a) A person commits the crime of unlawful harboring of a minor if the person provides shelter to a minor without the consent of a parent of the minor and after the person knows that the minor is away from the home of the parent, without the parent's permission, and if the person intentionally:

(i) Fails to release the minor to a law enforcement officer after being requested to do so by the officer; or

(ii) Fails to disclose the location of the minor to a law enforcement officer after being requested to do so by the officer, if the person knows the location of the minor and had either taken the minor to that location or had assisted the minor in reaching that location; or

(iii) Obstructs a law enforcement officer from taking the minor into custody; or

(iv) Assists the minor in avoiding or attempting to avoid the custody of the law enforcement officer.

(b) It is a defense to a prosecution under this section that the defendant had custody of the minor pursuant to a court order.

(2) Unlawful harboring of a minor is punishable as a gross misdemeanor.

(3) Any person who provides shelter to a child, absent from home, may notify the department's local community service office of the child's presence.

(4) An adult responsible for involving a child in the commission of an offense may be prosecuted under existing criminal statutes including, but not limited to:

(a) Distribution of a controlled substance to a minor, as defined in RCW 69.50.406;

(b) Promoting prostitution as defined in chapter 9A.88 RCW; and

(c) Complicity of the adult in the crime of a minor, under RCW 9A.08.020. [2000 c 123 § 9; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 507; 1981 c 298 § 6; 1979 c 155 § 22.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.082 Providing shelter to minor—Requirement to notify parent, law enforcement, or department.**

(1) Any person who, without legal authorization, provides shelter to a minor and who knows at the time of providing the shelter that the minor is away from the parent's home without the permission of the parent, or other lawfully prescribed residence, shall promptly report the location of the child to the parent, the law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction in which the person lives, or the department.

The report may be made by telephone or any other reasonable means.

(2) Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section.

(a) "Shelter" means the person's home or any structure over which the person has any control.

(b) "Promptly report" means to report within eight hours after the person has knowledge that the minor is away from a lawfully prescribed residence or home without parental permission.

(3) When the department receives a report under subsection (1) of this section, it shall make a good faith attempt to notify the parent that a report has been received and offer services designed to resolve the conflict and accomplish a reunification of the family. [2011 c 151 § 1; 2010 c 229 § 2; 2000 c 123 § 10; 1996 c 133 § 14; 1995 c 312 § 34.]

**Effective date—2011 c 151 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act takes effect July 1, 2012." [2011 c 151 § 2.]

**Findings—2010 c 229:** "The legislature finds that youth services provide safety to youth on the streets and are a critical pathway to ensuring the youth's return home. Runaway youth are without protection, live under the threat of violence, and fall victim to predators who exploit their vulnerability. The policy of this state is to provide assistance to youth in crisis and to protect and preserve families. In order to effectively serve youth on the streets and promote their safe return home, shelters must have the time to establish and maintain an environment that facilitates open communication and trust.

The legislature also finds that parents of runaway youth have an interest in knowing their sons and daughters are safe in a shelter, rather than on the streets without protection. The legislature further finds that law enforcement and the department can notify a parent that the youth is safe, without disclosing the youth's location or compromising the ability of youth services providers to effectively assist youth in crisis." [2010 c 229 § 1.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.084 Providing shelter to minor—Immunity from liability.** If a person provides the notice required in RCW 13.32A.082, he or she is immune from liability for any cause of action arising from providing shelter to the child. The immunity shall not extend to acts of intentional misconduct or gross negligence by the person providing the shelter. [1995 c 312 § 36.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.085 Unlicensed youth shelter or unlicensed runaway and homeless youth program—Private right of action or claim.** A private right of action or claim on the part of a parent is created against an unlicensed youth shelter or unlicensed runaway and homeless youth program who fails to meet the notification requirements in \*RCW 13.32A.082(1)(a). [2010 c 229 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 13.32A.082 was amended by 2011 c 151 § 1, deleting subsection (1)(a).

**Findings—2010 c 229:** See note following RCW 13.32A.082.

**13.32A.086 Duty of law enforcement agencies to identify runaway children under RCW 43.43.510.** Whenever a law enforcement agency receives a report from a parent that his or her child, or child over whom the parent has custody, has without permission of the parent left the home or residence lawfully prescribed for the child under circumstances where the parent believes that the child has run away from the home or the residence, the agency shall provide for placing information identifying the child in files under RCW 43.43.510. [1995 c 312 § 37.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.090 Duty to inform parents—Transportation to child's home or out-of-home placement—Notice to department.** (1) The administrator of a designated crisis residential center or the department shall perform the duties under subsection (3) of this section:

(a) Upon admitting a child who has been brought to the center by a law enforcement officer under RCW 13.32A.060;

(b) Upon admitting a child who has run away from home or has requested admittance to the center;

(c) Upon learning from a person under RCW 13.32A.082 that the person is providing shelter to a child absent from home; or

(d) Upon learning that a child has been placed with a responsible adult pursuant to RCW 13.32A.060.

(2) Transportation expenses of the child shall be at the parent's expense to the extent of his or her ability to pay, with any unmet transportation expenses assumed by the department.

(3) When any of the circumstances under subsection (1) of this section are present, the administrator of a center or the department shall perform the following duties:

(a) Immediately notify the child's parent of the child's whereabouts, physical and emotional condition, and the circumstances surrounding his or her placement;

(b) Initially notify the parent that it is the paramount concern of the family reconciliation service personnel to achieve a reconciliation between the parent and child to reunify the family and inform the parent as to the procedures to be followed under this chapter;

(c) Inform the parent whether a referral to children's protective services has been made and, if so, inform the parent of the standard pursuant to \*RCW 26.44.020(12) governing child abuse and neglect in this state; and either

(d)(i) Arrange transportation for the child to the residence of the parent, as soon as practicable, when the child and his or her parent agrees to the child's return home or when the parent produces a copy of a court order entered under this chapter requiring the child to reside in the parent's home; or

(ii) Arrange transportation for the child to: (i) [(A)] An out-of-home placement which may include a licensed group care facility or foster family when agreed to by the child and parent; or (ii) [(B)] a certified or licensed mental health or chemical dependency program of the parent's choice.

(4) If the administrator of the crisis residential center performs the duties listed in subsection (3) of this section, he or she shall also notify the department that a child has been admitted to the crisis residential center. [2000 c 123 § 11; 1996 c 133 § 7; 1995 c 312 § 10; 1990 c 276 § 6; 1981 c 298 § 7; 1979 c 155 § 23.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 26.44.020 was amended by 2007 c 220 § 1, changing subsection (12) to subsection (1), effective October 1, 2008.

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.095 Unauthorized leave from crisis residential center—Notice to parents, law enforcement, and the department.** The administrator of a crisis residential center shall notify parents, the appropriate law enforcement agency, and the department immediately as to any unauthorized leave from the center by a child placed at the center. [2000 c 123 § 12; 1996 c 133 § 15; 1995 c 312 § 21.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.100 Family reconciliation services for child in out-of-home placement.** Where a child is placed in an out-of-home placement pursuant to RCW 13.32A.090(3)(d)(ii), the department shall make available family reconciliation services in order to facilitate the reunification of the family. Any such placement may continue as long as there is agreement by the child and parent. [2000 c 123 § 13; 1996 c 133 § 16; 1981 c 298 § 8; 1979 c 155 § 24.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.110 Interstate compact to apply, when.** If a child who has a legal residence outside the state of Washington is admitted to a crisis residential center or is released by a law enforcement officer to the department, and the child refuses to return home, the provisions of \*RCW 13.24.010 shall apply. [1996 c 133 § 17; 1979 c 155 § 25.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 13.24.010 was repealed by 2003 c 180 § 3, effective August 26, 2008.

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

*Interstate compact on juveniles: Chapter 13.24 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.120 Out-of-home placement—Agreement, continuation—Petition to approve or continue.** (1) Where either a child or the child's parent or the person or facility currently providing shelter to the child notifies the center that such individual or individuals cannot agree to the continuation of an out-of-home placement arrived at pursuant to RCW 13.32A.090(3)(d)(ii), the administrator of the center shall immediately contact the remaining party or parties to the agreement and shall attempt to bring about the child's return home or to an alternative living arrangement agreeable to the child and the parent as soon as practicable.

(2) If a child and his or her parent cannot agree to an out-of-home placement under RCW 13.32A.090(3)(d)(ii), either the child or parent may file a child in need of services petition to approve an out-of-home placement or the parent may file an at-risk youth petition.

(3) If a child and his or her parent cannot agree to the continuation of an out-of-home placement under RCW 13.32A.090(3)(d)(ii), either the child or parent may file a child in need of services petition to continue an out-of-home placement or the parent may file an at-risk youth petition. [2000 c 123 § 14; 1996 c 133 § 18; 1995 c 312 § 11; 1990 c 276 § 7; 1979 c 155 § 26.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.125 Temporary out-of-home placement in semi-secure crisis residential center.** In approving a petition under this chapter, a child may be placed in a semi-secure crisis residential center as a temporary out-of-home placement under the following conditions: (1) No other suitable out-of-home placement is available; (2) space is avail-

able in the semi-secure crisis residential center; and (3) no child will be denied access for a five-day placement due to this placement.

Any child referred to a semi-secure crisis residential center by a law enforcement officer, the department, or himself or herself shall have priority over a temporary out-of-home placement in the facility. Any out-of-home placement order shall be subject to this priority, and the administrator of the semi-secure crisis residential center shall transfer the temporary out-of-home placement youth to a new out-of-home placement as necessary to ensure access for youth needing the semi-secure crisis residential center. [1995 c 312 § 44.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.128 Child admitted to secure facility—Limitations.** The department may take a runaway youth to a secure facility after attempting to notify the parent of the child's whereabouts. The department may not take a child to a secure facility if the department has reasonable cause to believe that the reason for the child's runaway status is the result of abuse or neglect. [2009 c 569 § 5.]

**13.32A.130 Child admitted to secure facility—Maximum hours of custody—Evaluation for semi-secure facility or release to department—Parental right to remove child—Reconciliation effort—Information to parent and child—Written statement of services and rights—Crisis residential center immunity from liability.** (1) A child admitted to a secure facility located in a juvenile detention center shall remain in the facility for at least twenty-four hours after admission but for not more than five consecutive days. A child admitted to a secure facility not located in a juvenile detention center or a semi-secure facility may remain for not more than fifteen consecutive days. If a child is transferred between a secure and semi-secure facility, the aggregate length of time a child may remain in both facilities shall not exceed fifteen consecutive days per admission, and in no event may a child's stay in a secure facility located in a juvenile detention center exceed five days per admission.

(2)(a)(i) The facility administrator shall determine within twenty-four hours after a child's admission to a secure facility whether the child is likely to remain in a semi-secure facility and may transfer the child to a semi-secure facility or release the child to the department. The determination shall be based on: (A) The need for continued assessment, protection, and treatment of the child in a secure facility; and (B) the likelihood the child would remain at a semi-secure facility until his or her parents can take the child home or a petition can be filed under this title.

(ii) In making the determination the administrator shall consider the following information if known: (A) The child's age and maturity; (B) the child's condition upon arrival at the center; (C) the circumstances that led to the child's being taken to the center; (D) whether the child's behavior endangers the health, safety, or welfare of the child or any other person; (E) the child's history of running away; and (F) the child's willingness to cooperate in the assessment.

(b) If the administrator of a secure facility determines the child is unlikely to remain in a semi-secure facility, the administrator shall keep the child in the secure facility pursuant to this chapter and in order to provide for space for the



child may transfer another child who has been in the facility for at least seventy-two hours to a semi-secure facility. The administrator shall only make a transfer of a child after determining that the child who may be transferred is likely to remain at the semi-secure facility.

(c) A crisis residential center administrator is authorized to transfer a child to a crisis residential center in the area where the child's parents reside or where the child's lawfully prescribed residence is located.

(d) An administrator may transfer a child from a semi-secure facility to a secure facility whenever he or she reasonably believes that the child is likely to leave the semi-secure facility and not return and after full consideration of all factors in (a)(i) and (ii) of this subsection.

(3) If no parent is available or willing to remove the child during the first seventy-two hours following admission, the department shall consider the filing of a petition under RCW 13.32A.140.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the parents may remove the child at any time unless the staff of the crisis residential center has reasonable cause to believe that the child is absent from the home because he or she is abused or neglected or if allegations of abuse or neglect have been made against the parents. The department or any agency legally charged with the supervision of a child may remove a child from a crisis residential center at any time after the first twenty-four-hour period after admission has elapsed and only after full consideration by all parties of the factors in subsection (2)(a) of this section.

(5) Crisis residential center staff shall make reasonable efforts to protect the child and achieve a reconciliation of the family. If a reconciliation and voluntary return of the child has not been achieved within forty-eight hours from the time of admission, and if the administrator of the center does not consider it likely that reconciliation will be achieved within five days of the child's admission to the center, then the administrator shall inform the parent and child of: (a) The availability of counseling services; (b) the right to file a child in need of services petition for an out-of-home placement, the right of a parent to file an at-risk youth petition, and the right of the parent and child to obtain assistance in filing the petition; (c) the right to request the facility administrator or his or her designee to form a multidisciplinary team; (d) the right to request a review of any out-of-home placement; (e) the right to request a mental health or chemical dependency evaluation by a county-designated professional or a private treatment facility; and (f) the right to request treatment in a program to address the child's at-risk behavior under RCW 13.32A.197.

(6) At no time shall information regarding a parent's or child's rights be withheld. The department shall develop and distribute to all law enforcement agencies and to each crisis residential center administrator a written statement delineating the services and rights. The administrator of the facility or his or her designee shall provide every resident and parent with a copy of the statement.

(7) A crisis residential center and any person employed at the center acting in good faith in carrying out the provisions of this section are immune from criminal or civil liability for such actions. [2009 c 569 § 1. Prior: 2000 c 162 § 13; 2000 c 162 § 3; 2000 c 123 § 15; 1997 c 146 § 4; 1996 c 133 § 8; 1995 c 312 § 12; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 508; 1992 c 205 § 206;

1990 c 276 § 8; 1985 c 257 § 9; 1981 c 298 § 9; 1979 c 155 § 27.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.140 Out-of-home placement—Child in need of services petition by department—Procedure.** Unless the department files a dependency petition, the department shall file a child in need of services petition to approve an out-of-home placement on behalf of a child under any of the following sets of circumstances:

(1) The child has been admitted to a crisis residential center or has been placed by the department in an out-of-home placement, and:

(a) The parent has been notified that the child was so admitted or placed;

(b) The child cannot return home, and legal authorization is needed for out-of-home placement beyond seventy-two hours;

(c) No agreement between the parent and the child as to where the child shall live has been reached;

(d) No child in need of services petition has been filed by either the child or parent;

(e) The parent has not filed an at-risk youth petition; and

(f) The child has no suitable place to live other than the home of his or her parent.

(2) The child has been admitted to a crisis residential center and:

(a) Seventy-two hours, including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, have passed since such placement;

(b) The staff, after searching with due diligence, have been unable to contact the parent of such child; and

(c) The child has no suitable place to live other than the home of his or her parent.

(3) An agreement between parent and child made pursuant to RCW 13.32A.090(3)(d)(ii) or pursuant to RCW 13.32A.120(1) is no longer acceptable to parent or child, and:

(a) The party to whom the arrangement is no longer acceptable has so notified the department;

(b) Seventy-two hours, including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, have passed since such notification;

(c) No new agreement between parent and child as to where the child shall live has been reached;

(d) No child in need of services petition has been filed by either the child or the parent;

(e) The parent has not filed an at-risk youth petition; and

(f) The child has no suitable place to live other than the home of his or her parent.

Under the circumstances of subsections (1), (2), or (3) of this section, the child shall remain in an out-of-home placement until a child in need of services petition filed by the department on behalf of the child is reviewed and resolved by the juvenile court. The department may authorize emergency medical or dental care for a child admitted to a crisis residential center or placed in an out-of-home placement by the department. The state, when the department files a child in need of services petition under this section, shall be repre-

sented as provided for in RCW 13.04.093. [2000 c 123 § 16; 1997 c 146 § 5; 1996 c 133 § 19; 1995 c 312 § 15; 1990 c 276 § 9; 1981 c 298 § 10; 1979 c 155 § 28.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.150 Out-of-home placement—Child in need of services petition by child or parent.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the juvenile court shall not accept the filing of a child in need of services petition by the child or the parents or the filing of an at-risk youth petition by the parent, unless verification is provided that the department has completed a family assessment. The family assessment shall involve the multidisciplinary team if one exists. The family assessment or plan of services developed by the multidisciplinary team shall be aimed at family reconciliation, reunification, and avoidance of the out-of-home placement of the child. If the department is unable to complete an assessment within two working days following a request for assessment the child or the parents may proceed under subsection (2) of this section or the parent may proceed under RCW 13.32A.191.

(2) A child or a child's parent may file with the juvenile court a child in need of services petition to approve an out-of-home placement for the child. The department shall, when requested, assist either a parent or child in the filing of the petition. The petition must be filed in the county where the parent resides. The petition shall allege that the child is a child in need of services and shall ask only that the placement of a child outside the home of his or her parent be approved. The filing of a petition to approve the placement is not dependent upon the court's having obtained any prior jurisdiction over the child or his or her parent, and confers upon the court a special jurisdiction to approve or disapprove an out-of-home placement under this chapter.

(3) A petition may not be filed if the child is the subject of a proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW. [2000 c 123 § 17; 1996 c 133 § 20; 1995 c 312 § 16; 1992 c 205 § 208; 1990 c 276 § 10; 1989 c 269 § 1; 1981 c 298 § 11; 1979 c 155 § 29.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.152 Child in need of services petition—Service on parents—Notice to department—Petitions regarding Indian children.** (1) Whenever a child in need of services petition is filed by: (a) A youth pursuant to RCW 13.32A.150; (b) the child or the child's parent pursuant to RCW 13.32A.120; or (c) the department pursuant to RCW 13.32A.140, the filing party shall have a copy of the petition served on the parents of the youth. Service shall first be attempted in person and if unsuccessful, then by certified mail with return receipt.

(2) Whenever a child in need of services petition is filed by a youth or parent pursuant to RCW 13.32A.150, the court shall immediately notify the department that a petition has been filed.

(3) When a child in need of services petition is filed by the department, and the court or the petitioning party knows or has reason to know that an Indian child is involved, the provisions of chapter 13.38 RCW apply. [2011 c 309 § 21; 2004 c 64 § 5; 2000 c 123 § 18; 1996 c 133 § 21; 1995 c 312 § 4.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.160 Out-of-home placement—Court action upon filing of child in need of services petition—Child placement.** (1) When a proper child in need of services petition to approve an out-of-home placement is filed under RCW 13.32A.120, 13.32A.140, or 13.32A.150 the juvenile court shall: (a)(i) Schedule a fact-finding hearing to be held: (A) For a child who resides in a place other than his or her parent's home and other than an out-of-home placement, within five calendar days unless the last calendar day is a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, in which case the hearing shall be held on the preceding judicial day; or (B) for a child living at home or in an out-of-home placement, within ten days; and (ii) notify the parent, child, and the department of such date; (b) notify the parent of the right to be represented by counsel and, if indigent, to have counsel appointed for him or her by the court; (c) appoint legal counsel for the child; (d) inform the child and his or her parent of the legal consequences of the court approving or disapproving a child in need of services petition; (e) notify the parents of their rights under this chapter and chapters 11.88, 13.34, 70.96A, and 71.34 RCW, including the right to file an at-risk youth petition, the right to submit an application for admission of their child to a treatment facility for alcohol, chemical dependency, or mental health treatment, and the right to file a guardianship petition; and (f) notify all parties, including the department, of their right to present evidence at the fact-finding hearing.

(2) Upon filing of a child in need of services petition, the child may be placed, if not already placed, by the department in a crisis residential center, foster family home, group home facility licensed under chapter 74.15 RCW, or any other suitable residence other than a HOPE center to be determined by the department. The court may place a child in a crisis residential center for a temporary out-of-home placement as long as the requirements of RCW 13.32A.125 are met.

(3) If the child has been placed in a foster family home or group care facility under chapter 74.15 RCW, the child shall remain there, or in any other suitable residence as determined by the department, pending resolution of the petition by the court. Any placement may be reviewed by the court within three judicial days upon the request of the juvenile or the juvenile's parent. [2000 c 123 § 19; 1997 c 146 § 6; 1996 c 133 § 22; 1995 c 312 § 17; 1990 c 276 § 11; 1989 c 269 § 2; 1979 c 155 § 30.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.170 Out-of-home placement—Fact-finding hearing.** (1) The court shall hold a fact-finding hearing to consider a proper child in need of services petition, giving

due weight to the intent of the legislature that families have the right to place reasonable restrictions and rules upon their children, appropriate to the individual child's developmental level. The court may appoint legal counsel and/or a guardian ad litem to represent the child and advise parents of their right to be represented by legal counsel. At the commencement of the hearing, the court shall advise the parents of their rights as set forth in RCW 13.32A.160(1). If the court approves or denies a child in need of services petition, a written statement of the reasons must be filed.

(2) The court may approve an order stating that the child shall be placed in a residence other than the home of his or her parent only if it is established by a preponderance of the evidence, including a departmental recommendation for approval or dismissal of the petition, that:

(a) The child is a child in need of services as defined in RCW 13.32A.030(5);

(b) If the petitioner is a child, he or she has made a reasonable effort to resolve the conflict;

(c) Reasonable efforts have been made to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child from the child's home and to make it possible for the child to return home; and

(d) A suitable out-of-home placement resource is available.

The court may not grant a petition filed by the child or the department if it is established that the petition is based only upon a dislike of reasonable rules or reasonable discipline established by the parent.

The court may not grant the petition if the child is the subject of a proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW.

(3) Following the fact-finding hearing the court shall:

(a) Approve a child in need of services petition and, if appropriate, enter a temporary out-of-home placement for a period not to exceed fourteen days pending approval of a disposition decision to be made under RCW 13.32A.179(2); (b) approve an at-risk youth petition filed by the parents and dismiss the child in need of services petition; or (c) dismiss the petition.

At any time the court may order the department to review the case to determine whether the case is appropriate for a dependency petition under chapter 13.34 RCW. [2000 c 123 § 20; 1996 c 133 § 23; 1995 c 312 § 18; 1989 c 269 § 3; 1987 c 524 § 1; 1985 c 257 § 10; 1984 c 188 § 1; 1981 c 298 § 12; 1979 c 155 § 31.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.175 Out-of-home placement—Contribution to child's support—Enforcement of order.** In any proceeding in which the court approves an out-of-home placement, the court shall inquire into the ability of parents to contribute to the child's support. If the court finds that the parents are able to contribute to the support of the child, the court shall order them to make such support payments as the court deems equitable. The court may enforce such an order by execution or in any way in which a court of equity may enforce its orders. However, payments shall not be required of a parent who has both opposed the placement and continuously sought reconciliation with, and the return of, the child. All orders entered in a proceeding approving out-of-home placement shall be in compliance with the provisions of

RCW 26.23.050. [1995 c 312 § 19; 1987 c 435 § 13; 1981 c 298 § 15.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.177 Out-of-home placement—Determination of support payments.** A determination of support payments ordered under RCW 13.32A.175 shall be based upon chapter 26.19 RCW. [1995 c 312 § 22; 1988 c 275 § 14.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.178 Out-of-home placement—Child support—Exceptions.** The department of social and health services shall promulgate rules that create good cause exceptions to the establishment and enforcement of child support from parents of children in out-of-home placement under chapter 13.34 or 13.32A RCW that do not violate federal funding requirements. The department shall present the rules and the department's plan for implementation of the rules to the appropriate committees of the legislature prior to the 2002 legislative session. [2001 c 332 § 8.]

**13.32A.179 Out-of-home placement—Disposition hearing—Court order—Dispositional plan—Child subject to contempt proceedings—Dismissal of order at request of department or parent.** (1) A disposition hearing shall be held no later than fourteen days after the approval of the temporary out-of-home placement. The parents, child, and department shall be notified by the court of the time and place of the hearing.

(2) At the conclusion of the disposition hearing, the court may: (a) Reunite the family and dismiss the petition; (b) approve an at-risk youth petition filed by the parents and dismiss the child in need of services petition; (c) approve an out-of-home placement requested in the child in need of services petition by the parents; or (d) order an out-of-home placement at the request of the child or the department not to exceed ninety days.

At any time the court may order the department to review the matter for purposes of filing a dependency petition under chapter 13.34 RCW. Whether or not the court approves or orders an out-of-home placement, the court may also order any conditions of supervision as set forth in RCW 13.32A.196(3).

(3) The court may only enter an order under subsection (2)(d) of this section if it finds by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence that: (a)(i) The order is in the best interest of the family; (ii) the parents have not requested an out-of-home placement; (iii) the parents have not exercised any other right listed in RCW 13.32A.160(1)(e); (iv) the child has made reasonable efforts to resolve the problems that led to the filing of the petition; (v) the problems cannot be resolved by delivery of services to the family during continued placement of the child in the parental home; (vi) reasonable efforts have been made to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child from the child's home and to make it possible for the child to return home; and (vii) a suitable out-of-home placement resource is available; (b)(i) the order is in the best interest of the child; and (ii) the parents are unavailable; or (c) the parent's actions cause an imminent threat to the child's health or safety.

(4) The court may order the department to submit a dispositional plan if such a plan would assist the court in ordering a suitable disposition in the case. The plan, if ordered, shall address the needs of the child, and the perceived needs of the parents if the order was entered under subsection (2)(d) of this section or if specifically agreed to by the parents. If the parents do not agree or the order was not entered under subsection (2)(d) of this section the plan may only make recommendations regarding services in which the parents may voluntarily participate. If the court orders the department to prepare a plan, the department shall provide copies of the plan to the parent, the child, and the court. If the parties or the court desire the department to be involved in any future proceedings or case plan development, the department shall be provided with timely notification of all court hearings.

(5) A child who fails to comply with a court order issued under this section shall be subject to contempt proceedings, as provided in this chapter, but only if the noncompliance occurs within one year after the entry of the order.

(6) After the court approves or orders an out-of-home placement, the parents or the department may request, and the court may grant, dismissal of the child in need of services proceeding when it is not feasible for the department to provide services due to one or more of the following circumstances:

(a) The child has been absent from court approved placement for thirty consecutive days or more;

(b) The parents or the child, or all of them, refuse to cooperate in available, appropriate intervention aimed at reunifying the family; or

(c) The department has exhausted all available and appropriate resources that would result in reunification.

(7) The court shall dismiss a placement made under subsection (2)(c) of this section upon the request of the parents. [2000 c 123 § 21; 1997 c 146 § 7; 1996 c 133 § 24; 1995 c 312 § 20.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.180 Out-of-home placement—Court order—No placement in secure residence.** (1) If the court orders a three-month out-of-home placement for the child, the court shall specify the person or agency with whom the child shall be placed, those parental powers which will be temporarily awarded to such agency or person including but not limited to the right to authorize medical, dental, and optical treatment, and parental visitation rights. Any agency or residence at which the child is placed must, at a minimum, comply with minimum standards for licensed family foster homes.

(2) No placement made pursuant to this section may be in a secure residence as defined by the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974. [1995 c 312 § 23; 1979 c 155 § 32.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.190 Out-of-home placement dispositional order—Review hearings—Time limitation on out-of-home placement—Termination of placement at request of parent.** (1) Upon making a dispositional order under RCW 13.32A.179, the court shall schedule the matter on the

calendar for review within three months, advise the parties of the date thereof, appoint legal counsel and/or a guardian ad litem to represent the child at the review hearing, advise parents of their right to be represented by legal counsel at the review hearing, and notify the parties of their rights to present evidence at the hearing. Where resources are available, the court shall encourage the parent and child to participate in programs for reconciliation of their conflict.

(2) At the review hearing, the court shall approve or disapprove the continuation of the dispositional plan in accordance with this chapter. The court shall determine whether reasonable efforts have been made to reunify the family and make it possible for the child to return home. The court shall discontinue the placement and order that the child return home if the court has reasonable grounds to believe that the parents have made reasonable efforts to resolve the conflict and the court has reason to believe that the child's refusal to return home is capricious. If out-of-home placement is continued, the court may modify the dispositional plan.

(3) Out-of-home placement may not be continued past one hundred eighty days from the day the review hearing commenced. The court shall order the child to return to the home of the parent at the expiration of the placement. If an out-of-home placement is disapproved prior to one hundred eighty days, the court shall enter an order requiring the child to return to the home of the child's parent.

(4) The parents and the department may request, and the juvenile court may grant, dismissal of an out-of-home placement order when it is not feasible for the department to provide services due to one or more of the following circumstances:

(a) The child has been absent from court approved placement for thirty consecutive days or more;

(b) The parents or the child, or all of them, refuse to cooperate in available, appropriate intervention aimed at reunifying the family; or

(c) The department has exhausted all available and appropriate resources that would result in reunification.

(5) The court shall terminate a placement made under this section upon the request of a parent unless the placement is made pursuant to RCW 13.32A.179(3).

(6) The court may dismiss a child in need of services petition filed by a parent at any time if the court finds good cause to believe that continuation of out-of-home placement would serve no useful purpose.

(7) The court shall dismiss a child in need of services proceeding if the child is the subject of a proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW. [1996 c 133 § 25; 1995 c 312 § 24; 1989 c 269 § 5; 1984 c 188 § 2; 1981 c 298 § 13; 1979 c 155 § 33.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.191 At-risk youth—Petition by parent.** (1) A child's parent may file with the juvenile court a petition in the interest of a child alleged to be an at-risk youth. The department shall, when requested, assist the parent in filing the petition. The petition shall be filed in the county where the petitioner resides. The petition shall set forth the name, age, and residence of the child and the names and residence of the child's parents and shall allege that:

- (a) The child is an at-risk youth;
- (b) The petitioner has the right to legal custody of the child;
- (c) Court intervention and supervision are necessary to assist the parent to maintain the care, custody, and control of the child; and
- (d) Alternatives to court intervention have been attempted or there is good cause why such alternatives have not been attempted.

(2) The petition shall set forth facts that support the allegations in this section and shall generally request relief available under this chapter. The petition need not specify any proposed disposition following adjudication of the petition. The filing of an at-risk youth petition is not dependent upon the court's having obtained any prior jurisdiction over the child or his or her parent and confers upon the court the special jurisdiction to assist the parent in maintaining parental authority and responsibility for the child.

(3) A petition may not be filed if a dependency petition is pending under chapter 13.34 RCW. [2000 c 123 § 22; 1995 c 312 § 25.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.192 At-risk youth petition—Prehearing procedures.** (1) When a proper at-risk youth petition is filed by a child's parent under this chapter, the juvenile court shall:

- (a)(i) Schedule a fact-finding hearing to be held: (A) For a child who resides in a place other than his or her parent's home and other than an out-of-home placement, within five calendar days unless the last calendar day is a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, in which case the hearing shall be held on the preceding judicial day; or (B) for a child living at home or in an out-of-home placement, within ten days; and (ii) notify the parent and the child of such date;
- (b) Notify the parent of the right to be represented by counsel at the parent's own expense;
- (c) Appoint legal counsel for the child;
- (d) Inform the child and his or her parent of the legal consequences of the court finding the child to be an at-risk youth; and
- (e) Notify the parent and the child of their rights to present evidence at the fact-finding hearing.

(2) Unless out-of-home placement of the child is otherwise authorized or required by law, the child shall reside in the home of his or her parent or in an out-of-home placement requested by the parent or child and approved by the parent.

(3) If upon sworn written or oral declaration of the petitioning parent, the court has reason to believe that a child has willfully and knowingly violated a court order issued pursuant to subsection (2) of this section, the court may issue an order directing law enforcement to take the child into custody and place the child in a juvenile detention facility or in a secure facility within a crisis residential center. If the child is placed in detention, a review shall be held as provided in RCW 13.32A.065.

(4) If both a child in need of services petition and an at-risk youth petition have been filed with regard to the same child, the petitions and proceedings shall be consolidated as an at-risk youth petition. Pending a fact-finding hearing regarding the petition, the child may be placed in the parent's home or in an out-of-home placement if not already placed in

a temporary out-of-home placement pursuant to a child in need of services petition. The child or the parent may request a review of the child's placement including a review of any court order requiring the child to reside in the parent's home. [1997 c 146 § 8; 1996 c 133 § 26; 1995 c 312 § 26; 1990 c 276 § 12.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.194 At-risk youth petition—Court procedures.** (1) The court shall hold a fact-finding hearing to consider a proper at-risk youth petition. The court shall grant the petition and enter an order finding the child to be an at-risk youth if the allegations in the petition are established by a preponderance of the evidence, unless the child is the subject of a proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW. If the petition is granted, the court shall enter an order requiring the child to reside in the home of his or her parent or in an out-of-home placement as provided in RCW 13.32A.192(2).

(2) The court may order the department to submit a dispositional plan if such a plan would assist the court in ordering a suitable disposition in the case. If the court orders the department to prepare a plan, the department shall provide copies of the plan to the parent, the child, and the court. If the parties or the court desire the department to be involved in any future proceedings or case plan development, the department shall be provided timely notification of all court hearings.

(3) If the court grants or denies an at-risk youth petition, a statement of the written reasons shall be entered into the records. If the court denies an at-risk youth petition, the court shall verbally advise the parties that the child is required to remain within the care, custody, and control of his or her parent. [2000 c 123 § 23; 1996 c 133 § 27; 1995 c 312 § 27; 1990 c 276 § 13.]

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.196 At-risk youth petition—Dispositional hearing.** (1) A dispositional hearing shall be held no later than fourteen days after the fact-finding hearing. Each party shall be notified of the time and date of the hearing.

(2) At the dispositional hearing regarding an adjudicated at-risk youth, the court shall consider the recommendations of the parties and the recommendations of any dispositional plan submitted by the department. The court may enter a dispositional order that will assist the parent in maintaining the care, custody, and control of the child and assist the family to resolve family conflicts or problems.

(3) The court may set conditions of supervision for the child that include:

- (a) Regular school attendance;
- (b) Counseling;
- (c) Participation in a substance abuse or mental health outpatient treatment program;
- (d) Reporting on a regular basis to the department or any other designated person or agency; and

(e) Any other condition the court deems an appropriate condition of supervision including but not limited to: Employment, participation in an anger management program, and refraining from using alcohol or drugs.

(4) No dispositional order or condition of supervision ordered by a court pursuant to this section shall include involuntary commitment of a child for substance abuse or mental health treatment.

(5) The court may order the parent to participate in counseling services or any other services for the child requiring parental participation. The parent shall cooperate with the court-ordered case plan and shall take necessary steps to help implement the case plan. The parent shall be financially responsible for costs related to the court-ordered plan; however, this requirement shall not affect the eligibility of the parent or child for public assistance or other benefits to which the parent or child may otherwise be entitled.

(6) The parent may request dismissal of an at-risk youth proceeding or out-of-home placement at any time. Upon such a request, the court shall dismiss the matter and cease court supervision of the child unless: (a) A contempt action is pending in the case; (b) a petition has been filed under RCW 13.32A.150 and a hearing has not yet been held under RCW 13.32A.179; or (c) an order has been entered under RCW 13.32A.179(3) and the court retains jurisdiction under that subsection. The court may retain jurisdiction over the matter for the purpose of concluding any pending contempt proceedings, including the full satisfaction of any penalties imposed as a result of a contempt finding.

(7) The court may order the department to monitor compliance with the dispositional order, assist in coordinating the provision of court-ordered services, and submit reports at subsequent review hearings regarding the status of the case. [2000 c 123 § 24; 1995 c 312 § 28; 1991 c 364 § 14; 1990 c 276 § 14.]

**Findings—Construction—Conflict with federal requirements—1991 c 364:** See notes following RCW 70.96A.020.

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.197 Disposition hearing—Additional orders for specialized treatment—Review hearings—Limitation—Use of state funds.** (1) In a disposition hearing, after a finding that a child is a child in need of services or an at-risk youth, the court may adopt the additional orders authorized under this section if it finds that the child involved in those proceedings is not eligible for inpatient treatment for a mental health or substance abuse condition and requires specialized treatment. The court may order that a child be placed in a staff secure facility, other than a crisis residential center, that will provide for the child's participation in a program designed to remedy his or her behavioral difficulties or needs. The court may not enter this order unless, at the disposition hearing, it finds that the placement is clearly necessary to protect the child and that a less restrictive order would be inadequate to protect the child, given the child's age, maturity, propensity to run away from home, past exposure to serious risk when the child ran away from home, and possible future exposure to serious risk should the child run away from home again.

(2) The order shall require periodic court review of the placement, with the first review hearing conducted not more than thirty days after the date of the placement. At each review hearing the court shall advise the parents of their rights under RCW 13.32A.160(1), review the progress of the child, and determine whether the orders are still necessary for the protection of the child or a less restrictive placement would be adequate. The court shall modify its orders as it finds necessary to protect the child. Reviews of orders adopted under this section are subject to the review provisions under RCW 13.32A.190 and 13.32.198 [13.32A.198].

(3) Placements in staff secure facilities under this section shall be limited to children who meet the statutory definition of a child in need of services or an at-risk youth as defined in RCW 13.32A.030.

(4) State funds may only be used to pay for placements under this section if, and to the extent that, such funds are appropriated to expressly pay for them. [1996 c 133 § 3.]

**Findings—1996 c 133:** "The legislature finds that no children should be exposed to the dangers inherent in living on the streets. The legislature further finds that there are children who are not mentally ill or chemically dependent who are living on the street in dangerous situations. These children through their at-risk behavior place themselves at great personal risk and danger. The legislature further finds that these children with at-risk behaviors should receive treatment for their problems that result in excessive opposition to parental authority." [1996 c 133 § 1.]

**Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** "It is the intent of the legislature that the changes in this act be construed to expedite the administrative and judicial processes provided for in the existing and amended statutes to assist in assuring that children placed in a crisis residential center have an appropriate placement available to them at the conclusion of their stay at the center." [1996 c 133 § 38.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.198 At-risk youth—Review by court.** (1) Upon making a disposition regarding an adjudicated at-risk youth, the court shall schedule the matter on the calendar for review within three months, advise the parties of the date thereof, appoint legal counsel for the child, advise the parent of the right to be represented by legal counsel at the review hearing at the parent's own expense, and notify the parties of their rights to present evidence at the hearing.

(2) At the review hearing, the court shall approve or disapprove the continuation of court supervision in accordance with the goal of assisting the parent to maintain the care, custody, and control of the child. The court shall determine whether the parent and child are complying with the dispositional plan. If court supervision is continued, the court may modify the dispositional plan.

(3) Court supervision of the child may not be continued past one hundred eighty days from the day the review hearing commenced unless the court finds, and the parent agrees, that there are compelling reasons for an extension of supervision. Any extension granted pursuant to this subsection shall not exceed ninety days.

(4) The court may dismiss an at-risk youth proceeding at any time if the court finds good cause to believe that continuation of court supervision would serve no useful purpose or that the parent is not cooperating with the court-ordered case plan. The court shall dismiss an at-risk youth proceeding if the child is the subject of a proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW. [1990 c 276 § 15.]

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.200 Hearings under chapter—Time or place—Public excluded.** (1) All hearings pursuant to this chapter may be conducted at any time or place within the county of the residence of the parent and such cases shall be heard in conjunction with the business of any other division of the superior court, except as provided in subsections (2) and (3) of this section.

(2) The public shall be excluded from a child in need of services hearing if the judicial officer finds that it is in the best interest of the child.

(3) The public shall be excluded from an at-risk youth hearing if:

(a) The judicial officer finds that it is in the best interest of the child; or

(b) Either parent requests that the public be excluded from the hearing.

(4) At the beginning of the at-risk youth hearing, the judicial officer shall notify the parents that either parent has the right to request that the public be excluded from the at-risk youth hearing.

(5) If the public is excluded from hearings under subsection (2) or (3) of this section, only such persons who are found by the court to have a direct interest in the case or the work of the court shall be admitted to the proceedings. [2007 c 213 § 1; 2000 c 123 § 25; 1979 c 155 § 34.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.205 Acceptance of petitions by court—Damages.** No superior court may refuse to accept for filing a properly completed and presented child in need of services petition or an at-risk youth petition. To be properly presented, the petitioner shall verify that the family assessment required under RCW 13.32A.150 has been completed. In the event of an improper refusal that is appealed and reversed, the petitioner shall be awarded actual damages, costs, and attorneys' fees. [1995 c 312 § 32.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.210 Foster home placement—Parental preferences.** In an attempt to minimize the inherent intrusion in the lives of families involved in the foster care system and to maintain parental authority where appropriate, the department, absent good cause, shall follow the wishes of the natural parent regarding the placement of the child. Preferences such as family constellation, ethnicity, and religion shall be given consideration when matching children to foster homes. Parental authority is appropriate in areas that are not connected with the abuse or neglect that resulted in the dependency and should be integrated through the foster care team. [1990 c 284 § 24.]

**Finding—Effective date—1990 c 284:** See notes following RCW 74.13.250.

**13.32A.250 Failure to comply with order as civil contempt—Motion—Penalties.** (1) In all child in need of services proceedings and at-risk youth proceedings, the court shall verbally notify the parents and the child of the possibility of a finding of contempt for failure to comply with the terms of a court order entered pursuant to this chapter. Except

as otherwise provided in this section, the court shall treat the parents and the child equally for the purposes of applying contempt of court processes and penalties under this section.

(2) Failure by a party to comply with an order entered under this chapter is a civil contempt of court as provided in RCW 7.21.030(2)(e), subject to the limitations of subsection (3) of this section.

(3) The court may impose remedial sanctions including a fine of up to one hundred dollars and confinement for up to seven days, or both for contempt of court under this section.

(4) A child placed in confinement for contempt under this section shall be placed in confinement only in a secure juvenile detention facility operated by or pursuant to a contract with a county.

(5) A motion for contempt may be made by a parent, a child, juvenile court personnel, or by any public agency, organization, or person having custody of the child under a court order adopted pursuant to this chapter.

(6) Whenever the court finds probable cause to believe, based upon consideration of a motion for contempt and the information set forth in a supporting declaration, that a child has violated a placement order entered under this chapter, the court may issue an order directing law enforcement to pick up and take the child to detention. The order may be entered ex parte without prior notice to the child or other parties. Following the child's admission to detention, a detention review hearing must be held in accordance with RCW 13.32A.065. [2000 c 162 § 14; 2000 c 162 § 4; 1998 c 296 § 37; 1996 c 133 § 28; 1995 c 312 § 29; 1990 c 276 § 16. Prior: 1989 c 373 § 16; 1989 c 269 § 4; 1981 c 298 § 14.]

**Findings—Intent—1998 c 296 §§ 36-39:** See note following RCW 7.21.030.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings not law—Short title—1998 c 296:** See notes following RCW 74.13.025.

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

**Intent—1990 c 276:** See RCW 13.32A.015.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.32A.270 Youth who have been diverted—Alleged prostitution or prostitution loitering offenses—Services and treatment.** Within available funding, when a youth who has been diverted under RCW 13.40.070 for an alleged offense of prostitution or prostitution loitering is referred to the department, the department shall connect that child with the services and treatment specified in RCW \*74.14B.060 and 74.14B.070. [2010 c 289 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 74.14B.060 was repealed by 2012 c 29 § 14.

**13.32A.300 No entitlement to services created by chapter.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to create an entitlement to services nor to create judicial authority to order the provision at public expense of services to any person or family where the department has determined that such services are unavailable or unsuitable or that the child or family are not eligible for such services. [1995 c 312 § 43.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 13.34 RCW

**JUVENILE COURT ACT—DEPENDENCY AND  
TERMINATION OF PARENT-CHILD  
RELATIONSHIP**

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- 13.34.801 Rules—Definition of "drug-affected infant."
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- 13.34.820 Permanency for dependent children—Annual report.
- 13.34.830 Child protection and child welfare—Racial disproportionality—Evaluation—Report.
- 13.34.900 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.

*Family preservation services: Chapter 74.14C RCW.*

*Foster placement prevention: Chapter 74.14C RCW.*

*Implementation of chapters 13.32A and 13.34 RCW: RCW 74.13.036.*

*Information about rights: RCW 26.44.100 through 26.44.120.*

*Juvenile may be both dependent and an offender: RCW 13.04.300.*

*Out-of-home care—Social study required: RCW 74.13.065.*

*Out-of-home placement: RCW 13.32A.140 through 13.32A.190.*

*Procedures for families in conflict, interstate compact to apply, when: RCW 13.32A.110.*

*Therapeutic family home program for youth in custody under chapter 13.34 RCW: RCW 74.13.170.*



*Transitional living programs for youth in the process of being emancipated:*  
RCW 74.13.037.

**13.34.010 Short title.** This chapter shall be known as the "Juvenile Court Act in Cases Relating to Dependency of a Child and the Termination of a Parent and Child Relationship". [1977 ex.s. c 291 § 29.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.020 Legislative declaration of family unit as resource to be nurtured—Rights of child.** The legislature declares that the family unit is a fundamental resource of American life which should be nurtured. Toward the continuance of this principle, the legislature declares that the family unit should remain intact unless a child's right to conditions of basic nurture, health, or safety is jeopardized. When the rights of basic nurture, physical and mental health, and safety of the child and the legal rights of the parents are in conflict, the rights and safety of the child should prevail. In making reasonable efforts under this chapter, the child's health and safety shall be the paramount concern. The right of a child to basic nurturing includes the right to a safe, stable, and permanent home and a speedy resolution of any proceeding under this chapter. [1998 c 314 § 1; 1990 c 284 § 31; 1987 c 524 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 30.]

**Finding—Effective date—1990 c 284:** See notes following RCW 74.13.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.025 Child dependency cases—Coordination of services—Remedial services.** (1) The department and supervising agencies shall develop methods for coordination of services to parents and children in child dependency cases. To the maximum extent possible under current funding levels, the department and supervising agencies must:

(a) Coordinate and integrate services to children and families, using service plans and activities that address the children's and families' multiple needs, including ensuring that siblings have regular visits with each other, as appropriate. Assessment criteria should screen for multiple needs;

(b) Develop treatment plans for the individual needs of the client in a manner that minimizes the number of contacts the client is required to make; and

(c) Access training for department and supervising agency staff to increase skills across disciplines to assess needs for mental health, substance abuse, developmental disabilities, and other areas.

(2) The department shall coordinate within the administrations of the department, and with contracted service providers including supervising agencies, to ensure that parents in dependency proceedings under this chapter receive priority access to remedial services recommended by the department or supervising agency in its social study or ordered by the court for the purpose of correcting any parental deficiencies identified in the dependency proceeding that are capable of being corrected in the foreseeable future. Services may also be provided to caregivers other than the parents as identified in RCW 13.34.138.

(a) For purposes of this chapter, remedial services are those services defined in the federal adoption and safe families act as time-limited family reunification services. Reme-

dial services include individual, group, and family counseling; substance abuse treatment services; mental health services; assistance to address domestic violence; services designed to provide temporary child care and therapeutic services for families; and transportation to or from any of the above services and activities.

(b) The department shall provide funds for remedial services if the parent is unable to pay to the extent funding is appropriated in the operating budget or otherwise available to the department for such specific services. As a condition for receiving funded remedial services, the court may inquire into the parent's ability to pay for all or part of such services or may require that the parent make appropriate applications for funding to alternative funding sources for such services.

(c) If court-ordered remedial services are unavailable for any reason, including lack of funding, lack of services, or language barriers, the department or supervising agency shall promptly notify the court that the parent is unable to engage in the treatment due to the inability to access such services.

(d) This section does not create an entitlement to services and does not create judicial authority to order the provision of services except for the specific purpose of making reasonable efforts to remedy parental deficiencies identified in a dependency proceeding under this chapter. [2009 c 520 § 20; 2007 c 410 § 2; 2002 c 52 § 2; 2001 c 256 § 2.]

**Short title—2007 c 410:** See note following RCW 13.34.138.

**Intent—2002 c 52:** "It is the intent of the legislature to recognize that those sibling relationships a child has are an integral aspect of the family unit, which should be nurtured. The legislature presumes that nurturing the existing sibling relationships is in the best interest of a child, in particular in those situations where a child cannot be with their parents, guardians, or legal custodians as a result of court intervention." [2002 c 52 § 1.]

**Finding—2001 c 256:** "The department of social and health services serves parents and children with multiple needs, which cannot be resolved in isolation. Further, the complexity of service delivery systems is a barrier for families in crisis when a child is removed or a parent is removed from the home. The department must undertake efforts to streamline the delivery of services." [2001 c 256 § 1.]

**13.34.030 Definitions.** For purposes of this chapter:

(1) "Abandoned" means when the child's parent, guardian, or other custodian has expressed, either by statement or conduct, an intent to forego, for an extended period, parental rights or responsibilities despite an ability to exercise such rights and responsibilities. If the court finds that the petitioner has exercised due diligence in attempting to locate the parent, no contact between the child and the child's parent, guardian, or other custodian for a period of three months creates a rebuttable presumption of abandonment, even if there is no expressed intent to abandon.

(2) "Child," "juvenile," and "youth" means:

(a) Any individual under the age of eighteen years; or

(b) Any individual age eighteen to twenty-one years who is eligible to receive and who elects to receive the extended foster care services authorized under RCW 74.13.031. A youth who remains dependent and who receives extended foster care services under RCW 74.13.031 shall not be considered a "child" under any other statute or for any other purpose.

(3) "Current placement episode" means the period of time that begins with the most recent date that the child was removed from the home of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian for purposes of placement in out-of-home care and

continues until: (a) The child returns home; (b) an adoption decree, a permanent custody order, or guardianship order is entered; or (c) the dependency is dismissed, whichever occurs first.

(4) "Department" means the department of social and health services.

(5) "Dependency guardian" means the person, nonprofit corporation, or Indian tribe appointed by the court pursuant to this chapter for the limited purpose of assisting the court in the supervision of the dependency.

(6) "Dependent child" means any child who:

(a) Has been abandoned;

(b) Is abused or neglected as defined in chapter 26.44 RCW by a person legally responsible for the care of the child;

(c) Has no parent, guardian, or custodian capable of adequately caring for the child, such that the child is in circumstances which constitute a danger of substantial damage to the child's psychological or physical development; or

(d) Is receiving extended foster care services, as authorized by RCW 74.13.031.

(7) "Developmental disability" means a disability attributable to intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or another neurological or other condition of an individual found by the secretary to be closely related to an intellectual disability or to require treatment similar to that required for individuals with intellectual disabilities, which disability originates before the individual attains age eighteen, which has continued or can be expected to continue indefinitely, and which constitutes a substantial limitation to the individual.

(8) "Extended foster care services" means residential and other support services the department is authorized to provide under RCW 74.13.031.

(9) "Guardian" means the person or agency that: (a) Has been appointed as the guardian of a child in a legal proceeding, including a guardian appointed pursuant to chapter 13.36 RCW; and (b) has the legal right to custody of the child pursuant to such appointment. The term "guardian" does not include a "dependency guardian" appointed pursuant to a proceeding under this chapter.

(10) "Guardian ad litem" means a person, appointed by the court to represent the best interests of a child in a proceeding under this chapter, or in any matter which may be consolidated with a proceeding under this chapter. A "court-appointed special advocate" appointed by the court to be the guardian ad litem for the child, or to perform substantially the same duties and functions as a guardian ad litem, shall be deemed to be guardian ad litem for all purposes and uses of this chapter.

(11) "Guardian ad litem program" means a court-authorized volunteer program, which is or may be established by the superior court of the county in which such proceeding is filed, to manage all aspects of volunteer guardian ad litem representation for children alleged or found to be dependent. Such management shall include but is not limited to: Recruitment, screening, training, supervision, assignment, and discharge of volunteers.

(12) "Housing assistance" means appropriate referrals by the department or other supervising agencies to federal, state, local, or private agencies or organizations, assistance with forms, applications, or financial subsidies or other monetary

assistance for housing. For purposes of this chapter, "housing assistance" is not a remedial service or time-limited family reunification service as described in RCW 13.34.025(2).

(13) "Indigent" means a person who, at any stage of a court proceeding, is:

(a) Receiving one of the following types of public assistance: Temporary assistance for needy families, aged, blind, or disabled assistance benefits, medical care services under RCW 74.09.035, pregnant women assistance benefits, poverty-related veterans' benefits, food stamps or food stamp benefits transferred electronically, refugee resettlement benefits, medicaid, or supplemental security income; or

(b) Involuntarily committed to a public mental health facility; or

(c) Receiving an annual income, after taxes, of one hundred twenty-five percent or less of the federally established poverty level; or

(d) Unable to pay the anticipated cost of counsel for the matter before the court because his or her available funds are insufficient to pay any amount for the retention of counsel.

(14) "Out-of-home care" means placement in a foster family home or group care facility licensed pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW or placement in a home, other than that of the child's parent, guardian, or legal custodian, not required to be licensed pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW.

(15) "Preventive services" means preservation services, as defined in chapter 74.14C RCW, and other reasonably available services, including housing assistance, capable of preventing the need for out-of-home placement while protecting the child.

(16) "Shelter care" means temporary physical care in a facility licensed pursuant to RCW 74.15.030 or in a home not required to be licensed pursuant to RCW 74.15.030.

(17) "Sibling" means a child's birth brother, birth sister, adoptive brother, adoptive sister, half-brother, or half-sister, or as defined by the law or custom of the Indian child's tribe for an Indian child as defined in RCW 13.38.040.

(18) "Social study" means a written evaluation of matters relevant to the disposition of the case and shall contain the following information:

(a) A statement of the specific harm or harms to the child that intervention is designed to alleviate;

(b) A description of the specific services and activities, for both the parents and child, that are needed in order to prevent serious harm to the child; the reasons why such services and activities are likely to be useful; the availability of any proposed services; and the agency's overall plan for ensuring that the services will be delivered. The description shall identify the services chosen and approved by the parent;

(c) If removal is recommended, a full description of the reasons why the child cannot be protected adequately in the home, including a description of any previous efforts to work with the parents and the child in the home; the in-home treatment programs that have been considered and rejected; the preventive services, including housing assistance, that have been offered or provided and have failed to prevent the need for out-of-home placement, unless the health, safety, and welfare of the child cannot be protected adequately in the home; and the parents' attitude toward placement of the child;

(d) A statement of the likely harms the child will suffer as a result of removal;

(e) A description of the steps that will be taken to minimize the harm to the child that may result if separation occurs including an assessment of the child's relationship and emotional bond with any siblings, and the agency's plan to provide ongoing contact between the child and the child's siblings if appropriate; and

(f) Behavior that will be expected before determination that supervision of the family or placement is no longer necessary.

(19) "Supervising agency" means an agency licensed by the state under RCW 74.15.090, or licensed by a federally recognized Indian tribe located in this state under RCW 74.15.190, that has entered into a performance-based contract with the department to provide case management for the delivery and documentation of child welfare services as defined in RCW 74.13.020. [2011 1st sp.s. c 36 § 13. Prior: 2011 c 330 § 3; 2011 c 309 § 22; prior: 2010 1st sp.s. c 8 § 13; 2010 c 272 § 10; 2010 c 94 § 6; prior: 2009 c 520 § 21; 2009 c 397 § 1; 2003 c 227 § 2; 2002 c 52 § 3; 2000 c 122 § 1; 1999 c 267 § 6; 1998 c 130 § 1; 1997 c 386 § 7; 1995 c 311 § 23; 1994 c 288 § 1; 1993 c 241 § 1; 1988 c 176 § 901; 1987 c 524 § 3; 1983 c 311 § 2; 1982 c 129 § 4; 1979 c 155 § 37; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 31.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Findings—Intent—2011 1st sp.s. c 36:** See RCW 74.62.005.

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 36:** See note following RCW 74.62.005.

**Intent—2011 c 330:** See note following RCW 13.04.011.

**Findings—Intent—Short title—Effective date—2010 1st sp.s. c 8:** See note following RCW 74.04.225.

**Purpose—2010 c 94:** See note following RCW 44.04.280.

**Intent—2003 c 227:** See note following RCW 13.34.130.

**Intent—2002 c 52:** See note following RCW 13.34.025.

**Findings—Intent—Severability—1999 c 267:** See notes following RCW 43.20A.790.

**Legislative finding—1983 c 311:** "The legislature finds that in order for the state to receive federal funds for family foster care under Title IV-B and Title IV-E of the social security act, all children in family foster care must be subjected to periodic court review. Unfortunately, this includes children who are developmentally disabled and who are placed in family foster care solely because their parents have determined that the children's service needs require out-of-home placement. Except for providing such needed services, the parents of these children are completely competent to care for the children. The legislature intends by this act to minimize the embarrassment and inconvenience of developmentally disabled persons and their families caused by complying with these federal requirements." [1983 c 311 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.035 Standard court forms—Rules—Administrative office of the courts to develop and establish—Failure to use or follow—Distribution.** (1) The administrative office of the courts shall develop standard court forms and format rules for mandatory use by parties in dependency matters commenced under this chapter or chapter 26.44 RCW. Forms shall be developed not later than November 1, 2009, and the mandatory use requirement shall be effective January 1, 2010. The administrative office of the courts has continuing responsibility to develop and revise mandatory forms and format rules as appropriate.

(2) According to rules established by the administrative office of the courts, a party may delete unnecessary portions of the forms and may supplement the mandatory forms with additional material.

(3) Failure by a party to use the mandatory forms or follow the format rules shall not be a reason to dismiss a case, refuse a filing, or strike a pleading. The court may, however, require the party to submit a corrected pleading and may impose terms payable to the opposing party or payable to the court, or both.

(4) The administrative office of the courts shall distribute a master copy of the mandatory forms to all county court clerks. Upon request, the administrative office of the courts and county clerks must distribute the forms to the public and may charge for the cost of production and distribution of the forms. Private vendors also may distribute the forms. Distribution of forms may be in printed or electronic form. [2009 c 491 § 6.]

**13.34.040 Petition to court to deal with dependent child—Application of federal Indian child welfare act.**

(1) Any person may file with the clerk of the superior court a petition showing that there is within the county, or residing within the county, a dependent child and requesting that the superior court deal with such child as provided in this chapter. There shall be no fee for filing such petitions.

(2) In counties having paid probation officers, these officers shall, to the extent possible, first determine if a petition is reasonably justifiable. Each petition shall be verified and contain a statement of facts constituting a dependency, and the names and residence, if known to the petitioner, of the parents, guardian, or custodian of the alleged dependent child.

(3) Every petition filed in proceedings under this chapter shall contain a statement alleging whether the child is or may be an Indian child as defined in RCW 13.38.040. If the child is an Indian child chapter 13.38 RCW shall apply.

(4) Every order or decree entered under this chapter shall contain a finding that the federal Indian child welfare act or chapter 13.38 RCW does or does not apply. Where there is a finding that the federal Indian child welfare act or chapter 13.38 RCW does apply, the decree or order must also contain a finding that all notice requirements and evidentiary requirements under the federal Indian child welfare act and chapter 13.38 RCW have been satisfied. [2011 c 309 § 23; 2004 c 64 § 3; 2000 c 122 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 32; 1913 c 160 § 5; RRS § 1987-5. Formerly RCW 13.04.060.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.050 Court order to take child into custody, when—Hearing.**

(1) The court may enter an order directing a law enforcement officer, probation counselor, or child protective services official to take a child into custody if: (a) A petition is filed with the juvenile court alleging that the child is dependent and that the child's health, safety, and welfare will be seriously endangered if not taken into custody; (b) an affidavit or declaration is filed by the department in support of the petition setting forth specific factual information evidencing reasonable grounds that the child's health, safety, and welfare will be seriously endangered if not taken into custody and at least one of the grounds set forth demonstrates

a risk of imminent harm to the child. "Imminent harm" for purposes of this section shall include, but not be limited to, circumstances of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation as defined in RCW 26.44.020, and a parent's failure to perform basic parental functions, obligations, and duties as the result of substance abuse; and (c) the court finds reasonable grounds to believe the child is dependent and that the child's health, safety, and welfare will be seriously endangered if not taken into custody.

(2) Any petition that does not have the necessary affidavit or declaration demonstrating a risk of imminent harm requires that the parents are provided notice and an opportunity to be heard before the order may be entered.

(3) The petition and supporting documentation must be served on the parent, and if the child is in custody at the time the child is removed, on the entity with custody other than the parent. Failure to effect service does not invalidate the petition if service was attempted and the parent could not be found. [2005 c 512 § 9; 2000 c 122 § 3; 1998 c 328 § 1; 1979 c 155 § 38; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 33.]

**Finding—Intent—Effective date—Short title—2005 c 512:** See notes following RCW 26.44.100.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.055 Custody by law enforcement officer—Release from liability.** (1) A law enforcement officer shall take into custody a child taken in violation of RCW 9A.40.060 or 9A.40.070. The law enforcement officer shall make every reasonable effort to avoid placing additional trauma on the child by obtaining such custody at times and in a manner least disruptive to the child. The law enforcement officer shall return the child to the person or agency having the right to physical custody unless the officer has reasonable grounds to believe the child should be taken into custody under RCW 13.34.050 or 26.44.050. If there is no person or agency having the right to physical custody available to take custody of the child, the officer may place the child in shelter care as provided in RCW 13.34.060.

(2) A law enforcement officer or public employee acting reasonably and in good faith shall not be held liable in any civil action for returning the child to a person having the apparent right to physical custody. [1984 c 95 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.060 Shelter care—Placement—Custody—Duties of parties.** (1) A child taken into custody pursuant to RCW 13.34.050 or 26.44.050 shall be immediately placed in shelter care. A child taken by a relative of the child in violation of RCW 9A.40.060 or 9A.40.070 shall be placed in shelter care only when permitted under RCW 13.34.055. No child may be held longer than seventy-two hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, after such child is taken into custody unless a court order has been entered for continued shelter care. In no case may a child who is taken into custody pursuant to RCW 13.34.055, 13.34.050, or 26.44.050 be detained in a secure detention facility.

(2) Unless there is reasonable cause to believe that the health, safety, or welfare of the child would be jeopardized or that the efforts to reunite the parent and child will be hindered, priority placement for a child in shelter care, pending a court hearing, shall be with any person described in RCW

74.15.020(2)(a) or 13.34.130(1)(b). The person must be willing and available to care for the child and be able to meet any special needs of the child and the court must find that such placement is in the best interests of the child. The person must be willing to facilitate the child's visitation with siblings, if such visitation is part of the supervising agency's plan or is ordered by the court. If a child is not initially placed with a relative or other suitable person requested by the parent pursuant to this section, the supervising agency shall make an effort within available resources to place the child with a relative or other suitable person requested by the parent on the next business day after the child is taken into custody. The supervising agency shall document its effort to place the child with a relative or other suitable person requested by the parent pursuant to this section. Nothing within this subsection (2) establishes an entitlement to services or a right to a particular placement.

(3) Whenever a child is taken into custody pursuant to this section, the supervising agency may authorize evaluations of the child's physical or emotional condition, routine medical and dental examination and care, and all necessary emergency care. [2007 c 413 § 3; 2002 c 52 § 4; 2000 c 122 § 4; 1999 c 17 § 2; 1998 c 328 § 2; 1990 c 246 § 1; 1987 c 524 § 4. Prior: 1984 c 188 § 3; 1984 c 95 § 5; 1983 c 246 § 1; 1982 c 129 § 5; 1979 c 155 § 39; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 34.]

**Severability—2007 c 413:** See note following RCW 13.34.215.

**Intent—2002 c 52:** See note following RCW 13.34.025.

**Finding—1999 c 17:** "The legislature has found that any intervention into the life of a child is also an intervention in the life of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian, and that the bond between child and parent is a critical element of child development. The legislature now also finds that children who cannot be with their parents, guardians, or legal custodians are best cared for, whenever possible and appropriate by family members with whom they have a relationship. This is particularly important when a child cannot be in the care of a parent, guardian, or legal custodian as a result of a court intervention." [1999 c 17 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.062 Shelter care—Notice of custody and rights.** (1)(a) Whenever a child is taken into custody by child protective services pursuant to a court order issued under RCW 13.34.050 or when child protective services is notified that a child has been taken into custody pursuant to RCW 26.44.050 or 26.44.056, child protective services shall make reasonable efforts to inform the parent, guardian, or legal custodian of the fact that the child has been taken into custody, the reasons why the child was taken into custody, and their legal rights under this title, including the right to a shelter care hearing, as soon as possible. Notice must be provided in an understandable manner and take into consideration the parent's, guardian's, or legal custodian's primary language, level of education, and cultural issues.

(b) In no event shall the notice required by this section be provided to the parent, guardian, or legal custodian more than twenty-four hours after the child has been taken into custody or twenty-four hours after child protective services has been notified that the child has been taken into custody.

(2)(a) The notice of custody and rights may be given by any means reasonably certain of notifying the parents including, but not limited to, written, telephone, or in person oral notification. If the initial notification is provided by a means

other than writing, child protective services shall make reasonable efforts to also provide written notification.

(b) The written notice of custody and rights required by this section shall be in substantially the following form:

"NOTICE

Your child has been placed in temporary custody under the supervision of Child Protective Services (or other person or agency). You have important legal rights and you must take steps to protect your interests.

1. A court hearing will be held before a judge within 72 hours of the time your child is taken into custody excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. You should call the court at (insert appropriate phone number here) for specific information about the date, time, and location of the court hearing.

2. You have the right to have a lawyer represent you at the hearing. Your right to representation continues after the shelter care hearing. You have the right to records the department intends to rely upon. A lawyer can look at the files in your case, talk to child protective services and other agencies, tell you about the law, help you understand your rights, and help you at hearings. If you cannot afford a lawyer, the court will appoint one to represent you. To get a court-appointed lawyer you must contact: (explain local procedure).

3. At the hearing, you have the right to speak on your own behalf, to introduce evidence, to examine witnesses, and to receive a decision based solely on the evidence presented to the judge.

4. If your hearing occurs before a court commissioner, you have the right to have the decision of the court commissioner reviewed by a superior court judge. To obtain that review, you must, within ten days after the entry of the decision of the court commissioner, file with the court a motion for revision of the decision, as provided in RCW 2.24.050.

You should be present at any shelter care hearing. If you do not come, the judge will not hear what you have to say.

You may call the Child Protective Services' caseworker for more information about your child. The caseworker's name and telephone number are: (insert name and telephone number).

5. You have a right to a case conference to develop a written service agreement following the shelter care hearing. The service agreement may not conflict with the court's order of shelter care. You may request that a multidisciplinary team, family group conference, or prognostic staffing be convened for your child's case. You may participate in these processes with your counsel present.

6. If your child is placed in the custody of the department of social and health services or other supervising agency, immediately following the shelter care hearing, the court will enter an order granting the department or other supervising agency the right to inspect and copy all health, medical, mental health, and education records of the child, directing health care providers to release such information without your further consent, and granting the department or supervising agency or its designee the authority and responsibility, where applicable, to:

(1) Notify the child's school that the child is in out-of-home placement;

(2) Enroll the child in school;

(3) Request the school transfer records;

(4) Request and authorize evaluation of special needs;

(5) Attend parent or teacher conferences;

(6) Excuse absences;

(7) Grant permission for extracurricular activities;

(8) Authorize medications which need to be administered during school hours and sign for medical needs that arise during school hours; and

(9) Complete or update school emergency records.

7. If the court decides to place your child in the custody of the department of social and health services or other supervising agency, the department or agency will create a permanency plan for your child, including a primary placement goal and secondary placement goal. The department or agency also will recommend that the court order services for your child and for you, if needed. The department or agency is required to make reasonable efforts to provide you with services to address your parenting problems, and to provide you with visitation with your child according to court orders. Failure to promptly engage in services or to maintain contact with your child may lead to the filing of a petition to terminate your parental rights.

8. Primary and secondary permanency plans are intended to run at the same time so that your child will have a permanent home as quickly as possible. Absent good cause, and when appropriate, the department or other supervising agency must follow the wishes of a natural parent regarding placement of a child. You should tell your lawyer and the court where you wish your child placed immediately, including whether you want your child placed with you, with a relative, or with another suitable person. You also should tell your lawyer and the court what services you feel are necessary and your wishes regarding visitation with your child. Even if you want another parent or person to be the primary placement choice for your child, you should tell your lawyer, the department or other supervising agency, and the court if you want to be a secondary placement option, and you should comply with court orders for services and participate in visitation with your child. Early and consistent involvement in your child's case plan is important for the well-being of your child.

9. A dependency petition begins a judicial process, which, if the court finds your child dependent, could result in substantial restrictions including, the entry or modification of a parenting plan or residential schedule, nonparental custody order or decree, guardianship order, or permanent loss of your parental rights."

Upon receipt of the written notice, the parent, guardian, or legal custodian shall acknowledge such notice by signing a receipt prepared by child protective services. If the parent, guardian, or legal custodian does not sign the receipt, the reason for lack of a signature shall be written on the receipt. The receipt shall be made a part of the court's file in the dependency action.

If after making reasonable efforts to provide notification, child protective services is unable to determine the whereabouts of the parents, guardian, or legal custodian, the notice shall be delivered or sent to the last known address of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian.

(3) If child protective services is not required to give notice under this section, the juvenile court counselor assigned to the matter shall make all reasonable efforts to advise the parents, guardian, or legal custodian of the time and place of any shelter care hearing, request that they be present, and inform them of their basic rights as provided in RCW 13.34.090.

(4) Reasonable efforts to advise and to give notice, as required in this section, shall include, at a minimum, investigation of the whereabouts of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian. If such reasonable efforts are not successful, or the parent, guardian, or legal custodian does not appear at the shelter care hearing, the petitioner shall testify at the hearing or state in a declaration:

(a) The efforts made to investigate the whereabouts of, and to advise, the parent, guardian, or custodian; and

(b) Whether actual advice of rights was made, to whom it was made, and how it was made, including the substance of any oral communication or copies of written materials used. [2009 c 477 § 2. Prior: 2007 c 413 § 4; 2007 c 409 § 5; 2004 c 147 § 2; 2001 c 332 § 2; 2000 c 122 § 5.]

**Findings—Intent—2009 c 477:** "The legislature finds that when children have been found dependent and placed in out-of-home care, the likelihood of reunification with their parents diminishes significantly after fifteen months. The legislature also finds that early and consistent parental engagement in services and participation in appropriate parent-child contact and visitation increases the likelihood of successful reunifications. The legislature intends to promote greater awareness among parents in dependency cases of the importance of active participation in services, visitation, and case planning for the child, and the risks created by failure to participate in their child's case over the long term." [2009 c 477 § 1.]

**Severability—2007 c 413:** See note following RCW 13.34.215.

**Effective date—2007 c 409:** See note following RCW 13.34.096.

**Effective date—2004 c 147:** See note following RCW 13.34.067.

**13.34.065 Shelter care—Hearing—Recommendation as to further need—Release.** (1)(a) When a child is taken into custody, the court shall hold a shelter care hearing within seventy-two hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. The primary purpose of the shelter care hearing is to determine whether the child can be immediately and safely returned home while the adjudication of the dependency is pending.

(b) Any parent, guardian, or legal custodian who for good cause is unable to attend the shelter care hearing may request that a subsequent shelter care hearing be scheduled. The request shall be made to the clerk of the court where the petition is filed prior to the initial shelter care hearing. Upon the request of the parent, the court shall schedule the hearing within seventy-two hours of the request, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. The clerk shall notify all other parties of the hearing by any reasonable means.

(2)(a) If it is likely that the child will remain in shelter care longer than seventy-two hours, in those areas in which child welfare services are being provided by a supervising agency, the supervising agency shall assume case management responsibilities of the case. The department or supervising agency shall submit a recommendation to the court as to the further need for shelter care in all cases in which the child will remain in shelter care longer than the seventy-two hour period. In all other cases, the recommendation shall be submitted by the juvenile court probation counselor.

(b) All parties have the right to present testimony to the court regarding the need or lack of need for shelter care.

(c) Hearsay evidence before the court regarding the need or lack of need for shelter care must be supported by sworn testimony, affidavit, or declaration of the person offering such evidence.

(3)(a) At the commencement of the hearing, the court shall notify the parent, guardian, or custodian of the following:

(i) The parent, guardian, or custodian has the right to a shelter care hearing;

(ii) The nature of the shelter care hearing, the rights of the parents, and the proceedings that will follow; and

(iii) If the parent, guardian, or custodian is not represented by counsel, the right to be represented. If the parent, guardian, or custodian is indigent, the court shall appoint counsel as provided in RCW 13.34.090; and

(b) If a parent, guardian, or legal custodian desires to waive the shelter care hearing, the court shall determine, on the record and with the parties present, whether such waiver is knowing and voluntary. A parent may not waive his or her right to the shelter care hearing unless he or she appears in court and the court determines that the waiver is knowing and voluntary. Regardless of whether the court accepts the parental waiver of the shelter care hearing, the court must provide notice to the parents of their rights required under (a) of this subsection and make the finding required under subsection (4) of this section.

(4) At the shelter care hearing the court shall examine the need for shelter care and inquire into the status of the case. The paramount consideration for the court shall be the health, welfare, and safety of the child. At a minimum, the court shall inquire into the following:

(a) Whether the notice required under RCW 13.34.062 was given to all known parents, guardians, or legal custodians of the child. The court shall make an express finding as to whether the notice required under RCW 13.34.062 was given to the parent, guardian, or legal custodian. If actual notice was not given to the parent, guardian, or legal custodian and the whereabouts of such person is known or can be ascertained, the court shall order the department to make reasonable efforts to advise the parent, guardian, or legal custodian of the status of the case, including the date and time of any subsequent hearings, and their rights under RCW 13.34.090;

(b) Whether the child can be safely returned home while the adjudication of the dependency is pending;

(c) What efforts have been made to place the child with a relative. The court shall ask the parents whether the department discussed with them the placement of the child with a relative or other suitable person described in RCW 13.34.130(1)(b) and shall determine what efforts have been made toward such a placement;

(d) What services were provided to the family to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child from the child's home. If the dependency petition or other information before the court alleges that homelessness or the lack of suitable housing was a significant factor contributing to the removal of the child, the court shall inquire as to whether housing assistance was provided to the family to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child or children;

(e) Is the placement proposed by the department or supervising agency the least disruptive and most family-like setting that meets the needs of the child;

(f) Whether it is in the best interest of the child to remain enrolled in the school, developmental program, or child care the child was in prior to placement and what efforts have been made to maintain the child in the school, program, or child care if it would be in the best interest of the child to remain in the same school, program, or child care;

(g) Appointment of a guardian ad litem or attorney;

(h) Whether the child is or may be an Indian child as defined in RCW 13.38.040, whether the provisions of the federal Indian child welfare act or chapter 13.38 RCW apply, and whether there is compliance with the federal Indian child welfare act and chapter 13.38 RCW, including notice to the child's tribe;

(i) Whether, as provided in RCW 26.44.063, restraining orders, or orders expelling an allegedly abusive household member from the home of a nonabusive parent, guardian, or legal custodian, will allow the child to safely remain in the home;

(j) Whether any orders for examinations, evaluations, or immediate services are needed. The court may not order a parent to undergo examinations, evaluation, or services at the shelter care hearing unless the parent agrees to the examination, evaluation, or service;

(k) The terms and conditions for parental, sibling, and family visitation.

(5)(a) The court shall release a child alleged to be dependent to the care, custody, and control of the child's parent, guardian, or legal custodian unless the court finds there is reasonable cause to believe that:

(i) After consideration of the specific services that have been provided, reasonable efforts have been made to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child from the child's home and to make it possible for the child to return home; and

(ii)(A) The child has no parent, guardian, or legal custodian to provide supervision and care for such child; or

(B) The release of such child would present a serious threat of substantial harm to such child, notwithstanding an order entered pursuant to RCW 26.44.063; or

(C) The parent, guardian, or custodian to whom the child could be released has been charged with violating RCW 9A.40.060 or 9A.40.070.

(b) If the court does not release the child to his or her parent, guardian, or legal custodian, the court shall order placement with a relative or other suitable person as described in RCW 13.34.130(1)(b), unless there is reasonable cause to believe the health, safety, or welfare of the child would be jeopardized or that the efforts to reunite the parent and child will be hindered. The court must also determine whether placement with the relative or other suitable person is in the child's best interests. The relative or other suitable person must be willing and available to:

(i) Care for the child and be able to meet any special needs of the child;

(ii) Facilitate the child's visitation with siblings, if such visitation is part of the supervising agency's plan or is ordered by the court; and

(iii) Cooperate with the department or supervising agency in providing necessary background checks and home studies.

(c) If the child was not initially placed with a relative or other suitable person, and the court does not release the child to his or her parent, guardian, or legal custodian, the supervising agency shall make reasonable efforts to locate a relative or other suitable person pursuant to RCW 13.34.060(1). In determining placement, the court shall weigh the child's length of stay and attachment to the current provider in determining what is in the best interest of the child.

(d) If a relative or other suitable person is not available, the court shall order continued shelter care and shall set forth its reasons for the order. If the court orders placement of the child with a person not related to the child and not licensed to provide foster care, the placement is subject to all terms and conditions of this section that apply to relative placements.

(e) Any placement with a relative, or other suitable person approved by the court pursuant to this section, shall be contingent upon cooperation with the department's or supervising agency's case plan and compliance with court orders related to the care and supervision of the child including, but not limited to, court orders regarding parent-child contacts, sibling contacts, and any other conditions imposed by the court. Noncompliance with the case plan or court order is grounds for removal of the child from the home of the relative or other suitable person, subject to review by the court.

(f) Uncertainty by a parent, guardian, legal custodian, relative, or other suitable person that the alleged abuser has in fact abused the child shall not, alone, be the basis upon which a child is removed from the care of a parent, guardian, or legal custodian under (a) of this subsection, nor shall it be a basis, alone, to preclude placement with a relative or other suitable person under (b) of this subsection.

(6)(a) A shelter care order issued pursuant to this section shall include the requirement for a case conference as provided in RCW 13.34.067. However, if the parent is not present at the shelter care hearing, or does not agree to the case conference, the court shall not include the requirement for the case conference in the shelter care order.

(b) If the court orders a case conference, the shelter care order shall include notice to all parties and establish the date, time, and location of the case conference which shall be no later than thirty days before the fact-finding hearing.

(c) The court may order another conference, case staffing, or hearing as an alternative to the case conference required under RCW 13.34.067 so long as the conference, case staffing, or hearing ordered by the court meets all requirements under RCW 13.34.067, including the requirement of a written agreement specifying the services to be provided to the parent.

(7)(a) A shelter care order issued pursuant to this section may be amended at any time with notice and hearing thereon. The shelter care decision of placement shall be modified only upon a showing of change in circumstances. No child may be placed in shelter care for longer than thirty days without an order, signed by the judge, authorizing continued shelter care.

(b)(i) An order releasing the child on any conditions specified in this section may at any time be amended, with notice and hearing thereon, so as to return the child to shelter

care for failure of the parties to conform to the conditions originally imposed.

(ii) The court shall consider whether nonconformance with any conditions resulted from circumstances beyond the control of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian and give weight to that fact before ordering return of the child to shelter care.

(8)(a) If a child is returned home from shelter care a second time in the case, or if the supervisor of the caseworker deems it necessary, the multidisciplinary team may be reconvened.

(b) If a child is returned home from shelter care a second time in the case a law enforcement officer must be present and file a report to the department. [2011 c 309 § 24. Prior: 2009 c 520 § 22; 2009 c 491 § 1; 2009 c 477 § 3; 2009 c 397 § 2; 2008 c 267 § 2; 2007 c 413 § 5; 2001 c 332 § 3; 2000 c 122 § 7.]

**Findings—Intent—2009 c 477:** See note following RCW 13.34.062.

**Severability—2007 c 413:** See note following RCW 13.34.215.

**13.34.067 Shelter care—Case conference—Service agreement.** (1)(a) Following shelter care and no later than thirty days prior to fact-finding, the department or supervising agency shall convene a case conference as required in the shelter care order to develop and specify in a written service agreement the expectations of both the department or supervising agency and the parent regarding voluntary services for the parent.

(b) The case conference shall include the parent, counsel for the parent, caseworker, counsel for the state, guardian ad litem, counsel for the child, and any other person agreed upon by the parties. Once the shelter care order is entered, the department or supervising agency is not required to provide additional notice of the case conference to any participants in the case conference.

(c) The written service agreement expectations must correlate with the court's findings at the shelter care hearing. The written service agreement must set forth specific services to be provided to the parent.

(d) The case conference agreement must be agreed to and signed by the parties. The court shall not consider the content of the discussions at the case conference at the time of the fact-finding hearing for the purposes of establishing that the child is a dependent child, and the court shall not consider any documents or written materials presented at the case conference but not incorporated into the case conference agreement, unless the documents or written materials were prepared for purposes other than or as a result of the case conference and are otherwise admissible under the rules of evidence.

(2) At any other stage in a dependency proceeding, the department or supervising agency, upon the parent's request, shall convene a case conference. [2009 c 520 § 23; 2004 c 147 § 1; 2001 c 332 § 1.]

**Effective date—2004 c 147:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2004 c 147 § 5.]

**13.34.069 Shelter care—Order and authorization of health care and education records.** If a child is placed in the custody of the department of social and health services or other supervising agency, immediately following the shelter

care hearing, an order and authorization regarding health care and education records for the child shall be entered. The order shall:

(1) Provide the department or other supervising agency with the right to inspect and copy all health, medical, mental health, and education records of the child;

(2) Authorize and direct any agency, hospital, doctor, nurse, dentist, orthodontist, or other health care provider, therapist, drug or alcohol treatment provider, psychologist, psychiatrist, or mental health clinic, or health or medical records custodian or document management company, or school or school organization to permit the department or other supervising agency to inspect and to obtain copies of any records relating to the child involved in the case, without the further consent of the parent or guardian of the child; and

(3) Grant the department or other supervising agency or its designee the authority and responsibility, where applicable, to:

(a) Notify the child's school that the child is in out-of-home placement;

(b) Enroll the child in school;

(c) Request the school transfer records;

(d) Request and authorize evaluation of special needs;

(e) Attend parent or teacher conferences;

(f) Excuse absences;

(g) Grant permission for extracurricular activities;

(h) Authorize medications which need to be administered during school hours and sign for medical needs that arise during school hours; and

(i) Complete or update school emergency records.

Access to records under this section is subject to the child's consent where required by other state and federal laws. [2007 c 409 § 2.]

**Effective date—2007 c 409:** See note following RCW 13.34.096.

**13.34.070 Summons when petition filed—Service procedure—Hearing, when—Contempt upon failure to appear—Required notice regarding Indian children.** (1) Upon the filing of the petition, the clerk of the court shall issue a summons, one directed to the child, if the child is twelve or more years of age, and another to the parents, guardian, or custodian, and such other persons as appear to the court to be proper or necessary parties to the proceedings, requiring them to appear personally before the court at the time fixed to hear the petition. If the child is developmentally disabled and not living at home, the notice shall be given to the child's custodian as well as to the child's parent. The developmentally disabled child shall not be required to appear unless requested by the court. When the custodian is summoned, the parent or guardian or both shall also be served with a summons. The fact-finding hearing on the petition shall be held no later than seventy-five days after the filing of the petition, unless exceptional reasons for a continuance are found. The party requesting the continuance shall have the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that exceptional circumstances exist. To ensure that the hearing on the petition occurs within the seventy-five day time limit, the court shall schedule and hear the matter on an expedited basis.

(2) A copy of the petition shall be attached to each summons.



(3) The summons shall advise the parties of the right to counsel. The summons shall also inform the child’s parent, guardian, or legal custodian of his or her right to appointed counsel, if indigent, and of the procedure to use to secure appointed counsel.

(4) The summons shall advise the parents that they may be held responsible for the support of the child if the child is placed in out-of-home care.

(5) The judge may endorse upon the summons an order directing any parent, guardian, or custodian having the custody or control of the child to bring the child to the hearing.

(6) If it appears from affidavit or sworn statement presented to the judge that there is probable cause for the issuance of a warrant of arrest or that the child needs to be taken into custody pursuant to RCW 13.34.050, the judge may endorse upon the summons an order that an officer serving the summons shall at once take the child into custody and take him or her to the place of shelter designated by the court.

(7) If the person summoned as provided in this section is subject to an order of the court pursuant to subsection (5) or (6) of this section, and if the person fails to abide by the order, he or she may be proceeded against as for contempt of court. The order endorsed upon the summons shall conspicuously display the following legend:

NOTICE:  
VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER  
IS SUBJECT TO PROCEEDING  
FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT  
PURSUANT TO RCW 13.34.070.

(8) If a party to be served with a summons can be found within the state, the summons shall be served upon the party personally as soon as possible following the filing of the petition, but in no case later than fifteen court days before the fact-finding hearing, or such time as set by the court. If the party is within the state and cannot be personally served, but the party’s address is known or can with reasonable diligence be ascertained, the summons may be served upon the party by mailing a copy by certified mail as soon as possible following the filing of the petition, but in no case later than fifteen court days before the hearing, or such time as set by the court. If a party other than the child is without the state but can be found or the address is known, or can with reasonable diligence be ascertained, service of the summons may be made either by delivering a copy to the party personally or by mailing a copy thereof to the party by certified mail at least ten court days before the fact-finding hearing, or such time as set by the court.

(9) Service of summons may be made under the direction of the court by any person eighteen years of age or older who is not a party to the proceedings or by any law enforcement officer, probation counselor, or department employee.

(10) Whenever the court or the petitioning party in a proceeding under this chapter knows or has reason to know that an Indian child as defined in RCW 13.38.040 is involved, the petitioning party shall promptly provide notice to the child’s parent or Indian custodian and to the agent designated by the child’s Indian tribe to receive such notices. Notice shall comply with RCW 13.38.070. [2011 c 309 § 25; 2004 c 64 § 4; 2000 c 122 § 8; 1993 c 358 § 1; 1990 c 246 § 2; 1988 c 194 § 2; 1983 c 311 § 3; 1983 c 3 § 16; 1979 c 155 § 40; 1977 ex.s.

c 291 § 35; 1913 c 160 § 6; RRS § 1987-6. Formerly RCW 13.04.070.]

**Legislative finding—1983 c 311:** See note following RCW 13.34.030. Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.080 Summons when petition filed—Publication of notice.** (1) The court shall direct the clerk to publish notice in a legal newspaper printed in the county, qualified to publish summons, once a week for three consecutive weeks, with the first publication of the notice to be at least twenty-five days prior to the date fixed for the hearing when it appears by the petition or verified statement that:

(a)(i) The parent or guardian is a nonresident of this state; or

(ii) The name or place of residence or whereabouts of the parent or guardian is unknown; and

(b) After due diligence, the person attempting service of the summons or notice provided for in RCW 13.34.070 has been unable to make service, and a copy of the notice has been deposited in the post office, postage prepaid, directed to such person at his or her last known place of residence. If the parent, guardian, or legal custodian is believed to be a resident of another state or a county other than the county in which the petition has been filed, notice also shall be published in the county in which the parent, guardian, or legal custodian is believed to reside.

(2) Publication may proceed simultaneously with efforts to provide service in person or by mail, when the court determines there is reason to believe that service in person or by mail will not be successful. Notice shall be directed to the parent, parents, or other person claiming the right to the custody of the child, if their names are known. If their names are unknown, the phrase "To whom it may concern" shall be used, apply to, and be binding upon, those persons whose names are unknown. The name of the court, the name of the child (or children if of one family), the date of the filing of the petition, the date of hearing, and the object of the proceeding in general terms shall be set forth. There shall be filed with the clerk an affidavit showing due publication of the notice. The cost of publication shall be paid by the county at a rate not greater than the rate paid for other legal notices. The publication of notice shall be deemed equivalent to personal service upon all persons, known or unknown, who have been designated as provided in this section. [2000 c 122 § 9; 1990 c 246 § 3; 1988 c 201 § 1; 1979 c 155 § 41; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 36; 1961 c 302 § 4; 1913 c 160 § 7; RRS § 1987-7. Formerly RCW 13.04.080.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.090 Rights under chapter proceedings.** (1) Any party has a right to be represented by an attorney in all proceedings under this chapter, to introduce evidence, to be heard in his or her own behalf, to examine witnesses, to receive a decision based solely on the evidence adduced at the hearing, and to an unbiased fact finder.

(2) At all stages of a proceeding in which a child is alleged to be dependent, the child’s parent, guardian, or legal custodian has the right to be represented by counsel, and if indigent, to have counsel appointed for him or her by the court. Unless waived in court, counsel shall be provided to the child’s parent, guardian, or legal custodian, if such person

(a) has appeared in the proceeding or requested the court to appoint counsel and (b) is financially unable to obtain counsel because of indigency.

(3) If a party to an action under this chapter is represented by counsel, no order shall be provided to that party for his or her signature without prior notice and provision of the order to counsel.

(4) Copies of department of social and health services or supervising agency records to which parents have legal access pursuant to chapter 13.50 RCW shall be given to the child's parent, guardian, legal custodian, or his or her legal counsel, prior to any shelter care hearing and within fifteen days after the department or supervising agency receives a written request for such records from the parent, guardian, legal custodian, or his or her legal counsel. These records shall be provided to the child's parents, guardian, legal custodian, or legal counsel a reasonable period of time prior to the shelter care hearing in order to allow an opportunity to review the records prior to the hearing. These records shall be legible and shall be provided at no expense to the parents, guardian, legal custodian, or his or her counsel. When the records are served on legal counsel, legal counsel shall have the opportunity to review the records with the parents and shall review the records with the parents prior to the shelter care hearing. [2000 c 122 § 10. Prior: 1998 c 328 § 3; 1998 c 141 § 1; 1990 c 246 § 4; 1979 c 155 § 42; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 37.]

*Notice of rights: RCW 26.44.105.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.092 Rights under chapter proceedings—Appointment of counsel—Notice.** At the commencement of the shelter care hearing the court shall advise the parties of basic rights as provided in RCW 13.34.090 and appoint counsel pursuant to RCW 13.34.090 if the parent or guardian is indigent unless counsel has been retained by the parent or guardian or the court finds that the right to counsel has been expressly and voluntarily waived in court. [2000 c 122 § 6.]

**13.34.094 Description of services provided to parents.** The department, or supervising agency after the shelter care hearing, shall, within existing resources, provide to parents requesting or participating in a multidisciplinary team, family group conference, case conference, or prognostic staffing information that describes these processes prior to the processes being undertaken. [2009 c 520 § 24; 2004 c 147 § 3; 2001 c 332 § 6.]

**Effective date—2004 c 147:** See note following RCW 13.34.067.

**13.34.096 Right to be heard—Notice.** The department or supervising agency shall provide the child's foster parents, preadoptive parents, or other caregivers with notice of their right to be heard prior to each proceeding held with respect to the child in juvenile court under this chapter. The rights to notice and to be heard apply only to persons with whom a child has been placed by the department before shelter care or supervising agency and who are providing care to the child at the time of the proceeding. This section shall not be construed to grant party status to any person solely on the basis of such notice and right to be heard. [2009 c 520 § 25; 2007 c 409 § 1.]

**Effective date—2007 c 409:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2007." [2007 c 409 § 8.]

**13.34.100 Appointment of guardian ad litem—Background information—Rights—Notification and inquiry—Appointment of counsel for child—Review.** (1) The court shall appoint a guardian ad litem for a child who is the subject of an action under this chapter, unless a court for good cause finds the appointment unnecessary. The requirement of a guardian ad litem may be deemed satisfied if the child is represented by independent counsel in the proceedings. The court shall attempt to match a child with special needs with a guardian ad litem who has specific training or education related to the child's individual needs.

(2) If the court does not have available to it a guardian ad litem program with a sufficient number of volunteers, the court may appoint a suitable person to act as guardian ad litem for the child under this chapter. Another party to the proceeding or the party's employee or representative shall not be so appointed.

(3) Each guardian ad litem program shall maintain a background information record for each guardian ad litem in the program. The background information record shall include, but is not limited to, the following information:

- (a) Level of formal education;
- (b) General training related to the guardian ad litem's duties;
- (c) Specific training related to issues potentially faced by children in the dependency system;
- (d) Specific training or education related to child disability or developmental issues;
- (e) Number of years' experience as a guardian ad litem;
- (f) Number of appointments as a guardian ad litem and the county or counties of appointment;
- (g) The names of any counties in which the person was removed from a guardian ad litem registry pursuant to a grievance action, and the name of the court and the cause number of any case in which the court has removed the person for cause;
- (h) Founded allegations of abuse or neglect as defined in RCW 26.44.020;
- (i) The results of an examination of state and national criminal identification data. The examination shall consist of a background check as allowed through the Washington state criminal records privacy act under RCW 10.97.050, the Washington state patrol criminal identification system under RCW 43.43.832 through 43.43.834, and the federal bureau of investigation. The background check shall be done through the Washington state patrol criminal identification section and must include a national check from the federal bureau of investigation based on the submission of fingerprints; and
- (j) Criminal history, as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, for the period covering ten years prior to the appointment.

The background information record shall be updated annually. As a condition of appointment, the guardian ad litem's background information record shall be made available to the court. If the appointed guardian ad litem is not a member of a guardian ad litem program a suitable person appointed by the court to act as guardian ad litem shall provide the background information record to the court.

Upon appointment, the guardian ad litem, or guardian ad litem program, shall provide the parties or their attorneys with a copy of the background information record. The portion of the background information record containing the results of the criminal background check and the criminal history shall not be disclosed to the parties or their attorneys. The background information record shall not include identifying information that may be used to harm a guardian ad litem, such as home addresses and home telephone numbers, and for volunteer guardians ad litem the court may allow the use of maiden names or pseudonyms as necessary for their safety.

(4) The appointment of the guardian ad litem shall remain in effect until the court discharges the appointment or no longer has jurisdiction, whichever comes first. The guardian ad litem may also be discharged upon entry of an order of guardianship.

(5) A guardian ad litem through counsel, or as otherwise authorized by the court, shall have the right to present evidence, examine and cross-examine witnesses, and to be present at all hearings. A guardian ad litem shall receive copies of all pleadings and other documents filed or submitted to the court, and notice of all hearings according to court rules. The guardian ad litem shall receive all notice contemplated for a parent or other party in all proceedings under this chapter.

(6)(a) Pursuant to this subsection, the department or supervising agency and the child's guardian ad litem shall each notify a child of his or her right to request counsel and shall ask the child whether he or she wishes to have counsel. The department or supervising agency and the child's guardian ad litem shall notify the child and make this inquiry immediately after:

- (i) The date of the child's twelfth birthday;
- (ii) Assignment of a case involving a child age twelve or older; or
- (iii) July 1, 2010, for a child who turned twelve years old before July 1, 2010.

(b) The department or supervising agency and the child's guardian ad litem shall repeat the notification and inquiry at least annually and upon the filing of any motion or petition affecting the child's placement, services, or familial relationships.

(c) The notification and inquiry is not required if the child has already been appointed counsel.

(d) The department or supervising agency shall note in the child's individual service and safety plan, and the guardian ad litem shall note in his or her report to the court, that the child was notified of the right to request counsel and indicate the child's position regarding appointment of counsel.

(e) At the first regularly scheduled hearing after:

- (i) The date of the child's twelfth birthday;
- (ii) The date that a dependency petition is filed pursuant to this chapter on a child age twelve or older; or
- (iii) July 1, 2010, for a child who turned twelve years old before July 1, 2010;

the court shall inquire whether the child has received notice of his or her right to request legal counsel from the department or supervising agency and the child's guardian ad litem. The court shall make an additional inquiry at the first regularly scheduled hearing after the child's fifteenth birthday.

No inquiry is necessary if the child has already been appointed counsel.

(f) If the child requests legal counsel and is age twelve or older, or if the guardian ad litem or the court determines that the child needs to be independently represented by counsel, the court may appoint an attorney to represent the child's position.

(7) For the purposes of child abuse prevention and treatment act (42 U.S.C. Secs. 5101 et seq.) grants to this state under P.L. 93-247, or any related state or federal legislation, a person appointed pursuant to this section shall be deemed a guardian ad litem to represent the best interests of the minor in proceedings before the court.

(8) When a court-appointed special advocate or volunteer guardian ad litem is requested on a case, the program shall give the court the name of the person it recommends. The program shall attempt to match a child with special needs with a guardian ad litem who has specific training or education related to the child's individual needs. The court shall immediately appoint the person recommended by the program.

(9) If a party in a case reasonably believes the court-appointed special advocate or volunteer guardian ad litem is inappropriate or unqualified, the party may request a review of the appointment by the program. The program must complete the review within five judicial days and remove any appointee for good cause. If the party seeking the review is not satisfied with the outcome of the review, the party may file a motion with the court for the removal of the court-appointed special advocate or volunteer guardian ad litem on the grounds the advocate or volunteer is inappropriate or unqualified. [2010 c 180 § 2; 2009 c 480 § 2; 2000 c 124 § 2; 1996 c 249 § 13; 1994 c 110 § 2; 1993 c 241 § 2; 1988 c 232 § 1; 1979 c 155 § 43; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 38.]

**Findings—2010 c 180:** "(1) The legislature recognizes that inconsistent practices in and among counties in Washington have resulted in few children being notified of their right to request legal counsel in their dependency and termination proceedings under RCW 13.34.100.

(2) The legislature recognizes that when children are provided attorneys in their dependency and termination proceedings, it is imperative to provide them with well-trained advocates so that their legal rights around health, safety, and well-being are protected. Attorneys, who have different skills and obligations than guardians ad litem and court-appointed special advocates, especially in forming a confidential and privileged relationship with a child, should be trained in meaningful and effective child advocacy, the child welfare system and services available to a child client, child and adolescent brain development, child and adolescent mental health, and the distinct legal rights of dependent youth, among other things. Well-trained attorneys can provide legal counsel to a child on issues such as placement options, visitation rights, educational rights, access to services while in care and services available to a child upon aging out of care. Well-trained attorneys for a child can:

- (a) Ensure the child's voice is considered in judicial proceedings;
- (b) Engage the child in his or her legal proceedings;
- (c) Explain to the child his or her legal rights;
- (d) Assist the child, through the attorney's counseling role, to consider the consequences of different decisions; and
- (e) Encourage accountability, when appropriate, among the different systems that provide services to children." [2010 c 180 § 1.]

**Intent—1996 c 249:** See note following RCW 2.56.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.102 Guardian ad litem—Training—Registry—Selection—Substitution—Exception.** (1) All guardians ad litem must comply with the training requirements

established under RCW 2.56.030(15), prior to their appointment in cases under Title 13 RCW, except that volunteer guardians ad litem or court-appointed special advocates may comply with alternative training requirements approved by the administrative office of the courts that meet or exceed the statewide requirements.

(2)(a) Each guardian ad litem program for compensated guardians ad litem shall establish a rotational registry system for the appointment of guardians ad litem. If a judicial district does not have a program the court shall establish the rotational registry system. Guardians ad litem shall be selected from the registry except in exceptional circumstances as determined and documented by the court. The parties may make a joint recommendation for the appointment of a guardian ad litem from the registry.

(b) In judicial districts with a population over one hundred thousand, a list of three names shall be selected from the registry and given to the parties along with the background information as specified in RCW 13.34.100(3), including their hourly rate for services. Each party may, within three judicial days, strike one name from the list. If more than one name remains on the list, the court shall make the appointment from the names on the list. In the event all three names are stricken the person whose name appears next on the registry shall be appointed.

(c) If a party reasonably believes that the appointed guardian ad litem lacks the necessary expertise for the proceeding, charges an hourly rate higher than what is reasonable for the particular proceeding, or has a conflict of interest, the party may, within three judicial days from the appointment, move for substitution of the appointed guardian ad litem by filing a motion with the court.

(d) The superior court shall remove any person from the guardian ad litem registry who misrepresents his or her qualifications pursuant to a grievance procedure established by the court.

(3) The rotational registry system shall not apply to court-appointed special advocate programs. [2005 c 282 § 26; 2000 c 124 § 3; 1997 c 41 § 6; 1996 c 249 § 17.]

**Intent—1996 c 249:** See note following RCW 2.56.030.

**13.34.105 Guardian ad litem—Duties—Immunity—Access to information.** (1) Unless otherwise directed by the court, the duties of the guardian ad litem for a child subject to a proceeding under this chapter, including an attorney specifically appointed by the court to serve as a guardian ad litem, include but are not limited to the following:

(a) To investigate, collect relevant information about the child's situation, and report to the court factual information regarding the best interests of the child;

(b) To meet with, interview, or observe the child, depending on the child's age and developmental status, and report to the court any views or positions expressed by the child on issues pending before the court;

(c) To monitor all court orders for compliance and to bring to the court's attention any change in circumstances that may require a modification of the court's order;

(d) To report to the court information on the legal status of a child's membership in any Indian tribe or band;

(e) Court-appointed special advocates and guardians ad litem may make recommendations based upon an independent

investigation regarding the best interests of the child, which the court may consider and weigh in conjunction with the recommendations of all of the parties;

(f) To represent and be an advocate for the best interests of the child;

(g) To inform the child, if the child is twelve years old or older, of his or her right to request counsel and to ask the child whether he or she wishes to have counsel, pursuant to RCW 13.34.100(6). The guardian ad litem shall report to the court that the child was notified of this right and indicate the child's position regarding appointment of counsel. The guardian ad litem shall report to the court his or her independent recommendation as to whether appointment of counsel is in the best interest of the child; and

(h) In the case of an Indian child as defined in RCW 13.38.040, know, understand, and advocate the best interests of the Indian child.

(2) A guardian ad litem shall be deemed an officer of the court for the purpose of immunity from civil liability.

(3) Except for information or records specified in RCW 13.50.100(7), the guardian ad litem shall have access to all information available to the state or agency on the case. Upon presentation of the order of appointment by the guardian ad litem, any agency, hospital, school organization, division or department of the state, doctor, nurse, or other health care provider, psychologist, psychiatrist, police department, or mental health clinic shall permit the guardian ad litem to inspect and copy any records relating to the child or children involved in the case, without the consent of the parent or guardian of the child, or of the child if the child is under the age of thirteen years, unless such access is otherwise specifically prohibited by law.

(4) A guardian ad litem may release confidential information, records, and reports to the office of the family and children's ombudsman for the purposes of carrying out its duties under chapter 43.06A RCW.

(5) The guardian ad litem shall release case information in accordance with the provisions of RCW 13.50.100. [2011 c 309 § 26; 2010 c 180 § 3; 2008 c 267 § 13; 2000 c 124 § 4; 1999 c 390 § 2; 1993 c 241 § 3.]

**Findings—2010 c 180:** See note following RCW 13.34.100.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.107 Guardian ad litem—Ex parte communications—Removal.** A guardian ad litem or court-appointed special advocate shall not engage in ex parte communications with any judicial officer involved in the matter for which he or she is appointed during the pendency of the proceeding, except as permitted by court rule or statute for ex parte motions. Ex parte motions shall be heard in open court on the record. The record may be preserved in a manner deemed appropriate by the county where the matter is heard. The court, upon its own motion, or upon the motion of a party, may consider the removal of any guardian ad litem or court-appointed special advocate who violates this section from any pending case or from any court-authorized registry, and if so removed may require forfeiture of any fees for professional services on the pending case. [2000 c 124 § 11.]

**13.34.108 Guardian ad litem—Fees.** The court shall specify the hourly rate the guardian ad litem may charge for

his or her services, and shall specify the maximum amount the guardian ad litem may charge without additional court review and approval. The court shall specify rates and fees in the order of appointment or at the earliest date the court is able to determine the appropriate rates and fees and prior to the guardian ad litem billing for his or her services. This section shall apply except as provided by local court rule. [2000 c 124 § 14.]

**13.34.110 Hearings—Fact-finding and disposition—Time and place, notice.** (1) The court shall hold a fact-finding hearing on the petition and, unless the court dismisses the petition, shall make written findings of fact, stating the reasons therefor. The rules of evidence shall apply at the fact-finding hearing and the parent, guardian, or legal custodian of the child shall have all of the rights provided in RCW 13.34.090(1). The petitioner shall have the burden of establishing by a preponderance of the evidence that the child is dependent within the meaning of RCW 13.34.030.

(2) The court in a fact-finding hearing may consider the history of past involvement of child protective services or law enforcement agencies with the family for the purpose of establishing a pattern of conduct, behavior, or inaction with regard to the health, safety, or welfare of the child on the part of the child's parent, guardian, or legal custodian, or for the purpose of establishing that reasonable efforts have been made by the department to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child from the child's home. No report of child abuse or neglect that has been destroyed or expunged under RCW 26.44.031 may be used for such purposes.

(3)(a) The parent, guardian, or legal custodian of the child may waive his or her right to a fact-finding hearing by stipulating or agreeing to the entry of an order of dependency establishing that the child is dependent within the meaning of RCW 13.34.030. The parent, guardian, or legal custodian may also stipulate or agree to an order of disposition pursuant to RCW 13.34.130 at the same time. Any stipulated or agreed order of dependency or disposition must be signed by the parent, guardian, or legal custodian and his or her attorney, unless the parent, guardian, or legal custodian has waived his or her right to an attorney in open court, and by the petitioner and the attorney, guardian ad litem, or court-appointed special advocate for the child, if any. If the department of social and health services is not the petitioner and is required by the order to supervise the placement of the child or provide services to any party, the department must also agree to and sign the order.

(b) Entry of any stipulated or agreed order of dependency or disposition is subject to approval by the court. The court shall receive and review a social study before entering a stipulated or agreed order and shall consider whether the order is consistent with the allegations of the dependency petition and the problems that necessitated the child's placement in out-of-home care. No social file or social study may be considered by the court in connection with the fact-finding hearing or prior to factual determination, except as otherwise admissible under the rules of evidence.

(c) Prior to the entry of any stipulated or agreed order of dependency, the parent, guardian, or legal custodian of the child and his or her attorney must appear before the court and

the court within available resources must inquire and establish on the record that:

(i) The parent, guardian, or legal custodian understands the terms of the order or orders he or she has signed, including his or her responsibility to participate in remedial services as provided in any disposition order;

(ii) The parent, guardian, or legal custodian understands that entry of the order starts a process that could result in the filing of a petition to terminate his or her relationship with the child within the time frames required by state and federal law if he or she fails to comply with the terms of the dependency or disposition orders or fails to substantially remedy the problems that necessitated the child's placement in out-of-home care;

(iii) The parent, guardian, or legal custodian understands that the entry of the stipulated or agreed order of dependency is an admission that the child is dependent within the meaning of RCW 13.34.030 and shall have the same legal effect as a finding by the court that the child is dependent by at least a preponderance of the evidence, and that the parent, guardian, or legal custodian shall not have the right in any subsequent proceeding for termination of parental rights or dependency guardianship pursuant to this chapter or nonparental custody pursuant to chapter 26.10 RCW to challenge or dispute the fact that the child was found to be dependent; and

(iv) The parent, guardian, or legal custodian knowingly and willingly stipulated and agreed to and signed the order or orders, without duress, and without misrepresentation or fraud by any other party.

If a parent, guardian, or legal custodian fails to appear before the court after stipulating or agreeing to entry of an order of dependency, the court may enter the order upon a finding that the parent, guardian, or legal custodian had actual notice of the right to appear before the court and chose not to do so. The court may require other parties to the order, including the attorney for the parent, guardian, or legal custodian, to appear and advise the court of the parent's, guardian's, or legal custodian's notice of the right to appear and understanding of the factors specified in this subsection. A parent, guardian, or legal custodian may choose to waive his or her presence at the in-court hearing for entry of the stipulated or agreed order of dependency by submitting to the court through counsel a completed stipulated or agreed dependency fact-finding/disposition statement in a form determined by the Washington state supreme court pursuant to General Rule GR 9.

(4) Immediately after the entry of the findings of fact, the court shall hold a disposition hearing, unless there is good cause for continuing the matter for up to fourteen days. If good cause is shown, the case may be continued for longer than fourteen days. Notice of the time and place of the continued hearing may be given in open court. If notice in open court is not given to a party, that party shall be notified by certified mail of the time and place of any continued hearing. Unless there is reasonable cause to believe the health, safety, or welfare of the child would be jeopardized or efforts to reunite the parent and child would be hindered, the court shall direct the department to notify those adult persons who: (a) Are related by blood or marriage to the child in the following degrees: Parent, grandparent, brother, sister, stepparent, stepbrother, stepsister, uncle, or aunt; (b) are known to the

department as having been in contact with the family or child within the past twelve months; and (c) would be an appropriate placement for the child. Reasonable cause to dispense with notification to a parent under this section must be proved by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence.

The parties need not appear at the fact-finding or dispositional hearing if the parties, their attorneys, the guardian ad litem, and court-appointed special advocates, if any, are all in agreement. [2007 c 220 § 9; 2001 c 332 § 7; 2000 c 122 § 11. Prior: 1995 c 313 § 1; 1995 c 311 § 27; 1993 c 412 § 7; 1991 c 340 § 3; 1983 c 311 § 4; 1979 c 155 § 44; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 39; 1961 c 302 § 5; prior: 1913 c 160 § 10, part; RCW 13.04.090, part. Formerly RCW 13.04.091.]

**Legislative finding—1983 c 311:** See note following RCW 13.34.030. Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.115 Hearings—Public excluded when in the best interests of the child—Notes and records—Video recordings.** (1) All hearings shall be public, and conducted at any time or place within the limits of the county, except if the judge finds that excluding the public is in the best interests of the child.

(2) Either parent, or the child's attorney or guardian ad litem, may move to close a hearing at any time. If the judge finds that it is in the best interests of the child the court shall exclude the public.

(3) If the public is excluded from the hearing, the following people may attend the closed hearing unless the judge finds it is not in the best interests of the child:

- (a) The child's relatives;
  - (b) The child's foster parents if the child resides in foster care; and
  - (c) Any person requested by the parent.
- (4) Stenographic notes or any device which accurately records the proceedings may be required as provided in other civil cases pursuant to RCW 2.32.200.

(5) Any video recording of the proceedings may be released pursuant to RCW 13.50.100, however, the video recording may not be televised, broadcast, or further disseminated to the public. [2003 c 228 § 1; 2000 c 122 § 12.]

**13.34.120 Social study and reports made available at disposition hearing—Contents—Notice to parents.** (1) To aid the court in its decision on disposition, a social study shall be made by the person or agency filing the petition. A parent may submit a counselor's or health care provider's evaluation of the parent, which shall either be included in the social study or considered in conjunction with the social study. The study shall include all social files and may also include facts relating to the child's cultural heritage, and shall be made available to the court. The court shall consider the social file, social study, guardian ad litem report, the court-appointed special advocate's report, if any, and any reports filed by a party at the disposition hearing in addition to evidence produced at the fact-finding hearing. At least ten working days before the disposition hearing, the department shall mail to the parent and his or her attorney a copy of the agency's social study and proposed service plan, which shall be in writing or in a form understandable to the parents or custodians. In addition, the department shall provide an opportunity for parents to review and comment on the plan at the local

office closest to the parents' residence. If the parents disagree with the agency's plan or any part thereof, the parents shall submit to the court at least twenty-four hours before the hearing, in writing, or signed oral statement, an alternative plan to correct the problems which led to the finding of dependency. This section shall not interfere with the right of the parents or custodians to submit oral arguments regarding the disposition plan at the hearing.

(2)(a) The guardian ad litem or court-appointed special advocate shall file his or her report with the court and with the parties pursuant to court rule prior to a hearing for which a report is required. The report shall include a written list of persons interviewed and reports or documentation considered. If the report makes particular recommendations, the report shall include specific information on which the guardian ad litem or court-appointed special advocate relied in making each particular recommendation.

(b) The parties to the proceeding may file written responses to the guardian ad litem's or court-appointed special advocate's report with the court and deliver such responses to the other parties at a reasonable time or pursuant to court rule before the hearing. The court shall consider any written responses to the guardian ad litem's or court-appointed special advocate's report, including any factual information or recommendations provided in the report. [2000 c 124 § 5; 2000 c 122 § 13; 1998 c 328 § 4; 1996 c 249 § 14; 1994 c 288 § 2; 1993 c 412 § 8; 1987 c 524 § 5; 1979 c 155 § 45; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 40.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2000 c 122 § 13 and by 2000 c 124 § 5, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Intent—1996 c 249:** See note following RCW 2.56.030. Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.125 Voluntary adoption plan—Consideration of preferences for proposed placement.** In those cases where an alleged father, birth parent, or parent has indicated his or her intention to make a voluntary adoption plan for the child and has agreed to the termination of his or her parental rights, the department or supervising agency shall follow the wishes of the alleged father, birth parent, or parent regarding the proposed adoptive placement of the child, if the court determines that the adoption is in the best interest of the child, and the prospective adoptive parents chosen by the alleged father, birth parent, or parent are properly qualified to adopt in compliance with the standards in this chapter and chapter 26.33 RCW. If the department or supervising agency has filed a termination petition, an alleged father's, birth parent's, or parent's preferences regarding the proposed adoptive placement of the child shall be given consideration. [2009 c 520 § 26; 1999 c 173 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.130 Order of disposition for a dependent child, alternatives—Petition seeking termination of parent-child relationship—Placement with relatives, foster family home, group care facility, or other suitable persons—Placement of an Indian child in out-of-home care—Contact with siblings.** If, after a fact-finding hearing pursuant to RCW 13.34.110, it has been proven by a preponderance of

the evidence that the child is dependent within the meaning of RCW 13.34.030 after consideration of the social study prepared pursuant to RCW 13.34.110 and after a disposition hearing has been held pursuant to RCW 13.34.110, the court shall enter an order of disposition pursuant to this section.

(1) The court shall order one of the following dispositions of the case:

(a) Order a disposition that maintains the child in his or her home, which shall provide a program designed to alleviate the immediate danger to the child, to mitigate or cure any damage the child has already suffered, and to aid the parents so that the child will not be endangered in the future. In determining the disposition, the court should choose services to assist the parents in maintaining the child in the home, including housing assistance, if appropriate, that least interfere with family autonomy and are adequate to protect the child.

(b)(i) Order the child to be removed from his or her home and into the custody, control, and care of a relative or other suitable person, the department, or a supervising agency for supervision of the child's placement. The court may not order an Indian child, as defined in RCW 13.38.040, to be removed from his or her home unless the court finds, by clear and convincing evidence including testimony of qualified expert witnesses, that the continued custody of the child by the parent or Indian custodian is likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage to the child.

(ii) The department or supervising agency has the authority to place the child, subject to review and approval by the court (A) with a relative as defined in RCW 74.15.020(2)(a), (B) in the home of another suitable person if the child or family has a preexisting relationship with that person, and the person has completed all required criminal history background checks and otherwise appears to the department or supervising agency to be suitable and competent to provide care for the child, or (C) in a foster family home or group care facility licensed pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW.

(iii) The department may also consider placing the child, subject to review and approval by the court, with a person with whom the child's sibling or half-sibling is residing or a person who has adopted the sibling or half-sibling of the child being placed as long as the person has completed all required criminal history background checks and otherwise appears to the department or supervising agency to be competent to provide care for the child.

(2) Absent good cause, the department or supervising agency shall follow the wishes of the natural parent regarding the placement of the child in accordance with RCW 13.34.260.

(3) The department or supervising agency may only place a child with a person not related to the child as defined in RCW 74.15.020(2)(a), including a placement provided for in subsection (1)(b)(iii) of this section, when the court finds that such placement is in the best interest of the child. Unless there is reasonable cause to believe that the health, safety, or welfare of the child would be jeopardized or that efforts to reunite the parent and child will be hindered, the child shall be placed with a person who is willing, appropriate, and available to care for the child, and who is: (I) Related to the child as defined in RCW 74.15.020(2)(a) with whom the

child has a relationship and is comfortable; or (II) a suitable person as described in subsection (1)(b) of this section. The court shall consider the child's existing relationships and attachments when determining placement.

(4) When placing an Indian child in out-of-home care, the department or supervising agency shall follow the placement preference characteristics in RCW 13.38.180.

(5) Placement of the child with a relative or other suitable person as described in subsection (1)(b) of this section shall be given preference by the court. An order for out-of-home placement may be made only if the court finds that reasonable efforts have been made to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child from the child's home and to make it possible for the child to return home, specifying the services, including housing assistance, that have been provided to the child and the child's parent, guardian, or legal custodian, and that preventive services have been offered or provided and have failed to prevent the need for out-of-home placement, unless the health, safety, and welfare of the child cannot be protected adequately in the home, and that:

(a) There is no parent or guardian available to care for such child;

(b) The parent, guardian, or legal custodian is not willing to take custody of the child; or

(c) The court finds, by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence, a manifest danger exists that the child will suffer serious abuse or neglect if the child is not removed from the home and an order under RCW 26.44.063 would not protect the child from danger.

(6) If the court has ordered a child removed from his or her home pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this section, the court shall consider whether it is in a child's best interest to be placed with, have contact with, or have visits with siblings.

(a) There shall be a presumption that such placement, contact, or visits are in the best interests of the child provided that:

(i) The court has jurisdiction over all siblings subject to the order of placement, contact, or visitation pursuant to petitions filed under this chapter or the parents of a child for whom there is no jurisdiction are willing to agree; and

(ii) There is no reasonable cause to believe that the health, safety, or welfare of any child subject to the order of placement, contact, or visitation would be jeopardized or that efforts to reunite the parent and child would be hindered by such placement, contact, or visitation. In no event shall parental visitation time be reduced in order to provide sibling visitation.

(b) The court may also order placement, contact, or visitation of a child with a stepbrother or stepsister provided that in addition to the factors in (a) of this subsection, the child has a relationship and is comfortable with the stepsibling.

(7) If the court has ordered a child removed from his or her home pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this section and placed into nonparental or nonrelative care, the court shall order a placement that allows the child to remain in the same school he or she attended prior to the initiation of the dependency proceeding when such a placement is practical and in the child's best interest.

(8) If the court has ordered a child removed from his or her home pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this section, the

court may order that a petition seeking termination of the parent and child relationship be filed if the requirements of RCW 13.34.132 are met.

(9) If there is insufficient information at the time of the disposition hearing upon which to base a determination regarding the suitability of a proposed placement with a relative or other suitable person, the child shall remain in foster care and the court shall direct the department or supervising agency to conduct necessary background investigations as provided in chapter 74.15 RCW and report the results of such investigation to the court within thirty days. However, if such relative or other person appears otherwise suitable and competent to provide care and treatment, the criminal history background check need not be completed before placement, but as soon as possible after placement. Any placements with relatives or other suitable persons, pursuant to this section, shall be contingent upon cooperation by the relative or other suitable person with the agency case plan and compliance with court orders related to the care and supervision of the child including, but not limited to, court orders regarding parent-child contacts, sibling contacts, and any other conditions imposed by the court. Noncompliance with the case plan or court order shall be grounds for removal of the child from the relative's or other suitable person's home, subject to review by the court. [2011 c 309 § 27; 2011 c 292 § 1; 2010 c 288 § 1. Prior: 2009 c 520 § 27; 2009 c 491 § 2; 2009 c 397 § 3; prior: 2007 c 413 § 6; 2007 c 412 § 2; 2003 c 227 § 3; 2002 c 52 § 5; 2000 c 122 § 15; prior: 1999 c 267 § 16; 1999 c 267 § 9; 1999 c 173 § 3; prior: 1998 c 314 § 2; 1998 c 130 § 2; 1997 c 280 § 1; prior: 1995 c 313 § 2; 1995 c 311 § 19; 1995 c 53 § 1; 1994 c 288 § 4; 1992 c 145 § 14; 1991 c 127 § 4; prior: 1990 c 284 § 32; 1990 c 246 § 5; 1989 1st ex.s. c 17 § 17; prior: 1988 c 194 § 1; 1988 c 190 § 2; 1988 c 189 § 2; 1984 c 188 § 4; prior: 1983 c 311 § 5; 1983 c 246 § 2; 1979 c 155 § 46; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 41.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2011 c 292 § 1 and by 2011 c 309 § 27, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Severability—2007 c 413:** See note following RCW 13.34.215.

**Intent—2003 c 227:** "It is the intent of the legislature to recognize the importance of emotional ties formed by siblings with each other, especially in those circumstances which warrant court intervention into family relationships. It is the intent of the legislature to encourage the courts and public agencies which deal with families to acknowledge and give thoughtful consideration to the quality and nature of sibling relationships when intervening in family relationships. It is not the intent of the legislature to create legal obligations or responsibilities between siblings and other family members whether by blood or marriage, step families, foster families, or adopted families that do not already exist. Neither is it the intent of the legislature to mandate sibling placement, contact, or visitation if there is reasonable cause to believe that the health, safety, or welfare of a child or siblings would be jeopardized. Finally, it is not the intent of the legislature to manufacture or anticipate family relationships which do not exist at the time of the court intervention, or to disrupt already existing positive family relationships." [2003 c 227 § 1.]

**Intent—2002 c 52:** See note following RCW 13.34.025.

**Findings—Intent—Severability—1999 c 267:** See notes following RCW 43.20A.790.

**Short title—Purpose—Entitlement not granted—Federal waivers—1999 c 267 §§ 10-26:** See RCW 74.15.900 and 74.15.901.

**Finding—Effective date—1990 c 284:** See notes following RCW 74.13.250.

**Legislative finding—1983 c 311:** See note following RCW 13.34.030.

**13.34.132 Petition seeking termination of parent-child relationship—Requirements.** A court may order that a petition seeking termination of the parent and child relationship be filed if the following requirements are met:

(1) The court has removed the child from his or her home pursuant to RCW 13.34.130;

(2) Termination is recommended by the department or the supervising agency;

(3) Termination is in the best interests of the child; and

(4) Because of the existence of aggravated circumstances, reasonable efforts to unify the family are not required. Notwithstanding the existence of aggravated circumstances, reasonable efforts may be required if the court or department determines it is in the best interests of the child. In determining whether aggravated circumstances exist by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence, the court shall consider one or more of the following:

(a) Conviction of the parent of rape of the child in the first, second, or third degree as defined in RCW 9A.44.073, 9A.44.076, and 9A.44.079;

(b) Conviction of the parent of criminal mistreatment of the child in the first or second degree as defined in RCW 9A.42.020 and 9A.42.030;

(c) Conviction of the parent of one of the following assault crimes, when the child is the victim: Assault in the first or second degree as defined in RCW 9A.36.011 and 9A.36.021 or assault of a child in the first or second degree as defined in RCW 9A.36.120 or 9A.36.130;

(d) Conviction of the parent of murder, manslaughter, or homicide by abuse of the child's other parent, sibling, or another child;

(e) Conviction of the parent of attempting, soliciting, or conspiring to commit a crime listed in (a), (b), (c), or (d) of this subsection;

(f) A finding by a court that a parent is a sexually violent predator as defined in RCW 71.09.020;

(g) Failure of the parent to complete available treatment ordered under this chapter or the equivalent laws of another state, where such failure has resulted in a prior termination of parental rights to another child and the parent has failed to effect significant change in the interim. In the case of a parent of an Indian child, as defined in RCW 13.38.040, the court shall also consider tribal efforts to assist the parent in completing treatment and make it possible for the child to return home;

(h) An infant under three years of age has been abandoned;

(i) Conviction of the parent, when a child has been born of the offense, of: (A) A sex offense under chapter 9A.44 RCW; or (B) incest under RCW 9A.64.020. [2011 c 309 § 28; 2000 c 122 § 16.]

**13.34.134 Permanent placement of child.** If reasonable efforts are not ordered under RCW 13.34.132, a permanency planning hearing shall be held within thirty days of the court order to file a petition to terminate parental rights. Reasonable efforts shall be made to place the child in a timely manner in accordance with the permanency plan, and to com-



plete whatever steps are necessary to finalize the permanent placement of the child. [2000 c 122 § 17.]

**13.34.136 Permanency plan of care.** (1) Whenever a child is ordered removed from the home, a permanency plan shall be developed no later than sixty days from the time the supervising agency assumes responsibility for providing services, including placing the child, or at the time of a hearing under RCW 13.34.130, whichever occurs first. The permanency planning process continues until a permanency planning goal is achieved or dependency is dismissed. The planning process shall include reasonable efforts to return the child to the parent's home.

(2) The agency supervising the dependency shall submit a written permanency plan to all parties and the court not less than fourteen days prior to the scheduled hearing. Responsive reports of parties not in agreement with the department's or supervising agency's proposed permanency plan must be provided to the department or supervising agency, all other parties, and the court at least seven days prior to the hearing.

The permanency plan shall include:

(a) A permanency plan of care that shall identify one of the following outcomes as a primary goal and may identify additional outcomes as alternative goals: Return of the child to the home of the child's parent, guardian, or legal custodian; adoption, including a tribal customary adoption as defined in RCW 13.38.040; guardianship; permanent legal custody; long-term relative or foster care, until the child is age eighteen, with a written agreement between the parties and the care provider; successful completion of a responsible living skills program; or independent living, if appropriate and if the child is age sixteen or older. The department or supervising agency shall not discharge a child to an independent living situation before the child is eighteen years of age unless the child becomes emancipated pursuant to chapter 13.64 RCW;

(b) Unless the court has ordered, pursuant to \*RCW 13.34.130(6), that a termination petition be filed, a specific plan as to where the child will be placed, what steps will be taken to return the child home, what steps the supervising agency or the department will take to promote existing appropriate sibling relationships and/or facilitate placement together or contact in accordance with the best interests of each child, and what actions the department or supervising agency will take to maintain parent-child ties. All aspects of the plan shall include the goal of achieving permanence for the child.

(i) The department's or supervising agency's plan shall specify what services the parents will be offered to enable them to resume custody, what requirements the parents must meet to resume custody, and a time limit for each service plan and parental requirement.

(ii) Visitation is the right of the family, including the child and the parent, in cases in which visitation is in the best interest of the child. Early, consistent, and frequent visitation is crucial for maintaining parent-child relationships and making it possible for parents and children to safely reunify. The supervising agency or department shall encourage the maximum parent and child and sibling contact possible, when it is in the best interest of the child, including regular visitation and participation by the parents in the care of the child while

the child is in placement. Visitation shall not be limited as a sanction for a parent's failure to comply with court orders or services where the health, safety, or welfare of the child is not at risk as a result of the visitation. Visitation may be limited or denied only if the court determines that such limitation or denial is necessary to protect the child's health, safety, or welfare. The court and the department or supervising agency should rely upon community resources, relatives, foster parents, and other appropriate persons to provide transportation and supervision for visitation to the extent that such resources are available, and appropriate, and the child's safety would not be compromised.

(iii) A child shall be placed as close to the child's home as possible, preferably in the child's own neighborhood, unless the court finds that placement at a greater distance is necessary to promote the child's or parents' well-being.

(iv) The plan shall state whether both in-state and, where appropriate, out-of-state placement options have been considered by the department or supervising agency.

(v) Unless it is not in the best interests of the child, whenever practical, the plan should ensure the child remains enrolled in the school the child was attending at the time the child entered foster care.

(vi) The supervising agency or department shall provide all reasonable services that are available within the department or supervising agency, or within the community, or those services which the department has existing contracts to purchase. It shall report to the court if it is unable to provide such services; and

(c) If the court has ordered, pursuant to \*RCW 13.34.130(6), that a termination petition be filed, a specific plan as to where the child will be placed, what steps will be taken to achieve permanency for the child, services to be offered or provided to the child, and, if visitation would be in the best interests of the child, a recommendation to the court regarding visitation between parent and child pending a fact-finding hearing on the termination petition. The department or supervising agency shall not be required to develop a plan of services for the parents or provide services to the parents if the court orders a termination petition be filed. However, reasonable efforts to ensure visitation and contact between siblings shall be made unless there is reasonable cause to believe the best interests of the child or siblings would be jeopardized.

(3) Permanency planning goals should be achieved at the earliest possible date. If the child has been in out-of-home care for fifteen of the most recent twenty-two months, the court shall require the department or supervising agency to file a petition seeking termination of parental rights in accordance with RCW 13.34.145(3)(b)(vi). In cases where parental rights have been terminated, the child is legally free for adoption, and adoption has been identified as the primary permanency planning goal, it shall be a goal to complete the adoption within six months following entry of the termination order.

(4) If the court determines that the continuation of reasonable efforts to prevent or eliminate the need to remove the child from his or her home or to safely return the child home should not be part of the permanency plan of care for the child, reasonable efforts shall be made to place the child in a

timely manner and to complete whatever steps are necessary to finalize the permanent placement of the child.

(5) The identified outcomes and goals of the permanency plan may change over time based upon the circumstances of the particular case.

(6) The court shall consider the child's relationships with the child's siblings in accordance with \*RCW 13.34.130(4). Whenever the permanency plan for a child is adoption, the court shall encourage the prospective adoptive parents, birth parents, foster parents, kinship caregivers, and the department or other supervising agency to seriously consider the long-term benefits to the child adoptee and his or her siblings of providing for and facilitating continuing postadoption contact between the siblings. To the extent that it is feasible, and when it is in the best interests of the child adoptee and his or her siblings, contact between the siblings should be frequent and of a similar nature as that which existed prior to the adoption. If the child adoptee or his or her siblings are represented by an attorney or guardian ad litem in a proceeding under this chapter or in any other child custody proceeding, the court shall inquire of each attorney and guardian ad litem regarding the potential benefits of continuing contact between the siblings and the potential detriments of severing contact. This section does not require the department of social and health services or other supervising agency to agree to any specific provisions in an open adoption agreement and does not create a new obligation for the department to provide supervision or transportation for visits between siblings separated by adoption from foster care.

(7) For purposes related to permanency planning:

(a) "Guardianship" means a dependency guardianship or a legal guardianship pursuant to chapter 11.88 RCW or equivalent laws of another state or a federally recognized Indian tribe.

(b) "Permanent custody order" means a custody order entered pursuant to chapter 26.10 RCW.

(c) "Permanent legal custody" means legal custody pursuant to chapter 26.10 RCW or equivalent laws of another state or a federally recognized Indian tribe. [2011 c 309 § 29. Prior: 2009 c 520 § 28; 2009 c 234 § 5; prior: 2008 c 267 § 3; 2008 c 152 § 2; 2007 c 413 § 7; 2004 c 146 § 1; 2003 c 227 § 4; 2002 c 52 § 6; 2000 c 122 § 18.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 13.34.130 was amended by 2011 c 292 § 1, changing subsections (6) and (4) to subsections (8) and (6), respectively.

**Findings—Intent—2008 c 152:** "The legislature finds that meeting the needs of vulnerable children who enter the child welfare system includes protecting the child's right to a safe, stable, and permanent home where the child receives basic nurturing. The legislature also finds that according to measures of timely dependency case processing, many children's cases are not meeting the federal and state standards intended to promote child-centered decision making in dependency cases. The legislature intends to encourage a greater focus on children's developmental needs and to promote closer adherence to timeliness standards in the resolution of dependency cases." [2008 c 152 § 1.]

**Severability—2007 c 413:** See note following RCW 13.34.215.

**Intent—2003 c 227:** See note following RCW 13.34.130.

**Intent—2002 c 52:** See note following RCW 13.34.025.

**13.34.138 Review hearings—Findings—Duties of parties involved—In-home placement requirements—Housing assistance.** (1) The status of all children found to be dependent shall be reviewed by the court at least every six

months from the beginning date of the placement episode or the date dependency is established, whichever is first. The purpose of the hearing shall be to review the progress of the parties and determine whether court supervision should continue.

(a) The initial review hearing shall be an in-court review and shall be set six months from the beginning date of the placement episode or no more than ninety days from the entry of the disposition order, whichever comes first. The requirements for the initial review hearing, including the in-court review requirement, shall be accomplished within existing resources.

(b) The initial review hearing may be a permanency planning hearing when necessary to meet the time frames set forth in RCW 13.34.145(1)(a) or 13.34.134.

(2)(a) A child shall not be returned home at the review hearing unless the court finds that a reason for removal as set forth in RCW 13.34.130 no longer exists. The parents, guardian, or legal custodian shall report to the court the efforts they have made to correct the conditions which led to removal. If a child is returned, casework supervision by the supervising agency or department shall continue for a period of six months, at which time there shall be a hearing on the need for continued intervention.

(b) Prior to the child returning home, the department or supervising agency must complete the following:

(i) Identify all adults residing in the home and conduct background checks on those persons;

(ii) Identify any persons who may act as a caregiver for the child in addition to the parent with whom the child is being placed and determine whether such persons are in need of any services in order to ensure the safety of the child, regardless of whether such persons are a party to the dependency. The department or supervising agency may recommend to the court and the court may order that placement of the child in the parent's home be contingent on or delayed based on the need for such persons to engage in or complete services to ensure the safety of the child prior to placement. If services are recommended for the caregiver, and the caregiver fails to engage in or follow through with the recommended services, the department or supervising agency must promptly notify the court; and

(iii) Notify the parent with whom the child is being placed that he or she has an ongoing duty to notify the department or supervising agency of all persons who reside in the home or who may act as a caregiver for the child both prior to the placement of the child in the home and subsequent to the placement of the child in the home as long as the court retains jurisdiction of the dependency proceeding or the department is providing or monitoring either remedial services to the parent or services to ensure the safety of the child to any caregivers.

Caregivers may be required to engage in services under this subsection solely for the purpose of ensuring the present and future safety of a child who is a ward of the court. This subsection does not grant party status to any individual not already a party to the dependency proceeding, create an entitlement to services or a duty on the part of the department or supervising agency to provide services, or create judicial authority to order the provision of services to any person other than for the express purposes of this section or RCW

13.34.025 or if the services are unavailable or unsuitable or the person is not eligible for such services.

(c) If the child is not returned home, the court shall establish in writing:

(i) Whether the supervising agency or the department is making reasonable efforts to provide services to the family and eliminate the need for placement of the child. If additional services, including housing assistance, are needed to facilitate the return of the child to the child's parents, the court shall order that reasonable services be offered specifying such services;

(ii) Whether there has been compliance with the case plan by the child, the child's parents, and the agency supervising the placement;

(iii) Whether progress has been made toward correcting the problems that necessitated the child's placement in out-of-home care;

(iv) Whether the services set forth in the case plan and the responsibilities of the parties need to be clarified or modified due to the availability of additional information or changed circumstances;

(v) Whether there is a continuing need for placement;

(vi) Whether a parent's homelessness or lack of suitable housing is a significant factor delaying permanency for the child by preventing the return of the child to the home of the child's parent and whether housing assistance should be provided by the department or supervising agency;

(vii) Whether the child is in an appropriate placement which adequately meets all physical, emotional, and educational needs;

(viii) Whether preference has been given to placement with the child's relatives if such placement is in the child's best interests;

(ix) Whether both in-state and, where appropriate, out-of-state placements have been considered;

(x) Whether the parents have visited the child and any reasons why visitation has not occurred or has been infrequent;

(xi) Whether terms of visitation need to be modified;

(xii) Whether the court-approved long-term permanent plan for the child remains the best plan for the child;

(xiii) Whether any additional court orders need to be made to move the case toward permanency; and

(xiv) The projected date by which the child will be returned home or other permanent plan of care will be implemented.

(d) The court at the review hearing may order that a petition seeking termination of the parent and child relationship be filed.

(3)(a) In any case in which the court orders that a dependent child may be returned to or remain in the child's home, the in-home placement shall be contingent upon the following:

(i) The compliance of the parents with court orders related to the care and supervision of the child, including compliance with the supervising agency's case plan; and

(ii) The continued participation of the parents, if applicable, in available substance abuse or mental health treatment if substance abuse or mental illness was a contributing factor to the removal of the child.

(b) The following may be grounds for removal of the child from the home, subject to review by the court:

(i) Noncompliance by the parents with the department's or supervising agency's case plan or court order;

(ii) The parent's inability, unwillingness, or failure to participate in available services or treatment for themselves or the child, including substance abuse treatment if a parent's substance abuse was a contributing factor to the abuse or neglect; or

(iii) The failure of the parents to successfully and substantially complete available services or treatment for themselves or the child, including substance abuse treatment if a parent's substance abuse was a contributing factor to the abuse or neglect.

(c) In a pending dependency case in which the court orders that a dependent child may be returned home and that child is later removed from the home, the court shall hold a review hearing within thirty days from the date of removal to determine whether the permanency plan should be changed, a termination petition should be filed, or other action is warranted. The best interests of the child shall be the court's primary consideration in the review hearing.

(4) The court's authority to order housing assistance under this chapter is: (a) Limited to cases in which a parent's homelessness or lack of suitable housing is a significant factor delaying permanency for the child and housing assistance would aid the parent in providing an appropriate home for the child; and (b) subject to the availability of funds appropriated for this specific purpose. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to create an entitlement to housing assistance nor to create judicial authority to order the provision of such assistance to any person or family if the assistance or funding are unavailable or the child or family are not eligible for such assistance.

(5) The court shall consider the child's relationship with siblings in accordance with \*RCW 13.34.130(3). [2009 c 520 § 29; 2009 c 491 § 3; 2009 c 397 § 4; 2009 c 152 § 1. Prior: 2007 c 413 § 8; 2007 c 410 § 1; 2005 c 512 § 3; 2003 c 227 § 5; 2001 c 332 § 5; 2000 c 122 § 19.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 13.34.130 was amended by 2010 c 288 § 1, changing subsection (3) to subsection (4). RCW 13.34.130 was subsequently amended by 2011 c 292 § 1, changing subsection (4) to subsection (6).

(2) This section was amended by 2009 c 152 § 1, 2009 c 397 § 4, 2009 c 491 § 3, and by 2009 c 520 § 29, each without reference to the other. All amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Severability—2007 c 413:** See note following RCW 13.34.215.

**Short title—2007 c 410:** "This act may be known and cited as Sirita's law." [2007 c 410 § 9.]

**Finding—Intent—Effective date—Short title—2005 c 512:** See notes following RCW 26.44.100.

**Intent—2003 c 227:** See note following RCW 13.34.130.

**13.34.141 Entry, order of disposition—Parent, guardian, or custodian of child to engage in services and maintain contact with child—Notice.** (1) After entry of a dispositional order pursuant to RCW 13.34.130 ordering placement of a child in out-of-home care, the department shall continue to encourage the parent, guardian, or custodian of the child to engage in services and maintain contact with the child, which shall be accomplished by attaching a stan-

standard notice to the services and safety plan to be provided in advance of hearings conducted pursuant to RCW 13.34.138.

(2) The notice shall be photocopied on contrasting paper to distinguish it from the services and safety plan to which it is attached, and shall be in substantially the following form:

"NOTICE

If you have not been maintaining consistent contact with your child in out-of-home care, your ability to reunify with your child may be jeopardized. If this is your situation, you need to be aware that you have important legal rights and must take steps to protect your interests.

1. The department of social and health services (or other supervising agency) and the court have created a permanency plan for your child, including a primary placement plan and a secondary placement plan, and recommending services needed before your child can be placed in the primary or secondary placement. If you want the court to order that your child be reunified with you, you should notify your lawyer and the department, and you should carefully comply with court orders for services and participate regularly in visitation with your child. Failure to promptly engage in services or to maintain contact with your child may lead to the filing of a petition to terminate your rights as a parent.

2. Primary and secondary permanency plans are intended to run at the same time so that your child will have a permanent home as quickly as possible. Even if you want another parent or person to be the primary placement choice for your child, you should tell your lawyer, the department, and the court if you want to be the secondary placement option, and you should comply with any court orders for services and participate in visitation with your child. Early and consistent involvement in your child's case plan is important for the well-being of your child.

3. Dependency review hearings, and all other dependency case hearings, are legal proceedings with potentially serious consequences. Failure to participate, respond, or comply with court orders may lead to the loss of your parental rights." [2009 c 484 § 1.]

**13.34.142 Current placement episode—Calculation.**

If the most recent date that a child was removed from the home of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian for purposes of placement in out-of-home care occurred prior to the filing of a dependency petition or after filing but prior to entry of a disposition order, such time periods shall be included when calculating the length of the child's current placement episode. [2000 c 122 § 14.]

**13.34.145 Permanency planning hearing—Purpose—Time limits—Goals—Review hearing—Petition for termination of parental rights—Guardianship petition—Agency responsibility to provide services to parents—Due process rights.** (1) The purpose of a permanency planning hearing is to review the permanency plan for the child, inquire into the welfare of the child and progress of the case, and reach decisions regarding the permanent placement of the child.

(a) A permanency planning hearing shall be held in all cases where the child has remained in out-of-home care for at

least nine months and an adoption decree, guardianship order, or permanent custody order has not previously been entered. The hearing shall take place no later than twelve months following commencement of the current placement episode.

(b) Whenever a child is removed from the home of a dependency guardian or long-term relative or foster care provider, and the child is not returned to the home of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian but is placed in out-of-home care, a permanency planning hearing shall take place no later than twelve months, as provided in this section, following the date of removal unless, prior to the hearing, the child returns to the home of the dependency guardian or long-term care provider, the child is placed in the home of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian, an adoption decree, guardianship order, or a permanent custody order is entered, or the dependency is dismissed. Every effort shall be made to provide stability in long-term placement, and to avoid disruption of placement, unless the child is being returned home or it is in the best interest of the child.

(c) Permanency planning goals should be achieved at the earliest possible date, preferably before the child has been in out-of-home care for fifteen months. In cases where parental rights have been terminated, the child is legally free for adoption, and adoption has been identified as the primary permanency planning goal, it shall be a goal to complete the adoption within six months following entry of the termination order.

(2) No later than ten working days prior to the permanency planning hearing, the agency having custody of the child shall submit a written permanency plan to the court and shall mail a copy of the plan to all parties and their legal counsel, if any.

(3) At the permanency planning hearing, the court shall conduct the following inquiry:

(a) If a goal of long-term foster or relative care has been achieved prior to the permanency planning hearing, the court shall review the child's status to determine whether the placement and the plan for the child's care remain appropriate.

(b) In cases where the primary permanency planning goal has not been achieved, the court shall inquire regarding the reasons why the primary goal has not been achieved and determine what needs to be done to make it possible to achieve the primary goal. The court shall review the permanency plan prepared by the agency and make explicit findings regarding each of the following:

(i) The continuing necessity for, and the safety and appropriateness of, the placement;

(ii) The extent of compliance with the permanency plan by the department or supervising agency and any other service providers, the child's parents, the child, and the child's guardian, if any;

(iii) The extent of any efforts to involve appropriate service providers in addition to department or supervising agency staff in planning to meet the special needs of the child and the child's parents;

(iv) The progress toward eliminating the causes for the child's placement outside of his or her home and toward returning the child safely to his or her home or obtaining a permanent placement for the child;

(v) The date by which it is likely that the child will be returned to his or her home or placed for adoption, with a guardian or in some other alternative permanent placement; and

(vi) If the child has been placed outside of his or her home for fifteen of the most recent twenty-two months, not including any period during which the child was a runaway from the out-of-home placement or the first six months of any period during which the child was returned to his or her home for a trial home visit, the appropriateness of the permanency plan, whether reasonable efforts were made by the department or supervising agency to achieve the goal of the permanency plan, and the circumstances which prevent the child from any of the following:

- (A) Being returned safely to his or her home;
- (B) Having a petition for the involuntary termination of parental rights filed on behalf of the child;
- (C) Being placed for adoption;
- (D) Being placed with a guardian;
- (E) Being placed in the home of a fit and willing relative of the child; or
- (F) Being placed in some other alternative permanent placement, including independent living or long-term foster care.

At this hearing, the court shall order the department or supervising agency to file a petition seeking termination of parental rights if the child has been in out-of-home care for fifteen of the last twenty-two months since the date the dependency petition was filed unless the court makes a good cause exception as to why the filing of a termination of parental rights petition is not appropriate. Any good cause finding shall be reviewed at all subsequent hearings pertaining to the child. For purposes of this section, "good cause exception" includes but is not limited to the following: The child is being cared for by a relative; the department has not provided to the child's family such services as the court and the department have deemed necessary for the child's safe return home; or the department has documented in the case plan a compelling reason for determining that filing a petition to terminate parental rights would not be in the child's best interests.

(c)(i) If the permanency plan identifies independent living as a goal, the court shall make a finding that the provision of services to assist the child in making a transition from foster care to independent living will allow the child to manage his or her financial, personal, social, educational, and nonfinancial affairs prior to approving independent living as a permanency plan of care. The court will inquire whether the child has been provided information about extended foster care services.

(ii) The permanency plan shall also specifically identify the services, including extended foster care services, where appropriate, that will be provided to assist the child to make a successful transition from foster care to independent living.

(iii) The department or supervising agency shall not discharge a child to an independent living situation before the child is eighteen years of age unless the child becomes emancipated pursuant to chapter 13.64 RCW.

(d) If the child has resided in the home of a foster parent or relative for more than six months prior to the permanency planning hearing, the court shall:

(i) Enter a finding regarding whether the foster parent or relative was informed of the hearing as required in RCW 74.13.280, 13.34.215(6), and 13.34.096; and

(ii) If the department or supervising agency is recommending a placement other than the child's current placement with a foster parent, relative, or other suitable person, enter a finding as to the reasons for the recommendation for a change in placement.

(4) In all cases, at the permanency planning hearing, the court shall:

(a)(i) Order the permanency plan prepared by the supervising agency to be implemented; or

(ii) Modify the permanency plan, and order implementation of the modified plan; and

(b)(i) Order the child returned home only if the court finds that a reason for removal as set forth in RCW 13.34.130 no longer exists; or

(ii) Order the child to remain in out-of-home care for a limited specified time period while efforts are made to implement the permanency plan.

(5) Following the first permanency planning hearing, the court shall hold a further permanency planning hearing in accordance with this section at least once every twelve months until a permanency planning goal is achieved or the dependency is dismissed, whichever occurs first.

(6) Prior to the second permanency planning hearing, the agency that has custody of the child shall consider whether to file a petition for termination of parental rights.

(7) If the court orders the child returned home, casework supervision by the department or supervising agency shall continue for at least six months, at which time a review hearing shall be held pursuant to RCW 13.34.138, and the court shall determine the need for continued intervention.

(8) The juvenile court may hear a petition for permanent legal custody when: (a) The court has ordered implementation of a permanency plan that includes permanent legal custody; and (b) the party pursuing the permanent legal custody is the party identified in the permanency plan as the prospective legal custodian. During the pendency of such proceeding, the court shall conduct review hearings and further permanency planning hearings as provided in this chapter. At the conclusion of the legal guardianship or permanent legal custody proceeding, a juvenile court hearing shall be held for the purpose of determining whether dependency should be dismissed. If a guardianship or permanent custody order has been entered, the dependency shall be dismissed.

(9) Continued juvenile court jurisdiction under this chapter shall not be a barrier to the entry of an order establishing a legal guardianship or permanent legal custody when the requirements of subsection (8) of this section are met.

(10) Nothing in this chapter may be construed to limit the ability of the agency that has custody of the child to file a petition for termination of parental rights or a guardianship petition at any time following the establishment of dependency. Upon the filing of such a petition, a fact-finding hearing shall be scheduled and held in accordance with this chapter unless the department or supervising agency requests dismissal of the petition prior to the hearing or unless the parties enter an agreed order terminating parental rights, establishing guardianship, or otherwise resolving the matter.

(11) The approval of a permanency plan that does not contemplate return of the child to the parent does not relieve the supervising agency of its obligation to provide reasonable services, under this chapter, intended to effectuate the return of the child to the parent, including but not limited to, visitation rights. The court shall consider the child's relationships with siblings in accordance with RCW 13.34.130.

(12) Nothing in this chapter may be construed to limit the procedural due process rights of any party in a termination or guardianship proceeding filed under this chapter. [2011 c 330 § 6. Prior: 2009 c 520 § 30; 2009 c 491 § 4; 2009 c 477 § 4; 2008 c 152 § 3; 2007 c 413 § 9; 2003 c 227 § 6; prior: 2000 c 135 § 4; 2000 c 122 § 20; 1999 c 267 § 17; prior: 1998 c 314 § 3; 1998 c 130 § 3; prior: 1995 c 311 § 20; 1995 c 53 § 2; 1994 c 288 § 5; 1993 c 412 § 1; 1989 1st ex.s. c 17 § 18; 1988 c 194 § 3.]

**Intent—2011 c 330:** See note following RCW 13.04.011.

**Findings—Intent—2009 c 477:** See note following RCW 13.34.062.

**Findings—Intent—2008 c 152:** See note following RCW 13.34.136.

**Severability—2007 c 413:** See note following RCW 13.34.215.

**Intent—2003 c 227:** See note following RCW 13.34.130.

**Findings—Intent—Severability—1999 c 267:** See notes following RCW 43.20A.790.

**Short title—Purpose—Entitlement not granted—Federal waivers—1999 c 267 §§ 10-26:** See RCW 74.15.900 and 74.15.901.

**13.34.150 Modification of orders.** Any order made by the court in the case of a dependent child may be changed, modified, or set aside, only upon a showing of a change in circumstance or as provided in RCW 13.34.120. [1993 c 412 § 9; 1990 c 246 § 6; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 43; 1913 c 160 § 15; RRS § 1987-15. Formerly RCW 13.04.150.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.155 Concurrent jurisdiction over nonparental actions for child custody (as amended by 2009 c 520).** (1) The court hearing the dependency petition may hear and determine issues related to chapter 26.10 RCW in a dependency proceeding as necessary to facilitate a permanency plan for the child or children as part of the dependency disposition order or a dependency review order or as otherwise necessary to implement a permanency plan of care for a child. The parents, guardians, or legal custodian of the child must agree, subject to court approval, to establish a permanent custody order. This agreed order may have the concurrence of the other parties to the dependency including the supervising agency, the guardian ad litem of the child, and the child if age twelve or older, and must also be in the best interests of the child. If the petitioner for a custody order under chapter 26.10 RCW is not a party to the dependency proceeding, he or she must agree on the record or by the filing of a declaration to the entry of a custody order. Once an order is entered under chapter 26.10 RCW, and the dependency petition dismissed, the department or supervising agency shall not continue to supervise the placement.

(2) Any court order determining issues under chapter 26.10 RCW is subject to modification upon the same showing and standards as a court order determining Title 26 RCW issues.

(3) Any order entered in the dependency court establishing or modifying a permanent legal custody order under chapter 26.10 RCW shall also be filed in the chapter 26.10 RCW action by the prevailing party. Once filed, any order establishing or modifying permanent legal custody shall survive dismissal of the dependency proceeding. [2009 c 520 § 31; 2000 c 135 § 1.]

**13.34.155 Concurrent jurisdiction over nonparental actions for child custody—Establishment or modification of parenting plan (as amended by 2009 c 526).** (1) The court hearing the dependency petition may hear and determine issues related to chapter 26.10 RCW in a dependency proceeding as necessary to facilitate a permanency plan for the child or children as part of the dependency disposition order or a dependency review order or as otherwise necessary to implement a permanency plan of care for

a child. The parents, guardians, or legal custodian of the child must agree, subject to court approval, to establish a permanent custody order. This agreed order may have the concurrence of the other parties to the dependency including the supervising agency, the guardian ad litem of the child, and the child if age twelve or older, and must also be in the best interests of the child. If the petitioner for a custody order under chapter 26.10 RCW is not a party to the dependency proceeding, he or she must agree on the record or by the filing of a declaration to the entry of a custody order. Once an order is entered under chapter 26.10 RCW, and the dependency petition dismissed, the department shall not continue to supervise the placement.

(2)(a) The court hearing the dependency petition may establish or modify a parenting plan under chapter 26.09 or 26.26 RCW as part of a disposition order or at a review hearing when doing so will implement a permanent plan of care for the child and result in dismissal of the dependency.

(b) The dependency court shall adhere to procedural requirements under chapter 26.09 RCW and must make a written finding that the parenting plan established or modified by the dependency court under this section is in the child's best interests.

(c) Unless the whereabouts of one of the parents is unknown to either the department or the court, the parents must agree, subject to court approval, to establish the parenting plan or modify an existing parenting plan.

(d) Whenever the court is asked to establish or modify a parenting plan, the child's residential schedule, the allocation of decision-making authority, and dispute resolution under this section, the dependency court may:

(i) Appoint a guardian ad litem to represent the interests of the child when the court believes the appointment is necessary to protect the best interests of the child; and

(ii) Appoint an attorney to represent the interests of the child with respect to provisions for the parenting plan.

(e) The dependency court must make a written finding that the parenting plan established or modified by the dependency court under this section is in the child's best interests.

(f) The dependency court may interview the child in chambers to ascertain the child's wishes as to the child's residential schedule in a proceeding for the entry or modification of a parenting plan under this section. The court may permit counsel to be present at the interview. The court shall cause a record of the interview to be made and to become part of the court record of the dependency case and the case under chapter 26.09 or 26.26 RCW.

(g) In the absence of agreement by a parent, guardian, or legal custodian of the child to allow the juvenile court to hear and determine issues related to the establishment or modification of a parenting plan under chapter 26.09 or 26.26 RCW, a party may move the court to transfer such issues to the family law department of the superior court for further resolution. The court may only grant the motion upon entry of a written finding that it is in the best interests of the child.

(h) In any parenting plan agreed to by the parents and entered or modified in juvenile court under this section, all issues pertaining to child support and the division of marital property shall be referred to or retained by the family law department of the superior court.

(3) Any court order determining issues under chapter 26.10 RCW is subject to modification upon the same showing and standards as a court order determining Title 26 RCW issues.

~~((3))~~ (4) Any order entered in the dependency court establishing or modifying a permanent legal custody order or parenting plan, or residential schedule under chapters 26.09, 26.10, and 26.26 RCW shall also be filed in the chapter 26.09, 26.10, and 26.26 RCW action by the moving or prevailing party. If the petitioning or moving party has been found indigent and appointed counsel at public expense in the dependency proceeding, no filing fees shall be imposed by the clerk. Once filed, any order, parenting plan, or residential schedule establishing or modifying permanent legal custody of a child shall survive dismissal of the dependency proceeding. [2009 c 526 § 2; 2000 c 135 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** RCW 13.34.155 was amended twice during the 2009 legislative session, each without reference to the other. For rule of construction concerning sections amended more than once during the same legislative session, see RCW 1.12.025.

**13.34.160 Order of support for dependent child.** (1) In an action brought under this chapter, the court may inquire into the ability of the parent or parents of the child to pay child support and may enter an order of child support as set forth in chapter 26.19 RCW. The court may enforce the same by execution, or in any way in which a court of equity may enforce its decrees. All child support orders entered pursuant

to this chapter shall be in compliance with the provisions of RCW 26.23.050.

(2) For purposes of this section, if a dependent child's parent is an unmarried minor parent or pregnant minor applicant, then the parent or parents of the minor shall also be deemed a parent or parents of the dependent child. However, liability for child support under this subsection only exists if the parent or parents of the unmarried minor parent or pregnant minor applicant are provided the opportunity for a hearing on their ability to provide support. Any child support order requiring such a parent or parents to provide support for the minor parent's child may be effective only until the minor parent reaches eighteen years of age.

(3) In the absence of a court order setting support, the department may establish an administrative order for support upon receipt of a referral or application for support enforcement services. [2004 c 183 § 1; 1997 c 58 § 505; 1993 c 358 § 2; 1987 c 435 § 14; 1981 c 195 § 8; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 44; 1969 ex.s. c 138 § 1; 1961 c 302 § 7; 1913 c 160 § 8; RRS § 1987-8. Formerly RCW 13.04.100.]

**Effective date—2004 c 183:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2004 c 183 § 6.]

*Good cause exceptions to the establishment and enforcement of child support from parents of children in out-of-home placement: RCW 13.32A.178.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.161 Order of support for dependent child—Noncompliance—Enforcement of judgment.** In any case in which the court has ordered a parent or parents, guardian, or other person having custody of a child to pay support under RCW 13.34.160 and the order has not been complied with, the court may, upon such person or persons being duly summoned or voluntarily appearing, proceed to inquire into the amount due upon the order and enter judgment for that amount against the defaulting party or parties, and the judgment shall be docketed as are other judgments for the payment of money.

In such judgments, the county in which the order is entered shall be the judgment creditor, or the state may be the judgment creditor where the child is in the custody of a state agency. Judgments may be enforced by the prosecuting attorney of the county, or the attorney general where the state is the judgment creditor and any moneys recovered shall be paid into the registry of the juvenile court and shall be disbursed to such person, persons, agency, or governmental department as the court finds is entitled to it.

Such judgments shall remain valid and enforceable for a period of ten years after the date of entry. [2000 c 122 § 22; 1981 c 195 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 45; 1961 c 302 § 8; 1955 c 188 § 1. Formerly RCW 13.34.170, 13.04.105.]

*Financial responsibility for costs of detention: RCW 13.16.085.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.165 Civil contempt—Grounds—Motion—Penalty—Detention review hearing.** (1) Failure by a party to comply with an order entered under this chapter is civil contempt of court as provided in RCW 7.21.030(2)(e).

(2) The maximum term of confinement that may be imposed as a remedial sanction for contempt of court under this section is confinement for up to seven days.

(3) A child held for contempt under this section shall be confined only in a secure juvenile detention facility operated by or pursuant to a contract with a county.

(4) A motion for contempt may be made by a parent, juvenile court personnel, or by any public agency, organization, or person having custody of the child under a court order entered pursuant to this chapter.

(5) Whenever the court finds probable cause to believe, based upon consideration of a motion for contempt and the information set forth in a supporting declaration, that a child has violated a placement order entered under this chapter, the court may issue an order directing law enforcement to pick up and take the child to detention. The order may be entered ex parte without prior notice to the child or other parties. Following the child's admission to detention, a detention review hearing must be held in accordance with RCW 13.32A.065. [2000 c 122 § 21; 1998 c 296 § 38; 1996 c 133 § 29; 1989 c 373 § 17; 1985 c 257 § 1.]

**Findings—Intent—1998 c 296 §§ 36-39:** See note following RCW 7.21.030.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings not law—Short title—1998 c 296:** See notes following RCW 74.13.025.

**Findings—Short title—Intent—Construction—1996 c 133:** See notes following RCW 13.32A.197.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.174 Order of alcohol or substance abuse diagnostic investigation and evaluation—Treatment plan—Breach of plan—Reports.** (1) The provisions of this section shall apply when a court orders a party to undergo an alcohol or substance abuse diagnostic investigation and evaluation.

(2) The facility conducting the investigation and evaluation shall make a written report to the court stating its findings and recommendations including family-based services or treatment when appropriate. If its findings and recommendations support treatment, it shall also recommend a treatment plan setting out:

- (a) Type of treatment;
- (b) Nature of treatment;
- (c) Length of treatment;
- (d) A treatment time schedule; and
- (e) Approximate cost of the treatment.

The affected person shall be included in developing the appropriate treatment plan. The treatment plan must be signed by the treatment provider and the affected person. The initial written progress report based on the treatment plan shall be sent to the appropriate persons six weeks after initiation of treatment. Subsequent progress reports shall be provided after three months, six months, twelve months, and thereafter every six months if treatment exceeds twelve months. Reports are to be filed with the court in a timely manner. Close-out of the treatment record must include summary of pretreatment and posttreatment, with final outcome and disposition. The report shall also include recommendations for ongoing stability and decrease in destructive behavior.

Each report shall also be filed with the court and a copy given to the person evaluated and the person's counsel. A copy of the treatment plan shall also be given to the department's or supervising agency's caseworker and to the guardian ad litem. Any program for chemical dependency shall

meet the program requirements contained in chapter 70.96A RCW.

(3) If the court has ordered treatment pursuant to a dependency proceeding it shall also require the treatment program to provide, in the reports required by subsection (2) of this section, status reports to the court, the department, the supervising agency, and the person or person's counsel regarding the person's cooperation with the treatment plan proposed and the person's progress in treatment.

(4) If a person subject to this section fails or neglects to carry out and fulfill any term or condition of the treatment plan, the program or agency administering the treatment shall report such breach to the court, the department, the guardian ad litem, the supervising agency if any, and the person or person's counsel, within twenty-four hours, together with its recommendation. These reports shall be made as a declaration by the person who is personally responsible for providing the treatment.

(5) Nothing in this chapter may be construed as allowing the court to require the department to pay for the cost of any alcohol or substance abuse evaluation or treatment program. [2009 c 520 § 32; 2000 c 122 § 23; 1993 c 412 § 5.]

**13.34.176 Violation of alcohol or substance abuse treatment conditions—Hearing—Notice—Modification of order.** (1) The court, upon receiving a report under RCW 13.34.174(4) or at the department's or supervising agency's request, may schedule a show cause hearing to determine whether the person is in violation of the treatment conditions. All parties shall be given notice of the hearing. The court shall hold the hearing within ten days of the request for a hearing. At the hearing, testimony, declarations, reports, or other relevant information may be presented on the person's alleged failure to comply with the treatment plan and the person shall have the right to present similar information on his or her own behalf.

(2) If the court finds that there has been a violation of the treatment conditions it shall modify the dependency order, as necessary, to ensure the safety of the child. The modified order shall remain in effect until the party is in full compliance with the treatment requirements. [2009 c 520 § 33; 2000 c 122 § 24; 1993 c 412 § 6.]

**13.34.180 Order terminating parent and child relationship—Petition—Filing—Allegations (as amended by 2009 c 477).** (1) A petition seeking termination of a parent and child relationship may be filed in juvenile court by any party to the dependency proceedings concerning that child. Such petition shall conform to the requirements of RCW 13.34.040, shall be served upon the parties as provided in RCW 13.34.070(8), and shall allege all of the following unless subsection (2) or (3) of this section applies:

(a) That the child has been found to be a dependent child;

(b) That the court has entered a dispositional order pursuant to RCW 13.34.130;

(c) That the child has been removed or will, at the time of the hearing, have been removed from the custody of the parent for a period of at least six months pursuant to a finding of dependency;

(d) That the services ordered under RCW 13.34.136 have been expressly and understandably offered or provided and all necessary services, reasonably available, capable of correcting the parental deficiencies within the foreseeable future have been expressly and understandably offered or provided;

(e) That there is little likelihood that conditions will be remedied so that the child can be returned to the parent in the near future. A parent's failure to substantially improve parental deficiencies within twelve months following entry of the dispositional order shall give rise to a rebuttable presumption

that there is little likelihood that conditions will be remedied so that the child can be returned to the parent in the near future. The presumption shall not arise unless the petitioner makes a showing that all necessary services reasonably capable of correcting the parental deficiencies within the foreseeable future have been clearly offered or provided. In determining whether the conditions will be remedied the court may consider, but is not limited to, the following factors:

(i) Use of intoxicating or controlled substances so as to render the parent incapable of providing proper care for the child for extended periods of time or for periods of time that present a risk of imminent harm to the child, and documented unwillingness of the parent to receive and complete treatment or documented multiple failed treatment attempts; ((or))

(ii) Psychological incapacity or mental deficiency of the parent that is so severe and chronic as to render the parent incapable of providing proper care for the child for extended periods of time or for periods of time that present a risk of imminent harm to the child, and documented unwillingness of the parent to receive and complete treatment or documentation that there is no treatment that can render the parent capable of providing proper care for the child in the near future; or

(iii) Failure of the parent to have contact with the child for an extended period of time after the filing of the dependency petition if the parent was provided an opportunity to have a relationship with the child by the department or the court and received documented notice of the potential consequences of this failure, except that the actual inability of a parent to have visitation with the child including, but not limited to, mitigating circumstances such as a parent's incarceration or service in the military does not in and of itself constitute failure to have contact with the child; and

(f) That continuation of the parent and child relationship clearly diminishes the child's prospects for early integration into a stable and permanent home.

(2) In lieu of the allegations in subsection (1) of this section, the petition may allege that the child was found under such circumstances that the whereabouts of the child's parent are unknown and no person has acknowledged paternity or maternity and requested custody of the child within two months after the child was found.

(3) In lieu of the allegations in subsection (1)(b) through (f) of this section, the petition may allege that the parent has been convicted of:

(a) Murder in the first degree, murder in the second degree, or homicide by abuse as defined in chapter 9A.32 RCW against another child of the parent;

(b) Manslaughter in the first degree or manslaughter in the second degree, as defined in chapter 9A.32 RCW against another child of the parent;

(c) Attempting, conspiring, or soliciting another to commit one or more of the crimes listed in (a) or (b) of this subsection; or

(d) Assault in the first or second degree, as defined in chapter 9A.36 RCW, against the surviving child or another child of the parent.

(4) Notice of rights shall be served upon the parent, guardian, or legal custodian with the petition and shall be in substantially the following form:

"NOTICE

A petition for termination of parental rights has been filed against you. You have important legal rights and you must take steps to protect your interests. This petition could result in permanent loss of your parental rights.

1. You have the right to a fact-finding hearing before a judge.

2. You have the right to have a lawyer represent you at the hearing. A lawyer can look at the files in your case, talk to the department of social and health services and other agencies, tell you about the law, help you understand your rights, and help you at hearings. If you cannot afford a lawyer, the court will appoint one to represent you. To get a court-appointed lawyer you must contact: (explain local procedure).

3. At the hearing, you have the right to speak on your own behalf, to introduce evidence, to examine witnesses, and to receive a decision based solely on the evidence presented to the judge.

You should be present at this hearing.

You may call (insert agency) for more information about your child. The agency's name and telephone number are (insert name and telephone number)."

[2009 c 477 § 5; 2001 c 332 § 4; 2000 c 122 § 25; 1998 c 314 § 4; 1997 c 280 § 2. Prior: 1993 c 412 § 2; 1993 c 358 § 3;



1990 c 246 § 7; 1988 c 201 § 2; 1987 c 524 § 6; 1979 c 155 § 47; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 46.]

**Findings—Intent—2009 c 477:** See note following RCW 13.34.062.

**13.34.180 Order terminating parent and child relationship—Petition—Filing—Allegations (as amended by 2009 c 520).** (1) A petition seeking termination of a parent and child relationship may be filed in juvenile court by any party, including the supervising agency, to the dependency proceedings concerning that child. Such petition shall conform to the requirements of RCW 13.34.040, shall be served upon the parties as provided in RCW 13.34.070(8), and shall allege all of the following unless subsection (2) or (3) of this section applies:

- (a) That the child has been found to be a dependent child;
- (b) That the court has entered a dispositional order pursuant to RCW 13.34.130;
- (c) That the child has been removed or will, at the time of the hearing, have been removed from the custody of the parent for a period of at least six months pursuant to a finding of dependency;
- (d) That the services ordered under RCW 13.34.136 have been expressly and understandably offered or provided and all necessary services, reasonably available, capable of correcting the parental deficiencies within the foreseeable future have been expressly and understandably offered or provided;
- (e) That there is little likelihood that conditions will be remedied so that the child can be returned to the parent in the near future. A parent's failure to substantially improve parental deficiencies within twelve months following entry of the dispositional order shall give rise to a rebuttable presumption that there is little likelihood that conditions will be remedied so that the child can be returned to the parent in the near future. The presumption shall not arise unless the petitioner makes a showing that all necessary services reasonably capable of correcting the parental deficiencies within the foreseeable future have been clearly offered or provided. In determining whether the conditions will be remedied the court may consider, but is not limited to, the following factors:

- (i) Use of intoxicating or controlled substances so as to render the parent incapable of providing proper care for the child for extended periods of time or for periods of time that present a risk of imminent harm to the child, and documented unwillingness of the parent to receive and complete treatment or documented multiple failed treatment attempts; or
- (ii) Psychological incapacity or mental deficiency of the parent that is so severe and chronic as to render the parent incapable of providing proper care for the child for extended periods of time or for periods of time that present a risk of imminent harm to the child, and documented unwillingness of the parent to receive and complete treatment or documentation that there is no treatment that can render the parent capable of providing proper care for the child in the near future; and
- (f) That continuation of the parent and child relationship clearly diminishes the child's prospects for early integration into a stable and permanent home.

(2) In lieu of the allegations in subsection (1) of this section, the petition may allege that the child was found under such circumstances that the whereabouts of the child's parent are unknown and no person has acknowledged paternity or maternity and requested custody of the child within two months after the child was found.

(3) In lieu of the allegations in subsection (1)(b) through (f) of this section, the petition may allege that the parent has been convicted of:

- (a) Murder in the first degree, murder in the second degree, or homicide by abuse as defined in chapter 9A.32 RCW against another child of the parent;
- (b) Manslaughter in the first degree or manslaughter in the second degree, as defined in chapter 9A.32 RCW against another child of the parent;
- (c) Attempting, conspiring, or soliciting another to commit one or more of the crimes listed in (a) or (b) of this subsection; or
- (d) Assault in the first or second degree, as defined in chapter 9A.36 RCW, against the surviving child or another child of the parent.

(4) Notice of rights shall be served upon the parent, guardian, or legal custodian with the petition and shall be in substantially the following form:

**"NOTICE**

A petition for termination of parental rights has been filed against you. You have important legal rights and you must take steps to protect your interests. This petition could result in permanent loss of your parental rights.

1. You have the right to a fact-finding hearing before a judge.

2. You have the right to have a lawyer represent you at the hearing. A lawyer can look at the files in your case, talk to the ~~((department of social and health services))~~ supervising agency and other agencies, tell you about the law, help you understand your rights, and help you at hearings. If you cannot afford a lawyer, the court will appoint one to represent you. To get a court-appointed lawyer you must contact: (explain local procedure).

3. At the hearing, you have the right to speak on your own behalf, to introduce evidence, to examine witnesses, and to receive a decision based solely on the evidence presented to the judge.

You should be present at this hearing.

You may call (insert agency) for more information about your child. The agency's name and telephone number are (insert name and telephone number)."

[2009 c 520 § 34; 2001 c 332 § 4; 2000 c 122 § 25; 1998 c 314 § 4; 1997 c 280 § 2. Prior: 1993 c 412 § 2; 1993 c 358 § 3; 1990 c 246 § 7; 1988 c 201 § 2; 1987 c 524 § 6; 1979 c 155 § 47; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 46.]

**Reviser's note:** RCW 13.34.180 was amended twice during the 2009 legislative session, each without reference to the other. For rule of construction concerning sections amended more than once during the same legislative session, see RCW 1.12.025.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.190 Order terminating parent and child relationship—Findings.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, after hearings pursuant to RCW 13.34.110 or 13.34.130, the court may enter an order terminating all parental rights to a child only if the court finds that:

(a)(i) The allegations contained in the petition as provided in RCW 13.34.180(1) are established by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence; or

(ii) The provisions of RCW 13.34.180(1) (a), (b), (e), and (f) are established beyond a reasonable doubt and if so, then RCW 13.34.180(1) (c) and (d) may be waived. When an infant has been abandoned, as defined in RCW 13.34.030, and the abandonment has been proved beyond a reasonable doubt, then RCW 13.34.180(1) (c) and (d) may be waived; or

(iii) The allegation under RCW 13.34.180(2) is established beyond a reasonable doubt. In determining whether RCW 13.34.180(1) (e) and (f) are established beyond a reasonable doubt, the court shall consider whether one or more of the aggravated circumstances listed in RCW 13.34.132 exist; or

(iv) The allegation under RCW 13.34.180(3) is established beyond a reasonable doubt; and

(b) Such an order is in the best interests of the child.

(2) The provisions of chapter 13.38 RCW must be followed in any proceeding under this chapter for termination of the parent-child relationship of an Indian child as defined in RCW 13.38.040. [2011 c 309 § 30; 2010 c 288 § 2; 2000 c 122 § 26; 1998 c 314 § 5; 1993 c 412 § 3; 1992 c 145 § 15; 1990 c 284 § 33; 1979 c 155 § 48; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 47.]

**Finding—Effective date—1990 c 284:** See notes following RCW 74.13.250.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.200 Order terminating parent and child relationship—Rights of parties when granted.** (1) Upon the termination of parental rights pursuant to RCW 13.34.180, all

rights, powers, privileges, immunities, duties, and obligations, including any rights to custody, control, visitation, or support existing between the child and parent shall be severed and terminated and the parent shall have no standing to appear at any further legal proceedings concerning the child, except as provided in RCW 13.34.215: PROVIDED, That any support obligation existing prior to the effective date of the order terminating parental rights shall not be severed or terminated. The rights of one parent may be terminated without affecting the rights of the other parent and the order shall so state.

(2) An order terminating the parent and child relationship shall not disentitle a child to any benefit due the child from any third person, agency, state, or the United States, nor shall any action under this chapter be deemed to affect any rights and benefits that an Indian child derives from the child's descent from a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe.

(3) An order terminating the parent-child relationship shall include a statement addressing the status of the child's sibling relationships and the nature and extent of sibling placement, contact, or visits. [2007 c 413 § 2; 2003 c 227 § 7; 2000 c 122 § 27; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 48.]

**Severability—2007 c 413:** See note following RCW 13.34.215.

**Intent—2003 c 227:** See note following RCW 13.34.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.210 Order terminating parent and child relationship—Custody where no one has parental rights.** If, upon entering an order terminating the parental rights of a parent, there remains no parent having parental rights, the court shall commit the child to the custody of the department or a supervising agency willing to accept custody for the purpose of placing the child for adoption. If an adoptive home has not been identified, the department or supervising agency shall place the child in a licensed foster home, or take other suitable measures for the care and welfare of the child. The custodian shall have authority to consent to the adoption of the child consistent with chapter 26.33 RCW, the marriage of the child, the enlistment of the child in the armed forces of the United States, necessary surgical and other medical treatment for the child, and to consent to such other matters as might normally be required of the parent of the child.

If a child has not been adopted within six months after the date of the order and a guardianship of the child under chapter 13.36 RCW or chapter 11.88 RCW, or a permanent custody order under chapter 26.10 RCW, has not been entered by the court, the court shall review the case every six months until a decree of adoption is entered. The supervising agency shall take reasonable steps to ensure that the child maintains relationships with siblings as provided in \*RCW 13.34.130(3) and shall report to the court the status and extent of such relationships. [2010 c 272 § 13. Prior: 2009 c 520 § 35; 2009 c 152 § 2; 2003 c 227 § 8; 2000 c 122 § 28; 1991 c 127 § 6; 1988 c 203 § 2; 1979 c 155 § 49; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 49.]

\***Reviser's note:** RCW 13.34.130 was amended by 2010 c 288 § 1, changing subsection (3) to subsection (4). RCW 13.34.130 was subsequently amended by 2011 c 292 § 1, changing subsection (4) to subsection (6).

**Intent—2003 c 227:** See note following RCW 13.34.130.

**13.34.215 Petition reinstating terminated parental rights—Notice—Achievement of permanency plan—Effect of granting the petition—Hearing—Child support liability—Retroactive application—Limitation on liability.**

(1) A child may petition the juvenile court to reinstate the previously terminated parental rights of his or her parent under the following circumstances:

(a) The child was previously found to be a dependent child under this chapter;

(b) The child's parent's rights were terminated in a proceeding under this chapter;

(c)(i) The child has not achieved his or her permanency plan; or

(ii) While the child achieved a permanency plan, it has not since been sustained;

(d) Three years have passed since the final order of termination was entered; and

(e) The child must be at least twelve years old at the time the petition is filed. Upon the child's motion for good cause shown, or on its own motion, the court may hear a petition filed by a child younger than twelve years old.

(2) If the child is eligible to petition the juvenile court under subsection (1) of this section and a parent whose rights have been previously terminated contacts the department or supervising agency or the child's guardian ad litem regarding reinstatement, the department or supervising agency or the guardian ad litem must notify the eligible child about his or her right to petition for reinstatement of parental rights.

(3) A child seeking to petition under this section shall be provided counsel at no cost to the child.

(4) The petition must be signed by the child in the absence of a showing of good cause as to why the child could not do so.

(5) If, after a threshold hearing to consider the parent's apparent fitness and interest in reinstatement of parental rights, the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the best interests of the child may be served by reinstatement of parental rights, the juvenile court shall order that a hearing on the merits of the petition be held.

(6) The court shall give prior notice for any proceeding under this section, or cause prior notice to be given, to the department or the supervising agency, the child's attorney, and the child. The court shall also order the department or supervising agency to give prior notice of any hearing to the child's former parent whose parental rights are the subject of the petition, any parent whose rights have not been terminated, the child's current foster parent, relative caregiver, guardian or custodian, and the child's tribe, if applicable.

(7) The juvenile court shall conditionally grant the petition if it finds by clear and convincing evidence that the child has not achieved his or her permanency plan and is not likely to imminently achieve his or her permanency plan and that reinstatement of parental rights is in the child's best interest. In determining whether reinstatement is in the child's best interest the court shall consider, but is not limited to, the following:

(a) Whether the parent whose rights are to be reinstated is a fit parent and has remedied his or her deficits as provided

in the record of the prior termination proceedings and prior termination order;

(b) The age and maturity of the child, and the ability of the child to express his or her preference;

(c) Whether the reinstatement of parental rights will present a risk to the child's health, welfare, or safety; and

(d) Other material changes in circumstances, if any, that may have occurred which warrant the granting of the petition.

(8) In determining whether the child has or has not achieved his or her permanency plan or whether the child is likely to achieve his or her permanency plan, the department or supervising agency shall provide the court, and the court shall review, information related to any efforts to achieve the permanency plan including efforts to achieve adoption or a permanent guardianship.

(9)(a) If the court conditionally grants the petition under subsection (7) of this section, the case will be continued for six months and a temporary order of reinstatement entered. During this period, the child shall be placed in the custody of the parent. The department or supervising agency shall develop a permanency plan for the child reflecting the plan to be reunification and shall provide transition services to the family as appropriate.

(b) If the child must be removed from the parent due to abuse or neglect allegations prior to the expiration of the conditional six-month period, the court shall dismiss the petition for reinstatement of parental rights if the court finds the allegations have been proven by a preponderance of the evidence.

(c) If the child has been successfully placed with the parent for six months, the court order reinstating parental rights remains in effect and the court shall dismiss the dependency.

(10) After the child has been placed with the parent for six months, the court shall hold a hearing. If the placement with the parent has been successful, the court shall enter a final order of reinstatement of parental rights, which shall restore all rights, powers, privileges, immunities, duties, and obligations of the parent as to the child, including those relating to custody, control, and support of the child. The court shall dismiss the dependency and direct the clerk's office to provide a certified copy of the final order of reinstatement of parental rights to the parent at no cost.

(11) The granting of the petition under this section does not vacate or otherwise affect the validity of the original termination order.

(12) Any parent whose rights are reinstated under this section shall not be liable for any child support owed to the department pursuant to RCW 13.34.160 or Title 26 RCW or costs of other services provided to a child for the time period from the date of termination of parental rights to the date parental rights are reinstated.

(13) A proceeding to reinstate parental rights is a separate action from the termination of parental rights proceeding and does not vacate the original termination of parental rights. An order granted under this section reinstates the parental rights to the child. This reinstatement is a recognition that the situation of the parent and child have changed since the time of the termination of parental rights and reunification is now appropriate.

(14) This section is retroactive and applies to any child who is under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court at the time

of the hearing regardless of the date parental rights were terminated.

(15) The state, the department, the supervising agency, and its employees are not liable for civil damages resulting from any act or omission in the provision of services under this section, unless the act or omission constitutes gross negligence. This section does not create any duty and shall not be construed to create a duty where none exists. This section does not create a cause of action against the state, the department, the supervising agency, or its employees concerning the original termination. [2011 c 292 § 2; 2010 c 180 § 4; 2009 c 520 § 36; 2008 c 267 § 1; 2007 c 413 § 1.]

**Findings—2010 c 180:** See note following RCW 13.34.100.

**Severability—2007 c 413:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2007 c 413 § 13.]

**13.34.232 Guardianship for dependent child—Order, contents—Rights and duties of dependency guardian.** (1) An order establishing a dependency guardianship shall:

(a) Appoint a person or agency to serve as dependency guardian for the limited purpose of assisting the court to supervise the dependency;

(b) Specify the dependency guardian's rights and responsibilities concerning the care, custody, and control of the child. A dependency guardian shall not have the authority to consent to the child's adoption;

(c) Specify the dependency guardian's authority, if any, to receive, invest, and expend funds, benefits, or property belonging to the child;

(d) Specify an appropriate frequency of visitation between the parent and the child; and

(e) Specify the need for any continued involvement of the supervising agency and the nature of that involvement, if any.

(2) Unless the court specifies otherwise in the guardianship order, the dependency guardian shall maintain the physical custody of the child and have the following rights and duties:

(a) Protect, discipline, and educate the child;

(b) Provide food, clothing, shelter, education as required by law, and routine health care for the child;

(c) Consent to necessary health and surgical care and sign a release of health care information to appropriate authorities, pursuant to law;

(d) Consent to social and school activities of the child; and

(e) Provide an annual written accounting to the court regarding receipt by the dependency guardian of any funds, benefits, or property belonging to the child and expenditures made therefrom.

(3) As used in this section, the term "health care" includes, but is not limited to, medical, dental, psychological, and psychiatric care and treatment.

(4) The child shall remain dependent for the duration of the guardianship. While the guardianship remains in effect, the dependency guardian shall be a party to any dependency proceedings pertaining to the child.

(5) The guardianship shall remain in effect only until the child is eighteen years of age or until the court terminates the guardianship order, whichever occurs sooner. [2010 c 272 § 14; 1994 c 288 § 7; 1993 c 412 § 4; 1981 c 195 § 3.]

**13.34.233 Guardianship for dependent child—Modification or termination of order—Hearing—Termination of guardianship.** (1) Any party may request the court under RCW 13.34.150 to modify or terminate a dependency guardianship order. Notice of any motion to modify or terminate the guardianship shall be served on all other parties, including any agency that was responsible for supervising the child's placement at the time the guardianship petition was filed. Notice in all cases shall be served upon the department. If the department or supervising agency was not previously a party to the guardianship proceeding, the department or supervising agency shall nevertheless have the right to: (a) Initiate a proceeding to modify or terminate a guardianship; and (b) intervene at any stage of such a proceeding.

(2) The guardianship may be modified or terminated upon the motion of any party, the department, or the supervising agency if the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that there has been a substantial change of circumstances subsequent to the establishment of the guardianship and that it is in the child's best interest to modify or terminate the guardianship. The court shall hold a hearing on the motion before modifying or terminating a guardianship.

(3) Upon entry of an order terminating the guardianship, the dependency guardian shall not have any rights or responsibilities with respect to the child and shall not have legal standing to participate as a party in further dependency proceedings pertaining to the child. The court may allow the child's dependency guardian to attend dependency review proceedings pertaining to the child for the sole purpose of providing information about the child to the court.

(4) Upon entry of an order terminating the guardianship, the child shall remain dependent and the court shall either return the child to the child's parent or order the child into the custody, control, and care of the department or a supervising agency for placement in a foster home or group care facility licensed pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW or in a home not required to be licensed pursuant to such chapter. The court shall not place a child in the custody of the child's parent unless the court finds that reasons for removal as set forth in RCW 13.34.130 no longer exist and that such placement is in the child's best interest. The court shall thereafter conduct reviews as provided in RCW 13.34.138 and, where applicable, shall hold a permanency planning hearing in accordance with RCW 13.34.145. [2009 c 520 § 38; 2000 c 122 § 30; 1995 c 311 § 24; 1994 c 288 § 8; 1981 c 195 § 4.]

**13.34.234 Guardianship for dependent child—Dependency guardianship subsidies.** A dependency guardian who is a licensed foster parent at the time the guardianship is established under this chapter and who has been the child's foster parent for a minimum of six consecutive months preceding entry of the guardianship order may be eligible for a guardianship subsidy on behalf of the child. [2010 c 272 § 15; 2009 c 235 § 6; 1994 c 288 § 9; 1981 c 195 § 5.]

**Findings—Intent—2009 c 235:** See note following RCW 74.13.031.

**13.34.235 Guardianship for dependent child—Review hearing requirements not applicable—Exception.** A dependency guardianship is not subject to the review hearing requirements of RCW 13.34.138 unless ordered by the court under RCW 13.34.232(1)(e). [2000 c 122 § 31; 1981 c 195 § 6.]

**13.34.237 Guardianship for dependent child—Subject to dependency and termination of parent-child relationship provisions—Exceptions—Request to convert dependency guardianship to guardianship—Dismissal of dependency.** (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 13.36 RCW, a dependency guardianship established by court order under this chapter and in force on June 10, 2010, shall remain subject to the provisions of this chapter unless: (a) The dependency guardianship is modified or terminated under the provisions of this chapter; or (b) the dependency guardianship is converted by court order to a guardianship pursuant to a petition filed under RCW 13.36.030.

(2) A dependency guardian or the department or supervising agency may request the juvenile court to convert a dependency guardianship established under this chapter to a guardianship under chapter 13.36 RCW by filing a petition under RCW 13.36.030. If both the dependency guardian and the department or supervising agency agree that the dependency guardianship should be converted to a guardianship under this chapter, and if the court finds that such conversion is in the child's best interests, the court shall grant the petition and enter an order of guardianship in accordance with RCW 13.36.050.

(3) The court shall dismiss the dependency established under this chapter upon the entry of a guardianship order under chapter 13.36 RCW. [2010 c 272 § 11.]

**13.34.240 Acts, records, and proceedings of Indian tribe or band given full faith and credit.** The courts of this state shall give full faith and credit as provided for in the United States Constitution to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of any Indian tribe or band in any proceeding brought pursuant to this chapter to the same extent that full faith and credit is given to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of any other state. [1979 c 155 § 52.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.245 Voluntary consent to foster care placement for Indian child—Validation—Withdrawal of consent—Termination.** (1) Where any parent or Indian custodian voluntarily consents to foster care placement of an Indian child and a petition for dependency has not been filed regarding the child, such consent shall not be valid unless executed in writing before the court and filed with the court. The consent shall be accompanied by the written certification of the court that the terms and consequences of the consent were fully explained in detail to the parent or Indian custodian during the court proceeding and were fully understood by the parent or Indian custodian. The court shall also certify in writing either that the parent or Indian custodian fully understood the explanation in English or that it was interpreted into a language that the parent or Indian custodian understood. Any

consent given prior to, or within ten days after, the birth of the Indian child shall not be valid.

(2) To obtain court validation of a voluntary consent to foster care placement, any person may file a petition for validation alleging that there is located or residing within the county an Indian child whose parent or Indian custodian wishes to voluntarily consent to foster care placement of the child and requesting that the court validate the consent as provided in this section. The petition shall contain the name, date of birth, and residence of the child, the names and residences of the consenting parent or Indian custodian, and the name and location of the Indian tribe in which the child is a member or eligible for membership. The petition shall state whether the placement preferences of 25 U.S.C. Sec. 1915 (b) or (c) will be followed. Reasonable attempts shall be made by the petitioner to ascertain and set forth in the petition the identity, location, and custodial status of any parent or Indian custodian who has not consented to foster care placement and why that parent or Indian custodian cannot assume custody of the child.

(3) Upon filing of the petition for validation, the clerk of the court shall schedule the petition for a hearing on the court validation of the voluntary consent no later than forty-eight hours after the petition has been filed, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Notification of time, date, location, and purpose of the validation hearing shall be provided as soon as possible to the consenting parent or Indian custodian, the department or supervising agency which is to assume responsibility for the child's placement and care pursuant to the consent to foster care placement, and the Indian tribe in which the child is enrolled or eligible for enrollment as a member. If the identity and location of any nonconsenting parent or Indian custodian is known, reasonable attempts shall be made to notify the parent or Indian custodian of the consent to placement and the validation hearing. Notification under this subsection may be given by the most expedient means, including, but not limited to, mail, personal service, telephone, and telegraph.

(4) Any parent or Indian custodian may withdraw consent to a voluntary foster care placement, made under this section, at any time. Unless the Indian child has been taken in custody pursuant to RCW 13.34.050 or 26.44.050, placed in shelter care pursuant to RCW 13.34.060, or placed in foster care pursuant to RCW 13.34.130, the Indian child shall be returned to the parent or Indian custodian upon withdrawal of consent to foster care placement of the child.

(5) Upon termination of the voluntary foster care placement and return of the child to the parent or Indian custodian, the department or supervising agency which had assumed responsibility for the child's placement and care pursuant to the consent to foster care placement shall file with the court written notification of the child's return and shall also send such notification to the Indian tribe in which the child is enrolled or eligible for enrollment as a member and to any other party to the validation proceeding including any non-custodial parent. [2009 c 520 § 39; 1997 c 386 § 18; 1987 c 170 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.260 Foster home placement—Parental preferences—Foster parent contact with birth parents encour-**

**aged.** (1) In an attempt to minimize the inherent intrusion in the lives of families involved in the foster care system and to maintain parental authority where appropriate, the department, absent good cause, shall follow the wishes of the natural parent regarding the placement of the child with a relative or other suitable person pursuant to RCW 13.34.130. Preferences such as family constellation, sibling relationships, ethnicity, and religion shall be considered when matching children to foster homes. Parental authority is appropriate in areas that are not connected with the abuse or neglect that resulted in the dependency and shall be integrated through the foster care team.

(2) When a child is placed in out-of-home care, relatives, other suitable persons, and foster parents are encouraged to:

(a) Provide consultation to the foster care team based upon their experience with the child placed in their care;

(b) Assist the birth parents by helping them understand their child's needs and correlating appropriate parenting responses;

(c) Participate in educational activities, and enter into community-building activities with birth families and other foster families;

(d) Transport children to family time visits with birth families and assist children and their families in maximizing the purposefulness of family time.

(3) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Foster care team" means the relative, other suitable person, or foster parent currently providing care, the currently assigned department employee, and the parent or parents; and

(b) "Birth family" means the persons described in RCW 74.15.020(2)(a). [2011 c 89 § 5; 2009 c 491 § 5; 2003 c 226 § 2; 2002 c 52 § 7; 2000 c 122 § 32; 1990 c 284 § 25.]

**Effective date—2011 c 89:** See note following RCW 18.320.005.

**Findings—2011 c 89:** See RCW 18.320.005.

**Findings—Intent—2003 c 226:** "The legislature finds that a large group of children spend a significant part of their lives in foster care. Each individual connected to a child in an out-of-home placement must have an abiding appreciation of the seriousness of the child's separation from his or her family and the past, whether that separation is short, long, or permanent in nature. It is the intent of the legislature to recognize and honor the history and the family connections that each child brings to an out-of-home placement.

The legislature finds that creating and sanctioning a connection between a child's birth parents and foster family, when appropriate, can result in better relationships among birth families, children, foster families, and social workers. Creating and sanctioning this connection can result in greater foster placement stability and fewer disruptions for children, as well as greater satisfaction for foster parents and social workers." [2003 c 226 § 1.]

**Intent—2002 c 52:** See note following RCW 13.34.025.

**Finding—Effective date—1990 c 284:** See notes following RCW 74.13.250.

**13.34.265 Foster home placement—Considerations.**

If a child has been previously placed in out-of-home care and is subsequently returned to out-of-home care, and the department cannot locate an appropriate and available relative or other suitable person, the preferred placement for the child is in a foster family home where the child previously was placed, if the following conditions are met:

(1) The foster family home is available and willing to care for the child;

(2) The foster family is appropriate and able to meet the child's needs; and

(3) The placement is in the best interest of the child. [2009 c 482 § 2.]

**13.34.267 Extended foster care services—Postponement of dependency proceeding dismissal—Placement, care of youth—Appointment of counsel—Case plan—Dismissal.** (1) In order to facilitate the delivery of extended foster care services, the court shall postpone for six months the dismissal of a dependency proceeding for any child who is a dependent child in foster care at the age of eighteen years and who, at the time of his or her eighteenth birthday is:

(a) Enrolled in a secondary education program or a secondary education equivalency program; or

(b) Enrolled in a postsecondary academic or postsecondary vocational program, or has applied for and can demonstrate that he or she intends to timely enroll in a postsecondary academic or postsecondary vocational program.

(2)(a) The six-month postponement under this subsection is intended to allow a reasonable window of opportunity for an eligible youth who reaches the age of eighteen to request extended foster care services from the department or supervising agency. The court shall dismiss the dependency if the youth:

(i) Has not requested extended foster care services from the department by the end of the six-month period; or

(ii) Is no longer eligible for extended foster care services under \*RCW 74.13.031(10) at any point during the six-month period.

(b) Until the youth requests to participate in the extended foster care program, the department is relieved of any supervisory responsibility for the youth.

(3) A youth who participates in extended foster care while completing a secondary education or equivalency program may continue to receive extended foster care services for the purpose of participating in a postsecondary academic or postsecondary vocational education program if, at the time the secondary education or equivalency program is completed, the youth has applied to and can demonstrate that he or she intends to timely enroll in a postsecondary academic or vocational education program. The dependency shall be dismissed if the youth fails to timely enroll or continue in the postsecondary program, or reaches age twenty-one, whichever is earlier.

(4) A youth receiving extended foster care services is a party to the dependency proceeding. The youth's parent or guardian shall be dismissed from the dependency proceeding when the youth reaches the age of eighteen years.

(5) The court shall order a youth participating in extended foster care services to be under the placement and care authority of the department, subject to the youth's continuing agreement to participate in extended foster care services.

(6) The court shall appoint counsel to represent a youth, as defined in RCW 13.34.030(2)(b), in dependency proceedings under this section.

(7) The case plan for and delivery of services to a youth receiving extended foster care services is subject to the review requirements set forth in RCW 13.34.138 and 13.34.145, and should be applied in a developmentally appropriate

manner, as they relate to youth age eighteen to twenty-one years. Additionally, the court shall consider:

(a) Whether the youth is safe in his or her placement;

(b) Whether the youth continues to be eligible for extended foster care services;

(c) Whether the current placement is developmentally appropriate for the youth;

(d) The youth's development of independent living skills; and

(e) The youth's overall progress toward transitioning to full independence and the projected date for achieving such transition.

(8) Prior to the hearing, the youth's attorney shall indicate whether there are any contested issues and may provide additional information necessary for the court's review.

(9) Upon the request of the youth, or when the youth is no longer eligible to receive extended foster care services according to rules adopted by the department, the court shall dismiss the dependency. [2012 c 52 § 4; 2011 c 330 § 7.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 74.13.031 was amended by 2012 c 259 § 8, changing subsection (10) to subsection (11).

**Intent—2012 c 52:** See note following RCW 74.13.031.

**Intent—2011 c 330:** See note following RCW 13.04.011.

**13.34.270 Child with developmental disability—Out-of-home placement—Permanency planning hearing.** (1) Whenever the department places a child with a developmental disability in out-of-home care pursuant to RCW 74.13.350, the department shall obtain a judicial determination within one hundred eighty days of the placement that continued placement is in the best interests of the child. If the child's out-of-home placement ends before one hundred eighty days have elapsed, no judicial determination is required.

(2) To obtain the judicial determination, the department shall file a petition alleging that there is located or residing within the county a child who has a developmental disability and that the child has been placed in out-of-home care pursuant to RCW 74.13.350. The petition shall request that the court review the child's placement, make a determination whether continued placement is in the best interests of the child, and take other necessary action as provided in this section. The petition shall contain the name, date of birth, and residence of the child and the names and residences of the child's parent or legal guardian who has agreed to the child's placement in out-of-home care. Reasonable attempts shall be made by the department to ascertain and set forth in the petition the identity, location, and custodial status of any parent who is not a party to the placement agreement and why that parent cannot assume custody of the child.

(3) Upon filing of the petition, the clerk of the court shall schedule the petition for a hearing to be held no later than fourteen calendar days after the petition has been filed. The department shall provide notification of the time, date, and purpose of the hearing to the parent or legal guardian who has agreed to the child's placement in out-of-home care. The department shall also make reasonable attempts to notify any parent who is not a party to the placement agreement, if the parent's identity and location is known. Notification under this section may be given by the most expedient means,

including but not limited to, mail, personal service, and telephone.

(4) The court shall appoint a guardian ad litem for the child as provided in RCW 13.34.100, unless the court for good cause finds the appointment unnecessary.

(5) Permanency planning hearings shall be held as provided in this section. At the hearing, the court shall review whether the child's best interests are served by continued out-of-home placement and determine the future legal status of the child.

(a) For children age ten and under, a permanency planning hearing shall be held in all cases where the child has remained in out-of-home care for at least nine months and an adoption decree or guardianship order under chapter 11.88 RCW has not previously been entered. The hearing shall take place no later than twelve months following commencement of the child's current placement episode.

(b) For children over age ten, a permanency planning hearing shall be held in all cases where the child has remained in out-of-home care for at least fifteen months and an adoption decree or guardianship order under chapter 11.88 RCW has not previously been entered. The hearing shall take place no later than eighteen months following commencement of the current placement episode.

(c) No later than ten working days before the permanency planning hearing, the department shall submit a written permanency plan to the court and shall mail a copy of the plan to all parties. The plan shall be directed toward securing a safe, stable, and permanent home for the child as soon as possible. The plan shall identify one of the following outcomes as the primary goal and may also identify additional outcomes as alternative goals: Return of the child to the home of the child's parent or legal guardian; adoption; guardianship; or long-term out-of-home care, until the child is age eighteen, with a written agreement between the parties and the child's care provider.

(d) If a goal of long-term out-of-home care has been achieved before the permanency planning hearing, the court shall review the child's status to determine whether the placement and the plan for the child's care remains appropriate. In cases where the primary permanency planning goal has not been achieved, the court shall inquire regarding the reasons why the primary goal has not been achieved and determine what needs to be done to make it possible to achieve the primary goal.

(e) Following the first permanency planning hearing, the court shall hold a further permanency planning hearing in accordance with this section at least once every twelve months until a permanency planning goal is achieved or the voluntary placement agreement is terminated.

(6) Any party to the voluntary placement agreement may terminate the agreement at any time. Upon termination of the agreement, the child shall be returned to the care of the child's parent or legal guardian, unless the child has been taken into custody pursuant to RCW 13.34.050 or 26.44.050, placed in shelter care pursuant to RCW 13.34.060, or placed in foster care pursuant to RCW 13.34.130. The department shall notify the court upon termination of the voluntary placement agreement and return of the child to the care of the child's parent or legal guardian. Whenever a voluntary

placement agreement is terminated, an action under this section shall be dismissed.

(7) When state or federal funds are expended for the care and maintenance of a child with a developmental disability, placed in care as a result of an action under this chapter, the department shall refer the case to the division of child support, unless the department finds that there is good cause not to pursue collection of child support against the parent or parents of the child.

(8) This section does not prevent the department from filing a dependency petition if there is reason to believe that the child is a dependent child as defined in RCW 13.34.030. An action filed under this section shall be dismissed upon the filing of a dependency petition regarding a child who is the subject of the action under this section. [2004 c 183 § 2; 2000 c 122 § 33; 1998 c 229 § 2; 1997 c 386 § 19.]

**Effective date—2004 c 183:** See note following RCW 13.34.160.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.300 Relevance of failure to cause juvenile to attend school to neglect petition.** The legislature finds that it is the responsibility of the custodial parent, parents or guardian to ensure that children within the custody of such individuals attend school as provided for by law. To this end, while a parent's failure to cause a juvenile to attend school should not alone provide a basis for a neglect petition against the parent or guardian, when a neglect petition is filed on the basis of other evidence, a parent or guardian's failure to take reasonable steps to ensure that the juvenile attends school may be relevant to the question of the appropriate disposition of a neglect petition. [2000 c 122 § 34; 1979 ex.s. c 201 § 3.]

**13.34.315 Health care—Evaluation and treatment.** Whenever a child is ordered removed from his or her home pursuant to this chapter, the agency charged with his or her care may authorize an evaluation and treatment for the child's routine and necessary medical, dental, or mental health care, and all necessary emergency care. [2006 c 221 § 2.]

**Finding—2006 c 221:** "The legislature recognizes that foster children have enhanced health care needs and that it is necessary to improve the system of providing health care for foster children. The legislature further recognizes the importance of meeting the mental health needs of children in foster care, as well as their medical and dental health care needs. The legislature finds that there must be greater coordination and integration of systems, in particular coordination between children's administration and the health and recovery services administration as well as other agencies that provide or pay for health services for foster youth, to ensure that the health care needs of children in foster care are met in a timely manner." [2006 c 221 § 1.]

**13.34.320 Inpatient mental health treatment—When parental consent required—Hearing.** The department or supervising agency shall obtain the prior consent of a child's parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian before a dependent child is admitted into an inpatient mental health treatment facility. If the child's parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian is unavailable or does not agree with the proposed admission, the department or supervising agency shall request a hearing and provide notice to all interested parties to seek prior approval of the juvenile court before such admission. In the event that an emergent situation creating a risk of substantial harm to the health and welfare of a child in the custody of the department or supervising agency does not

allow time for the department or supervising agency to obtain prior approval or to request a court hearing before consenting to the admission of the child into an inpatient mental health hospital, the department or supervising agency shall seek court approval by requesting that a hearing be set on the first available court date. [2009 c 520 § 40; 1999 c 188 § 2.]

**Intent—1999 c 188:** "It is the intent of the legislature that minor children in the care and custody of the department of social and health services under chapter 13.34 RCW be provided the most appropriate possible mental health care consistent with the child's best interests, family reconciliation, the child's medical need for mental health treatment, available state and community resources, and professional standards of medical care. The legislature intends that admission of such minors for mental health hospitalization be made pursuant to the criteria and standards for mental health services for minors established in chapter 71.34 RCW, and that minor children in the care and custody of the department in need of mental health hospitalization shall retain all rights set forth therein. The legislature specifically intends that this act may not be construed to affect the standards or procedures established for the involuntary commitment of minors under chapter 71.34 RCW." [1999 c 188 § 1.]

**13.34.330 Inpatient mental health treatment—Placement.** A dependent child who is admitted to an inpatient mental health facility shall be placed in a facility, with available treatment space, that is closest to the family home, unless the department or supervising agency, in consultation with the admitting authority finds that admission in the facility closest to the child's home would jeopardize the health or safety of the child. [2009 c 520 § 41; 1999 c 188 § 3.]

**Intent—1999 c 188:** See note following RCW 13.34.320.

**13.34.340 Release of records—Disclosure to treating physician.** For minors who cannot consent to the release of their records with the department or supervising agency because they are not old enough to consent to treatment, or, if old enough, lack the capacity to consent, or if the minor is receiving treatment involuntarily with a provider the department or supervising agency has authorized to provide mental health treatment under RCW 13.34.320, the department or supervising agency shall disclose, upon the treating physician's request, all relevant records, including the minor's passport as established under RCW 74.13.285, in the department's or supervising agency's possession that the treating physician determines contain information required for treatment of the minor. The treating physician shall maintain all records received from the department or supervising agency in a manner that distinguishes the records from any other records in the minor's file with the treating physician and the department or supervising agency records may not be disclosed by the treating physician to any other person or entity absent a court order except that, for medical purposes only, a treating physician may disclose the department or supervising agency records to another treating physician. [2009 c 520 § 42; 2000 c 122 § 35; 1999 c 188 § 4.]

**Intent—1999 c 188:** See note following RCW 13.34.320.

**13.34.350 Dependent children—Information sharing—Guidelines.** In order to facilitate communication of information needed to serve the best interest of any child who is the subject of a dependency case filed under this chapter, the department shall, consistent with state and federal law governing the release of confidential information, establish guidelines, and shall use those guidelines for the facilitation

of communication of relevant information among divisions, providers, the courts, the family, caregivers, caseworkers, and others. [2009 c 520 § 43; 2001 c 52 § 2.]

**Finding—2001 c 52:** "Recent analysis of the child dependency system following the death of Zy'Nyia Nobles indicated poor communication of relevant information from the courts, to the department, within programs between caseworkers, between divisions, among specialists, caregivers, and family. Appropriate service delivery necessitates communication of relevant information. Barriers to appropriate communication must be eliminated." [2001 c 52 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.360 Transfer of newborn to qualified person—Criminal liability—Notification to child protective services—Definitions.** (1) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Appropriate location" means (i) the emergency department of a hospital licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW during the hours the hospital is in operation; (ii) a fire station during its hours of operation and while fire personnel are present; or (iii) a federally designated rural health clinic during its hours of operation.

(b) "Newborn" means a live human being who is less than seventy-two hours old.

(c) "Qualified person" means (i) any person that the parent transferring the newborn reasonably believes is a bona fide employee, volunteer, or medical staff member of the hospital or federally designated rural health clinic and who represents to the parent transferring the newborn that he or she can and will summon appropriate resources to meet the newborn's immediate needs; or (ii) a firefighter, volunteer, or emergency medical technician at a fire station who represents to the parent transferring the newborn that he or she can and will summon appropriate resources to meet the newborn's immediate needs.

(2) A parent of a newborn who transfers the newborn to a qualified person at an appropriate location is not subject to criminal liability under RCW 9A.42.060, 9A.42.070, 9A.42.080, 26.20.030, or 26.20.035.

(3)(a) The qualified person at an appropriate location shall not require the parent transferring the newborn to provide any identifying information in order to transfer the newborn.

(b) The qualified person at an appropriate location shall attempt to protect the anonymity of the parent who transfers the newborn, while providing an opportunity for the parent to anonymously give the qualified person such information as the parent knows about the family medical history of the parents and the newborn. The qualified person at an appropriate location shall provide referral information about adoption options, counseling, appropriate medical and emotional after-care services, domestic violence, and legal rights to the parent seeking to transfer the newborn.

(c) If a parent of a newborn transfers the newborn to a qualified person at an appropriate location pursuant to this section, the qualified person shall cause child protective services to be notified within twenty-four hours after receipt of such a newborn. Child protective services shall assume custody of the newborn within twenty-four hours after receipt of notification.

(d) A federally designated rural health clinic is not required to provide ongoing medical care of a transferred newborn beyond that already required by law and may trans-



fer the newborn to a hospital licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW. The federally designated rural health clinic shall notify child protective services of the transfer of the newborn to the hospital.

(e) A hospital, federally designated rural health clinic, or fire station, its employees, volunteers, and medical staff are immune from any criminal or civil liability for accepting or receiving a newborn under this section.

(4)(a) Beginning July 1, 2011, an appropriate location shall post a sign indicating that the location is an appropriate place for the safe and legal transfer of a newborn.

(b) To cover the costs of acquiring and placing signs, appropriate locations may accept nonpublic funds and donations. [2009 c 290 § 1; 2002 c 331 § 2.]

**Intent—2002 c 331:** "The legislature intends to increase the likelihood that pregnant women will obtain adequate prenatal care and will provide their newborns with adequate health care during the first few days of their lives. The legislature recognizes that prenatal and postdelivery health care for newborns and their mothers is especially critical to their survival and well-being. The legislature does not intend to encourage the abandonment of newborn children nor to change existing law relating to notification to parents under chapter 13.34 RCW, but rather to assure that abandonment does not occur and that all newborns have an opportunity for adequate health care and a stable home life." [2002 c 331 § 1.]

**Effective date—2002 c 331:** "Sections 1 through 7 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect immediately [April 3, 2002]." [2002 c 331 § 9.]

**13.34.370 Evaluation of parties—Selection of evaluators.** The court may order expert evaluations of parties to obtain information regarding visitation issues or other issues in a case. These evaluations shall be performed by appointed evaluators who are mutually agreed upon by the court, the supervising agency, the department, and the parents' counsel, and, if the child is to be evaluated, by the representative for the child. If no agreement can be reached, the court shall select the expert evaluator. [2009 c 520 § 44; 2004 c 146 § 2.]

**13.34.380 Visitation policies and protocols—Development—Elements.** The department shall develop consistent policies and protocols, based on current relevant research, concerning visitation for dependent children to be implemented consistently throughout the state. The department shall develop the policies and protocols in consultation with researchers in the field, community-based agencies, court-appointed special advocates, parents' representatives, and court representatives. The policies and protocols shall include, but not be limited to: The structure and quality of visitations; and training for department and supervising agency caseworkers, visitation supervisors, and foster parents related to visitation.

The policies and protocols shall be consistent with the provisions of this chapter and implementation of the policies and protocols shall be consistent with relevant orders of the court. [2009 c 520 § 45; 2004 c 146 § 3.]

**13.34.385 Petition for visitation—Relatives of dependent children—Notice—Modification of order—Effect of granting the petition—Retroactive application.** (1) A relative of a dependent child may petition the juvenile court for reasonable visitation with the child if:

(a) The child has been found to be a dependent child under this chapter;

(b) The parental rights of both of the child's parents have been terminated;

(c) The child is in the custody of the department, another public agency, or a supervising agency; and

(d) The child has not been adopted and is not in a pre-adoptive home or other permanent placement at the time the petition for visitation is filed.

(2) The court shall give prior notice for any proceeding under this section, or cause prior notice to be given, to the department, other public agency, or supervising agency having custody of the child, the child's attorney or guardian ad litem if applicable, and the child. The court shall also order the custodial agency to give prior notice of any hearing to the child's current foster parent, relative caregiver, guardian or custodian, and the child's tribe, if applicable.

(3) The juvenile court may grant the petition for visitation if it finds that the requirements of subsection (1) of this section have been met, and that unsupervised visitation between the child and the relative does not present a risk to the child's safety or well-being and that the visitation is in the best interests of the child. In determining the best interests of the child the court shall consider, but is not limited to, the following:

(a) The love, affection, and strength of the relationship between the child and the relative;

(b) The length and quality of the prior relationship between the child and the relative;

(c) Any criminal convictions for or founded history of abuse or neglect of a child by the relative;

(d) Whether the visitation will present a risk to the child's health, welfare, or safety;

(e) The child's reasonable preference, if the court considers the child to be of sufficient age to express a preference;

(f) Any other factor relevant to the child's best interest.

(4) The visitation order may be modified at any time upon a showing that the visitation poses a risk to the child's safety or well-being. The visitation order shall state that visitation will automatically terminate upon the child's placement in a preadoptive home, if the child is adopted, or if there is a subsequent founded abuse or neglect allegation against the relative.

(5) The granting of the petition under this section does not grant the relative the right to participate in the dependency action and does not grant any rights to the relative not otherwise specified in the visitation order.

(6) This section is retroactive and applies to any eligible dependent child at the time of the filing of the petition for visitation, regardless of the date parental rights were terminated.

(7) For the purpose of this section, "relative" means a relative as defined in RCW 74.15.020(2)(a), except parents.

(8) This section is intended to provide an additional procedure by which a relative may request visitation with a dependent child. It is not intended to impair or alter the ability a court currently has to order visitation with a relative under the dependency statutes. [2009 c 520 § 46; 2008 c 259 § 1.]

**13.34.390 Comprehensive services for drug-affected and alcohol-affected mothers and infants.** The department

and the department of health shall develop and expand comprehensive services for drug-affected and alcohol-affected mothers and infants. Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the expansion shall be in evidence-based, research-based, or consensus-based practices, and shall expand capacity in underserved regions of the state. [2009 c 520 § 47; 2005 c 504 § 303.]

**Findings—Intent—Severability—Application—Construction—Captions, part headings, subheadings not law—Adoption of rules—Effective dates—2005 c 504:** See notes following RCW 71.05.027.

**Alphabetization—Correction of references—2005 c 504:** See note following RCW 71.05.020.

**13.34.400 Child welfare proceedings—Placement—Documentation.** In any proceeding under this chapter, if the department or supervising agency submits a report to the court in which the department is recommending a new placement or a change in placement, the department or supervising agency shall include the documents relevant to persons in the home in which a child will be placed and listed in subsections (1) through (5) of this section to the report. The department or supervising agency shall include only these relevant documents and shall not attach the entire history of the subject of the report.

(1) If the report contains a recommendation, opinion, or assertion by the department or supervising agency relating to substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, anger management classes, or domestic violence classes, the department or supervising agency shall attach the document upon which the recommendation, opinion, or assertion was based. The documentation may include the progress report or evaluation submitted by the provider, but may not include the entire history with the provider.

(2) If the report contains a recommendation, opinion, or assertion by the department or supervising agency relating to visitation with a child, the department or supervising agency shall attach the document upon which the recommendation, opinion, or assertion was based. The documentation may include the most recent visitation report, a visitation report referencing a specific incident alleged in the report, or summary of the visitation prepared by the person who supervised the visitation. The documentation attached to the report shall not include the entire visitation history.

(3) If the report contains a recommendation, opinion, or assertion by the department or supervising agency relating to the psychological status of a person, the department or supervising agency shall attach the document upon which the recommendation, opinion, or assertion was based. The documentation may include the progress report, evaluation, or summary submitted by the provider, but shall not include the entire history of the person.

(4) If the report contains a recommendation, opinion, or assertion by the department or supervising agency relating to injuries to a child, the department or supervising agency shall attach a summary of the physician's report, prepared by the physician or the physician's designee, relating to the recommendation, opinion, or assertion by the department.

(5) If the report contains a recommendation, opinion, or assertion by the department or supervising agency relating to a home study, licensing action, or background check information, the department or supervising agency shall attach the

document or documents upon which that recommendation, opinion, or assertion is based. [2009 c 520 § 48; 2007 c 411 § 2.]

**Finding—2007 c 411:** "The legislature finds that in order to allow courts to make well-informed placement decisions for children in the care of the state, the courts must have accurate information, including documentation supporting assertions or recommendations made by social workers, when appropriate." [2007 c 411 § 1.]

**Short title—2007 c 411:** "This act shall be known and cited as the Rafael Gomez act." [2007 c 411 § 3.]

**13.34.800 Drug-affected and alcohol-affected infants—Model project.** To the extent funds are appropriated, the department shall operate a model project to provide services to women who give birth to infants exposed to the nonprescription use of controlled substances or abuse of alcohol by the mother during pregnancy. Within available funds, the project may be offered in one site in each of the three department's administrative regions that have the highest incidence of drug-affected or alcohol-affected infants annually. The project shall accept women referred to it by the department following the birth of a drug-affected or alcohol-affected infant. The model project shall be concluded by July 1, 2002. [1998 c 314 § 30.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.34.801 Rules—Definition of "drug-affected infant."** By July 1, 1999, the department of social and health services, in consultation with the department of health, shall adopt rules to implement chapter 314, Laws of 1998, including a definition of "drug-affected infant," which shall be limited to infants who are affected by a mother's nonprescription use of controlled substances. [1998 c 314 § 25.]

**13.34.802 Rules—Definition of "alcohol-affected infant."** By July 1, 1999, the department of social and health services, in consultation with the department of health, shall adopt rules to implement chapter 314, Laws of 1998, including a definition of "alcohol-affected infant," which shall be limited to infants who are affected by a mother's abuse of alcohol. [1998 c 314 § 29.]

**13.34.820 Permanency for dependent children—Annual report.** (1) The administrative office of the courts, in consultation with the attorney general's office and the department of social and health services, shall compile an annual report, providing information about cases that fail to meet statutory guidelines to achieve permanency for dependent children.

(2) The administrative office of the courts shall submit the annual report required by this section to appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1st of each year, beginning on December 1, 2007. [2007 c 410 § 6.]

**Short title—2007 c 410:** See note following RCW 13.34.138.

**13.34.830 Child protection and child welfare—Racial disproportionality—Evaluation—Report.** (1) Within amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, or within funding made available by private grant or contribution, the Washington state institute for public policy shall evaluate the department of social and health services' use of structured decision-making practices and implementation of

the family team decision-making model to determine whether and how those child protection and child welfare efforts result in reducing disproportionate representation of African-American, Native American, and Latino children in the state's child welfare system. The institute shall analyze the points in the system at which current data reflect the greatest levels of disproportionality. The institute shall report its findings to the legislature and the department of social and health services by September 1, 2010.

(2) If adequate funding is not made available through state appropriation or through private grant or contribution to simultaneously study the impact on racial disproportionality of both the structured decision-making process and family team decision-making model, the institute shall first study and report on the family team decision-making model. The department of social and health services and the Washington state institute for public policy jointly, shall:

(a) Promptly complete and execute a data sharing agreement to comply with the department's confidential or records requirements and to provide the institute with data and other information necessary to conduct its evaluation; and

(b) Identify potential sources of private funding to supplement any state-appropriated amounts. [2009 c 213 § 2.]

**Findings—2009 c 213:** "(1) The legislature finds that research conducted by the Washington state institute for public policy released in June 2008, demonstrates that racial disproportionality exists in Washington's child welfare system and that the greatest disproportionality occurs when the initial referral to child protective services is made and when the decision is made to place a child in out-of-home care. The institute's research also demonstrates that children of African-American, Native American, and Latino families have disproportionately longer lengths of stay in foster care.

(2) The legislature finds further that the department of social and health services, in a December 2008 report issued pursuant to chapter 465, Laws of 2007, identified initial recommendations for remediation of racial disproportionality, including examining specific current child welfare practices, structured decision making and family team decision making, to determine whether and how these practices might result in reducing or eliminating racial disproportionality." [2009 c 213 § 1.]

**13.34.900 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 42.]

## Chapter 13.36 RCW GUARDIANSHIP

### Sections

13.36.010 Finding—Intent.  
13.36.020 Definitions.

13.36.030 Guardianship petition—Requirements—Contents—Application of Indian child welfare act, federal servicemembers civil relief act, Washington service members' civil relief act.  
13.36.040 Hearing—Establishing guardianship—Exceptions—Conversion of dependency guardianship to guardianship.  
13.36.050 Court order to establish guardianship—Contents—Custody, rights, and duties—Funds, benefits—Dismissal of dependency—Letter.  
13.36.060 Guardianship modification—Attorneys' fees, court costs.  
13.36.070 Guardianship termination—Petition, affidavit.  
13.36.080 Appointment of guardian ad litem or attorney for the child.  
13.36.090 Guardianship subsidies—Relative guardianship subsidy—Rules—Licensed foster parent eligibility.

**13.36.010 Finding—Intent.** The legislature finds that a guardianship is an appropriate permanent plan for a child who has been found to be dependent under chapter 13.34 RCW and who cannot safely be reunified with his or her parents. The legislature is concerned that parents not be pressured by the department into agreeing to the entry of a guardianship when further services would increase the chances that the child could be reunified with his or her parents. The legislature intends to create a separate guardianship chapter to establish permanency for children in foster care through the appointment of a guardian and dismissal of the dependency. [2010 c 272 § 1.]

**13.36.020 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Child" means any individual under the age of eighteen years.

(2) "Department" means the department of social and health services.

(3) "Dependent child" means a child who has been found by a court to be dependent in a proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW.

(4) "Guardian" means a person who: (a) Has been appointed by the court as the guardian of a child in a legal proceeding under this chapter; and (b) has the legal right to custody of the child pursuant to court order. The term "guardian" does not include a "dependency guardian" appointed pursuant to a proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW for the purpose of assisting the court in supervising the dependency.

(5) "Relative" means a person related to the child in the following ways: (a) Any blood relative, including those of half-blood, and including first cousins, second cousins, nephews or nieces, and persons of preceding generations as denoted by prefixes of grand, great, or great-great; (b) stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, and stepsister; (c) a person who legally adopts a child or the child's parent as well as the natural and other legally adopted children of such persons, and other relatives of the adoptive parents in accordance with state law; (d) spouses of any persons named in (a), (b), or (c) of this subsection, even after the marriage is terminated; (e) relatives, as named in (a), (b), (c), or (d) of this subsection, of any half sibling of the child; or (f) extended family members, as defined by the law or custom of the Indian child's tribe or, in the absence of such law or custom, a person who has reached the age of eighteen and who is the Indian child's grandparent, aunt or uncle, brother or sister, brother-in-law or sister-in-law, niece or nephew, first or second cousin, or step-parent who provides care in the family abode on a twenty-

four hour basis to an Indian child as defined in 25 U.S.C. Sec. 1903(4);

(6) "Suitable person" means a nonrelative with whom the child or the child's family has a preexisting relationship; who has completed all required criminal history background checks and otherwise appears to be suitable and competent to provide care for the child; and with whom the child has been placed pursuant to RCW 13.34.130.

(7) "Supervising agency" means an agency licensed by the state under RCW 74.15.090, or licensed by a federally recognized Indian tribe located in this state under RCW 74.15.190, that has entered into a performance-based contract with the department to provide case management for the delivery and documentation of child welfare services as defined in RCW 74.13.020. [2010 c 272 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**13.36.030 Guardianship petition—Requirements—Contents—Application of Indian child welfare act, federal servicemembers civil relief act, Washington service members' civil relief act.** (1) Any party to a dependency proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW may request a guardianship be established for a dependent child by filing a petition in juvenile court under this chapter. All parties to the dependency and the proposed guardian must receive adequate notice of all proceedings under this chapter. For purposes of this chapter, a dependent child age twelve years or older is a party to the proceedings. A proposed guardian has the right to intervene in proceedings under this chapter.

(2) To be designated as a proposed guardian in a petition under this chapter, a person must be age twenty-one or over and must meet the minimum requirements to care for children as established by the department under RCW 74.15.030, including but not limited to licensed foster parents, relatives, and suitable persons.

(3) Every petition filed in proceedings under this chapter shall contain: (a) A statement alleging whether the child is or may be an Indian child as defined in 25 U.S.C. Sec. 1903. If the child is an Indian child as defined under the Indian child welfare act, the provisions of that act shall apply; (b) a statement alleging whether the federal servicemembers civil relief act of 2003, 50 U.S.C. Sec. 501 et seq. applies to the proceeding; and (c) a statement alleging whether the Washington service members' civil relief act, chapter 38.42 RCW, applies to the proceeding.

(4) Every order or decree entered in any proceeding under this chapter shall contain: (a) A finding that the Indian child welfare act does or does not apply. Where there is a finding that the Indian child welfare act does apply, the decree or order must also contain a finding that all notice requirements and evidentiary requirements under the Indian child welfare act have been satisfied; (b) a finding that the federal servicemembers civil relief act of 2003 does or does not apply; and (c) a finding that the Washington service members' civil relief act, chapter 38.42 RCW, does or does not apply. [2010 c 272 § 3.]

**13.36.040 Hearing—Establishing guardianship—Exceptions—Conversion of dependency guardianship to guardianship.** (1) At the hearing on a guardianship petition,

all parties have the right to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. The rules of evidence apply to the conduct of the hearing. The hearing under this section to establish a guardianship or convert an existing dependency guardianship to a guardianship under this section is a stage of the dependency proceedings for purposes of RCW 13.34.090(2).

(2) A guardianship shall be established if:

(a) The court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that it is in the child's best interests to establish a guardianship, rather than to terminate the parent-child relationship and proceed with adoption, or to continue efforts to return custody of the child to the parent; and

(b) All parties agree to entry of the guardianship order and the proposed guardian is qualified, appropriate, and capable of performing the duties of guardian under RCW 13.36.050; or

(c)(i) The child has been found to be a dependent child under RCW 13.34.030;

(ii) A dispositional order has been entered pursuant to RCW 13.34.130;

(iii) At the time of the hearing on the guardianship petition, the child has or will have been removed from the custody of the parent for at least six consecutive months following a finding of dependency under RCW 13.34.030;

(iv) The services ordered under RCW 13.34.130 and 13.34.136 have been offered or provided and all necessary services, reasonably available, capable of correcting the parental deficiencies within the foreseeable future have been offered or provided;

(v) There is little likelihood that conditions will be remedied so that the child can be returned to the parent in the near future; and

(vi) The proposed guardian has signed a statement acknowledging the guardian's rights and responsibilities toward the child and affirming the guardian's understanding and acceptance that the guardianship is a commitment to provide care for the child until the child reaches age eighteen.

(3) The court may not establish a guardianship for a child who has no legal parent unless the court, in addition to making the required findings set forth in subsection (2) of this section, finds one or more exceptional circumstances exist and the benefits for the child of establishing the guardianship outweigh any potential disadvantage to the child of having no legal parent. Exceptional circumstances may include but are not limited to:

(a) The child has special needs and a suitable guardian is willing to accept custody and able to meet the needs of the child to an extent unlikely to be achieved through adoption; or

(b) The proposed guardian has demonstrated a commitment to provide for the long-term care of the child and: (i) Is a relative of the child; (ii) has been a long-term caregiver for the child and has acted as a parent figure to the child and is viewed by the child as a parent figure; or (iii) the child's family has identified the proposed guardian as the preferred guardian, and, if the child is age twelve years or older, the child also has identified the proposed guardian as the preferred guardian.

(4) Upon the request of a dependency guardian appointed under chapter 13.34 RCW and the department or supervising agency, the court shall convert a dependency

guardianship established under chapter 13.34 RCW to a guardianship under this chapter. [2010 c 272 § 4.]

**13.36.050 Court order to establish guardianship—Contents—Custody, rights, and duties—Funds, benefits—Dismissal of dependency—Letter.**

(1) If the court has made the findings required under RCW 13.36.040, the court shall issue an order establishing a guardianship for the child. If the guardian has not previously intervened, the guardian shall be made a party to the guardianship proceeding upon entry of the guardianship order. The order shall:

- (a) Appoint a person to be the guardian for the child;
- (b) Specify the guardian's rights and responsibilities concerning the care, custody, control, and nurturing of the child;
- (c) Specify the guardian's authority, if any, to receive, invest, and expend funds, benefits, or property belonging to the child;
- (d) Specify an appropriate frequency and type of contact between the parent or parents and the child, if applicable, and between the child and his or her siblings, if applicable; and
- (e) Specify the need for and scope of continued oversight by the court, if any.

(2) The guardian shall maintain physical and legal custody of the child and have the following rights and duties under the guardianship:

- (a) Duty to protect, nurture, discipline, and educate the child;
- (b) Duty to provide food, clothing, shelter, education as required by law, and health care for the child, including but not limited to, medical, dental, mental health, psychological, and psychiatric care and treatment;
- (c) Right to consent to health care for the child and sign a release authorizing the sharing of health care information with appropriate authorities, in accordance with state law;
- (d) Right to consent to the child's participation in social and school activities; and
- (e) Duty to notify the court of a change of address of the guardian and the child. Unless specifically ordered by the court, however, the standards and requirements for relocation in chapter 26.09 RCW do not apply to guardianships established under this chapter.

(3) If the child has independent funds or other valuable property under the control of the guardian, the guardian shall provide an annual written accounting, supported with appropriate documentation, to the court regarding receipt and expenditure by the guardian of any such funds or benefits. This subsection shall not be construed to require a guardian to account for any routine funds or benefits received from a public social service agency on behalf of the child.

(4) The guardianship shall remain in effect until the child reaches the age of eighteen years or until the court terminates the guardianship, whichever occurs sooner.

(5) Once the dependency has been dismissed pursuant to RCW 13.36.070, the court shall not order the department or other supervising agency to supervise or provide case management services to the guardian or the child as part of the guardianship order.

(6) The court shall issue a letter of guardianship to the guardian upon the entry of the court order establishing the guardianship under this chapter. [2010 c 272 § 5.]

**13.36.060 Guardianship modification—Attorneys' fees, court costs.** (1) A guardian or a parent of the child may petition the court to modify the visitation provisions of a guardianship order by:

(a) Filing with the court a motion for modification and an affidavit setting forth facts supporting the requested modification; and

(b) Providing notice and a copy of the motion and affidavit to all other parties. The nonmoving parties may file and serve opposing affidavits.

(2) The court shall deny the motion unless it finds that adequate cause for hearing the motion is established by the affidavits, in which case it shall set a date for hearing on an order to show cause why the requested modification should not be granted.

(3) If the court finds that a motion to modify a guardianship order has been brought in bad faith, the court may assess attorneys' fees and court costs of the nonmoving party against the moving party. [2010 c 272 § 6.]

**13.36.070 Guardianship termination—Petition, affidavit.**

(1) Any party to a guardianship proceeding may request termination of the guardianship by filing a petition and supporting affidavit alleging a substantial change has occurred in the circumstances of the child or the guardian and that the termination is necessary to serve the best interests of the child. The petition and affidavit must be served on the department or supervising agency and all parties to the guardianship.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, the court shall not terminate a guardianship unless it finds, upon the basis of facts that have arisen since the guardianship was established or that were unknown to the court at the time the guardianship was established, that a substantial change has occurred in the circumstances of the child or the guardian and that termination of the guardianship is necessary to serve the best interests of the child. The effect of a guardian's duties while serving in the military potentially impacting guardianship functions shall not, by itself, be a substantial change of circumstances justifying termination of a guardianship.

(3) The court may terminate a guardianship on the agreement of the guardian, the child, if the child is age twelve years or older, and a parent seeking to regain custody of the child if the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence and on the basis of facts that have arisen since the guardianship was established that:

(a) The parent has successfully corrected the parenting deficiencies identified by the court in the dependency action, and the circumstances of the parent have changed to such a degree that returning the child to the custody of the parent no longer creates a risk of harm to the child's health, welfare, and safety;

(b) The child, if age twelve years or older, agrees to termination of the guardianship and the return of custody to the parent; and

(c) Termination of the guardianship and return of custody of the child to the parent is in the child's best interests.

(4) Upon the entry of an order terminating a guardianship, the court shall enter an order:

(a) Granting the child's parent with legal and physical custody of the child;

(b) Granting a substitute guardian with legal and physical custody of the child; or

(c) Directing the child to be temporarily placed in the custody of the department for placement with a relative or other suitable person as defined in RCW 13.34.130(1)(b), if available, or in an appropriate licensed out-of-home placement, and directing that the department file a dependency petition on behalf of the child. [2010 c 272 § 7.]

**13.36.080 Appointment of guardian ad litem or attorney for the child.** In all proceedings to establish, modify, or terminate a guardianship order, the court shall appoint a guardian ad litem or attorney for the child. The court may appoint a guardian ad litem or attorney who represented the child in a prior proceeding under this chapter or under chapter 13.34 RCW, or may appoint an attorney to supersede an existing guardian ad litem. [2010 c 272 § 8.]

**13.36.090 Guardianship subsidies—Relative guardianship subsidy—Rules—Licensed foster parent eligibility.** (1) A relative guardian who is a licensed foster parent at the time a guardianship is established under this chapter and who has been the child's foster parent for a minimum of six consecutive months preceding entry of the guardianship order is eligible for a relative guardianship subsidy on behalf of the child. The department may establish rules setting eligibility, application, and program standards consistent with applicable federal guidelines for expenditure of federal funds.

(2) Within amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, a guardian who is a licensed foster parent at the time a guardianship is established under this chapter and who has been the child's foster parent for a minimum of six consecutive months preceding entry of the guardianship order is eligible for a guardianship subsidy on behalf of the child. [2010 c 272 § 9.]

## Chapter 13.38 RCW INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT

### Sections

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13.38.140	Emergency removal or placement of Indian child—Notice.
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13.38.160	Improper removal of Indian child.
13.38.170	Removal of Indian child from adoptive or foster care placement.
13.38.180	Placement preferences.
13.38.190	Review of cases—Standards and procedures—Compliance.

**13.38.010 Short title.** This chapter shall be known and cited as the "Washington state Indian child welfare act." [2011 c 309 § 1.]

**13.38.020 Application.** This chapter shall apply in all child custody proceedings as that term is defined in this chapter. Whenever there is a conflict between chapter 13.32A, 13.34, 13.36, 26.10, or 26.33 RCW, the provisions of this chapter shall apply. [2011 c 309 § 2.]

**13.38.030 Findings and intent.** The legislature finds that the state is committed to protecting the essential tribal relations and best interests of Indian children by promoting practices designed to prevent out-of-home placement of Indian children that is inconsistent with the rights of the parents, the health, safety, or welfare of the children, or the interests of their tribe. Whenever out-of-home placement of an Indian child is necessary in a proceeding subject to the terms of the federal Indian child welfare act and in this chapter, the best interests of the Indian child may be served by placing the Indian child in accordance with the placement priorities expressed in this chapter. The legislature further finds that where placement away from the parent or Indian custodian is necessary for the child's safety, the state is committed to a placement that reflects and honors the unique values of the child's tribal culture and is best able to assist the Indian child in establishing, developing, and maintaining a political, cultural, social, and spiritual relationship with the child's tribe and tribal community.

It is the intent of the legislature that this chapter is a step in clarifying existing laws and codifying existing policies and practices. This chapter shall not be construed to reject or eliminate current policies and practices that are not included in its provisions.

The legislature further intends that nothing in this chapter is intended to interfere with policies and procedures that are derived from agreements entered into between the department and a tribe or tribes, as authorized by section 109 of the federal Indian child welfare act. The legislature finds that this chapter specifies the minimum requirements that must be applied in a child custody proceeding and does not prevent the department from providing a higher standard of protection to the right of any Indian child, parent, Indian custodian, or Indian child's tribe.

It is also the legislature's intent that the department's policy manual on Indian child welfare, the tribal-state agreement, and relevant local agreements between individual federally recognized tribes and the department should serve as persuasive guides in the interpretation and implementation of the federal Indian child welfare act, this chapter, and other relevant state laws. [2011 c 309 § 3.]

**13.38.040 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Active efforts" means the following:

(a) In any foster care placement or termination of parental rights proceeding of an Indian child under chapter 13.34 RCW and this chapter where the department or a supervising agency as defined in RCW 74.13.020 has a statutory or contractual duty to provide services to, or procure services for,

the parent or parents or Indian custodian, or is providing services to a parent or parents or Indian custodian pursuant to a disposition order entered pursuant to RCW 13.34.130, the department or supervising agency shall make timely and diligent efforts to provide or procure such services, including engaging the parent or parents or Indian custodian in reasonably available and culturally appropriate preventive, remedial, or rehabilitative services. This shall include those services offered by tribes and Indian organizations whenever possible. At a minimum "active efforts" shall include:

(i) In any dependency proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW seeking out-of-home placement of an Indian child in which the department or supervising agency provided voluntary services to the parent, parents, or Indian custodian prior to filing the dependency petition, a showing to the court that the department or supervising agency social workers actively worked with the parent, parents, or Indian custodian to engage them in remedial services and rehabilitation programs to prevent the breakup of the family beyond simply providing referrals to such services.

(ii) In any dependency proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW, in which the petitioner is seeking the continued out-of-home placement of an Indian child, the department or supervising agency must show to the court that it has actively worked with the parent, parents, or Indian custodian in accordance with existing court orders and the individual service plan to engage them in remedial services and rehabilitative programs to prevent the breakup of the family beyond simply providing referrals to such services.

(iii) In any termination of parental rights proceeding regarding an Indian child under chapter 13.34 RCW in which the department or supervising agency provided services to the parent, parents, or Indian custodian, a showing to the court that the department or supervising agency social workers actively worked with the parent, parents, or Indian custodian to engage them in remedial services and rehabilitation programs ordered by the court or identified in the department or supervising agency's individual service and safety plan beyond simply providing referrals to such services.

(b) In any foster care placement or termination of parental rights proceeding in which the petitioner does not otherwise have a statutory or contractual duty to directly provide services to, or procure services for, the parent or Indian custodian, "active efforts" means a documented, concerted, and good faith effort to facilitate the parent's or Indian custodian's receipt of and engagement in services capable of meeting the criteria set out in (a) of this subsection.

(2) "Best interests of the Indian child" means the use of practices in accordance with the federal Indian child welfare act, this chapter, and other applicable law, that are designed to accomplish the following: (a) Protect the safety, well-being, development, and stability of the Indian child; (b) prevent the unnecessary out-of-home placement of the Indian child; (c) acknowledge the right of Indian tribes to maintain their existence and integrity which will promote the stability and security of their children and families; (d) recognize the value to the Indian child of establishing, developing, or maintaining a political, cultural, social, and spiritual relationship with the Indian child's tribe and tribal community; and (e) in a proceeding under this chapter where out-of-home place-

ment is necessary, to prioritize placement of the Indian child in accordance with the placement preferences of this chapter.

(3) "Child custody proceeding" includes:

(a) "Foster care placement" which means any action removing an Indian child from his or her parent or Indian custodian for temporary placement in a foster home, institution, or with a relative, guardian, conservator, or suitable other person where the parent or Indian custodian cannot have the child returned upon demand, but where parental rights have not been terminated;

(b) "Termination of parental rights" which means any action resulting in the termination of the parent-child relationship;

(c) "Preadoptive placement" which means the temporary placement of an Indian child in a foster home or institution after the termination of parental rights but before or in lieu of adoptive placement; and

(d) "Adoptive placement" which means the permanent placement of an Indian child for adoption, including any action resulting in a final decree of adoption.

These terms shall not include a placement based upon an act which, if committed by an adult, would be deemed a crime or upon an award, in a dissolution proceeding of custody to one of the parents.

(4) "Court of competent jurisdiction" means a federal court, or a state court that entered an order in a child custody proceeding involving an Indian child, as long as the state court had proper subject matter jurisdiction in accordance with this chapter and the laws of that state, or a tribal court that had or has exclusive or concurrent jurisdiction pursuant to 25 U.S.C. Sec. 1911.

(5) "Department" means the department of social and health services and any of its divisions. "Department" also includes supervising agencies as defined in \*RCW 74.13.020(12) with which the department entered into a contract to provide services, care, placement, case management, contract monitoring, or supervision to children subject to a petition filed under chapter 13.34 or 26.33 RCW.

(6) "Indian" means a person who is a member of an Indian tribe, or who is an Alaska native and a member of a regional corporation as defined in 43 U.S.C. Sec. 1606.

(7) "Indian child" means an unmarried and unemancipated Indian person who is under eighteen years of age and is either: (a) A member of an Indian tribe; or (b) eligible for membership in an Indian tribe and is the biological child of a member of an Indian tribe.

(8) "Indian child's family" or "extended family member" means an individual, defined by the law or custom of the child's tribe, as a relative of the child. If the child's tribe does not identify such individuals by law or custom, the term means an adult who is the Indian child's grandparent, aunt, uncle, brother, sister, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, niece, nephew, first or second cousin, or stepparent, even following termination of the marriage.

(9) "Indian child's tribe" means a tribe in which an Indian child is a member or eligible for membership.

(10) "Indian custodian" means an Indian person who under tribal law, tribal custom, or state law, has legal or temporary physical custody of an Indian child, or to whom the parent has transferred temporary care, physical custody, and control of an Indian child.

(11) "Indian tribe" or "tribe" means any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community of Indians recognized as eligible for the services provided to Indians by the secretary of the interior because of their status as Indians, including any Alaska native village as defined in 43 U.S.C. Sec. 1602(c).

(12) "Member" and "membership" means a determination by an Indian tribe that a person is a member or eligible for membership in that Indian tribe.

(13) "Parent" means a biological parent or parents of an Indian child or a person who has lawfully adopted an Indian child, including adoptions made under tribal law or custom. "Parent" does not include an unwed father whose paternity has not been acknowledged or established under chapter 26.26 RCW or the applicable laws of other states.

(14) "Secretary of the interior" means the secretary of the United States department of the interior.

(15) "Tribal court" means a court or body vested by an Indian tribe with jurisdiction over child custody proceedings, including but not limited to a federal court of Indian offenses, a court established and operated under the code or custom of an Indian tribe, or an administrative body of an Indian tribe vested with authority over child custody proceedings.

(16) "Tribal customary adoption" means adoption or other process through the tribal custom, traditions, or laws of an Indian child's tribe by which the Indian child is permanently placed with a nonparent and through which the nonparent is vested with the rights, privileges, and obligations of a legal parent. Termination of the parent-child relationship between the Indian child and the biological parent is not required to effect or recognize a tribal customary adoption. [2011 c 309 § 4.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 74.13.020 was amended by 2011 c 330 § 4, changing subsection (12) to subsection (13).

**13.38.050 Determination of Indian status.** Any party seeking the foster care placement of, termination of parental rights over, or the adoption of a child must make a good faith effort to determine whether the child is an Indian child. This shall be done by consultation with the child's parent or parents, any person who has custody of the child or with whom the child resides, and any other person that reasonably can be expected to have information regarding the child's possible membership or eligibility for membership in an Indian tribe to determine if the child is an Indian child, and by contacting any Indian tribe in which the child may be a member or may be eligible for membership. Preliminary contacts for the purpose of making a good faith effort to determine a child's possible Indian status, do not constitute legal notice as required by RCW 13.38.070. [2011 c 309 § 5.]

**13.38.060 Jurisdiction.** (1) An Indian tribe shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any child custody proceeding involving an Indian child who resides or is domiciled within the reservation of that tribe, unless the tribe has consented to the state's concurrent jurisdiction, the tribe has expressly declined to exercise its exclusive jurisdiction, or the state is exercising emergency jurisdiction in strict compliance with RCW 13.38.140.

(2) If an Indian child is already a ward of a tribal court at the start of the child custody proceeding, the Indian tribe may

retain exclusive jurisdiction, notwithstanding the residence or domicile of the child. [2011 c 309 § 6.]

**13.38.070 Notice—Procedures—Determination of Indian status.** (1) In any involuntary child custody proceeding seeking the foster care placement of, or the termination of parental rights to, a child in which the petitioning party or the court knows, or has reason to know, that the child is or may be an Indian child as defined in this chapter, the petitioning party shall notify the parent or Indian custodian and the Indian child's tribe or tribes, by certified mail, return receipt requested, and by use of a mandatory Indian child welfare act notice. If the identity or location of the parent or Indian custodian and the tribe cannot be determined, such notice shall be given to the secretary of the interior by registered mail, return receipt requested, in accordance with the regulations of the bureau of Indian affairs. The secretary of the interior has fifteen days after receipt to provide the requisite notice to the parent or Indian custodian and the tribe. No foster care placement or termination of parental rights proceeding shall be held until at least ten days after receipt of notice by the parent or Indian custodian and the tribe. The parent or Indian custodian or the tribe shall, upon request, be granted up to twenty additional days to prepare for the proceeding.

(2) The determination of the Indian status of a child shall be made as soon as practicable in order to serve the best interests of the Indian child and protect the interests of the child's tribe.

(3)(a) A written determination by an Indian tribe that a child is a member of or eligible for membership in that tribe, or testimony by the tribe attesting to such status shall be conclusive that the child is an Indian child;

(b) A written determination by an Indian tribe that a child is not a member of or eligible for membership in that tribe, or testimony by the tribe attesting to such status shall be conclusive that the child is not a member or eligible for membership in that tribe. Such determinations are presumptively those of the tribe where submitted in the form of a tribal resolution, or signed by or testified to by the person(s) authorized by the tribe's governing body to speak for the tribe, or by the tribe's agent designated to receive notice under the federal Indian child welfare act where such designation is published in the federal register;

(c) Where a tribe provides no response to notice under RCW 13.38.070, such nonresponse shall not constitute evidence that the child is not a member or eligible for membership. Provided, however, that under such circumstances the party asserting application of the federal Indian child welfare act, or this chapter, will have the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the child is an Indian child.

(4)(a) Where a child has been determined not to be an Indian child, any party to the proceeding, or an Indian tribe that subsequently determines the child is a member, may, during the pendency of any child custody proceeding to which this chapter or the federal Indian child welfare act applies, move the court for redetermination of the child's Indian status based upon new evidence, redetermination by the child's tribe, or newly conferred federal recognition of the tribe.

(b) This subsection (4) does not affect the rights afforded under 25 U.S.C. Sec. 1914. [2011 c 309 § 7.]



**13.38.080 Transfer of jurisdiction.** (1) In any proceeding for the foster care placement of, or termination of parental rights to, an Indian child who is not domiciled or residing within the reservation of the Indian child's tribe, the court shall, in the absence of good cause to the contrary, transfer the proceeding to the jurisdiction of the Indian child's tribe, upon the motion of any of the following persons:

- (a) Either of the child's parents;
- (b) The child's Indian custodian;
- (c) The child's tribe; or
- (d) The child, if age twelve or older.

The transfer shall be subject to declination by the tribe. The tribe shall have seventy-five days to affirmatively respond to a motion or order transferring jurisdiction to the tribal court. A failure of the tribe to respond within the seventy-five day period shall be construed as a declination to accept transfer of the case.

(2) If the child's tribe has not formally intervened, the moving party shall serve a copy of the motion and all supporting documents on the tribal court to which the moving party seeks transfer.

(3) If either of the Indian child's parents objects to transfer of the proceeding to the Indian child's tribe, the court shall not transfer the proceeding.

(4) Following entry of an order transferring jurisdiction to the Indian child's tribe:

(a) Upon receipt of an order from a tribal court accepting jurisdiction, the state court shall dismiss the child custody proceeding without prejudice.

(b) Pending receipt of such tribal court order, the state court may conduct additional hearings and enter orders which strictly comply with the requirements of the federal Indian child welfare act and this chapter. The state court shall not enter a final order in any child custody proceeding, except an order dismissing the proceeding and returning the Indian child to the care of the parent or Indian custodian from whose care the child was removed, while awaiting receipt of a tribal court order accepting jurisdiction, or in the absence of a tribal court order or other formal written declination of jurisdiction.

(c) If the Indian child's tribe declines jurisdiction, the state court shall enter an order vacating the order transferring jurisdiction and proceed with adjudication of the child custody matter in strict compliance with the federal Indian child welfare act, this chapter, and any applicable tribal-state agreement. [2011 c 309 § 8.]

**13.38.090 Right to intervene.** The Indian child, the Indian child's tribe or tribes, and the Indian custodian have the right to intervene at any point in any child custody proceeding involving the Indian child. [2011 c 309 § 9.]

**13.38.100 Full faith and credit.** The state shall give full faith and credit to the public acts, records, judicial proceedings, and judgments of any Indian tribe applicable to Indian child custody proceedings. [2011 c 309 § 10.]

**13.38.110 Right to counsel.** In any child custody proceeding under this chapter in which the court determines the Indian child's parent or Indian custodian is indigent, the parent or Indian custodian shall have the right to court-appointed counsel. The court may, in its discretion, appoint counsel for

the Indian child upon a finding that the appointment is in the best interests of the Indian child. [2011 c 309 § 11.]

**13.38.120 Right to examine reports, other documents.** Each party to a child custody proceeding involving an Indian child shall have the right to examine all reports or other documents filed with the court upon which any decision with respect to the proceeding may be based. [2011 c 309 § 12.]

**13.38.130 Involuntary foster care placement, termination of parental rights—Determination—Qualified expert witness.** (1) A party seeking to effect an involuntary foster care placement of or the involuntary termination of parental rights to an Indian child shall satisfy the court that active efforts have been made to provide remedial services and rehabilitative programs designed to prevent the breakup of the Indian family and that these efforts have proved unsuccessful.

(2) No involuntary foster care placement may be ordered in a child custody proceeding in the absence of a determination, supported by clear and convincing evidence, including testimony of qualified expert witnesses, that the continued custody of the child by the parent or Indian custodian is likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage to the child. For purposes of this subsection, any harm that may result from interfering with the bond or attachment between the foster parent and the child shall not be the sole basis or primary reason for continuing the child in foster care.

(3) No involuntary termination of parental rights may be ordered in a child custody proceeding in the absence of a determination, supported by evidence beyond a reasonable doubt, including testimony of qualified expert witnesses, that the continued custody of the child by the parent or Indian custodian is likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage to the child. For the purposes of this subsection, any harm that may result from interfering with the bond or attachment that may have formed between the child and a foster care provider shall not be the sole basis or primary reason for termination of parental rights over an Indian child.

(4)(a) For purposes of this section, "qualified expert witness" means a person who provides testimony in a proceeding under this chapter to assist a court in the determination of whether the continued custody of the child by, or return of the child to, the parent, parents, or Indian custodian, is likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage to the child. In any proceeding in which the child's Indian tribe has intervened pursuant to RCW 13.38.090 or, if the department is the petitioner and the Indian child's tribe has entered into a local agreement with the department for the provision of child welfare services, the petitioner shall contact the tribe and ask the tribe to identify a tribal member or other person of the tribe's choice who is recognized by the tribe as knowledgeable regarding tribal customs as they pertain to family organization or child rearing practices. The petitioner shall notify the child's Indian tribe of the need to provide a "qualified expert witness" at least twenty days prior to any evidentiary hearing in which the testimony of the witness will be required. If the child's Indian tribe does not identify a "qualified expert witness" for the proceeding on a timely basis, the petitioner may

proceed to identify such a witness pursuant to (b) of this subsection.

(b) In any proceeding in which the child's Indian tribe has not intervened or entered into a local agreement with the department for the provision of child welfare services, or a child's Indian tribe has not responded to a request to identify a "qualified expert witness" for the proceeding on a timely basis, the petitioner shall provide a "qualified expert witness" who meets one or more of the following requirements in descending order of preference:

(i) A member of the child's Indian tribe or other person of the tribe's choice who is recognized by the tribe as knowledgeable regarding tribal customs as they pertain to family organization or child rearing practices for this purpose;

(ii) Any person having substantial experience in the delivery of child and family services to Indians, and extensive knowledge of prevailing social and cultural standards and child rearing practices within the Indian child's tribe;

(iii) Any person having substantial experience in the delivery of child and family services to Indians, and knowledge of prevailing social and cultural standards and child rearing practices in Indian tribes with cultural similarities to the Indian child's tribe; or

(iv) A professional person having substantial education and experience in the area of his or her specialty.

(c) When the petitioner is the department or a supervising agency, the currently assigned department or agency caseworker or the caseworker's supervisor may not testify as a "qualified expert witness" for purposes of this section. Nothing in this section shall bar the assigned department or agency caseworker or the caseworker's supervisor from testifying as an expert witness for other purposes in a proceeding under this chapter. Nothing in this section shall bar other department or supervising agency employees with appropriate expert qualifications or experience from testifying as a "qualified expert witness" in a proceeding under this chapter. Nothing in this section shall bar the petitioner or any other party in a proceeding under this chapter from providing additional witnesses or expert testimony, subject to the approval of the court, on any issue before the court including the determination of whether the continued custody of the child by, or return of the child to, the parent, parents, or Indian custodian, is likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage to the child. [2011 c 309 § 13.]

**13.38.140 Emergency removal or placement of Indian child—Notice.** (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of federal or state law, nothing shall be construed to prevent the department or law enforcement from the emergency removal of an Indian child who is a resident of or is domiciled on an Indian reservation, but is temporarily located off the reservation, from his or her parent or Indian custodian or the emergency placement of such child in a foster home, under applicable state law, to prevent imminent physical damage or harm to the child.

(2) The department or law enforcement agency shall ensure that the emergency removal or placement terminates immediately when such removal or placement is no longer necessary to prevent imminent physical damage or harm to the child and shall expeditiously initiate a child custody proceeding subject to the provisions of the federal Indian child

welfare act and this chapter to transfer the child to the jurisdiction of the appropriate Indian tribe or restore the child to the child's parent or Indian custodian, if appropriate.

(3) When the nature of the emergency allows, the department must notify the child's tribe before the removal has occurred. If prior notification is not possible, the department shall notify the child's tribe by the quickest means possible. The notice must contain the basis for the Indian child's removal, the time, date, and place of the initial hearing, and the tribe's right to intervene and participate in the proceeding. This notice shall not constitute the notice required under RCW 13.38.070 for purposes of subsequent dependency, termination of parental rights, or adoption proceedings. [2011 c 309 § 14.]

**13.38.150 Consent to foster care placement or termination of parental rights—Withdrawal.** (1) If an Indian child's parent or Indian custodian voluntarily consents to a foster care placement of the child or to termination of parental rights, the consent is not valid unless executed in writing and recorded before a judge of a court of competent jurisdiction and accompanied by the judge's certificate that the terms and consequences of the consent were fully explained in detail and were fully understood by the parent or Indian custodian. The court must also certify that either the parent or Indian custodian fully understood the explanation in English or that it was interpreted into a language that the parent or Indian custodian understood. Any consent for release of custody given prior to, or within ten days after, the birth of the Indian child shall not be valid.

(2) An Indian child's parent or Indian custodian may withdraw consent to a voluntary foster care placement at any time and, upon the withdrawal of consent, the child shall be returned to the parent or Indian custodian.

(3) In a voluntary proceeding for termination of parental rights to, or adoptive placement of, an Indian child, the consent of the parent may be withdrawn for any reason at any time prior to the entry of an order terminating parental rights or a final decree of adoption, and the child shall be returned to the parent.

(4) After the entry of a final decree of adoption of an Indian child, the parent may withdraw consent to the adoption upon the grounds that consent was obtained through fraud or duress. Upon a finding that such consent was obtained through fraud or duress the court shall vacate the decree and return the child to the parent. No adoption which has been effective for at least two years may be invalidated under this section unless otherwise allowed by state law. [2011 c 309 § 15.]

**13.38.160 Improper removal of Indian child.** If a petitioner in a child custody proceeding under this chapter has improperly removed the child from the custody of the parent or Indian custodian or has improperly retained custody after a visit or other temporary relinquishment of custody, the court shall decline jurisdiction over the petition and shall immediately return the child to the child's parent or Indian custodian unless returning the child to the parent or Indian custodian would subject the child to substantial and immediate danger or threat of such danger. [2011 c 309 § 16.]

**13.38.170 Removal of Indian child from adoptive or foster care placement.** (1) If a final decree of adoption of an Indian child has been vacated or set aside or the adoptive parents voluntarily consent to the termination of their parental rights to the child, the biological parent or prior Indian custodian may petition to have the child returned to their custody and the court shall grant the request unless there is a showing by clear and convincing evidence that return of custody to the biological parent or prior Indian custodian is not in the best interests of the Indian child.

(2) If an Indian child is removed from a foster care placement or a preadoptive or adoptive home for the purpose of further foster care, preadoptive, or adoptive placement, the placement shall be in accordance with this chapter, except when an Indian child is being returned to the parent or Indian custodian from whose custody the child was originally removed. [2011 c 309 § 17.]

**13.38.180 Placement preferences.** (1) When an emergency removal, foster care placement, or preadoptive placement of an Indian child is necessary, a good faith effort will be made to place the Indian child:

- (a) In the least restrictive setting;
- (b) Which most approximates a family situation;
- (c) Which is in reasonable proximity to the Indian child’s home; and
- (d) In which the Indian child’s special needs, if any, will be met.

(2) In any foster care or preadoptive placement, a preference shall be given, in absence of good cause to the contrary, to the child’s placement with one of the following:

- (a) A member of the child’s extended family;
- (b) A foster home licensed, approved, or specified by the child’s tribe;
- (c) An Indian foster home licensed or approved by an authorized non-Indian licensing authority;
- (d) A child foster care agency approved by an Indian tribe or operated by an Indian organization which has a program suitable to meet the Indian child’s needs;
- (e) A non-Indian child foster care agency approved by the child’s tribe;
- (f) A non-Indian family that is committed to:
  - (i) Promoting and allowing appropriate extended family visitation;
  - (ii) Establishing, maintaining, and strengthening the child’s relationship with his or her tribe or tribes; and
  - (iii) Participating in the cultural and ceremonial events of the child’s tribe.

(3) In the absence of good cause to the contrary, any adoptive or other permanent placement of an Indian child, preference shall be given to a placement with one of the following, in descending priority order:

- (a) Extended family members;
- (b) An Indian family of the same tribe as the child;
- (c) An Indian family that is of a similar culture to the child’s tribe;
- (d) Another Indian family; or
- (e) Any other family which can provide a suitable home for an Indian child, such suitability to be determined in consultation with the Indian child’s tribe or, in proceedings under chapter 13.34 RCW where the Indian child is in the custody

of the department or a supervising agency and the Indian child’s tribe has not intervened or participated, the local Indian child welfare advisory committee.

(4) Notwithstanding the placement preferences listed in subsections (2) and (3) of this section, if a different order of placement preference is established by the child’s tribe, the court or agency effecting the placement shall follow the order of preference established by the tribe so long as the placement is in the least restrictive setting appropriate to the particular needs of the child.

(5) Where appropriate, the preference of the Indian child or his or her parent shall be considered by the court. Where a consenting parent evidences a desire for anonymity, the court or agency shall give weight to such desire in applying the preferences.

(6) The standards to be applied in meeting the preference requirements of this section shall be the prevailing social and cultural standards of the Indian community in which the parent or extended family members of an Indian child reside, or with which the parent or extended family members maintain social and cultural ties.

(7) Nothing in this section shall prevent the department or the court from placing the child with a parent to effectuate a permanent plan regardless of the parent’s relationship to the child’s tribe. [2011 c 309 § 18.]

**13.38.190 Review of cases—Standards and procedures—Compliance.** (1) The department, in consultation with Indian tribes, shall establish standards and procedures for the department’s review of cases subject to this chapter and methods for monitoring the department’s compliance with provisions of the federal Indian child welfare act and this chapter. These standards and procedures and the monitoring methods shall also be integrated into the department’s child welfare contracting and contract monitoring process.

(2) Nothing in this chapter shall affect, impair, or limit rights or remedies provided to any party under the federal Indian child welfare act, 25 U.S.C. Sec. 1914. [2011 c 309 § 19.]

**Chapter 13.40 RCW  
JUVENILE JUSTICE ACT OF 1977**

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- Health and dental examination and care for juveniles in detention facility—Consent: RCW 13.04.047.*
- Juvenile may be both dependent and an offender: RCW 13.04.300.*
- Treatment of juvenile offenders: RCW 74.14A.030, 74.14A.040.*

**13.40.010 Short title—Intent—Purpose.** (1) This chapter shall be known and cited as the Juvenile Justice Act of 1977.

(2) It is the intent of the legislature that a system capable of having primary responsibility for, being accountable for, and responding to the needs of youthful offenders and their victims, as defined by this chapter, be established. It is the further intent of the legislature that youth, in turn, be held accountable for their offenses and that communities, families, and the juvenile courts carry out their functions consistent with this intent. To effectuate these policies, the legislature declares the following to be equally important purposes of this chapter:

- (a) Protect the citizenry from criminal behavior;

- (b) Provide for determining whether accused juveniles have committed offenses as defined by this chapter;
- (c) Make the juvenile offender accountable for his or her criminal behavior;
- (d) Provide for punishment commensurate with the age, crime, and criminal history of the juvenile offender;
- (e) Provide due process for juveniles alleged to have committed an offense;
- (f) Provide necessary treatment, supervision, and custody for juvenile offenders;
- (g) Provide for the handling of juvenile offenders by communities whenever consistent with public safety;
- (h) Provide for restitution to victims of crime;
- (i) Develop effective standards and goals for the operation, funding, and evaluation of all components of the juvenile justice system and related services at the state and local levels;
- (j) Provide for a clear policy to determine what types of offenders shall receive punishment, treatment, or both, and to determine the jurisdictional limitations of the courts, institutions, and community services;
- (k) Provide opportunities for victim participation in juvenile justice process, including court hearings on juvenile offender matters, and ensure that Article I, section 35 of the Washington state Constitution, the victim bill of rights, is fully observed; and
- (l) Encourage the parents, guardian, or custodian of the juvenile to actively participate in the juvenile justice process. [2004 c 120 § 1; 1997 c 338 § 8; 1992 c 205 § 101; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 55.]

**Effective date—2004 c 120:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2004 c 120 § 11.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.020 Definitions.** For the purposes of this chapter:

- (1) "Community-based rehabilitation" means one or more of the following: Employment; attendance of information classes; literacy classes; counseling, outpatient substance abuse treatment programs, outpatient mental health programs, anger management classes, education or outpatient treatment programs to prevent animal cruelty, or other services; or attendance at school or other educational programs appropriate for the juvenile as determined by the school district. Placement in community-based rehabilitation programs is subject to available funds;
- (2) "Community-based sanctions" may include one or more of the following:
  - (a) A fine, not to exceed five hundred dollars;
  - (b) Community restitution not to exceed one hundred fifty hours of community restitution;
- (3) "Community restitution" means compulsory service, without compensation, performed for the benefit of the community by the offender as punishment for committing an offense. Community restitution may be performed through public or private organizations or through work crews;
- (4) "Community supervision" means an order of disposition by the court of an adjudicated youth not committed to the department or an order granting a deferred disposition. A community supervision order for a single offense may be for

a period of up to two years for a sex offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030 and up to one year for other offenses. As a mandatory condition of any term of community supervision, the court shall order the juvenile to refrain from committing new offenses. As a mandatory condition of community supervision, the court shall order the juvenile to comply with the mandatory school attendance provisions of chapter 28A.225 RCW and to inform the school of the existence of this requirement. Community supervision is an individualized program comprised of one or more of the following:

- (a) Community-based sanctions;
- (b) Community-based rehabilitation;
- (c) Monitoring and reporting requirements;
- (d) Posting of a probation bond;
- (5) "Confinement" means physical custody by the department of social and health services in a facility operated by or pursuant to a contract with the state, or physical custody in a detention facility operated by or pursuant to a contract with any county. The county may operate or contract with vendors to operate county detention facilities. The department may operate or contract to operate detention facilities for juveniles committed to the department. Pretrial confinement or confinement of less than thirty-one days imposed as part of a disposition or modification order may be served consecutively or intermittently, in the discretion of the court;
- (6) "Court," when used without further qualification, means the juvenile court judge(s) or commissioner(s);
- (7) "Criminal history" includes all criminal complaints against the respondent for which, prior to the commission of a current offense:

(a) The allegations were found correct by a court. If a respondent is convicted of two or more charges arising out of the same course of conduct, only the highest charge from among these shall count as an offense for the purposes of this chapter; or

(b) The criminal complaint was diverted by a prosecutor pursuant to the provisions of this chapter on agreement of the respondent and after an advisement to the respondent that the criminal complaint would be considered as part of the respondent's criminal history. A successfully completed deferred adjudication that was entered before July 1, 1998, or a deferred disposition shall not be considered part of the respondent's criminal history;

(8) "Department" means the department of social and health services;

(9) "Detention facility" means a county facility, paid for by the county, for the physical confinement of a juvenile alleged to have committed an offense or an adjudicated offender subject to a disposition or modification order. "Detention facility" includes county group homes, inpatient substance abuse programs, juvenile basic training camps, and electronic monitoring;

(10) "Diversion unit" means any probation counselor who enters into a diversion agreement with an alleged youthful offender, or any other person, community accountability board, youth court under the supervision of the juvenile court, or other entity except a law enforcement official or entity, with whom the juvenile court administrator has contracted to arrange and supervise such agreements pursuant to RCW 13.40.080, or any person, community accountability board, or other entity specially funded by the legislature to

arrange and supervise diversion agreements in accordance with the requirements of this chapter. For purposes of this subsection, "community accountability board" means a board comprised of members of the local community in which the juvenile offender resides. The superior court shall appoint the members. The boards shall consist of at least three and not more than seven members. If possible, the board should include a variety of representatives from the community, such as a law enforcement officer, teacher or school administrator, high school student, parent, and business owner, and should represent the cultural diversity of the local community;

(11) "Foster care" means temporary physical care in a foster family home or group care facility as defined in RCW 74.15.020 and licensed by the department, or other legally authorized care;

(12) "Institution" means a juvenile facility established pursuant to chapters 72.05 and 72.16 through 72.20 RCW;

(13) "Intensive supervision program" means a parole program that requires intensive supervision and monitoring, offers an array of individualized treatment and transitional services, and emphasizes community involvement and support in order to reduce the likelihood a juvenile offender will commit further offenses;

(14) "Juvenile," "youth," and "child" mean any individual who is under the chronological age of eighteen years and who has not been previously transferred to adult court pursuant to RCW 13.40.110, unless the individual was convicted of a lesser charge or acquitted of the charge for which he or she was previously transferred pursuant to RCW 13.40.110 or who is not otherwise under adult court jurisdiction;

(15) "Juvenile offender" means any juvenile who has been found by the juvenile court to have committed an offense, including a person eighteen years of age or older over whom jurisdiction has been extended under RCW 13.40.300;

(16) "Labor" means the period of time before a birth during which contractions are of sufficient frequency, intensity, and duration to bring about effacement and progressive dilation of the cervix;

(17) "Local sanctions" means one or more of the following: (a) 0-30 days of confinement; (b) 0-12 months of community supervision; (c) 0-150 hours of community restitution; or (d) \$0-\$500 fine;

(18) "Manifest injustice" means a disposition that would either impose an excessive penalty on the juvenile or would impose a serious, and clear danger to society in light of the purposes of this chapter;

(19) "Monitoring and reporting requirements" means one or more of the following: Curfews; requirements to remain at home, school, work, or court-ordered treatment programs during specified hours; restrictions from leaving or entering specified geographical areas; requirements to report to the probation officer as directed and to remain under the probation officer's supervision; and other conditions or limitations as the court may require which may not include confinement;

(20) "Offense" means an act designated a violation or a crime if committed by an adult under the law of this state, under any ordinance of any city or county of this state, under

any federal law, or under the law of another state if the act occurred in that state;

(21) "Physical restraint" means the use of any bodily force or physical intervention to control a juvenile offender or limit a juvenile offender's freedom of movement in a way that does not involve a mechanical restraint. Physical restraint does not include momentary periods of minimal physical restriction by direct person-to-person contact, without the aid of mechanical restraint, accomplished with limited force and designed to:

(a) Prevent a juvenile offender from completing an act that would result in potential bodily harm to self or others or damage property;

(b) Remove a disruptive juvenile offender who is unwilling to leave the area voluntarily; or

(c) Guide a juvenile offender from one location to another;

(22) "Postpartum recovery" means (a) the entire period a woman or youth is in the hospital, birthing center, or clinic after giving birth and (b) an additional time period, if any, a treating physician determines is necessary for healing after the youth leaves the hospital, birthing center, or clinic;

(23) "Probation bond" means a bond, posted with sufficient security by a surety justified and approved by the court, to secure the offender's appearance at required court proceedings and compliance with court-ordered community supervision or conditions of release ordered pursuant to RCW 13.40.040 or 13.40.050. It also means a deposit of cash or posting of other collateral in lieu of a bond if approved by the court;

(24) "Respondent" means a juvenile who is alleged or proven to have committed an offense;

(25) "Restitution" means financial reimbursement by the offender to the victim, and shall be limited to easily ascertainable damages for injury to or loss of property, actual expenses incurred for medical treatment for physical injury to persons, lost wages resulting from physical injury, and costs of the victim's counseling reasonably related to the offense. Restitution shall not include reimbursement for damages for mental anguish, pain and suffering, or other intangible losses. Nothing in this chapter shall limit or replace civil remedies or defenses available to the victim or offender;

(26) "Restorative justice" means practices, policies, and programs informed by and sensitive to the needs of crime victims that are designed to encourage offenders to accept responsibility for repairing the harm caused by their offense by providing safe and supportive opportunities for voluntary participation and communication between the victim, the offender, their families, and relevant community members;

(27) "Restraints" means anything used to control the movement of a person's body or limbs and includes:

(a) Physical restraint; or

(b) Mechanical device including but not limited to: Metal handcuffs, plastic ties, ankle restraints, leather cuffs, other hospital-type restraints, tasers, or batons;

(28) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department of social and health services. "Assistant secretary" means the assistant secretary for juvenile rehabilitation for the department;

(29) "Services" means services which provide alternatives to incarceration for those juveniles who have pleaded or

been adjudicated guilty of an offense or have signed a diversion agreement pursuant to this chapter;

(30) "Sex offense" means an offense defined as a sex offense in RCW 9.94A.030;

(31) "Sexual motivation" means that one of the purposes for which the respondent committed the offense was for the purpose of his or her sexual gratification;

(32) "Surety" means an entity licensed under state insurance laws or by the state department of licensing, to write corporate, property, or probation bonds within the state, and justified and approved by the superior court of the county having jurisdiction of the case;

(33) "Transportation" means the conveying, by any means, of an incarcerated pregnant youth from the institution or detention facility to another location from the moment she leaves the institution or detention facility to the time of arrival at the other location, and includes the escorting of the pregnant incarcerated youth from the institution or detention facility to a transport vehicle and from the vehicle to the other location;

(34) "Violation" means an act or omission, which if committed by an adult, must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt, and is punishable by sanctions which do not include incarceration;

(35) "Violent offense" means a violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030;

(36) "Youth court" means a diversion unit under the supervision of the juvenile court. [2012 c 201 § 1; 2010 c 181 § 10; 2009 c 454 § 2; 2004 c 120 § 2. Prior: 2002 c 237 § 7; 2002 c 175 § 19; 1997 c 338 § 10; (1997 c 338 § 9 expired July 1, 1998); prior: 1995 c 395 § 2; 1995 c 134 § 1; prior: 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 520; 1994 c 271 § 803; 1994 c 261 § 18; 1993 c 373 § 1; 1990 1st ex.s. c 12 § 1; 1990 c 3 § 301; 1989 c 407 § 1; 1988 c 145 § 17; 1983 c 191 § 7; 1981 c 299 § 2; 1979 c 155 § 54; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 56.]

**Effective date—2004 c 120:** See note following RCW 13.40.010.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**Purpose—Severability—1994 c 271:** See notes following RCW 9A.28.020.

**Finding—Intent—1994 c 261:** See note following RCW 16.52.011.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.030 Security guidelines—Legislative review—Limitations on permissible ranges of confinement.** (1) The secretary shall submit guidelines pertaining to the nature of the security to be imposed on youth placed in his or her custody based on the age, offense(s), and criminal history of the juvenile offender. Such guidelines shall be submitted to the legislature for its review no later than November 1st of each year. The department shall include security status definitions in the security guidelines it submits to the legislature pursuant to this section.

(2) The permissible ranges of confinement resulting from a finding of manifest injustice under RCW 13.40.0357 are subject to the following limitations:

(a) Where the maximum term in the range is ninety days or less, the minimum term in the range may be no less than fifty percent of the maximum term in the range;

(b) Where the maximum term in the range is greater than ninety days but not greater than one year, the minimum term in the range may be no less than seventy-five percent of the maximum term in the range; and

(c) Where the maximum term in the range is more than one year, the minimum term in the range may be no less than eighty percent of the maximum term in the range. [2003 c 207 § 5; 1996 c 232 § 5; 1989 c 407 § 3; 1985 c 73 § 1; 1983 c 191 § 6; 1981 c 299 § 5; 1979 c 155 § 55; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 57.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.0351 Equal application of guidelines and standards.** The sentencing guidelines and prosecuting standards apply equally to juvenile offenders in all parts of the state, without discrimination as to any element that does not relate to the crime or the previous record of the offender. [1989 c 407 § 5.]

**13.40.0357 Juvenile offender sentencing standards.**

**DESCRIPTION AND OFFENSE CATEGORY**

JUVENILE DISPOSITION OFFENSE CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION (RCW CITATION)	JUVENILE DISPOSITION CATEGORY FOR ATTEMPT, BAILJUMP, CONSPIRACY, OR SOLICITATION
<b>Arson and Malicious Mischief</b>		
A	Arson 1 (9A.48.020)	B+
B	Arson 2 (9A.48.030)	C
C	Reckless Burning 1 (9A.48.040)	D
D	Reckless Burning 2 (9A.48.050)	E
B	Malicious Mischief 1 (9A.48.070)	C
C	Malicious Mischief 2 (9A.48.080)	D
D	Malicious Mischief 3 (9A.48.090)	E
E	Tampering with Fire Alarm Apparatus (9.40.100)	E
E	Tampering with Fire Alarm Apparatus with Intent to Commit Arson (9.40.105)	E
A	Possession of Incendiary Device (9.40.120)	B+
<b>Assault and Other Crimes Involving Physical Harm</b>		
A	Assault 1 (9A.36.011)	B+
B+	Assault 2 (9A.36.021)	C+
C+	Assault 3 (9A.36.031)	D+
D+	Assault 4 (9A.36.041)	E
B+	Drive-By Shooting (9A.36.045)	C+
D+	Reckless Endangerment (9A.36.050)	E
C+	Promoting Suicide Attempt (9A.36.060)	D+
D+	Coercion (9A.36.070)	E
C+	Custodial Assault (9A.36.100)	D+
<b>Burglary and Trespass</b>		
B+	Burglary 1 (9A.52.020)	C+
B	Residential Burglary (9A.52.025)	C
B	Burglary 2 (9A.52.030)	C
D	Burglary Tools (Possession of) (9A.52.060)	E

D	Criminal Trespass 1 (9A.52.070)	E	C+	Unlawful Imprisonment (9A.40.040)	D+
E	Criminal Trespass 2 (9A.52.080)	E		<b>Obstructing Governmental Operation</b>	
C	Mineral Trespass (78.44.330)	C	D	Obstructing a Law Enforcement Officer (9A.76.020)	E
C	Vehicle Prowling 1 (9A.52.095)	D	E	Resisting Arrest (9A.76.040)	E
D	Vehicle Prowling 2 (9A.52.100)	E	B	Introducing Contraband 1 (9A.76.140)	C
	<b>Drugs</b>		C	Introducing Contraband 2 (9A.76.150)	D
E	Possession/Consumption of Alcohol (66.44.270)	E	E	Introducing Contraband 3 (9A.76.160)	E
C	Illegally Obtaining Legend Drug (69.41.020)	D	B+	Intimidating a Public Servant (9A.76.180)	C+
C+	Sale, Delivery, Possession of Legend Drug with Intent to Sell (69.41.030(2)(a))	D+	B+	Intimidating a Witness (9A.72.110)	C+
E	Possession of Legend Drug (69.41.030(2)(b))	E		<b>Public Disturbance</b>	
B+	Violation of Uniform Controlled Substances Act - Narcotic, Methamphetamine, or Flunitrazepam Sale (69.50.401(2) (a) or (b))	B+	C+	Riot with Weapon (9A.84.010(2)(b))	D+
C	Violation of Uniform Controlled Substances Act - Nonnarcotic Sale (69.50.401(2)(c))	C	D+	Riot Without Weapon (9A.84.010(2)(a))	E
E	Possession of Marihuana <40 grams (69.50.4014)	E	E	Failure to Disperse (9A.84.020)	E
C	Fraudulently Obtaining Controlled Substance (69.50.403)	C	E	Disorderly Conduct (9A.84.030)	E
C+	Sale of Controlled Substance for Profit (69.50.410)	C+		<b>Sex Crimes</b>	
E	Unlawful Inhalation (9.47A.020)	E	A	Rape 1 (9A.44.040)	B+
B	Violation of Uniform Controlled Substances Act - Narcotic, Methamphetamine, or Flunitrazepam Counterfeit Substances (69.50.4011(2) (a) or (b))	B	A-	Rape 2 (9A.44.050)	B+
C	Violation of Uniform Controlled Substances Act - Nonnarcotic Counterfeit Substances (69.50.4011(2) (c), (d), or (e))	C	C+	Rape 3 (9A.44.060)	D+
C	Violation of Uniform Controlled Substances Act - Possession of a Controlled Substance (69.50.4013)	C	A-	Rape of a Child 1 (9A.44.073)	B+
C	Violation of Uniform Controlled Substances Act - Possession of a Controlled Substance (69.50.4012)	C	B+	Rape of a Child 2 (9A.44.076)	C+
	<b>Firearms and Weapons</b>		B	Incest 1 (9A.64.020(1))	C
B	Theft of Firearm (9A.56.300)	C	C	Incest 2 (9A.64.020(2))	D
B	Possession of Stolen Firearm (9A.56.310)	C	D+	Indecent Exposure (Victim <14) (9A.88.010)	E
E	Carrying Loaded Pistol Without Permit (9.41.050)	E	E	Indecent Exposure (Victim 14 or over) (9A.88.010)	E
C	Possession of Firearms by Minor (<18) (9.41.040(2)(a)(iii))	C	B+	Promoting Prostitution 1 (9A.88.070)	C+
D+	Possession of Dangerous Weapon (9.41.250)	E	C+	Promoting Prostitution 2 (9A.88.080)	D+
D	Intimidating Another Person by use of Weapon (9.41.270)	E	E	O & A (Prostitution) (9A.88.030)	E
	<b>Homicide</b>		B+	Indecent Liberties (9A.44.100)	C+
A+	Murder 1 (9A.32.030)	A	A-	Child Molestation 1 (9A.44.083)	B+
A+	Murder 2 (9A.32.050)	B+	B	Child Molestation 2 (9A.44.086)	C+
B+	Manslaughter 1 (9A.32.060)	C+	C	Failure to Register as a Sex Offender (9A.44.132)	D
C+	Manslaughter 2 (9A.32.070)	D+		<b>Theft, Robbery, Extortion, and Forgery</b>	
B+	Vehicular Homicide (46.61.520)	C+	B	Theft 1 (9A.56.030)	C
	<b>Kidnapping</b>		C	Theft 2 (9A.56.040)	D
A	Kidnap 1 (9A.40.020)	B+	D	Theft 3 (9A.56.050)	E
B+	Kidnap 2 (9A.40.030)	C+	B	Theft of Livestock 1 and 2 (9A.56.080 and 9A.56.083)	C
			C	Forgery (9A.60.020)	D
			A	Robbery 1 (9A.56.200)	B+
			B+	Robbery 2 (9A.56.210)	C+
			B+	Extortion 1 (9A.56.120)	C+
			C+	Extortion 2 (9A.56.130)	D+
			C	Identity Theft 1 (9.35.020(2))	D
			D	Identity Theft 2 (9.35.020(3))	E
			D	Improperly Obtaining Financial Information (9.35.010)	E
			B	Possession of a Stolen Vehicle (9A.56.068)	C
			B	Possession of Stolen Property 1 (9A.56.150)	C
			C	Possession of Stolen Property 2 (9A.56.160)	D
			D	Possession of Stolen Property 3 (9A.56.170)	E
			B	Taking Motor Vehicle Without Permission 1 (9A.56.070)	C
			C	Taking Motor Vehicle Without Permission 2 (9A.56.075)	D
			B	Theft of a Motor Vehicle (9A.56.065)	C



<b>Motor Vehicle Related Crimes</b>	
E	Driving Without a License (46.20.005)
B+	Hit and Run - Death (46.52.020(4)(a))
C	Hit and Run - Injury (46.52.020(4)(b))
D	Hit and Run-Attended (46.52.020(5))
E	Hit and Run-Unattended (46.52.010)
C	Vehicular Assault (46.61.522)
C	Attempting to Elude Pursuing Police Vehicle (46.61.024)
E	Reckless Driving (46.61.500)
D	Driving While Under the Influence (46.61.502 and 46.61.504)
B+	Felony Driving While Under the Influence (46.61.502(6))
B+	Felony Physical Control of a Vehicle While Under the Influence (46.61.504(6))
<b>Other</b>	
B	Animal Cruelty 1 (16.52.205)
B	Bomb Threat (9.61.160)
C	Escape 1 <sup>1</sup> (9A.76.110)
C	Escape 2 <sup>1</sup> (9A.76.120)
D	Escape 3 (9A.76.130)
E	Obscene, Harassing, Etc., Phone Calls (9.61.230)
A	Other Offense Equivalent to an Adult Class A Felony
B	Other Offense Equivalent to an Adult Class B Felony

C	Other Offense Equivalent to an Adult Class C Felony
D	Other Offense Equivalent to an Adult Gross Misdemeanor
E	Other Offense Equivalent to an Adult Misdemeanor
V	Violation of Order of Restitution, Community Supervision, or Confinement (13.40.200) <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Escape 1 and 2 and Attempted Escape 1 and 2 are classed as C offenses and the standard range is established as follows:

- 1st escape or attempted escape during 12-month period - 4 weeks confinement
- 2nd escape or attempted escape during 12-month period - 8 weeks confinement
- 3rd and subsequent escape or attempted escape during 12-month period - 12 weeks confinement

<sup>2</sup>If the court finds that a respondent has violated terms of an order, it may impose a penalty of up to 30 days of confinement.

**JUVENILE SENTENCING STANDARDS**

This schedule must be used for juvenile offenders. The court may select sentencing option A, B, C, D, or RCW 13.40.167.

OPTION A  
JUVENILE OFFENDER SENTENCING GRID  
STANDARD RANGE

	A+	180 weeks to age 21 for all category A+ offenses				
	A	103-129 weeks for all category A offenses				
	A-	15-36 weeks Except 30-40 weeks for 15 to 17 year olds	52-65 weeks	80-100 weeks	103-129 weeks	103-129 weeks
CURRENT OFFENSE CATEGORY	B+	15-36 weeks	15-36 weeks	52-65 weeks	80-100 weeks	103-129 weeks
	B	LS	LS	15-36 weeks	15-36 weeks	52-65 weeks
	C+	LS	LS	LS	15-36 weeks	15-36 weeks
	C	LS	LS	LS	LS	15-36 weeks
	D+	LS	LS	LS	LS	LS
	D	LS	LS	LS	LS	LS
	E	LS	LS	LS	LS	LS
PRIOR ADJUDICATIONS		0	1	2	3	4 or more

NOTE: References in the grid to days or weeks mean periods of confinement. "LS" means "local sanctions" as defined in RCW 13.40.020.

(1) The vertical axis of the grid is the current offense category. The current offense category is determined by the offense of adjudication.

(2) The horizontal axis of the grid is the number of prior adjudications included in the juvenile's criminal history. Each prior felony adjudication shall count as one point. Each prior violation, misdemeanor, and gross misdemeanor adjudication shall count as 1/4 point. Fractional points shall be rounded down.

(3) The standard range disposition for each offense is determined by the intersection of the column defined by the

prior adjudications and the row defined by the current offense category.

(4) RCW 13.40.180 applies if the offender is being sentenced for more than one offense.

(5) A current offense that is a violation is equivalent to an offense category of E. However, a disposition for a violation shall not include confinement.

**OR**

**OPTION B  
SUSPENDED DISPOSITION ALTERNATIVE**

(1) If the offender is subject to a standard range disposition involving confinement by the department, the court may impose the standard range and suspend the disposition on condition that the offender comply with one or more local sanctions and any educational or treatment requirement. The treatment programs provided to the offender must be either research-based best practice programs as identified by the Washington state institute for public policy or the joint legislative audit and review committee, or for chemical dependency treatment programs or services, they must be evidence-based or research-based best practice programs. For the purposes of this subsection:

(a) "Evidence-based" means a program or practice that has had multiple site random controlled trials across heterogeneous populations demonstrating that the program or practice is effective for the population; and

(b) "Research-based" means a program or practice that has some research demonstrating effectiveness, but that does not yet meet the standard of evidence-based practices.

(2) If the offender fails to comply with the suspended disposition, the court may impose sanctions pursuant to RCW 13.40.200 or may revoke the suspended disposition and order the disposition's execution.

(3) An offender is ineligible for the suspended disposition option under this section if the offender is:

(a) Adjudicated of an A+ offense;

(b) Fourteen years of age or older and is adjudicated of one or more of the following offenses:

(i) A class A offense, or an attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit a class A offense;

(ii) Manslaughter in the first degree (RCW 9A.32.060); or

(iii) Assault in the second degree (RCW 9A.36.021), extortion in the first degree (RCW 9A.56.120), kidnapping in the second degree (RCW 9A.40.030), robbery in the second degree (RCW 9A.56.210), residential burglary (RCW 9A.52.025), burglary in the second degree (RCW 9A.52.030), drive-by shooting (RCW 9A.36.045), vehicular homicide (RCW 46.61.520), hit and run death (RCW 46.52.020(4)(a)), intimidating a witness (RCW 9A.72.110), violation of the uniform controlled substances act (RCW 69.50.401 (2)(a) and (b)), or manslaughter 2 (RCW 9A.32.070), when the offense includes infliction of bodily harm upon another or when during the commission or immediate withdrawal from the offense the respondent was armed with a deadly weapon;

(c) Ordered to serve a disposition for a firearm violation under RCW 13.40.193; or

(d) Adjudicated of a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030.

**OR**

**OPTION C  
CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY DISPOSITION ALTERNATIVE**

If the juvenile offender is subject to a standard range disposition of local sanctions or 15 to 36 weeks of confinement and has not committed an A- or B+ offense, the court may impose a disposition under RCW 13.40.160(4) and 13.40.165.

**OR**

**OPTION D  
MANIFEST INJUSTICE**

If the court determines that a disposition under option A, B, or C would effectuate a manifest injustice, the court shall impose a disposition outside the standard range under RCW 13.40.160(2). [2012 c 177 § 4. Prior: 2008 c 230 § 3; 2008 c 158 § 1; 2007 c 199 § 11; 2006 c 73 § 14; 2004 c 117 § 1; prior: 2003 c 378 § 2; 2003 c 335 § 6; 2003 c 53 § 97; prior: 2002 c 324 § 3; 2002 c 175 § 20; 2001 c 217 § 13; 2000 c 66 § 3; 1998 c 290 § 5; prior: 1997 c 338 § 12; (1997 c 338 § 11 expired July 1, 1998); 1997 c 66 § 6; 1996 c 205 § 6; 1995 c 395 § 3; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 522; 1989 c 407 § 7.]

**Delayed effective date—2008 c 230 §§ 1-3:** See note following RCW 9A.44.130.

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Effective date—2004 c 117:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2004 c 117 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Study and report—2002 c 324:** See note following RCW 9A.56.070.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** "The legislature finds it critical to evaluate the effectiveness of the revisions made in this act to juvenile sentencing for purposes of measuring improvements in public safety and reduction of recidivism.

To accomplish this evaluation, the Washington state institute for public policy shall conduct a study of the sentencing revisions. The study shall: (1) Be conducted starting January 1, 2001; (2) examine whether the revisions have affected the rate of initial offense commission and recidivism; (3) determine the impacts of the revisions by age, race, and gender impacts of the revisions; (4) compare the utilization and effectiveness of sentencing alternatives and manifest injustice determinations before and after the revisions; and (5) examine the impact and effectiveness of changes made in the exclusive original jurisdiction of juvenile court over juvenile offenders.

The institute shall report the results of the study to the governor and legislature not later than July 1, 2002." [1997 c 338 § 59.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.038 County juvenile detention facilities—Policy—Detention and risk assessment standards.** (1) It is the policy of this state that all county juvenile detention facilities provide a humane, safe, and rehabilitative environment and that unadjudicated youth remain in the community whenever possible, consistent with public safety and the provisions of chapter 13.40 RCW.

(2) The counties shall develop and implement detention intake standards and risk assessment standards to determine whether detention is warranted, whether the juvenile is developmentally disabled, and if detention is warranted, whether the juvenile should be placed in secure, nonsecure, or home detention to implement the goals of this section.

(3) Inability to pay for a less restrictive detention placement shall not be a basis for denying a respondent a less restrictive placement in the community.

(4) The assessment standards to determine whether a juvenile entering detention is developmentally disabled must be developed and implemented no later than December 31, 2012. [2012 c 120 § 1; 1992 c 205 § 105; 1986 c 288 § 7.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.040 Taking juvenile into custody, grounds—Detention of, grounds—Detention pending disposition—Release on bond, conditions—Bail jumping.** (1) A juvenile may be taken into custody:

(a) Pursuant to a court order if a complaint is filed with the court alleging, and the court finds probable cause to believe, that the juvenile has committed an offense or has violated terms of a disposition order or release order; or

(b) Without a court order, by a law enforcement officer if grounds exist for the arrest of an adult in identical circumstances. Admission to, and continued custody in, a court detention facility shall be governed by subsection (2) of this section; or

(c) Pursuant to a court order that the juvenile be held as a material witness; or

(d) Where the secretary or the secretary's designee has suspended the parole of a juvenile offender.

(2) A juvenile may not be held in detention unless there is probable cause to believe that:

(a) The juvenile has committed an offense or has violated the terms of a disposition order; and

(i) The juvenile will likely fail to appear for further proceedings; or

(ii) Detention is required to protect the juvenile from himself or herself; or

(iii) The juvenile is a threat to community safety; or

(iv) The juvenile will intimidate witnesses or otherwise unlawfully interfere with the administration of justice; or

(v) The juvenile has committed a crime while another case was pending; or

(b) The juvenile is a fugitive from justice; or

(c) The juvenile's parole has been suspended or modified; or

(d) The juvenile is a material witness.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, and within available funds, a juvenile who has been found guilty of one of the following offenses shall be detained pending disposition: Rape in the first or second degree (RCW 9A.44.040 and 9A.44.050); or rape of a child in the first degree (RCW 9A.44.073).

(4) Upon a finding that members of the community have threatened the health of a juvenile taken into custody, at the juvenile's request the court may order continued detention pending further order of the court.

(5) Except as provided in RCW 9A.1.280, a juvenile detained under this section may be released upon posting a

probation bond set by the court. The juvenile's parent or guardian may sign for the probation bond. A court authorizing such a release shall issue an order containing a statement of conditions imposed upon the juvenile and shall set the date of his or her next court appearance. The court shall advise the juvenile of any conditions specified in the order and may at any time amend such an order in order to impose additional or different conditions of release upon the juvenile or to return the juvenile to custody for failing to conform to the conditions imposed. In addition to requiring the juvenile to appear at the next court date, the court may condition the probation bond on the juvenile's compliance with conditions of release. The juvenile's parent or guardian may notify the court that the juvenile has failed to conform to the conditions of release or the provisions in the probation bond. If the parent notifies the court of the juvenile's failure to comply with the probation bond, the court shall notify the surety. As provided in the terms of the bond, the surety shall provide notice to the court of the offender's noncompliance. A juvenile may be released only to a responsible adult or the department of social and health services. Failure to appear on the date scheduled by the court pursuant to this section shall constitute the crime of bail jumping. [2002 c 171 § 2; 1999 c 167 § 2; 1997 c 338 § 13; 1995 c 395 § 4; 1979 c 155 § 57; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 58.]

**Effective date—2002 c 171:** See note following RCW 72.01.410.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.045 Escapees—Arrest warrants.** The secretary, assistant secretary, or the secretary's designee shall issue arrest warrants for juveniles who escape from department residential custody. The secretary, assistant secretary, or the secretary's designee may issue arrest warrants for juveniles who abscond from parole supervision or fail to meet conditions of parole. These arrest warrants shall authorize any law enforcement, probation and parole, or peace officer of this state, or any other state where the juvenile is located, to arrest the juvenile and to place the juvenile in physical custody pending the juvenile's return to confinement in a state juvenile rehabilitation facility. [1997 c 338 § 14; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 518.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.050 Detention procedures—Notice of hearing—Conditions of release—Consultation with parent, guardian, or custodian.** (1) When a juvenile taken into custody is held in detention:

(a) An information, a community supervision modification or termination of diversion petition, or a parole modification petition shall be filed within seventy-two hours, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays excluded, or the juvenile shall be released; and

(b) A detention hearing, a community supervision modification or termination of diversion petition, or a parole modification petition shall be held within seventy-two hours, Sat-

urdays, Sundays, and holidays excluded, from the time of filing the information or petition, to determine whether continued detention is necessary under RCW 13.40.040.

(2) Notice of the detention hearing, stating the time, place, and purpose of the hearing, stating the right to counsel, and requiring attendance shall be given to the parent, guardian, or custodian if such person can be found and shall also be given to the juvenile if over twelve years of age.

(3) At the commencement of the detention hearing, the court shall advise the parties of their rights under this chapter and shall appoint counsel as specified in this chapter.

(4) The court shall, based upon the allegations in the information, determine whether the case is properly before it or whether the case should be treated as a diversion case under RCW 13.40.080. If the case is not properly before the court the juvenile shall be ordered released.

(5) Notwithstanding a determination that the case is properly before the court and that probable cause exists, a juvenile shall at the detention hearing be ordered released on the juvenile's personal recognizance pending further hearing unless the court finds detention is necessary under RCW 13.40.040.

(6) If detention is not necessary under RCW 13.40.040, the court shall impose the most appropriate of the following conditions or, if necessary, any combination of the following conditions:

(a) Place the juvenile in the custody of a designated person agreeing to supervise such juvenile;

(b) Place restrictions on the travel of the juvenile during the period of release;

(c) Require the juvenile to report regularly to and remain under the supervision of the juvenile court;

(d) Impose any condition other than detention deemed reasonably necessary to assure appearance as required;

(e) Require that the juvenile return to detention during specified hours; or

(f) Require the juvenile to post a probation bond set by the court under terms and conditions as provided in \*RCW 13.40.040(4).

(7) A juvenile may be released only to a responsible adult or the department.

(8) If the parent, guardian, or custodian of the juvenile in detention is available, the court shall consult with them prior to a determination to further detain or release the juvenile or treat the case as a diversion case under RCW 13.40.080.

(9) A person notified under this section who fails without reasonable cause to appear and abide by the order of the court may be proceeded against as for contempt of court. In determining whether a parent, guardian, or custodian had reasonable cause not to appear, the court may consider all factors relevant to the person's ability to appear as summoned. [1997 c 338 § 15; 1995 c 395 § 5; 1992 c 205 § 106; 1979 c 155 § 58; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 59.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 13.40.040 was amended by 2002 c 171 § 2, changing subsection (4) to subsection (5).

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.054 Probation bond or collateral—Modification or revocation of probation bond.** (1) As provided in

this chapter, the court may order a juvenile to post a probation bond as defined in RCW 13.40.020 or to deposit cash or post other collateral in lieu of a probation bond, to enhance public safety, increase the likelihood that a respondent will appear as required to respond to charges, and increase compliance with community supervision imposed under various alternative disposition options. The parents or guardians of the juvenile may sign for a probation bond on behalf of the juvenile or deposit cash or other collateral in lieu of a bond if approved by the court.

(2) A parent or guardian who has signed for a probation bond, deposited cash, or posted other collateral on behalf of a juvenile has the right to notify the court if the juvenile violates any of the terms and conditions of the bond. The parent or guardian who signed for a probation bond may move the court to modify the terms of the bond or revoke the bond without penalty to the surety or parent. The court shall notify the surety if a parent or guardian notifies the court that the juvenile has violated conditions of the probation bond and has requested modification or revocation of the bond. At a hearing on the motion, the court may consider the nature and seriousness of the violation or violations and may either keep the bond in effect, modify the terms of the bond with the consent of the parent or guardian and surety, or revoke the bond. If the court revokes the bond the court may require full payment of the face amount of the bond. In the alternative, the court may revoke the bond and impose a partial payment for less than the full amount of the bond or may revoke the bond without imposing any penalty. In reaching its decision, the court may consider the timeliness of the parent's or guardian's notification to the court and the efforts of the parent and surety to monitor the offender's compliance with conditions of the bond and release. A surety shall have the same obligations and rights as provided sureties in adult criminal cases. Rules of forfeiture and revocation of bonds issued in adult criminal cases shall apply to forfeiture and revocation of probation bonds issued under this chapter except as specifically provided in this subsection. [1995 c 395 § 1.]

**13.40.056 Nonrefundable bail fee.** When a juvenile charged with an offense posts a probation bond or deposits cash or posts other collateral in lieu of a bond, ten dollars of the total amount required to be posted as bail shall be paid in cash as a nonrefundable bail fee. The bail fee shall be distributed to the county for costs associated with implementing chapter 395, Laws of 1995. [1995 c 395 § 9.]

**13.40.060 Jurisdiction of actions—Transfer of case and records, when—Change in venue, grounds.** (1) All actions under this chapter shall be commenced and tried in the county where any element of the offense was committed except as otherwise specially provided by statute. In cases in which diversion is provided by statute, venue is in the county in which the juvenile resides or in the county in which any element of the offense was committed.

(2)(a) The court upon motion of any party or upon its own motion may, at any time, transfer a proceeding to another juvenile court when there is reason to believe that an impartial proceeding cannot be held in the county in which the proceeding was begun; and

(b) A court may transfer a proceeding to another juvenile court following disposition for the purposes of supervision and enforcement of the disposition order.

(3) If the court orders a transfer of the proceeding pursuant to subsection (2)(b) of this section:

(a) The case and copies of only those legal and social documents pertaining thereto shall be transferred to the county in which the juvenile resides, without regard to whether or not his or her custodial parent resides there, for supervision and enforcement of the disposition order.

(b) If any restitution is yet to be determined, the originating court shall transfer the case to the new county with the exception of the restitution. Venue over restitution shall be retained by the originating court for purposes of establishing a restitution order. Once restitution is determined, the originating county shall then transfer venue over modification and enforcement of the restitution to the new county.

(c) The court of the receiving county may modify and enforce the disposition order, including restitution.

(d) The clerk of the originating county shall maintain the account receivable in the judicial information system and all payments shall be made to the clerk of the originating county.

(e) Any collection of the offender legal financial obligation shall be managed by the juvenile probation department of the new county while the offender is under juvenile probation supervision, or by the clerk of the original county at the conclusion of supervision by juvenile probation. The probation department of the new county shall notify the clerk of the originating county when they end supervision of the offender.

(f) In cases where a civil judgment has already been established, venue may not be transferred to another county. [2005 c 165 § 1; 1997 c 338 § 16; 1989 c 71 § 1; 1981 c 299 § 6; 1979 c 155 § 59; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 60.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.070 Complaints—Screening—Filing information—Diversion—Modification of community supervision—Notice to parent or guardian—Probation counselor acting for prosecutor—Referral to mediation or reconciliation programs.**

(1) Complaints referred to the juvenile court alleging the commission of an offense shall be referred directly to the prosecutor. The prosecutor, upon receipt of a complaint, shall screen the complaint to determine whether:

(a) The alleged facts bring the case within the jurisdiction of the court; and

(b) On a basis of available evidence there is probable cause to believe that the juvenile did commit the offense.

(2) If the identical alleged acts constitute an offense under both the law of this state and an ordinance of any city or county of this state, state law shall govern the prosecutor's screening and charging decision for both filed and diverted cases.

(3) If the requirements of subsections (1)(a) and (b) of this section are met, the prosecutor shall either file an information in juvenile court or divert the case, as set forth in subsections (5), (6), and (8) of this section. If the prosecutor finds that the requirements of subsection (1)(a) and (b) of this section are not met, the prosecutor shall maintain a record, for one year, of such decision and the reasons therefor. In lieu of

filing an information or diverting an offense a prosecutor may file a motion to modify community supervision where such offense constitutes a violation of community supervision.

(4) An information shall be a plain, concise, and definite written statement of the essential facts constituting the offense charged. It shall be signed by the prosecuting attorney and conform to chapter 10.37 RCW.

(5) Except as provided in RCW 13.40.213 and subsection (7) of this section, where a case is legally sufficient, the prosecutor shall file an information with the juvenile court if:

(a) An alleged offender is accused of a class A felony, a class B felony, an attempt to commit a class B felony, a class C felony listed in RCW 9.94A.411(2) as a crime against persons or listed in RCW 9A.46.060 as a crime of harassment, or a class C felony that is a violation of RCW 9.41.080 or 9.41.040(2)(a)(iii); or

(b) An alleged offender is accused of a felony and has a criminal history of any felony, or at least two gross misdemeanors, or at least two misdemeanors; or

(c) An alleged offender has previously been committed to the department; or

(d) An alleged offender has been referred by a diversion unit for prosecution or desires prosecution instead of diversion; or

(e) An alleged offender has two or more diversion agreements on the alleged offender's criminal history; or

(f) A special allegation has been filed that the offender or an accomplice was armed with a firearm when the offense was committed.

(6) Where a case is legally sufficient the prosecutor shall divert the case if the alleged offense is a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor or violation and the alleged offense is the offender's first offense or violation. If the alleged offender is charged with a related offense that must or may be filed under subsections (5) and (8) of this section, a case under this subsection may also be filed.

(7) Where a case is legally sufficient to charge an alleged offender with either prostitution or prostitution loitering and the alleged offense is the offender's first prostitution or prostitution loitering offense, the prosecutor shall divert the case.

(8) Where a case is legally sufficient and falls into neither subsection (5) nor (6) of this section, it may be filed or diverted. In deciding whether to file or divert an offense under this section the prosecutor shall be guided only by the length, seriousness, and recency of the alleged offender's criminal history and the circumstances surrounding the commission of the alleged offense.

(9) Whenever a juvenile is placed in custody or, where not placed in custody, referred to a diversion interview, the parent or legal guardian of the juvenile shall be notified as soon as possible concerning the allegation made against the juvenile and the current status of the juvenile. Where a case involves victims of crimes against persons or victims whose property has not been recovered at the time a juvenile is referred to a diversion unit, the victim shall be notified of the referral and informed how to contact the unit.

(10) The responsibilities of the prosecutor under subsections (1) through (9) of this section may be performed by a juvenile court probation counselor for any complaint referred to the court alleging the commission of an offense which

would not be a felony if committed by an adult, if the prosecutor has given sufficient written notice to the juvenile court that the prosecutor will not review such complaints.

(11) The prosecutor, juvenile court probation counselor, or diversion unit may, in exercising their authority under this section or RCW 13.40.080, refer juveniles to mediation or victim offender reconciliation programs. Such mediation or victim offender reconciliation programs shall be voluntary for victims. [2010 c 289 § 7; 2009 c 252 § 3; 2003 c 53 § 98; 2001 c 175 § 2; 1997 c 338 § 17; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 543; 1992 c 205 § 107; 1989 c 407 § 9; 1983 c 191 § 18; 1981 c 299 § 7; 1979 c 155 § 60; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 61.]

**Findings—2009 c 252:** See note following RCW 13.40.213.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### 13.40.077 Recommended prosecuting standards for charging and plea dispositions.

#### RECOMMENDED PROSECUTING STANDARDS FOR CHARGING AND PLEA DISPOSITIONS

**INTRODUCTION:** These standards are intended solely for the guidance of prosecutors in the state of Washington. They are not intended to, do not, and may not be relied upon to create a right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by a party in litigation with the state.

Evidentiary sufficiency.

(1) Decision not to prosecute.

**STANDARD:** A prosecuting attorney may decline to prosecute, even though technically sufficient evidence to prosecute exists, in situations where prosecution would serve no public purpose, would defeat the underlying purpose of the law in question, or would result in decreased respect for the law. The decision not to prosecute or divert shall not be influenced by the race, gender, religion, or creed of the suspect.

#### GUIDELINES/COMMENTARY:

##### Examples

The following are examples of reasons not to prosecute which could satisfy the standard.

(a) **Contrary to Legislative Intent** - It may be proper to decline to charge where the application of criminal sanctions would be clearly contrary to the intent of the legislature in enacting the particular statute.

(b) **Antiquated Statute** - It may be proper to decline to charge where the statute in question is antiquated in that:

(i) It has not been enforced for many years;

(ii) Most members of society act as if it were no longer in existence;

(iii) It serves no deterrent or protective purpose in today's society; and

(iv) The statute has not been recently reconsidered by the legislature.

This reason is not to be construed as the basis for declining cases because the law in question is unpopular or because it is difficult to enforce.

(c) **De Minimis Violation** - It may be proper to decline to charge where the violation of law is only technical or insubstantial and where no public interest or deterrent purpose would be served by prosecution.

(d) **Confinement on Other Charges** - It may be proper to decline to charge because the accused has been sentenced on another charge to a lengthy period of confinement; and

(i) Conviction of the new offense would not merit any additional direct or collateral punishment;

(ii) The new offense is either a misdemeanor or a felony which is not particularly aggravated; and

(iii) Conviction of the new offense would not serve any significant deterrent purpose.

(e) **Pending Conviction on Another Charge** - It may be proper to decline to charge because the accused is facing a pending prosecution in the same or another county; and

(i) Conviction of the new offense would not merit any additional direct or collateral punishment;

(ii) Conviction in the pending prosecution is imminent;

(iii) The new offense is either a misdemeanor or a felony which is not particularly aggravated; and

(iv) Conviction of the new offense would not serve any significant deterrent purpose.

(f) **High Disproportionate Cost of Prosecution** - It may be proper to decline to charge where the cost of locating or transporting, or the burden on, prosecution witnesses is highly disproportionate to the importance of prosecuting the offense in question. The reason should be limited to minor cases and should not be relied upon in serious cases.

(g) **Improper Motives of Complainant** - It may be proper to decline charges because the motives of the complainant are improper and prosecution would serve no public purpose, would defeat the underlying purpose of the law in question, or would result in decreased respect for the law.

(h) **Immunity** - It may be proper to decline to charge where immunity is to be given to an accused in order to prosecute another where the accused information or testimony will reasonably lead to the conviction of others who are responsible for more serious criminal conduct or who represent a greater danger to the public interest.

(i) **Victim Request** - It may be proper to decline to charge because the victim requests that no criminal charges be filed and the case involves the following crimes or situations:

(i) Assault cases where the victim has suffered little or no injury;

(ii) Crimes against property, not involving violence, where no major loss was suffered;

(iii) Where doing so would not jeopardize the safety of society.

Care should be taken to insure that the victim's request is freely made and is not the product of threats or pressure by the accused.

The presence of these factors may also justify the decision to dismiss a prosecution which has been commenced.

#### Notification

The prosecutor is encouraged to notify the victim, when practical, and the law enforcement personnel, of the decision not to prosecute.

(2) Decision to prosecute.

#### STANDARD:

Crimes against persons will be filed if sufficient admissible evidence exists, which, when considered with the most plausible, reasonably foreseeable defense that could be raised under the evidence, would justify conviction by a reasonable and objective fact finder. With regard to offenses prohibited by RCW 9A.44.040, 9A.44.050, 9A.44.073, 9A.44.076, 9A.44.079, 9A.44.083, 9A.44.086, 9A.44.089, and 9A.64.020 the prosecutor should avoid prefilng agreements or diversions intended to place the accused in a program of treatment or counseling, so that treatment, if determined to be beneficial, can be proved under \*RCW 13.40.160(4).

Crimes against property/other crimes will be filed if the admissible evidence is of such convincing force as to make it probable that a reasonable and objective fact finder would convict after hearing all the admissible evidence and the most plausible defense that could be raised.

The categorization of crimes for these charging standards shall be the same as found in RCW 9.94A.411(2).

The decision to prosecute or use diversion shall not be influenced by the race, gender, religion, or creed of the respondent.

(3) Selection of Charges/Degree of Charge

(a) The prosecutor should file charges which adequately describe the nature of the respondent's conduct. Other offenses may be charged only if they are necessary to ensure that the charges:

- (i) Will significantly enhance the strength of the state's case at trial; or
  - (ii) Will result in restitution to all victims.
- (b) The prosecutor should not overcharge to obtain a guilty plea. Overcharging includes:
- (i) Charging a higher degree;
  - (ii) Charging additional counts.

This standard is intended to direct prosecutors to charge those crimes which demonstrate the nature and seriousness of a respondent's criminal conduct, but to decline to charge crimes which are not necessary to such an indication. Crimes which do not merge as a matter of law, but which arise from the same course of conduct, do not all have to be charged.

(4) Police Investigation

A prosecuting attorney is dependent upon law enforcement agencies to conduct the necessary factual investigation which must precede the decision to prosecute. The prosecuting attorney shall ensure that a thorough factual investigation has been conducted before a decision to prosecute is made. In ordinary circumstances the investigation should include the following:

- (a) The interviewing of all material witnesses, together with the obtaining of written statements whenever possible;
- (b) The completion of necessary laboratory tests; and
- (c) The obtaining, in accordance with constitutional requirements, of the suspect's version of the events.

If the initial investigation is incomplete, a prosecuting attorney should insist upon further investigation before a decision to prosecute is made, and specify what the investigation needs to include.

(5) Exceptions

In certain situations, a prosecuting attorney may authorize filing of a criminal complaint before the investigation is complete if:

- (a) Probable cause exists to believe the suspect is guilty; and
- (b) The suspect presents a danger to the community or is likely to flee if not apprehended; or
- (c) The arrest of the suspect is necessary to complete the investigation of the crime.

In the event that the exception to the standard is applied, the prosecuting attorney shall obtain a commitment from the law enforcement agency involved to complete the investigation in a timely manner. If the subsequent investigation does not produce sufficient evidence to meet the normal charging standard, the complaint should be dismissed.

(6) Investigation Techniques

The prosecutor should be fully advised of the investigatory techniques that were used in the case investigation including:

- (a) Polygraph testing;
  - (b) Hypnosis;
  - (c) Electronic surveillance;
  - (d) Use of informants.
- (7) Prefiling Discussions with Defendant

Discussions with the defendant or his or her representative regarding the selection or disposition of charges may occur prior to the filing of charges, and potential agreements can be reached.

(8) Plea dispositions:  
STANDARD

(a) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a respondent will normally be expected to plead guilty to the charge or charges which adequately describe the nature of his or her criminal conduct or go to trial.

(b) In certain circumstances, a plea agreement with a respondent in exchange for a plea of guilty to a charge or charges that may not fully describe the nature of his or her criminal conduct may be necessary and in the public interest. Such situations may include the following:

- (i) Evidentiary problems which make conviction of the original charges doubtful;
- (ii) The respondent's willingness to cooperate in the investigation or prosecution of others whose criminal conduct is more serious or represents a greater public threat;
- (iii) A request by the victim when it is not the result of pressure from the respondent;
- (iv) The discovery of facts which mitigate the seriousness of the respondent's conduct;
- (v) The correction of errors in the initial charging decision;
- (vi) The respondent's history with respect to criminal activity;
- (vii) The nature and seriousness of the offense or offenses charged;
- (viii) The probable effect of witnesses.

(c) No plea agreement shall be influenced by the race, gender, religion, or creed of the respondent. This includes but is not limited to the prosecutor's decision to utilize such disposition alternatives as the Special Sex Offender Disposition Alternative, the Chemical Dependency Disposition Alternative, and manifest injustice.

(9) Disposition recommendations:  
STANDARD

The prosecutor may reach an agreement regarding disposition recommendations.

The prosecutor shall not agree to withhold relevant information from the court concerning the plea agreement. [1997 c 338 § 18; 1996 c 9 § 1.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 13.40.160 was amended by 1999 c 91 § 2, changing subsection (4) to subsection (3). RCW 13.40.160 was subsequently amended by 2011 c 338 § 2, deleting subsection (3).

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.080 Diversion agreement—Scope—Limitations—Restitution orders—Divertee's rights—Diversion unit's powers and duties—Interpreters—Modification—Fines.** (1) A diversion agreement shall be a contract between a juvenile accused of an offense and a diversion unit whereby the juvenile agrees to fulfill certain conditions in lieu of prosecution. Such agreements may be entered into only after the prosecutor, or probation counselor pursuant to this chapter, has determined that probable cause exists to believe that a crime has been committed and that the juvenile committed it. Such agreements shall be entered into as expeditiously as possible.

(2) A diversion agreement shall be limited to one or more of the following:

(a) Community restitution not to exceed one hundred fifty hours, not to be performed during school hours if the juvenile is attending school;

(b) Restitution limited to the amount of actual loss incurred by any victim;

(c) Attendance at up to ten hours of counseling and/or up to twenty hours of educational or informational sessions at a community agency. The educational or informational sessions may include sessions relating to respect for self, others, and authority; victim awareness; accountability; self-worth; responsibility; work ethics; good citizenship; literacy; and life skills. For purposes of this section, "community agency" may also mean a community-based nonprofit organization, if approved by the diversion unit. The state shall not be liable for costs resulting from the diversion unit exercising the option to permit diversion agreements to mandate attendance at up to ten hours of counseling and/or up to twenty hours of educational or informational sessions;

(d) A fine, not to exceed one hundred dollars;

(e) Requirements to remain during specified hours at home, school, or work, and restrictions on leaving or entering specified geographical areas; and

(f) Upon request of any victim or witness, requirements to refrain from any contact with victims or witnesses of offenses committed by the juvenile.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (2) of this section, youth courts are not limited to the conditions imposed by subsection (2) of this section in imposing sanctions on juveniles pursuant to RCW 13.40.630.

(4) In assessing periods of community restitution to be performed and restitution to be paid by a juvenile who has entered into a diversion agreement, the court officer to whom this task is assigned shall consult with the juvenile's custodial parent or parents or guardian. To the extent possible, the court officer shall advise the victims of the juvenile offender

of the diversion process, offer victim impact letter forms and restitution claim forms, and involve members of the community. Such members of the community shall meet with the juvenile and advise the court officer as to the terms of the diversion agreement and shall supervise the juvenile in carrying out its terms.

(5)(a) A diversion agreement may not exceed a period of six months and may include a period extending beyond the eighteenth birthday of the divertee.

(b) If additional time is necessary for the juvenile to complete restitution to a victim, the time period limitations of this subsection may be extended by an additional six months.

(c) If the juvenile has not paid the full amount of restitution by the end of the additional six-month period, then the juvenile shall be referred to the juvenile court for entry of an order establishing the amount of restitution still owed to the victim. In this order, the court shall also determine the terms and conditions of the restitution, including a payment plan extending up to ten years if the court determines that the juvenile does not have the means to make full restitution over a shorter period. For the purposes of this subsection (5)(c), the juvenile shall remain under the court's jurisdiction for a maximum term of ten years after the juvenile's eighteenth birthday. Prior to the expiration of the initial ten-year period, the juvenile court may extend the judgment for restitution an additional ten years. The court may relieve the juvenile of the requirement to pay full or partial restitution if the juvenile reasonably satisfies the court that he or she does not have the means to make full or partial restitution and could not reasonably acquire the means to pay the restitution over a ten-year period. If the court relieves the juvenile of the requirement to pay full or partial restitution, the court may order an amount of community restitution that the court deems appropriate. The county clerk shall make disbursements to victims named in the order. The restitution to victims named in the order shall be paid prior to any payment for other penalties or monetary assessments. A juvenile under obligation to pay restitution may petition the court for modification of the restitution order.

(6) The juvenile shall retain the right to be referred to the court at any time prior to the signing of the diversion agreement.

(7) Divertees and potential divertees shall be afforded due process in all contacts with a diversion unit regardless of whether the juveniles are accepted for diversion or whether the diversion program is successfully completed. Such due process shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) A written diversion agreement shall be executed stating all conditions in clearly understandable language;

(b) Violation of the terms of the agreement shall be the only grounds for termination;

(c) No divertee may be terminated from a diversion program without being given a court hearing, which hearing shall be preceded by:

(i) Written notice of alleged violations of the conditions of the diversion program; and

(ii) Disclosure of all evidence to be offered against the divertee;

(d) The hearing shall be conducted by the juvenile court and shall include:



(i) Opportunity to be heard in person and to present evidence;

(ii) The right to confront and cross-examine all adverse witnesses;

(iii) A written statement by the court as to the evidence relied on and the reasons for termination, should that be the decision; and

(iv) Demonstration by evidence that the divertee has substantially violated the terms of his or her diversion agreement.

(e) The prosecutor may file an information on the offense for which the divertee was diverted:

(i) In juvenile court if the divertee is under eighteen years of age; or

(ii) In superior court or the appropriate court of limited jurisdiction if the divertee is eighteen years of age or older.

(8) The diversion unit shall, subject to available funds, be responsible for providing interpreters when juveniles need interpreters to effectively communicate during diversion unit hearings or negotiations.

(9) The diversion unit shall be responsible for advising a divertee of his or her rights as provided in this chapter.

(10) The diversion unit may refer a juvenile to a restorative justice program, community-based counseling, or treatment programs.

(11) The right to counsel shall inure prior to the initial interview for purposes of advising the juvenile as to whether he or she desires to participate in the diversion process or to appear in the juvenile court. The juvenile may be represented by counsel at any critical stage of the diversion process, including intake interviews and termination hearings. The juvenile shall be fully advised at the intake of his or her right to an attorney and of the relevant services an attorney can provide. For the purpose of this section, intake interviews mean all interviews regarding the diversion agreement process.

The juvenile shall be advised that a diversion agreement shall constitute a part of the juvenile's criminal history as defined by RCW 13.40.020(7). A signed acknowledgment of such advisement shall be obtained from the juvenile, and the document shall be maintained by the diversion unit together with the diversion agreement, and a copy of both documents shall be delivered to the prosecutor if requested by the prosecutor. The supreme court shall promulgate rules setting forth the content of such advisement in simple language.

(12) When a juvenile enters into a diversion agreement, the juvenile court may receive only the following information for dispositional purposes:

(a) The fact that a charge or charges were made;

(b) The fact that a diversion agreement was entered into;

(c) The juvenile's obligations under such agreement;

(d) Whether the alleged offender performed his or her obligations under such agreement; and

(e) The facts of the alleged offense.

(13) A diversion unit may refuse to enter into a diversion agreement with a juvenile. When a diversion unit refuses to enter a diversion agreement with a juvenile, it shall immediately refer such juvenile to the court for action and shall forward to the court the criminal complaint and a detailed statement of its reasons for refusing to enter into a diversion agreement. The diversion unit shall also immediately refer

the case to the prosecuting attorney for action if such juvenile violates the terms of the diversion agreement.

(14) A diversion unit may, in instances where it determines that the act or omission of an act for which a juvenile has been referred to it involved no victim, or where it determines that the juvenile referred to it has no prior criminal history and is alleged to have committed an illegal act involving no threat of or instance of actual physical harm and involving not more than fifty dollars in property loss or damage and that there is no loss outstanding to the person or firm suffering such damage or loss, counsel and release or release such a juvenile without entering into a diversion agreement. A diversion unit's authority to counsel and release a juvenile under this subsection includes the authority to refer the juvenile to community-based counseling or treatment programs or a restorative justice program. Any juvenile released under this subsection shall be advised that the act or omission of any act for which he or she had been referred shall constitute a part of the juvenile's criminal history as defined by RCW 13.40.020(7). A signed acknowledgment of such advisement shall be obtained from the juvenile, and the document shall be maintained by the unit, and a copy of the document shall be delivered to the prosecutor if requested by the prosecutor. The supreme court shall promulgate rules setting forth the content of such advisement in simple language. A juvenile determined to be eligible by a diversion unit for release as provided in this subsection shall retain the same right to counsel and right to have his or her case referred to the court for formal action as any other juvenile referred to the unit.

(15) A diversion unit may supervise the fulfillment of a diversion agreement entered into before the juvenile's eighteenth birthday and which includes a period extending beyond the divertee's eighteenth birthday.

(16) If a fine required by a diversion agreement cannot reasonably be paid due to a change of circumstance, the diversion agreement may be modified at the request of the divertee and with the concurrence of the diversion unit to convert an unpaid fine into community restitution. The modification of the diversion agreement shall be in writing and signed by the divertee and the diversion unit. The number of hours of community restitution in lieu of a monetary penalty shall be converted at the rate of the prevailing state minimum wage per hour.

(17) Fines imposed under this section shall be collected and paid into the county general fund in accordance with procedures established by the juvenile court administrator under RCW 13.04.040 and may be used only for juvenile services. In the expenditure of funds for juvenile services, there shall be a maintenance of effort whereby counties exhaust existing resources before using amounts collected under this section. [2012 c 201 § 2; 2004 c 120 § 3. Prior: 2002 c 237 § 8; 2002 c 175 § 21; 1999 c 91 § 1; 1997 c 338 § 70; 1997 c 121 § 8; 1996 c 124 § 1; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 544; 1992 c 205 § 108; 1985 c 73 § 2; 1983 c 191 § 16; 1981 c 299 § 8; 1979 c 155 § 61; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 62.]

**Effective date—2004 c 120:** See note following RCW 13.40.010.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.085 Diversion services costs—Fees—Payment by parent or legal guardian.** The county legislative authority may authorize juvenile court administrators to establish fees to cover the costs of the administration and operation of diversion services provided under this chapter. The parent or legal guardian of a juvenile who receives diversion services must pay for the services based on the parent's or guardian's ability to pay. The juvenile court administrators shall develop a fair and equitable payment schedule. No juvenile who is eligible for diversion as provided in this chapter may be denied diversion services based on an inability to pay for the services. [1993 c 171 § 1.]

**13.40.087 Youth who have been diverted—Alleged prostitution or prostitution loitering offenses—Services and treatment.** Within available funding, when a youth who has been diverted under RCW 13.40.070 for an alleged offense of prostitution or prostitution loitering is referred to the department, the department shall connect that youth with the services and treatment specified in RCW \*74.14B.060 and 74.14B.070. [2010 c 289 § 5.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 74.14B.060 was repealed by 2012 c 29 § 14.

**13.40.090 Prosecuting attorney as party to juvenile court proceedings—Exception, procedure.** The county prosecuting attorney shall be a party to all juvenile court proceedings involving juvenile offenders or alleged juvenile offenders.

The prosecuting attorney may, after giving appropriate notice to the juvenile court, decline to represent the state of Washington in juvenile court matters except felonies unless requested by the court on an individual basis to represent the state at an adjudicatory hearing in which case he or she shall participate. When the prosecutor declines to represent the state, then such function may be performed by the juvenile court probation counselor authorized by the court or local court rule to serve as the prosecuting authority.

If the prosecuting attorney elects not to participate, the prosecuting attorney shall file with the county clerk each year by the first Monday in July notice of intent not to participate. In a county wherein the prosecuting attorney has elected not to participate in juvenile court, he or she shall not thereafter until the next filing date participate in juvenile court proceedings unless so requested by the court on an individual basis, in which case the prosecuting attorney shall participate. [1977 ex.s. c 291 § 63.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.100 Summons or other notification issued upon filing of information—Procedure—Order to take juvenile into custody—Contempt of court, when.** (1) Upon the filing of an information the alleged offender shall be notified by summons, warrant, or other method approved by the court of the next required court appearance.

(2) If notice is by summons, the clerk of the court shall issue a summons directed to the juvenile, if the juvenile is twelve or more years of age, and another to the parents, guardian, or custodian, and such other persons as appear to the court to be proper or necessary parties to the proceedings,

requiring them to appear personally before the court at the time fixed to hear the petition. Where the custodian is summoned, the parent or guardian or both shall also be served with a summons.

(3) A copy of the information shall be attached to each summons.

(4) The summons shall advise the parties of the right to counsel.

(5) The judge may endorse upon the summons an order directing the parents, guardian, or custodian having the custody or control of the juvenile to bring the juvenile to the hearing.

(6) If it appears from affidavit or sworn statement presented to the judge that there is probable cause for the issuance of a warrant of arrest or that the juvenile needs to be taken into custody pursuant to RCW 13.34.050, the judge may endorse upon the summons an order that an officer serving the summons shall at once take the juvenile into custody and take the juvenile to the place of detention or shelter designated by the court.

(7) Service of summons may be made under the direction of the court by any law enforcement officer or probation counselor.

(8) If the person summoned as herein provided fails without reasonable cause to appear and abide the order of the court, the person may be proceeded against as for contempt of court. In determining whether a parent, guardian, or custodian had reasonable cause not to appear, the court may consider all factors relevant to the person's ability to appear as summoned. [1997 c 338 § 19; 1979 c 155 § 62; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 64.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.110 Hearing on question of declining jurisdiction—Held, when—Findings.** (1) Discretionary decline hearing - The prosecutor, respondent, or the court on its own motion may, before a hearing on the information on its merits, file a motion requesting the court to transfer the respondent for adult criminal prosecution and the matter shall be set for a hearing on the question of declining jurisdiction.

(2) Mandatory decline hearing - Unless waived by the court, the parties, and their counsel, a decline hearing shall be held when:

(a) The respondent is sixteen or seventeen years of age and the information alleges a class A felony or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit a class A felony;

(b) The respondent is seventeen years of age and the information alleges assault in the second degree, extortion in the first degree, indecent liberties, child molestation in the second degree, kidnapping in the second degree, or robbery in the second degree; or

(c) The information alleges an escape by the respondent and the respondent is serving a minimum juvenile sentence to age twenty-one.

(3) The court after a decline hearing may order the case transferred for adult criminal prosecution upon a finding that the declination would be in the best interest of the juvenile or the public. The court shall consider the relevant reports,

facts, opinions, and arguments presented by the parties and their counsel.

(4) When the respondent is transferred for criminal prosecution or retained for prosecution in juvenile court, the court shall set forth in writing its finding which shall be supported by relevant facts and opinions produced at the hearing. [2009 c 454 § 3; 1997 c 338 § 20; 1990 c 3 § 303; 1988 c 145 § 18; 1979 c 155 § 63; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 65.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.120 Hearings—Time and place.** All hearings may be conducted at any time or place within the limits of the judicial district, and such cases may not be heard in conjunction with other business of any other division of the superior court. [1981 c 299 § 9; 1979 c 155 § 64; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 66.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.127 Deferred disposition.** (1) A juvenile is eligible for deferred disposition unless he or she:

- (a) Is charged with a sex or violent offense;
- (b) Has a criminal history which includes any felony;
- (c) Has a prior deferred disposition or deferred adjudication; or
- (d) Has two or more adjudications.

(2) The juvenile court may, upon motion at least fourteen days before commencement of trial and, after consulting the juvenile's custodial parent or parents or guardian and with the consent of the juvenile, continue the case for disposition for a period not to exceed one year from the date the juvenile is found guilty. The court shall consider whether the offender and the community will benefit from a deferred disposition before deferring the disposition. The court may waive the fourteen-day period anytime before the commencement of trial for good cause.

(3) Any juvenile who agrees to a deferral of disposition shall:

- (a) Stipulate to the admissibility of the facts contained in the written police report;
- (b) Acknowledge that the report will be entered and used to support a finding of guilt and to impose a disposition if the juvenile fails to comply with terms of supervision;
- (c) Waive the following rights to: (i) A speedy disposition; and (ii) call and confront witnesses; and
- (d) Acknowledge the direct consequences of being found guilty and the direct consequences that will happen if an order of disposition is entered.

The adjudicatory hearing shall be limited to a reading of the court's record.

(4) Following the stipulation, acknowledgment, waiver, and entry of a finding or plea of guilt, the court shall defer entry of an order of disposition of the juvenile.

(5) Any juvenile granted a deferral of disposition under this section shall be placed under community supervision. The court may impose any conditions of supervision that it deems appropriate including posting a probation bond. Payment of restitution under RCW 13.40.190 shall be a condition of community supervision under this section.

The court may require a juvenile offender convicted of animal cruelty in the first degree to submit to a mental health evaluation to determine if the offender would benefit from treatment and such intervention would promote the safety of the community. After consideration of the results of the evaluation, as a condition of community supervision, the court may order the offender to attend treatment to address issues pertinent to the offense.

(6) A parent who signed for a probation bond has the right to notify the counselor if the juvenile fails to comply with the bond or conditions of supervision. The counselor shall notify the court and surety of any failure to comply. A surety shall notify the court of the juvenile's failure to comply with the probation bond. The state shall bear the burden to prove, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the juvenile has failed to comply with the terms of community supervision.

(7)(a) Anytime prior to the conclusion of the period of supervision, the prosecutor or the juvenile's juvenile court community supervision counselor may file a motion with the court requesting the court revoke the deferred disposition based on the juvenile's lack of compliance or treat the juvenile's lack of compliance as a violation pursuant to RCW 13.40.200.

(b) If the court finds the juvenile failed to comply with the terms of the deferred disposition, the court may:

- (i) Revoke the deferred disposition and enter an order of disposition; or
- (ii) Impose sanctions for the violation pursuant to RCW 13.40.200.

(8) At any time following deferral of disposition the court may, following a hearing, continue supervision for an additional one-year period for good cause.

(9)(a) At the conclusion of the period of supervision, the court shall determine whether the juvenile is entitled to dismissal of the deferred disposition only when the court finds:

- (i) The deferred disposition has not been previously revoked;
- (ii) The juvenile has completed the terms of supervision;
- (iii) There are no pending motions concerning lack of compliance pursuant to subsection (7) of this section; and
- (iv) The juvenile has either paid the full amount of restitution, or, made a good faith effort to pay the full amount of restitution during the period of supervision.

(b) If the court finds the juvenile is entitled to dismissal of the deferred disposition pursuant to (a) of this subsection, the juvenile's conviction shall be vacated and the court shall dismiss the case with prejudice, except that a conviction under RCW 16.52.205 shall not be vacated. Whenever a case is dismissed with restitution still owing, the court shall enter a restitution order pursuant to RCW 13.40.190 for any unpaid restitution. Jurisdiction to enforce payment and modify terms of the restitution order shall be the same as those set forth in RCW 13.40.190.

(c) If the court finds the juvenile is not entitled to dismissal of the deferred disposition pursuant to (a) of this subsection, the court shall revoke the deferred disposition and enter an order of disposition. A deferred disposition shall remain a conviction unless the case is dismissed and the conviction is vacated pursuant to (b) of this subsection or sealed pursuant to RCW 13.50.050.

(10)(a)(i) Any time the court vacates a conviction pursuant to subsection (9) of this section, if the juvenile is eighteen years of age or older and the full amount of restitution ordered has been paid, the court shall enter a written order sealing the case.

(ii) Any time the court vacates a conviction pursuant to subsection (9) of this section, if the juvenile is not eighteen years of age or older and full restitution ordered has been paid, the court shall schedule an administrative sealing hearing to take place no later than thirty days after the respondent's eighteenth birthday, at which time the court shall enter a written order sealing the case. The respondent's presence at the administrative sealing hearing is not required.

(iii) Any deferred disposition vacated prior to June 7, 2012, is not subject to sealing under this subsection.

(b) Nothing in this subsection shall preclude a juvenile from petitioning the court to have the records of his or her deferred dispositions sealed under RCW 13.50.050 (11) and (12).

(c) Records sealed under this provision shall have the same legal status as records sealed under RCW 13.50.050. [2012 c 177 § 1; 2009 c 236 § 1; 2004 c 117 § 2; 2001 c 175 § 3; 1997 c 338 § 21.]

**Effective date—2004 c 117:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.130 Procedure upon plea of guilty or not guilty to information allegations—Notice—Adjudicatory and disposition hearing—Disposition standards used in sentencing.** (1) The respondent shall be advised of the allegations in the information and shall be required to plead guilty or not guilty to the allegation(s). The state or the respondent may make preliminary motions up to the time of the plea.

(2) If the respondent pleads guilty, the court may proceed with disposition or may continue the case for a dispositional hearing. If the respondent denies guilt, an adjudicatory hearing date shall be set. The court shall notify the parent, guardian, or custodian who has custody of a juvenile described in the charging document of the dispositional or adjudicatory hearing and shall require attendance.

(3) At the adjudicatory hearing it shall be the burden of the prosecution to prove the allegations of the information beyond a reasonable doubt.

(4) The court shall record its findings of fact and shall enter its decision upon the record. Such findings shall set forth the evidence relied upon by the court in reaching its decision.

(5) If the respondent is found not guilty he or she shall be released from detention.

(6) If the respondent is found guilty the court may immediately proceed to disposition or may continue the case for a dispositional hearing. Notice of the time and place of the continued hearing may be given in open court. If notice is not given in open court to a party, the party and the parent, guardian, or custodian who has custody of the juvenile shall be notified by mail of the time and place of the continued hearing.

(7) The court following an adjudicatory hearing may request that a predisposition study be prepared to aid the

court in its evaluation of the matters relevant to disposition of the case.

(8) The disposition hearing shall be held within fourteen days after the adjudicatory hearing or plea of guilty unless good cause is shown for further delay, or within twenty-one days if the juvenile is not held in a detention facility, unless good cause is shown for further delay.

(9) In sentencing an offender, the court shall use the disposition standards in effect on the date of the offense.

(10) A person notified under this section who fails without reasonable cause to appear and abide by the order of the court may be proceeded against as for contempt of court. In determining whether a parent, guardian, or custodian had reasonable cause not to appear, the court may consider all factors relevant to the person's ability to appear as summoned. [1997 c 338 § 22; 1981 c 299 § 10; 1979 c 155 § 65; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 67.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.135 Sexual motivation special allegation—Procedures.** (1) The prosecuting attorney shall file a special allegation of sexual motivation in every juvenile offense other than sex offenses as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 when sufficient admissible evidence exists, which, when considered with the most plausible, reasonably consistent defense that could be raised under the evidence, would justify a finding of sexual motivation by a reasonable and objective fact finder.

(2) In a juvenile case wherein there has been a special allegation the state shall prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the juvenile committed the offense with a sexual motivation. The court shall make a finding of fact of whether or not the sexual motivation was present at the time of the commission of the offense. This finding shall not be applied to sex offenses as defined in RCW 9.94A.030.

(3) The prosecuting attorney shall not withdraw the special allegation of "sexual motivation" without approval of the court through an order of dismissal. The court shall not dismiss the special allegation unless it finds that such an order is necessary to correct an error in the initial charging decision or unless there are evidentiary problems which make proving the special allegation doubtful. [2009 c 28 § 33; 1997 c 338 § 23; 1990 c 3 § 604.]

**Effective date—2009 c 28:** See note following RCW 2.24.040.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.140 Juveniles entitled to usual judicial rights—Notice of—Open court—Privilege against self-incrimination—Waiver of rights, when.** (1) A juvenile shall be advised of his or her rights when appearing before the court.

(2) A juvenile and his or her parent, guardian, or custodian shall be advised by the court or its representative that the juvenile has a right to be represented by counsel at all critical stages of the proceedings. Unless waived, counsel shall be provided to a juvenile who is financially unable to obtain counsel without causing substantial hardship to himself or herself or the juvenile's family, in any proceeding where the

juvenile may be subject to transfer for criminal prosecution, or in any proceeding where the juvenile may be in danger of confinement. The ability to pay part of the cost of counsel does not preclude assignment. In no case may a juvenile be deprived of counsel because of a parent, guardian, or custodian refusing to pay therefor. The juvenile shall be fully advised of his or her right to an attorney and of the relevant services an attorney can provide.

(3) The right to counsel includes the right to the appointment of experts necessary, and the experts shall be required pursuant to the procedures and requirements established by the supreme court.

(4) Upon application of a party, the clerk of the court shall issue, and the court on its own motion may issue, subpoenas requiring attendance and testimony of witnesses and production of records, documents, or other tangible objects at any hearing, or such subpoenas may be issued by an attorney of record.

(5) All proceedings shall be transcribed verbatim by means which will provide an accurate record.

(6) The general public and press shall be permitted to attend any hearing unless the court, for good cause, orders a particular hearing to be closed. The presumption shall be that all such hearings will be open.

(7) In all adjudicatory proceedings before the court, all parties shall have the right to adequate notice, discovery as provided in criminal cases, opportunity to be heard, confrontation of witnesses except in such cases as this chapter expressly permits the use of hearsay testimony, findings based solely upon the evidence adduced at the hearing, and an unbiased fact finder.

(8) A juvenile shall be accorded the same privilege against self-incrimination as an adult. An extrajudicial statement which would be constitutionally inadmissible in a criminal proceeding may not be received in evidence at an adjudicatory hearing over objection. Evidence illegally seized or obtained may not be received in evidence over objection at an adjudicatory hearing to prove the allegations against the juvenile if the evidence would be inadmissible in an adult criminal proceeding. An extrajudicial admission or confession made by the juvenile out of court is insufficient to support a finding that the juvenile committed the acts alleged in the information unless evidence of a corpus delicti is first independently established in the same manner as required in an adult criminal proceeding.

(9) Waiver of any right which a juvenile has under this chapter must be an express waiver intelligently made by the juvenile after the juvenile has been fully informed of the right being waived.

(10) Whenever this chapter refers to waiver or objection by a juvenile, the word juvenile shall be construed to refer to a juvenile who is at least twelve years of age. If a juvenile is under twelve years of age, the juvenile's parent, guardian, or custodian shall give any waiver or offer any objection contemplated by this chapter. [1981 c 299 § 11; 1979 c 155 § 66; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 68.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.145 Payment of fees for legal services by publicly funded counsel—Hearing—Order or decree—Entering and enforcing judgments.** Upon disposition or at

the time of a modification or at the time an appellate court remands the case to the trial court following a ruling in favor of the state the court may order the juvenile or a parent or another person legally obligated to support the juvenile to appear, and the court may inquire into the ability of those persons to pay a reasonable sum representing in whole or in part the fees for legal services provided by publicly funded counsel and the costs incurred by the public in producing a verbatim report of proceedings and clerk's papers for use in the appellate courts.

If, after hearing, the court finds the juvenile, parent, or other legally obligated person able to pay part or all of the attorney's fees and costs incurred on appeal, the court may enter such order or decree as is equitable and may enforce the order or decree by execution, or in any way in which a court of equity may enforce its decrees.

In no event may the court order an amount to be paid for attorneys' fees that exceeds the average per case fee allocation for juvenile proceedings in the county where the services have been provided or the average per case fee allocation for juvenile appeals established by the Washington supreme court.

In any case in which there is no compliance with an order or decree of the court requiring a juvenile, parent, or other person legally obligated to support the juvenile to pay for legal services provided by publicly funded counsel, the court may, upon such person or persons being properly summoned or voluntarily appearing, proceed to inquire into the amount due upon the order or decree and enter judgment for that amount against the defaulting party or parties. Judgment shall be docketed in the same manner as are other judgments for the payment of money.

The county in which such judgments are entered shall be denominated the judgment creditor, and the judgments may be enforced by the prosecuting attorney of that county. Any moneys recovered thereon shall be paid into the registry of the court and shall be disbursed to such person, persons, agency, or governmental entity as the court finds entitled thereto.

Such judgments shall remain valid and enforceable for a period of ten years subsequent to entry.

When the juvenile reaches the age of eighteen or at the conclusion of juvenile court jurisdiction, whichever occurs later, the superior court clerk must docket the remaining balance of the juvenile's legal financial obligations in the same manner as other judgments for the payment of money. The judgment remains valid and enforceable until ten years from the date of its imposition. The clerk of superior court may seek extension of the judgment for legal financial obligations, including crime victims' assessments, in the same manner as RCW 6.17.020 for purposes of collection as allowed under RCW 36.18.190. [1997 c 121 § 6; 1995 c 275 § 4; 1984 c 86 § 1.]

**Finding—Severability—1995 c 275:** See notes following RCW 10.73.150.

**13.40.150 Disposition hearing—Scope—Factors to be considered prior to entry of dispositional order.** (1) In disposition hearings all relevant and material evidence, including oral and written reports, may be received by the court and may be relied upon to the extent of its probative

value, even though such evidence may not be admissible in a hearing on the information. The youth or the youth's counsel and the prosecuting attorney shall be afforded an opportunity to examine and controvert written reports so received and to cross-examine individuals making reports when such individuals are reasonably available, but sources of confidential information need not be disclosed. The prosecutor and counsel for the juvenile may submit recommendations for disposition.

(2) For purposes of disposition:

(a) Violations which are current offenses count as misdemeanors;

(b) Violations may not count as part of the offender's criminal history;

(c) In no event may a disposition for a violation include confinement.

(3) Before entering a dispositional order as to a respondent found to have committed an offense, the court shall hold a disposition hearing, at which the court shall:

(a) Consider the facts supporting the allegations of criminal conduct by the respondent;

(b) Consider information and arguments offered by parties and their counsel;

(c) Consider any predisposition reports;

(d) Consult with the respondent's parent, guardian, or custodian on the appropriateness of dispositional options under consideration and afford the respondent and the respondent's parent, guardian, or custodian an opportunity to speak in the respondent's behalf;

(e) Allow the victim or a representative of the victim and an investigative law enforcement officer to speak;

(f) Determine the amount of restitution owing to the victim, if any, or set a hearing for a later date not to exceed one hundred eighty days from the date of the disposition hearing to determine the amount, except that the court may continue the hearing beyond the one hundred eighty days for good cause;

(g) Determine the respondent's offender score;

(h) Consider whether or not any of the following mitigating factors exist:

(i) The respondent's conduct neither caused nor threatened serious bodily injury or the respondent did not contemplate that his or her conduct would cause or threaten serious bodily injury;

(ii) The respondent acted under strong and immediate provocation;

(iii) The respondent was suffering from a mental or physical condition that significantly reduced his or her culpability for the offense though failing to establish a defense;

(iv) Prior to his or her detection, the respondent compensated or made a good faith attempt to compensate the victim for the injury or loss sustained; and

(v) There has been at least one year between the respondent's current offense and any prior criminal offense;

(i) Consider whether or not any of the following aggravating factors exist:

(i) In the commission of the offense, or in flight therefrom, the respondent inflicted or attempted to inflict serious bodily injury to another;

(ii) The offense was committed in an especially heinous, cruel, or depraved manner;

(iii) The victim or victims were particularly vulnerable;

(iv) The respondent has a recent criminal history or has failed to comply with conditions of a recent dispositional order or diversion agreement;

(v) The current offense included a finding of sexual motivation pursuant to RCW 13.40.135;

(vi) The respondent was the leader of a criminal enterprise involving several persons;

(vii) There are other complaints which have resulted in diversion or a finding or plea of guilty but which are not included as criminal history; and

(viii) The standard range disposition is clearly too lenient considering the seriousness of the juvenile's prior adjudications.

(4) The following factors may not be considered in determining the punishment to be imposed:

(a) The sex of the respondent;

(b) The race or color of the respondent or the respondent's family;

(c) The creed or religion of the respondent or the respondent's family;

(d) The economic or social class of the respondent or the respondent's family; and

(e) Factors indicating that the respondent may be or is a dependent child within the meaning of this chapter.

(5) A court may not commit a juvenile to a state institution solely because of the lack of facilities, including treatment facilities, existing in the community. [1998 c 86 § 1; 1997 c 338 § 24; 1995 c 268 § 5; 1992 c 205 § 109; 1990 c 3 § 605; 1981 c 299 § 12; 1979 c 155 § 67; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 69.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Purpose—1995 c 268:** See note following RCW 9.94A.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.160 Disposition order—Court's action prescribed—Disposition outside standard range—Right of appeal—Special sex offender disposition alternative.** (1) The standard range disposition for a juvenile adjudicated of an offense is determined according to RCW 13.40.0357.

(a) When the court sentences an offender to a local sanction as provided in RCW 13.40.0357 option A, the court shall impose a determinate disposition within the standard ranges, except as provided in subsection (2), (3), (4), (5), or (6) of this section. The disposition may be comprised of one or more local sanctions.

(b) When the court sentences an offender to a standard range as provided in RCW 13.40.0357 option A that includes a term of confinement exceeding thirty days, commitment shall be to the department for the standard range of confinement, except as provided in subsection (2), (3), (4), (5), or (6) of this section.

(2) If the court concludes, and enters reasons for its conclusion, that disposition within the standard range would effectuate a manifest injustice the court shall impose a disposition outside the standard range, as indicated in option D of RCW 13.40.0357. The court's finding of manifest injustice shall be supported by clear and convincing evidence.

A disposition outside the standard range shall be determinate and shall be comprised of confinement or community

supervision, or a combination thereof. When a judge finds a manifest injustice and imposes a sentence of confinement exceeding thirty days, the court shall sentence the juvenile to a maximum term, and the provisions of RCW 13.40.030(2) shall be used to determine the range. A disposition outside the standard range is appealable under RCW 13.40.230 by the state or the respondent. A disposition within the standard range is not appealable under RCW 13.40.230.

(3) If a juvenile offender is found to have committed a sex offense, other than a sex offense that is also a serious violent offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030, and has no history of a prior sex offense, the court may impose the special sex offender disposition alternative under RCW 13.40.162.

(4) If the juvenile offender is subject to a standard range disposition of local sanctions or 15 to 36 weeks of confinement and has not committed an A- or B+ offense, the court may impose the disposition alternative under RCW 13.40.165.

(5) If a juvenile is subject to a commitment of 15 to 65 weeks of confinement, the court may impose the disposition alternative under RCW 13.40.167.

(6) When the offender is subject to a standard range commitment of 15 to 36 weeks and is ineligible for a suspended disposition alternative, a manifest injustice disposition below the standard range, special sex offender disposition alternative, chemical dependency disposition alternative, or mental health disposition alternative, the court in a county with a pilot program under \*RCW 13.40.169 may impose the disposition alternative under \*RCW 13.40.169.

(7) RCW 13.40.193 shall govern the disposition of any juvenile adjudicated of possessing a firearm in violation of RCW 9.41.040(2)(a)(iii) or any crime in which a special finding is entered that the juvenile was armed with a firearm.

(8) RCW 13.40.308 shall govern the disposition of any juvenile adjudicated of theft of a motor vehicle as defined under RCW 9A.56.065, possession of a stolen motor vehicle as defined under RCW 9A.56.068, taking a motor vehicle without permission in the first degree under RCW 9A.56.070, and taking a motor vehicle without permission in the second degree under RCW 9A.56.075.

(9) Whenever a juvenile offender is entitled to credit for time spent in detention prior to a dispositional order, the dispositional order shall specifically state the number of days of credit for time served.

(10) Except as provided under subsection (3), (4), (5), or (6) of this section, or option B of RCW 13.40.0357, or RCW 13.40.127, the court shall not suspend or defer the imposition or the execution of the disposition.

(11) In no case shall the term of confinement imposed by the court at disposition exceed that to which an adult could be subjected for the same offense. [2011 c 338 § 2; 2007 c 199 § 14. Prior: 2004 c 120 § 4; 2004 c 38 § 11; prior: 2003 c 378 § 3; 2003 c 53 § 99; 2002 c 175 § 22; 1999 c 91 § 2; prior: 1997 c 338 § 25; 1997 c 265 § 1; 1995 c 395 § 7; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 523; 1992 c 45 § 6; 1990 c 3 § 302; 1989 c 407 § 4; 1983 c 191 § 8; 1981 c 299 § 13; 1979 c 155 § 68; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 70.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 13.40.169 expired July 1, 2005.

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Effective date—2004 c 120:** See note following RCW 13.40.010.

**Effective date—2004 c 38:** See note following RCW 18.155.075.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.162 Special sex offender disposition alternative.** (1) A juvenile offender is eligible for the special sex offender disposition alternative when:

(a) The offender is found to have committed a sex offense, other than a sex offense that is also a serious violent offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030; and

(b) The offender has no history of a prior sex offense.

(2) If the court finds the offender is eligible for this alternative, the court, on its own motion or the motion of the state or the respondent, may order an examination to determine whether the respondent is amenable to treatment.

(a) The report of the examination shall include at a minimum the following:

(i) The respondent's version of the facts and the official version of the facts;

(ii) The respondent's offense history;

(iii) An assessment of problems in addition to alleged deviant behaviors;

(iv) The respondent's social, educational, and employment situation;

(v) Other evaluation measures used.

The report shall set forth the sources of the evaluator's information.

(b) The examiner shall assess and report regarding the respondent's amenability to treatment and relative risk to the community. A proposed treatment plan shall be provided and shall include, at a minimum:

(i) The frequency and type of contact between the offender and therapist;

(ii) Specific issues to be addressed in the treatment and description of planned treatment modalities;

(iii) Monitoring plans, including any requirements regarding living conditions, lifestyle requirements, and monitoring by family members, legal guardians, or others;

(iv) Anticipated length of treatment; and

(v) Recommended crime-related prohibitions.

(c) The court on its own motion may order, or on a motion by the state shall order, a second examination regarding the offender's amenability to treatment. The evaluator shall be selected by the party making the motion. The defendant shall pay the cost of any second examination ordered unless the court finds the defendant to be indigent in which case the state shall pay the cost.

(3) After receipt of reports of the examination, the court shall then consider whether the offender and the community will benefit from use of this special sex offender disposition alternative and consider the victim's opinion whether the offender should receive a treatment disposition under this section. If the court determines that this special sex offender disposition alternative is appropriate, then the court shall impose a determinate disposition within the standard range

for the offense, or if the court concludes, and enters reasons for its conclusions, that such disposition would cause a manifest injustice, the court shall impose a disposition under option D, and the court may suspend the execution of the disposition and place the offender on community supervision for at least two years.

(4) As a condition of the suspended disposition, the court may impose the conditions of community supervision and other conditions, including up to thirty days of confinement and requirements that the offender do any one or more of the following:

(a) Devote time to a specific education, employment, or occupation;

(b) Undergo available outpatient sex offender treatment for up to two years, or inpatient sex offender treatment not to exceed the standard range of confinement for that offense. A community mental health center may not be used for such treatment unless it has an appropriate program designed for sex offender treatment. The respondent shall not change sex offender treatment providers or treatment conditions without first notifying the prosecutor, the probation counselor, and the court, and shall not change providers without court approval after a hearing if the prosecutor or probation counselor object to the change;

(c) Remain within prescribed geographical boundaries and notify the court or the probation counselor prior to any change in the offender's address, educational program, or employment;

(d) Report to the prosecutor and the probation counselor prior to any change in a sex offender treatment provider. This change shall have prior approval by the court;

(e) Report as directed to the court and a probation counselor;

(f) Pay all court-ordered legal financial obligations, perform community restitution, or any combination thereof;

(g) Make restitution to the victim for the cost of any counseling reasonably related to the offense; or

(h) Comply with the conditions of any court-ordered probation bond.

(5) If the court orders twenty-four hour, continuous monitoring of the offender while on probation, the court shall include the basis for this condition in its findings.

(6)(a) The court must order the offender not to attend the public or approved private elementary, middle, or high school attended by the victim or the victim's siblings.

(b) The parents or legal guardians of the offender are responsible for transportation or other costs associated with the offender's change of school that would otherwise be paid by the school district.

(c) The court shall send notice of the disposition and restriction on attending the same school as the victim or victim's siblings to the public or approved private school the juvenile will attend, if known, or if unknown, to the approved private schools and the public school district board of directors of the district in which the juvenile resides or intends to reside. This notice must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than ten calendar days after entry of the disposition.

(7)(a) The sex offender treatment provider shall submit quarterly reports on the respondent's progress in treatment to the court and the parties. The reports shall reference the treat-

ment plan and include at a minimum the following: Dates of attendance, respondent's compliance with requirements, treatment activities, the respondent's relative progress in treatment, and any other material specified by the court at the time of the disposition.

(b) At the time of the disposition, the court may set treatment review hearings as the court considers appropriate.

(c) Except as provided in this subsection, examinations and treatment ordered pursuant to this subsection shall only be conducted by certified sex offender treatment providers or certified affiliate sex offender treatment providers under chapter 18.155 RCW.

(d) A sex offender therapist who examines or treats a juvenile sex offender pursuant to this subsection does not have to be certified by the department of health pursuant to chapter 18.155 RCW if the court finds that: (i) The offender has already moved to another state or plans to move to another state for reasons other than circumventing the certification requirements; (ii) no certified sex offender treatment providers or certified affiliate sex offender treatment providers are available for treatment within a reasonable geographical distance of the offender's home; and (iii) the evaluation and treatment plan comply with this subsection and the rules adopted by the department of health.

(8)(a) If the offender violates any condition of the disposition or the court finds that the respondent is failing to make satisfactory progress in treatment, the court may revoke the suspension and order execution of the disposition or the court may impose a penalty of up to thirty days confinement for violating conditions of the disposition.

(b) The court may order both execution of the disposition and up to thirty days confinement for the violation of the conditions of the disposition.

(c) The court shall give credit for any confinement time previously served if that confinement was for the offense for which the suspension is being revoked.

(9) For purposes of this section, "victim" means any person who has sustained emotional, psychological, physical, or financial injury to person or property as a direct result of the crime charged. "Victim" may also include a known parent or guardian of a victim who is a minor child unless the parent or guardian is the perpetrator of the offense.

(10) A disposition entered under this section is not appealable under RCW 13.40.230. [2011 c 338 § 3.]

### **13.40.165 Chemical dependency disposition alternative.**

(1) The purpose of this disposition alternative is to ensure that successful treatment options to reduce recidivism are available to eligible youth, pursuant to RCW 70.96A.520. The court must consider eligibility for the chemical dependency disposition alternative when a juvenile offender is subject to a standard range disposition of local sanctions or 15 to 36 weeks of confinement and has not committed an A- or B+ offense, other than a first time B+ offense under chapter 69.50 RCW. The court, on its own motion or the motion of the state or the respondent if the evidence shows that the offender may be chemically dependent or substance abusing, may order an examination by a chemical dependency counselor from a chemical dependency treatment facility approved under chapter 70.96A RCW to determine if the youth is chemically dependent or substance abusing. The



offender shall pay the cost of any examination ordered under this subsection unless the court finds that the offender is indigent and no third party insurance coverage is available, in which case the state shall pay the cost.

(2) The report of the examination shall include at a minimum the following: The respondent's version of the facts and the official version of the facts, the respondent's offense history, an assessment of drug-alcohol problems and previous treatment attempts, the respondent's social, educational, and employment situation, and other evaluation measures used. The report shall set forth the sources of the examiner's information.

(3) The examiner shall assess and report regarding the respondent's relative risk to the community. A proposed treatment plan shall be provided and shall include, at a minimum:

- (a) Whether inpatient and/or outpatient treatment is recommended;
- (b) Availability of appropriate treatment;
- (c) Monitoring plans, including any requirements regarding living conditions, lifestyle requirements, and monitoring by family members, legal guardians, or others;
- (d) Anticipated length of treatment; and
- (e) Recommended crime-related prohibitions.

(4) The court on its own motion may order, or on a motion by the state or the respondent shall order, a second examination. The evaluator shall be selected by the party making the motion. The requesting party shall pay the cost of any examination ordered under this subsection unless the requesting party is the offender and the court finds that the offender is indigent and no third party insurance coverage is available, in which case the state shall pay the cost.

(5)(a) After receipt of reports of the examination, the court shall then consider whether the offender and the community will benefit from use of this chemical dependency disposition alternative and consider the victim's opinion whether the offender should receive a treatment disposition under this section.

(b) If the court determines that this chemical dependency disposition alternative is appropriate, then the court shall impose the standard range for the offense, or if the court concludes, and enters reasons for its conclusion, that such disposition would effectuate a manifest injustice, the court shall impose a disposition above the standard range as indicated in option D of RCW 13.40.0357 if the disposition is an increase from the standard range and the confinement of the offender does not exceed a maximum of fifty-two weeks, suspend execution of the disposition, and place the offender on community supervision for up to one year. As a condition of the suspended disposition, the court shall require the offender to undergo available outpatient drug/alcohol treatment and/or inpatient drug/alcohol treatment. For purposes of this section, inpatient treatment may not exceed ninety days. As a condition of the suspended disposition, the court may impose conditions of community supervision and other sanctions, including up to thirty days of confinement, one hundred fifty hours of community restitution, and payment of legal financial obligations and restitution.

(6) The drug/alcohol treatment provider shall submit monthly reports on the respondent's progress in treatment to the court and the parties. The reports shall reference the treat-

ment plan and include at a minimum the following: Dates of attendance, respondent's compliance with requirements, treatment activities, the respondent's relative progress in treatment, and any other material specified by the court at the time of the disposition.

At the time of the disposition, the court may set treatment review hearings as the court considers appropriate.

If the offender violates any condition of the disposition or the court finds that the respondent is failing to make satisfactory progress in treatment, the court may impose sanctions pursuant to RCW 13.40.200 or revoke the suspension and order execution of the disposition. The court shall give credit for any confinement time previously served if that confinement was for the offense for which the suspension is being revoked.

(7) For purposes of this section, "victim" means any person who has sustained emotional, psychological, physical, or financial injury to person or property as a direct result of the offense charged. "Victim" may also include a known parent or guardian of a victim who is a minor child or is not a minor child but is incapacitated, incompetent, disabled, or deceased.

(8) Whenever a juvenile offender is entitled to credit for time spent in detention prior to a dispositional order, the dispositional order shall specifically state the number of days of credit for time served.

(9) In no case shall the term of confinement imposed by the court at disposition exceed that to which an adult could be subjected for the same offense.

(10) A disposition under this section is not appealable under RCW 13.40.230. [2004 c 120 § 5; 2003 c 378 § 6. Prior: 2002 c 175 § 23; 2002 c 42 § 1; 2001 c 164 § 1; 1997 c 338 § 26.]

**Effective date—2004 c 120:** See note following RCW 13.40.010.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.167 Mental health disposition alternative.** (1)

When an offender is subject to a standard range disposition involving confinement by the department, the court may:

- (a) Impose the standard range; or
- (b) Suspend the standard range disposition on condition that the offender complies with the terms of this mental health disposition alternative.

(2) The court may impose this disposition alternative when the court finds the following:

(a) The offender has a current diagnosis, consistent with the American psychiatry association diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders, of axis I psychiatric disorder, excluding youth that are diagnosed as solely having a conduct disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, substance abuse disorder, paraphilia, or pedophilia;

(b) An appropriate treatment option is available in the local community;

(c) The plan for the offender identifies and addresses requirements for successful participation and completion of the treatment intervention program including: Incentives and graduated sanctions designed specifically for amenable youth, including the use of detention, detoxication, and inpatient or outpatient substance abuse treatment and psychiatric

hospitalization, and structured community support consisting of mental health providers, probation, educational and vocational advocates, child welfare services, and family and community support. For any mental health treatment ordered for an offender under this section, the treatment option selected shall be chosen from among programs which have been successful in addressing mental health needs of juveniles and successful in mental health treatment of juveniles and identified as research-based best practice programs. A list of programs which meet these criteria shall be agreed upon by: The Washington association of juvenile court administrators, the juvenile rehabilitation administration of the department of social and health services, a representative of the division of public behavioral health and justice policy at the University of Washington, and the Washington institute for public policy. The list of programs shall be created not later than July 1, 2003. The group shall provide the list to all superior courts, its own membership, the legislature, and the governor. The group shall meet annually and revise the list as appropriate; and

(d) The offender, offender's family, and community will benefit from use of the mental health disposition alternative.

(3) The court on its own motion may order, or on motion by either party, shall order a comprehensive mental health evaluation to determine if the offender has a designated mental disorder. The court may also order a chemical dependency evaluation to determine if the offender also has a co-occurring chemical dependency disorder. The evaluation shall include at a minimum the following: The offender's version of the facts and the official version of the facts, the offender's offense, an assessment of the offender's mental health and drug-alcohol problems and previous treatment attempts, and the offender's social, criminal, educational, and employment history and living situation.

(4) The evaluator shall determine if the offender is amenable to research-based treatment. A proposed case management and treatment plan shall include at a minimum:

- (a) The availability of treatment;
- (b) Anticipated length of treatment;
- (c) Whether one or more treatment interventions are proposed and the anticipated sequence of those treatment interventions;
- (d) The education plan;
- (e) The residential plan; and
- (f) The monitoring plan.

(5) The court on its own motion may order, or on motion by either party, shall order a second mental health or chemical dependency evaluation. The party making the motion shall select the evaluator. The requesting party shall pay the cost of any examination ordered under this subsection and subsection (3) of this section unless the court finds the offender is indigent and no third party insurance coverage is available, in which case the state shall pay the cost.

(6) Upon receipt of the assessments, evaluations, and reports the court shall consider whether the offender and the community will benefit from use of the mental health disposition alternative. The court shall consider the victim's opinion whether the offender should receive the option.

(7) If the court determines that the mental health disposition alternative is appropriate, the court shall impose a standard range disposition, suspend execution of the disposition,

and place the offender on community supervision up to one year and impose one or more other local sanctions. Confinement in a secure county detention facility, other than county group homes, inpatient psychiatric treatment facilities, and substance abuse programs, shall be limited to thirty days. As a condition of a suspended disposition, the court shall require the offender to participate in the recommended treatment interventions.

(8) The treatment providers shall submit monthly reports to the court and parties on the offender's progress in treatment. The report shall reference the treatment plan and include at a minimum the following: Dates of attendance, offender's compliance with requirements, treatment activities, medication management, the offender's relative progress in treatment, and any other material specified by the court at the time of the disposition.

(9) If the offender fails to comply with the suspended disposition, the court may impose sanctions pursuant to RCW 13.40.200 or may revoke the suspended disposition and order the disposition's execution.

(10) An offender is ineligible for the mental health disposition option under this section if:

(a) The offender is ordered to serve a disposition for a firearm violation under RCW 13.40.193; or

(b) The offense for which the disposition is being considered is:

(i) An offense category A+, A, or A- offense, or an attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit a class A+, A, or A- offense;

(ii) Manslaughter in the second degree (RCW 9A.32.070);

(iii) A sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030; or

(iv) Any offense category B+ or B offense, when the offense includes infliction of bodily harm upon another or when during the commission or immediate withdrawal from the offense the respondent was armed with a deadly weapon.

(11) Subject to funds appropriated for this specific purpose, the costs incurred by the juvenile courts for the mental health and chemical dependency evaluations, treatment, and costs of supervision required under this section shall be paid by the department's juvenile rehabilitation administration. [2005 c 508 § 1; 2003 c 378 § 4.]

**13.40.180 Single disposition order—Consecutive terms when two or more offenses—Limitations—Separate disposition order—Concurrent period of community supervision.** (1) Where a disposition in a single disposition order is imposed on a youth for two or more offenses, the terms shall run consecutively, subject to the following limitations:

(a) Where the offenses were committed through a single act or omission, omission, or through an act or omission which in itself constituted one of the offenses and also was an element of the other, the aggregate of all the terms shall not exceed one hundred fifty percent of the term imposed for the most serious offense;

(b) The aggregate of all consecutive terms shall not exceed three hundred percent of the term imposed for the most serious offense; and

(c) The aggregate of all consecutive terms of community supervision shall not exceed two years in length, or require

payment of more than two hundred dollars in fines or the performance of more than two hundred hours of community restitution.

(2) Where disposition in separate disposition orders is imposed on a youth, the periods of community supervision contained in separate orders, if any, shall run concurrently. All other terms contained in separate disposition orders shall run consecutively. [2012 c 177 § 3; 2002 c 175 § 24; 1981 c 299 § 14; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 72.]

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.185 Disposition order—Confinement under departmental supervision or in juvenile facility, when.** (1)

Any term of confinement imposed for an offense which exceeds thirty days shall be served under the supervision of the department. If the period of confinement imposed for more than one offense exceeds thirty days but the term imposed for each offense is less than thirty days, the confinement may, in the discretion of the court, be served in a juvenile facility operated by or pursuant to a contract with the state or a county.

(2) Whenever a juvenile is confined in a detention facility or is committed to the department, the court may not directly order a juvenile into a particular county or state facility. The juvenile court administrator and the secretary, assistant secretary, or the secretary's designee, as appropriate, has the sole discretion to determine in which facility a juvenile should be confined or committed. The counties may operate a variety of detention facilities as determined by the county legislative authority subject to available funds. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 524; 1981 c 299 § 15.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**13.40.190 Disposition order—Restitution for loss or damage—Modification of restitution order.** (1)(a)

In its dispositional order, the court shall require the respondent to make restitution to any persons who have suffered loss or damage as a result of the offense committed by the respondent. In addition, restitution may be ordered for loss or damage if the offender pleads guilty to a lesser offense or fewer offenses and agrees with the prosecutor's recommendation that the offender be required to pay restitution to a victim of an offense or offenses which, pursuant to a plea agreement, are not prosecuted.

(b) Restitution may include the costs of counseling reasonably related to the offense.

(c) The payment of restitution shall be in addition to any punishment which is imposed pursuant to the other provisions of this chapter.

(d) The court may determine the amount, terms, and conditions of the restitution including a payment plan extending up to ten years if the court determines that the respondent does not have the means to make full restitution over a shorter period. For the purposes of this section, the respondent shall remain under the court's jurisdiction for a maximum term of ten years after the respondent's eighteenth birthday and, during this period, the restitution portion of the dispositional order may be modified as to amount, terms, and conditions at any time. Prior to the expiration of the ten-year

period, the juvenile court may extend the judgment for the payment of restitution for an additional ten years. If the court grants a respondent's petition pursuant to RCW 13.50.050(11), the court's jurisdiction under this subsection shall terminate.

(e) Nothing in this section shall prevent a respondent from petitioning the court pursuant to RCW 13.50.050(11) if the respondent has paid the full restitution amount stated in the court's order and has met the statutory criteria.

(f) If the respondent participated in the crime with another person or other persons, all such participants shall be jointly and severally responsible for the payment of restitution.

(g) At any time, the court may determine that the respondent is not required to pay, or may relieve the respondent of the requirement to pay, full or partial restitution to any insurance provider authorized under Title 48 RCW if the respondent reasonably satisfies the court that he or she does not have the means to make full or partial restitution to the insurance provider and could not reasonably acquire the means to pay the insurance provider the restitution over a ten-year period.

(2) Regardless of the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the court shall order restitution in all cases where the victim is entitled to benefits under the crime victims' compensation act, chapter 7.68 RCW. If the court does not order restitution and the victim of the crime has been determined to be entitled to benefits under the crime victims' compensation act, the department of labor and industries, as administrator of the crime victims' compensation program, may petition the court within one year of entry of the disposition order for entry of a restitution order. Upon receipt of a petition from the department of labor and industries, the court shall hold a restitution hearing and shall enter a restitution order.

(3) If an order includes restitution as one of the monetary assessments, the county clerk shall make disbursements to victims named in the order. The restitution to victims named in the order shall be paid prior to any payment for other penalties or monetary assessments.

(4) For purposes of this section, "victim" means any person who has sustained emotional, psychological, physical, or financial injury to person or property as a direct result of the offense charged. "Victim" may also include a known parent or guardian of a victim who is a minor child or is not a minor child but is incapacitated, incompetent, disabled, or deceased.

(5) A respondent under obligation to pay restitution may petition the court for modification of the restitution order. [2010 c 134 § 1; 2004 c 120 § 6. Prior: 1997 c 338 § 29; 1997 c 121 § 9; 1996 c 124 § 2; 1995 c 33 § 5; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 528; 1987 c 281 § 5; 1985 c 257 § 2; 1983 c 191 § 9; 1979 c 155 § 69; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 73.]

**Effective date—2004 c 120:** See note following RCW 13.40.010.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.192 Legal financial obligations—Enforceability—Treatment of obligations upon age of eighteen or conclusion of juvenile court jurisdiction—Extension of**

**judgment.** If a juvenile is ordered to pay legal financial obligations, including fines, penalty assessments, attorneys' fees, court costs, and restitution, the money judgment remains enforceable for a period of ten years. When the juvenile reaches the age of eighteen years or at the conclusion of juvenile court jurisdiction, whichever occurs later, the superior court clerk must docket the remaining balance of the juvenile's legal financial obligations in the same manner as other judgments for the payment of money. The judgment remains valid and enforceable until ten years from the date of its imposition. The clerk of the superior court may seek extension of the judgment for legal financial obligations, including crime victims' assessments, in the same manner as RCW 6.17.020 for purposes of collection as allowed under RCW 36.18.190. [1997 c 121 § 7.]

**13.40.193 Firearms—Length of confinement.** (1) If a respondent is found to have been in possession of a firearm in violation of RCW 9.41.040(2)(a)(iii), the court shall impose a minimum disposition of ten days of confinement. If the offender's standard range of disposition for the offense as indicated in RCW 13.40.0357 is more than thirty days of confinement, the court shall commit the offender to the department for the standard range disposition. The offender shall not be released until the offender has served a minimum of ten days in confinement.

(2) If the court finds that the respondent or an accomplice was armed with a firearm, the court shall determine the standard range disposition for the offense pursuant to RCW 13.40.160. If the offender or an accomplice was armed with a firearm when the offender committed any felony other than possession of a machine gun, possession of a stolen firearm, drive-by shooting, theft of a firearm, unlawful possession of a firearm in the first and second degree, or use of a machine gun in a felony, the following periods of total confinement must be added to the sentence: For a class A felony, six months; for a class B felony, four months; and for a class C felony, two months. The additional time shall be imposed regardless of the offense's juvenile disposition offense category as designated in RCW 13.40.0357.

(3) When a disposition under this section would effectuate a manifest injustice, the court may impose another disposition. When a judge finds a manifest injustice and imposes a disposition of confinement exceeding thirty days, the court shall commit the juvenile to a maximum term, and the provisions of RCW 13.40.030(2) shall be used to determine the range. When a judge finds a manifest injustice and imposes a disposition of confinement less than thirty days, the disposition shall be comprised of confinement or community supervision or both.

(4) Any term of confinement ordered pursuant to this section shall run consecutively to any term of confinement imposed in the same disposition for other offenses. [2003 c 53 § 100; 1997 c 338 § 30; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 525.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—Effective dates—Contingent expiration date—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.196 Firearms—Special allegation.** A prosecutor may file a special allegation that the offender or an accomplice was armed with a firearm when the offender committed the alleged offense. If a special allegation has been filed and the court finds that the offender committed the alleged offense, the court shall also make a finding whether the offender or an accomplice was armed with a firearm when the offender committed the offense. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 526.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**13.40.198 Penalty assessments—Jurisdiction of court.** If a respondent is ordered to pay a penalty assessment pursuant to a dispositional order entered under this chapter, he or she shall remain under the court's jurisdiction for a maximum term of ten years after the respondent's eighteenth birthday. Prior to the expiration of the ten-year period, the juvenile court may extend the judgment for the payment of a penalty assessment for an additional ten years. [2000 c 71 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.200 Violation of order of restitution, community supervision, fines, penalty assessments, or confinement—Modification of order after hearing—Scope—Rights—Use of fines.** (1) When a respondent fails to comply with an order of restitution, community supervision, penalty assessments, or confinement of less than thirty days, the court upon motion of the prosecutor or its own motion, may modify the order after a hearing on the violation.

(2) The hearing shall afford the respondent the same due process of law as would be afforded an adult probationer. The court may issue a summons or a warrant to compel the respondent's appearance. The state shall have the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence the fact of the violation. The respondent shall have the burden of showing that the violation was not a willful refusal to comply with the terms of the order. If a respondent has failed to pay a fine, penalty assessments, or restitution or to perform community restitution hours, as required by the court, it shall be the respondent's burden to show that he or she did not have the means and could not reasonably have acquired the means to pay the fine, penalty assessments, or restitution or perform community restitution.

(3) If the court finds that a respondent has willfully violated the terms of an order pursuant to subsections (1) and (2) of this section, it may impose a penalty of up to thirty days' confinement. Penalties for multiple violations occurring prior to the hearing shall not be aggregated to exceed thirty days' confinement. Regardless of the number of times a respondent is brought to court for violations of the terms of a single disposition order, the combined total number of days spent by the respondent in detention shall never exceed the maximum term to which an adult could be sentenced for the underlying offense.

(4) If a respondent has been ordered to pay a fine or monetary penalty and due to a change of circumstance cannot reasonably comply with the order, the court, upon motion of the respondent, may order that the unpaid fine or monetary penalty be converted to community restitution unless the monetary penalty is the crime victim penalty assessment, which

cannot be converted, waived, or otherwise modified, except for schedule of payment. The number of hours of community restitution in lieu of a monetary penalty or fine shall be converted at the rate of the prevailing state minimum wage per hour. The monetary penalties or fines collected shall be deposited in the county general fund. A failure to comply with an order under this subsection shall be deemed a failure to comply with an order of community supervision and may be proceeded against as provided in this section.

(5) When a respondent has willfully violated the terms of a probation bond, the court may modify, revoke, or retain the probation bond as provided in RCW 13.40.054. [2004 c 120 § 7; 2002 c 175 § 25; 1997 c 338 § 31; 1995 c 395 § 8; 1986 c 288 § 5; 1983 c 191 § 15; 1979 c 155 § 70; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 74.]

**Effective date—2004 c 120:** See note following RCW 13.40.010.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.205 Release from physical custody, when—Authorized leaves—Leave plan and order—Notice.** (1) A juvenile sentenced to a term of confinement to be served under the supervision of the department shall not be released from the physical custody of the department prior to the release date established under RCW 13.40.210 except as otherwise provided in this section.

(2) A juvenile serving a term of confinement under the supervision of the department may be released on authorized leave from the physical custody of the department only if consistent with public safety and if:

(a) Sixty percent of the minimum term of confinement has been served; and

(b) The purpose of the leave is to enable the juvenile:

(i) To visit the juvenile’s family for the purpose of strengthening or preserving family relationships;

(ii) To make plans for parole or release which require the juvenile’s personal appearance in the community and which will facilitate the juvenile’s reintegration into the community; or

(iii) To make plans for a residential placement out of the juvenile’s home which requires the juvenile’s personal appearance in the community.

(3) No authorized leave may exceed seven consecutive days. The total of all pre-minimum term authorized leaves granted to a juvenile prior to final discharge from confinement shall not exceed thirty days.

(4) Prior to authorizing a leave, the secretary shall require a written leave plan, which shall detail the purpose of the leave and how it is to be achieved, the address at which the juvenile shall reside, the identity of the person responsible for supervising the juvenile during the leave, and a statement by such person acknowledging familiarity with the leave plan and agreeing to supervise the juvenile and to notify the secretary immediately if the juvenile violates any terms or conditions of the leave. The leave plan shall include such terms and conditions as the secretary deems appropriate and shall be signed by the juvenile.

(5) Upon authorizing a leave, the secretary shall issue to the juvenile an authorized leave order which shall contain the

name of the juvenile, the fact that the juvenile is on leave from a designated facility, the time period of the leave, and the identity of an appropriate official of the department to contact when necessary. The authorized leave order shall be carried by the juvenile at all times while on leave.

(6) Prior to the commencement of any authorized leave, the secretary shall give notice of the leave to the appropriate law enforcement agency in the jurisdiction in which the juvenile will reside during the leave period. The notice shall include the identity of the juvenile, the time period of the leave, the residence of the juvenile during the leave, and the identity of the person responsible for supervising the juvenile during the leave.

(7) The secretary may authorize a leave, which shall not exceed forty-eight hours plus travel time, to meet an emergency situation such as a death or critical illness of a member of the juvenile’s family. The secretary may authorize a leave, which shall not exceed the period of time medically necessary, to obtain medical care not available in a juvenile facility maintained by the department. In cases of emergency or medical leave the secretary may waive all or any portions of subsections (2)(a), (3), (4), (5), and (6) of this section.

(8) If requested by the juvenile’s victim or the victim’s immediate family, the secretary shall give notice of any leave to the victim or the victim’s immediate family.

(9) A juvenile who violates any condition of an authorized leave plan may be taken into custody and returned to the department in the same manner as an adult in identical circumstances.

(10) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a juvenile placed in minimum security status may participate in work, educational, community restitution, or treatment programs in the community up to twelve hours a day if approved by the secretary. Such a release shall not be deemed a leave of absence.

(11) Subsections (6), (7), and (8) of this section do not apply to juveniles covered by RCW 13.40.215. [2002 c 175 § 26; 1990 c 3 § 103; 1983 c 191 § 10.]

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.210 Setting of release date—Administrative release authorized, when—Parole program, revocation or modification of, scope—Intensive supervision program—Parole officer’s right of arrest.** (1) The secretary shall set a release date for each juvenile committed to its custody. The release date shall be within the prescribed range to which a juvenile has been committed under RCW 13.40.0357 or 13.40.030 except as provided in RCW 13.40.320 concerning offenders the department determines are eligible for the juvenile offender basic training camp program. Such dates shall be determined prior to the expiration of sixty percent of a juvenile’s minimum term of confinement included within the prescribed range to which the juvenile has been committed. The secretary shall release any juvenile committed to the custody of the department within four calendar days prior to the juvenile’s release date or on the release date set under this chapter. Days spent in the custody of the department shall be tolled by any period of time during which a juvenile has absented himself or herself from the department’s supervi-

sion without the prior approval of the secretary or the secretary's designee.

(2) The secretary shall monitor the average daily population of the state's juvenile residential facilities. When the secretary concludes that in-residence population of residential facilities exceeds one hundred five percent of the rated bed capacity specified in statute, or in absence of such specification, as specified by the department in rule, the secretary may recommend reductions to the governor. On certification by the governor that the recommended reductions are necessary, the secretary has authority to administratively release a sufficient number of offenders to reduce in-residence population to one hundred percent of rated bed capacity. The secretary shall release those offenders who have served the greatest proportion of their sentence. However, the secretary may deny release in a particular case at the request of an offender, or if the secretary finds that there is no responsible custodian, as determined by the department, to whom to release the offender, or if the release of the offender would pose a clear danger to society. The department shall notify the committing court of the release at the time of release if any such early releases have occurred as a result of excessive in-residence population. In no event shall an offender adjudicated of a violent offense be granted release under the provisions of this subsection.

(3)(a) Following the release of any juvenile under subsection (1) of this section, the secretary may require the juvenile to comply with a program of parole to be administered by the department in his or her community which shall last no longer than eighteen months, except that in the case of a juvenile sentenced for rape in the first or second degree, rape of a child in the first or second degree, child molestation in the first degree, or indecent liberties with forcible compulsion, the period of parole shall be twenty-four months and, in the discretion of the secretary, may be up to thirty-six months when the secretary finds that an additional period of parole is necessary and appropriate in the interests of public safety or to meet the ongoing needs of the juvenile. A parole program is mandatory for offenders released under subsection (2) of this section and for offenders who receive a juvenile residential commitment sentence of theft of a motor vehicle, possession of a stolen motor vehicle, or taking a motor vehicle without permission 1. The decision to place an offender on parole shall be based on an assessment by the department of the offender's risk for reoffending upon release. The department shall prioritize available parole resources to provide supervision and services to offenders at moderate to high risk for reoffending.

(b) The secretary shall, for the period of parole, facilitate the juvenile's reintegration into his or her community and to further this goal shall require the juvenile to refrain from possessing a firearm or using a deadly weapon and refrain from committing new offenses and may require the juvenile to: (i) Undergo available medical, psychiatric, drug and alcohol, sex offender, mental health, and other offense-related treatment services; (ii) report as directed to a parole officer and/or designee; (iii) pursue a course of study, vocational training, or employment; (iv) notify the parole officer of the current address where he or she resides; (v) be present at a particular address during specified hours; (vi) remain within prescribed geographical boundaries; (vii) submit to electronic monitor-

ing; (viii) refrain from using illegal drugs and alcohol, and submit to random urinalysis when requested by the assigned parole officer; (ix) refrain from contact with specific individuals or a specified class of individuals; (x) meet other conditions determined by the parole officer to further enhance the juvenile's reintegration into the community; (xi) pay any court-ordered fines or restitution; and (xii) perform community restitution. Community restitution for the purpose of this section means compulsory service, without compensation, performed for the benefit of the community by the offender. Community restitution may be performed through public or private organizations or through work crews.

(c) The secretary may further require up to twenty-five percent of the highest risk juvenile offenders who are placed on parole to participate in an intensive supervision program. Offenders participating in an intensive supervision program shall be required to comply with all terms and conditions listed in (b) of this subsection and shall also be required to comply with the following additional terms and conditions: (i) Obey all laws and refrain from any conduct that threatens public safety; (ii) report at least once a week to an assigned community case manager; and (iii) meet all other requirements imposed by the community case manager related to participating in the intensive supervision program. As a part of the intensive supervision program, the secretary may require day reporting.

(d) After termination of the parole period, the juvenile shall be discharged from the department's supervision.

(4)(a) The department may also modify parole for violation thereof. If, after affording a juvenile all of the due process rights to which he or she would be entitled if the juvenile were an adult, the secretary finds that a juvenile has violated a condition of his or her parole, the secretary shall order one of the following which is reasonably likely to effectuate the purpose of the parole and to protect the public: (i) Continued supervision under the same conditions previously imposed; (ii) intensified supervision with increased reporting requirements; (iii) additional conditions of supervision authorized by this chapter; (iv) except as provided in (a)(v) and (vi) of this subsection, imposition of a period of confinement not to exceed thirty days in a facility operated by or pursuant to a contract with the state of Washington or any city or county for a portion of each day or for a certain number of days each week with the balance of the days or weeks spent under supervision; (v) the secretary may order any of the conditions or may return the offender to confinement for the remainder of the sentence range if the offense for which the offender was sentenced is rape in the first or second degree, rape of a child in the first or second degree, child molestation in the first degree, indecent liberties with forcible compulsion, or a sex offense that is also a serious violent offense as defined by RCW 9.94A.030; and (vi) the secretary may order any of the conditions or may return the offender to confinement for the remainder of the sentence range if the youth has completed the basic training camp program as described in RCW 13.40.320.

(b) The secretary may modify parole and order any of the conditions or may return the offender to confinement for up to twenty-four weeks if the offender was sentenced for a sex offense as defined under \*RCW 9A.44.130 and is known to have violated the terms of parole. Confinement beyond thirty

days is intended to only be used for a small and limited number of sex offenders. It shall only be used when other graduated sanctions or interventions have not been effective or the behavior is so egregious it warrants the use of the higher level intervention and the violation: (i) Is a known pattern of behavior consistent with a previous sex offense that puts the youth at high risk for reoffending sexually; (ii) consists of sexual behavior that is determined to be predatory as defined in RCW 71.09.020; or (iii) requires a review under chapter 71.09 RCW, due to a recent overt act. The total number of days of confinement for violations of parole conditions during the parole period shall not exceed the number of days provided by the maximum sentence imposed by the disposition for the underlying offense pursuant to RCW 13.40.0357. The department shall not aggregate multiple parole violations that occur prior to the parole revocation hearing and impose consecutive twenty-four week periods of confinement for each parole violation. The department is authorized to engage in rule making pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW, to implement this subsection, including narrowly defining the behaviors that could lead to this higher level intervention.

(c) If the department finds that any juvenile in a program of parole has possessed a firearm or used a deadly weapon during the program of parole, the department shall modify the parole under (a) of this subsection and confine the juvenile for at least thirty days. Confinement shall be in a facility operated by or pursuant to a contract with the state or any county.

(5) A parole officer of the department of social and health services shall have the power to arrest a juvenile under his or her supervision on the same grounds as a law enforcement officer would be authorized to arrest the person.

(6) If so requested and approved under chapter 13.06 RCW, the secretary shall permit a county or group of counties to perform functions under subsections (3) through (5) of this section. [2009 c 187 § 1. Prior: 2007 c 203 § 1; 2007 c 199 § 13; 2002 c 175 § 27; prior: 2001 c 137 § 2; 2001 c 51 § 1; 1997 c 338 § 32; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 527; 1990 c 3 § 304; 1987 c 505 § 4; 1985 c 287 § 1; 1985 c 257 § 4; 1983 c 191 § 11; 1979 c 155 § 71; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 75.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9A.44.130 was amended by 2010 c 267 § 2, removing the definition of "sex offense" and "kidnapping offense." Those terms are now defined in RCW 9A.44.128.

**Applicability—2007 c 203:** "This act applies prospectively only and not retroactively. It applies only to juvenile offenders who have been adjudicated for an offense that occurred on or after October 1, 2007." [2007 c 203 § 2.]

**Effective date—2007 c 203:** "This act takes effect October 1, 2007." [2007 c 203 § 3.]

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Findings—Intent—1997 c 338 §§ 32 and 34:** See note following RCW 13.40.212.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—Effective dates—Contingent expiration date—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**Intent—1985 c 257 § 4:** "To promote both public safety and the welfare of juvenile offenders, it is the intent of the legislature that services to juvenile offenders be delivered in the most effective and efficient means possible. Section 4 of this act facilitates those objectives by permitting counties to supervise parole of juvenile offenders. This is consistent with the philo-

sohy of chapter 13.06 RCW to deliver community services to juvenile offenders comprehensively at the county level." [1985 c 257 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.212 Intensive supervision program—Elements—Report.** (1) The department shall, no later than January 1, 1999, implement an intensive supervision program as a part of its parole services that includes, at a minimum, the following program elements:

(a) A process of case management involving coordinated and comprehensive planning, information exchange, continuity and consistency, service provision and referral, and monitoring. The components of the case management system shall include assessment, classification, and selection criteria; individual case planning that incorporates a family and community perspective; a mixture of intensive surveillance and services; a balance of incentives and graduated consequences coupled with the imposition of realistic, enforceable conditions; and service brokerage with community resources and linkage with social networks;

(b) Administration of transition services that transcend traditional agency boundaries and professional interests and include courts, institutions, aftercare, education, social and mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and employment and vocational training; and

(c) A plan for information management and program evaluation that maintains close oversight over implementation and quality control, and determines the effectiveness of both the processes and outcomes of the program.

(2) The department shall report annually to the legislature, beginning December 1, 1999, on the department's progress in meeting the intensive supervision program evaluation goals required under subsection (1)(c) of this section. [1997 c 338 § 34.]

**Findings—Intent—1997 c 338 §§ 32 and 34:** "The legislature finds the present system of transitioning youths from residential status to parole status to discharge is insufficient to provide adequate rehabilitation and public safety in many instances, particularly in cases of offenders at highest risk of reoffending. The legislature further finds that an intensive supervision program based on the following principles holds much promise for positively impacting recidivism rates for juvenile offenders: (1) Progressive increase in responsibility and freedom in the community; (2) facilitation of youths' interaction and involvement with their communities; (3) involvement of both the youth and targeted community support systems such as family, peers, schools, and employers, on the qualities needed for constructive interaction and successful adjustment with the community; (4) development of new resources, supports, and opportunities where necessary; and (5) ongoing monitoring and testing of youth on their ability to abide by community rules and standards.

The legislature intends for the department to create an intensive supervision program based on the principles stated in this section that will be available to the highest risk juvenile offenders placed on parole." [1997 c 338 § 33.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.213 Juveniles alleged to have committed offenses of prostitution or prostitution loitering—Diversion.** (1) When a juvenile is alleged to have committed the offenses of prostitution or prostitution loitering, and the allegation, if proved, would not be the juvenile's first offense, a prosecutor may divert the offense if the county in which the offense is alleged to have been committed has a comprehensive program that provides:

- (a) Safe and stable housing;
- (b) Comprehensive on-site case management;
- (c) Integrated mental health and chemical dependency services, including specialized trauma recovery services;
- (d) Education and employment training delivered on-site; and
- (e) Referrals to off-site specialized services, as appropriate.

(2) A prosecutor may divert a case for prostitution or prostitution loitering into the comprehensive program described in this section, notwithstanding the filing criteria set forth in RCW 13.40.070(5).

(3) A diversion agreement under this section may extend to twelve months.

(4)(a) The administrative office of the courts shall compile data regarding:

- (i) The number of juveniles whose cases are diverted into the comprehensive program described in this section;
- (ii) Whether the juveniles complete their diversion agreements under this section; and
- (iii) Whether juveniles whose cases have been diverted under this section have been subsequently arrested or committed subsequent offenses.

(b) An annual report of the data compiled shall be provided to the governor and the appropriate committee of the legislature. The first report is due by November 1, 2010. [2010 c 289 § 8; 2009 c 252 § 2.]

**Findings—2009 c 252:** "The legislature finds that juveniles involved in the commercial sex trade are sexually exploited and that they face extreme threats to their physical and emotional well-being. In order to help them break out of the isolation, fear, and danger of the commercial sex trade and to assist them in their recovery from the resulting mental and physical harm and in the development of skills that will allow them to become independent and achieve long-term security, these juveniles are in critical need of comprehensive services, including housing, mental health counseling, education, employment, chemical dependency treatment, and skill building. The legislature further finds that a diversion program to provide these comprehensive services, working within existing resources in the counties which prosecute juveniles for prostitution and prostitution loitering, may be an appropriate alternative to the prosecution of juveniles involved in the commercial sex trade." [2009 c 252 § 1.]

**13.40.215 Juveniles found to have committed violent or sex offense or stalking—Notification of discharge, parole, leave, release, transfer, or escape—To whom given—School attendance—Definitions.** (1)(a) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, at the earliest possible date, and in no event later than thirty days before discharge, parole, or any other authorized leave or release, or before transfer to a community residential facility, the secretary shall send written notice of the discharge, parole, authorized leave or release, or transfer of a juvenile found to have committed a violent offense, a sex offense, or stalking, to the following:

- (i) The chief of police of the city, if any, in which the juvenile will reside;
- (ii) The sheriff of the county in which the juvenile will reside; and
- (iii) The approved private schools and the common school district board of directors of the district in which the juvenile intends to reside or the approved private school or public school district in which the juvenile last attended school, whichever is appropriate, except when it has been

determined by the department that the juvenile is twenty-one years old or will be in the community for less than seven consecutive days on approved leave and will not be attending school during that time.

(b) After July 25, 1999, the department shall send a written notice to approved private and public schools under the same conditions identified in subsection (1)(a)(iii) of this section when a juvenile adjudicated of any offense is transferred to a community residential facility, discharged, paroled, released, or granted a leave. The community residential facility shall provide written notice of the offender's criminal history to any school that the offender attends while residing at the community residential facility and to any employer that employs the offender while residing at the community residential facility.

(c) The same notice as required by (a) of this subsection shall be sent to the following, if such notice has been requested in writing about a specific juvenile:

- (i) The victim of the offense for which the juvenile was found to have committed or the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide;
- (ii) Any witnesses who testified against the juvenile in any court proceedings involving the offense; and
- (iii) Any person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney.

Information regarding victims, next of kin, or witnesses requesting the notice, information regarding any other person specified in writing by the prosecuting attorney to receive the notice, and the notice are confidential and shall not be available to the juvenile. The notice to the chief of police or the sheriff shall include the identity of the juvenile, the residence where the juvenile will reside, the identity of the person, if any, responsible for supervising the juvenile, and the time period of any authorized leave.

(d) The thirty-day notice requirements contained in this subsection shall not apply to emergency medical furloughs.

(e) The existence of the notice requirements in this subsection will not require any extension of the release date in the event the release plan changes after notification.

(2)(a) If a juvenile found to have committed a violent offense, a sex offense, or stalking escapes from a facility of the department, the secretary shall immediately notify, by the most reasonable and expedient means available, the chief of police of the city and the sheriff of the county in which the juvenile resided immediately before the juvenile's arrest. If previously requested, the secretary shall also notify the witnesses and the victim of the offense which the juvenile was found to have committed or the victim's next of kin if the crime was a homicide. If the juvenile is recaptured, the secretary shall send notice to the persons designated in this subsection as soon as possible but in no event later than two working days after the department learns of such recapture.

(b) The secretary may authorize a leave, for a juvenile found to have committed a violent offense, a sex offense, or stalking, which shall not exceed forty-eight hours plus travel time, to meet an emergency situation such as a death or critical illness of a member of the juvenile's family. The secretary may authorize a leave, which shall not exceed the time medically necessary, to obtain medical care not available in a juvenile facility maintained by the department. Prior to the commencement of an emergency or medical leave, the secre-



tary shall give notice of the leave to the appropriate law enforcement agency in the jurisdiction in which the juvenile will be during the leave period. The notice shall include the identity of the juvenile, the time period of the leave, the residence of the juvenile during the leave, and the identity of the person responsible for supervising the juvenile during the leave. If previously requested, the department shall also notify the witnesses and victim of the offense which the juvenile was found to have committed or the victim's next of kin if the offense was a homicide.

In case of an emergency or medical leave the secretary may waive all or any portion of the requirements for leaves pursuant to RCW 13.40.205 (2)(a), (3), (4), and (5).

(3) If the victim, the victim's next of kin, or any witness is under the age of sixteen, the notice required by this section shall be sent to the parents or legal guardian of the child.

(4) The secretary shall send the notices required by this chapter to the last address provided to the department by the requesting party. The requesting party shall furnish the department with a current address.

(5) Upon discharge, parole, transfer to a community residential facility, or other authorized leave or release, a convicted juvenile sex offender shall not attend a public or approved private elementary, middle, or high school that is attended by a victim or a sibling of a victim of the sex offender. The parents or legal guardians of the convicted juvenile sex offender shall be responsible for transportation or other costs associated with or required by the sex offender's change in school that otherwise would be paid by a school district. Upon discharge, parole, transfer to a community residential facility, or other authorized leave or release of a convicted juvenile sex offender, the secretary shall send written notice of the discharge, parole, or other authorized leave or release and the requirements of this subsection to the common school district board of directors of the district in which the sex offender intends to reside or the district in which the sex offender last attended school, whichever is appropriate. The secretary shall send a similar notice to any approved private school the juvenile will attend, if known, or if unknown, to the approved private schools within the district the juvenile resides or intends to reside.

(6) For purposes of this section the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) "Violent offense" means a violent offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

(b) "Sex offense" means a sex offense under RCW 9.94A.030;

(c) "Stalking" means the crime of stalking as defined in RCW 9A.46.110;

(d) "Next of kin" means a person's spouse, parents, siblings, and children. [1999 c 198 § 1; 1997 c 265 § 2; 1995 c 324 § 1. Prior: 1994 c 129 § 6; 1994 c 78 § 1; 1993 c 27 § 1; 1990 c 3 § 101.]

**Findings—Intent—1994 c 129:** See note following RCW 4.24.550.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.217 Juveniles adjudicated of sex offenses—Release of information authorized.** (1) In addition to any other information required to be released under this chapter, the department is authorized, pursuant to RCW 4.24.550, to

release relevant information that is necessary to protect the public concerning juveniles adjudicated of sex offenses.

(2) In order for public agencies to have the information necessary for notifying the public about sex offenders as authorized in RCW 4.24.550, the secretary shall issue to appropriate law enforcement agencies narrative notices regarding the pending release of sex offenders from the department's juvenile rehabilitation facilities. The narrative notices shall, at a minimum, describe the identity and criminal history behavior of the offender and shall include the department's risk level classification for the offender. For sex offenders classified as either risk level II or III, the narrative notices shall also include the reasons underlying the classification.

(3) For the purposes of this section, the department shall classify as risk level I those offenders whose risk assessments indicate a low risk of reoffense within the community at large. The department shall classify as risk level II those offenders whose risk assessments indicate a moderate risk of reoffense within the community at large. The department shall classify as risk level III those offenders whose risk assessments indicate a high risk of reoffense within the community at large. [1997 c 364 § 2; 1990 c 3 § 102.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.219 Arrest for prostitution or prostitution loitering—Alleged offender—Victim of severe form of trafficking, commercial sex abuse of a minor.** In any proceeding under this chapter related to an arrest for prostitution or prostitution loitering, there is a presumption that the alleged offender meets the criteria for a certification as a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons as defined in section 7105 of Title 22 of the United States code, and that the alleged offender is also a victim of commercial sex abuse of a minor. [2010 c 289 § 9.]

**13.40.220 Costs of support, treatment, and confinement—Order—Contempt of court.** (1) Whenever legal custody of a child is vested in someone other than his or her parents, under this chapter, and not vested in the department of social and health services, after due notice to the parents or other persons legally obligated to care for and support the child, and after a hearing, the court may order and decree that the parent or other legally obligated person shall pay in such a manner as the court may direct a reasonable sum representing in whole or in part the costs of support, treatment, and confinement of the child after the decree is entered.

(2) If the parent or other legally obligated person willfully fails or refuses to pay such sum, the court may proceed against such person for contempt.

(3) Whenever legal custody of a child is vested in the department under this chapter, the parents or other persons legally obligated to care for and support the child shall be liable for the costs of support, treatment, and confinement of the child, in accordance with the department's reimbursement of cost schedule. The department shall adopt a reimbursement of cost schedule based on the costs of providing such services, and shall determine an obligation based on the responsible parents' or other legally obligated person's ability to pay. The department is authorized to adopt additional rules as appropriate to enforce this section.

(4) To enforce subsection (3) of this section, the department shall serve on the parents or other person legally obligated to care for and support the child a notice and finding of financial responsibility requiring the parents or other legally obligated person to appear and show cause in an adjudicative proceeding why the finding of responsibility and/or the amount thereof is incorrect and should not be ordered. This notice and finding shall relate to the costs of support, treatment, and confinement of the child in accordance with the department's reimbursement of cost schedule adopted under this section, including periodic payments to be made in the future. The hearing shall be held pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW, the Administrative Procedure Act, and the rules of the department.

(5) The notice and finding of financial responsibility shall be served in the same manner prescribed for the service of a summons in a civil action or may be served on the parent or legally obligated person by certified mail, return receipt requested. The receipt shall be prima facie evidence of service.

(6) If the parents or other legally obligated person objects to the notice and finding of financial responsibility, then an application for an adjudicative hearing may be filed within twenty days of the date of service of the notice. If an application for an adjudicative proceeding is filed, the presiding or reviewing officer shall determine the past liability and responsibility, if any, of the parents or other legally obligated person and shall also determine the amount of periodic payments to be made in the future. If the parents or other legally responsible person fails to file an application within twenty days, the notice and finding of financial responsibility shall become a final administrative order.

(7) Debts determined pursuant to this section are subject to collection action without further necessity of action by a presiding or reviewing officer. The department may collect the debt in accordance with RCW 43.20B.635, 43.20B.640, 74.20A.060, and 74.20A.070. The department shall exempt from payment parents receiving adoption support under \*RCW 74.13.100 through 74.13.145, parents eligible to receive adoption support under \*RCW 74.13.150, and a parent or other legally obligated person when the parent or other legally obligated person, or such person's child, spouse, or spouse's child, was the victim of the offense for which the child was committed.

(8) An administrative order entered pursuant to this section shall supersede any court order entered prior to June 13, 1994.

(9) The department shall be subrogated to the right of the child and his or her parents or other legally responsible person to receive support payments for the benefit of the child from any parent or legally obligated person pursuant to a support order established by a superior court or pursuant to RCW 74.20A.055. The department's right of subrogation under this section is limited to the liability established in accordance with its cost schedule for support, treatment, and confinement, except as addressed in subsection (10) of this section.

(10) Nothing in this section precludes the department from recouping such additional support payments from the child's parents or other legally obligated person as required to qualify for receipt of federal funds. The department may adopt such rules dealing with liability for recoupment of sup-

port, treatment, or confinement costs as may become necessary to entitle the state to participate in federal funds unless such rules would be expressly prohibited by law. If any law dealing with liability for recoupment of support, treatment, or confinement costs is ruled to be in conflict with federal requirements which are a prescribed condition of the allocation of federal funds, such conflicting law is declared to be inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict. [1995 c 300 § 1; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 529; 1993 c 466 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 76.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 74.13.100 through 74.13.145 and 74.13.150 were recodified as RCW 74.13A.005 through 74.13A.080 and 74.13A.085 pursuant to 2009 c 520 § 95.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### **13.40.230 Appeal from order of disposition—Jurisdiction—Procedure—Scope—Release pending appeal.**

(1) Dispositions reviewed pursuant to RCW 13.40.160 shall be reviewed in the appropriate division of the court of appeals.

An appeal under this section shall be heard solely upon the record that was before the disposition court. No written briefs may be required, and the appeal shall be heard within thirty days following the date of sentencing and a decision rendered within fifteen days following the argument. The supreme court shall promulgate any necessary rules to effectuate the purposes of this section.

(2) To uphold a disposition outside the standard range, the court of appeals must find (a) that the reasons supplied by the disposition judge are supported by the record which was before the judge and that those reasons clearly and convincingly support the conclusion that a disposition within the range would constitute a manifest injustice, and (b) that the sentence imposed was neither clearly excessive nor clearly too lenient.

(3) If the court does not find subsection (2)(a) of this section it shall remand the case for disposition within the standard range.

(4) If the court finds subsection (2)(a) but not subsection (2)(b) of this section it shall remand the case with instructions for further proceedings consistent with the provisions of this chapter.

(5) The disposition court may impose conditions on release pending appeal as provided in RCW \*13.40.040(4) and 13.40.050(6).

(6) Appeal of a disposition under this section does not affect the finality or appeal of the underlying adjudication of guilt. [1997 c 338 § 35; 1981 c 299 § 16; 1979 c 155 § 72; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 77.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 13.40.040 was amended by 2002 c 171 § 2, changing subsection (4) to subsection (5).

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.240 Construction of RCW references to juvenile delinquents or juvenile delinquency.** All references to juvenile delinquents or juvenile delinquency in other chapters of the Revised Code of Washington shall be construed as meaning juvenile offenders or the commitment of an offense

by juveniles as defined by this chapter. [1977 ex.s. c 291 § 78.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.250 Traffic and civil infraction cases.** A traffic or civil infraction case involving a juvenile under the age of sixteen may be diverted in accordance with the provisions of this chapter or filed in juvenile court.

(1) If a notice of a traffic or civil infraction is filed in juvenile court, the juvenile named in the notice shall be afforded the same due process afforded to adult defendants in traffic infraction cases.

(2) A monetary penalty imposed upon a juvenile under the age of sixteen who is found to have committed a traffic or civil infraction may not exceed one hundred dollars. At the juvenile's request, the court may order performance of a number of hours of community restitution in lieu of a monetary penalty, at the rate of the prevailing state minimum wage per hour.

(3) A diversion agreement entered into by a juvenile referred pursuant to this section shall be limited to thirty hours of community restitution, or educational or informational sessions.

(4) Traffic or civil infractions referred to a youth court pursuant to this section are subject to the conditions imposed by RCW 13.40.630.

(5) If a case involving the commission of a traffic or civil infraction or offense by a juvenile under the age of sixteen has been referred to a diversion unit, an abstract of the action taken by the diversion unit may be forwarded to the department of licensing in the manner provided for in RCW 46.20.270(2). [2002 c 237 § 19; 2002 c 175 § 28; 1997 c 338 § 36; 1980 c 128 § 16.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2002 c 175 § 28 and by 2002 c 237 § 19, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.265 Firearm, alcohol, and drug violations.**

(1)(a) If a juvenile thirteen years of age or older is found by juvenile court to have committed an offense while armed with a firearm or an offense that is a violation of RCW 9.41.040(2)(a)(iii) or chapter 66.44, 69.41, 69.50, or 69.52 RCW, the court shall notify the department of licensing within twenty-four hours after entry of the judgment.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in (c) of this subsection, upon petition of a juvenile who has been found by the court to have committed an offense that is a violation of chapter 66.44, 69.41, 69.50, or 69.52 RCW, the court may at any time the court deems appropriate notify the department of licensing that the juvenile's driving privileges should be reinstated.

(c) If the offense is the juvenile's first violation of chapter 66.44, 69.41, 69.50, or 69.52 RCW, the juvenile may not petition the court for reinstatement of the juvenile's privilege to drive revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265 until ninety days after the date the juvenile turns sixteen or ninety days

after the judgment was entered, whichever is later. If the offense is the juvenile's second or subsequent violation of chapter 66.44, 69.41, 69.50, or 69.52 RCW, the juvenile may not petition the court for reinstatement of the juvenile's privilege to drive revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265 until the date the juvenile turns seventeen or one year after the date judgment was entered, whichever is later.

(2)(a) If a juvenile enters into a diversion agreement with a diversion unit pursuant to RCW 13.40.080 concerning an offense that is a violation of chapter 66.44, 69.41, 69.50, or 69.52 RCW, the diversion unit shall notify the department of licensing within twenty-four hours after the diversion agreement is signed.

(b) If a diversion unit has notified the department pursuant to (a) of this subsection, the diversion unit shall notify the department of licensing when the juvenile has completed the agreement. [2003 c 53 § 101; 1997 c 338 § 37; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 435; 1989 c 271 § 116; 1988 c 148 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**Legislative finding—1988 c 148:** "The legislature finds that many persons under the age of eighteen unlawfully use intoxicating liquor and controlled substances. The use of these substances by juveniles can cause serious damage to their physical, mental, and emotional well-being, and in some instances results in lifelong disabilities.

The legislature also finds that juveniles who unlawfully use alcohol and controlled substances frequently operate motor vehicles while under the influence of and impaired by alcohol or drugs. Juveniles who use these substances often have seriously impaired judgment and motor skills and pose an unduly high risk of causing injury or death to themselves or other persons on the public highways.

The legislature also finds that juveniles will be deterred from the unlawful use of alcohol and controlled substances if their driving privileges are suspended or revoked for using illegal drugs or alcohol." [1988 c 148 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.280 Transfer of juvenile to department of corrections facility—Grounds—Hearing—Term—Retransfer to a facility for juveniles.**

(1) The secretary, with the consent of the secretary of the department of corrections, has the authority to transfer a juvenile presently or hereafter committed to the department of social and health services to the department of corrections for appropriate institutional placement in accordance with this section.

(2) The secretary of the department of social and health services may, with the consent of the secretary of the department of corrections, transfer a juvenile offender to the department of corrections if it is established at a hearing before a review board that continued placement of the juvenile offender in an institution for juvenile offenders presents a continuing and serious threat to the safety of others in the institution. The department of social and health services shall establish rules for the conduct of the hearing, including provision of counsel for the juvenile offender.

(3) Assaults made against any staff member at a juvenile corrections institution that are reported to a local law enforcement agency shall require a hearing held by the department of social and health services review board within ten judicial working days. The board shall determine whether the accused

juvenile offender represents a continuing and serious threat to the safety of others in the institution.

(4) Upon conviction in a court of law for custodial assault as defined in RCW 9A.36.100, the department of social and health services review board shall conduct a second hearing, within five judicial working days, to recommend to the secretary of the department of social and health services that the convicted juvenile be transferred to an adult correctional facility if the review board has determined the juvenile offender represents a continuing and serious threat to the safety of others in the institution.

The juvenile has the burden to show cause why the transfer to an adult correctional facility should not occur.

(5) A juvenile offender transferred to an institution operated by the department of corrections shall not remain in such an institution beyond the maximum term of confinement imposed by the juvenile court.

(6) A juvenile offender who has been transferred to the department of corrections under this section may, in the discretion of the secretary of the department of social and health services and with the consent of the secretary of the department of corrections, be transferred from an institution operated by the department of corrections to a facility for juvenile offenders deemed appropriate by the secretary. [1989 c 410 § 2; 1989 c 407 § 8; 1983 c 191 § 22.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1989 c 407 § 8 and by 1989 c 410 § 2, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Purpose—1989 c 410:** "The legislature recognizes the ever-increasing severity of offenses committed by juvenile offenders residing in this state's juvenile detention facilities and the increasing aggressive nature of detained juveniles due to drugs and gang-related violence. The purpose of this act is to provide necessary protection to state employees and juvenile residents of these institutions from assaults committed against them by juvenile detainees." [1989 c 410 § 1.]

**13.40.285 Juvenile offender sentenced to terms in juvenile and adult facilities—Transfer to department of corrections—Term of confinement.** A juvenile offender ordered to serve a term of confinement with the department of social and health services who is subsequently sentenced to the department of corrections may, with the consent of the department of corrections, be transferred by the secretary of social and health services to the department of corrections to serve the balance of the term of confinement ordered by the juvenile court. The juvenile and adult sentences shall be served consecutively. In no case shall the secretary credit time served as a result of an adult conviction against the term of confinement ordered by the juvenile court. [1983 c 191 § 23.]

**13.40.300 Commitment of juvenile beyond age twenty-one prohibited—Jurisdiction of juvenile court after juvenile's eighteenth birthday.** (1) In no case may a juvenile offender be committed by the juvenile court to the department of social and health services for placement in a juvenile correctional institution beyond the juvenile offender's twenty-first birthday. A juvenile may be under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court or the authority of the department of social and health services beyond the juvenile's

eighteenth birthday only if prior to the juvenile's eighteenth birthday:

(a) Proceedings are pending seeking the adjudication of a juvenile offense and the court by written order setting forth its reasons extends jurisdiction of juvenile court over the juvenile beyond his or her eighteenth birthday;

(b) The juvenile has been found guilty after a fact finding or after a plea of guilty and an automatic extension is necessary to allow for the imposition of disposition;

(c) Disposition has been held and an automatic extension is necessary to allow for the execution and enforcement of the court's order of disposition. If an order of disposition imposes commitment to the department, then jurisdiction is automatically extended to include a period of up to twelve months of parole, in no case extending beyond the offender's twenty-first birthday; or

(d) While proceedings are pending in a case in which jurisdiction has been transferred to the adult criminal court pursuant to RCW 13.04.030, the juvenile turns eighteen years of age and is subsequently found not guilty of the charge for which he or she was transferred, or is convicted in the adult criminal court of a lesser included offense, and an automatic extension is necessary to impose the disposition as required by RCW 13.04.030(1)(e)(v)(E).

(2) If the juvenile court previously has extended jurisdiction beyond the juvenile offender's eighteenth birthday and that period of extension has not expired, the court may further extend jurisdiction by written order setting forth its reasons.

(3) In no event may the juvenile court have authority to extend jurisdiction over any juvenile offender beyond the juvenile offender's twenty-first birthday except for the purpose of enforcing an order of restitution or penalty assessment.

(4) Notwithstanding any extension of jurisdiction over a person pursuant to this section, the juvenile court has no jurisdiction over any offenses alleged to have been committed by a person eighteen years of age or older. [2005 c 238 § 2; 2000 c 71 § 2; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 530; 1986 c 288 § 6; 1983 c 191 § 17; 1981 c 299 § 17; 1979 c 155 § 73; 1975 1st ex.s. c 170 § 1. Formerly RCW 13.04.260.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.305 Juvenile offender adjudicated of theft of motor vehicle, possession of stolen vehicle, taking motor vehicle without permission in the first degree, taking motor vehicle without permission in the second degree—Local sanctions—Evaluation.** If a juvenile is adjudicated of theft of a motor vehicle under RCW 9A.56.065, possession of a stolen vehicle under RCW 9A.56.068, taking a motor vehicle without permission in the first degree as defined in RCW 9A.56.070(1), or taking a motor vehicle without permission in the second degree as defined in RCW 9A.56.075(1) and is sentenced to local sanctions, the juvenile's disposition shall include an evaluation to determine whether the juvenile is in need of community-based rehabilitation services and to complete any treatment recommended by the evaluation. [2007 c 199 § 12.]

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**13.40.308 Juvenile offender adjudicated of taking motor vehicle without permission in the first degree, theft of motor vehicle, possession of a stolen vehicle, taking motor vehicle without permission in the second degree—Minimum sentences.** (1) If a respondent is adjudicated of taking a motor vehicle without permission in the first degree as defined in RCW 9A.56.070, the court shall impose the following minimum sentence, in addition to any restitution the court may order payable to the victim:

(a) Juveniles with a prior criminal history score of zero to one-half points shall be sentenced to a standard range sentence that includes no less than three months of community supervision, forty-five hours of community restitution, a two hundred dollar fine, and a requirement that the juvenile remain at home such that the juvenile is confined to a private residence for no less than five days. The juvenile may be subject to electronic monitoring where available. If the juvenile is enrolled in school, the confinement shall be served on nonschool days;

(b) Juveniles with a prior criminal history score of three-quarters to one and one-half points shall be sentenced to a standard range sentence that includes six months of community supervision, no less than ten days of detention, ninety hours of community restitution, and a four hundred dollar fine; and

(c) Juveniles with a prior criminal history score of two or more points shall be sentenced to no less than fifteen to thirty-six weeks commitment to the juvenile rehabilitation administration, four months of parole supervision, ninety hours of community restitution, and a four hundred dollar fine.

(2) If a respondent is adjudicated of theft of a motor vehicle as defined under RCW 9A.56.065, or possession of a stolen vehicle as defined under RCW 9A.56.068, the court shall impose the following minimum sentence, in addition to any restitution the court may order payable to the victim:

(a) Juveniles with a prior criminal history score of zero to one-half points shall be sentenced to a standard range sentence that includes no less than three months of community supervision, forty-five hours of community restitution, a two hundred dollar fine, and either ninety hours of community restitution or a requirement that the juvenile remain at home such that the juvenile is confined in a private residence for no less than five days. The juvenile may be subject to electronic monitoring where available;

(b) Juveniles with a prior criminal history score of three-quarters to one and one-half points shall be sentenced to a standard range sentence that includes no less than six months of community supervision, no less than ten days of detention, ninety hours of community restitution, and a four hundred dollar fine; and

(c) Juveniles with a prior criminal history score of two or more points shall be sentenced to no less than fifteen to thirty-six weeks commitment to the juvenile rehabilitation administration, four months of parole supervision, ninety hours of community restitution, and a four hundred dollar fine.

(3) If a respondent is adjudicated of taking a motor vehicle without permission in the second degree as defined in RCW 9A.56.075, the court shall impose a standard range as follows:

(a) Juveniles with a prior criminal history score of zero to one-half points shall be sentenced to a standard range sentence that includes three months of community supervision, fifteen hours of community restitution, and a requirement that the juvenile remain at home such that the juvenile is confined in a private residence for no less than one day. If the juvenile is enrolled in school, the confinement shall be served on nonschool days. The juvenile may be subject to electronic monitoring where available;

(b) Juveniles with a prior criminal history score of three-quarters to one and one-half points shall be sentenced to a standard range sentence that includes no less than one day of detention, three months of community supervision, thirty hours of community restitution, a one hundred fifty dollar fine, and a requirement that the juvenile remain at home such that the juvenile is confined in a private residence for no less than two days. If the juvenile is enrolled in school, the confinement shall be served on nonschool days. The juvenile may be subject to electronic monitoring where available; and

(c) Juveniles with a prior criminal history score of two or more points shall be sentenced to no less than three days of detention, six months of community supervision, forty-five hours of community restitution, a one hundred fifty dollar fine, and a requirement that the juvenile remain at home such that the juvenile is confined in a private residence for no less than seven days. If the juvenile is enrolled in school, the confinement shall be served on nonschool days. The juvenile may be subject to electronic monitoring where available. [2009 c 454 § 4; 2007 c 199 § 15.]

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**13.40.310 Transitional treatment program for gang and drug-involved juvenile offenders.** (1) The department of social and health services may contract with a community-based nonprofit organization to establish a three-step transitional treatment program for gang and drug-involved juvenile offenders committed to the custody of the department under chapter 13.40 RCW. Any such program shall provide six to twenty-four months of treatment. The program shall emphasize the principles of self-determination, unity, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, and creativity. The program shall be culturally relevant and appropriate and shall include:

(a) A culturally relevant and appropriate institution-based program that provides comprehensive drug and alcohol services, individual and family counseling, and a wilderness experience of constructive group living, rigorous physical exercise, and academic studies;

(b) A culturally relevant and appropriate community-based structured group living program that focuses on individual goals, positive community involvement, coordinated drug and alcohol treatment, coordinated individual and family counseling, academic and vocational training, and employment in apprenticeship, internship, and entrepreneurial programs; and

(c) A culturally relevant and appropriate transitional group living program that provides support services, academic services, and coordinated individual and family counseling.

(2) Participation in any such program shall be on a voluntary basis.

(3) The department shall adopt rules as necessary to implement any such program. [1991 c 326 § 4.]

**Finding—1991 c 326:** "The legislature finds that a destructive lifestyle of drug and street gang activity is rapidly becoming prevalent among some of the state's youths. Gang and drug activity may be a culturally influenced phenomenon which the legislature intends public and private agencies to consider and address in prevention and treatment programs. Gang and drug-involved youths are more likely to become addicted to drugs or alcohol, live in poverty, experience high unemployment, be incarcerated, and die of violence than other youths." [1991 c 326 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.320 Juvenile offender basic training camp program.** (1) The department of social and health services shall establish a medium security juvenile offender basic training camp program. This program for juvenile offenders serving a term of confinement under the supervision of the department is exempt from the licensing requirements of chapter 74.15 RCW.

(2) The department may contract under this chapter with private companies, the national guard, or other federal, state, or local agencies to operate the juvenile offender basic training camp.

(3) The juvenile offender basic training camp shall be a structured and regimented model emphasizing the building up of an offender's self-esteem, confidence, and discipline. The juvenile offender basic training camp program shall provide participants with basic education, prevocational training, work-based learning, work experience, work ethic skills, conflict resolution counseling, substance abuse intervention, anger management counseling, and structured intensive physical training. The juvenile offender basic training camp program shall have a curriculum training and work schedule that incorporates a balanced assignment of these or other rehabilitation and training components for no less than sixteen hours per day, six days a week.

The department shall develop standards for the safe and effective operation of the juvenile offender basic training camp program, for an offender's successful program completion, and for the continued after-care supervision of offenders who have successfully completed the program.

(4) Offenders eligible for the juvenile offender basic training camp option shall be those with a disposition of not more than sixty-five weeks. Violent and sex offenders shall not be eligible for the juvenile offender basic training camp program.

(5) If the court determines that the offender is eligible for the juvenile offender basic training camp option, the court may recommend that the department place the offender in the program. The department shall evaluate the offender and may place the offender in the program. The evaluation shall include, at a minimum, a risk assessment developed by the department and designed to determine the offender's suitability for the program. No juvenile who is assessed as a high risk offender or suffers from any mental or physical problems that could endanger his or her health or drastically affect his or her performance in the program shall be admitted to or retained in the juvenile offender basic training camp program.

(6) All juvenile offenders eligible for the juvenile offender basic training camp sentencing option shall spend one hundred twenty days of their disposition in a juvenile offender basic training camp. This period may be extended for up to forty days by the secretary if a juvenile offender requires additional time to successfully complete the basic training camp program. If the juvenile offender's activities while in the juvenile offender basic training camp are so disruptive to the juvenile offender basic training camp program, as determined by the secretary according to standards developed by the department, as to result in the removal of the juvenile offender from the juvenile offender basic training camp program, or if the offender cannot complete the juvenile offender basic training camp program due to medical problems, the secretary shall require that the offender be committed to a juvenile institution to serve the entire remainder of his or her disposition, less the amount of time already served in the juvenile offender basic training camp program.

(7) All offenders who successfully graduate from the juvenile offender basic training camp program shall spend the remainder of their disposition on parole in a juvenile rehabilitation administration intensive aftercare program in the local community. Violation of the conditions of parole is subject to sanctions specified in RCW 13.40.210(4). The program shall provide for the needs of the offender based on his or her progress in the aftercare program as indicated by ongoing assessment of those needs and progress. The intensive aftercare program shall monitor postprogram juvenile offenders and assist them to successfully reintegrate into the community. In addition, the program shall develop a process for closely monitoring and assessing public safety risks. The intensive aftercare program shall be designed and funded by the department of social and health services.

(8) The department shall also develop and maintain a database to measure recidivism rates specific to this incarceration program. The database shall maintain data on all juvenile offenders who complete the juvenile offender basic training camp program for a period of two years after they have completed the program. The database shall also maintain data on the criminal activity, educational progress, and employment activities of all juvenile offenders who participated in the program. [2002 c 354 § 234; 2001 c 137 § 1; 1997 c 338 § 38; 1995 c 40 § 1; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 532.]

**Short title—Headings, captions not law—Severability—Effective dates—2002 c 354:** See RCW 41.80.907 through 41.80.910.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Findings and intent—Juvenile basic training camps—1994 sp.s. c 7:** "The legislature finds that the number of juvenile offenders and the severity of their crimes is increasing rapidly statewide. In addition, many juvenile offenders continue to reoffend after they are released from the juvenile justice system causing disproportionately high and expensive rates of recidivism.

The legislature further finds that juvenile criminal behavior is often the result of a lack of self-discipline, the lack of systematic work habits and ethics, the inability to deal with authority figures, and an unstable or unstructured living environment. The legislature further finds that the department of social and health services currently operates an insufficient number of confinement beds to meet the rapidly growing juvenile offender population. Together these factors are combining to produce a serious public safety hazard and the need to develop more effective and stringent juvenile punishment and rehabilitation options.

The legislature intends that juvenile offenders who enter the state rehabilitation system have the opportunity and are given the responsibility to

become more effective participants in society by enhancing their personal development, work ethics, and life skills. The legislature recognizes that structured incarceration programs for juvenile offenders such as juvenile offender basic training camps, can instill the self-discipline, accountability, self-esteem, and work ethic skills that could discourage many offenders from returning to the criminal justice system. Juvenile offender basic training camp incarceration programs generally emphasize life skills training, pre-vocational work skills training, anger management, dealing with difficult at-home family problems and/or abuses, discipline, physical training, structured and intensive work activities, and educational classes. The legislature further recognizes that juvenile offenders can benefit from a highly structured basic training camp environment and the public can also benefit through increased public protection and reduced cost due to lowered rates of recidivism." [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 531.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.400 Applicability of RCW 10.01.040 to chapter.** The provisions of RCW 10.01.040 apply to chapter 13.40 RCW. [1979 c 155 § 74.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.430 Disparity in disposition of juvenile offenders—Data collection.** The administrative office of the courts shall collect such data as may be necessary to monitor any disparity in processing or disposing of cases involving juvenile offenders due to economic, gender, geographic, or racial factors that may result from implementation of section 1, chapter 373, Laws of 1993. The administrative office of the courts may, in consultation with juvenile courts, determine a format for the collection of such data and a schedule for the reporting of such data and shall keep a minimum of five years of data at any given time. [2005 c 282 § 27; 2003 c 207 § 13; 1993 c 373 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.460 Juvenile rehabilitation programs—Administration.** The secretary, assistant secretary, or the secretary's designee shall manage and administer the department's juvenile rehabilitation responsibilities, including but not limited to the operation of all state institutions or facilities used for juvenile rehabilitation.

The secretary or assistant secretary shall:

- (1) Prepare a biennial budget request sufficient to meet the confinement and rehabilitative needs of the juvenile rehabilitation program, as forecast by the office of financial management;
- (2) Create by rule a formal system for inmate classification. This classification system shall consider:
  - (a) Public safety;
  - (b) Internal security and staff safety;
  - (c) Rehabilitative resources both within and outside the department;
  - (d) An assessment of each offender's risk of sexually aggressive behavior as provided in RCW 13.40.470; and
  - (e) An assessment of each offender's vulnerability to sexually aggressive behavior as provided in RCW 13.40.470;
- (3) Develop agreements with local jurisdictions to develop regional facilities with a variety of custody levels;
- (4) Adopt rules establishing effective disciplinary policies to maintain order within institutions;
- (5) Develop a comprehensive diagnostic evaluation process to be used at intake, including but not limited to evalua-

tion for substance addiction or abuse, literacy, learning disabilities, fetal alcohol syndrome or effect, attention deficit disorder, and mental health;

(6) Develop placement criteria:

(a) To avoid assigning youth who present a moderate or high risk of sexually aggressive behavior to the same sleeping quarters as youth assessed as vulnerable to sexual victimization under RCW 13.40.470(1)(c); and

(b) To avoid placing a juvenile offender on parole status who has been assessed as a moderate to high risk for sexually aggressive behavior in a department community residential program with another child who is: (i) Dependent under chapter 13.34 RCW, or an at-risk youth or child in need of services under chapter 13.32A RCW; and (ii) not also a juvenile offender on parole status;

(7) Develop a plan to implement, by July 1, 1995:

(a) Substance abuse treatment programs for all state juvenile rehabilitation facilities and institutions;

(b) Vocational education and instruction programs at all state juvenile rehabilitation facilities and institutions; and

(c) An educational program to establish self-worth and responsibility in juvenile offenders. This educational program shall emphasize instruction in character-building principles such as: Respect for self, others, and authority; victim awareness; accountability; work ethics; good citizenship; and life skills; and

(8)(a) The juvenile rehabilitation administration shall develop uniform policies related to custodial assaults consistent with RCW 72.01.045 and 9A.36.100 that are to be followed in all juvenile rehabilitation administration facilities; and

(b) The juvenile rehabilitation administration will report assaults in accordance with the policies developed in (a) of this subsection. [2003 c 229 § 1; 1999 c 372 § 2; 1997 c 386 § 54; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 516.]

**Finding—Intent—1997 c 386 §§ 50-55:** See note following RCW 13.40.470.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.462 Reinvesting in youth program.** (1) The department of social and health services juvenile rehabilitation administration shall establish a reinvesting in youth program that awards grants to counties for implementing research-based early intervention services that target juvenile justice-involved youth and reduce crime, subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose.

(2) Effective July 1, 2007, any county or group of counties may apply for participation in the reinvesting in youth program.

(3) Counties that participate in the reinvesting in youth program shall have a portion of their costs of serving youth through the research-based intervention service models paid for with moneys from the reinvesting in youth account established pursuant to RCW 13.40.466.

(4) The department of social and health services juvenile rehabilitation administration shall review county applications for funding through the reinvesting in youth program and shall select the counties that will be awarded grants with funds appropriated to implement this program. The depart-

ment, in consultation with the Washington state institute for public policy, shall develop guidelines to determine which counties will be awarded funding in accordance with the reinvesting in youth program. At a minimum, counties must meet the following criteria in order to participate in the reinvesting in youth program:

(a) Counties must match state moneys awarded for research-based early intervention services with nonstate resources that are at least proportional to the expected local government share of state and local government cost avoidance that would result from the implementation of such services;

(b) Counties must demonstrate that state funds allocated pursuant to this section are used only for the intervention service models authorized pursuant to RCW 13.40.464;

(c) Counties must participate fully in the state quality assurance program established in RCW 13.40.468 to ensure fidelity of program implementation. If no state quality assurance program is in effect for a particular selected research-based service, the county must submit a quality assurance plan for state approval with its grant application. Failure to demonstrate continuing compliance with quality assurance plans shall be grounds for termination of state funding; and

(d) Counties that submit joint applications must submit for approval by the department of social and health services juvenile rehabilitation administration multicounty plans for efficient program delivery. [2011 1st sp.s. c 32 § 4; 2006 c 304 § 2.]

**Transition plan—Report to the legislature—2011 1st sp.s. c 32:** See note following RCW 70.305.005.

**Finding—Intent—2006 c 304:** "The legislature finds that there are youth and family-focused intervention services that have been proven through rigorous evaluation in the state of Washington and elsewhere to significantly reduce violence and crime while saving more public safety dollars than they cost. Under current state laws, no local government acting alone has the financial incentive to invest in these cost-effective services because the savings accrue to multiple levels of government with the largest savings going to the state. It is the intent of the legislature to create incentives for local government to invest in cost-effective intervention services that reduce crime by reimbursing local governments with a portion of the cost savings that accrue to the state as the result of local investments in such services." [2006 c 304 § 1.]

**Entitlement not created—2006 c 304:** "Nothing in this act creates an entitlement for a county or group of counties to receive funding under the program in sections 2 and 3 of this act." [2006 c 304 § 8.]

**Effective date—2006 c 304:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2006." [2006 c 304 § 9.]

**13.40.464 Reinvesting in youth program—Guidelines.** (1)(a) In order to receive funding through the reinvesting in youth program established pursuant to RCW 13.40.462, intervention service models must meet the following minimum criteria:

(i) There must be scientific evidence from at least one rigorous evaluation study of the specific service model that measures recidivism reduction;

(ii) There must be evidence that the specific service model's results can be replicated outside of an academic research environment;

(iii) The evaluation or evaluations of the service model must permit dollar cost estimates of both benefits and costs so that the benefit-cost ratio of the model can be calculated; and

(iv) The public taxpayer benefits to all levels of state and local government must exceed the service model costs.

(b) In calendar year 2006, for use beginning in fiscal year 2008, the Washington state institute for public policy shall publish a list of service models that are eligible for reimbursement through the investing in youth program. As authorized by the board of the institute and to the extent necessary to respond to new research and information, the institute shall periodically update the list of service models. The institute shall use the technical advisory committee established in \*RCW 13.40.462(5) to review and provide comments on the list of service models that are eligible for reimbursement.

(2) In calendar year 2006, for use beginning in fiscal year 2008, the Washington state institute for public policy shall review and update the methodology for calculating cost savings resulting from implementation of this program. As authorized by the board of the institute and to the extent necessary to respond to new research and information, the institute shall periodically further review and update the methodology. As authorized by the board of the institute, when the institute reviews and updates the methodology for calculating cost savings, the institute shall provide an estimate of savings and avoided costs resulting from this program, along with a projection of future savings and avoided costs, to the appropriate committees of the legislature. The institute shall use the technical advisory committee established in \*RCW 13.40.462(5) to review and provide comments on its methodology and cost calculations.

(3) In calendar year 2006, for use beginning in fiscal year 2008, the department of social and health services' juvenile rehabilitation administration shall establish a distribution formula to provide funding to local governments that implement research-based intervention services pursuant to this program. The department shall periodically update the distribution formula. The distribution formula shall require that the state allocation to local governments be proportional to the expected state government share of state and local government cost avoidance that would result from the implementation of such services based on the methodology maintained by the Washington state institute for public policy pursuant to subsection (2) of this section. The department shall use the technical advisory committee established in \*RCW 13.40.462(5) to review and provide comments on its proposed distribution formula.

(4) The department of social and health services juvenile rehabilitation administration shall provide a report to the legislature on the initial cost savings calculation methodology and distribution formula by October 1, 2006. [2006 c 304 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 13.40.462 was amended by 2011 1st sp.s. c 32 § 4, deleting subsection (5).

**Finding—Intent—Entitlement not created—Effective date—2006 c 304:** See notes following RCW 13.40.462.

**13.40.466 Reinvesting in youth account.** (1) The reinvesting in youth account is created in the state treasury. Moneys in the account shall be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used to reimburse local governments for the implementation of the reinvesting in youth program established in RCW 13.40.462 and 13.40.464.



(2) Revenues to the reinvesting in youth account consist of revenues appropriated to or deposited in the account.

(3) The department of social and health services juvenile rehabilitation administration shall review and monitor the expenditures made by any county or group of counties that is funded, in whole or in part, with funds provided through the reinvesting in youth account. Counties shall repay any funds that are not spent in accordance with RCW 13.40.462 and 13.40.464. [2006 c 304 § 4.]

**Finding—Intent—Entitlement not created—Effective date—2006 c 304:** See notes following RCW 13.40.462.

**13.40.468 Juvenile rehabilitation administration—State quality assurance program.** The department of social and health services juvenile rehabilitation administration shall establish a state quality assurance program. The juvenile rehabilitation administration shall monitor the implementation of intervention services funded pursuant to RCW 13.40.466 and shall evaluate adherence to service model design and service completion rate. [2006 c 304 § 6.]

**Finding—Intent—Entitlement not created—Effective date—2006 c 304:** See notes following RCW 13.40.462.

**13.40.470 Vulnerable youth committed to residential facilities—Protection from sexually aggressive youth—Assessment process.** (1) The department shall implement a policy for protecting youth committed to state-operated or state-funded residential facilities under this chapter who are vulnerable to sexual victimization by other youth committed to those facilities who are sexually aggressive. The policy shall include, at a minimum, the following elements:

(a) Development and use of an assessment process for identifying youth, within thirty days of commitment to the department, who present a moderate or high risk of sexually aggressive behavior for the purposes of this section. The assessment process need not require that every youth who is adjudicated or convicted of a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 be determined to be sexually aggressive, nor shall a sex offense adjudication or conviction be required in order to determine a youth is sexually aggressive. Instead, the assessment process shall consider the individual circumstances of the youth, including his or her age, physical size, sexual abuse history, mental and emotional condition, and other factors relevant to sexual aggressiveness. The definition of "sexually aggressive youth" in RCW 74.13.075 does not apply to this section to the extent that it conflicts with this section;

(b) Development and use of an assessment process for identifying youth, within thirty days of commitment to the department, who may be vulnerable to victimization by youth identified under (a) of this subsection as presenting a moderate or high risk of sexually aggressive behavior. The assessment process shall consider the individual circumstances of the youth, including his or her age, physical size, sexual abuse history, mental and emotional condition, and other factors relevant to vulnerability;

(c) Development and use of placement criteria to avoid assigning youth who present a moderate or high risk of sexually aggressive behavior to the same sleeping quarters as youth assessed as vulnerable to sexual victimization, except that they may be assigned to the same multiple-person sleep-

ing quarters if those sleeping quarters are regularly monitored by visual surveillance equipment or staff checks;

(d) Development and use of procedures for minimizing, within available funds, unsupervised contact in state-operated or state-funded residential facilities between youth presenting moderate to high risk of sexually aggressive behavior and youth assessed as vulnerable to sexual victimization. The procedures shall include taking reasonable steps to prohibit any youth committed under this chapter who present a moderate to high risk of sexually aggressive behavior from entering any sleeping quarters other than the one to which they are assigned, unless accompanied by an authorized adult.

(2) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) "Sleeping quarters" means the bedrooms or other rooms within a residential facility where youth are assigned to sleep.

(b) "Unsupervised contact" means contact occurring outside the sight or hearing of a responsible adult for more than a reasonable period of time under the circumstances. [1997 c 386 § 50.]

**Finding—Intent—1997 c 386 §§ 50-55:** "The legislature finds that the placement of children and youth in state-operated or state-funded residential facilities must be done in such a manner as to protect children who are vulnerable to sexual victimization from youth who are sexually aggressive. To achieve this purpose, the legislature intends the department of social and health services to develop a policy for assessing sexual aggressiveness and vulnerability to sexual victimization of children and youth who are placed in state-operated or state-funded residential facilities." [1997 c 386 § 49.]

**13.40.480 Student records and information—Reasons for release—Who may request.** (1) Pursuant to RCW 28A.600.475, and to the extent permitted by the family educational and privacy rights act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g(b), and in order to serve the juvenile while in detention and to prepare any postconviction services, schools shall make all student records and information necessary for risk assessment, security classification, and placement available to court personnel and the department within three working days of a request under this section.

(2)(a) When a juvenile has one or more prior convictions, a request for records shall be made by the county prosecuting attorney, or probation department if available, to the school not more than ten days following the juvenile's arrest or detention, whichever occurs later, and prior to trial. The request may be made by subpoena.

(b) Where a juvenile has no prior conviction, a request to release records shall be made by subpoena upon the juvenile's conviction. When the request for a juvenile's student records and information is made by subpoena following conviction, the court or other issuing agency shall order the school on which the subpoena is served not to disclose to any person the existence or contents of the subpoena or any information furnished in response to the subpoena. When the court or issuing agency so orders, the school shall not provide notice to the juvenile or his or her parents. [1998 c 269 § 12.]

**Intent—Finding—Effective date—1998 c 269:** See notes following RCW 72.05.020.

**13.40.500 Community juvenile accountability programs—Findings—Purpose.** The legislature finds that meaningful community involvement is vital to the juvenile

justice system's ability to respond to the serious problem of juvenile crime. Citizens and crime victims need to be active partners in responding to crime, in the management of resources, and in the disposition decisions regarding juvenile offenders in their community. Involvement of citizens and crime victims increase offender accountability and build healthier communities, which will reduce recidivism and crime rates in Washington state.

The legislature also finds that local governments are in the best position to develop, coordinate, and manage local community prevention, intervention, and corrections programs for juvenile offenders, and to determine local resource priorities. Local community management will build upon local values and increase local control of resources, encourage the use of a comprehensive range of community-based intervention strategies.

The primary purpose of RCW 13.40.500 through 13.40.540, the community juvenile accountability act, is to provide a continuum of community-based programs that emphasize the juvenile offender's accountability for his or her actions while assisting him or her in the development of skills necessary to function effectively and positively in the community in a manner consistent with public safety. [1997 c 338 § 60.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.510 Community juvenile accountability programs—Establishment—Proposals—Guidelines.** (1) In order to receive funds under RCW 13.40.500 through 13.40.540, local governments may, through their respective agencies that administer funding for consolidated juvenile services, submit proposals that establish community juvenile accountability programs within their communities. These proposals must be submitted to the juvenile rehabilitation administration of the department of social and health services for certification.

(2) The proposals must:

(a) Demonstrate that the proposals were developed with the input of the local law and justice councils established under RCW 72.09.300;

(b) Describe how local community groups or members are involved in the implementation of the programs funded under RCW 13.40.500 through 13.40.540;

(c) Include a description of how the grant funds will contribute to the expected outcomes of the program and the reduction of youth violence and juvenile crime in their community. Data approaches are not required to be replicated if the networks have information that addresses risks in the community for juvenile offenders.

(3) A local government receiving a grant under this section shall agree that any funds received must be used efficiently to encourage the use of community-based programs that reduce the reliance on secure confinement as the sole means of holding juvenile offenders accountable for their crimes. The local government shall also agree to account for the expenditure of all funds received under the grant and to submit to audits for compliance with the grant criteria developed under RCW 13.40.520.

(4) The juvenile rehabilitation administration, in consultation with the Washington association of juvenile court administrators and the state law and justice advisory council, shall establish guidelines for programs that may be funded under RCW 13.40.500 through 13.40.540. The guidelines must:

(a) Target diverted and adjudicated juvenile offenders;

(b) Include assessment methods to determine services, programs, and intervention strategies most likely to change behaviors and norms of juvenile offenders;

(c) Provide maximum structured supervision in the community. Programs should use natural surveillance and community guardians such as employers, relatives, teachers, clergy, and community mentors to the greatest extent possible;

(d) Promote good work ethic values and educational skills and competencies necessary for the juvenile offender to function effectively and positively in the community;

(e) Maximize the efficient delivery of treatment services aimed at reducing risk factors associated with the commission of juvenile offenses;

(f) Maximize the reintegration of the juvenile offender into the community upon release from confinement;

(g) Maximize the juvenile offender's opportunities to make full restitution to the victims and amends to the community;

(h) Support and encourage increased court discretion in imposing community-based intervention strategies;

(i) Be compatible with research that shows which prevention and early intervention strategies work with juvenile offenders;

(j) Be outcome-based in that it describes what outcomes will be achieved or what outcomes have already been achieved;

(k) Include an evaluation component; and

(l) Recognize the diversity of local needs.

(5) The state law and justice advisory council may provide support and technical assistance to local governments for training and education regarding community-based prevention and intervention strategies. [2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 62; 1997 c 338 § 61.]

**Effective date—2010 1st sp.s. c 26; 2010 1st sp.s. c 7:** See note following RCW 43.03.027.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.520 Community juvenile accountability programs—Grants.** (1) The state may make grants to local governments for the provision of community-based programs for juvenile offenders. The grants must be made under a grant formula developed by the juvenile rehabilitation administration, in consultation with the Washington association of juvenile court administrators.

(2) Upon certification by the juvenile rehabilitation administration that a proposal satisfies the application and selection criteria, grant funds will be distributed to the local government agency that administers funding for consolidated juvenile services. [1997 c 338 § 62.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.530 Community juvenile accountability programs—Effectiveness standards.** The legislature recognizes the importance of evaluation and outcome measurements of programs serving juvenile offenders in order to ensure cost-effective use of public funds.

The Washington state institute for public policy shall develop standards for measuring the effectiveness of juvenile accountability programs established and approved under RCW 13.40.510. The standards must be developed and presented to the governor and legislature not later than January 1, 1998. The standards must include methods for measuring success factors following intervention. Success factors include, but are not limited to, continued use of alcohol or controlled substances, arrests, violations of terms of community supervision, convictions for subsequent offenses, and restitution to victims. [1997 c 338 § 63.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.540 Community juvenile accountability programs—Information collection—Report.** (1) Each community juvenile accountability program approved and funded under RCW 13.40.500 through 13.40.540 shall comply with the information collection requirements in subsection (2) of this section and the reporting requirements in subsection (3) of this section.

(2) The information collected by each community juvenile accountability program must include, at a minimum for each juvenile participant: (a) The name, date of birth, gender, social security number, and, when available, the juvenile information system (JUVIS) control number; (b) an initial intake assessment of each juvenile participating in the program; (c) a list of all juveniles who completed the program; and (d) an assessment upon completion or termination of each juvenile, including outcomes and, where applicable, reasons for termination.

(3) The juvenile rehabilitation administration shall annually compile the data and report to the legislature on: (a) The programs funded under RCW 13.40.500 through 13.40.540; (b) the total cost for each funded program and cost per juvenile; and (c) the essential elements of the program. [1997 c 338 § 64.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.550 Community juvenile accountability programs—Short title.** RCW 13.40.500 through 13.40.540 may be known as the community juvenile accountability act. [1997 c 338 § 66.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.560 Juvenile accountability incentive account.** The juvenile accountability incentive account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. Federal awards for juvenile accountability incentives received by the secretary of the

department of social and health services shall be deposited into the account. Interest earned from the inception of the trust account shall be deposited in the account. Expenditures from the account may be used only for the purposes specified in the federal award or awards. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. [1999 c 182 § 1.]

**13.40.570 Sexual misconduct by state employees, contractors.** (1) When the secretary has reasonable cause to believe that sexual intercourse or sexual contact between an employee and an offender has occurred, notwithstanding any rule adopted under chapter 41.06 RCW the secretary shall immediately suspend the employee.

(2) The secretary shall immediately institute proceedings to terminate the employment of any person:

(a) Who is found by the department, based on a preponderance of the evidence, to have had sexual intercourse or sexual contact with the offender; or

(b) Upon a guilty plea or conviction for any crime specified in chapter 9A.44 RCW when the victim was an offender.

(3) When the secretary has reasonable cause to believe that sexual intercourse or sexual contact between the employee of a contractor and an offender has occurred, the secretary shall require the employee of a contractor to be immediately removed from any employment position which would permit the employee to have any access to any offender.

(4) The secretary shall disqualify for employment with a contractor in any position with access to an offender, any person:

(a) Who is found by the department, based on a preponderance of the evidence, to have had sexual intercourse or sexual contact with the offender; or

(b) Upon a guilty plea or conviction for any crime specified in chapter 9A.44 RCW when the victim was an offender.

(5) The secretary, when considering the renewal of a contract with a contractor who has taken action under subsection (3) or (4) of this section, shall require the contractor to demonstrate that there has been significant progress made in reducing the likelihood that any of its employees will have sexual intercourse or sexual contact with an offender. The secretary shall examine whether the contractor has taken steps to improve hiring, training, and monitoring practices and whether the employee remains with the contractor. The secretary shall not renew a contract unless he or she determines that significant progress has been made.

(6)(a) For the purposes of RCW 50.20.060, a person terminated under this section shall be considered discharged for misconduct.

(b)(i) The department may, within its discretion or upon request of any member of the public, release information to an individual or to the public regarding any person or contract terminated under this section.

(ii) An appointed or elected public official, public employee, or public agency as defined in RCW 4.24.470 is immune from civil liability for damages for any discretionary release of relevant and necessary information, unless it is shown that the official, employee, or agency acted with gross negligence or in bad faith. The immunity provided under this section applies to the release of relevant and necessary infor-

mation to other public officials, public employees, or public agencies, and to the public.

(iii) Except as provided in chapter 42.56 RCW, or elsewhere, nothing in this section shall impose any liability upon a public official, public employee, or public agency for failing to release information authorized under this section. Nothing in this section implies that information regarding persons designated in subsection (2) of this section is confidential except as may otherwise be provided by law.

(7) The department shall adopt rules to implement this section. The rules shall reflect the legislative intent that this section prohibits individuals who are employed by the department or a contractor of the department from having sexual intercourse or sexual contact with offenders. The rules shall also reflect the legislative intent that when a person is employed by the department or a contractor of the department, and has sexual intercourse or sexual contact with an offender against the employed person's will, the termination provisions of this section shall not be invoked.

(8) As used in this section:

(a) "Contractor" includes all subcontractors of a contractor;

(b) "Offender" means a person under the jurisdiction or supervision of the department; and

(c) "Sexual intercourse" and "sexual contact" have the meanings provided in RCW 9A.44.010. [2005 c 274 § 210; 1999 c 72 § 1.]

**Part headings not law—Effective date—2005 c 274:** See RCW 42.56.901 and 42.56.902.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.40.580 Youth courts—Diversion.** Youth courts provide a diversion for cases involving juvenile offenders, in which participants, under the supervision of an adult coordinator, may serve in various capacities within the program, acting in the role of jurors, lawyers, bailiffs, clerks, and judges. Youths who appear before youth courts are youths eligible for diversion pursuant to \*RCW 13.40.070 (6) and (7). Youth courts have no jurisdiction except as provided for in chapter 237, Laws of 2002. Youth courts are diversion units and not courts established under Article IV of the state Constitution. [2002 c 237 § 9.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 13.40.070 was amended by 2010 c 289 § 7, changing subsection (7) to subsection (8).

**13.40.590 Youth court programs.** (1) The administrative office of the courts shall encourage the juvenile courts to work with cities and counties to implement, expand, or use youth court programs for juveniles who commit diversion-eligible offenses, civil, or traffic infractions. Program operations of youth court programs may be funded by government and private grants. Youth court programs are limited to those that:

(a) Are developed using the guidelines for creating and operating youth court programs developed by nationally recognized experts in youth court projects;

(b) Target offenders age eight through seventeen; and

(c) Emphasize the following principles:

(i) Youth must be held accountable for their problem behavior;

(ii) Youth must be educated about the impact their actions have on themselves and others including their victims, their families, and their community;

(iii) Youth must develop skills to resolve problems with their peers more effectively; and

(iv) Youth should be provided a meaningful forum to practice and enhance newly developed skills.

(2) Youth court programs under this section may be established by private nonprofit organizations and schools, upon prior approval and under the supervision of juvenile court. [2002 c 237 § 10.]

**13.40.600 Youth court jurisdiction.** (1) Youth courts have authority over juveniles ages eight through seventeen who:

(a) Along with their parent, guardian, or legal custodian, voluntarily and in writing request youth court involvement;

(b) Admit they have committed the offense they are referred for;

(c) Along with their parent, guardian, or legal custodian, waive any privilege against self-incrimination concerning the offense; and

(d) Along with their parent, guardian, or legal custodian, agree to comply with the youth court disposition of the case.

(2) Youth courts shall not exercise authority over youth who are under the continuing jurisdiction of the juvenile court for law violations, including a youth with a matter pending before the juvenile court but which has not yet been adjudicated.

(3) Youth courts may decline to accept a youth for youth court disposition for any reason and may terminate a youth from youth court participation at any time.

(4) A youth or his or her parent, guardian, or legal custodian may withdraw from the youth court process at any time.

(5) Youth courts shall give any victims of a juvenile the opportunity to be notified, present, and heard in any youth court proceeding. [2002 c 237 § 11.]

**13.40.610 Youth court notification of satisfaction of conditions.** Youth court may not notify the juvenile court of satisfaction of conditions until all ordered restitution has been paid. [2002 c 237 § 12.]

**13.40.620 Appearance before youth court with parent, guardian, or legal custodian.** Every youth appearing before a youth court shall be accompanied by his or her parent, guardian, or legal custodian. [2002 c 237 § 13.]

**13.40.630 Youth court dispositions.** (1) Youth court dispositional options include those delineated in RCW 13.40.080, and may also include:

(a) Participating in law-related education classes, appropriate counseling, treatment, or other education [educational] programs;

(b) Providing periodic reports to the youth court;

(c) Participating in mentoring programs;

(d) Serving as a participant in future youth court proceedings;

(e) Writing apology letters; or

(f) Writing essays.

(2) Youth courts shall not impose a term of confinement or detention. Youth courts may require that the youth pay reasonable fees to participate in youth court and in classes, counseling, treatment, or other educational programs that are the disposition of the youth court.

(3) A youth court disposition shall be completed within one hundred eighty days from the date of referral.

(4) Pursuant to RCW 13.40.080(1), a youth court disposition shall be reduced to writing and signed by the youth and his or her parent, guardian, or legal custodian accepting the disposition terms.

(5) [A] youth court shall notify the juvenile court upon successful or unsuccessful completion of the disposition.

(6) [A] youth court shall notify the prosecutor or probation counselor of a failure to successfully complete the youth court disposition. [2002 c 237 § 14.]

**13.40.640 Youth court nonrefundable fee.** A youth court may require that a youth pay a nonrefundable fee, not exceeding thirty dollars, to cover the costs of administering the program. The fee may be reduced or waived for a participant. Fees shall be paid to and accounted for by the youth court. [2002 c 237 § 15.]

**13.40.650 Use of restraints on pregnant youth in custody—Allowed in extraordinary circumstances.** (1) Except in extraordinary circumstances, no restraints of any kind may be used on any pregnant youth in an institution or detention facility covered by this chapter during transportation to and from visits to medical providers and court proceedings during the third trimester of her pregnancy, or during postpartum recovery. For purposes of this section, "extraordinary circumstances" exist where an employee at an institution or detention facility makes an individualized determination that restraints are necessary to prevent an incarcerated pregnant youth from escaping, or from injuring herself, medical or correctional personnel, or others. In the event the employee of the institution or detention facility determines that extraordinary circumstances exist and restraints are used, the employee of the institution or detention facility must fully document in writing the reasons that he or she determined such extraordinary circumstances existed such that restraints were used. As part of this documentation, the employee of the institution or detention facility must also include the kind of restraints used and the reasons those restraints were considered the least restrictive available and the most reasonable under the circumstances.

(2) While the pregnant youth is in labor or in childbirth no restraints of any kind may be used. Nothing in this section affects the use of hospital restraints requested for the medical safety of a patient by treating physicians licensed under Title 18 RCW.

(3) Anytime restraints are permitted to be used on a pregnant youth, the restraints must be the least restrictive available and the most reasonable under the circumstances, but in no case shall leg irons or waist chains be used on any youth known to be pregnant.

(4) No employee of the institution or detention facility shall be present in the room during the pregnant youth's labor or childbirth, unless specifically requested by medical per-

sonnel. If the employee's presence is requested by medical personnel, the employee should be female, if practicable.

(5) If the doctor, nurse, or other health professional treating the pregnant youth requests that restraints not be used, the employee of the institution or detention facility accompanying the pregnant youth shall immediately remove all restraints. [2010 c 181 § 11.]

**13.40.651 Use of restraints on pregnant youth in custody—Provision of information to staff and pregnant youth in custody.** (1) The director of the juvenile detention facility shall provide an informational packet about the requirements of chapter 181, Laws of 2010 to all medical staff and nonmedical staff who are involved in the transportation of youth who are pregnant, as well as such other staff as appropriate. The informational packet provided to staff under this section shall be developed as provided in RCW 70.48.800.

(2) The director shall cause the requirements of chapter 181, Laws of 2010 to be provided to all youth who are pregnant, at the time the facility assumes custody of the person. In addition, the facility shall cause a notice containing the requirements of chapter 181, Laws of 2010 to be posted in conspicuous locations in the detention facilities, including but not limited to the locations in which medical care is provided within the facilities. [2010 c 181 § 12.]

**13.40.700 Juvenile gang courts—Minimum requirements—Admission—Individualized plan—Completion.**

(1) Counties may establish and operate juvenile gang courts.

(2) For the purposes of this section, "juvenile gang court" means a court that has special calendars or dockets designed to achieve a reduction in gang-related offenses among juvenile offenders by increasing their likelihood for successful rehabilitation through early, continuous, and judicially supervised and integrated evidence-based services proven to reduce juvenile recidivism and gang involvement or through the use of research-based or promising practices identified by the Washington state partnership council on juvenile justice.

(3) Any county that establishes a juvenile gang court pursuant to this section shall establish minimum requirements for the participation of offenders in the program. The juvenile gang court may adopt local requirements that are more stringent than the minimum. The minimum requirements are:

(a) The juvenile offender participates in gang activity, is repeatedly in the company of known gang members, or openly admits that he or she has been admitted to a gang;

(b) The juvenile offender has not previously been convicted of a serious violent offense or sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030; and

(c) The juvenile offender is not currently charged with an offense:

(i) That is a class A felony offense;

(ii) That is a sex offense;

(iii) During which the juvenile offender intentionally discharged, threatened to discharge, or attempted to discharge a firearm in furtherance of the offense;

(iv) That subjects the juvenile offender to adult court original jurisdiction pursuant to RCW 13.04.030(1)(e)(v); or

(v) That constitutes assault of a child in the second degree.

(4) The court, the prosecutor, and the juvenile must agree to the juvenile's admission to a gang court created under this section.

(5) For the purposes of chapter 146, Laws of 2012, a "gang" means a group which consists of three or more persons; has identifiable leadership; and on an ongoing basis, regularly conspires and acts in concert mainly for criminal purposes.

(6) The juvenile offender who is admitted to juvenile gang court must:

(a) Stipulate to the admissibility of the facts contained in the written police report;

(b) Acknowledge that the report will be entered and used to support a finding of guilt and to impose a disposition if the juvenile fails to comply with the requirements of the juvenile gang court; and

(c) Waive the following rights to: (i) A speedy disposition; and (ii) call and confront witnesses.

(7) The adjudicatory hearing shall be limited to a reading of the court's record.

(8) Following the stipulation to the facts in the police report, acknowledgment, waiver, and entry of a finding or plea of guilt, the court shall defer entry of an order of disposition of the juvenile.

(9) Upon admission to juvenile gang court, an individualized plan shall be developed for the juvenile, identifying goals for the juvenile and a team to support the juvenile, which may include mental health and chemical dependency treatment providers, a probation officer, teachers, defense counsel, the prosecuting attorney, law enforcement, guardians or family members, and other participants deemed appropriate by the court. The individualized plan shall include a requirement that the juvenile remain in the gang court program for at least twelve months. At least one member of the support team must have daily contact with the juvenile.

(10) Upon successful completion of the juvenile gang court requirements, the conviction entered by the court shall be vacated and the charge shall be dismissed with prejudice.

(11) A juvenile may only be admitted to juvenile gang court once. If the juvenile fails to complete the requirements of gang court after being admitted, or successfully completes the requirements of gang court after being admitted, the juvenile may not be admitted again.

(12) If the juvenile fails to complete the juvenile gang court requirements, the court shall enter an order of disposition pursuant to RCW 13.40.0357. [2012 c 146 § 2.]

**Findings—2012 c 146:** "The legislature finds that juvenile gang activity in Washington state poses a significant threat to communities and to the positive development of juveniles as they mature into adulthood. Thus, a strategic and collaborative approach is needed to address the problem of juvenile gangs. Many juveniles who become involved in gang activity have been exposed to risk factors such as antisocial behavior, alcohol and drug use, mental health problems, and victimization. Evidence-based and research-based gang intervention programs and strategies can provide services to these youth such as mental health counseling, education, chemical dependency treatment, and skill building. The legislature further finds that a court specifically developed to facilitate the delivery of these critical services to gang-involved juveniles and that provides a supportive team will assist juveniles in breaking out of a cycle of gang activity, reduce criminal

activity, and increase their ability to develop into successful adults." [2012 c 146 § 1.]

**13.40.710 Juvenile gang courts—Data—Reports.** (1) Counties that create a juvenile gang court pursuant to RCW 13.40.700 shall track and document data regarding the criteria that led to a juvenile's admission to gang court, the successful and unsuccessful completion of juvenile gang court requirements, and any subsequent criminal charges of juvenile gang court participants and provide such data to the administrative office of the courts.

(2) Subject to the availability of funds appropriated for this purpose, the administrative office of the courts shall study the data provided by the counties pursuant to subsection (1) of this section and report to the appropriate legislative committees regarding the recidivism outcomes for juvenile gang court participants. A preliminary report shall be completed by December 1, 2013. A final report shall be completed by December 1, 2015. [2012 c 146 § 3.]

**Findings—2012 c 146:** See note following RCW 13.40.700.

**13.40.900 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 43.]

## Chapter 13.50 RCW

### KEEPING AND RELEASE OF RECORDS BY JUVENILE JUSTICE OR CARE AGENCIES

#### Sections

13.50.010	Definitions—Conditions when filing petition or information—Duties to maintain accurate records and access.
13.50.050	Records relating to commission of juvenile offenses—Maintenance of, access to, and destruction—Release of information to schools.
13.50.100	Records not relating to commission of juvenile offenses—Maintenance and access—Release of information for child custody hearings—Disclosure of unfounded allegations prohibited.
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13.50.150	Confidential records—Expungement to protect due process rights.
13.50.160	Disposition records—Provision to schools.
13.50.200	Records of motor vehicle operation violation forwarded.
13.50.250	Records chapter applicable to.

*Office of the family and children's ombudsman: Chapter 43.06A RCW.*

**13.50.010 Definitions—Conditions when filing petition or information—Duties to maintain accurate records and access.** (1) For purposes of this chapter:

(a) "Juvenile justice or care agency" means any of the following: Police, diversion units, court, prosecuting attorney, defense attorney, detention center, attorney general, the legislative children's oversight committee, the office of the family and children's ombudsman, the department of social and health services and its contracting agencies, schools; persons or public or private agencies having children committed to their custody; and any placement oversight committee created under RCW 72.05.415;

(b) "Official juvenile court file" means the legal file of the juvenile court containing the petition or information, motions, memorandums, briefs, findings of the court, and court orders;

(c) "Records" means the official juvenile court file, the social file, and records of any other juvenile justice or care agency in the case;

(d) "Social file" means the juvenile court file containing the records and reports of the probation counselor.

(2) Each petition or information filed with the court may include only one juvenile and each petition or information shall be filed under a separate docket number. The social file shall be filed separately from the official juvenile court file.

(3) It is the duty of any juvenile justice or care agency to maintain accurate records. To this end:

(a) The agency may never knowingly record inaccurate information. Any information in records maintained by the department of social and health services relating to a petition filed pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW that is found by the court to be false or inaccurate shall be corrected or expunged from such records by the agency;

(b) An agency shall take reasonable steps to assure the security of its records and prevent tampering with them; and

(c) An agency shall make reasonable efforts to insure the completeness of its records, including action taken by other agencies with respect to matters in its files.

(4) Each juvenile justice or care agency shall implement procedures consistent with the provisions of this chapter to facilitate inquiries concerning records.

(5) Any person who has reasonable cause to believe information concerning that person is included in the records of a juvenile justice or care agency and who has been denied access to those records by the agency may make a motion to the court for an order authorizing that person to inspect the juvenile justice or care agency record concerning that person. The court shall grant the motion to examine records unless it finds that in the interests of justice or in the best interests of the juvenile the records or parts of them should remain confidential.

(6) A juvenile, or his or her parents, or any person who has reasonable cause to believe information concerning that person is included in the records of a juvenile justice or care agency may make a motion to the court challenging the accuracy of any information concerning the moving party in the record or challenging the continued possession of the record by the agency. If the court grants the motion, it shall order the record or information to be corrected or destroyed.

(7) The person making a motion under subsection (5) or (6) of this section shall give reasonable notice of the motion to all parties to the original action and to any agency whose records will be affected by the motion.

(8) The court may permit inspection of records by, or release of information to, any clinic, hospital, or agency which has the subject person under care or treatment. The court may also permit inspection by or release to individuals or agencies, including juvenile justice advisory committees of county law and justice councils, engaged in legitimate research for educational, scientific, or public purposes. The court shall release to the caseload forecast council records needed for its research and data-gathering functions. Access to records or information for research purposes shall be permitted only if the anonymity of all persons mentioned in the records or information will be preserved. Each person granted permission to inspect juvenile justice or care agency records for research purposes shall present a notarized statement to the court stating that the names of juveniles and parents will remain confidential.

(9) Juvenile detention facilities shall release records to the caseload forecast council upon request. The commission shall not disclose the names of any juveniles or parents mentioned in the records without the named individual's written permission.

(10) Requirements in this chapter relating to the court's authority to compel disclosure shall not apply to the legislative children's oversight committee or the office of the family and children's ombudsman.

(11) For the purpose of research only, the administrative office of the courts shall maintain an electronic research copy of all records in the judicial information system related to juveniles. Access to the research copy is restricted to the Washington state center for court research. The Washington state center for court research shall maintain the confidentiality of all confidential records and shall preserve the anonymity of all persons identified in the research copy. The research copy may not be subject to any records retention schedule and must include records destroyed or removed from the judicial information system pursuant to RCW 13.50.050 (17) and (18) and 13.50.100(3).

(12) The court shall release to the Washington state office of public defense records needed to implement the agency's oversight, technical assistance, and other functions as required by RCW 2.70.020. Access to the records used as a basis for oversight, technical assistance, or other agency functions is restricted to the Washington state office of public defense. The Washington state office of public defense shall maintain the confidentiality of all confidential information included in the records. [2011 1st sp.s. c 40 § 30; 2010 c 150 § 3; 2009 c 440 § 1; 1998 c 269 § 4. Prior: 1997 c 386 § 21; 1997 c 338 § 39; 1996 c 232 § 6; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 541; 1993 c 374 § 1; 1990 c 246 § 8; 1986 c 288 § 11; 1979 c 155 § 8.]

**Application—Recalculation of community custody terms—2011 1st sp.s. c 40:** See note following RCW 9.94A.501.

**Intent—Finding—Effective date—1998 c 269:** See notes following RCW 72.05.020.

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.50.050 Records relating to commission of juvenile offenses—Maintenance of, access to, and destruction—**

**Release of information to schools.** (1) This section governs records relating to the commission of juvenile offenses, including records relating to diversions.

(2) The official juvenile court file of any alleged or proven juvenile offender shall be open to public inspection, unless sealed pursuant to subsection (12) of this section.

(3) All records other than the official juvenile court file are confidential and may be released only as provided in this section, RCW 13.50.010, 13.40.215, and 4.24.550.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this section and RCW 13.50.010, records retained or produced by any juvenile justice or care agency may be released to other participants in the juvenile justice or care system only when an investigation or case involving the juvenile in question is being pursued by the other participant or when that other participant is assigned the responsibility for supervising the juvenile.

(5) Except as provided in RCW 4.24.550, information not in an official juvenile court file concerning a juvenile or a juvenile's family may be released to the public only when that information could not reasonably be expected to identify the juvenile or the juvenile's family.

(6) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the release, to the juvenile or his or her attorney, of law enforcement and prosecuting attorneys' records pertaining to investigation, diversion, and prosecution of juvenile offenses shall be governed by the rules of discovery and other rules of law applicable in adult criminal investigations and prosecutions.

(7) Upon the decision to arrest or the arrest, law enforcement and prosecuting attorneys may cooperate with schools in releasing information to a school pertaining to the investigation, diversion, and prosecution of a juvenile attending the school. Upon the decision to arrest or the arrest, incident reports may be released unless releasing the records would jeopardize the investigation or prosecution or endanger witnesses. If release of incident reports would jeopardize the investigation or prosecution or endanger witnesses, law enforcement and prosecuting attorneys may release information to the maximum extent possible to assist schools in protecting other students, staff, and school property.

(8) The juvenile court and the prosecutor may set up and maintain a central recordkeeping system which may receive information on all alleged juvenile offenders against whom a complaint has been filed pursuant to RCW 13.40.070 whether or not their cases are currently pending before the court. The central recordkeeping system may be computerized. If a complaint has been referred to a diversion unit, the diversion unit shall promptly report to the juvenile court or the prosecuting attorney when the juvenile has agreed to diversion. An offense shall not be reported as criminal history in any central recordkeeping system without notification by the diversion unit of the date on which the offender agreed to diversion.

(9) Upon request of the victim of a crime or the victim's immediate family, the identity of an alleged or proven juvenile offender alleged or found to have committed a crime against the victim and the identity of the alleged or proven juvenile offender's parent, guardian, or custodian and the circumstance of the alleged or proven crime shall be released to the victim of the crime or the victim's immediate family.

(10) Subject to the rules of discovery applicable in adult criminal prosecutions, the juvenile offense records of an adult criminal defendant or witness in an adult criminal proceeding shall be released upon request to prosecution and defense counsel after a charge has actually been filed. The juvenile offense records of any adult convicted of a crime and placed under the supervision of the adult corrections system shall be released upon request to the adult corrections system.

(11) In any case in which an information has been filed pursuant to RCW 13.40.100 or a complaint has been filed with the prosecutor and referred for diversion pursuant to RCW 13.40.070, the person the subject of the information or complaint may file a motion with the court to have the court vacate its order and findings, if any, and, subject to subsection (23) of this section, order the sealing of the official juvenile court file, the social file, and records of the court and of any other agency in the case.

(12)(a) The court shall not grant any motion to seal records for class A offenses made pursuant to subsection (11) of this section that is filed on or after July 1, 1997, unless:

(i) Since the last date of release from confinement, including full-time residential treatment, if any, or entry of disposition, the person has spent five consecutive years in the community without committing any offense or crime that subsequently results in an adjudication or conviction;

(ii) No proceeding is pending against the moving party seeking the conviction of a juvenile offense or a criminal offense;

(iii) No proceeding is pending seeking the formation of a diversion agreement with that person;

(iv) The person is no longer required to register as a sex offender under RCW 9A.44.130 or has been relieved of the duty to register under RCW 9A.44.143 if the person was convicted of a sex offense;

(v) The person has not been convicted of rape in the first degree, rape in the second degree, or indecent liberties that was actually committed with forcible compulsion; and

(vi) Full restitution has been paid.

(b) The court shall not grant any motion to seal records for class B, C, gross misdemeanor and misdemeanor offenses and diversions made under subsection (11) of this section unless:

(i) Since the date of last release from confinement, including full-time residential treatment, if any, entry of disposition, or completion of the diversion agreement, the person has spent two consecutive years in the community without being convicted of any offense or crime;

(ii) No proceeding is pending against the moving party seeking the conviction of a juvenile offense or a criminal offense;

(iii) No proceeding is pending seeking the formation of a diversion agreement with that person;

(iv) The person is no longer required to register as a sex offender under RCW 9A.44.130 or has been relieved of the duty to register under RCW 9A.44.143 if the person was convicted of a sex offense; and

(v) Full restitution has been paid.

(c) Notwithstanding the requirements in (a) or (b) of this subsection, the court shall grant any motion to seal records of any deferred disposition vacated under RCW 13.40.127(9)



prior to June 7, 2012, if restitution has been paid and the person is eighteen years of age or older at the time of the motion.

(13) The person making a motion pursuant to subsection (11) of this section shall give reasonable notice of the motion to the prosecution and to any person or agency whose files are sought to be sealed.

(14)(a) If the court grants the motion to seal made pursuant to subsection (11) of this section, it shall, subject to subsection (23) of this section, order sealed the official juvenile court file, the social file, and other records relating to the case as are named in the order. Thereafter, the proceedings in the case shall be treated as if they never occurred, and the subject of the records may reply accordingly to any inquiry about the events, records of which are sealed. Any agency shall reply to any inquiry concerning confidential or sealed records that records are confidential, and no information can be given about the existence or nonexistence of records concerning an individual.

(b) In the event the subject of the juvenile records receives a full and unconditional pardon, the proceedings in the matter upon which the pardon has been granted shall be treated as if they never occurred, and the subject of the records may reply accordingly to any inquiry about the events upon which the pardon was received. Any agency shall reply to any inquiry concerning the records pertaining to the events for which the subject received a pardon that records are confidential, and no information can be given about the existence or nonexistence of records concerning an individual.

(15) Inspection of the files and records included in the order to seal may thereafter be permitted only by order of the court upon motion made by the person who is the subject of the information or complaint, except as otherwise provided in RCW 13.50.010(8) and subsection (23) of this section.

(16) Any adjudication of a juvenile offense or a crime subsequent to sealing has the effect of nullifying the sealing order. Any charging of an adult felony subsequent to the sealing has the effect of nullifying the sealing order for the purposes of chapter 9.94A RCW. The administrative office of the courts shall ensure that the superior court judicial information system provides prosecutors access to information on the existence of sealed juvenile records.

(17)(a)(i) Subject to subsection (23) of this section, all records maintained by any court or law enforcement agency, including the juvenile court, local law enforcement, the Washington state patrol, and the prosecutor's office, shall be automatically destroyed within ninety days of becoming eligible for destruction. Juvenile records are eligible for destruction when:

(A) The person who is the subject of the information or complaint is at least eighteen years of age;

(B) His or her criminal history consists entirely of one diversion agreement or counsel and release entered on or after June 12, 2008;

(C) Two years have elapsed since completion of the agreement or counsel and release;

(D) No proceeding is pending against the person seeking the conviction of a criminal offense; and

(E) There is no restitution owing in the case.

(ii) No less than quarterly, the administrative office of the courts shall provide a report to the juvenile courts of those

individuals whose records may be eligible for destruction. The juvenile court shall verify eligibility and notify the Washington state patrol and the appropriate local law enforcement agency and prosecutor's office of the records to be destroyed. The requirement to destroy records under this subsection is not dependent on a court hearing or the issuance of a court order to destroy records.

(iii) The state and local governments and their officers and employees are not liable for civil damages for the failure to destroy records pursuant to this section.

(b) All records maintained by any court or law enforcement agency, including the juvenile court, local law enforcement, the Washington state patrol, and the prosecutor's office, shall be automatically destroyed within thirty days of being notified by the governor's office that the subject of those records received a full and unconditional pardon by the governor.

(c) A person eighteen years of age or older whose criminal history consists entirely of one diversion agreement or counsel and release entered prior to June 12, 2008, may request that the court order the records in his or her case destroyed. The request shall be granted, subject to subsection (23) of this section, if the court finds that two years have elapsed since completion of the agreement or counsel and release.

(d) A person twenty-three years of age or older whose criminal history consists of only referrals for diversion may request that the court order the records in those cases destroyed. The request shall be granted, subject to subsection (23) of this section, if the court finds that all diversion agreements have been successfully completed and no proceeding is pending against the person seeking the conviction of a criminal offense.

(18) If the court grants the motion to destroy records made pursuant to subsection (17)(c) or (d) of this section, it shall, subject to subsection (23) of this section, order the official juvenile court file, the social file, and any other records named in the order to be destroyed.

(19) The person making the motion pursuant to subsection (17)(c) or (d) of this section shall give reasonable notice of the motion to the prosecuting attorney and to any agency whose records are sought to be destroyed.

(20) Any juvenile to whom the provisions of this section may apply shall be given written notice of his or her rights under this section at the time of his or her disposition hearing or during the diversion process.

(21) Nothing in this section may be construed to prevent a crime victim or a member of the victim's family from divulging the identity of the alleged or proven juvenile offender or his or her family when necessary in a civil proceeding.

(22) Any juvenile justice or care agency may, subject to the limitations in subsection (23) of this section and (a) and (b) of this subsection, develop procedures for the routine destruction of records relating to juvenile offenses and diversions.

(a) Records may be routinely destroyed only when the person the subject of the information or complaint has attained twenty-three years of age or older or pursuant to subsection (17)(a) of this section.

(b) The court may not routinely destroy the official juvenile court file or recordings or transcripts of any proceedings.

(23) Except for subsection (17)(b) of this section, no identifying information held by the Washington state patrol in accordance with chapter 43.43 RCW is subject to destruction or sealing under this section. For the purposes of this subsection, identifying information includes photographs, fingerprints, palmprints, soleprints, toeprints and any other data that identifies a person by physical characteristics, name, birthdate or address, but does not include information regarding criminal activity, arrest, charging, diversion, conviction or other information about a person's treatment by the criminal justice system or about the person's behavior.

(24) Information identifying child victims under age eighteen who are victims of sexual assaults by juvenile offenders is confidential and not subject to release to the press or public without the permission of the child victim or the child's legal guardian. Identifying information includes the child victim's name, addresses, location, photographs, and in cases in which the child victim is a relative of the alleged perpetrator, identification of the relationship between the child and the alleged perpetrator. Information identifying a child victim of sexual assault may be released to law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, defense attorneys, or private or governmental agencies that provide services to the child victim of sexual assault. [2012 c 177 § 2. Prior: 2011 c 338 § 4; 2011 c 333 § 4; 2010 c 150 § 2; 2008 c 221 § 1; 2004 c 42 § 1; prior: 2001 c 175 § 1; 2001 c 174 § 1; 2001 c 49 § 2; 1999 c 198 § 4; 1997 c 338 § 40; 1992 c 188 § 7; 1990 c 3 § 125; 1987 c 450 § 8; 1986 c 257 § 33; 1984 c 43 § 1; 1983 c 191 § 19; 1981 c 299 § 19; 1979 c 155 § 9.]

**Rules of court:** *Superior Court Criminal Rules (CrR), generally. Discovery: CrR 4.7.*

**Application—2011 c 333:** "RCW 13.50.050 (14)(b) and (17)(b) apply to all records of a full and unconditional pardon and should be applied retroactively as well as prospectively." [2011 c 333 § 5.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 333:** See note following RCW 19.182.040.

**Intent—2001 c 49:** "The legislature intends to change the results of the holding of *State v. T. K.*, 139 Wn. 2d 320 (1999), and have any motion made after July 1, 1997, to seal juvenile records be determined by the provisions of RCW 13.50.050 in effect after July 1, 1997." [2001 c 49 § 1.]

**Finding—Evaluation—Report—1997 c 338:** See note following RCW 13.40.0357.

**Findings—Intent—Severability—1992 c 188:** See notes following RCW 7.69A.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.50.100 Records not relating to commission of juvenile offenses—Maintenance and access—Release of information for child custody hearings—Disclosure of unfounded allegations prohibited.** (1) This section governs records not covered by RCW 13.50.050.

(2) Records covered by this section shall be confidential and shall be released only pursuant to this section and RCW 13.50.010.

(3) Records retained or produced by any juvenile justice or care agency may be released to other participants in the juvenile justice or care system only when an investigation or case involving the juvenile in question is being pursued by the other participant or when that other participant is assigned the responsibility of supervising the juvenile. Records covered under this section and maintained by the juvenile courts

which relate to the official actions of the agency may be entered in the statewide judicial information system. However, truancy records associated with a juvenile who has no other case history, and records of a juvenile's parents who have no other case history, shall be removed from the judicial information system when the juvenile is no longer subject to the compulsory attendance laws in chapter 28A.225 RCW. A county clerk is not liable for unauthorized release of this data by persons or agencies not in his or her employ or otherwise subject to his or her control, nor is the county clerk liable for inaccurate or incomplete information collected from litigants or other persons required to provide identifying data pursuant to this section.

(4) Subject to (a) of this subsection, the department of social and health services may release information retained in the course of conducting child protective services investigations to a family or juvenile court hearing a petition for custody under chapter 26.10 RCW.

(a) Information that may be released shall be limited to information regarding investigations in which: (i) The juvenile was an alleged victim of abandonment or abuse or neglect; or (ii) the petitioner for custody of the juvenile, or any individual aged sixteen or older residing in the petitioner's household, is the subject of a founded or currently pending child protective services investigation made by the department subsequent to October 1, 1998.

(b) Additional information may only be released with the written consent of the subject of the investigation and the juvenile alleged to be the victim of abandonment or abuse and neglect, or the parent, custodian, guardian, or personal representative of the juvenile, or by court order obtained with notice to all interested parties.

(5) Any disclosure of records or information by the department of social and health services pursuant to this section shall not be deemed a waiver of any confidentiality or privilege attached to the records or information by operation of any state or federal statute or regulation, and any recipient of such records or information shall maintain it in such a manner as to comply with such state and federal statutes and regulations and to protect against unauthorized disclosure.

(6) A contracting agency or service provider of the department of social and health services that provides counseling, psychological, psychiatric, or medical services may release to the office of the family and children's ombudsman information or records relating to services provided to a juvenile who is dependent under chapter 13.34 RCW without the consent of the parent or guardian of the juvenile, or of the juvenile if the juvenile is under the age of thirteen years, unless such release is otherwise specifically prohibited by law.

(7) A juvenile, his or her parents, the juvenile's attorney and the juvenile's parent's attorney, shall, upon request, be given access to all records and information collected or retained by a juvenile justice or care agency which pertain to the juvenile except:

(a) If it is determined by the agency that release of this information is likely to cause severe psychological or physical harm to the juvenile or his or her parents the agency may withhold the information subject to other order of the court: PROVIDED, That if the court determines that limited release

of the information is appropriate, the court may specify terms and conditions for the release of the information; or

(b) If the information or record has been obtained by a juvenile justice or care agency in connection with the provision of counseling, psychological, psychiatric, or medical services to the juvenile, when the services have been sought voluntarily by the juvenile, and the juvenile has a legal right to receive those services without the consent of any person or agency, then the information or record may not be disclosed to the juvenile's parents without the informed consent of the juvenile unless otherwise authorized by law; or

(c) That the department of social and health services may delete the name and identifying information regarding persons or organizations who have reported alleged child abuse or neglect.

(8) A juvenile or his or her parent denied access to any records following an agency determination under subsection (7) of this section may file a motion in juvenile court requesting access to the records. The court shall grant the motion unless it finds access may not be permitted according to the standards found in subsection (7)(a) and (b) of this section.

(9) The person making a motion under subsection (8) of this section shall give reasonable notice of the motion to all parties to the original action and to any agency whose records will be affected by the motion.

(10) Subject to the rules of discovery in civil cases, any party to a proceeding seeking a declaration of dependency or a termination of the parent-child relationship and any party's counsel and the guardian ad litem of any party, shall have access to the records of any natural or adoptive child of the parent, subject to the limitations in subsection (7) of this section. A party denied access to records may request judicial review of the denial. If the party prevails, he or she shall be awarded attorneys' fees, costs, and an amount not less than five dollars and not more than one hundred dollars for each day the records were wrongfully denied.

(11) No unfounded allegation of child abuse or neglect as defined in \*RCW 26.44.020(12) may be disclosed to a child-placing agency, private adoption agency, or any other licensed provider. [2003 c 105 § 2; 2001 c 162 § 2; 2000 c 162 § 18; 1999 c 390 § 3; 1997 c 386 § 22; 1995 c 311 § 16; 1990 c 246 § 9; 1983 c 191 § 20; 1979 c 155 § 10.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 26.44.020 was amended by 2007 c 220 § 1, changing subsection (12) to subsection (1), effective October 1, 2008.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.50.140 Disclosure of privileged information to office of the family and children's ombudsman—Privilege not waived as to others.** Any communication or advice privileged under RCW 5.60.060 that is disclosed by the office of the attorney general or the department of social and health services to the office of the family and children's ombudsman may not be deemed to be a waiver of the privilege as to others. [1999 c 390 § 8.]

**13.50.150 Confidential records—Expungement to protect due process rights.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent the expungement of any juvenile record ordered expunged by a court to preserve the due process rights of its subject. [1977 ex.s. c 291 § 13. Formerly RCW 13.04.276, see 1979 c 155 § 12.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.50.160 Disposition records—Provision to schools.** Records of disposition for a juvenile offense must be provided to schools as provided in RCW 13.04.155. [1997 c 266 § 8.]

**Findings—Intent—Severability—1997 c 266:** See notes following RCW 28A.600.455.

**13.50.200 Records of motor vehicle operation violation forwarded.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, whenever a child is arrested for a violation of any law, including municipal ordinances, regulating the operation of vehicles on the public highways, a copy of the traffic citation and a record of the action taken by the court shall be forwarded by the juvenile court to the department of licensing in the same manner as provided in RCW 46.20.270. [1979 c 155 § 13; 1977 ex.s. c 291 § 14. Formerly RCW 13.04.278.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.50.250 Records chapter applicable to.** This chapter applies to all juvenile justice or care agency records created on or after July 1, 1978. [1979 c 155 § 11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 13.60 RCW

### MISSING CHILDREN CLEARINGHOUSE

#### Sections

13.60.010	Missing children clearinghouse—Hot line—Distribution of information—Amber alert plan.
13.60.020	Entry of information on missing children into missing person computer network—Access.
13.60.030	Information and education regarding missing children—Plan.
13.60.040	Children receiving services from department of social and health services—Reporting by the department—Notification of child's whereabouts.
13.60.050	Endangered missing person advisory plan.
13.60.100	Task force on missing and exploited children—Findings, intent.
13.60.110	Task force on missing and exploited children—Establishment—Activities.
13.60.120	Task force on missing and exploited children—Advisory board.

**13.60.010 Missing children clearinghouse—Hot line—Distribution of information—Amber alert plan.** The Washington state patrol shall establish a missing children clearinghouse which shall include the maintenance and operation of a toll-free, twenty-four-hour telephone hotline. The clearinghouse shall distribute information to local law enforcement agencies, school districts, the department of social and health services, and the general public regarding missing children. The information shall include pictures, bulletins, training sessions, reports, and biographical materials that will assist in local law enforcement efforts to locate missing children. The state patrol shall also maintain a regularly updated computerized link with national and other statewide missing person systems or clearinghouses, and within existing resources, shall develop and implement a plan, commonly known as an "amber alert plan," for voluntary cooperation between local, state, tribal, and other law enforcement agencies, state government agencies, radio and television stations, and cable and satellite systems to enhance the public's ability to assist in recovering abducted children.

"Child" or "children," as used in this chapter, means an individual under eighteen years of age. [2009 c 20 § 1; 1985 c 443 § 22.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.60.020 Entry of information on missing children into missing person computer network—Access.** Local law enforcement agencies shall file an official missing person report and enter biographical information into the state missing person computerized network within twelve hours after notification of a missing child is received under \*RCW 13.32A.050 (1), (3), or (4). The patrol shall collect such information as will enable it to retrieve immediately the following information about a missing child: Name, date of birth, social security number, fingerprint classification, relevant physical descriptions, and known associates and locations. Access to the preceding information shall be available to appropriate law enforcement agencies, and to parents and legal guardians, when appropriate. [1985 c 443 § 23.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 13.32A.050 was amended by 1995 c 312 § 6, changing subsections (1), (3), and (4) to subsection (1)(a), (c), and (d), respectively.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.60.030 Information and education regarding missing children—Plan.** The superintendent of public instruction shall meet semiannually with the Washington state patrol to develop a coordinated plan for the distribution of information and education of teachers and students in the school districts of the state regarding the missing children problem in the state. The superintendent of public instruction shall encourage local school districts to cooperate by providing the state patrol information on any missing children that may be identified within the district. [1985 c 443 § 24.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.60.040 Children receiving services from department of social and health services—Reporting by the department—Notification of child's whereabouts.** The department of social and health services shall develop a procedure for reporting missing children information to the missing children clearinghouse on children who are receiving departmental services in each of its administrative regions. The purpose of this procedure is to link parents to missing children. When the department has obtained information that a minor child has been located at a facility funded by the department, the department shall notify the clearinghouse and the child's legal custodian, advising the custodian of the child's whereabouts or that the child is subject to a dependency action. The department shall inform the clearinghouse when reunification occurs. [1999 c 267 § 18.]

**Findings—Intent—Severability—1999 c 267:** See notes following RCW 43.20A.790.

**Short title—Purpose—Entitlement not granted—Federal waivers—1999 c 267 §§ 10-26:** See RCW 74.15.900 and 74.15.901.

**13.60.050 Endangered missing person advisory plan.** Within existing resources, the Washington state patrol shall develop and implement a plan, commonly known as an "endangered missing person advisory plan," for voluntary cooperation between local, state, tribal, and other law

enforcement agencies, state government agencies, radio and television stations, and cable and satellite systems to enhance the public's ability to assist in recovering endangered missing persons who do not qualify for inclusion in an amber alert. [2009 c 20 § 2.]

**13.60.100 Task force on missing and exploited children—Findings, intent.** The legislature finds a compelling need to address the problem of missing children, whether those children have been abducted by a stranger, are missing due to custodial interference, or are classified as runaways. Washington state ranks twelfth in the nation for active cases of missing juveniles and, at any given time, more than one thousand eight hundred Washington children are reported as missing. The potential for physical and psychological trauma to these children is extreme. Therefore, the legislature finds that it is paramount for the safety of these children that there be a concerted effort to resolve cases of missing and exploited children.

Due to the complexity of many child abduction cases, most law enforcement personnel are unprepared and lack adequate resources to successfully and efficiently investigate these crimes. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature that a multiagency task force be established within the Washington state patrol, to be available to assist local jurisdictions in missing child cases through referrals, on-site assistance, case management, and training. The legislature intends that the task force will increase the effectiveness of a specific case investigation by drawing from the combined resources, knowledge, and technical expertise of the members of the task force. [1999 c 168 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.60.110 Task force on missing and exploited children—Establishment—Activities.** (1) A task force on missing and exploited children is established in the Washington state patrol. The task force shall be under the direction of the chief of the state patrol.

(2) The task force is authorized to assist law enforcement agencies, upon request, in cases involving missing or exploited children by:

- (a) Direct assistance and case management;
- (b) Technical assistance;
- (c) Personnel training;
- (d) Referral for assistance from local, state, national, and international agencies; and
- (e) Coordination and information sharing among local, state, interstate, and federal law enforcement and social service agencies.

(3) To maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of state resources and to improve interagency cooperation, the task force shall, where feasible, use existing facilities, systems, and staff made available by the state patrol and other local, state, interstate, and federal law enforcement and social service agencies. The chief of the state patrol may employ such additional personnel as are necessary for the work of the task force and may share personnel costs with other agencies.

(4) The chief of the state patrol shall seek public and private grants and gifts to support the work of the task force.

(5) For the purposes of RCW 13.60.100 through 13.60.120, "exploited children" means children under the age

of eighteen who are employed, used, persuaded, induced, enticed, or coerced to engage in, or assist another person to engage in, sexually explicit conduct. "Exploited children" also means the rape, molestation, or use for prostitution of children under the age of eighteen. [2009 c 518 § 4; 1999 c 168 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**13.60.120 Task force on missing and exploited children—Advisory board.** The advisory board on missing and exploited children is established to advise the chief of the Washington state patrol on the objectives, conduct, management, and coordination of the various activities of the task force on missing and exploited children.

(1) The chief of the state patrol shall appoint five members to the advisory board: (a) One member shall be a county prosecuting attorney or a representative and shall be appointed in consultation with the elected county prosecutors; (b) two members shall be a municipal police chief and a county sheriff, or their representatives, and shall be appointed in consultation with the association of sheriffs and police chiefs under RCW 36.28A.010; (c) one member shall be a representative of the state patrol; and (d) one member shall be a representative of parents of missing or exploited children.

(2) A sixth member of the board shall represent and be appointed by the attorney general.

(3) To improve interagency communication and coordination, the chief of the state patrol shall invite representatives of federal law enforcement agencies and state social service agencies to participate in the advisory board.

(4) The members of the board shall be qualified on the basis of knowledge and experience as may contribute to the effective performance of the board's duties. The board shall elect its own chair from among its members. Meetings of the board may be convened at the call of the chair or by a majority of the members.

(5) The term of each member of the board shall be two years and shall be conditioned upon the member retaining the official position from which the member was appointed. [1999 c 168 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 13.64 RCW EMANCIPATION OF MINORS

### Sections

13.64.010	Declaration of emancipation.
13.64.020	Petition for emancipation—Filing fees.
13.64.030	Service of petition—Notice—Date of hearing.
13.64.040	Hearing on petition.
13.64.050	Emancipation decree—Certified copy—Notation of emancipated status.
13.64.060	Power and capacity of emancipated minor.
13.64.070	Declaration of emancipation—Voidable.
13.64.080	Forms to initiate petition of emancipation.
13.64.900	Effective date—1993 c 294.
13.64.901	Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.

**13.64.010 Declaration of emancipation.** Any minor who is sixteen years of age or older and who is a resident of this state may petition in the superior court for a declaration of emancipation. [1993 c 294 § 1.]

### 13.64.020 Petition for emancipation—Filing fees.

(1) A petition for emancipation shall be signed and verified by the petitioner, and shall include the following information: (a) The full name of the petitioner, the petitioner's birthdate, and the state and county of birth; (b) a certified copy of the petitioner's birth certificate; (c) the name and last known address of the petitioner's parent or parents, guardian, or custodian; (d) the petitioner's present address, and length of residence at that address; (e) a declaration by the petitioner indicating that he or she has the ability to manage his or her financial affairs, including any supporting information; and (f) a declaration by the petitioner indicating that he or she has the ability to manage his or her personal, social, educational, and nonfinancial affairs, including any supporting information.

(2) Fees for this section are set under RCW 36.18.014. [1995 c 292 § 7; 1993 c 294 § 2.]

### 13.64.030 Service of petition—Notice—Date of hearing.

The petitioner shall serve a copy of the filed petition and notice of hearing on the petitioner's parent or parents, guardian, or custodian at least fifteen days before the emancipation hearing. No summons shall be required. Service shall be waived if proof is made to the court that the address of the parent or parents, guardian, or custodian is unavailable or unascertainable. The petitioner shall also serve notice of the hearing on the department if the petitioner is subject to dependency disposition order under RCW 13.34.130. The hearing shall be held no later than sixty days after the date on which the petition is filed. [1993 c 294 § 3.]

### 13.64.040 Hearing on petition.

(1) The hearing on the petition shall be before a judicial officer, sitting without a jury. Prior to the presentation of proof the judicial officer shall determine whether: (a) The petitioning minor understands the consequences of the petition regarding his or her legal rights and responsibilities; (b) a guardian ad litem should be appointed to investigate the allegations of the petition and file a report with the court.

(2) For the purposes of this section, the term "judicial officer" means: (a) A judge; (b) a superior court commissioner of a unified family court if the county operates a unified family court; or (c) any superior court commissioner if the county does not operate a unified family court. The term does not include a judge pro tempore. [2001 c 161 § 1; 1993 c 294 § 4.]

### 13.64.050 Emancipation decree—Certified copy—Notation of emancipated status.

(1) The court shall grant the petition for emancipation, except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, if the petitioner proves the following facts by clear and convincing evidence: (a) That the petitioner is sixteen years of age or older; (b) that the petitioner is a resident of the state; (c) that the petitioner has the ability to manage his or her financial affairs; and (d) that the petitioner has the ability to manage his or her personal, social, educational, and nonfinancial affairs.

(2) A parent, guardian, custodian, or in the case of a dependent minor, the department, may oppose the petition for emancipation. The court shall deny the petition unless it finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that denial of the

grant of emancipation would be detrimental to the interests of the minor.

(3) Upon entry of a decree of emancipation by the court the petitioner shall be given a certified copy of the decree. The decree shall instruct the petitioner to obtain a Washington driver's license or a Washington identification card and direct the department of licensing make a notation of the emancipated status on the license or identification card. [1993 c 294 § 5.]

#### **13.64.060 Power and capacity of emancipated minor.**

(1) An emancipated minor shall be considered to have the power and capacity of an adult, except as provided in subsection (2) of this section. A minor shall be considered emancipated for the purposes of, but not limited to:

(a) The termination of parental obligations of financial support, care, supervision, and any other obligation the parent may have by virtue of the parent-child relationship, including obligations imposed because of marital dissolution;

(b) The right to sue or be sued in his or her own name;

(c) The right to retain his or her own earnings;

(d) The right to establish a separate residence or domicile;

(e) The right to enter into nonvoidable contracts;

(f) The right to act autonomously, and with the power and capacity of an adult, in all business relationships, including but not limited to property transactions;

(g) The right to work, and earn a living, subject only to the health and safety regulations designed to protect those under age of majority regardless of their legal status; and

(h) The right to give informed consent for receiving health care services.

(2) An emancipated minor shall not be considered an adult for: (a) The purposes of the adult criminal laws of the state unless the decline of jurisdiction procedures contained in RCW 13.40.110 are used or the minor is tried in criminal court pursuant to \*RCW 13.04.030(1)(e)(iv); (b) the criminal laws of the state when the emancipated minor is a victim and the age of the victim is an element of the offense; or (c) those specific constitutional and statutory age requirements regarding voting, use of alcoholic beverages, possession of firearms, and other health and safety regulations relevant to the minor because of the minor's age. [1994 sp.s. c 7 § 436; 1993 c 294 § 6.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 13.04.030 was amended by 1997 c 341 § 3, changing subsection (1)(e)(iv) to subsection (1)(e)(v).

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **13.64.070 Declaration of emancipation—Voidable.**

A declaration of emancipation obtained by fraud is voidable. The voiding of any such declaration shall not affect any obligations, rights, or interests that arose during the period the declaration was in effect. [1993 c 294 § 7.]

#### **13.64.080 Forms to initiate petition of emancipation.**

The administrative office of the courts shall prepare and distribute to the county court clerks appropriate forms for minors seeking to initiate a petition of emancipation. [2005 c 282 § 28; 1993 c 294 § 8.]

**13.64.900 Effective date—1993 c 294.** This act shall take effect January 1, 1994. [1993 c 294 § 11.]

**13.64.901 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 44.]

### **Chapter 13.80 RCW**

#### **LEARNING AND LIFE SKILLS GRANT PROGRAM**

##### Sections

13.80.010	Purpose.
13.80.020	Definitions.
13.80.030	Program grants.
13.80.040	Rules.
13.80.050	Evaluation.

**13.80.010 Purpose.** The learning and life skills grant program is created. The purpose of the program is to provide services, to the extent funds are appropriated, for court-involved youth under the age of twenty-one to help the youth attain the necessary life skills and educational skills to obtain a certificate of educational competency, obtain employment, return to a school program, or enter a postsecondary education or job-training program. [1994 c 152 § 1.]

**13.80.020 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Court-involved youth" means those youth under the age of twenty-one who, within the past twenty-four months:

(a) Have served a court-imposed sentence;

(b) Are or have been on probation or parole; or

(c) Are involved in a legal proceeding in which the youth may be found to have committed a criminal or juvenile offense and are not participating in a diversion agreement under RCW 13.40.080.

(2) "Department" means the department of social and health services. [1994 c 152 § 2.]

**13.80.030 Program grants.** (1) The learning and life skills program grants shall be administered by the department.

(2) The department shall select individual school districts or groups of school districts through an educational service district that agree to establish a program for court-involved youth. To be eligible for grants, the district shall agree to expend for the program no less than the amount of state funds received on a full-time equivalent student basis

for the number of full-time equivalent students participating in the program. The school district shall also transmit to the program any federal funds received for students participating in the program. During the 1994-95 school year, only school districts or educational service districts operating a program for court-involved youth on or before June 1, 1993, are eligible for grants.

(3) The department shall grant funds, to the extent funds are appropriated, to selected districts for the district to provide or contract for the provision of facilities and case management and counseling services for students in the program.

(4) In selecting districts, the department shall require districts to enter into agreements. Districts participating in the program shall agree to the following: To serve only court-involved youth in the program and give priority to those students who have few other educational options; to design a program to meet the specific needs of court-involved youth generally and the specific needs of individual students; to collaborate with the county courts and local community organizations; and to define program goals clearly.

(5) The department has the authority to withhold grant funds if the terms of the agreement are not met.

(6) Selected districts shall establish procedures to keep daily attendance records for students participating in the program.

(7) Selected districts shall agree to participate fully in an evaluation of the program by the department. [1994 c 152 § 3.]

**13.80.040 Rules.** The department may adopt rules, as necessary, to carry out its duties under this program. [1994 c 152 § 4.]

**13.80.050 Evaluation.** The department shall periodically evaluate the program including but not limited to providing data on the youth served, the type and extent of court involvement, the type of services provided, the length of stay of each student in the program, the academic progress of the youth, the recidivism rate, and rates of employment and enrollment in postsecondary education. [1994 c 152 § 5.]

# Chapter 26.09 RCW

## DISSOLUTION PROCEEDINGS—LEGAL SEPARATION

<p>Sections</p> <p>26.09.002 Policy.</p> <p>26.09.003 Policy—Intent—Findings.</p> <p>26.09.004 Definitions.</p> <p>26.09.006 Mandatory use of approved forms.</p> <p>26.09.010 Civil practice to govern—Designation of proceedings—Decrees.</p> <p>26.09.013 Interpretive services—Literacy assistance—Guardian ad litem charges—Telephone or interactive videoconference participation—Residential time in cases involving domestic violence or child abuse—Disclosure of information—Supervised visitation and safe exchange centers.</p> <p>26.09.015 Mediation proceedings.</p> <p>26.09.016 Mediation in cases involving domestic violence or child abuse.</p> <p>26.09.020 Petition—Dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation, or for a declaration concerning validity of marriage or domestic partnership—Contents—Parties—Certificate.</p> <p>26.09.030 Petition for dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership—Court proceedings, findings—Transfer to family court—Legal separation in lieu of dissolution.</p> <p>26.09.040 Petition to have marriage or domestic partnership declared invalid or judicial determination of validity—Procedure—Findings—Grounds—Legitimacy of children.</p> <p>26.09.050 Decrees—Contents—Restraining orders—Enforcement—Notice of termination or modification of restraining order.</p> <p>26.09.060 Temporary maintenance or child support—Temporary restraining order—Preliminary injunction—Domestic violence or antiharassment protection order—Notice of termination or modification of restraining order—Support debts, notice.</p> <p>26.09.070 Separation contracts.</p> <p>26.09.080 Disposition of property and liabilities—Factors.</p> <p>26.09.090 Maintenance orders for either spouse or either domestic partner—Factors.</p> <p>26.09.100 Child support—Apportionment of expense—Periodic adjustments or modifications.</p> <p>26.09.105 Child support—Medical support—Conditions.</p> <p>26.09.110 Minor or dependent child—Court appointed attorney to represent—Payment of costs, fees, and disbursements.</p> <p>26.09.120 Support or maintenance payments—To whom paid.</p> <p>26.09.135 Order or decree for child support—Compliance with RCW 26.23.050.</p> <p>26.09.138 Mandatory assignment of public retirement benefits—Remedies exclusive.</p> <p>26.09.140 Payment of costs, attorneys' fees, etc.</p> <p>26.09.150 Decree of dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity—Finality—Appeal—Conversion of decree of legal separation to decree of dissolution—Name of party.</p> <p>26.09.160 Failure to comply with decree or temporary injunction—Obligation to make support or maintenance payments or permit contact with children not suspended—Penalties.</p> <p>26.09.165 Court orders—Required language.</p> <p>26.09.170 Modification of decree for maintenance or support, property disposition—Termination of maintenance obligation and child support—Grounds.</p> <p>26.09.175 Modification of order of child support.</p> <p>26.09.181 Procedure for determining permanent parenting plan.</p> <p>26.09.182 Permanent parenting plan—Determination of relevant information.</p> <p>26.09.184 Permanent parenting plan.</p> <p>26.09.187 Criteria for establishing permanent parenting plan.</p> <p>26.09.191 Restrictions in temporary or permanent parenting plans.</p> <p>26.09.194 Proposed temporary parenting plan—Temporary order—Amendment—Vacation of order.</p> <p>26.09.197 Issuance of temporary parenting plan—Criteria.</p> <p>26.09.210 Parenting plans—Interview with child by court—Advice of professional personnel.</p> <p>26.09.220 Parenting arrangements—Investigation and report—Appointment of guardian ad litem.</p> <p>26.09.225 Access to child's education and health care records.</p> <p>26.09.231 Residential time summary report.</p>	<p>26.09.240 Visitation rights—Person other than parent—Grandparents' visitation rights.</p> <p>26.09.255 Remedies when a child is taken, enticed, or concealed.</p> <p>26.09.260 Modification of parenting plan or custody decree.</p> <p>26.09.270 Child custody—Temporary custody order, temporary parenting plan, or modification of custody decree—Affidavits required.</p> <p>26.09.280 Parenting plan or child support modification or enforcement—Venue.</p> <p>26.09.285 Designation of custody for the purpose of other state and federal statutes.</p> <p>26.09.290 Final decree of dissolution nunc pro tunc.</p> <p>26.09.300 Restraining orders—Notice—Refusal to comply—Arrest—Penalty—Defense—Peace officers, immunity.</p> <p>26.09.310 Provision of health care to minor—Immunity of health care provider.</p>
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### NOTICE REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR PARENTAL RELOCATION

<p>26.09.405 Applicability.</p> <p>26.09.410 Definitions.</p> <p>26.09.420 Grant of authority.</p> <p>26.09.430 Notice requirement.</p> <p>26.09.440 Notice—Contents and delivery.</p> <p>26.09.450 Notice—Relocation within the same school district.</p> <p>26.09.460 Limitation of notices.</p> <p>26.09.470 Failure to give notice.</p> <p>26.09.480 Objection to relocation or proposed revised residential schedule.</p> <p>26.09.490 Required provision in residential orders.</p> <p>26.09.500 Failure to object.</p> <p>26.09.510 Temporary orders.</p> <p>26.09.520 Basis for determination.</p> <p>26.09.530 Factor not to be considered.</p> <p>26.09.540 Objections by nonparents.</p> <p>26.09.550 Sanctions.</p> <p>26.09.560 Priority for hearing.</p> <p>26.09.900 Construction—Pending divorce actions.</p> <p>26.09.901 Conversion of pending action to dissolution proceeding.</p> <p>26.09.902 RCW 26.09.900 and 26.09.901 deemed in effect on July 16, 1973.</p> <p>26.09.907 Construction—Pending actions as of January 1, 1988.</p> <p>26.09.909 Decrees entered into prior to January 1, 1988.</p> <p>26.09.910 Short title—1987 c 460.</p> <p>26.09.911 Section captions—1987 c 460.</p> <p>26.09.912 Effective date—1987 c 460.</p> <p>26.09.913 Severability—1987 c 460.</p> <p>26.09.914 Severability—1989 c 375.</p> <p>26.09.915 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.</p>	<p><i>Child support enforcement: Chapter 26.18 RCW.</i></p> <p><i>Child support registry: Chapter 26.23 RCW.</i></p> <p><i>Domestic violence prevention: Chapter 26.50 RCW.</i></p> <p><i>Living in marital relationship within state submits person to state jurisdiction as to proceedings under this chapter: RCW 4.28.185.</i></p> <p><i>Missing children clearinghouse and hot line: Chapter 13.60 RCW.</i></p> <p><i>Nonparental actions for child custody: Chapter 26.10 RCW.</i></p> <p><i>Process—Domestic relations actions: Rules of court: CR 4.1.</i></p> <p><i>Uniform child custody jurisdiction and enforcement act: Chapter 26.27 RCW.</i></p>
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**26.09.002 Policy.** Parents have the responsibility to make decisions and perform other parental functions necessary for the care and growth of their minor children. In any proceeding between parents under this chapter, the best interests of the child shall be the standard by which the court determines and allocates the parties' parental responsibilities.



The state recognizes the fundamental importance of the parent-child relationship to the welfare of the child, and that the relationship between the child and each parent should be fostered unless inconsistent with the child's best interests. Residential time and financial support are equally important components of parenting arrangements. The best interests of the child are served by a parenting arrangement that best maintains a child's emotional growth, health and stability, and physical care. Further, the best interest of the child is ordinarily served when the existing pattern of interaction between a parent and child is altered only to the extent necessitated by the changed relationship of the parents or as required to protect the child from physical, mental, or emotional harm. [2007 c 496 § 101; 1987 c 460 § 2.]

**Part headings not law—2007 c 496:** "Part headings used in this act are not any part of the law." [2007 c 496 § 801.]

**26.09.003 Policy—Intent—Findings.** The legislature reaffirms the intent of the current law as expressed in RCW 26.09.002. However, after review, the legislature finds that there are certain components of the existing law which do not support the original legislative intent. In order to better implement the existing legislative intent the legislature finds that incentives for parties to reduce family conflict and additional alternative dispute resolution options can assist in reducing the number of contested trials. Furthermore, the legislature finds that the identification of domestic violence as defined in RCW 26.50.010 and the treatment needs of the parties to dissolutions are necessary to improve outcomes for children. When judicial officers have the discretion to tailor individualized resolutions, the legislative intent expressed in RCW 26.09.002 can more readily be achieved. Judicial officers should have the discretion and flexibility to assess each case based on the merits of the individual cases before them. [2007 c 496 § 102.]

**Part headings not law—2007 c 496:** See note following RCW 26.09.002.

**26.09.004 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Military duties potentially impacting parenting functions" means those obligations imposed, voluntarily or involuntarily, on a parent serving in the armed forces that may interfere with that parent's abilities to perform his or her parenting functions under a temporary or permanent parenting plan. Military duties potentially impacting parenting functions include, but are not limited to:

(a) "Deployment," which means the temporary transfer of a service member serving in an active-duty status to another location in support of a military operation, to include any tour of duty classified by the member's branch of the armed forces as "remote" or "unaccompanied";

(b) "Activation" or "mobilization," which means the call-up of a national guard or reserve service member to extended active-duty status. For purposes of this definition, "mobilization" does not include national guard or reserve annual training, inactive duty days, or drill weekends; or

(c) "Temporary duty," which means the transfer of a service member from one military base or the service member's home to a different location, usually another base, for a lim-

ited period of time to accomplish training or to assist in the performance of a noncombat mission.

(2) "Parenting functions" means those aspects of the parent-child relationship in which the parent makes decisions and performs functions necessary for the care and growth of the child. Parenting functions include:

(a) Maintaining a loving, stable, consistent, and nurturing relationship with the child;

(b) Attending to the daily needs of the child, such as feeding, clothing, physical care and grooming, supervision, health care, and day care, and engaging in other activities which are appropriate to the developmental level of the child and that are within the social and economic circumstances of the particular family;

(c) Attending to adequate education for the child, including remedial or other education essential to the best interests of the child;

(d) Assisting the child in developing and maintaining appropriate interpersonal relationships;

(e) Exercising appropriate judgment regarding the child's welfare, consistent with the child's developmental level and the family's social and economic circumstances; and

(f) Providing for the financial support of the child.

(3) "Permanent parenting plan" means a plan for parenting the child, including allocation of parenting functions, which plan is incorporated in any final decree or decree of modification in an action for dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, declaration of invalidity, or legal separation.

(4) "Temporary parenting plan" means a plan for parenting of the child pending final resolution of any action for dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, declaration of invalidity, or legal separation which is incorporated in a temporary order. [2009 c 502 § 1; 2008 c 6 § 1003; 1987 c 460 § 3.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

**26.09.006 Mandatory use of approved forms.** (1) Effective January 1, 1992, a party shall not file any pleading with the clerk of the court in an action commenced under this chapter unless on forms approved by the administrator for the courts.

(2) The parties shall comply with requirements for submission to the court of forms as provided in RCW 26.18.220. [1992 c 229 § 1; 1990 1st ex.s. c 2 § 26.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.010 Civil practice to govern—Designation of proceedings—Decrees.** (1) Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, the practice in civil action shall govern all proceedings under this chapter, except that trial by jury is dispensed with.

(2) A proceeding for dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation or a declaration concerning the validity of a marriage or domestic partnership shall be entitled "In re the marriage of . . . . . and . . . . ." or "In re the domestic partnership of . . . . . and . . . . ." Such proceedings

may be filed in the superior court of the county where the petitioner resides.

(3) In cases where there has been no prior proceeding in this state involving the marital or domestic partnership status of the parties or support obligations for a minor child, a separate parenting and support proceeding between the parents shall be entitled "In re the parenting and support of . . . ."

(4) The initial pleading in all proceedings under this chapter shall be denominated a petition. A responsive pleading shall be denominated a response. Other pleadings, and all pleadings in other matters under this chapter shall be denominated as provided in the civil rules for superior court.

(5) In this chapter, "decree" includes "judgment".

(6) A decree of dissolution, of legal separation, or a declaration concerning the validity of a marriage or domestic partnership shall not be awarded to one of the parties, but shall provide that it affects the status previously existing between the parties in the manner decreed.

(7) In order to provide a means by which to facilitate a fair, efficient, and swift process to resolve matters regarding custody and visitation when a parent serving in the armed forces receives temporary duty, deployment, activation, or mobilization orders from the military, the court shall, upon motion of such a parent:

(a) For good cause shown, hold an expedited hearing in custody and visitation matters instituted under this chapter when the military duties of the parent have a material effect on the parent's ability, or anticipated ability, to appear in person at a regularly scheduled hearing; and

(b) Upon reasonable advance notice to the affected parties and for good cause shown, allow the parent to present testimony and evidence by electronic means in custody and visitation matters instituted under this chapter when the military duties of the parent have a material effect on the parent's ability to appear in person at a regularly scheduled hearing. The phrase "electronic means" includes communication by telephone, video teleconference, or the internet. [2009 c 502 § 2; 2008 c 6 § 1004; 1989 c 375 § 1; 1987 c 460 § 1; 1975 c 32 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 1.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

**26.09.013 Interpretive services—Literacy assistance—Guardian ad litem charges—Telephone or interactive videoconference participation—Residential time in cases involving domestic violence or child abuse—Disclosure of information—Supervised visitation and safe exchange centers.** In order to provide judicial officers with better information and to facilitate decision making which allows for the protection of children from physical, mental, or emotional harm and in order to facilitate consistent healthy contact between both parents and their children:

(1) Parties and witnesses who require the assistance of interpreters shall be provided access to qualified interpreters pursuant to chapter 2.42 or 2.43 RCW. To the extent practicable and within available resources, interpreters shall also be made available at dissolution-related proceedings.

(2) Parties and witnesses who require literacy assistance shall be referred to the multipurpose service centers established in chapter 28B.04 RCW.

(3) In matters involving guardians ad litem, the court shall specify the hourly rate the guardian ad litem may charge for his or her services, and shall specify the maximum amount the guardian ad litem may charge without additional review. Counties may, and to the extent state funding is provided therefor counties shall, provide indigent parties with guardian ad litem services at a reduced or waived fee.

(4) Parties may request to participate by telephone or interactive videoconference. The court may allow telephonic or interactive videoconference participation of one or more parties at any proceeding in its discretion. The court may also allow telephonic or interactive videoconference participation of witnesses.

(5) In cases involving domestic violence or child abuse, if residential time is ordered, the court may:

(a) Order exchange of a child to occur in a protected setting;

(b) Order residential time supervised by a neutral and independent adult and pursuant to an adequate plan for supervision of such residential time. The court shall not approve of a supervisor for contact between the child and the parent unless the supervisor is willing to and capable of protecting the child from harm. The court shall revoke court approval of the supervisor if the court determines, after a hearing, that the supervisor has failed to protect the child or is no longer willing or capable of protecting the child. If the court allows a family or household member to supervise residential time, the court shall establish conditions to be followed during residential time.

(6)(a) In cases in which the court has made a finding of domestic violence or child abuse, the court may not require a victim of domestic violence or the custodial parent of a victim of child abuse to disclose to the other party information that would reasonably be expected to enable the perpetrator of domestic violence or child abuse to obtain previously undisclosed information regarding the name, location, or address of a victim's residence, employer, or school at an initial hearing, and shall carefully weigh the safety interests of the victim before issuing orders which would require disclosure in a future hearing.

(b) In cases in which domestic violence or child abuse has been alleged but the court has not yet made a finding regarding such allegations, the court shall provide the party alleging domestic violence or child abuse with the opportunity to prove the allegations before ordering the disclosure of information that would reasonably be expected to enable the alleged perpetrator of domestic violence or child abuse to obtain previously undisclosed information regarding the name, location, or address of a victim's residence, employer, or school.

(7) In cases in which the court finds that the parties do not have a satisfactory history of cooperation or there is a high level of parental conflict, the court may order the parties to use supervised visitation and safe exchange centers or alternative safe locations to facilitate the exercise of residential time. [2012 c 223 § 5; 2007 c 496 § 401.]

**Part headings not law—2007 c 496:** See note following RCW 26.09.002.

**26.09.015 Mediation proceedings.** (1) In any proceeding under this chapter, the matter may be set for mediation of

the contested issues before or concurrent with the setting of the matter for hearing. The purpose of the mediation proceeding shall be to reduce acrimony which may exist between the parties and to develop an agreement assuring the child's close and continuing contact with both parents after the marriage or the domestic partnership is dissolved. The mediator shall use his or her best efforts to effect a settlement of the dispute.

(2)(a) Each superior court may make available a mediator. The court shall use the most cost-effective mediation services that are readily available unless there is good cause to access alternative providers. The mediator may be a member of the professional staff of a family court or mental health services agency, or may be any other person or agency designated by the court. In order to provide mediation services, the court is not required to institute a family court.

(b) In any proceeding involving issues relating to residential time or other matters governed by a parenting plan, the matter may be set for mediation of the contested issues before or concurrent with the setting of the matter for hearing. Counties may, and to the extent state funding is provided therefor counties shall, provide both predecree and postdecree mediation at reduced or waived fee to the parties within one year of the filing of the dissolution petition.

(3)(a) Mediation proceedings under this chapter shall be governed in all respects by chapter 7.07 RCW, except as follows:

(i) Mediation communications in postdecree mediations mandated by a parenting plan are admissible in subsequent proceedings for the limited purpose of proving:

(A) Abuse, neglect, abandonment, exploitation, or unlawful harassment as defined in RCW 9A.46.020(1), of a child;

(B) Abuse or unlawful harassment as defined in RCW 9A.46.020(1), of a family or household member as defined in RCW 26.50.010(2); or

(C) That a parent used or frustrated the dispute resolution process without good reason for purposes of RCW 26.09.184(4)(d).

(ii) If a postdecree mediation-arbitration proceeding is required pursuant to a parenting plan and the same person acts as both mediator and arbitrator, mediation communications in the mediation phase of such a proceeding may be admitted during the arbitration phase, and shall be admissible in the judicial review of such a proceeding under RCW 26.09.184(4)(e) to the extent necessary for such review to be effective.

(b) None of the exceptions under (a)(i) and (ii) of this subsection shall subject a mediator to compulsory process to testify except by court order for good cause shown, taking into consideration the need for the mediator's testimony and the interest in the mediator maintaining an appearance of impartiality. If a mediation communication is not privileged under (a)(i) of this subsection or that portion of (a)(ii) of this subsection pertaining to judicial review, only the portion of the communication necessary for the application of the exception may be admitted, and such admission of evidence shall not render any other mediation communication discoverable or admissible except as may be provided in chapter 7.07 RCW.

(4) The mediator shall assess the needs and interests of the child or children involved in the controversy and may interview the child or children if the mediator deems such interview appropriate or necessary.

(5) Any agreement reached by the parties as a result of mediation shall be reported to the court and to counsel for the parties by the mediator on the day set for mediation or any time thereafter designated by the court. [2008 c 6 § 1044; (2008 c 6 § 1043 expired January 1, 2009). Prior: 2007 c 496 § 602; 2007 c 496 § 501; 2005 c 172 § 17; 1991 c 367 § 2; 1989 c 375 § 2; 1986 c 95 § 4.]

**Effective date—2008 c 6 § 1044:** "Section 1044 of this act takes effect January 1, 2009." [2008 c 6 § 1305.]

**Expiration date—2008 c 6 § 1043:** "Section 1043 of this act expires January 1, 2009." [2008 c 6 § 1304.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

**Effective dates—2007 c 496 §§ 201, 202, 204, and 501:** See note following RCW 26.12.260.

**Part headings not law—2007 c 496:** See note following RCW 26.09.002.

**Short title—Captions not law—Severability—Effective date—2005 c 172:** See RCW 7.07.900 through 7.07.902 and 7.07.904.

*Mediation testimony competency:* RCW 5.60.070 and 5.60.072.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.016 Mediation in cases involving domestic violence or child abuse.** Mediation is generally inappropriate in cases involving domestic violence and child abuse. In order to effectively identify cases where issues of domestic violence and child abuse are present and reduce conflict in dissolution matters: (1) Where appropriate parties shall be provided access to trained domestic violence advocates; and (2) in cases where a victim requests mediation the court may make exceptions and permit mediation, so long as the court makes a finding that mediation is appropriate under the circumstances and the victim is permitted to have a supporting person present during the mediation proceedings. [2007 c 496 § 301.]

**Part headings not law—2007 c 496:** See note following RCW 26.09.002.

**26.09.020 Petition—Dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation, or for a declaration concerning validity of marriage or domestic partnership—Contents—Parties—Certificate.** (1) A petition in a proceeding for dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation, or for a declaration concerning the validity of a marriage or domestic partnership shall allege:

(a) The last known state of residence of each party, and if a party's last known state of residence is Washington, the last known county of residence;

(b) The date and place of the marriage or, for domestic partnerships, the date of registration, and place of residence when the domestic partnership was registered;

(c) If the parties are separated the date on which the separation occurred;

(d) The names and ages of any child dependent upon either or both spouses or either or both domestic partners and whether the wife or domestic partner is pregnant;

(e) Any arrangements as to the residential schedule of, decision making for, dispute resolution for, and support of

the children and the maintenance of a spouse or domestic partner;

(f) A statement specifying whether there is community or separate property owned by the parties to be disposed of;

(g) If the county has established a program under RCW 26.12.260, a statement affirming that the moving party met and conferred with the program prior to filing the petition;

(h) The relief sought.

(2) Either or both parties to the marriage or to the domestic partnership may initiate the proceeding.

(3) The petitioner shall complete and file with the petition a certificate under RCW 43.70.150 on the form provided by the department of health and the confidential information form under RCW 26.23.050.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit or prohibit the ability of parties to obtain appropriate emergency orders. [2008 c 6 § 1005; 2007 c 496 § 203; 2001 c 42 § 1; 1997 c 58 § 945. Prior: 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 204; 1989 c 375 § 3; 1983 1st ex.s. c 45 § 2; 1973 2nd ex.s. c 23 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 2.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

**Part headings not law—2007 c 496:** See note following RCW 26.09.002.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.030 Petition for dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership—Court proceedings, findings—Transfer to family court—Legal separation in lieu of dissolution.** When a party who (1) is a resident of this state, or (2) is a member of the armed forces and is stationed in this state, or (3) is married or in a domestic partnership to a party who is a resident of this state or who is a member of the armed forces and is stationed in this state, petitions for a dissolution of marriage or dissolution of domestic partnership, and alleges that the marriage or domestic partnership is irretrievably broken and when ninety days have elapsed since the petition was filed and from the date when service of summons was made upon the respondent or the first publication of summons was made, the court shall proceed as follows:

(a) If the other party joins in the petition or does not deny that the marriage or domestic partnership is irretrievably broken, the court shall enter a decree of dissolution.

(b) If the other party alleges that the petitioner was induced to file the petition by fraud, or coercion, the court shall make a finding as to that allegation and, if it so finds shall dismiss the petition.

(c) If the other party denies that the marriage or domestic partnership is irretrievably broken the court shall consider all relevant factors, including the circumstances that gave rise to the filing of the petition and the prospects for reconciliation and shall:

(i) Make a finding that the marriage or domestic partnership is irretrievably broken and enter a decree of dissolution of the marriage or domestic partnership; or

(ii) At the request of either party or on its own motion, transfer the cause to the family court, refer them to another counseling service of their choice, and request a report back from the counseling service within sixty days, or continue the matter for not more than sixty days for hearing. If the cause

is returned from the family court or at the adjourned hearing, the court shall:

(A) Find that the parties have agreed to reconciliation and dismiss the petition; or

(B) Find that the parties have not been reconciled, and that either party continues to allege that the marriage or domestic partnership is irretrievably broken. When such facts are found, the court shall enter a decree of dissolution of the marriage or domestic partnership.

(d) If the petitioner requests the court to decree legal separation in lieu of dissolution, the court shall enter the decree in that form unless the other party objects and petitions for a decree of dissolution or declaration of invalidity.

(e) In considering a petition for dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, a court shall not use a party's pregnancy as the sole basis for denying or delaying the entry of a decree of dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership. Granting a decree of dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership when a party is pregnant does not affect further proceedings under the uniform parentage act, chapter 26.26 RCW. [2008 c 6 § 1006; 2005 c 55 § 1; 1996 c 23 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 3.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

**26.09.040 Petition to have marriage or domestic partnership declared invalid or judicial determination of validity—Procedure—Findings—Grounds—Legitimacy of children.** (1) While both parties to an alleged marriage or domestic partnership are living, and at least one party is resident in this state or a member of the armed service and stationed in the state, a petition to have the marriage or domestic partnership declared invalid may be sought by:

(a) Either or both parties, or the guardian of an incompetent spouse or incompetent domestic partner, for any cause specified in subsection (4) of this section; or

(b) Either or both parties, the legal spouse or domestic partner, or a child of either party when it is alleged that either or both parties is married to or in a domestic partnership with another person.

(2) If the validity of a marriage or domestic partnership is denied or questioned at any time, either or both parties to the marriage or either or both parties to the domestic partnership may petition the court for a judicial determination of the validity of such marriage or domestic partnership.

(3) In a proceeding to declare the invalidity of a marriage or domestic partnership, the court shall proceed in the manner and shall have the jurisdiction, including the authority to provide for maintenance, a parenting plan for minor children, and division of the property of the parties, provided by this chapter.

(4) After hearing the evidence concerning the validity of a marriage or domestic partnership, if both parties to the alleged marriage or domestic partnership are still living, the court:

(a) If it finds the marriage or domestic partnership to be valid, shall enter a decree of validity;

(b) If it finds that:

(i) The marriage or domestic partnership should not have been contracted because of age of one or both of the parties, lack of required parental or court approval, a prior undis-

solved marriage of one or both of the parties, a prior domestic partnership of one or both parties that has not been terminated or dissolved, reasons of consanguinity, or because a party lacked capacity to consent to the marriage or domestic partnership, either because of mental incapacity or because of the influence of alcohol or other incapacitating substances, or because a party was induced to enter into the marriage or domestic partnership by force or duress, or by fraud involving the essentials of marriage or domestic partnership, and that the parties have not ratified their marriage or domestic partnership by voluntarily cohabiting after attaining the age of consent, or after attaining capacity to consent, or after cessation of the force or duress or discovery of the fraud, shall declare the marriage or domestic partnership invalid as of the date it was purportedly contracted;

(ii) The marriage or domestic partnership should not have been contracted because of any reason other than those above, shall upon motion of a party, order any action which may be appropriate to complete or to correct the record and enter a decree declaring such marriage or domestic partnership to be valid for all purposes from the date upon which it was purportedly contracted;

(c) If it finds that a marriage or domestic partnership contracted in a jurisdiction other than this state, was void or voidable under the law of the place where the marriage or domestic partnership was contracted, and in the absence of proof that such marriage or domestic partnership was subsequently validated by the laws of the place of contract or of a subsequent domicile of the parties, shall declare the marriage or domestic partnership invalid as of the date of the marriage or domestic partnership.

(5) Any child of the parties born or conceived during the existence of a marriage or domestic partnership of record is legitimate and remains legitimate notwithstanding the entry of a declaration of invalidity of the marriage or domestic partnership. [2008 c 6 § 1007; 1987 c 460 § 4; 1975 c 32 § 2; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 4.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

**26.09.050 Decrees—Contents—Restraining orders—Enforcement—Notice of termination or modification of restraining order.** (1) In entering a decree of dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity, the court shall determine the marital or domestic partnership status of the parties, make provision for a parenting plan for any minor child of the marriage or domestic partnership, make provision for the support of any child of the marriage or domestic partnership entitled to support, consider or approve provision for the maintenance of either spouse or either domestic partner, make provision for the disposition of property and liabilities of the parties, make provision for the allocation of the children as federal tax exemptions, make provision for any necessary continuing restraining orders including the provisions contained in RCW 9.41.800, make provision for the issuance within this action of the restraint provisions of a domestic violence protection order under chapter 26.50 RCW or an antiharassment protection order under chapter 10.14 RCW, and make provision for the change of name of any party.

(2) Restraining orders issued under this section restraining or enjoining the person from molesting or disturbing another party, or from going onto the grounds of or entering the home, workplace, or school of the other party or the day care or school of any child, or prohibiting the person from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of a location, shall prominently bear on the front page of the order the legend: VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER WITH ACTUAL NOTICE OF ITS TERMS IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE UNDER CHAPTER 26.50 RCW AND WILL SUBJECT A VIOLATOR TO ARREST.

(3) The court shall order that any restraining order bearing a criminal offense legend, any domestic violence protection order, or any antiharassment protection order granted under this section, in addition to the law enforcement information sheet or proof of service of the order, be forwarded by the clerk of the court on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order. Upon receipt of the order, the law enforcement agency shall enter the order into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. The order is fully enforceable in any county in the state.

(4) If a restraining order issued pursuant to this section is modified or terminated, the clerk of the court shall notify the law enforcement agency specified in the order on or before the next judicial day. Upon receipt of notice that an order has been terminated, the law enforcement agency shall remove the order from any computer-based criminal intelligence system. [2008 c 6 § 1008; 2000 c 119 § 6; 1995 c 93 § 2; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 451; 1989 c 375 § 29; 1987 c 460 § 5; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 5.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.060 Temporary maintenance or child support—Temporary restraining order—Preliminary injunction—Domestic violence or antiharassment protection order—Notice of termination or modification of restraining order—Support debts, notice.** (1) In a proceeding for:

(a) Dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation, or a declaration of invalidity; or

(b) Disposition of property or liabilities, maintenance, or support following dissolution of the marriage or the domestic partnership by a court which lacked personal jurisdiction over the absent spouse or absent domestic partner; either party may move for temporary maintenance or for temporary support of children entitled to support. The motion shall be accompanied by an affidavit setting forth the factual basis for the motion and the amounts requested.

(2) As a part of a motion for temporary maintenance or support or by independent motion accompanied by affidavit, either party may request the court to issue a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction, providing relief proper in the circumstances, and restraining or enjoining any person from:

(a) Transferring, removing, encumbering, concealing, or in any way disposing of any property except in the usual course of business or for the necessities of life, and, if so restrained or enjoined, requiring him or her to notify the moving party of any proposed extraordinary expenditures made after the order is issued;

(b) Molesting or disturbing the peace of the other party or of any child;

(c) Going onto the grounds of or entering the home, workplace, or school of the other party or the day care or school of any child upon a showing of the necessity therefor;

(d) Knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance from a specified location; and

(e) Removing a child from the jurisdiction of the court.

(3) Either party may request a domestic violence protection order under chapter 26.50 RCW or an antiharassment protection order under chapter 10.14 RCW on a temporary basis. The court may grant any of the relief provided in RCW 26.50.060 except relief pertaining to residential provisions for the children which provisions shall be provided for under this chapter, and any of the relief provided in RCW 10.14.080. Ex parte orders issued under this subsection shall be effective for a fixed period not to exceed fourteen days, or upon court order, not to exceed twenty-four days if necessary to ensure that all temporary motions in the case can be heard at the same time.

(4) In issuing the order, the court shall consider the provisions of RCW 9.41.800.

(5) The court may issue a temporary restraining order without requiring notice to the other party only if it finds on the basis of the moving affidavit or other evidence that irreparable injury could result if an order is not issued until the time for responding has elapsed.

(6) The court may issue a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction and an order for temporary maintenance or support in such amounts and on such terms as are just and proper in the circumstances. The court may in its discretion waive the filing of the bond or the posting of security.

(7) Restraining orders issued under this section restraining the person from molesting or disturbing another party, or from going onto the grounds of or entering the home, workplace, or school of the other party or the day care or school of any child, or prohibiting the person from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of a location, shall prominently bear on the front page of the order the legend: VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER WITH ACTUAL NOTICE OF ITS TERMS IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE UNDER CHAPTER 26.50 RCW AND WILL SUBJECT A VIOLATOR TO ARREST.

(8) The court shall order that any temporary restraining order bearing a criminal offense legend, any domestic violence protection order, or any antiharassment protection order granted under this section be forwarded by the clerk of the court on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order. Upon receipt of the order, the law enforcement agency shall enter the order into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. Entry into the computer-based criminal intelligence information system constitutes

notice to all law enforcement agencies of the existence of the order. The order is fully enforceable in any county in the state.

(9) If a restraining order issued pursuant to this section is modified or terminated, the clerk of the court shall notify the law enforcement agency specified in the order on or before the next judicial day. Upon receipt of notice that an order has been terminated, the law enforcement agency shall remove the order from any computer-based criminal intelligence system.

(10) A temporary order, temporary restraining order, or preliminary injunction:

(a) Does not prejudice the rights of a party or any child which are to be adjudicated at subsequent hearings in the proceeding;

(b) May be revoked or modified;

(c) Terminates when the final decree is entered, except as provided under subsection (11) of this section, or when the petition for dissolution, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity is dismissed;

(d) May be entered in a proceeding for the modification of an existing decree.

(11) Delinquent support payments accrued under an order for temporary support remain collectible and are not extinguished when a final decree is entered unless the decree contains specific language to the contrary. A support debt under a temporary order owed to the state for public assistance expenditures shall not be extinguished by the final decree if:

(a) The obligor was given notice of the state's interest under chapter 74.20A RCW; or

(b) The temporary order directs the obligor to make support payments to the office of support enforcement or the Washington state support registry. [2008 c 6 § 1009; 2000 c 119 § 7; 1995 c 246 § 26; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 452; 1992 c 229 § 9; 1989 c 360 § 37; 1984 c 263 § 26; 1983 1st ex.s. c 41 § 1; 1983 c 232 § 10; 1975 c 32 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 6.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

*Arrest without warrant in domestic violence cases:* RCW 10.31.100(2).

*Child abuse, temporary restraining order:* RCW 26.44.063.

*Ex parte temporary order for protection:* RCW 26.50.070.

*Orders for protection in cases of domestic violence:* RCW 26.50.030.

*Orders prohibiting contact:* RCW 10.99.040.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.070 Separation contracts.** (1) The parties to a marriage or a domestic partnership, in order to promote the amicable settlement of disputes attendant upon their separation or upon the filing of a petition for dissolution of their marriage or domestic partnership, a decree of legal separation, or declaration of invalidity of their marriage or domestic partnership, may enter into a written separation contract providing for the maintenance of either of them, the disposition of any property owned by both or either of them, the parenting plan and support for their children and for the release of each other from all obligation except that expressed in the contract.

(2) If the parties to such contract elect to live separate and apart without any court decree, they may record such contract and cause notice thereof to be published in a legal newspaper of the county wherein the parties resided prior to their separation. Recording such contract and publishing notice of the making thereof shall constitute notice to all persons of such separation and of the facts contained in the recorded document.

(3) If either or both of the parties to a separation contract shall at the time of the execution thereof, or at a subsequent time, petition the court for dissolution of their marriage or domestic partnership, for a decree of legal separation, or for a declaration of invalidity of their marriage or domestic partnership, the contract, except for those terms providing for a parenting plan for their children, shall be binding upon the court unless it finds, after considering the economic circumstances of the parties and any other relevant evidence produced by the parties on their own motion or on request of the court, that the separation contract was unfair at the time of its execution. Child support may be included in the separation contract and shall be reviewed in the subsequent proceeding for compliance with RCW 26.19.020.

(4) If the court in an action for dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity finds that the separation contract was unfair at the time of its execution, it may make orders for the maintenance of either party, the disposition of their property and the discharge of their obligations.

(5) Unless the separation contract provides to the contrary, the agreement shall be set forth in the decree of dissolution, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity, or filed in the action or made an exhibit and incorporated by reference, except that in all cases the terms of the parenting plan shall be set out in the decree, and the parties shall be ordered to comply with its terms.

(6) Terms of the contract set forth or incorporated by reference in the decree may be enforced by all remedies available for the enforcement of a judgment, including contempt, and are enforceable as contract terms.

(7) When the separation contract so provides, the decree may expressly preclude or limit modification of any provision for maintenance set forth in the decree. Terms of a separation contract pertaining to a parenting plan for the children and, in the absence of express provision to the contrary, terms providing for maintenance set forth or incorporated by reference in the decree are automatically modified by modification of the decree.

(8) If at any time the parties to the separation contract by mutual agreement elect to terminate the separation contract they may do so without formality unless the contract was recorded as in subsection (2) of this section, in which case a statement should be filed terminating the contract. [2008 c 6 § 1010; 1989 c 375 § 4; 1987 c 460 § 6; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 7.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

#### **26.09.080 Disposition of property and liabilities—**

**Factors.** In a proceeding for dissolution of the marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation, declaration of invalidity, or in a proceeding for disposition of property following

dissolution of the marriage or the domestic partnership by a court which lacked personal jurisdiction over the absent spouse or absent domestic partner or lacked jurisdiction to dispose of the property, the court shall, without regard to misconduct, make such disposition of the property and the liabilities of the parties, either community or separate, as shall appear just and equitable after considering all relevant factors including, but not limited to:

- (1) The nature and extent of the community property;
  - (2) The nature and extent of the separate property;
  - (3) The duration of the marriage or domestic partnership;
- and

(4) The economic circumstances of each spouse or domestic partner at the time the division of property is to become effective, including the desirability of awarding the family home or the right to live therein for reasonable periods to a spouse or domestic partner with whom the children reside the majority of the time. [2008 c 6 § 1011; 1989 c 375 § 5; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 8.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

#### **26.09.090 Maintenance orders for either spouse or either domestic partner—Factors.**

(1) In a proceeding for dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation, declaration of invalidity, or in a proceeding for maintenance following dissolution of the marriage or domestic partnership by a court which lacked personal jurisdiction over the absent spouse or absent domestic partner, the court may grant a maintenance order for either spouse or either domestic partner. The maintenance order shall be in such amounts and for such periods of time as the court deems just, without regard to misconduct, after considering all relevant factors including but not limited to:

(a) The financial resources of the party seeking maintenance, including separate or community property apportioned to him or her, and his or her ability to meet his or her needs independently, including the extent to which a provision for support of a child living with the party includes a sum for that party;

(b) The time necessary to acquire sufficient education or training to enable the party seeking maintenance to find employment appropriate to his or her skill, interests, style of life, and other attendant circumstances;

(c) The standard of living established during the marriage or domestic partnership;

(d) The duration of the marriage or domestic partnership;

(e) The age, physical and emotional condition, and financial obligations of the spouse or domestic partner seeking maintenance; and

(f) The ability of the spouse or domestic partner from whom maintenance is sought to meet his or her needs and financial obligations while meeting those of the spouse or domestic partner seeking maintenance. [2008 c 6 § 1012; 1989 c 375 § 6; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 9.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

**26.09.100 Child support—Apportionment of expense—Periodic adjustments or modifications.** (1) In a proceeding for dissolution of marriage or domestic partner-

ship, legal separation, declaration of invalidity, maintenance, or child support, after considering all relevant factors but without regard to misconduct, the court shall order either or both parents owing a duty of support to any child of the marriage or the domestic partnership dependent upon either or both spouses or domestic partners to pay an amount determined under chapter 26.19 RCW.

(2) The court may require automatic periodic adjustments or modifications of child support. That portion of any decree that requires periodic adjustments or modifications of child support shall use the provisions in chapter 26.19 RCW as the basis for the adjustment or modification. Provisions in the decree for periodic adjustment or modification shall not conflict with RCW 26.09.170 except that the decree may require periodic adjustments or modifications of support more frequently than the time periods established pursuant to RCW 26.09.170.

(3) Upon motion of a party and without a substantial change of circumstances, the court shall modify the decree to comply with subsection (2) of this section as to installments accruing subsequent to entry of the court's order on the motion for modification.

(4) The adjustment or modification provision may be modified by the court due to economic hardship consistent with the provisions of RCW 26.09.170(6)(a). [2010 c 279 § 3; 2008 c 6 § 1013; 1991 sp.s. c 28 § 1; 1990 1st ex.s. c 2 § 1; 1989 c 375 § 7; 1988 c 275 § 9; 1987 c 430 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 10.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.105 Child support—Medical support—Conditions.** (1) Whenever a child support order is entered or modified under this chapter, the court shall require both parents to provide medical support for any child named in the order as provided in this section.

(a) Medical support consists of:

- (i) Health insurance coverage; and
- (ii) Cash medical support.

(b) Cash medical support consists of:

(i) A parent's monthly payment toward the premium paid for coverage by either the other parent or the state, which represents the obligated parent's proportionate share of the premium paid, but no more than twenty-five percent of the obligated parent's basic support obligation; and

(ii) A parent's proportionate share of uninsured medical expenses.

(c) Under appropriate circumstances, the court may excuse one parent from the responsibility to provide health insurance coverage or the monthly payment toward the premium.

(d) The court shall always require both parents to contribute their proportionate share of uninsured medical expenses.

(2) Both parents share the obligation to provide medical support for the child or children specified in the order, by providing health insurance coverage or contributing a cash medical support obligation when appropriate, and paying a proportionate share of any uninsured medical expenses.

(3)(a) The court may specify how medical support must be provided by each parent under subsection (4) of this section.

(b) If the court does not specify how medical support will be provided or if neither parent provides proof that he or she is providing health insurance coverage for the child at the time the support order is entered, the division of child support or either parent may enforce a parent's obligation to provide medical support under RCW 26.18.170.

(4)(a) If there is sufficient evidence provided at the time the order is entered, the court may make a determination of which parent must provide coverage and which parent must contribute a sum certain amount as his or her monthly payment toward the premium.

(b) If both parents have available health insurance coverage that is accessible to the child at the time the support order is entered, the court has discretion to order the parent with better coverage to provide the health insurance coverage for the child and the other parent to pay a monthly payment toward the premium. In making the determination of which coverage is better, the court shall consider the needs of the child, the cost and extent of each parent's coverage, and the accessibility of the coverage.

(c) Each parent shall remain responsible for his or her proportionate share of uninsured medical expenses.

(5) The order must provide that if the parties' circumstances change, the parties' medical support obligations will be enforced as provided in RCW 26.18.170.

(6) A parent who is ordered to maintain or provide health insurance coverage may comply with that requirement by:

(a) Providing proof of accessible private insurance coverage for any child named in the order; or

(b) Providing coverage that can be extended to cover the child that is available to that parent through employment or that is union-related, if the cost of such coverage does not exceed twenty-five percent of that parent's basic child support obligation.

(7) The court may order a parent to provide health insurance coverage that exceeds twenty-five percent of that parent's basic support obligation if it is in the best interests of the child to provide coverage.

(8) If the child receives state-financed medical coverage through the department under chapter 74.09 RCW for which there is an assignment, the obligated parent shall pay a monthly payment toward the premium.

(9) Each parent is responsible for his or her proportionate share of uninsured medical expenses for the child or children covered by the support order.

(10) The parents must maintain health insurance coverage as required under this section until:

(a) Further order of the court;

(b) The child is emancipated, if there is no express language to the contrary in the order; or

(c) Health insurance is no longer available through the parents' employer or union and no conversion privileges exist to continue coverage following termination of employment.

(11) A parent who is required to extend health insurance coverage to a child under this section is liable for any covered health care costs for which the parent receives direct payment from an insurer.



(12) This section shall not be construed to limit the authority of the court to enter or modify support orders containing provisions for payment of uninsured health expenses, health care costs, or insurance premiums which are in addition to and not inconsistent with this section.

(13) A parent ordered to provide health insurance coverage must provide proof of such coverage or proof that such coverage is unavailable within twenty days of the entry of the order to:

(a) The other parent; or

(b) The department of social and health services if the parent has been notified or ordered to make support payments to the Washington state support registry.

(14) Every order requiring a parent to provide health care or insurance coverage must be entered in compliance with \*RCW 26.23.050 and be subject to direct enforcement as provided under chapter 26.18 RCW.

(15) When a parent is providing health insurance coverage at the time the order is entered, the premium shall be included in the worksheets for the calculation of child support under chapter 26.19 RCW.

(16) As used in this section:

(a) "Accessible" means health insurance coverage which provides primary care services to the child or children with reasonable effort by the custodian.

(b) "Cash medical support" means a combination of: (i) A parent's monthly payment toward the premium paid for coverage by either the other parent or the state, which represents the obligated parent's proportionate share of the premium paid, but no more than twenty-five percent of the obligated parent's basic support obligation; and (ii) a parent's proportionate share of uninsured medical expenses.

(c) "Health insurance coverage" does not include medical assistance provided under chapter 74.09 RCW.

(d) "Uninsured medical expenses" includes premiums, copays, deductibles, along with other health care costs not covered by insurance.

(e) "Obligated parent" means a parent ordered to provide health insurance coverage for the children.

(f) "Proportionate share" means an amount equal to a parent's percentage share of the combined monthly net income of both parents as computed when determining a parent's child support obligation under chapter 26.19 RCW.

(g) "Monthly payment toward the premium" means a parent's contribution toward premiums paid by the other parent or the state for insurance coverage for the child, which is based on the obligated parent's proportionate share of the premium paid, but no more than twenty-five percent of the obligated parent's basic support obligation.

(17) The department of social and health services has rule-making authority to enact rules in compliance with 45 C.F.R. Parts 302, 303, 304, 305, and 308. [2009 c 476 § 1; 1994 c 230 § 1; 1989 c 416 § 1; 1985 c 108 § 1; 1984 c 201 § 1.]

\*Reviser's note: The reference to RCW 26.23.050 appears to refer to the amendments made by 1989 c 416 § 8, which was vetoed by the governor.

Effective date—2009 c 476: "This act takes effect October 1, 2009." [2009 c 476 § 10]

**26.09.110 Minor or dependent child—Court appointed attorney to represent—Payment of costs, fees, and disbursements.** The court may appoint an attorney to represent the interests of a minor or dependent child with respect to provision for the parenting plan in an action for dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation, or declaration concerning the validity of a marriage or domestic partnership. The court shall enter an order for costs, fees, and disbursements in favor of the child's attorney. The order shall be made against either or both parents, except that, if both parties are indigent, the costs, fees, and disbursements shall be borne by the county. [2008 c 6 § 1014; 1987 c 460 § 11; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 11.]

Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6: See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

Process—Domestic relations actions: Rules of court: CR 4.1.

**26.09.120 Support or maintenance payments—To whom paid.** (1) The court shall order support payments, including maintenance if child support is ordered, to be made to the Washington state support registry, or the person entitled to receive the payments under an order approved by the court as provided in RCW 26.23.050.

(2) Maintenance payments, when ordered in an action where there is no dependent child, may be ordered to be paid to the person entitled to receive the payments, or the clerk of the court as trustee for remittance to the persons entitled to receive the payments.

(3) If support or maintenance payments are made to the clerk of court, the clerk:

(a) Shall maintain records listing the amount of payments, the date when payments are required to be made, and the names and addresses of the parties affected by the order;

(b) May by local court rule accept only certified funds or cash as payment; and

(c) Shall accept only certified funds or cash for five years in all cases after one check has been returned for nonsufficient funds or account closure.

(4) The parties affected by the order shall inform the registry through which the payments are ordered to be paid of any change of address or of other conditions that may affect the administration of the order. [2008 c 6 § 1015; 1994 c 230 § 2; 1989 c 360 § 11. Prior: 1987 c 435 § 15; 1987 c 363 § 5; 1983 1st ex.s. c 45 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 12.]

Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6: See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.135 Order or decree for child support—Compliance with RCW 26.23.050.** Every court order or decree establishing a child support obligation shall be entered in compliance with the provisions of RCW 26.23.050. [1987 c 435 § 16; 1986 c 138 § 1; 1984 c 260 § 21.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.138 Mandatory assignment of public retirement benefits—Remedies exclusive.** (1) Any obligee of a court order or decree establishing a spousal maintenance obligation may seek a mandatory benefits assignment order under chapter 41.50 RCW if any spousal maintenance payment is more than fifteen days past due and the total of such

past due payments is equal to or greater than one hundred dollars, or if the obligor requests a withdrawal of accumulated contributions from the department of retirement systems.

(2) Any court order or decree establishing a spousal maintenance obligation may state that, if any spousal maintenance payment is more than fifteen days past due and the total of such past due payments is equal to or greater than one hundred dollars, or if the obligor requests a withdrawal of accumulated contributions from the department of retirement systems, the obligee may seek a mandatory benefits assignment order under chapter 41.50 RCW without prior notice to the obligor. Any such court order or decree may also, or in the alternative, contain a provision that would allow the department to make a direct payment of all or part of a withdrawal of accumulated contributions pursuant to RCW 41.50.550(3). Failure to include this provision does not affect the validity of the court order or decree establishing the spousal maintenance, nor does such failure affect the general applicability of RCW 41.50.500 through 41.50.650 to such obligations.

(3) The remedies in RCW 41.50.530 through 41.50.630 are the exclusive provisions of law enforceable against the department of retirement systems in connection with any action for enforcement of a spousal maintenance obligation ordered pursuant to a divorce, dissolution, or legal separation, and no other remedy ordered by a court under this chapter shall be enforceable against the department of retirement systems for collection of spousal maintenance.

(4)(a) Nothing in this section regarding mandatory assignment of benefits to enforce a spousal maintenance obligation shall abridge the right of an ex spouse to receive direct payment of retirement benefits payable pursuant to: (i) A court decree of dissolution or legal separation; or (ii) any court order or court-approved property settlement agreement; or (iii) incident to any court decree of dissolution or legal separation, if such dissolution orders fully comply with RCW 41.50.670 and 41.50.700, or as applicable, RCW 2.10.180, 2.12.090, \*41.04.310, 41.04.320, 41.04.330, \*\*41.26.180, 41.32.052, 41.40.052, or 43.43.310 as those statutes existed before July 1, 1987, and as those statutes exist on and after July 28, 1991.

(b) Persons whose dissolution orders as defined in RCW 41.50.500(3) were entered between July 1, 1987, and July 28, 1991, shall be entitled to receive direct payments of retirement benefits to satisfy court-ordered property divisions if the dissolution orders filed with the department comply or are amended to comply with RCW 41.50.670 through 41.50.720 and, as applicable, RCW 2.10.180, 2.12.090, \*\*41.26.180, 41.32.052, 41.40.052, or 43.43.310. [1991 c 365 § 24; 1987 c 326 § 26.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 41.04.310, 41.04.320, and 41.04.330 were repealed by 1987 c 326 § 21, effective July 1, 1987.

\*\* (2) RCW 41.26.180 was recodified as RCW 41.26.053 pursuant to 1994 c 298 § 5.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.140 Payment of costs, attorneys' fees, etc.** The court from time to time after considering the financial resources of both parties may order a party to pay a reasonable amount for the cost to the other party of maintaining or defending any proceeding under this chapter and for reason-

able attorneys' fees or other professional fees in connection therewith, including sums for legal services rendered and costs incurred prior to the commencement of the proceeding or enforcement or modification proceedings after entry of judgment.

Upon any appeal, the appellate court may, in its discretion, order a party to pay for the cost to the other party of maintaining the appeal and attorneys' fees in addition to statutory costs.

The court may order that the attorneys' fees be paid directly to the attorney who may enforce the order in his or her name. [2011 c 336 § 690; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 14.]

**26.09.150 Decree of dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity—Finality—Appeal—Conversion of decree of legal separation to decree of dissolution—Name of party.**

(1) A decree of dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity is final when entered, subject to the right of appeal. An appeal which does not challenge the finding that the marriage or domestic partnership is irretrievably broken or was invalid, does not delay the finality of the dissolution or declaration of invalidity and either party may remarry or enter into a domestic partnership pending such an appeal.

(2)(a) No earlier than six months after entry of a decree of legal separation, on motion of either party, the court shall convert the decree of legal separation to a decree of dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership. The clerk of court shall complete the certificate as provided for in \*RCW 70.58.200 on the form provided by the department of health. On or before the tenth day of each month, the clerk of the court shall forward to the state registrar of vital statistics the certificate of each decree of divorce, dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, annulment, or separate maintenance granted during the preceding month.

(b) Once a month, the state registrar of vital statistics shall prepare a list of persons for whom a certificate of dissolution of domestic partnership was transmitted to the registrar and was not included in a previous list, and shall supply the list to the secretary of state.

(3) Upon request of a party whose marriage or domestic partnership is dissolved or declared invalid, the court shall order a former name restored or the court may, in its discretion, order a change to another name. [2008 c 6 § 1016. Prior: 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 205; 1989 c 375 § 30; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 15.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 70.58.200 was repealed by 1991 c 96 § 6.

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

*Effect of entry of a decree of dissolution of marriage or a declaration of invalidity or certification of termination of a state registered domestic partnership on nonprobate assets: RCW 11.07.010.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.160 Failure to comply with decree or temporary injunction—Obligation to make support or maintenance payments or permit contact with children not suspended—Penalties.** (1) The performance of parental functions and the duty to provide child support are distinct responsibilities in the care of a child. If a party fails to comply

with a provision of a decree or temporary order of injunction, the obligation of the other party to make payments for support or maintenance or to permit contact with children is not suspended. An attempt by a parent, in either the negotiation or the performance of a parenting plan, to condition one aspect of the parenting plan upon another, to condition payment of child support upon an aspect of the parenting plan, to refuse to pay ordered child support, to refuse to perform the duties provided in the parenting plan, or to hinder the performance by the other parent of duties provided in the parenting plan, shall be deemed bad faith and shall be punished by the court by holding the party in contempt of court and by awarding to the aggrieved party reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incidental in bringing a motion for contempt of court.

(2)(a) A motion may be filed to initiate a contempt action to coerce a parent to comply with an order establishing residential provisions for a child. If the court finds there is reasonable cause to believe the parent has not complied with the order, the court may issue an order to show cause why the relief requested should not be granted.

(b) If, based on all the facts and circumstances, the court finds after hearing that the parent, in bad faith, has not complied with the order establishing residential provisions for the child, the court shall find the parent in contempt of court. Upon a finding of contempt, the court shall order:

(i) The noncomplying parent to provide the moving party additional time with the child. The additional time shall be equal to the time missed with the child, due to the parent's noncompliance;

(ii) The parent to pay, to the moving party, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred as a result of the noncompliance, and any reasonable expenses incurred in locating or returning a child; and

(iii) The parent to pay, to the moving party, a civil penalty, not less than the sum of one hundred dollars.

The court may also order the parent to be imprisoned in the county jail, if the parent is presently able to comply with the provisions of the court-ordered parenting plan and is presently unwilling to comply. The parent may be imprisoned until he or she agrees to comply with the order, but in no event for more than one hundred eighty days.

(3) On a second failure within three years to comply with a residential provision of a court-ordered parenting plan, a motion may be filed to initiate contempt of court proceedings according to the procedure set forth in subsection (2)(a) and (b) of this section. On a finding of contempt under this subsection, the court shall order:

(a) The noncomplying parent to provide the other parent or party additional time with the child. The additional time shall be twice the amount of the time missed with the child, due to the parent's noncompliance;

(b) The noncomplying parent to pay, to the other parent or party, all court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred as a result of the noncompliance, and any reasonable expenses incurred in locating or returning a child; and

(c) The noncomplying parent to pay, to the moving party, a civil penalty of not less than two hundred fifty dollars.

The court may also order the parent to be imprisoned in the county jail, if the parent is presently able to comply with the provisions of the court-ordered parenting plan and is pres-

ently unwilling to comply. The parent may be imprisoned until he or she agrees to comply with the order but in no event for more than one hundred eighty days.

(4) For purposes of subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section, the parent shall be deemed to have the present ability to comply with the order establishing residential provisions unless he or she establishes otherwise by a preponderance of the evidence. The parent shall establish a reasonable excuse for failure to comply with the residential provision of a court-ordered parenting plan by a preponderance of the evidence.

(5) Any monetary award ordered under subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section may be enforced, by the party to whom it is awarded, in the same manner as a civil judgment.

(6) Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section authorize the exercise of the court's power to impose remedial sanctions for contempt of court and is in addition to any other contempt power the court may possess.

(7) Upon motion for contempt of court under subsections (1) through (3) of this section, if the court finds the motion was brought without reasonable basis, the court shall order the moving party to pay to the nonmoving party, all costs, reasonable attorneys' fees, and a civil penalty of not less than one hundred dollars. [1991 c 367 § 4; 1989 c 318 § 1; 1987 c 460 § 12; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 16.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.165 Court orders—Required language.** All court orders containing parenting plan provisions or orders of contempt, entered pursuant to RCW 26.09.160, shall include the following language:

WARNING: VIOLATION OF THE RESIDENTIAL PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDER WITH ACTUAL KNOWLEDGE OF ITS TERMS IS PUNISHABLE BY CONTEMPT OF COURT, AND MAY BE A CRIMINAL OFFENSE UNDER RCW 9A.40.060(2) or 9A.40.070(2). VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER MAY SUBJECT A VIOLATOR TO ARREST.

[1994 c 162 § 2; 1989 c 318 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.170 Modification of decree for maintenance or support, property disposition—Termination of maintenance obligation and child support—Grounds.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in RCW 26.09.070(7), the provisions of any decree respecting maintenance or support may be modified: (a) Only as to installments accruing subsequent to the petition for modification or motion for adjustment except motions to compel court-ordered adjustments, which shall be effective as of the first date specified in the decree for implementing the adjustment; and, (b) except as otherwise provided in this section, only upon a showing of a substantial change of circumstances. The provisions as to property disposition may not be revoked or modified, unless the court finds the existence of conditions that justify the reopening of a judgment under the laws of this state.

(2) Unless otherwise agreed in writing or expressly provided in the decree the obligation to pay future maintenance is terminated upon the death of either party or the remarriage

of the party receiving maintenance or registration of a new domestic partnership of the party receiving maintenance.

(3) Unless otherwise agreed in writing or expressly provided in the decree, provisions for the support of a child are terminated by emancipation of the child or by the death of the parent obligated to support the child.

(4) Unless expressly provided by an order of the superior court or a court of comparable jurisdiction, provisions for the support of a child are terminated upon the marriage or registration of a domestic partnership to each other of parties to a paternity order, or upon the remarriage or registration of a domestic partnership to each other of parties to a decree of dissolution. The remaining provisions of the order, including provisions establishing paternity, remain in effect.

(5)(a) A party to an order of child support may petition for a modification based upon a showing of substantially changed circumstances at any time.

(b) An obligor's voluntary unemployment or voluntary underemployment, by itself, is not a substantial change of circumstances.

(6) An order of child support may be modified one year or more after it has been entered without a showing of substantially changed circumstances:

(a) If the order in practice works a severe economic hardship on either party or the child;

(b) If a party requests an adjustment in an order for child support which was based on guidelines which determined the amount of support according to the child's age, and the child is no longer in the age category on which the current support amount was based;

(c) If a child is still in high school, upon a finding that there is a need to extend support beyond the eighteenth birthday to complete high school; or

(d) To add an automatic adjustment of support provision consistent with RCW 26.09.100.

(7)(a) If twenty-four months have passed from the date of the entry of the order or the last adjustment or modification, whichever is later, the order may be adjusted without a showing of substantially changed circumstances based upon:

(i) Changes in the income of the parents; or

(ii) Changes in the economic table or standards in chapter 26.19 RCW.

(b) Either party may initiate the adjustment by filing a motion and child support worksheets.

(c) If the court adjusts or modifies a child support obligation pursuant to this subsection by more than thirty percent and the change would cause significant hardship, the court may implement the change in two equal increments, one at the time of the entry of the order and the second six months from the entry of the order. Twenty-four months must pass following the second change before a motion for another adjustment under this subsection may be filed.

(8)(a) The department of social and health services may file an action to modify or adjust an order of child support if public assistance money is being paid to or for the benefit of the child and the child support order is at least twenty-five percent above or below the appropriate child support amount set forth in the standard calculation as defined in RCW 26.19.011 and reasons for the deviation are not set forth in the findings of fact or order.

(b) The department of social and health services may file an action to modify or adjust an order of child support in a nonassistance case if:

(i) The child support order is at least twenty-five percent above or below the appropriate child support amount set forth in the standard calculation as defined in RCW 26.19.011;

(ii) The department has determined the case meets the department's review criteria; and

(iii) A party to the order or another state or jurisdiction has requested a review.

(c) The determination of twenty-five percent or more shall be based on the current income of the parties and the department shall not be required to show a substantial change of circumstances if the reasons for the deviations were not set forth in the findings of fact or order.

(9) The department of social and health services may file an action to modify or adjust an order of child support under subsections (5) through (7) of this section if:

(a) Public assistance money is being paid to or for the benefit of the child;

(b) A party to the order in a nonassistance case has requested a review; or

(c) Another state or jurisdiction has requested a modification of the order.

(10) If testimony other than affidavit is required in any proceeding under this section, a court of this state shall permit a party or witness to be deposed or to testify under penalty of perjury by telephone, audiovisual means, or other electronic means, unless good cause is shown. [2010 c 279 § 1; 2008 c 6 § 1017; 2002 c 199 § 1; 1997 c 58 § 910; 1992 c 229 § 2; 1991 sp.s. c 28 § 2; 1990 1st ex.s. c 2 § 2; 1989 c 416 § 3; 1988 c 275 § 17; 1987 c 430 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 17.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.175 Modification of order of child support.** (1)

A proceeding for the modification of an order of child support shall commence with the filing of a petition and worksheets. The petition shall be in the form prescribed by the administrator for the courts. There shall be a fee of twenty dollars for the filing of a petition for modification of dissolution.

(2)(a) The petitioner shall serve upon the other party the summons, a copy of the petition, and the worksheets in the form prescribed by the administrator for the courts. If the modification proceeding is the first action filed in this state, service shall be made by personal service. If the decree to be modified was entered in this state, service shall be by personal service or by any form of mail requiring a return receipt. Proof of service shall be filed with the court.

(b) If the support obligation has been assigned to the state pursuant to RCW 74.20.330 or the state has a subrogated interest under RCW 74.20A.030, the summons, petition, and worksheets shall also be served on the attorney general; except that notice shall be given to the office of the prosecuting attorney for the county in which the action is filed in lieu of the office of the attorney general in those counties and in the types of cases as designated by the office of the attor-

ney general by letter sent to the presiding superior court judge of that county.

(3) As provided for under RCW 26.09.170, the department of social and health services may file an action to modify or adjust an order of child support if:

(a) Public assistance money is being paid to or for the benefit of the child;

(b) A party to the order in a nonassistance case has requested a review; or

(c) Another state or jurisdiction has requested a modification of the order.

(4) A responding party's answer and worksheets shall be served and the answer filed within twenty days after service of the petition or sixty days if served out of state. A responding party's failure to file an answer within the time required shall result in entry of a default judgment for the petitioner.

(5) At any time after responsive pleadings are filed, any party may schedule the matter for hearing.

(6) Unless all parties stipulate to arbitration or the presiding judge authorizes oral testimony pursuant to subsection (7) of this section, a petition for modification of an order of child support shall be heard by the court on affidavits, the petition, answer, and worksheets only.

(7) A party seeking authority to present oral testimony on the petition to modify a support order shall file an appropriate motion not later than ten days after the time of notice of hearing. Affidavits and exhibits setting forth the reasons oral testimony is necessary to a just adjudication of the issues shall accompany the petition. The affidavits and exhibits must demonstrate the extraordinary features of the case. Factors which may be considered include, but are not limited to: (a) Substantial questions of credibility on a major issue; (b) insufficient or inconsistent discovery materials not correctable by further discovery; or (c) particularly complex circumstances requiring expert testimony.

(8) If testimony other than affidavit is required in any proceeding under this section, a court of this state shall permit a party or witness to be deposed or to testify under penalty of perjury by telephone, audiovisual means, or other electronic means, unless good cause is shown. [2010 c 279 § 2; 2002 c 199 § 2; 1992 c 229 § 3; 1991 c 367 § 6; 1990 1st ex.s. c 2 § 3; 1987 c 430 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.181 Procedure for determining permanent parenting plan.** (1) SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED PLANS. (a) In any proceeding under this chapter, except a modification, each party shall file and serve a proposed permanent parenting plan on or before the earliest date of:

(i) Thirty days after filing and service by either party of a notice for trial; or

(ii) One hundred eighty days after commencement of the action which one hundred eighty day period may be extended by stipulation of the parties.

(b) In proceedings for a modification of custody or a parenting plan, a proposed parenting plan shall be filed and served with the motion for modification and with the response to the motion for modification.

(c) No proposed permanent parenting plan shall be required after filing of an agreed permanent parenting plan,

after entry of a final decree, or after dismissal of the cause of action.

(d) A party who files a proposed parenting plan in compliance with this section may move the court for an order of default adopting that party's parenting plan if the other party has failed to file a proposed parenting plan as required in this section.

(2) AMENDING PROPOSED PARENTING PLANS. Either party may file and serve an amended proposed permanent parenting plan according to the rules for amending pleadings.

(3) GOOD FAITH PROPOSAL. The parent submitting a proposed parenting plan shall attach a verified statement that the plan is proposed by that parent in good faith.

(4) AGREED PERMANENT PARENTING PLANS. The parents may make an agreed permanent parenting plan.

(5) MANDATORY SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE. Where mandatory settlement conferences are provided under court rule, the parents shall attend a mandatory settlement conference. The mandatory settlement conference shall be presided over by a judge or a court commissioner, who shall apply the criteria in RCW 26.09.187 and 26.09.191. The parents shall in good faith review the proposed terms of the parenting plans and any other issues relevant to the cause of action with the presiding judge or court commissioner. Facts and legal issues that are not then in dispute shall be entered as stipulations for purposes of final hearing or trial in the matter.

(6) TRIAL SETTING. Trial dates for actions involving minor children brought under this chapter shall receive priority.

(7) ENTRY OF FINAL ORDER. The final order or decree shall be entered not sooner than ninety days after filing and service.

This subsection does not apply to decrees of legal separation. [1989 2nd ex.s. c 2 § 1; 1989 c 375 § 8; 1987 c 460 § 7.]

**26.09.182 Permanent parenting plan—Determination of relevant information.** Before entering a permanent parenting plan, the court shall determine the existence of any information and proceedings relevant to the placement of the child that are available in the judicial information system and databases. [2007 c 496 § 304.]

**Part headings not law—2007 c 496:** See note following RCW 26.09.002.

**26.09.184 Permanent parenting plan.** (1) OBJECTIVES. The objectives of the permanent parenting plan are to:

(a) Provide for the child's physical care;

(b) Maintain the child's emotional stability;

(c) Provide for the child's changing needs as the child grows and matures, in a way that minimizes the need for future modifications to the permanent parenting plan;

(d) Set forth the authority and responsibilities of each parent with respect to the child, consistent with the criteria in RCW 26.09.187 and 26.09.191;

(e) Minimize the child's exposure to harmful parental conflict;

(f) Encourage the parents, where appropriate under RCW 26.09.187 and 26.09.191, to meet their responsibilities

to their minor children through agreements in the permanent parenting plan, rather than by relying on judicial intervention; and

(g) To otherwise protect the best interests of the child consistent with RCW 26.09.002.

(2) **CONTENTS OF THE PERMANENT PARENTING PLAN.** The permanent parenting plan shall contain provisions for resolution of future disputes between the parents, allocation of decision-making authority, and residential provisions for the child.

(3) **CONSIDERATION IN ESTABLISHING THE PERMANENT PARENTING PLAN.** In establishing a permanent parenting plan, the court may consider the cultural heritage and religious beliefs of a child.

(4) **DISPUTE RESOLUTION.** A process for resolving disputes, other than court action, shall be provided unless precluded or limited by RCW 26.09.187 or 26.09.191. A dispute resolution process may include counseling, mediation, or arbitration by a specified individual or agency, or court action. In the dispute resolution process:

(a) Preference shall be given to carrying out the parenting plan;

(b) The parents shall use the designated process to resolve disputes relating to implementation of the plan, except those related to financial support, unless an emergency exists;

(c) A written record shall be prepared of any agreement reached in counseling or mediation and of each arbitration award and shall be provided to each party;

(d) If the court finds that a parent has used or frustrated the dispute resolution process without good reason, the court shall award attorneys' fees and financial sanctions to the prevailing parent;

(e) The parties have the right of review from the dispute resolution process to the superior court; and

(f) The provisions of (a) through (e) of this subsection shall be set forth in the decree.

(5) **ALLOCATION OF DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY.**

(a) The plan shall allocate decision-making authority to one or both parties regarding the children's education, health care, and religious upbringing. The parties may incorporate an agreement related to the care and growth of the child in these specified areas, or in other areas, into their plan, consistent with the criteria in RCW 26.09.187 and 26.09.191. Regardless of the allocation of decision-making in the parenting plan, either parent may make emergency decisions affecting the health or safety of the child.

(b) Each parent may make decisions regarding the day-to-day care and control of the child while the child is residing with that parent.

(c) When mutual decision making is designated but cannot be achieved, the parties shall make a good-faith effort to resolve the issue through the dispute resolution process.

(6) **RESIDENTIAL PROVISIONS FOR THE CHILD.** The plan shall include a residential schedule which designates in which parent's home each minor child shall reside on given days of the year, including provision for holidays, birthdays of family members, vacations, and other special occasions, consistent with the criteria in RCW 26.09.187 and 26.09.191.

(7) **PARENTS' OBLIGATION UNAFFECTED.** If a parent fails to comply with a provision of a parenting plan or a child support order, the other parent's obligations under the parenting plan or the child support order are not affected. Failure to comply with a provision in a parenting plan or a child support order may result in a finding of contempt of court, under RCW 26.09.160.

(8) **PROVISIONS TO BE SET FORTH IN PERMANENT PARENTING PLAN.** The permanent parenting plan shall set forth the provisions of subsections (4)(a) through (c), (5)(b) and (c), and (7) of this section. [2007 c 496 § 601; 1991 c 367 § 7; 1989 c 375 § 9; 1987 c 460 § 8.]

**Part headings not law—2007 c 496:** See note following RCW 26.09.002.

*Custody, designation of for purposes of other statutes:* RCW 26.09.285.

*Failure to comply with decree or temporary injunction—Obligations not suspended:* RCW 26.09.160.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.187 Criteria for establishing permanent parenting plan.** (1) **DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS.** The court shall not order a dispute resolution process, except court action, when it finds that any limiting factor under RCW 26.09.191 applies, or when it finds that either parent is unable to afford the cost of the proposed dispute resolution process. If a dispute resolution process is not precluded or limited, then in designating such a process the court shall consider all relevant factors, including:

(a) Differences between the parents that would substantially inhibit their effective participation in any designated process;

(b) The parents' wishes or agreements and, if the parents have entered into agreements, whether the agreements were made knowingly and voluntarily; and

(c) Differences in the parents' financial circumstances that may affect their ability to participate fully in a given dispute resolution process.

(2) **ALLOCATION OF DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY.**

(a) **AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE PARTIES.** The court shall approve agreements of the parties allocating decision-making authority, or specifying rules in the areas listed in RCW 26.09.184(5)(a), when it finds that:

(i) The agreement is consistent with any limitations on a parent's decision-making authority mandated by RCW 26.09.191; and

(ii) The agreement is knowing and voluntary.

(b) **SOLE DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY.** The court shall order sole decision-making to one parent when it finds that:

(i) A limitation on the other parent's decision-making authority is mandated by RCW 26.09.191;

(ii) Both parents are opposed to mutual decision making;

(iii) One parent is opposed to mutual decision making, and such opposition is reasonable based on the criteria in (c) of this subsection.

(c) **MUTUAL DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY.** Except as provided in (a) and (b) of this subsection, the court shall consider the following criteria in allocating decision-making authority:

(i) The existence of a limitation under RCW 26.09.191;

(ii) The history of participation of each parent in decision making in each of the areas in RCW 26.09.184(5)(a);

(iii) Whether the parents have a demonstrated ability and desire to cooperate with one another in decision making in each of the areas in RCW 26.09.184(5)(a); and

(iv) The parents' geographic proximity to one another, to the extent that it affects their ability to make timely mutual decisions.

(3) RESIDENTIAL PROVISIONS.

(a) The court shall make residential provisions for each child which encourage each parent to maintain a loving, stable, and nurturing relationship with the child, consistent with the child's developmental level and the family's social and economic circumstances. The child's residential schedule shall be consistent with RCW 26.09.191. Where the limitations of RCW 26.09.191 are not dispositive of the child's residential schedule, the court shall consider the following factors:

(i) The relative strength, nature, and stability of the child's relationship with each parent;

(ii) The agreements of the parties, provided they were entered into knowingly and voluntarily;

(iii) Each parent's past and potential for future performance of parenting functions as defined in \*RCW 26.09.004(3), including whether a parent has taken greater responsibility for performing parenting functions relating to the daily needs of the child;

(iv) The emotional needs and developmental level of the child;

(v) The child's relationship with siblings and with other significant adults, as well as the child's involvement with his or her physical surroundings, school, or other significant activities;

(vi) The wishes of the parents and the wishes of a child who is sufficiently mature to express reasoned and independent preferences as to his or her residential schedule; and

(vii) Each parent's employment schedule, and shall make accommodations consistent with those schedules.

Factor (i) shall be given the greatest weight.

(b) Where the limitations of RCW 26.09.191 are not dispositive, the court may order that a child frequently alternate his or her residence between the households of the parents for brief and substantially equal intervals of time if such provision is in the best interests of the child. In determining whether such an arrangement is in the best interests of the child, the court may consider the parties geographic proximity to the extent necessary to ensure the ability to share performance of the parenting functions.

(c) For any child, residential provisions may contain any reasonable terms or conditions that facilitate the orderly and meaningful exercise of residential time by a parent, including but not limited to requirements of reasonable notice when residential time will not occur. [2007 c 496 § 603; 1989 c 375 § 10; 1987 c 460 § 9.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 26.09.004 was alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k), changing subsection (3) to subsection (2).

Part headings not law—2007 c 496: See note following RCW 26.09.002.

Custody, designation of for purposes of other statutes: RCW 26.09.285.

**26.09.191 Restrictions in temporary or permanent parenting plans.** (1) The permanent parenting plan shall not require mutual decision-making or designation of a dispute resolution process other than court action if it is found that a parent has engaged in any of the following conduct: (a) Willful abandonment that continues for an extended period of time or substantial refusal to perform parenting functions; (b) physical, sexual, or a pattern of emotional abuse of a child; or (c) a history of acts of domestic violence as defined in RCW 26.50.010(1) or an assault or sexual assault which causes grievous bodily harm or the fear of such harm.

(2)(a) The parent's residential time with the child shall be limited if it is found that the parent has engaged in any of the following conduct: (i) Willful abandonment that continues for an extended period of time or substantial refusal to perform parenting functions; (ii) physical, sexual, or a pattern of emotional abuse of a child; (iii) a history of acts of domestic violence as defined in RCW 26.50.010(1) or an assault or sexual assault which causes grievous bodily harm or the fear of such harm; or (iv) the parent has been convicted as an adult of a sex offense under:

(A) RCW 9A.44.076 if, because of the difference in age between the offender and the victim, no rebuttable presumption exists under (d) of this subsection;

(B) RCW 9A.44.079 if, because of the difference in age between the offender and the victim, no rebuttable presumption exists under (d) of this subsection;

(C) RCW 9A.44.086 if, because of the difference in age between the offender and the victim, no rebuttable presumption exists under (d) of this subsection;

(D) RCW 9A.44.089;

(E) RCW 9A.44.093;

(F) RCW 9A.44.096;

(G) RCW 9A.64.020 (1) or (2) if, because of the difference in age between the offender and the victim, no rebuttable presumption exists under (d) of this subsection;

(H) Chapter 9.68A RCW;

(I) Any predecessor or antecedent statute for the offenses listed in (a)(iv)(A) through (H) of this subsection;

(J) Any statute from any other jurisdiction that describes an offense analogous to the offenses listed in (a)(iv)(A) through (H) of this subsection.

This subsection (2)(a) shall not apply when (c) or (d) of this subsection applies.

(b) The parent's residential time with the child shall be limited if it is found that the parent resides with a person who has engaged in any of the following conduct: (i) Physical, sexual, or a pattern of emotional abuse of a child; (ii) a history of acts of domestic violence as defined in RCW 26.50.010(1) or an assault or sexual assault that causes grievous bodily harm or the fear of such harm; or (iii) the person has been convicted as an adult or as a juvenile has been adjudicated of a sex offense under:

(A) RCW 9A.44.076 if, because of the difference in age between the offender and the victim, no rebuttable presumption exists under (e) of this subsection;

(B) RCW 9A.44.079 if, because of the difference in age between the offender and the victim, no rebuttable presumption exists under (e) of this subsection;

(C) RCW 9A.44.086 if, because of the difference in age between the offender and the victim, no rebuttable presumption exists under (e) of this subsection;

(D) RCW 9A.44.089;

(E) RCW 9A.44.093;

(F) RCW 9A.44.096;

(G) RCW 9A.64.020 (1) or (2) if, because of the difference in age between the offender and the victim, no rebuttable presumption exists under (e) of this subsection;

(H) Chapter 9.68A RCW;

(I) Any predecessor or antecedent statute for the offenses listed in (b)(iii)(A) through (H) of this subsection;

(J) Any statute from any other jurisdiction that describes an offense analogous to the offenses listed in (b)(iii)(A) through (H) of this subsection.

This subsection (2)(b) shall not apply when (c) or (e) of this subsection applies.

(c) If a parent has been found to be a sexual predator under chapter 71.09 RCW or under an analogous statute of any other jurisdiction, the court shall restrain the parent from contact with a child that would otherwise be allowed under this chapter. If a parent resides with an adult or a juvenile who has been found to be a sexual predator under chapter 71.09 RCW or under an analogous statute of any other jurisdiction, the court shall restrain the parent from contact with the parent's child except contact that occurs outside that person's presence.

(d) There is a rebuttable presumption that a parent who has been convicted as an adult of a sex offense listed in (d)(i) through (ix) of this subsection poses a present danger to a child. Unless the parent rebuts this presumption, the court shall restrain the parent from contact with a child that would otherwise be allowed under this chapter:

(i) RCW 9A.64.020 (1) or (2), provided that the person convicted was at least five years older than the other person;

(ii) RCW 9A.44.073;

(iii) RCW 9A.44.076, provided that the person convicted was at least eight years older than the victim;

(iv) RCW 9A.44.079, provided that the person convicted was at least eight years older than the victim;

(v) RCW 9A.44.083;

(vi) RCW 9A.44.086, provided that the person convicted was at least eight years older than the victim;

(vii) RCW 9A.44.100;

(viii) Any predecessor or antecedent statute for the offenses listed in (d)(i) through (vii) of this subsection;

(ix) Any statute from any other jurisdiction that describes an offense analogous to the offenses listed in (d)(i) through (vii) of this subsection.

(e) There is a rebuttable presumption that a parent who resides with a person who, as an adult, has been convicted, or as a juvenile has been adjudicated, of the sex offenses listed in (e)(i) through (ix) of this subsection places a child at risk of abuse or harm when that parent exercises residential time in the presence of the convicted or adjudicated person. Unless the parent rebuts the presumption, the court shall restrain the parent from contact with the parent's child except for contact that occurs outside of the convicted or adjudicated person's presence:

(i) RCW 9A.64.020 (1) or (2), provided that the person convicted was at least five years older than the other person;

(ii) RCW 9A.44.073;

(iii) RCW 9A.44.076, provided that the person convicted was at least eight years older than the victim;

(iv) RCW 9A.44.079, provided that the person convicted was at least eight years older than the victim;

(v) RCW 9A.44.083;

(vi) RCW 9A.44.086, provided that the person convicted was at least eight years older than the victim;

(vii) RCW 9A.44.100;

(viii) Any predecessor or antecedent statute for the offenses listed in (e)(i) through (vii) of this subsection;

(ix) Any statute from any other jurisdiction that describes an offense analogous to the offenses listed in (e)(i) through (vii) of this subsection.

(f) The presumption established in (d) of this subsection may be rebutted only after a written finding that:

(i) If the child was not the victim of the sex offense committed by the parent requesting residential time, (A) contact between the child and the offending parent is appropriate and poses minimal risk to the child, and (B) the offending parent has successfully engaged in treatment for sex offenders or is engaged in and making progress in such treatment, if any was ordered by a court, and the treatment provider believes such contact is appropriate and poses minimal risk to the child; or

(ii) If the child was the victim of the sex offense committed by the parent requesting residential time, (A) contact between the child and the offending parent is appropriate and poses minimal risk to the child, (B) if the child is in or has been in therapy for victims of sexual abuse, the child's counselor believes such contact between the child and the offending parent is in the child's best interest, and (C) the offending parent has successfully engaged in treatment for sex offenders or is engaged in and making progress in such treatment, if any was ordered by a court, and the treatment provider believes such contact is appropriate and poses minimal risk to the child.

(g) The presumption established in (e) of this subsection may be rebutted only after a written finding that:

(i) If the child was not the victim of the sex offense committed by the person who is residing with the parent requesting residential time, (A) contact between the child and the parent residing with the convicted or adjudicated person is appropriate and that parent is able to protect the child in the presence of the convicted or adjudicated person, and (B) the convicted or adjudicated person has successfully engaged in treatment for sex offenders or is engaged in and making progress in such treatment, if any was ordered by a court, and the treatment provider believes such contact is appropriate and poses minimal risk to the child; or

(ii) If the child was the victim of the sex offense committed by the person who is residing with the parent requesting residential time, (A) contact between the child and the parent in the presence of the convicted or adjudicated person is appropriate and poses minimal risk to the child, (B) if the child is in or has been in therapy for victims of sexual abuse, the child's counselor believes such contact between the child and the parent residing with the convicted or adjudicated person in the presence of the convicted or adjudicated person is in the child's best interest, and (C) the convicted or adjudicated person has successfully engaged in treatment for sex offenders or is engaged in and making progress in such treatment;



ment, if any was ordered by a court, and the treatment provider believes contact between the parent and child in the presence of the convicted or adjudicated person is appropriate and poses minimal risk to the child.

(h) If the court finds that the parent has met the burden of rebutting the presumption under (f) of this subsection, the court may allow a parent who has been convicted as an adult of a sex offense listed in (d)(i) through (ix) of this subsection to have residential time with the child supervised by a neutral and independent adult and pursuant to an adequate plan for supervision of such residential time. The court shall not approve of a supervisor for contact between the child and the parent unless the court finds, based on the evidence, that the supervisor is willing and capable of protecting the child from harm. The court shall revoke court approval of the supervisor upon finding, based on the evidence, that the supervisor has failed to protect the child or is no longer willing or capable of protecting the child.

(i) If the court finds that the parent has met the burden of rebutting the presumption under (g) of this subsection, the court may allow a parent residing with a person who has been adjudicated as a juvenile of a sex offense listed in (e)(i) through (ix) of this subsection to have residential time with the child in the presence of the person adjudicated as a juvenile, supervised by a neutral and independent adult and pursuant to an adequate plan for supervision of such residential time. The court shall not approve of a supervisor for contact between the child and the parent unless the court finds, based on the evidence, that the supervisor is willing and capable of protecting the child from harm. The court shall revoke court approval of the supervisor upon finding, based on the evidence, that the supervisor has failed to protect the child or is no longer willing or capable of protecting the child.

(j) If the court finds that the parent has met the burden of rebutting the presumption under (g) of this subsection, the court may allow a parent residing with a person who, as an adult, has been convicted of a sex offense listed in (e)(i) through (ix) of this subsection to have residential time with the child in the presence of the convicted person supervised by a neutral and independent adult and pursuant to an adequate plan for supervision of such residential time. The court shall not approve of a supervisor for contact between the child and the parent unless the court finds, based on the evidence, that the supervisor is willing and capable of protecting the child from harm. The court shall revoke court approval of the supervisor upon finding, based on the evidence, that the supervisor has failed to protect the child or is no longer willing or capable of protecting the child.

(k) A court shall not order unsupervised contact between the offending parent and a child of the offending parent who was sexually abused by that parent. A court may order unsupervised contact between the offending parent and a child who was not sexually abused by the parent after the presumption under (d) of this subsection has been rebutted and supervised residential time has occurred for at least two years with no further arrests or convictions of sex offenses involving children under chapter 9A.44 RCW, RCW 9A.64.020, or chapter 9.68A RCW and (i) the sex offense of the offending parent was not committed against a child of the offending parent, and (ii) the court finds that unsupervised contact between the child and the offending parent is appropriate and

poses minimal risk to the child, after consideration of the testimony of a state-certified therapist, mental health counselor, or social worker with expertise in treating child sexual abuse victims who has supervised at least one period of residential time between the parent and the child, and after consideration of evidence of the offending parent's compliance with community supervision requirements, if any. If the offending parent was not ordered by a court to participate in treatment for sex offenders, then the parent shall obtain a psychosexual evaluation conducted by a certified sex offender treatment provider or a certified affiliate sex offender treatment provider indicating that the offender has the lowest likelihood of risk to reoffend before the court grants unsupervised contact between the parent and a child.

(l) A court may order unsupervised contact between the parent and a child which may occur in the presence of a juvenile adjudicated of a sex offense listed in (e)(i) through (ix) of this subsection who resides with the parent after the presumption under (e) of this subsection has been rebutted and supervised residential time has occurred for at least two years during which time the adjudicated juvenile has had no further arrests, adjudications, or convictions of sex offenses involving children under chapter 9A.44 RCW, RCW 9A.64.020, or chapter 9.68A RCW, and (i) the court finds that unsupervised contact between the child and the parent that may occur in the presence of the adjudicated juvenile is appropriate and poses minimal risk to the child, after consideration of the testimony of a state-certified therapist, mental health counselor, or social worker with expertise in treatment of child sexual abuse victims who has supervised at least one period of residential time between the parent and the child in the presence of the adjudicated juvenile, and after consideration of evidence of the adjudicated juvenile's compliance with community supervision or parole requirements, if any. If the adjudicated juvenile was not ordered by a court to participate in treatment for sex offenders, then the adjudicated juvenile shall obtain a psychosexual evaluation conducted by a certified sex offender treatment provider or a certified affiliate sex offender treatment provider indicating that the adjudicated juvenile has the lowest likelihood of risk to reoffend before the court grants unsupervised contact between the parent and a child which may occur in the presence of the adjudicated juvenile who is residing with the parent.

(m)(i) The limitations imposed by the court under (a) or (b) of this subsection shall be reasonably calculated to protect the child from the physical, sexual, or emotional abuse or harm that could result if the child has contact with the parent requesting residential time. The limitations shall also be reasonably calculated to provide for the safety of the parent who may be at risk of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse or harm that could result if the parent has contact with the parent requesting residential time. The limitations the court may impose include, but are not limited to: Supervised contact between the child and the parent or completion of relevant counseling or treatment. If the court expressly finds based on the evidence that limitations on the residential time with the child will not adequately protect the child from the harm or abuse that could result if the child has contact with the parent requesting residential time, the court shall restrain the parent requesting residential time from all contact with the child.

(ii) The court shall not enter an order under (a) of this subsection allowing a parent to have contact with a child if the parent has been found by clear and convincing evidence in a civil action or by a preponderance of the evidence in a dependency action to have sexually abused the child, except upon recommendation by an evaluator or therapist for the child that the child is ready for contact with the parent and will not be harmed by the contact. The court shall not enter an order allowing a parent to have contact with the child in the offender's presence if the parent resides with a person who has been found by clear and convincing evidence in a civil action or by a preponderance of the evidence in a dependency action to have sexually abused a child, unless the court finds that the parent accepts that the person engaged in the harmful conduct and the parent is willing to and capable of protecting the child from harm from the person.

(iii) If the court limits residential time under (a) or (b) of this subsection to require supervised contact between the child and the parent, the court shall not approve of a supervisor for contact between a child and a parent who has engaged in physical, sexual, or a pattern of emotional abuse of the child unless the court finds based upon the evidence that the supervisor accepts that the harmful conduct occurred and is willing to and capable of protecting the child from harm. The court shall revoke court approval of the supervisor upon finding, based on the evidence, that the supervisor has failed to protect the child or is no longer willing to or capable of protecting the child.

(n) If the court expressly finds based on the evidence that contact between the parent and the child will not cause physical, sexual, or emotional abuse or harm to the child and that the probability that the parent's or other person's harmful or abusive conduct will recur is so remote that it would not be in the child's best interests to apply the limitations of (a), (b), and (m)(i) and (iii) of this subsection, or if the court expressly finds that the parent's conduct did not have an impact on the child, then the court need not apply the limitations of (a), (b), and (m)(i) and (iii) of this subsection. The weight given to the existence of a protection order issued under chapter 26.50 RCW as to domestic violence is within the discretion of the court. This subsection shall not apply when (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), and (m)(ii) of this subsection apply.

(3) A parent's involvement or conduct may have an adverse effect on the child's best interests, and the court may preclude or limit any provisions of the parenting plan, if any of the following factors exist:

(a) A parent's neglect or substantial nonperformance of parenting functions;

(b) A long-term emotional or physical impairment which interferes with the parent's performance of parenting functions as defined in RCW 26.09.004;

(c) A long-term impairment resulting from drug, alcohol, or other substance abuse that interferes with the performance of parenting functions;

(d) The absence or substantial impairment of emotional ties between the parent and the child;

(e) The abusive use of conflict by the parent which creates the danger of serious damage to the child's psychological development;

(f) A parent has withheld from the other parent access to the child for a protracted period without good cause; or

(g) Such other factors or conduct as the court expressly finds adverse to the best interests of the child.

(4) In cases involving allegations of limiting factors under subsection (2)(a)(ii) and (iii) of this section, both parties shall be screened to determine the appropriateness of a comprehensive assessment regarding the impact of the limiting factor on the child and the parties.

(5) In entering a permanent parenting plan, the court shall not draw any presumptions from the provisions of the temporary parenting plan.

(6) In determining whether any of the conduct described in this section has occurred, the court shall apply the civil rules of evidence, proof, and procedure.

(7) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "A parent's child" means that parent's natural child, adopted child, or stepchild; and

(b) "Social worker" means a person with a master's or further advanced degree from a social work educational program accredited and approved as provided in RCW 18.320.010. [2011 c 89 § 6; 2007 c 496 § 303; 2004 c 38 § 12; 1996 c 303 § 1; 1994 c 267 § 1. Prior: 1989 c 375 § 11; 1989 c 326 § 1; 1987 c 460 § 10.]

**Effective date—2011 c 89:** See note following RCW 18.320.005.

**Findings—2011 c 89:** See RCW 18.320.005.

**Part headings not law—2007 c 496:** See note following RCW 26.09.002.

**Effective date—2004 c 38:** See note following RCW 18.155.075.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **26.09.194 Proposed temporary parenting plan—Temporary order—Amendment—Vacation of order. (1)**

A parent seeking a temporary order relating to parenting shall file and serve a proposed temporary parenting plan by motion. The other parent, if contesting the proposed temporary parenting plan, shall file and serve a responsive proposed parenting plan. Either parent may move to have a proposed temporary parenting plan entered as part of a temporary order. The parents may enter an agreed temporary parenting plan at any time as part of a temporary order. The proposed temporary parenting plan may be supported by relevant evidence and shall be accompanied by an affidavit or declaration which shall state at a minimum the following:

(a) The name, address, and length of residence with the person or persons with whom the child has lived for the preceding twelve months;

(b) The performance by each parent during the last twelve months of the parenting functions relating to the daily needs of the child;

(c) The parents' work and child-care schedules for the preceding twelve months;

(d) The parents' current work and child-care schedules; and

(e) Any of the circumstances set forth in RCW 26.09.191 that are likely to pose a serious risk to the child and that warrant limitation on the award to a parent of temporary residence or time with the child pending entry of a permanent parenting plan.

(2) At the hearing, the court shall enter a temporary parenting order incorporating a temporary parenting plan which includes:

(a) A schedule for the child's time with each parent when appropriate;

(b) Designation of a temporary residence for the child;

(c) Allocation of decision-making authority, if any. Absent allocation of decision-making authority consistent with RCW 26.09.187(2), neither party shall make any decision for the child other than those relating to day-to-day or emergency care of the child, which shall be made by the party who is present with the child;

(d) Provisions for temporary support for the child; and

(e) Restraining orders, if applicable, under RCW 26.09.060.

(3) A parent may make a motion for an order to show cause and the court may enter a temporary order, including a temporary parenting plan, upon a showing of necessity.

(4) A parent may move for amendment of a temporary parenting plan, and the court may order amendment to the temporary parenting plan, if the amendment conforms to the limitations of RCW 26.09.191 and is in the best interest of the child.

(5) If a proceeding for dissolution of marriage or dissolution of domestic partnership, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity is dismissed, any temporary order or temporary parenting plan is vacated. [2008 c 6 § 1045; 1987 c 460 § 13.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

#### **26.09.197 Issuance of temporary parenting plan—**

**Criteria.** After considering the affidavit required by RCW 26.09.194(1) and other relevant evidence presented, the court shall make a temporary parenting plan that is in the best interest of the child. In making this determination, the court shall give particular consideration to:

(1) The relative strength, nature, and stability of the child's relationship with each parent; and

(2) Which parenting arrangements will cause the least disruption to the child's emotional stability while the action is pending.

The court shall also consider the factors used to determine residential provisions in the permanent parenting plan. [2007 c 496 § 604; 1987 c 460 § 14.]

**Part headings not law—2007 c 496:** See note following RCW 26.09.002.

#### **26.09.210 Parenting plans—Interview with child by court—Advice of professional personnel.**

The court may interview the child in chambers to ascertain the child's wishes as to the child's residential schedule in a proceeding for dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity. The court may permit counsel to be present at the interview. The court shall cause a record of the interview to be made and to be made part of the record in the case.

The court may seek the advice of professional personnel whether or not they are employed on a regular basis by the court. The advice given shall be in writing and shall be made available by the court to counsel upon request. Counsel may call for cross-examination any professional personnel consulted by the court. [2008 c 6 § 1018; 1987 c 460 § 15; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 21.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

#### **26.09.220 Parenting arrangements—Investigation and report—Appointment of guardian ad litem.**

(1)(a) The court may order an investigation and report concerning parenting arrangements for the child, or may appoint a guardian ad litem pursuant to RCW 26.12.175, or both. The investigation and report may be made by the guardian ad litem, court-appointed special advocate, the staff of the juvenile court, or other professional social service organization experienced in counseling children and families.

(b) An investigator is a person appointed as an investigator under RCW 26.12.050(1)(b) or any other third-party professional ordered or appointed by the court to provide an opinion, assessment, or evaluation regarding the creation or modification of a parenting plan.

(2) In preparing the report concerning a child, the investigator or person appointed under subsection (1) of this section may consult any person who may have information about the child and the potential parenting or custodian arrangements. Upon order of the court, the investigator or person appointed under subsection (1) of this section may refer the child to professional personnel for diagnosis. The investigator or person appointed under subsection (1) of this section may consult with and obtain information from medical, psychiatric, or other expert persons who have served the child in the past without obtaining the consent of the parent or the child's custodian; but the child's consent must be obtained if the child has reached the age of twelve, unless the court finds that the child lacks mental capacity to consent. If the requirements of subsection (3) of this section are fulfilled, the report by the investigator or person appointed under subsection (1) of this section may be received in evidence at the hearing.

(3) The investigator or person appointed under subsection (1) of this section shall provide his or her report to counsel and to any party not represented by counsel at least ten days prior to the hearing unless a shorter time is ordered by the court for good cause shown. The investigator or person appointed under subsection (1) of this section shall make available to counsel and to any party not represented by counsel his or her file of underlying data and reports, complete texts of diagnostic reports made to the investigator or appointed person pursuant to the provisions of subsection (2) of this section, and the names and addresses of all persons whom he or she has consulted. Any party to the proceeding may call the investigator or person appointed under subsection (1) of this section and any person whom the investigator or appointed person has consulted for cross-examination. A party may not waive the right of cross-examination prior to the hearing. [2011 c 292 § 4; 1993 c 289 § 1; 1989 c 375 § 12; 1987 c 460 § 16; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 22.]

#### **26.09.225 Access to child's education and health care records.**

(1) Each parent shall have full and equal access to the education and health care records of the child absent a court order to the contrary. Neither parent may veto the access requested by the other parent.

(2) Educational records are limited to academic, attendance, and disciplinary records of public and private schools

in all grades kindergarten through twelve and any form of alternative school for all periods for which child support is paid or the child is the dependent in fact of the parent requesting access to the records.

(3) Educational records of postsecondary educational institutions are limited to enrollment and academic records necessary to determine, establish, or continue support ordered pursuant to RCW 26.19.090. [1991 sp.s. c 28 § 3; 1990 1st ex.s. c 2 § 18; 1987 c 460 § 17.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.231 Residential time summary report.** The parties to dissolution matters shall file with the clerk of the court the residential time summary report. The summary report shall be on the form developed by the administrative office of the courts in consultation with the department of social and health services division of child support. The parties must complete the form and file the form with the court order. The clerk of the court must forward the form to the division of child support on at least a monthly basis. [2007 c 496 § 701.]

**Part headings not law—2007 c 496:** See note following RCW 26.09.002.

**26.09.240 Visitation rights—Person other than parent—Grandparents' visitation rights.** (1) A person other than a parent may petition the court for visitation with a child at any time or may intervene in a pending dissolution, legal separation, or modification of parenting plan proceeding. A person other than a parent may not petition for visitation under this section unless the child's parent or parents have commenced an action under this chapter.

(2) A petition for visitation with a child by a person other than a parent must be filed in the county in which the child resides.

(3) A petition for visitation or a motion to intervene pursuant to this section shall be dismissed unless the petitioner or intervenor can demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that a significant relationship exists with the child with whom visitation is sought. If the petition or motion is dismissed for failure to establish the existence of a significant relationship, the petitioner or intervenor shall be ordered to pay reasonable attorney's fees and costs to the parent, parents, other custodian, or representative of the child who responds to this petition or motion.

(4) The court may order visitation between the petitioner or intervenor and the child between whom a significant relationship exists upon a finding supported by the evidence that the visitation is in the child's best interests.

(5)(a) Visitation with a grandparent shall be presumed to be in the child's best interests when a significant relationship has been shown to exist. This presumption may be rebutted by a preponderance of evidence showing that visitation would endanger the child's physical, mental, or emotional health.

(b) If the court finds that reasonable visitation by a grandparent would be in the child's best interest except for hostilities that exist between the grandparent and one or both of the parents or person with whom the child lives, the court may set the matter for mediation under RCW 26.09.015.

(6) The court may consider the following factors when making a determination of the child's best interests:

(a) The strength of the relationship between the child and the petitioner;

(b) The relationship between each of the child's parents or the person with whom the child is residing and the petitioner;

(c) The nature and reason for either parent's objection to granting the petitioner visitation;

(d) The effect that granting visitation will have on the relationship between the child and the child's parents or the person with whom the child is residing;

(e) The residential time sharing arrangements between the parents;

(f) The good faith of the petitioner;

(g) Any criminal history or history of physical, emotional, or sexual abuse or neglect by the petitioner; and

(h) Any other factor relevant to the child's best interest.

(7) The restrictions of RCW 26.09.191 that apply to parents shall be applied to a petitioner or intervenor who is not a parent. The nature and extent of visitation, subject to these restrictions, is in the discretion of the court.

(8) The court may order an investigation and report concerning the proposed visitation or may appoint a guardian ad litem as provided in RCW 26.09.220.

(9) Visitation granted pursuant to this section shall be incorporated into the parenting plan for the child.

(10) The court may modify or terminate visitation rights granted pursuant to this section in any subsequent modification action upon a showing that the visitation is no longer in the best interest of the child. [1996 c 177 § 1; 1989 c 375 § 13; 1987 c 460 § 18; 1977 ex.s. c 271 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 24.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was declared unconstitutional and invalid by the Washington State Supreme Court in *"In re Parentage of C.A.M.A.,"* No. 75262-1, April 7, 2005.

**26.09.255 Remedies when a child is taken, enticed, or concealed.** (1) A relative may bring civil action against any other relative if, with intent to deny access to a child by that relative of the child who has a right to physical custody of or visitation with the child or a parent with whom the child resides pursuant to a parenting plan order, the relative takes, entices, or conceals the child from that relative. The plaintiff may be awarded, in addition to any damages awarded by the court, the reasonable expenses incurred by the plaintiff in locating the child, including, but not limited to, investigative services and reasonable attorneys' fees.

(2) "Relative" means an ancestor, descendant, or sibling including a relative of the same degree through marriage, domestic partnership, or adoption, or a spouse or domestic partner. [2008 c 6 § 1019; 1987 c 460 § 22; 1984 c 95 § 6.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.260 Modification of parenting plan or custody decree.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (4), (5), (6), (8), and (10) of this section, the court shall not modify a prior custody decree or a parenting plan unless it finds, upon the basis of facts that have arisen since the prior decree or plan or that were unknown to the court at the time of the prior decree or plan, that a substantial change has occurred in

the circumstances of the child or the nonmoving party and that the modification is in the best interest of the child and is necessary to serve the best interests of the child. The effect of a parent's military duties potentially impacting parenting functions shall not, by itself, be a substantial change of circumstances justifying a permanent modification of a prior decree or plan.

(2) In applying these standards, the court shall retain the residential schedule established by the decree or parenting plan unless:

- (a) The parents agree to the modification;
- (b) The child has been integrated into the family of the petitioner with the consent of the other parent in substantial deviation from the parenting plan;
- (c) The child's present environment is detrimental to the child's physical, mental, or emotional health and the harm likely to be caused by a change of environment is outweighed by the advantage of a change to the child; or
- (d) The court has found the nonmoving parent in contempt of court at least twice within three years because the parent failed to comply with the residential time provisions in the court-ordered parenting plan, or the parent has been convicted of custodial interference in the first or second degree under RCW 9A.40.060 or 9A.40.070.

(3) A conviction of custodial interference in the first or second degree under RCW 9A.40.060 or 9A.40.070 shall constitute a substantial change of circumstances for the purposes of this section.

(4) The court may reduce or restrict contact between the child and the parent with whom the child does not reside a majority of the time if it finds that the reduction or restriction would serve and protect the best interests of the child using the criteria in RCW 26.09.191.

(5) The court may order adjustments to the residential aspects of a parenting plan upon a showing of a substantial change in circumstances of either parent or of the child, and without consideration of the factors set forth in subsection (2) of this section, if the proposed modification is only a minor modification in the residential schedule that does not change the residence the child is scheduled to reside in the majority of the time and:

- (a) Does not exceed twenty-four full days in a calendar year; or
- (b) Is based on a change of residence of the parent with whom the child does not reside the majority of the time or an involuntary change in work schedule by a parent which makes the residential schedule in the parenting plan impractical to follow; or
- (c) Does not result in a schedule that exceeds ninety overnights per year in total, if the court finds that, at the time the petition for modification is filed, the decree of dissolution or parenting plan does not provide reasonable time with the parent with whom the child does not reside a majority of the time, and further, the court finds that it is in the best interests of the child to increase residential time with the parent in excess of the residential time period in (a) of this subsection. However, any motion under this subsection (5)(c) is subject to the factors established in subsection (2) of this section if the party bringing the petition has previously been granted a modification under this same subsection within twenty-four months of the current motion. Relief granted under this sec-

tion shall not be the sole basis for adjusting or modifying child support.

(6) The court may order adjustments to the residential aspects of a parenting plan pursuant to a proceeding to permit or restrain a relocation of the child. The person objecting to the relocation of the child or the relocating person's proposed revised residential schedule may file a petition to modify the parenting plan, including a change of the residence in which the child resides the majority of the time, without a showing of adequate cause other than the proposed relocation itself. A hearing to determine adequate cause for modification shall not be required so long as the request for relocation of the child is being pursued. In making a determination of a modification pursuant to relocation of the child, the court shall first determine whether to permit or restrain the relocation of the child using the procedures and standards provided in RCW 26.09.405 through 26.09.560. Following that determination, the court shall determine what modification pursuant to relocation should be made, if any, to the parenting plan or custody order or visitation order.

(7) A parent with whom the child does not reside a majority of the time and whose residential time with the child is subject to limitations pursuant to RCW 26.09.191 (2) or (3) may not seek expansion of residential time under subsection (5)(c) of this section unless that parent demonstrates a substantial change in circumstances specifically related to the basis for the limitation.

(8)(a) If a parent with whom the child does not reside a majority of the time voluntarily fails to exercise residential time for an extended period, that is, one year or longer, the court upon proper motion may make adjustments to the parenting plan in keeping with the best interests of the minor child.

(b) For the purposes of determining whether the parent has failed to exercise residential time for one year or longer, the court may not count any time periods during which the parent did not exercise residential time due to the effect of the parent's military duties potentially impacting parenting functions.

(9) A parent with whom the child does not reside a majority of the time who is required by the existing parenting plan to complete evaluations, treatment, parenting, or other classes may not seek expansion of residential time under subsection (5)(c) of this section unless that parent has fully complied with such requirements.

(10) The court may order adjustments to any of the non-residential aspects of a parenting plan upon a showing of a substantial change of circumstances of either parent or of a child, and the adjustment is in the best interest of the child. Adjustments ordered under this section may be made without consideration of the factors set forth in subsection (2) of this section.

(11) If the parent with whom the child resides a majority of the time receives temporary duty, deployment, activation, or mobilization orders from the military that involve moving a substantial distance away from the parent's residence or otherwise would have a material effect on the parent's ability to exercise parenting functions and primary placement responsibilities, then:

- (a) Any temporary custody order for the child during the parent's absence shall end no later than ten days after the

returning parent provides notice to the temporary custodian, but shall not impair the discretion of the court to conduct an expedited or emergency hearing for resolution of the child's residential placement upon return of the parent and within ten days of the filing of a motion alleging an immediate danger of irreparable harm to the child. If a motion alleging immediate danger has not been filed, the motion for an order restoring the previous residential schedule shall be granted; and

(b) The temporary duty, activation, mobilization, or deployment and the temporary disruption to the child's schedule shall not be a factor in a determination of change of circumstances if a motion is filed to transfer residential placement from the parent who is a military service member.

(12) If a parent receives military temporary duty, deployment, activation, or mobilization orders that involve moving a substantial distance away from the military parent's residence or otherwise have a material effect on the military parent's ability to exercise residential time or visitation rights, at the request of the military parent, the court may delegate the military parent's residential time or visitation rights, or a portion thereof, to a child's family member, including a stepparent, or another person other than a parent, with a close and substantial relationship to the minor child for the duration of the military parent's absence, if delegating residential time or visitation rights is in the child's best interest. The court may not permit the delegation of residential time or visitation rights to a person who would be subject to limitations on residential time under RCW 26.09.191. The parties shall attempt to resolve disputes regarding delegation of residential time or visitation rights through the dispute resolution process specified in their parenting plan, unless excused by the court for good cause shown. Such a court-ordered temporary delegation of a military parent's residential time or visitation rights does not create separate rights to residential time or visitation for a person other than a parent.

(13) If the court finds that a motion to modify a prior decree or parenting plan has been brought in bad faith, the court shall assess the attorney's fees and court costs of the nonmoving parent against the moving party. [2009 c 502 § 3; 2000 c 21 § 19; 1999 c 174 § 1; 1991 c 367 § 9. Prior: 1989 c 375 § 14; 1989 c 318 § 3; 1987 c 460 § 19; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 26.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.270 Child custody—Temporary custody order, temporary parenting plan, or modification of custody decree—Affidavits required.** A party seeking a temporary custody order or a temporary parenting plan or modification of a custody decree or parenting plan shall submit together with his or her motion, an affidavit setting forth facts supporting the requested order or modification and shall give notice, together with a copy of his or her affidavit, to other parties to the proceedings, who may file opposing affidavits. The court shall deny the motion unless it finds that adequate cause for hearing the motion is established by the affidavits, in which case it shall set a date for hearing on an order to show cause why the requested order or modification should not be granted. [2011 c 336 § 691; 1989 c 375 § 15; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 27.]

**26.09.280 Parenting plan or child support modification or enforcement—Venue.** Every action or proceeding to change, modify, or enforce any final order, judgment, or decree entered in any dissolution or legal separation or declaration concerning the validity of a marriage or domestic partnership, whether under this chapter or prior law, regarding the parenting plan or child support for the minor children of the marriage or the domestic partnership may be brought in the county where the minor children are then residing, or in the court in which the final order, judgment, or decree was entered, or in the county where the parent or other person who has the care, custody, or control of the children is then residing. [2008 c 6 § 1020; 1991 c 367 § 10; 1987 c 460 § 20; 1975 c 32 § 4; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 28.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.285 Designation of custody for the purpose of other state and federal statutes.** Solely for the purposes of all other state and federal statutes which require a designation or determination of custody, a parenting plan shall designate the parent with whom the child is scheduled to reside a majority of the time as the custodian of the child. However, this designation shall not affect either parent's rights and responsibilities under the parenting plan. In the absence of such a designation, the parent with whom the child is scheduled to reside the majority of the time shall be deemed to be the custodian of the child for the purposes of such federal and state statutes. [1989 c 375 § 16; 1987 c 460 § 21.]

**26.09.290 Final decree of dissolution nunc pro tunc.** Whenever either of the parties in an action for dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership is, under the law, entitled to a final judgment, but by mistake, negligence, or inadvertence the same has not been signed, filed, or entered, if no appeal has been taken from the interlocutory order or motion for a new trial made, the court, on the motion of either party thereto or upon its own motion, may cause a final judgment to be signed, dated, filed, and entered therein granting the dissolution as of the date when the same could have been given or made by the court if applied for. The court may cause such final judgment to be signed, dated, filed, and entered nunc pro tunc as aforesaid, even though a final judgment may have been previously entered where by mistake, negligence or inadvertence the same has not been signed, filed, or entered as soon as such final judgment, the parties to such action shall be deemed to have been restored to the status of single persons as of the date affixed to such judgment, and any marriage or any domestic partnership of either of such parties subsequent to six months after the granting of the interlocutory order as shown by the minutes of the court, and after the final judgment could have been entered under the law if applied for, shall be valid for all purposes as of the date affixed to such final judgment, upon the filing thereof. [2008 c 6 § 1021; 1973 1st ex.s. c 157 § 29.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

**26.09.300 Restraining orders—Notice—Refusal to comply—Arrest—Penalty—Defense—Peace officers,**

**immunity.** (1) Whenever a restraining order is issued under this chapter, and the person to be restrained knows of the order, a violation of the provisions restricting the person from acts or threats of violence or of a provision restraining the person from going onto the grounds of or entering the residence, workplace, school, or day care of another, or prohibiting the person from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of a location, is punishable under RCW 26.50.110.

(2) A person is deemed to have notice of a restraining order if:

(a) The person to be restrained or the person's attorney signed the order;

(b) The order recites that the person to be restrained or the person's attorney appeared in person before the court;

(c) The order was served upon the person to be restrained; or

(d) The peace officer gives the person oral or written evidence of the order by reading from it or handing to the person a certified copy of the original order, certified to be an accurate copy of the original by a notary public or by the clerk of the court.

(3) A peace officer shall verify the existence of a restraining order by:

(a) Obtaining information confirming the existence and terms of the order from a law enforcement agency; or

(b) Obtaining a certified copy of the order, certified to be an accurate copy of the original by a notary public or by the clerk of the court.

(4) A peace officer shall arrest and take into custody, pending release on bail, personal recognizance, or court order, a person without a warrant when the officer has probable cause to believe that:

(a) A restraining order has been issued under this chapter;

(b) The respondent or person to be restrained knows of the order; and

(c) The person to be arrested has violated the terms of the order restraining the person from acts or threats of violence or restraining the person from going onto the grounds of or entering the residence, workplace, school, or day care of another, or prohibiting the person from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of a location.

(5) It is a defense to prosecution under subsection (1) of this section that the court order was issued contrary to law or court rule.

(6) No peace officer may be held criminally or civilly liable for making an arrest under subsection (4) of this section if the officer acts in good faith and without malice. [2000 c 119 § 21; 1996 c 248 § 9; 1995 c 246 § 27; 1984 c 263 § 28; 1974 ex.s. c 99 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.310 Provision of health care to minor—Immunity of health care provider.** No health care provider or facility, or their agent, shall be liable for damages in any civil action brought by a parent or guardian based only on a lack of the parent or guardian's consent for medical care of a minor child, if consent to the care has been given by a parent or

guardian of the minor. The immunity provided by this section shall apply regardless of whether:

(1) The parents are married, unmarried, in a domestic partnership or not, or separated at the time of consent or treatment;

(2) The consenting parent is, or is not, a custodial parent of the minor;

(3) The giving of consent by a parent is, or is not, full performance of any agreement between the parents, or of any order or decree in any action entered pursuant to chapter 26.09 RCW;

(4) The action or suit is brought by or on behalf of the nonconsenting parent, the minor child, or any other person. [2008 c 6 § 1022; 1989 c 377 § 1.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

#### NOTICE REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR PARENTAL RELOCATION

**26.09.405 Applicability.** (1) The provisions of RCW 26.09.405 through 26.09.560 and the chapter 21, Laws of 2000 amendments to RCW 26.09.260, 26.10.190, and 26.26.160 apply to a court order regarding residential time or visitation with a child issued:

(a) After June 8, 2000; and

(b) Before June 8, 2000, if the existing court order does not expressly govern relocation of the child.

(2) To the extent that a provision of RCW 26.09.405 through 26.09.560 and the chapter 21, Laws of 2000 amendments to RCW 26.09.260, 26.10.190, and 26.26.160 conflicts with the express terms of a court order existing prior to June 8, 2000, then RCW 26.09.405 through 26.09.560 and the chapter 21, Laws of 2000 amendments to RCW 26.09.260, 26.10.190, and 26.26.160 do not apply to those terms of that order governing relocation of the child.

(3) The provisions of RCW 26.09.405 through 26.09.560 do not apply to visitation orders entered in dependency proceedings as provided in RCW 13.34.385. [2008 c 259 § 2; 2000 c 21 § 3.]

**Intent—2000 c 21:** "By this act, the legislature intends to supersede the state supreme court's decisions *In Re the Marriage of Littlefield*, 133 Wn.2d 39 (1997), and *In Re the Marriage of Pape*, Docket No. 67527-9, December 23, 1999." [2000 c 21 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.410 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout RCW 26.09.405 through 26.09.560 and 26.09.260 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Court order" means a temporary or permanent parenting plan, custody order, visitation order, or other order governing the residence of a child under this title.

(2) "Relocate" means a change in principal residence either permanently or for a protracted period of time. [2000 c 21 § 2.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.420 Grant of authority.** When entering or modifying a court order, the court has the authority to allow or not allow a person to relocate the child. [2000 c 21 § 4.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.430 Notice requirement.** Except as provided in RCW 26.09.460, a person with whom the child resides a majority of the time shall notify every other person entitled to residential time or visitation with the child under a court order if the person intends to relocate. Notice shall be given as prescribed in RCW 26.09.440 and 26.09.450. [2000 c 21 § 5.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.440 Notice—Contents and delivery.** (1) Except as provided in RCW 26.09.450 and 26.09.460, the notice of an intended relocation of the child must be given by:

(a) Personal service or any form of mail requiring a return receipt; and

(b) No less than:

(i) Sixty days before the date of the intended relocation of the child; or

(ii) No more than five days after the date that the person knows the information required to be furnished under subsection (2) of this section, if the person did not know and could not reasonably have known the information in sufficient time to provide the sixty-days' notice, and it is not reasonable to delay the relocation.

(2)(a) The notice of intended relocation of the child must include: (i) An address at which service of process may be accomplished during the period for objection; (ii) a brief statement of the specific reasons for the intended relocation of the child; and (iii) a notice to the nonrelocating person that an objection to the intended relocation of the child or to the relocating person's proposed revised residential schedule must be filed with the court and served on the opposing person within thirty days or the relocation of the child will be permitted and the residential schedule may be modified pursuant to RCW 26.09.500. The notice shall not be deemed to be in substantial compliance for purposes of RCW 26.09.470 unless the notice contains the following statement: "THE RELOCATION OF THE CHILD WILL BE PERMITTED AND THE PROPOSED REVISED RESIDENTIAL SCHEDULE MAY BE CONFIRMED UNLESS, WITHIN THIRTY DAYS, YOU FILE A PETITION AND MOTION WITH THE COURT TO BLOCK THE RELOCATION OR OBJECT TO THE PROPOSED REVISED RESIDENTIAL SCHEDULE AND SERVE THE PETITION AND MOTION ON THE PERSON PROPOSING RELOCATION AND ALL OTHER PERSONS ENTITLED BY COURT ORDER TO RESIDENTIAL TIME OR VISITATION WITH THE CHILD."

(b) Except as provided in RCW 26.09.450 and 26.09.460, the following information shall also be included in every notice of intended relocation of the child, if available:

(i) The specific street address of the intended new residence, if known, or as much of the intended address as is known, such as city and state;

(ii) The new mailing address, if different from the intended new residence address;

(iii) The new home telephone number;

(iv) The name and address of the child's new school and day care facility, if applicable;

(v) The date of the intended relocation of the child; and

(vi) A proposal in the form of a proposed parenting plan for a revised schedule of residential time or visitation with the child, if any.

(3) A person required to give notice of an intended relocation of the child has a continuing duty to promptly update the information required with the notice as that new information becomes known. [2000 c 21 § 6.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.450 Notice—Relocation within the same school district.** (1) When the intended relocation of the child is within the school district in which the child currently resides the majority of the time, the person intending to relocate the child, in lieu of notice prescribed in RCW 26.09.440, may provide actual notice by any reasonable means to every other person entitled to residential time or visitation with the child under a court order.

(2) A person who is entitled to residential time or visitation with the child under a court order may not object to the intended relocation of the child within the school district in which the child currently resides the majority of the time, but he or she retains the right to move for modification under RCW 26.09.260. [2000 c 21 § 7.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.460 Limitation of notices.** (1) If a person intending to relocate the child is entering a domestic violence shelter due to the danger imposed by another person, notice may be delayed for twenty-one days. This section shall not be construed to compel the disclosure by any domestic violence shelter of information protected by confidentiality except as provided by RCW 70.123.075 or equivalent laws of the state in which the shelter is located.

(2) If a person intending to relocate the child is a participant in the address confidentiality program pursuant to chapter 40.24 RCW or has a court order which permits the party to withhold some or all of the information required by RCW 26.09.440(2)(b), the confidential or protected information is not required to be given with the notice.

(3) If a person intending to relocate the child is relocating to avoid a clear, immediate, and unreasonable risk to the health or safety of a person or the child, notice may be delayed for twenty-one days.

(4) A person intending to relocate the child who believes that his or her health or safety or the health or safety of the child would be unreasonably put at risk by notice or disclosure of certain information in the notice may request an ex parte hearing with the court to have all or part of the notice requirements waived. If the court finds that the health or safety of a person or a child would be unreasonably put at risk by notice or the disclosure of certain information in the notice, the court may:

(a) Order that the notice requirements be less than complete or waived to the extent necessary to protect confidentiality or the health or safety of a person or child; or



(b) Provide such other relief as the court finds necessary to facilitate the legitimate needs of the parties and the best interests of the child under the circumstances.

(5) This section does not deprive a person entitled to residential time or visitation with a child under a court order the opportunity to object to the intended relocation of the child or the proposed revised residential schedule before the relocation occurs. [2000 c 21 § 8.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.470 Failure to give notice.** (1) The failure to provide the required notice is grounds for sanctions, including contempt if applicable.

(2) In determining whether a person has failed to comply with the notice requirements for the purposes of this section, the court may consider whether:

(a) The person has substantially complied with the notice requirements;

(b) The court order in effect at the time of the relocation was issued prior to June 8, 2000, and the person substantially complied with the notice requirements, if any, in the existing order;

(c) A waiver of notice was granted;

(d) A person entitled to receive notice was substantially harmed; and

(e) Any other factor the court deems relevant.

(3) A person entitled to file an objection to the intended relocation of the child may file such objection whether or not the person has received proper notice. [2000 c 21 § 9.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.480 Objection to relocation or proposed revised residential schedule.** (1) A party objecting to the intended relocation of the child or the relocating parent's proposed revised residential schedule shall do so by filing the objection with the court and serving the objection on the relocating party and all other persons entitled by court order to residential time or visitation with the child by means of personal service or mailing by any form of mail requiring a return receipt to the relocating party at the address designated for service on the notice of intended relocation and to other parties requiring notice at their mailing address. The objection must be filed and served, including a three-day waiting period if the objection is served by mail, within thirty days of receipt of the notice of intended relocation of the child. The objection shall be in the form of: (a) A petition for modification of the parenting plan pursuant to relocation; or (b) other court proceeding adequate to provide grounds for relief.

(2) Unless the special circumstances described in RCW 26.09.460 apply, the person intending to relocate the child shall not, without a court order, change the principal residence of the child during the period in which a party may object. The order required under this subsection may be obtained ex parte. If the objecting party notes a court hearing to prevent the relocation of the child for a date not more than fifteen days following timely service of an objection to relocation, the party intending to relocate the child shall not change the principal residence of the child pending the hear-

ing unless the special circumstances described in RCW 26.09.460(3) apply.

(3) The administrator for the courts shall develop a standard form, separate from existing dissolution or modification forms, for use in filing an objection to relocation of the child or objection of the relocating person's proposed revised residential schedule. [2000 c 21 § 10.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.490 Required provision in residential orders.** Unless waived by court order, after June 8, 2000, every court order shall include a clear restatement of the provisions in RCW 26.09.430 through 26.09.480. [2000 c 21 § 11.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.500 Failure to object.** (1) Except for good cause shown, if a person entitled to object to the relocation of the child does not file an objection with the court within thirty days after receipt of the relocation notice, then the relocation of the child shall be permitted.

(2) A nonobjecting person shall be entitled to the residential time or visitation with the child specified in the proposed residential schedule included with the relocation notice.

(3) Any person entitled to residential time or visitation with a child under a court order retains his or her right to move for modification under RCW 26.09.260.

(4) If a person entitled to object to the relocation of the child does not file an objection with the court within thirty days after receipt of the relocation notice, a person entitled to residential time with the child may not be held in contempt of court for any act or omission that is in compliance with the proposed revised residential schedule set forth in the notice given.

(5) Any party entitled to residential time or visitation with the child under a court order may, after thirty days have elapsed since the receipt of the notice, obtain ex parte and file with the court an order modifying the residential schedule in conformity with the relocating party's proposed residential schedule specified in the notice upon filing a copy of the notice and proof of service of such notice. A party may obtain ex parte and file with the court an order modifying the residential schedule in conformity with the proposed residential schedule specified in the notice before the thirty days have elapsed if the party files a copy of the notice, proof of service of such notice, and proof that no objection will be filed. [2000 c 21 § 12.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.510 Temporary orders.** (1) The court may grant a temporary order restraining relocation of the child, or ordering return of the child if the child's relocation has occurred, if the court finds:

(a) The required notice of an intended relocation of the child was not provided in a timely manner and the nonrelocating party was substantially prejudiced;

(b) The relocation of the child has occurred without agreement of the parties, court order, or the notice required

by RCW 26.09.405 through 26.09.560 and the chapter 21, Laws of 2000 amendments to RCW 26.09.260, 26.10.190, and 26.26.160; or

(c) After examining evidence presented at a hearing for temporary orders in which the parties had adequate opportunity to prepare and be heard, there is a likelihood that on final hearing the court will not approve the intended relocation of the child or no circumstances exist sufficient to warrant a relocation of the child prior to a final determination at trial.

(2) The court may grant a temporary order authorizing the intended relocation of the child pending final hearing if the court finds:

(a) The required notice of an intended relocation of the child was provided in a timely manner or that the circumstances otherwise warrant issuance of a temporary order in the absence of compliance with the notice requirements and issues an order for a revised schedule for residential time with the child; and

(b) After examining the evidence presented at a hearing for temporary orders in which the parties had adequate opportunity to prepare and be heard, there is a likelihood that on final hearing the court will approve the intended relocation of the child. [2000 c 21 § 13.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.520 Basis for determination.** The person proposing to relocate with the child shall provide his or her reasons for the intended relocation. There is a rebuttable presumption that the intended relocation of the child will be permitted. A person entitled to object to the intended relocation of the child may rebut the presumption by demonstrating that the detrimental effect of the relocation outweighs the benefit of the change to the child and the relocating person, based upon the following factors. The factors listed in this section are not weighted. No inference is to be drawn from the order in which the following factors are listed:

(1) The relative strength, nature, quality, extent of involvement, and stability of the child's relationship with each parent, siblings, and other significant persons in the child's life;

(2) Prior agreements of the parties;

(3) Whether disrupting the contact between the child and the person with whom the child resides a majority of the time would be more detrimental to the child than disrupting contact between the child and the person objecting to the relocation;

(4) Whether either parent or a person entitled to residential time with the child is subject to limitations under RCW 26.09.191;

(5) The reasons of each person for seeking or opposing the relocation and the good faith of each of the parties in requesting or opposing the relocation;

(6) The age, developmental stage, and needs of the child, and the likely impact the relocation or its prevention will have on the child's physical, educational, and emotional development, taking into consideration any special needs of the child;

(7) The quality of life, resources, and opportunities available to the child and to the relocating party in the current and proposed geographic locations;

(8) The availability of alternative arrangements to foster and continue the child's relationship with and access to the other parent;

(9) The alternatives to relocation and whether it is feasible and desirable for the other party to relocate also;

(10) The financial impact and logistics of the relocation or its prevention; and

(11) For a temporary order, the amount of time before a final decision can be made at trial. [2000 c 21 § 14.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.530 Factor not to be considered.** In determining whether to permit or restrain the relocation of the child, the court may not admit evidence on the issue of whether the person seeking to relocate the child will forego his or her own relocation if the child's relocation is not permitted or whether the person opposing relocation will also relocate if the child's relocation is permitted. The court may admit and consider such evidence after it makes the decision to allow or restrain relocation of the child and other parenting, custody, or visitation issues remain before the court, such as what, if any, modifications to the parenting plan are appropriate and who the child will reside with the majority of the time if the court has denied relocation of the child and the person is relocating without the child. [2000 c 21 § 15.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.540 Objections by nonparents.** A court may not restrict the right of a parent to relocate the child when the sole objection to the relocation is from a third party, unless that third party is entitled to residential time or visitation under a court order and has served as the primary residential care provider to the child for a substantial period of time during the thirty-six consecutive months preceding the intended relocation. [2000 c 21 § 16.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.550 Sanctions.** The court may sanction a party if it finds that a proposal to relocate the child or an objection to an intended relocation or proposed revised residential schedule was made to harass a person, to interfere in bad faith with the relationship between the child and another person entitled to residential time or visitation with the child, or to unnecessarily delay or needlessly increase the cost of litigation. [2000 c 21 § 17.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.560 Priority for hearing.** A hearing involving relocations or intended relocations of children shall be accorded priority on the court's motion calendar and trial docket. [2000 c 21 § 18.]

**Intent—Captions not law—2000 c 21:** See notes following RCW 26.09.405.

**26.09.900 Construction—Pending divorce actions.** Notwithstanding the repeals of prior laws enumerated in section 30, chapter 157, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess., actions for divorce which were properly and validly pending in the supe-

rior courts of this state as of the effective date of such repealer (July 15, 1973) shall be governed and may be pursued to conclusion under the provisions of law applicable thereto at the time of commencement of such action and all decrees and orders heretofore or hereafter in all other respects regularly entered in such proceedings are declared valid: PROVIDED, That upon proper cause being shown at any time before final decree, the court may convert such action to an action for dissolution of marriage as provided for in RCW 26.09.901. [1974 ex.s. c 15 § 1.]

**26.09.901 Conversion of pending action to dissolution proceeding.** Any divorce action which was filed prior to July 15, 1973 and for which a final decree has not been entered on February 11, 1974, may, upon order of the superior court having jurisdiction over such proceeding for good cause shown, be converted to a dissolution proceeding and thereafter be continued under the provisions of this chapter. [1974 ex.s. c 15 § 2.]

**26.09.902 RCW 26.09.900 and 26.09.901 deemed in effect on July 16, 1973.** The provisions of RCW 26.09.900 and 26.09.901 are remedial and procedural and shall be construed to have been in effect as of July 16, 1973. [1974 ex.s. c 15 § 3.]

**26.09.907 Construction—Pending actions as of January 1, 1988.** Notwithstanding the repeals of prior laws, actions which were properly and validly pending in the superior courts of this state as of January 1, 1988, shall not be governed by chapter 460, Laws of 1987 but shall be governed by the provisions of law in effect on December 31, 1987. [1989 c 375 § 17; 1987 c 460 § 23.]

**26.09.909 Decrees entered into prior to January 1, 1988.** (1) Decrees under this chapter involving child custody, visitation, or child support entered in actions commenced prior to January 1, 1988, shall be deemed to be parenting plans for purposes of this chapter.

(2) The enactment of the 1987 revisions to this chapter does not constitute substantially changed circumstances for the purposes of modifying decrees entered under this chapter in actions commenced prior to January 1, 1988, involving child custody, visitation, or child support. Any action to modify any decree involving child custody, visitation, child support, or a parenting plan shall be governed by the provisions of this chapter.

(3) Actions brought for clarification or interpretation of decrees entered under this chapter in actions commenced prior to January 1, 1988, shall be determined under the law in effect immediately prior to January 1, 1988. [1990 1st ex.s. c 2 § 16; 1989 c 375 § 18; 1987 c 460 § 24.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.09.910 Short title—1987 c 460.** This act shall be known as the parenting act of 1987. [1987 c 460 § 57.]

**26.09.911 Section captions—1987 c 460.** Section captions as used in this act do not constitute any part of the law. [1987 c 460 § 58.]

**26.09.912 Effective date—1987 c 460.** This act shall take effect on January 1, 1988. [1987 c 460 § 59.]

**26.09.913 Severability—1987 c 460.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1987 c 460 § 60.]

**26.09.914 Severability—1989 c 375.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1989 c 375 § 33.]

**26.09.915 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 65.]

# Chapter 26.50 RCW

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION

### Sections

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26.50.901	Effective date—1984 c 263.
26.50.902	Severability—1984 c 263.
26.50.903	Severability—1992 c 111.

*Abuse of children: Chapter 26.44 RCW.*

*Arrest without warrant: RCW 10.31.100(2).*

*Dissolution of marriage: Chapter 26.09 RCW.*

*Domestic violence, official response: Chapter 10.99 RCW.*

*Nonparental actions for child custody: Chapter 26.10 RCW.*

*Shelters for victims of domestic violence: Chapter 70.123 RCW.*

**26.50.010 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings given them:

(1) "Domestic violence" means: (a) Physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, between family or

household members; (b) sexual assault of one family or household member by another; or (c) stalking as defined in RCW 9A.46.110 of one family or household member by another family or household member.

(2) "Family or household members" means spouses, domestic partners, former spouses, former domestic partners, persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time, adult persons related by blood or marriage, adult persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past, persons sixteen years of age or older who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past and who have or have had a dating relationship, persons sixteen years of age or older with whom a person sixteen years of age or older has or has had a dating relationship, and persons who have a biological or legal parent-child relationship, including stepparents and stepchildren and grandparents and grandchildren.

(3) "Dating relationship" means a social relationship of a romantic nature. Factors that the court may consider in making this determination include: (a) The length of time the relationship has existed; (b) the nature of the relationship; and (c) the frequency of interaction between the parties.

(4) "Court" includes the superior, district, and municipal courts of the state of Washington.

(5) "Judicial day" does not include Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays.

(6) "Electronic monitoring" means a program in which a person's presence at a particular location is monitored from a remote location by use of electronic equipment.

(7) "Essential personal effects" means those items necessary for a person's immediate health, welfare, and livelihood. "Essential personal effects" includes but is not limited to clothing, cribs, bedding, documents, medications, and personal hygiene items. [2008 c 6 § 406; 1999 c 184 § 13; 1995 c 246 § 1. Prior: 1992 c 111 § 7; 1992 c 86 § 3; 1991 c 301 § 8; 1984 c 263 § 2.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

**Findings—1992 c 111:** See note following RCW 26.50.030.

**Finding—1991 c 301:** See note following RCW 10.99.020.

*Domestic violence offenses defined: RCW 10.99.020.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.020 Commencement of action—Jurisdiction—Venue.** (1)(a) Any person may seek relief under this chapter by filing a petition with a court alleging that the person has been the victim of domestic violence committed by the respondent. The person may petition for relief on behalf of himself or herself and on behalf of minor family or household members.

(b) Any person thirteen years of age or older may seek relief under this chapter by filing a petition with a court alleg-

ing that he or she has been the victim of violence in a dating relationship and the respondent is sixteen years of age or older.

(2)(a) A person under eighteen years of age who is sixteen years of age or older may seek relief under this chapter and is not required to seek relief by a guardian or next friend.

(b) A person under sixteen years of age who is seeking relief under subsection (1)(b) of this section is required to seek relief by a parent, guardian, guardian ad litem, or next friend.

(3) No guardian or guardian ad litem need be appointed on behalf of a respondent to an action under this chapter who is under eighteen years of age if such respondent is sixteen years of age or older.

(4) The court may, if it deems necessary, appoint a guardian ad litem for a petitioner or respondent who is a party to an action under this chapter.

(5) The courts defined in RCW 26.50.010(4) have jurisdiction over proceedings under this chapter. The jurisdiction of district and municipal courts under this chapter shall be limited to enforcement of RCW 26.50.110(1), or the equivalent municipal ordinance, and the issuance and enforcement of temporary orders for protection provided for in RCW 26.50.070 if: (a) A superior court has exercised or is exercising jurisdiction over a proceeding under this title or chapter 13.34 RCW involving the parties; (b) the petition for relief under this chapter presents issues of residential schedule of and contact with children of the parties; or (c) the petition for relief under this chapter requests the court to exclude a party from the dwelling which the parties share. When the jurisdiction of a district or municipal court is limited to the issuance and enforcement of a temporary order, the district or municipal court shall set the full hearing provided for in RCW 26.50.050 in superior court and transfer the case. If the notice and order are not served on the respondent in time for the full hearing, the issuing court shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the superior court to extend the order for protection.

(6) An action under this chapter shall be filed in the county or the municipality where the petitioner resides, unless the petitioner has left the residence or household to avoid abuse. In that case, the petitioner may bring an action in the county or municipality of the previous or the new household or residence.

(7) A person's right to petition for relief under this chapter is not affected by the person leaving the residence or household to avoid abuse.

(8) For the purposes of this section "next friend" means any competent individual, over eighteen years of age, chosen by the minor and who is capable of pursuing the minor's stated interest in the action. [2010 c 274 § 302; 1992 c 111 § 8; 1989 c 375 § 28; 1987 c 71 § 1; 1985 c 303 § 1; 1984 c 263 § 3.]

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**Findings—1992 c 111:** See note following RCW 26.50.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.021 Actions on behalf of vulnerable adults—Authority of department of social and health services—Immunity from liability.** The department of social and health services, in its discretion, may seek the relief provided in this chapter on behalf of and with the consent of any vul-

nerable adult as those persons are defined in RCW 74.34.020. Neither the department nor the state of Washington shall be liable for failure to seek relief on behalf of any persons under this section. [2000 c 119 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.025 Orders under this chapter and chapter 26.09, 26.10, or 26.26 RCW—Enforcement—Consolidation.** (1) Any order available under this chapter may be issued in actions under chapter 26.09, 26.10, or 26.26 RCW. If an order for protection is issued in an action under chapter 26.09, 26.10, or 26.26 RCW, the order shall be issued on the forms mandated by RCW 26.50.035(1). An order issued in accordance with this subsection is fully enforceable and shall be enforced under the provisions of this chapter.

(2) If a party files an action under chapter 26.09, 26.10, or 26.26 RCW, an order issued previously under this chapter between the same parties may be consolidated by the court under that action and cause number. Any order issued under this chapter after consolidation shall contain the original cause number and the cause number of the action under chapter 26.09, 26.10, or 26.26 RCW. Relief under this chapter shall not be denied or delayed on the grounds that the relief is available in another action. [1995 c 246 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.030 Petition for an order for protection—Availability of forms and informational brochures—Bond not required.** There shall exist an action known as a petition for an order for protection in cases of domestic violence.

(1) A petition for relief shall allege the existence of domestic violence, and shall be accompanied by an affidavit made under oath stating the specific facts and circumstances from which relief is sought. Petitioner and respondent shall disclose the existence of any other litigation concerning the custody or residential placement of a child of the parties as set forth in RCW 26.27.281 and the existence of any other restraining, protection, or no-contact orders between the parties.

(2) A petition for relief may be made regardless of whether or not there is a pending lawsuit, complaint, petition, or other action between the parties except in cases where the court realigns petitioner and respondent in accordance with RCW 26.50.060(4).

(3) Within ninety days of receipt of the master copy from the administrative office of the courts, all court clerk's offices shall make available the standardized forms, instructions, and informational brochures required by RCW 26.50.035 and shall fill in and keep current specific program names and telephone numbers for community resources. Any assistance or information provided by clerks under this section does not constitute the practice of law and clerks are not responsible for incorrect information contained in a petition.

(4) No filing fee may be charged for proceedings under this section. Forms and instructional brochures shall be provided free of charge.

(5) A person is not required to post a bond to obtain relief in any proceeding under this section. [2005 c 282 § 39; 1996 c 248 § 12; 1995 c 246 § 3; 1992 c 111 § 2; 1985 c 303 § 2; 1984 c 263 § 4.]

**Findings—1992 c 111:** "The legislature finds that:

Domestic violence is a problem of immense proportions affecting individuals as well as communities. Domestic violence has long been recognized as being at the core of other major social problems: Child abuse, other crimes of violence against person or property, juvenile delinquency, and alcohol and drug abuse. Domestic violence costs millions of dollars each year in the state of Washington for health care, absence from work, services to children, and more. The crisis is growing.

While the existing protection order process can be a valuable tool to increase safety for victims and to hold batterers accountable, specific problems in its use have become evident. Victims have difficulty completing the paperwork required particularly if they have limited English proficiency; model forms have been modified to be inconsistent with statutory language; different forms create confusion for law enforcement agencies about the contents and enforceability of orders. Refinements are needed so that victims have the easy, quick, and effective access to the court system envisioned at the time the protection order process was first created.

When courts issue mutual protection orders without the filing of separate written petitions, notice to each respondent, and hearing on each petition, the original petitioner is deprived of due process. Mutual protection orders label both parties as violent and treat both as being equally at fault. Batterers conclude that the violence is excusable or provoked and victims who are not violent are confused and stigmatized. Enforcement may be ineffective and mutual orders may be used in other proceedings as evidence that the victim is equally at fault.

Valuable information about the reported incidents of domestic violence in the state of Washington is unobtainable without gathering data from all law enforcement agencies; without this information, it is difficult for policymakers, funders, and service providers to plan for the resources and services needed to address the issue.

Domestic violence must be addressed more widely and more effectively in our state: Greater knowledge by professionals who deal frequently with domestic violence is essential to enforce existing laws, to intervene in domestic violence situations that do not come to the attention of the law enforcement or judicial systems, and to reduce and prevent domestic violence by intervening before the violence becomes severe.

Adolescent dating violence is occurring at increasingly high rates: Preventing and confronting adolescent violence is important in preventing potential violence in future adult relationships." [1992 c 111 § 1.]

*Child abuse, temporary restraining order: RCW 26.44.063.*

*Orders prohibiting contact: RCW 10.99.040.*

*Temporary restraining order: RCW 26.09.060.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.035 Development of instructions, informational brochures, forms, and handbook by the administrative office of the courts—Community resource list—Distribution of master copy.** (1) The administrative office of the courts shall develop and prepare instructions and informational brochures required under RCW 26.50.030(4), standard petition and order for protection forms, and a court staff handbook on domestic violence and the protection order process. The standard petition and order for protection forms must be used after September 1, 1994, for all petitions filed and orders issued under this chapter. The instructions, brochures, forms, and handbook shall be prepared in consultation with interested persons, including a representative of the state domestic violence coalition, judges, and law enforcement personnel.

(a) The instructions shall be designed to assist petitioners in completing the petition, and shall include a sample of standard petition and order for protection forms.

(b) The informational brochure shall describe the use of and the process for obtaining, modifying, and terminating a domestic violence protection order as provided under this chapter, an antiharassment no-contact order as provided under chapter 9A.46 RCW, a domestic violence no-contact order as provided under chapter 10.99 RCW, a restraining

order as provided under chapters 26.09, 26.10, 26.26, and 26.44 RCW, an antiharassment protection order as provided by chapter 10.14 RCW, and a foreign protection order as defined in chapter 26.52 RCW.

(c) The order for protection form shall include, in a conspicuous location, notice of criminal penalties resulting from violation of the order, and the following statement: "You can be arrested even if the person or persons who obtained the order invite or allow you to violate the order's prohibitions. The respondent has the sole responsibility to avoid or refrain from violating the order's provisions. Only the court can change the order upon written application."

(d) The court staff handbook shall allow for the addition of a community resource list by the court clerk.

(2) All court clerks shall obtain a community resource list from a domestic violence program, defined in RCW 70.123.020, serving the county in which the court is located. The community resource list shall include the names and telephone numbers of domestic violence programs serving the community in which the court is located, including law enforcement agencies, domestic violence agencies, sexual assault agencies, legal assistance programs, interpreters, multicultural programs, and batterers' treatment programs. The court shall make the community resource list available as part of or in addition to the informational brochures described in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) The administrative office of the courts shall distribute a master copy of the petition and order forms, instructions, and informational brochures to all court clerks and shall distribute a master copy of the petition and order forms to all superior, district, and municipal courts.

(4) For purposes of this section, "court clerks" means court administrators in courts of limited jurisdiction and elected court clerks.

(5) The administrative office of the courts shall determine the significant non-English-speaking or limited English-speaking populations in the state. The administrator shall then arrange for translation of the instructions and informational brochures required by this section, which shall contain a sample of the standard petition and order for protection forms, into the languages spoken by those significant non-English-speaking populations and shall distribute a master copy of the translated instructions and informational brochures to all court clerks by January 1, 1997.

(6) The administrative office of the courts shall update the instructions, brochures, standard petition and order for protection forms, and court staff handbook when changes in the law make an update necessary. [2005 c 282 § 40; 2000 c 119 § 14; 1995 c 246 § 4; 1993 c 350 § 2; 1985 c 303 § 3; 1984 c 263 § 31.]

**Findings—1993 c 350:** "The legislature finds that domestic violence is a problem of immense proportions affecting individuals as well as communities. Domestic violence has long been recognized as being at the core of other major social problems including child abuse, crimes of violence against person or property, juvenile delinquency, and alcohol and drug abuse. Domestic violence costs include the loss of lives as well as millions of dollars each year in the state of Washington for health care, absence from work, and services to children. The crisis is growing.

While the existing protection order process can be a valuable tool to increase safety for victims and to hold batterers accountable, specific problems in its use have become evident. Victims have difficulty completing the paperwork required; model forms have been modified to be inconsistent with statutory language; different forms create confusion for law enforcement

agencies about the contents and enforceability of orders. Refinements are needed so that victims have the easy, quick, and effective access to the court system envisioned at the time the protection order process was first created.

Valuable information about the reported incidents of domestic violence in the state of Washington is unobtainable without gathering data from all law enforcement agencies. Without this information, it is difficult for policymakers, funders, and service providers to plan for the resources and services needed to address the issue." [1993 c 350 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.040 Fees not permitted—Filing, service of process, certified copies.** No fees for filing or service of process may be charged by a public agency to petitioners seeking relief under this chapter. Petitioners shall be provided the necessary number of certified copies at no cost. [1995 c 246 § 5; 1985 c 303 § 4; 1984 c 263 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.050 Hearing—Service—Time.** Upon receipt of the petition, the court shall order a hearing which shall be held not later than fourteen days from the date of the order. The court may schedule a hearing by telephone pursuant to local court rule, to reasonably accommodate a disability, or in exceptional circumstances to protect a petitioner from further acts of domestic violence. The court shall require assurances of the petitioner's identity before conducting a telephonic hearing. Except as provided in RCW 26.50.085 and 26.50.123, personal service shall be made upon the respondent not less than five court days prior to the hearing. If timely personal service cannot be made, the court shall set a new hearing date and shall either require an additional attempt at obtaining personal service or permit service by publication as provided in RCW 26.50.085 or service by mail as provided in RCW 26.50.123. The court shall not require more than two attempts at obtaining personal service and shall permit service by publication or by mail unless the petitioner requests additional time to attempt personal service. If the court permits service by publication or by mail, the court shall set the hearing date not later than twenty-four days from the date of the order. The court may issue an ex parte order for protection pending the hearing as provided in RCW 26.50.070, 26.50.085, and 26.50.123. [2008 c 287 § 2; 1995 c 246 § 6; 1992 c 143 § 1; 1984 c 263 § 6.]

**Short title—2008 c 287:** "This act shall be known as the Rebecca Jane Griego act. Recent tragic events have demonstrated the need to find ways to make legal protections for domestic violence victims more accessible. On March 6, 2007, Rebecca Jane Griego, an employee at the University of Washington, had obtained a temporary protection order against the man who eventually shot her and then himself in a murder-suicide on April 2, 2007. However, because her stalker had evaded the police and service of process, Ms. Griego had to return to court numerous times and did not have the opportunity to have a hearing for a permanent protection order. Under current court rules, which vary by court, if a process server fails to serve process after an unspecified number of times, process may be served by publication or by mail. Establishing greater uniformity in the service of process of petitions for orders for protection or modifications of protection orders in domestic violence cases may help to protect the safety of future domestic violence victims." [2008 c 287 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.055 Appointment of interpreter.** (1) Pursuant to chapter 2.42 RCW, an interpreter shall be appointed for any party who, because of a hearing or speech impairment, cannot readily understand or communicate in spoken language.

(2) Pursuant to chapter 2.43 RCW, an interpreter shall be appointed for any party who cannot readily speak or understand the English language.

(3) The interpreter shall translate or interpret for the party in preparing forms, participating in the hearing and court-ordered assessments, and translating any orders. [1995 c 246 § 11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.060 Relief—Duration—Realignment of designation of parties—Award of costs, service fees, and attorneys' fees.** (1) Upon notice and after hearing, the court may provide relief as follows:

(a) Restrain the respondent from committing acts of domestic violence;

(b) Exclude the respondent from the dwelling that the parties share, from the residence, workplace, or school of the petitioner, or from the day care or school of a child;

(c) Prohibit the respondent from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance from a specified location;

(d) On the same basis as is provided in chapter 26.09 RCW, the court shall make residential provision with regard to minor children of the parties. However, parenting plans as specified in chapter 26.09 RCW shall not be required under this chapter;

(e) Order the respondent to participate in a domestic violence perpetrator treatment program approved under RCW 26.50.150;

(f) Order other relief as it deems necessary for the protection of the petitioner and other family or household members sought to be protected, including orders or directives to a peace officer, as allowed under this chapter;

(g) Require the respondent to pay the administrative court costs and service fees, as established by the county or municipality incurring the expense and to reimburse the petitioner for costs incurred in bringing the action, including reasonable attorneys' fees;

(h) Restrain the respondent from having any contact with the victim of domestic violence or the victim's children or members of the victim's household;

(i) Restrain the respondent from harassing, following, keeping under physical or electronic surveillance, cyberstalking as defined in RCW 9.61.260, and using telephonic, audio-visual, or other electronic means to monitor the actions, location, or communication of a victim of domestic violence, the victim's children, or members of the victim's household. For the purposes of this subsection, "communication" includes both "wire communication" and "electronic communication" as defined in RCW 9.73.260;

(j) Require the respondent to submit to electronic monitoring. The order shall specify who shall provide the electronic monitoring services and the terms under which the monitoring must be performed. The order also may include a requirement that the respondent pay the costs of the monitoring. The court shall consider the ability of the respondent to pay for electronic monitoring;

(k) Consider the provisions of RCW 9.41.800;

(l) Order possession and use of essential personal effects. The court shall list the essential personal effects with sufficient specificity to make it clear which property is included.

Personal effects may include pets. The court may order that a petitioner be granted the exclusive custody or control of any pet owned, possessed, leased, kept, or held by the petitioner, respondent, or minor child residing with either the petitioner or respondent and may prohibit the respondent from interfering with the petitioner's efforts to remove the pet. The court may also prohibit the respondent from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of specified locations where the pet is regularly found; and

(m) Order use of a vehicle.

(2) If a protection order restrains the respondent from contacting the respondent's minor children the restraint shall be for a fixed period not to exceed one year. This limitation is not applicable to orders for protection issued under chapter 26.09, 26.10, or 26.26 RCW. With regard to other relief, if the petitioner has petitioned for relief on his or her own behalf or on behalf of the petitioner's family or household members or minor children, and the court finds that the respondent is likely to resume acts of domestic violence against the petitioner or the petitioner's family or household members or minor children when the order expires, the court may either grant relief for a fixed period or enter a permanent order of protection.

If the petitioner has petitioned for relief on behalf of the respondent's minor children, the court shall advise the petitioner that if the petitioner wants to continue protection for a period beyond one year the petitioner may either petition for renewal pursuant to the provisions of this chapter or may seek relief pursuant to the provisions of chapter 26.09 or 26.26 RCW.

(3) If the court grants an order for a fixed time period, the petitioner may apply for renewal of the order by filing a petition for renewal at any time within the three months before the order expires. The petition for renewal shall state the reasons why the petitioner seeks to renew the protection order. Upon receipt of the petition for renewal the court shall order a hearing which shall be not later than fourteen days from the date of the order. Except as provided in RCW 26.50.085, personal service shall be made on the respondent not less than five days before the hearing. If timely service cannot be made the court shall set a new hearing date and shall either require additional attempts at obtaining personal service or permit service by publication as provided in RCW 26.50.085 or by mail as provided in RCW 26.50.123. If the court permits service by publication or mail, the court shall set the new hearing date not later than twenty-four days from the date of the order. If the order expires because timely service cannot be made the court shall grant an ex parte order of protection as provided in RCW 26.50.070. The court shall grant the petition for renewal unless the respondent proves by a preponderance of the evidence that the respondent will not resume acts of domestic violence against the petitioner or the petitioner's children or family or household members when the order expires. The court may renew the protection order for another fixed time period or may enter a permanent order as provided in this section. The court may award court costs, service fees, and reasonable attorneys' fees as provided in subsection (1)(g) of this section.

(4) In providing relief under this chapter, the court may realign the designation of the parties as "petitioner" and "respondent" where the court finds that the original petitioner

is the abuser and the original respondent is the victim of domestic violence and may issue an ex parte temporary order for protection in accordance with RCW 26.50.070 on behalf of the victim until the victim is able to prepare a petition for an order for protection in accordance with RCW 26.50.030.

(5) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, no order for protection shall grant relief to any party except upon notice to the respondent and hearing pursuant to a petition or counter-petition filed and served by the party seeking relief in accordance with RCW 26.50.050.

(6) The court order shall specify the date the order expires if any. The court order shall also state whether the court issued the protection order following personal service, service by publication, or service by mail and whether the court has approved service by publication or mail of an order issued under this section.

(7) If the court declines to issue an order for protection or declines to renew an order for protection, the court shall state in writing on the order the particular reasons for the court's denial. [2010 c 274 § 304; 2009 c 439 § 2; 2000 c 119 § 15; 1999 c 147 § 2; 1996 c 248 § 13; 1995 c 246 § 7; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 457. Prior: 1992 c 143 § 2; 1992 c 111 § 4; 1992 c 86 § 4; 1989 c 411 § 1; 1987 c 460 § 55; 1985 c 303 § 5; 1984 c 263 § 7.]

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**Finding—Intent—2009 c 439:** "The legislature finds that considerable research shows a strong correlation between animal abuse, child abuse, and domestic violence. The legislature intends that perpetrators of domestic violence not be allowed to further terrorize and manipulate their victims, or the children of their victims, by using the threat of violence toward pets." [2009 c 439 § 1.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**Findings—1992 c 111:** See note following RCW 26.50.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### **26.50.070 Ex parte temporary order for protection.**

(1) Where an application under this section alleges that irreparable injury could result from domestic violence if an order is not issued immediately without prior notice to the respondent, the court may grant an ex parte temporary order for protection, pending a full hearing, and grant relief as the court deems proper, including an order:

(a) Restraining any party from committing acts of domestic violence;

(b) Restraining any party from going onto the grounds of or entering the dwelling that the parties share, from the residence, workplace, or school of the other, or from the day care or school of a child until further order of the court;

(c) Prohibiting any party from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance from a specified location;

(d) Restraining any party from interfering with the other's custody of the minor children or from removing the children from the jurisdiction of the court;

(e) Restraining any party from having any contact with the victim of domestic violence or the victim's children or members of the victim's household;

(f) Considering the provisions of RCW 9.41.800; and

(g) Restraining the respondent from harassing, following, keeping under physical or electronic surveillance, cyberstalking as defined in RCW 9.61.260, and using telephonic,



audiovisual, or other electronic means to monitor the actions, location, or communication of a victim of domestic violence, the victim’s children, or members of the victim’s household. For the purposes of this subsection, "communication" includes both "wire communication" and "electronic communication" as defined in RCW 9.73.260.

(2) Irreparable injury under this section includes but is not limited to situations in which the respondent has recently threatened petitioner with bodily injury or has engaged in acts of domestic violence against the petitioner.

(3) The court shall hold an ex parte hearing in person or by telephone on the day the petition is filed or on the following judicial day.

(4) An ex parte temporary order for protection shall be effective for a fixed period not to exceed fourteen days or twenty-four days if the court has permitted service by publication under RCW 26.50.085 or by mail under RCW 26.50.123. The ex parte order may be reissued. A full hearing, as provided in this chapter, shall be set for not later than fourteen days from the issuance of the temporary order or not later than twenty-four days if service by publication or by mail is permitted. Except as provided in RCW 26.50.050, 26.50.085, and 26.50.123, the respondent shall be personally served with a copy of the ex parte order along with a copy of the petition and notice of the date set for the hearing.

(5) Any order issued under this section shall contain the date and time of issuance and the expiration date and shall be entered into a statewide judicial information system by the clerk of the court within one judicial day after issuance.

(6) If the court declines to issue an ex parte temporary order for protection the court shall state the particular reasons for the court’s denial. The court’s denial of a motion for an ex parte order of protection shall be filed with the court. [2010 c 274 § 305; 2000 c 119 § 16; 1996 c 248 § 14; 1995 c 246 § 8; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 458; 1992 c 143 § 3; 1989 c 411 § 2; 1984 c 263 § 8.]

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

*Child abuse, temporary restraining order:* RCW 26.44.063.

*Orders prohibiting contact:* RCW 10.99.040.

*Temporary restraining order:* RCW 26.09.060.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.080 Issuance of order—Assistance of peace officer—Designation of appropriate law enforcement agency.** (1) When an order is issued under this chapter upon request of the petitioner, the court may order a peace officer to accompany the petitioner and assist in placing the petitioner in possession of those items indicated in the order or to otherwise assist in the execution of the order of protection. The order shall list all items that are to be included with sufficient specificity to make it clear which property is included. Orders issued under this chapter shall include a designation of the appropriate law enforcement agency to execute, serve, or enforce the order.

(2) Upon order of a court, a peace officer shall accompany the petitioner in an order of protection and assist in placing the petitioner in possession of all items listed in the order and to otherwise assist in the execution of the order. [1995 c 246 § 9; 1984 c 263 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.085 Hearing reset after ex parte order—Service by publication—Circumstances.** (1) If the respondent was not personally served with the petition, notice of hearing, and ex parte order before the hearing, the court shall reset the hearing for twenty-four days from the date of entry of the order and may order service by publication instead of personal service under the following circumstances:

(a) The sheriff or municipal officer files an affidavit stating that the officer was unable to complete personal service upon the respondent. The affidavit must describe the number and types of attempts the officer made to complete service;

(b) The petitioner files an affidavit stating that the petitioner believes that the respondent is hiding from the server to avoid service. The petitioner’s affidavit must state the reasons for the belief that the petitioner [respondent] is avoiding service;

(c) The server has deposited a copy of the summons, in substantially the form prescribed in subsection (3) of this section, notice of hearing, and the ex parte order of protection in the post office, directed to the respondent at the respondent’s last known address, unless the server states that the server does not know the respondent’s address; and

(d) The court finds reasonable grounds exist to believe that the respondent is concealing himself or herself to avoid service, and that further attempts to personally serve the respondent would be futile or unduly burdensome.

(2) The court shall reissue the temporary order of protection not to exceed another twenty-four days from the date of reissuing the ex parte protection order and order to provide service by publication.

(3) The publication shall be made in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the petition was brought and in the county of the last known address of the respondent once a week for three consecutive weeks. The newspaper selected must be one of the three most widely circulated papers in the county. The publication of summons shall not be made until the court orders service by publication under this section. Service of the summons shall be considered complete when the publication has been made for three consecutive weeks. The summons must be signed by the petitioner. The summons shall contain the date of the first publication, and shall require the respondent upon whom service by publication is desired, to appear and answer the petition on the date set for the hearing. The summons shall also contain a brief statement of the reason for the petition and a summary of the provisions under the ex parte order. The summons shall be essentially in the following form:

In the . . . . . court of the state of Washington for the county of . . . . .

. . . . ., Petitioner

vs.

No. . . . .

. . . . ., Respondent

The state of Washington to . . . . . (respondent):

You are hereby summoned to appear on the . . . . day of . . . . ., 19 . . . ., at . . . . a.m./p.m., and respond to the petition. If you fail to respond, an order of protection will be issued against you pursuant to the provisions of the domestic violence protection act, chapter 26.50 RCW, for a minimum of one year from the date you are required to appear. A temporary order of protection has been issued against you, restraining you from the following: (Insert a brief statement of the provisions of the ex parte order). A copy of the petition, notice of hearing, and ex parte order has been filed with the clerk of this court.

.....  
Petitioner .....

[1992 c 143 § 4.]

**26.50.090 Order—Service—Fees.** (1) An order issued under this chapter shall be personally served upon the respondent, except as provided in subsections (6) and (8) of this section.

(2) The sheriff of the county or the peace officers of the municipality in which the respondent resides shall serve the respondent personally unless the petitioner elects to have the respondent served by a private party.

(3) If service by a sheriff or municipal peace officer is to be used, the clerk of the court shall have a copy of any order issued under this chapter forwarded on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order for service upon the respondent. Service of an order issued under this chapter shall take precedence over the service of other documents unless they are of a similar emergency nature.

(4) If the sheriff or municipal peace officer cannot complete service upon the respondent within ten days, the sheriff or municipal peace officer shall notify the petitioner. The petitioner shall provide information sufficient to permit notification.

(5) Returns of service under this chapter shall be made in accordance with the applicable court rules.

(6) If an order entered by the court recites that the respondent appeared in person before the court, the necessity for further service is waived and proof of service of that order is not necessary.

(7) Municipal police departments serving documents as required under this chapter may collect from respondents ordered to pay fees under RCW 26.50.060 the same fees for service and mileage authorized by RCW 36.18.040 to be collected by sheriffs.

(8) If the court previously entered an order allowing service of the notice of hearing and temporary order of protection by publication pursuant to RCW 26.50.085 or by mail pursuant to RCW 26.50.123, the court may permit service by publication or by mail of the order of protection issued under RCW 26.50.060. Service by publication must comply with the requirements of RCW 26.50.085 and service by mail must comply with the requirements of RCW 26.50.123. The court order must state whether the court permitted service by publication or by mail. [1995 c 246 § 10; 1992 c 143 § 6; 1985 c 303 § 6; 1984 c 263 § 10.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.095 Order following service by publication.** Following completion of service by publication as provided in RCW 26.50.085 or by mail as provided in RCW 26.50.123, if the respondent fails to appear at the hearing, the court may issue an order of protection as provided in RCW 26.50.060. That order must be served pursuant to RCW 26.50.090, and forwarded to the appropriate law enforcement agency pursuant to RCW 26.50.100. [1995 c 246 § 12; 1992 c 143 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.100 Order—Transmittal to law enforcement agency—Record in law enforcement information system—Enforceability.** (1) A copy of an order for protection granted under this chapter shall be forwarded by the clerk of the court on or before the next judicial day to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the order.

Upon receipt of the order, the law enforcement agency shall forthwith enter the order into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. The order shall remain in the computer for the period stated in the order. The law enforcement agency shall only expunge from the computer-based criminal intelligence information system orders that are expired, vacated, or superseded. Entry into the law enforcement information system constitutes notice to all law enforcement agencies of the existence of the order. The order is fully enforceable in any county in the state.

(2) The information entered into the computer-based criminal intelligence information system shall include notice to law enforcement whether the order was personally served, served by publication, or served by mail. [1996 c 248 § 15; 1995 c 246 § 13; 1992 c 143 § 7; 1984 c 263 § 11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.110 Violation of order—Penalties.** (1)(a) Whenever an order is granted under this chapter, chapter 7.90, 9.94A, 10.99, 26.09, 26.10, 26.26, or 74.34 RCW, or there is a valid foreign protection order as defined in RCW 26.52.020, and the respondent or person to be restrained knows of the order, a violation of any of the following provisions of the order is a gross misdemeanor, except as provided in subsections (4) and (5) of this section:

(i) The restraint provisions prohibiting acts or threats of violence against, or stalking of, a protected party, or restraint provisions prohibiting contact with a protected party;

(ii) A provision excluding the person from a residence, workplace, school, or day care;

(iii) A provision prohibiting a person from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of a location;

(iv) A provision prohibiting interfering with the protected party's efforts to remove a pet owned, possessed, leased, kept, or held by the petitioner, respondent, or a minor child residing with either the petitioner or the respondent; or

(v) A provision of a foreign protection order specifically indicating that a violation will be a crime.

(b) Upon conviction, and in addition to any other penalties provided by law, the court may require that the respondent submit to electronic monitoring. The court shall specify

who shall provide the electronic monitoring services, and the terms under which the monitoring shall be performed. The order also may include a requirement that the respondent pay the costs of the monitoring. The court shall consider the ability of the convicted person to pay for electronic monitoring.

(2) A peace officer shall arrest without a warrant and take into custody a person whom the peace officer has probable cause to believe has violated an order issued under this chapter, chapter 7.90, 9.94A, 10.99, 26.09, 26.10, 26.26, or 74.34 RCW, or a valid foreign protection order as defined in RCW 26.52.020, that restrains the person or excludes the person from a residence, workplace, school, or day care, or prohibits the person from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of a location, if the person restrained knows of the order. Presence of the order in the law enforcement computer-based criminal intelligence information system is not the only means of establishing knowledge of the order.

(3) A violation of an order issued under this chapter, chapter 7.90, 9.94A, 10.99, 26.09, 26.10, 26.26, or 74.34 RCW, or of a valid foreign protection order as defined in RCW 26.52.020, shall also constitute contempt of court, and is subject to the penalties prescribed by law.

(4) Any assault that is a violation of an order issued under this chapter, chapter 7.90, 9.94A, 10.99, 26.09, 26.10, 26.26, or 74.34 RCW, or of a valid foreign protection order as defined in RCW 26.52.020, and that does not amount to assault in the first or second degree under RCW 9A.36.011 or 9A.36.021 is a class C felony, and any conduct in violation of such an order that is reckless and creates a substantial risk of death or serious physical injury to another person is a class C felony.

(5) A violation of a court order issued under this chapter, chapter 7.90, 9.94A, 10.99, 26.09, 26.10, 26.26, or 74.34 RCW, or of a valid foreign protection order as defined in RCW 26.52.020, is a class C felony if the offender has at least two previous convictions for violating the provisions of an order issued under this chapter, chapter 7.90, 9.94A, 10.99, 26.09, 26.10, 26.26, or 74.34 RCW, or a valid foreign protection order as defined in RCW 26.52.020. The previous convictions may involve the same victim or other victims specifically protected by the orders the offender violated.

(6) Upon the filing of an affidavit by the petitioner or any peace officer alleging that the respondent has violated an order granted under this chapter, chapter 7.90, 9.94A, 10.99, 26.09, 26.10, 26.26, or 74.34 RCW, or a valid foreign protection order as defined in RCW 26.52.020, the court may issue an order to the respondent, requiring the respondent to appear and show cause within fourteen days why the respondent should not be found in contempt of court and punished accordingly. The hearing may be held in the court of any county or municipality in which the petitioner or respondent temporarily or permanently resides at the time of the alleged violation. [2009 c 439 § 3; 2009 c 288 § 3; 2007 c 173 § 2; 2006 c 138 § 25; 2000 c 119 § 24; 1996 c 248 § 16; 1995 c 246 § 14; 1992 c 86 § 5; 1991 c 301 § 6; 1984 c 263 § 12.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2009 c 288 § 3 and by 2009 c 439 § 3, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Finding—Intent—2009 c 439:** See note following RCW 26.50.060.

**Findings—2009 c 288:** See note following RCW 9.94A.637.

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 173:** "The legislature finds this act necessary to restore and make clear its intent that a willful violation of a no-contact provision of a court order is a criminal offense and shall be enforced accordingly to preserve the integrity and intent of the domestic violence act. This act is not intended to broaden the scope of law enforcement power or effectuate any substantive change to any criminal provision in the Revised Code of Washington." [2007 c 173 § 1.]

**Short title—2006 c 138:** See RCW 7.90.900.

**Finding—1991 c 301:** See note following RCW 10.99.020.

*Violation of order protecting vulnerable adult:* RCW 74.34.145.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.115 Enforcement of ex parte order—Knowledge of order prerequisite to penalties—Reasonable efforts to serve copy of order.** (1) When the court issues an ex parte order pursuant to RCW 26.50.070 or an order of protection pursuant to RCW 26.50.060, the court shall advise the petitioner that the respondent may not be subjected to the penalties set forth in RCW 26.50.110 for a violation of the order unless the respondent knows of the order.

(2) When a peace officer investigates a report of an alleged violation of an order for protection issued under this chapter the officer shall attempt to determine whether the respondent knew of the existence of the protection order. If the law enforcement officer determines that the respondent did not or probably did not know about the protection order and the officer is provided a current copy of the order, the officer shall serve the order on the respondent if the respondent is present. If the respondent is not present, the officer shall make reasonable efforts to serve a copy of the order on the respondent. If the officer serves the respondent with the petitioner's copy of the order, the officer shall give petitioner a receipt indicating that petitioner's copy has been served on the respondent. After the officer has served the order on the respondent, the officer shall enforce prospective compliance with the order.

(3) Presentation of an unexpired, certified copy of a protection order with proof of service is sufficient for a law enforcement officer to enforce the order regardless of the presence of the order in the law enforcement computer-based criminal intelligence information system. [1996 c 248 § 17; 1995 c 246 § 15; 1992 c 143 § 8.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.120 Violation of order—Prosecuting attorney or attorney for municipality may be requested to assist—Costs and attorney's fee.** When a party alleging a violation of an order for protection issued under this chapter states that the party is unable to afford private counsel and asks the prosecuting attorney for the county or the attorney for the municipality in which the order was issued for assistance, the attorney shall initiate and prosecute a contempt proceeding if there is probable cause to believe that the violation occurred. In this action, the court may require the violator of the order to pay the costs incurred in bringing the action, including a reasonable attorney's fee. [1984 c 263 § 13.]

**26.50.123 Service by mail.** (1) In circumstances justifying service by publication under RCW 26.50.085(1), if the serving party files an affidavit stating facts from which the court determines that service by mail is just as likely to give

actual notice as service by publication and that the serving party is unable to afford the cost of service by publication, the court may order that service be made by mail. Such service shall be made by any person over eighteen years of age, who is competent to be a witness, other than a party, by mailing copies of the order and other process to the party to be served at his or her last known address or any other address determined by the court to be appropriate. Two copies shall be mailed, postage prepaid, one by ordinary first-class mail and the other by a form of mail requiring a signed receipt showing when and to whom it was delivered. The envelopes must bear the return address of the sender.

(2) Proof of service under this section shall be consistent with court rules for civil proceedings.

(3) Service under this section may be used in the same manner and shall have the same jurisdictional effect as service by publication for purposes of this chapter. Service shall be deemed complete upon the mailing of two copies as prescribed in this section. [1995 c 246 § 16.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **26.50.125 Service by publication or mailing—Costs.**

Except as provided in RCW 10.14.055, the court may permit service by publication or by mail under this chapter only if the petitioner pays the cost of publication or mailing unless the county legislative authority allocates funds for service of process by publication or by mail for indigent petitioners. [2002 c 117 § 5; 1995 c 246 § 17; 1992 c 143 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.130 Order for protection—Modification or termination—Service—Transmittal.** (1) Upon a motion with notice to all parties and after a hearing, the court may modify the terms of an existing order for protection or may terminate an existing order for protection.

(2) A respondent's motion to modify or terminate an order for protection that is permanent or issued for a fixed period exceeding two years must include a declaration setting forth facts supporting the requested order for termination or modification. The motion and declaration must be served according to subsection (7) of this section. The nonmoving parties to the proceeding may file opposing declarations. The court shall deny the motion unless it finds that adequate cause for hearing the motion is established by the declarations. If the court finds that the respondent established adequate cause, the court shall set a date for hearing the respondent's motion.

(3)(a) The court may not terminate an order for protection that is permanent or issued for a fixed period exceeding two years upon a motion of the respondent unless the respondent proves by a preponderance of the evidence that there has been a substantial change in circumstances such that the respondent is not likely to resume acts of domestic violence against the petitioner or those persons protected by the protection order if the order is terminated. In a motion by the respondent for termination of an order for protection that is permanent or issued for a fixed period exceeding two years, the petitioner bears no burden of proving that he or she has a current reasonable fear of imminent harm by the respondent.

(b) For the purposes of this subsection, a court shall determine whether there has been a "substantial change in

circumstances" by considering only factors which address whether the respondent is likely to commit future acts of domestic violence against the petitioner or those persons protected by the protection order.

(c) In determining whether there has been a substantial change in circumstances the court may consider the following unweighted factors, and no inference is to be drawn from the order in which the factors are listed:

(i) Whether the respondent has committed or threatened domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other violent acts since the protection order was entered;

(ii) Whether the respondent has violated the terms of the protection order, and the time that has passed since the entry of the order;

(iii) Whether the respondent has exhibited suicidal ideation or attempts since the protection order was entered;

(iv) Whether the respondent has been convicted of criminal activity since the protection order was entered;

(v) Whether the respondent has either acknowledged responsibility for the acts of domestic violence that resulted in entry of the protection order or successfully completed domestic violence perpetrator treatment or counseling since the protection order was entered;

(vi) Whether the respondent has a continuing involvement with drug or alcohol abuse, if such abuse was a factor in the protection order;

(vii) Whether the petitioner consents to terminating the protection order, provided that consent is given voluntarily and knowingly;

(viii) Whether the respondent or petitioner has relocated to an area more distant from the other party, giving due consideration to the fact that acts of domestic violence may be committed from any distance;

(ix) Other factors relating to a substantial change in circumstances.

(d) In determining whether there has been a substantial change in circumstances, the court may not base its determination solely on: (i) The fact that time has passed without a violation of the order; or (ii) the fact that the respondent or petitioner has relocated to an area more distant from the other party.

(e) Regardless of whether there is a substantial change in circumstances, the court may decline to terminate a protection order if it finds that the acts of domestic violence that resulted in the issuance of the protection order were of such severity that the order should not be terminated.

(4) The court may not modify an order for protection that is permanent or issued for a fixed period exceeding two years upon a motion of the respondent unless the respondent proves by a preponderance of the evidence that the requested modification is warranted. If the requested modification would reduce the duration of the protection order or would eliminate provisions in the protection order restraining the respondent from harassing, stalking, threatening, or committing other acts of domestic violence against the petitioner or the petitioner's children or family or household members or other persons protected by the order, the court shall consider the factors in subsection (3)(c) of this section in determining whether the protection order should be modified. Upon a motion by the respondent for modification of an order for protection that is permanent or issued for a fixed period

exceeding two years, the petitioner bears no burden of proving that he or she has a current reasonable fear of imminent harm by the respondent.

(5) Upon a motion by a petitioner, the court may modify or terminate an existing order for protection. The court shall hear the motion without an adequate cause hearing.

(6) A court may require the respondent to pay court costs and service fees, as established by the county or municipality incurring the expense and to pay the petitioner for costs incurred in responding to a motion to terminate or modify a protection order, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

(7) Except as provided in RCW 26.50.085 and 26.50.123, a motion to modify or terminate an order for protection must be personally served on the nonmoving party not less than five court days prior to the hearing.

(a) If a moving party seeks to modify or terminate an order for protection that is permanent or issued for a fixed period exceeding two years, the sheriff of the county or the peace officers of the municipality in which the nonmoving party resides or a licensed process server shall serve the nonmoving party personally except when a petitioner is the moving party and elects to have the nonmoving party served by a private party.

(b) If the sheriff, municipal peace officer, or licensed process server cannot complete service upon the nonmoving party within ten days, the sheriff, municipal peace officer, or licensed process server shall notify the moving party. The moving party shall provide information sufficient to permit notification by the sheriff, municipal peace officer, or licensed process server.

(c) If timely personal service cannot be made, the court shall set a new hearing date and shall either require an additional attempt at obtaining personal service or permit service by publication as provided in RCW 26.50.085 or service by mail as provided in RCW 26.50.123.

(d) The court shall not require more than two attempts at obtaining personal service and shall permit service by publication or by mail unless the moving party requests additional time to attempt personal service.

(e) If the court permits service by publication or by mail, the court shall set the hearing date not later than twenty-four days from the date of the order permitting service by publication or by mail.

(8) Municipal police departments serving documents as required under this chapter may recover from a respondent ordered to pay fees under subsection (6) of this section the same fees for service and mileage authorized by RCW 36.18.040 to be collected by sheriffs.

(10) [(9)] In any situation where an order is terminated or modified before its expiration date, the clerk of the court shall forward on or before the next judicial day a true copy of the modified order or the termination order to the appropriate law enforcement agency specified in the modified or termination order. Upon receipt of the order, the law enforcement agency shall promptly enter it in the law enforcement information system. [2011 c 137 § 2; 2008 c 287 § 3; 1984 c 263 § 14.]

**Findings—2011 c 137:** "The legislature finds that civil domestic violence protection orders are an essential tool for interrupting an abuser's ability to perpetrate domestic violence. The legislature has authorized courts to enter permanent or fixed term domestic violence protection orders if the court finds that the respondent is likely to resume acts of domestic violence when the order expires. However, the legislature has not established proce-

dures or guidelines for terminating or modifying a protection order after it is entered.

The legislature finds that some of the factors articulated in the Washington supreme court's decision in *In re Marriage of Freeman*, 169 Wn.2d 664, 239 P.3d 557 (2010), for terminating or modifying domestic violence protection orders do not demonstrate that a restrained person is unlikely to resume acts of domestic violence when the order expires, and place an improper burden on the person protected by the order. By this act, the legislature establishes procedures and guidelines for determining whether a domestic violence protection order should be terminated or modified." [2011 c 137 § 1.]

**Short title—2008 c 287:** See note following RCW 26.50.050.

**26.50.135 Residential placement or custody of a child—Prerequisite.** (1) Before granting an order under this chapter directing residential placement of a child or restraining or limiting a party's contact with a child, the court shall consult the judicial information system, if available, to determine the pendency of other proceedings involving the residential placement of any child of the parties for whom residential placement has been requested.

(2) Jurisdictional issues regarding out-of-state proceedings involving the custody or residential placement of any child of the parties shall be governed by the uniform child custody jurisdiction [and enforcement] act, chapter 26.27 RCW. [1995 c 246 § 19.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.140 Peace officers—Immunity.** No peace officer may be held criminally or civilly liable for making an arrest under RCW 26.50.110 if the police officer acts in good faith and without malice. [1984 c 263 § 17.]

**26.50.150 Domestic violence perpetrator programs.** Any program that provides domestic violence treatment to perpetrators of domestic violence must be certified by the department of social and health services and meet minimum standards for domestic violence treatment purposes. The department of social and health services shall adopt rules for standards of approval of domestic violence perpetrator programs. The treatment must meet the following minimum qualifications:

(1) All treatment must be based upon a full, complete clinical intake including but not limited to: Current and past violence history; a lethality risk assessment; history of treatment from past domestic violence perpetrator treatment programs; a complete diagnostic evaluation; a substance abuse assessment; criminal history; assessment of cultural issues, learning disabilities, literacy, and special language needs; and a treatment plan that adequately and appropriately addresses the treatment needs of the individual.

(2) To facilitate communication necessary for periodic safety checks and case monitoring, the program must require the perpetrator to sign the following releases:

(a) A release for the program to inform the victim and victim's community and legal advocates that the perpetrator is in treatment with the program, and to provide information, for safety purposes, to the victim and victim's community and legal advocates;

(b) A release to prior and current treatment agencies to provide information on the perpetrator to the program; and

(c) A release for the program to provide information on the perpetrator to relevant legal entities including: Lawyers,

courts, parole, probation, child protective services, and child welfare services.

(3) Treatment must be for a minimum treatment period defined by the secretary of the department by rule. The weekly treatment sessions must be in a group unless there is a documented, clinical reason for another modality. Any other therapies, such as individual, marital, or family therapy, substance abuse evaluations or therapy, medication reviews, or psychiatric interviews, may be concomitant with the weekly group treatment sessions described in this section but not a substitute for it.

(4) The treatment must focus primarily on ending the violence, holding the perpetrator accountable for his or her violence, and changing his or her behavior. The treatment must be based on nonvictim-blaming strategies and philosophies and shall include education about the individual, family, and cultural dynamics of domestic violence. If the perpetrator or the victim has a minor child, treatment must specifically include education regarding the effects of domestic violence on children, such as the emotional impacts of domestic violence on children and the long-term consequences that exposure to incidents of domestic violence may have on children.

(5) Satisfactory completion of treatment must be contingent upon the perpetrator meeting specific criteria, defined by rule by the secretary of the department, and not just upon the end of a certain period of time or a certain number of sessions.

(6) The program must have policies and procedures for dealing with reoffenses and noncompliance.

(7) All evaluation and treatment services must be provided by, or under the supervision of, qualified personnel.

(8) The secretary of the department may adopt rules and establish fees as necessary to implement this section.

(9) The department may conduct on-site monitoring visits as part of its plan for certifying domestic violence perpetrator programs and monitoring implementation of the rules adopted by the secretary of the department to determine compliance with the minimum qualifications for domestic violence perpetrator programs. The applicant or certified domestic violence perpetrator program shall cooperate fully with the department in the monitoring visit and provide all program and management records requested by the department to determine the program's compliance with the minimum certification qualifications and rules adopted by the department. [2010 c 274 § 501; 1999 c 147 § 1; 1991 c 301 § 7.]

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**Finding—1991 c 301:** See note following RCW 10.99.020.

#### **26.50.160 Judicial information system—Database.**

To prevent the issuance of competing protection orders in different courts and to give courts needed information for issuance of orders, the judicial information system shall be available in each district, municipal, and superior court by July 1, 1997, and shall include a database containing the following information:

(1) The names of the parties and the cause number for every order of protection issued under this title, every sexual assault protection order issued under chapter 7.90 RCW, every criminal no-contact order issued under chapters 9A.46

and 10.99 RCW, every antiharassment order issued under chapter 10.14 RCW, every dissolution action under chapter 26.09 RCW, every third-party custody action under chapter 26.10 RCW, every parentage action under chapter 26.26 RCW, every restraining order issued on behalf of an abused child or adult dependent person under chapter 26.44 RCW, every foreign protection order filed under chapter 26.52 RCW, and every order for protection of a vulnerable adult under chapter 74.34 RCW. When a guardian or the department of social and health services has petitioned for relief on behalf of an abused child, adult dependent person, or vulnerable adult, the name of the person on whose behalf relief was sought shall be included in the database as a party rather than the guardian or department;

(2) A criminal history of the parties; and

(3) Other relevant information necessary to assist courts in issuing orders under this chapter as determined by the judicial information system committee. [2006 c 138 § 26. Prior: 2000 c 119 § 25; 2000 c 51 § 1; 1995 c 246 § 18.]

**Short title—2006 c 138:** See RCW 7.90.900.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.165 Judicial information system—Names of adult cohabitants in third-party custody actions.** In addition to the information required to be included in the judicial information system under RCW 26.50.160, the database shall contain the names of any adult cohabitant of a petitioner to a third-party custody action under chapter 26.10 RCW. [2003 c 105 § 4.]

**26.50.200 Title to real estate—Effect.** Nothing in this chapter may affect the title to real estate: PROVIDED, That a judgment for costs or fees awarded under this chapter shall constitute a lien on real estate to the extent provided in chapter 4.56 RCW. [1985 c 303 § 7; 1984 c 263 § 15.]

**26.50.210 Proceedings additional.** Any proceeding under chapter 263, Laws of 1984 is in addition to other civil or criminal remedies. [1984 c 263 § 16.]

**26.50.220 Parenting plan—Designation of parent for other state and federal purposes.** Solely for the purposes of all other state and federal statutes which require a designation or determination of custody, a parenting plan shall designate the parent with whom the child is scheduled to reside a majority of the time as the custodian of the child. However, this designation shall not affect either parent's rights and responsibilities under the parenting plan. In the absence of such a designation, the parent with whom the child is scheduled to reside the majority of the time shall be deemed to be the custodian of the child for the purposes of such federal and state statutes. [1989 c 375 § 26.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.50.230 Protection order against person with a disability, brain injury, or impairment.** (1) The administrative office of the courts shall update the law enforcement information form which it provides for the use of a petitioner who is seeking an ex parte protection order in such a fashion as to prompt the person to disclose on the form whether the

person who the petitioner is seeking to restrain has a disability, brain injury, or impairment requiring special assistance.

(2) Any peace officer who serves a protection order on a respondent with the knowledge that the respondent requires special assistance due to a disability, brain injury, or impairment shall make a reasonable effort to accommodate the needs of the respondent to the extent practicable without compromise to the safety of the petitioner. [2010 c 274 § 303.]

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**26.50.240 Personal jurisdiction—Nonresident individuals.** (1) In a proceeding in which a petition for an order for protection under this chapter is sought, a court of this state may exercise personal jurisdiction over a nonresident individual if:

(a) The individual is personally served with a petition within this state;

(b) The individual submits to the jurisdiction of this state by consent, entering a general appearance, or filing a responsive document having the effect of waiving any objection to consent to personal jurisdiction;

(c) The act or acts of the individual or the individual's agent giving rise to the petition or enforcement of an order for protection occurred within this state;

(d)(i) The act or acts of the individual or the individual's agent giving rise to the petition or enforcement of an order for protection occurred outside this state and are part of an ongoing pattern of domestic violence or stalking that has an adverse effect on the petitioner or a member of the petitioner's family or household and the petitioner resides in this state; or

(ii) As a result of acts of domestic violence or stalking, the petitioner or a member of the petitioner's family or household has sought safety or protection in this state and currently resides in this state; or

(e) There is any other basis consistent with RCW 4.28.185 or with the Constitutions of this state and the United States.

(2) For jurisdiction to be exercised under subsection (1)(d)(i) or (ii) of this section, the individual must have communicated with the petitioner or a member of the petitioner's family, directly or indirectly, or made known a threat to the safety of the petitioner or member of the petitioner's family while the petitioner or family member resides in this state. For the purposes of subsection (1)(d)(i) or (ii) of this section, "communicated or made known" includes, but is not limited to, through the mail, telephonically, or a posting on an electronic communication site or medium. Communication on any electronic medium that is generally available to any individual residing in the state shall be sufficient to exercise jurisdiction under subsection (1)(d)(i) or (ii) of this section.

(3) For the purposes of this section, an act or acts that "occurred within this state" includes, but is not limited to, an oral or written statement made or published by a person outside of this state to any person in this state by means of the mail, interstate commerce, or foreign commerce. Oral or written statements sent by electronic mail or the internet are deemed to have "occurred within this state." [2010 c 274 § 306.]

**Intent—2010 c 274:** See note following RCW 10.31.100.

**26.50.250 Disclosure of information.** (1)(a) No court or administrative body may compel any person or domestic violence program as defined in RCW 70.123.020 to disclose the name, address, or location of any domestic violence program, including a shelter or transitional housing facility location, in any civil or criminal case or in any administrative proceeding unless the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that disclosure is necessary for the implementation of justice after consideration of safety and confidentiality concerns of the parties and other residents of the domestic violence program, and other alternatives to disclosure that would protect the interests of the parties.

(b) The court's findings shall be made following a hearing in which the domestic violence program has been provided notice of the request for disclosure and an opportunity to respond.

(2) In any proceeding where the confidential name, address, or location of a domestic violence program is ordered to be disclosed, the court shall order that the parties be prohibited from further dissemination of the confidential information, and that any portion of any records containing such confidential information be sealed.

(3) Any person who obtains access to and intentionally and maliciously releases confidential information about the location of a domestic violence program for any purpose other than required by a court proceeding is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2012 c 223 § 9.]

**26.50.800 Recidivism study.** (1) The Washington state institute for public policy shall conduct a statewide study to assess recidivism by domestic violence offenders involved in the criminal justice system, examine effective community supervision practices of domestic violence offenders as it relates to Washington state institute for public policy findings on evidence-based community supervision, and assess domestic violence perpetrator treatment. The institute shall report recidivism rates of domestic violence offenders in Washington, and if data is available, the report must also include an estimate of the number of domestic violence offenders sentenced to certified domestic violence perpetrator treatment in Washington state and completion rates for those entering treatment.

(2) The study must be done in collaboration with the Washington state gender and justice commission and experts on domestic violence and must include a review and update of the literature on domestic violence perpetrator treatment, and provide a description of studies used in meta-analysis of domestic violence perpetrator treatment. The institute shall report on other treatments and programs, including related findings on evidence-based community supervision, that are effective at reducing recidivism among the general offender population. The institute shall survey other states to study how misdemeanor and felony domestic violence cases are handled and assess whether domestic violence perpetrator treatment is required by law and whether a treatment modality is codified in law. The institute shall complete the review and report results to the legislature by January 1, 2013. [2012 c 223 § 10.]

**26.50.900 Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the "Domestic Violence Prevention Act". [1984 c 263 § 1.]

**26.50.901 Effective date—1984 c 263.** Sections 1 through 29 of this act shall take effect on September 1, 1984. [1984 c 263 § 32.]

**26.50.902 Severability—1984 c 263.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1984 c 263 § 33.]

**26.50.903 Severability—1992 c 111.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1992 c 111 § 14.]



## Chapter 26.52 RCW

# FOREIGN PROTECTION ORDER FULL FAITH AND CREDIT ACT

### Sections

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26.52.902	Severability—1999 c 184.

**26.52.005 Findings—Intent.** The problem of women fleeing across state lines to escape their abusers is epidemic in the United States. In 1994, Congress enacted the violence against women act (VAWA) as Title IV of the violent crime control and law enforcement act (P.L. 103-322). The VAWA provides for improved prevention and prosecution of violent crimes against women and children. Section 2265 of the VAWA (Title IV, P.L. 103-322) provides for nationwide enforcement of civil and criminal protection orders in state and tribal courts throughout the country.

The legislature finds that existing statutes may not provide an adequate mechanism for victims, police, prosecutors, and courts to enforce a foreign protection order in our state. It is the intent of the legislature that the barriers faced by persons entitled to protection under a foreign protection order will be removed and that violations of foreign protection orders be criminally prosecuted in this state. [1999 c 184 § 2.]

**26.52.010 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Domestic or family violence" includes, but is not limited to, conduct when committed by one family member against another that is classified in the jurisdiction where the conduct occurred as a domestic violence crime or a crime committed in another jurisdiction that under the laws of this state would be classified as domestic violence under RCW 10.99.020.

(2) "Family or household members" means spouses, former spouses, persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time, adult persons related by blood or marriage, adult persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past, persons sixteen years of age or older who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past and who have or have had a dating relationship, persons sixteen years of age or older with whom a person sixteen years of age or older has or has had a dating

relationship, and persons who have a biological or legal parent-child relationship, including stepparents and stepchildren and grandparents and grandchildren.

(3) "Foreign protection order" means an injunction or other order related to domestic or family violence, harassment, sexual abuse, or stalking, for the purpose of preventing violent or threatening acts or harassment against, or contact or communication with or physical proximity to another person issued by a court of another state, territory, or possession of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia, or any United States military tribunal, or a tribal court, in a civil or criminal action.

(4) "Harassment" includes, but is not limited to, conduct that is classified in the jurisdiction where the conduct occurred as harassment or a crime committed in another jurisdiction that under the laws of this state would be classified as harassment under RCW 9A.46.040.

(5) "Judicial day" does not include Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays in Washington state.

(6) "Person entitled to protection" means a person, regardless of whether the person was the moving party in the foreign jurisdiction, who is benefited by the foreign protection order.

(7) "Person under restraint" means a person, regardless of whether the person was the responding party in the foreign jurisdiction, whose ability to contact or communicate with another person, or to be physically close to another person, is restricted by the foreign protection order.

(8) "Sexual abuse" includes, but is not limited to, conduct that is classified in the jurisdiction where the conduct occurred as a sex offense or a crime committed in another jurisdiction that under the laws of this state would be classified as a sex offense under RCW 9.94A.030.

(9) "Stalking" includes, but is not limited to, conduct that is classified in the jurisdiction where the conduct occurred as stalking or a crime committed in another jurisdiction that under the laws of this state would be classified as stalking under RCW 9A.46.110.

(10) "Washington court" includes the superior, district, and municipal courts of the state of Washington. [1999 c 184 § 3.]

**26.52.020 Foreign protection orders—Validity.** A foreign protection order is valid if the issuing court had jurisdiction over the parties and matter under the law of the state, territory, possession, tribe, or United States military tribunal. There is a presumption in favor of validity where an order appears authentic on its face.

A person under restraint must be given reasonable notice and the opportunity to be heard before the order of the foreign state, territory, possession, tribe, or United States military tribunal was issued, provided, in the case of ex parte orders,

notice and opportunity to be heard was given as soon as possible after the order was issued, consistent with due process. [1999 c 184 § 4.]

**26.52.030 Foreign protection orders—Filing—Assistance.** (1) A person entitled to protection who has a valid foreign protection order may file that order by presenting a certified, authenticated, or exemplified copy of the foreign protection order to a clerk of the court of a Washington court in which the person entitled to protection resides or to a clerk of the court of a Washington court where the person entitled to protection believes enforcement may be necessary. Any out-of-state department, agency, or court responsible for maintaining protection order records, may by facsimile or electronic transmission send a reproduction of the foreign protection order to the clerk of the court of Washington as long as it contains a facsimile or digital signature by any person authorized to make such transmission.

(2) Filing of a foreign protection order with a court and entry of the foreign protection order into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants are not prerequisites for enforcement of the foreign protection order.

(3) The court shall accept the filing of a foreign protection order without a fee or cost.

(4) The clerk of the court shall provide information to a person entitled to protection of the availability of domestic violence, sexual abuse, and other services to victims in the community where the court is located and in the state.

(5) The clerk of the court shall assist the person entitled to protection in completing an information form that must include, but need not be limited to, the following:

(a) The name of the person entitled to protection and any other protected parties;

(b) The name and address of the person who is subject to the restraint provisions of the foreign protection order;

(c) The date the foreign protection order was entered;

(d) The date the foreign protection order expires;

(e) The relief granted under . . . . . (specify the relief awarded and citations thereto, and designate which of the violations are arrestable offenses);

(f) The judicial district and contact information for court administration for the court in which the foreign protection order was entered;

(g) The social security number, date of birth, and description of the person subject to the restraint provisions of the foreign protection order;

(h) Whether the person who is subject to the restraint provisions of the foreign protection order is believed to be armed and dangerous;

(i) Whether the person who is subject to the restraint provisions of the foreign protection order was served with the order, and if so, the method used to serve the order;

(j) The type and location of any other legal proceedings between the person who is subject to the restraint provisions and the person entitled to protection.

An inability to answer any of the above questions does not preclude the filing or enforcement of a foreign protection order.

(6) The clerk of the court shall provide the person entitled to protection with a copy bearing proof of filing with the court.

(7) Any assistance provided by the clerk under this section does not constitute the practice of law. The clerk is not liable for any incomplete or incorrect information that he or she is provided. [1999 c 184 § 5.]

**26.52.040 Filed foreign protection orders—Transmittal to law enforcement agency—Entry into law enforcement information system.** (1) The clerk of the court shall forward a copy of a foreign protection order that is filed under this chapter on or before the next judicial day to the county sheriff along with the completed information form. The clerk may forward the foreign protection order to the county sheriff by facsimile or electronic transmission.

Upon receipt of a filed foreign protection order, the county sheriff shall immediately enter the foreign protection order into any computer-based criminal intelligence information system available in this state used by law enforcement agencies to list outstanding warrants. The foreign protection order must remain in the computer for the period stated in the order. The county sheriff shall only expunge from the computer-based criminal intelligence information system foreign protection orders that are expired, vacated, or superseded. Entry into the law enforcement information system constitutes notice to all law enforcement agencies of the existence of the foreign protection order. The foreign protection order is fully enforceable in any county in the state.

(2) The information entered into the computer-based criminal intelligence information system must include, if available, notice to law enforcement whether the foreign protection order was served and the method of service. [1999 c 184 § 6.]

**26.52.050 Peace officer immunity.** A peace officer or a peace officer's legal advisor may not be held criminally or civilly liable for making an arrest under this chapter if the peace officer or the peace officer's legal advisor acted in good faith and without malice. [1999 c 184 § 7.]

**26.52.060 Fees not permitted for filing, preparation, or copies.** A public agency may not charge a fee for filing or preparation of certified, authenticated, or exemplified copies to a person entitled to protection who seeks relief under this chapter or to a foreign prosecutor or a foreign law enforcement agency seeking to enforce a protection order entered by a Washington court. A person entitled to protection and foreign prosecutors or law enforcement agencies must be provided the necessary number of certified, authenticated, or exemplified copies at no cost. [1999 c 184 § 8.]

**26.52.070 Violation of foreign orders—Penalties.** (1) Whenever a foreign protection order is granted to a person entitled to protection and the person under restraint knows of the foreign protection order, a violation of a provision prohibiting the person under restraint from contacting or communicating with another person, or of a provision excluding the person under restraint from a residence, workplace, school, or day care, or of a provision prohibiting a person from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a spec-

ified distance of a location, or a violation of any provision for which the foreign protection order specifically indicates that a violation will be a crime, is punishable under RCW 26.50.110.

(2) A peace officer shall arrest without a warrant and take into custody a person when the peace officer has probable cause to believe that a foreign protection order has been issued of which the person under restraint has knowledge and the person under restraint has violated a provision of the foreign protection order that prohibits the person under restraint from contacting or communicating with another person, or a provision that excludes the person under restraint from a residence, workplace, school, or day care, or of a provision prohibiting a person from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of a location, or a violation of any provision for which the foreign protection order specifically indicates that a violation will be a crime. Presence of the order in the law enforcement computer-based criminal intelligence information system is not the only means of establishing knowledge of the order. [2000 c 119 § 26; 1999 c 184 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**26.52.080 Child custody disputes.** (1) Any disputes regarding provisions in foreign protection orders dealing with custody of children, residential placement of children, or visitation with children shall be resolved judicially. The proper venue and jurisdiction for such judicial proceedings shall be determined in accordance with chapter 26.27 RCW and in accordance with the parental kidnapping prevention act, 28 U.S.C. 1738A.

(2) A peace officer shall not remove a child from his or her current placement unless:

(a) A writ of habeas corpus to produce the child has been issued by a superior court of this state; or

(b) There is probable cause to believe that the child is abused or neglected and the child would be injured or could not be taken into custody if it were necessary to first obtain a court order pursuant to RCW 13.34.050. [1999 c 184 § 10.]

**26.52.900 Short title—1999 c 184.** This act may be known and cited as the foreign protection order full faith and credit act. [1999 c 184 § 1.]

**26.52.901 Captions not law—1999 c 184.** Captions used in this chapter are not part of the law. [1999 c 184 § 16.]

**26.52.902 Severability—1999 c 184.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1999 c 184 § 17.]

# Title 46

## MOTOR VEHICLES

### Chapters

- 46.01 Department of licensing.
- 46.04 Definitions.
- 46.08 General provisions.
- 46.09 Off-road and nonhighway vehicles.
- 46.10 Snowmobiles.
- 46.12 Certificates of title.
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- 46.17 Vehicle fees.
- 46.18 Special license plates.
- 46.19 Special parking privileges for persons with disabilities.
- 46.20 Drivers' licenses—Identical cards.
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### Crimes

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driving while intoxicated while engaged in occupational duties: RCW 9.91.020.*

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*taking motor vehicle without permission in the first or second degree:  
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*Emission control program: Chapter 70.120 RCW.*

*Explosives, regulation: Chapter 70.74 RCW.*

*Fireworks, regulation, transportation: Chapter 70.77 RCW.*

*Highway funds, use, constitutional limitations: State Constitution Art. 2 § 40  
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*Hulk haulers and scrap processors: Chapter 46.79 RCW.*

*Juveniles, court to forward record to director of licensing: RCW 13.50.200.*

*Leases: Chapter 62A.2A RCW.*

*"Lemon Law": Chapter 19.118 RCW.*

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### Motor vehicle

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*Motor vehicle fund income from United States securities—Exemption from  
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## Chapter 46.01 RCW DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING

### Sections

- 46.01.011 Purpose.
- 46.01.020 Department created.
- 46.01.030 Administration and improvement of certain motor vehicle laws.
- 46.01.040 Powers, duties, and functions relating to motor vehicle laws vested in department.
- 46.01.070 Functions performed by state patrol as agent for director of licenses transferred to department.
- 46.01.100 Organization of department.
- 46.01.110 Rule-making authority.
- 46.01.115 Rules to implement 1998 c 165.
- 46.01.130 Powers and duties of director—Personnel screening, appointment of county auditors as agents.
- 46.01.135 Establishment of investigation unit—Use of criminal history information.
- 46.01.140 County auditors, agents, and subagents—Powers and duties—Standard contracts—Rules.
- 46.01.150 Branch offices.
- 46.01.160 Forms for applications, certificates of title, registration certificates, etc.
- 46.01.170 Seal.

- 46.01.180 Oaths and acknowledgments.
- 46.01.190 Designation of state patrol as agent for surrender of drivers' licenses.
- 46.01.230 Payment by check or money order—Dishonored checks or money orders—Failure to surrender canceled certificate, registration, or permit—Immunity from payment of uncollected fees—Rules.
- 46.01.235 Payment by credit or debit card.
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- 46.01.250 Certified copies of records—Fee.
- 46.01.260 Destruction of records by director.
- 46.01.270 Destruction of records by county auditor or other agent.
- 46.01.290 Director to make annual reports to governor.
- 46.01.310 Immunity of director, the state, county auditors, agents, and subagents.
- 46.01.315 Immunity of director, the state, licensed driver training schools, and school districts in administering knowledge and driving portions of driver licensing examination.
- 46.01.320 Title and registration advisory committee.
- 46.01.325 Agent and subagent fees—Analysis and evaluation.
- 46.01.330 Facilities siting coordination.
- 46.01.340 Database of fuel dealer and distributor license information.
- 46.01.350 Fuel tax advisory group.
- 46.01.360 Fees—Study and adjustment.
- 46.01.370 Authority to sell and distribute discover passes and day-use permits.

*Extension or modification of licensing, certification, or registration period authorized—Rules and regulations, manner and content: RCW 43.24.140.*

*Gambling commission, administrator and staff for: RCW 9.46.080.*

*Health, department of, functions transferred to: RCW 43.70.901.*

*Public bodies may retain collection agencies to collect public debts—Fees: RCW 19.16.500.*

**46.01.011 Purpose.** The legislature finds that the department of licensing administers laws relating to the licensing and regulation of professions, businesses, and other activities in addition to administering laws relating to the licensing and regulation of vehicles and vehicle operators, dealers, and manufacturers. The laws administered by the department have the common denominator of licensing and regulation and are directed toward protecting and enhancing the well-being of the residents of the state. [2010 c 161 § 201; 1994 c 92 § 500; 1979 c 158 § 113; 1977 ex.s. c 334 § 1.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.01.020 Department created.** A department of the government of this state to be known as the "department of licensing" is hereby created. [1979 c 158 § 114; 1977 ex.s. c 334 § 2; 1965 c 156 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.01.030 Administration and improvement of certain motor vehicle laws.** The department is responsible for administering and recommending the improvement of the motor vehicle laws of this state relating to:

- (1) Driver examining and licensing;
- (2) Driver improvement;
- (3) Driver records;
- (4) Financial responsibility;
- (5) Certificates of title;
- (6) Vehicle registration certificates and license plates;
- (7) Proration and reciprocity;
- (8) Liquid fuel tax collections;

(9) Licensing of dealers, motor vehicle transporters, motor vehicle wreckers, for hire vehicles, and drivers' schools;

(10) General highway safety promotion in cooperation with the Washington state patrol and traffic safety commission; and

(11) Such other activities as the legislature may provide. [2010 c 161 § 1107; 1990 c 250 § 14; 1965 c 156 § 3.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.01.040 Powers, duties, and functions relating to motor vehicle laws vested in department.** The department is vested with all powers, functions, and duties with respect to and including the following:

(1) The motor vehicle fuel excise tax as provided in chapter 82.36 RCW;

(2) The special fuel tax as provided in chapter 82.38 RCW;

(3) The motor vehicle excise tax as provided in chapter 82.44 RCW;

(4) The travel trailers and campers excise tax as provided in chapter 82.50 RCW;

(5) All general powers and duties relating to motor vehicles as provided in chapter 46.08 RCW;

(6) Certificates of title and registration certificates as provided in chapters 46.12 and 46.16A RCW;

(7) The registration of motor vehicles as provided in chapter 46.16A RCW;

(8) Dealers' licenses as provided in chapter 46.70 RCW;

(9) The licensing of motor vehicle transporters as provided in chapter 46.76 RCW;

(10) The licensing of vehicle wreckers as provided in chapter 46.80 RCW;

(11) The administration of the laws relating to reciprocal or proportional registration of motor vehicles as provided in chapter 46.85 RCW;

(12) The licensing of passenger vehicles for hire as provided in chapter 46.72 RCW;

(13) Drivers' licenses as provided in chapter 46.20 RCW;

(14) Commercial driver training schools as provided in chapter 46.82 RCW;

(15) Financial responsibility as provided in chapter 46.29 RCW;

(16) Accident reporting as provided in chapter 46.52 RCW;

(17) Disposition of revenues as provided in chapter 46.68 RCW; and

(18) The administration of all other laws relating to motor vehicles vested in the director of licenses on June 30, 1965. [2011 c 171 § 10; 2010 c 161 § 1108; 1983 c 3 § 117; 1979 c 158 § 115; 1965 c 156 § 4.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.01.070 Functions performed by state patrol as agent for director of licenses transferred to department.** Functions named in RCW 46.01.030 which have been performed by the state patrol as agent of the director of licenses before June 30, 1965 shall be performed by the department of licensing after June 30, 1965. [1979 c 158 § 118; 1965 c 156 § 7.]

**46.01.100 Organization of department.** Directors shall organize the department in such manner as they may deem necessary to segregate and conduct the work of the department. [1990 c 250 § 16; 1965 c 156 § 10.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.01.110 Rule-making authority.** The director may adopt and enforce rules to carry out provisions related to vehicle registrations, certificates of title, and drivers' licenses. These rules must not be based:

- (1) Solely on a section of law stating a statute's intent or purpose;
- (2) On the enabling provisions of the statute establishing the agency; or
- (3) On any combination of subsections (1) and (2) of this section. [2010 c 161 § 202; 1995 c 403 § 108; 1979 c 158 § 120; 1965 c 156 § 11; 1961 c 12 § 46.08.140. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 79; RRS § 6312-79. Formerly RCW 46.08.140.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Findings—Short title—Intent—1995 c 403:** See note following RCW 34.05.328.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.01.115 Rules to implement 1998 c 165.** The department of licensing may adopt rules as necessary to implement chapter 165, Laws of 1998. [1998 c 165 § 14.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.01.130 Powers and duties of director—Personnel screening, appointment of county auditors as agents.** The director:

- (1) Shall supervise and control the issuing of vehicle certificates of title, vehicle registrations, and vehicle license plates, and has the full power to do all things necessary and proper to carry out the provisions of the law relating to the registration of vehicles;
- (2) May appoint and employ deputies, assistants, representatives, and clerks;
- (3) May establish branch offices in different parts of the state;
- (4) May appoint county auditors in Washington state or, in the absence of a county auditor, the department or an official of county government as agents for applications for and the issuance of vehicle certificates of title and vehicle registrations; and
- (5)(a) Shall investigate the conviction records and pending charges of any current employee of or prospective employee being considered for any position with the department that has or will have:

(i) The ability to create or modify records of applicants for enhanced drivers' licenses and identicards issued under RCW 46.20.202; and

(ii) The ability to issue enhanced drivers' licenses and identicards under RCW 46.20.202.

(b) The investigation consists of a background check as authorized under RCW 10.97.050, 43.43.833, and 43.43.834, and the federal bureau of investigation. The background check must be conducted through the Washington state patrol criminal identification section and may include a national check from the federal bureau of investigation, which is through the submission of fingerprints. The director shall use the information solely to determine the character, suitability, and competence of current or prospective employees subject to this section.

(c) The director shall investigate the conviction records and pending charges of an employee subject to this subsection every five years.

(d) Criminal justice agencies shall provide the director with information that they may possess and that the director may require solely to determine the employment suitability of current or prospective employees subject to this section. [2010 c 161 § 203; 2009 c 169 § 1; 1979 c 158 § 121; 1973 c 103 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 231 § 8; 1965 c 156 § 13; 1961 c 12 § 46.08.090. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 26; RRS § 6312-26; prior: 1921 c 96 § 3, part; 1917 c 155 § 2, part; 1915 c 142 § 3, part. Formerly RCW 46.08.090.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.01.135 Establishment of investigation unit—Use of criminal history information.** (1) There is established an investigation unit within the department for the purpose of detection, investigation, and prosecution of any act prohibited or declared to be unlawful in the programs administered by the department. The director will employ qualified supervisory, legal, and investigative personnel for the program. Program staff must be qualified by training and experience.

(2) The director and the investigation unit are authorized to receive criminal history record information that includes nonconviction data for any purpose associated with an investigation conducted by the investigation unit established under this section. Dissemination or use of nonconviction data for purposes other than that authorized in this section is prohibited. [2008 c 74 § 6.]

**Finding—2008 c 74:** See note following RCW 51.04.024.

**46.01.140 County auditors, agents, and subagents—Powers and duties—Standard contracts—Rules.** (1) **County auditor/agent duties.** A county auditor or other agent appointed by the director must:

- (a) Enter into a standard contract provided by the director;
- (b) Provide all services authorized by the director for vehicle certificates of title and vehicle registration applications and issuance under the direction and supervision of the director including, but not limited to:
  - (i) Processing reports of sale;
  - (ii) Processing transitional ownership transactions;

(iii) Processing mail-in vehicle registration renewals until directed otherwise by legislative authority;

(iv) Issuing registrations and temporary ORV use permits for off-road vehicles as required under chapter 46.09 RCW;

(v) Issuing registrations for snowmobiles as required under chapter 46.10 RCW; and

(vi) Collecting fees and taxes as required;

(c) If authorized by the director, offer for sale discover passes as provided in chapter 79A.80 RCW.

(2) **County auditor/agent assistants and subagents.** A county auditor or other agent appointed by the director may, with approval of the director:

(a) Appoint assistants as special deputies to accept applications for vehicle certificates of title and to issue vehicle registrations; and

(b) Recommend and request that the director appoint subagencies within the county to accept applications for vehicle certificates of title and vehicle registration application issuance.

(3) **Appointing subagents.** A county auditor or other agent appointed by the director who requests a subagency must, with approval of the director:

(a) Use an open competitive process including, but not limited to, a written business proposal and oral interview to determine the qualifications of all interested applicants; and

(b) Submit all proposals to the director with a recommendation for appointment of one or more subagents who have applied through the open competitive process. If a qualified successor who is an existing subagent's sibling, spouse, or child, or a subagency employee has applied, the county auditor must provide the name of the qualified successor and the name of one other applicant who is qualified and was chosen through the open competitive process.

(4) **Subagent duties.** A subagent appointed by the director must:

(a) Enter into a standard contract with the county auditor or agent provided by the director;

(b) Provide all services authorized by the director for vehicle certificates of title and vehicle registration applications and issuance under the direction and supervision of the county auditor or agent and the director including, but not limited to:

(i) Processing reports of sale;

(ii) Processing transitional ownership transactions;

(iii) Mailing out vehicle registrations and replacement plates to internet payment option customers until directed otherwise by legislative authority;

(iv) Issuing registrations and temporary ORV use permits for off-road vehicles as required under chapter 46.09 RCW;

(v) Issuing registrations for snowmobiles as required under chapter 46.10 RCW; and

(vi) Collecting fees and taxes as required; and

(c) If authorized by the director, offer for sale discover passes as provided in chapter 79A.80 RCW.

(5) **Subagent successorship.** A subagent appointed by the director who no longer wants his or her appointment may recommend a successor who is the subagent's sibling, spouse, or child, or a subagency employee. The recommended successor must participate in the open competitive

process used to select an applicant. In making successor recommendations and appointment determinations, the following provisions apply:

(a) If a subagency is held by a partnership or corporate entity, the nomination must be submitted on behalf of, and agreed to by, all partners or corporate officers;

(b) A subagent may not receive any direct or indirect compensation or remuneration from any party or entity in recognition of a successor nomination. A subagent may not receive any financial benefit from the transfer or termination of an appointment; and

(c) The appointment of a successor is intended to assist in the efficient transfer of appointments to minimize public inconvenience. The appointment of a successor does not create a proprietary or property interest in the appointment.

(6) **Standard contracts.** The standard contracts provided by the director in this section may include provisions that the director deems necessary to ensure that readily accessible and acceptable service is provided to the citizens of the state, including the full collection of fees and taxes. The standard contracts must include provisions that:

(a) Describe responsibilities and liabilities of each party related to service expectations and levels;

(b) Describe the equipment to be supplied by the department and equipment maintenance;

(c) Require specific types of insurance or bonds, or both, to protect the state against any loss of collected revenue or loss of equipment;

(d) Specify the amount of training that will be provided by each of the parties;

(e) Describe allowable costs that may be charged for vehicle registration activities as described in subsection (7) of this section; and

(f) Describe causes and procedures for termination of the contract, which may include mediation and binding arbitration.

(7) **County auditor/agent cost reimbursement.** A county auditor or other agent appointed by the director who does not cover expenses for services provided by the standard contract may submit to the department a request for cost-coverage moneys. The request must be submitted on a form developed by the department. The department must develop procedures to standardize and identify allowable costs and to verify whether a request is reasonable. Payment must be made on those requests found to be allowable from the licensing services account.

(8) **County auditor/agent revenue disbursement.** County revenues that exceed the cost of providing services described in the standard contract, calculated in accordance with the procedures in subsection (7) of this section, must be expended as determined by the county legislative authority during the process established by law for adoption of county budgets.

(9) **Appointment authority.** The director has final appointment authority for county auditors or other agents or subagents.

(10) **Rules.** The director may adopt rules to implement this section. [2012 c 261 § 10; 2011 c 171 § 11. Prior: 2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 139; 2010 c 221 § 1; 2010 c 161 § 204; 2005 c 343 § 1; 2003 c 370 § 3; 2001 c 331 § 1; 1996 c 315 § 1; 1992 c 216 § 1; 1991 c 339 § 16; 1990 c 250 § 89; 1988 c 12 § 1;

1987 c 302 § 1; 1985 c 380 § 12; prior: 1983 c 77 § 1; 1983 c 26 § 1; 1980 c 114 § 2; 1979 c 158 § 122; 1975 1st ex.s. c 146 § 1; 1973 c 103 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 231 § 9; 1971 ex.s. c 91 § 3; 1965 c 156 § 14; 1963 c 85 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.08.100; prior: 1955 c 89 § 3; 1937 c 188 § 27; RRS § 6312-27. Formerly RCW 46.08.100.]

**Effective date—2012 c 261:** See note following RCW 79A.80.010.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—2010 1st sp.s. c 26; 2010 1st sp.s. c 7:** See note following RCW 43.03.027.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Application—2003 c 370:** "Sections 2 and 3 of this act take effect for renewals that are due or become due on or after November 1, 2003." [2003 c 370 § 6.] Section 2 of this act was vetoed by the governor.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.01.150 Branch offices.** The department may maintain such branch offices within the state as the director may deem necessary properly to carry out the powers and duties vested in the department. [1965 c 156 § 15.]

*Office of department, maintenance at state capital:* RCW 43.17.050.

**46.01.160 Forms for applications, certificates of title, registration certificates, etc.** The director shall prescribe and provide suitable forms of applications, certificates of title and registration certificates, drivers' licenses, and all other forms and licenses requisite or deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this title and any other laws the enforcement and administration of which are vested in the department. [2010 c 161 § 1109; 1965 c 156 § 16.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

*Director to prescribe forms for applications, licenses, and certificates:* RCW 43.24.040.

**46.01.170 Seal.** The department shall have an official seal with the words "Department of Licensing of Washington" engraved thereon. [1977 ex.s. c 334 § 4; 1965 c 156 § 17.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.01.180 Oaths and acknowledgments.** Officers and employees of the department designated by the director are, for the purpose of administering the motor vehicle laws, authorized to administer oaths and acknowledge signatures and shall do so without fee. [1965 c 156 § 18.]

*Oath of director:* RCW 43.17.030.

**46.01.190 Designation of state patrol as agent for surrender of drivers' licenses.** The director of licensing may designate the Washington state patrol as an agent to secure the surrender of drivers' licenses which have been suspended, revoked, or canceled pursuant to law. [1979 c 158 § 123; 1965 c 156 § 19.]

**46.01.230 Payment by check or money order—Dishonored checks or money orders—Failure to surrender canceled certificate, registration, or permit—Immunity**

**from payment of uncollected fees—Rules.** (1) The department may accept checks and money orders for the payment of drivers' licenses, certificates of title and vehicle registrations, vehicle excise taxes, gross weight fees, and other fees and taxes collected by the department. Whenever registrations, licenses, or permits have been paid for by checks or money orders that have been dishonored by nonacceptance or nonpayment, the department shall:

(a) Cancel the registration, license, or permit;

(b) Send a notice of cancellation by first-class mail using the last known address in department records for the holder of the certificate, license, or permit, and complete an affidavit of first-class mail; and

(c) Assess a handling fee, set by rule.

(2) It is a traffic infraction to fail to surrender a certificate of title, registration certificate, or permit to the department or to an authorized agent within ten days of being notified that the certificate, registration, or permit has been canceled.

(3) County auditors, agents, and subagents appointed by the director may collect restitution for dishonored checks and money orders and keep the handling fee.

(4) A person who has recently acquired a vehicle by purchase, exchange, gift, lease, inheritance, or legal action is not liable or responsible for the payment of uncollected fees and taxes that were paid for by a predecessor's check or money order that was subsequently dishonored. The department may not deny an application to transfer ownership for the uncollected amount.

(5) The director may adopt rules to implement this section. The rules must provide for the public's convenience consistent with sound business practice and encourage annual renewal of vehicle registrations by mail, authorizing checks and money orders for payment. [2010 c 161 § 205; 2003 c 369 § 1; 1994 c 262 § 1; 1992 c 216 § 2; 1987 c 302 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 39; 1979 c 158 § 124; 1975 c 52 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 44.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2003 c 369:** "This act takes effect October 1, 2003." [2003 c 369 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.01.235 Payment by credit or debit card.** The department may adopt necessary rules and procedures to allow use of credit and debit cards for payment of fees and excise taxes to the department and its agents or subagents related to the licensing of drivers, the issuance of identicards, and vehicle and vessel certificates of title and registration. The department may establish a convenience fee to be paid by the credit or debit card user whenever a credit or debit card is chosen as the payment method. The fee must be sufficient to offset the charges imposed on the department and its agents and subagents by credit and debit card companies. In no event may the use of credit or debit cards authorized by this section create a loss of revenue to the state.

The use of a personal credit card does not rely upon the credit of the state as prohibited by Article VIII, section 5 of the state Constitution. [2010 c 161 § 207; 2004 c 249 § 9; 1999 c 271 § 1.]



**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.01.240 Internet payment option.** (1) The department shall provide on its internet payment option web site:

(a) That a filing fee will be collected on all transactions subject to a filing fee;

(b) That a subagent service fee will be collected by a subagent office for mail or pick-up licensing services; and

(c) The amount of the filing and subagent service fees.

(2) The filing and subagent service fees must be shown below each office listed. [2010 c 161 § 206.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.01.250 Certified copies of records—Fee.** The director shall have the power and it shall be his or her duty upon request and payment of the fee as provided herein to furnish under seal of the director certified copies of any records of the department, except those for confidential use only. The director shall charge and collect therefor the actual cost to the department. Any funds accruing to the director of licensing under this section shall be certified and sent to the state treasurer and by him or her deposited to the credit of the highway safety fund. [2010 c 8 § 9001; 1979 c 158 § 125; 1967 c 32 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.08.110. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 80; RRS § 6312-80. Formerly RCW 46.08.110.]

**46.01.260 Destruction of records by director.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the director may destroy applications for vehicle registrations, copies of vehicle registrations issued, applications for drivers' licenses, copies of issued drivers' licenses, certificates of title and registration or other documents, and records or supporting papers on file in the department that have been micro-filmed or photographed or are more than five years old. The director may destroy applications for vehicle registrations that are renewal applications when the computer record of the applications has been updated.

(2)(a) The director shall not destroy records of convictions or adjudications of RCW 46.61.502, 46.61.504, 46.61.520, and 46.61.522, or records of deferred prosecutions granted under RCW 10.05.120 and shall maintain such records permanently on file.

(b) The director shall not, within fifteen years from the date of conviction or adjudication, destroy records if the offense was originally charged as one of the offenses designated in (a) of this subsection, convictions or adjudications of the following offenses: RCW 46.61.500 or 46.61.5249 or any other violation that was originally charged as one of the offenses designated in (a) of this subsection.

(c) For purposes of RCW 46.52.101 and 46.52.130, offenses subject to this subsection shall be considered "alcohol-related" offenses. [2010 c 161 § 208; 2009 c 276 § 2; 1999 c 86 § 2; 1998 c 207 § 3; 1997 c 66 § 11; 1996 c 199 § 4; 1994 c 275 § 14; 1984 c 241 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 22 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 45; 1961 c 12 § 46.08.120. Prior: 1955 c 76 § 1; 1951 c 241 § 1; 1937 c 188 § 77; RRS § 6312-77. Formerly RCW 46.08.120.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.01.270 Destruction of records by county auditor or other agent.** A county auditor or other agent appointed by the director may destroy applications for vehicle registrations and any copies of vehicle registrations or other records issued after those records have been on file in the county auditor's or other agent's office for a period of eighteen months, unless otherwise directed by the director. [2010 c 161 § 209; 1991 c 339 § 18; 1967 c 32 § 4; 1961 c 12 § 46.08.130. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 78; RRS § 6312-78. Formerly RCW 46.08.130.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.01.290 Director to make annual reports to governor.** The director shall report annually to the governor on the activities of the department. [1977 c 75 § 66; 1967 c 32 § 5; 1965 c 28 § 1; 1961 ex.s. c 21 § 29. Formerly RCW 46.08.200.]

**46.01.310 Immunity of director, the state, county auditors, agents, and subagents.** No civil suit or action may ever be commenced or prosecuted against the director, the state of Washington, any county auditor or other agents appointed by the director, any other government officer or entity, or against any other person, by reason of any act done or omitted to be done in connection with the titling or registration of vehicles or vessels while administering duties and responsibilities imposed on the director or as an agent of the director, or as a subagent of an agent of the director. This section does not bar the state of Washington or the director from bringing any action, whether civil or criminal, against any agent, nor shall it bar a county auditor or other agent of the director from bringing an action against the agent. [2010 c 161 § 210; 1987 c 302 § 3.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.01.315 Immunity of director, the state, licensed driver training schools, and school districts in administering knowledge and driving portions of driver licensing examination.** A civil suit or action may not be commenced or prosecuted against the director, the state of Washington, any driver training school licensed by the department, any other government officer or entity, including a school district or an employee of a school district, or against any other person, by reason of any act done or omitted to be done in connection with administering the portions of the driver licensing examination that test the applicant's knowledge of traffic laws and ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. This section does not bar the state of Washington or the director from bringing any action, whether civil or criminal, against any driver training school licensed by the department. [2011 c 370 § 3.]

**Intent—2011 c 370:** See note following RCW 28A.220.030.

**Inclusion of stakeholder groups in communications to facilitate transition of driver licensing examination administration—2011 c 370:** See note following RCW 46.82.450.

#### 46.01.320 Title and registration advisory committee.

**Reviser's note:** RCW 46.01.320 was amended by 2010 c 161 § 1110 without reference to its repeal by 2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 137. It has been decodified for publication purposes under RCW 1.12.025.

**46.01.325 Agent and subagent fees—Analysis and evaluation.** (1) The director shall prepare an annual comprehensive analysis and evaluation of agent and subagent fees. The director shall make recommendations for agent and subagent fee revisions to the senate and house transportation committees by January 1st of every third year starting with 1996. Fee revision recommendations may be made more frequently when justified by the annual analysis and evaluation.

(2) The annual comprehensive analysis and evaluation must consider, but is not limited to:

(a) Unique and significant financial, legislative, or other relevant developments that may impact fees;

(b) Current funding for ongoing operating and maintenance automation project costs affecting revenue collection and service delivery;

(c) Future system requirements including an appropriate sharing of costs between the department, agents, and subagents;

(d) Beneficial mix of customer service delivery options based on a fee structure commensurate with quality performance standards;

(e) Appropriate indices projecting state and national growth in business and economic conditions prepared by the United States department of commerce, the department of revenue, and the revenue forecast council for the state of Washington. [2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 138; 2005 c 319 § 116; 1996 c 315 § 3.]

**Effective date—2010 1st sp.s. c 26; 2010 1st sp.s. c 7:** See note following RCW 43.03.027.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**46.01.330 Facilities siting coordination.** The state patrol and the department of licensing shall coordinate their activities when siting facilities. This coordination shall result in the collocation of driver and vehicle licensing and vehicle inspection service facilities whenever possible.

The department and state patrol shall explore alternative state services, such as vehicle emission testing, that would be feasible to collocate in these joint facilities. The department and state patrol shall reach agreement with the department of transportation for the purposes of offering department of transportation permits at these one-stop transportation centers. All services provided at these transportation service facilities shall be provided at cost to the participating agencies.

In those instances where the community need or the agencies' needs do not warrant collocation this section shall not apply. [1993 sp.s. c 23 § 46.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.01.340 Database of fuel dealer and distributor license information.** By December 31, 1996, the department

of licensing shall implement a PC or server-based database of fuel dealer and distributor license application information. [1996 c 104 § 17.]

**46.01.350 Fuel tax advisory group.** By July 1, 1996, the department of licensing shall establish a fuel tax advisory group comprised of state agency and petroleum industry representatives to develop or recommend audit and investigation techniques, changes to fuel tax statutes and rules, information protocols that allow sharing of information with other states, and other tools that improve fuel tax administration or combat fuel tax evasion. [1996 c 104 § 18.]

**46.01.360 Fees—Study and adjustment.** To ensure cost recovery for department of licensing services, the department of licensing shall submit a fee study to the transportation committees of the house of representatives and the senate by December 1, 2003, and on a biennial basis thereafter. Based on this fee study, the Washington state legislature will review and adjust fees accordingly. [2002 c 352 § 27.]

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**46.01.370 Authority to sell and distribute discover passes and day-use permits.** The department may, in coordination with the state parks and recreation commission, offer for sale and distribute discover passes and day-use permits, as provided in chapter 79A.80 RCW, at the department's drivers' licenses offices. Any amounts collected by the department through the sales of discover passes and day-use permits must be deposited in the recreation access pass account created in RCW 79A.80.090. [2012 c 261 § 11.]

**Effective date—2012 c 261:** See note following RCW 79A.80.010.

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*"Ignition interlock, biological, technical devices" defined:* RCW 46.20.710.

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*"State" defined for purposes of financial responsibility:* RCW 46.29.270.

*"Traffic infraction, finding that has been committed" defined:* RCW 46.20.270.

**46.04.010 Scope and construction of terms.** Terms used in this title shall have the meaning given to them in this chapter except where otherwise defined, and unless where used the context thereof shall clearly indicate to the contrary.

Words and phrases used herein in the past, present or future tense shall include the past, present and future tenses; words and phrases used herein in the masculine, feminine or neuter gender shall include the masculine, feminine and neuter genders; and words and phrases used herein in the singular or plural shall include the singular and plural; unless the context thereof shall indicate to the contrary. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.010. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 2; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part; 1923 c 181 § 1, part; 1921 c 96 § 2, part; 1919 c 59 § 1, part; 1917 c 155 § 1, part; 1915 c 142 § 2, part; RRS § 6313, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**46.04.011 4-H license plates. (Effective January 1, 2013.)** "4-H license plates" means special license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display the "4-H" logo. [2012 c 65 § 2.]

**Effective date—2012 c 65:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**46.04.013 Affidavit of loss.** "Affidavit of loss" means a written statement confirming that the certificate of title, registration certificate, gross weight license, validation tab, or decal has been lost, stolen, destroyed, or mutilated. The statement must be in a form prescribed by the director. [2010 c 161 § 101.]

**Effective date—2010 c 161:** "Except for section 1020 of this act, this act takes effect July 1, 2011." [2010 c 161 § 1238.]

**Intent—2010 c 161:** "This act is intended to streamline and make technical amendments to certain codified statutes that deal with vehicle and vessel registration and title. Any statutory changes made by this act should be interpreted as technical in nature and not be interpreted to have any substantive policy or legal implications." [2010 c 161 § 1.]

**Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** "The senate and house of representatives transportation committees, in consultation with the office of the code reviser, shall prepare legislation for the 2011

regular legislative session that reconciles and conforms amendments made during the 2010 legislative session in this act." [2010 c 161 § 1201.]

**46.04.014 Agent.** "Agent," for the purposes of entering into the standard contract required under RCW 46.01.140(1), means any county auditor or other individual, government, or business entity other than a subagent that is appointed to carry out vehicle registration and certificate of title functions for the department. [2010 c 161 § 102.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.015 Alcohol concentration.** "Alcohol concentration" means (1) grams of alcohol per two hundred ten liters of a person's breath, or (2) grams of alcohol per one hundred milliliters of a person's blood. [1995 c 332 § 17; 1994 c 275 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.020 Alley.** "Alley" means a public highway not designed for general travel and used primarily as a means of access to the rear of residences and business establishments. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.020. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 3; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.022 Amateur radio operator license plates.** "Amateur radio operator license plates" means special license plates displaying amateur radio call letters assigned by the federal communications commission. [2010 c 161 § 103.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.028 Armed forces license plate collection.** "Armed forces license plate collection" means the collection of six separate license plate designs issued under RCW 46.18.210. Each license plate design displays a symbol representing one of the five branches of the armed forces, and one representing the national guard. [2010 c 161 § 104.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.030 Arterial highway.** "Arterial highway" means every public highway, or portion thereof, designated as such by proper authority. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.030. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 4; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.040 Authorized emergency vehicle.** "Authorized emergency vehicle" means any vehicle of any fire department, police department, sheriff's office, coroner, prosecuting attorney, Washington state patrol, ambulance service, public or private, which need not be classified, registered or authorized by the state patrol, or any other vehicle authorized in writing by the state patrol. [1987 c 330 § 701; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.040. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 5; 1953 c 40 § 1; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.050 Auto stage.** "Auto stage" means any motor vehicle used for the purpose of carrying passengers together with incidental baggage and freight or either, on a regular schedule of time and rates: PROVIDED, That no motor vehicle shall be considered to be an auto stage where substantially the entire route traveled by such vehicle is within the corporate limits of any city or town or the corporate limits of any adjoining cities or towns. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.050. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 6; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part; 1923 c 181 § 1, part; 1921 c 96 § 2, part; 1919 c 59 § 1, part; 1917 c 155 § 1, part; 1915 c 142 § 1, part; RRS § 6313, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.060 Axle.** "Axle" means structure or structures in the same or approximately the same transverse plane with a vehicle supported by wheels and on which or with which such wheels revolve. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.060. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 7; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part; 1923 c 181 § 1, part; RRS § 6313, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**46.04.062 Baseball stadium license plate.** "Baseball stadium license plate" means special license plates commemorating the construction of a baseball stadium as defined in RCW 82.14.0485. [2010 c 161 § 105.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.071 Bicycle.** "Bicycle" means every device propelled solely by human power upon which a person or persons may ride, having two tandem wheels either of which is sixteen inches or more in diameter, or three wheels, any one of which is more than twenty inches in diameter. [1982 c 55 § 4; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 86.]

**46.04.079 Business day.** "Business day" means Monday through Friday and excludes Saturday, Sunday, and state and federal holidays. [2010 c 161 § 106.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.080 Business district.** "Business district" means the territory contiguous to and including a highway when within any six hundred feet along such highway there are buildings in use for business or industrial purposes, including but not limited to hotels, banks, or office buildings, railroad stations, and public buildings which occupy at least three hundred feet of frontage on one side or three hundred feet collectively on both sides of the highway. [1975 c 62 § 2; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.080. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 9; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.083 Cab and chassis.** "Cab and chassis" means an incomplete vehicle manufactured and sold with only a cab, frame, and running gear. [2010 c 161 § 107.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.085 Camper.** "Camper" means a structure designed to be mounted upon a motor vehicle which provides facilities for human habitation or for temporary outdoor or recreational lodging and which is five feet or more in overall length and five feet or more in height from its floor to its ceiling when fully extended, but shall not include motor homes as defined in RCW 46.04.305. [1971 ex.s. c 231 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.090 Cancel.** "Cancel," in all its forms, means invalidation indefinitely. [1979 c 61 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.090. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 10; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.100 Center line.** "Center line" means the line, marked or unmarked, parallel to and equidistant from the sides of a two-way traffic roadway of a highway except where otherwise indicated by painted lines or markers. [1975 c 62 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.100. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 11; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.110 Center of intersection.** "Center of intersection" means the point of intersection of the center lines of the roadway of intersecting public highways. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.110. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 12; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.115 Chauffeur.** "Chauffeur" means a person authorized by the department under this title to drive a limousine, and, if operating in a port district that regulates limousines under RCW 46.72A.030(2), meets the licensing requirements of that port district. [1996 c 87 § 1.]

**46.04.120 City street.** "City street" means every public highway, or part thereof located within the limits of cities and towns, except alleys. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.120. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 13; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.125 Collector.** "Collector" means the owner of one or more vehicles described in RCW 46.18.220(1) who collects, purchases, acquires, trades, or disposes of the vehicle or parts of it, for his or her personal use, in order to preserve, restore, and maintain the vehicle for hobby or historical purposes. [2010 c 161 § 108; 1996 c 225 § 2.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Finding—1996 c 225:** "The legislature finds and declares that constructive leisure pursuits by Washington citizens is most important. This act is intended to encourage responsible participation in the hobby of collecting, preserving, restoring, and maintaining motor vehicles of historic and special interest, which hobby contributes to the enjoyment of the citizens and the preservation of Washington's automotive memorabilia." [1996 c 225 § 1.]

**46.04.126 Collector vehicle.** "Collector vehicle" means any motor vehicle that is more than thirty years old. [2009 c 142 § 2.]

**46.04.1261 Collector vehicle license plate.** "Collector vehicle license plate" means a special license plate that may be assigned to a vehicle that is more than thirty years old. [2010 c 161 § 109.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.127 Collegiate license plates.** "Collegiate license plates" means license plates that display a depiction of the name and mascot or symbol of a state university, regional university, or state college as defined in RCW 28B.10.016. [1994 c 194 § 1.]

**46.04.130 Combination of vehicles.** "Combination of vehicles" means every combination of motor vehicle and motor vehicle, motor vehicle and trailer or motor vehicle and semitrailer. [1963 c 154 § 26; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.130. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 14; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.136 Commercial trailer.** "Commercial trailer" means a trailer that is principally used to transport commodities, merchandise, produce, freight, or animals. [2010 c 161 § 110.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.140 Commercial vehicle.** "Commercial vehicle" means any vehicle the principal use of which is the transportation of commodities, merchandise, produce, freight, animals, or passengers for hire. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.140. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 15; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.142 Confidential license plates.** "Confidential license plates" and "undercover license plates" mean standard issue license plates assigned to vehicles owned or operated by public agencies. These license plates are used as specifically authorized under RCW 46.08.066. [2010 c 161 § 111.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.143 Converter gear.** "Converter gear" means an auxiliary axle, booster axle, dolly, or jeep axle. [2010 c 161 § 112.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.150 County road.** "County road" means every public highway or part thereof, outside the limits of cities and towns and which has not been designated as a state highway. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.150. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 16; prior: (i) 1943

c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.160 Crosswalk.** "Crosswalk" means the portion of the roadway between the intersection area and a prolongation or connection of the farthest sidewalk line or in the event there are no sidewalks then between the intersection area and a line ten feet therefrom, except as modified by a marked crosswalk. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.160. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 17; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.161 Custom vehicle.** "Custom vehicle" means any motor vehicle that:

(1) Is at least thirty years old and of a model year after 1948 or was manufactured to resemble a vehicle at least thirty years old and of a model year after 1948; and

(2) Has alterations to one or more of the major component parts listed in RCW 46.80.010 that change the appearance or performance of the vehicle from the original manufacturer's design or has a body constructed from nonoriginal materials. [2011 c 114 § 3.]

**Effective date—2011 c 114:** See note following RCW 46.04.572.

**46.04.162 Department.** The term "department" shall mean the department of licensing unless a different department is specified. [1979 c 158 § 126; 1975 c 25 § 4. Formerly RCW 46.04.690.]

**46.04.163 Director.** The term "director" shall mean the director of licensing unless the director of a different department of government is specified. [1979 c 158 § 127; 1975 c 25 § 5. Formerly RCW 46.04.695.]

**46.04.164 Disabled American veteran license plates.** "Disabled American veteran license plates" means special license plates issued to a veteran, as defined in RCW 41.04.007, who meets the requirements provided in RCW 46.18.235. [2010 c 161 § 113.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.165 Driveaway-towaway operation.** "Driveaway-towaway operation" means any operation in which any motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer, singly or in combination, new or used, constitutes the commodity being transported when one set or more wheels of any such vehicle are on the roadway during the course of transportation, whether or not any such vehicle furnishes the motive power. [1963 c 154 § 27.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.167 Driver education.** Whenever the term "driver education" is used in the code, it shall be defined to mean "traffic safety education". [1969 ex.s. c 218 § 12. Formerly RCW 46.04.700.]

**46.04.168 Driving privilege withheld.** "Driving privilege withheld" means that the department has revoked, suspended, or denied a person's Washington state driver's

license, permit to drive, driving privilege, or nonresident driving privilege. [1999 c 6 § 2.]

**Intent—1999 c 6:** "(1) This act is intended to edit some of the statutes relating to driver's licenses in order to make those statutes more comprehensible to the citizenry of the state of Washington. The legislature does not intend to make substantive changes in the meaning, interpretation, court construction, or constitutionality of any provision of chapter 46.20 RCW or other statutory provisions or rules adopted under those provisions.

(2) This act is technical in nature and does not terminate or in any way modify any rights, proceedings, or liabilities, civil or criminal, that exist on July 25, 1999." [1999 c 6 § 1.]

**46.04.169 Electric-assisted bicycle.** "Electric-assisted bicycle" means a bicycle with two or three wheels, a saddle, fully operative pedals for human propulsion, and an electric motor. The electric-assisted bicycle's electric motor must have a power output of no more than one thousand watts, be incapable of propelling the device at a speed of more than twenty miles per hour on level ground, and be incapable of further increasing the speed of the device when human power alone is used to propel the device beyond twenty miles per hour. [1997 c 328 § 1.]

**46.04.1695 Electric personal assistive mobility device (EPAMD).** "Electric personal assistive mobility device" (EPAMD) means a self-balancing device with two wheels not in tandem, designed to transport only one person by an electric propulsion system with an average power of seven hundred fifty watts (one horsepower) having a maximum speed on a paved level surface, when powered solely by such a propulsion system while ridden by an operator weighing one hundred seventy pounds, of less than twenty miles per hour. [2002 c 247 § 1.]

**Legislative review—2002 c 247:** "The legislature shall review the provisions of this act and make any necessary changes by July 1, 2005." [2002 c 247 § 9.]

**46.04.1697 Electronic commerce.** "Electronic commerce" may include, but is not limited to, transactions conducted over the Internet or by telephone or other electronic means. [2004 c 249 § 1.]

**46.04.1698 Empty scale weight.** "Empty scale weight" means the weight of a vehicle as it stands without a load. [2010 c 161 § 114.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.1699 Endangered wildlife license plates.** "Endangered wildlife license plates" means special license plates that display a symbol or artwork symbolizing endangered wildlife in Washington state. [2010 c 161 § 115.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.170 Explosives.** "Explosives" means any chemical compound or mechanical mixture that is commonly used or intended for the purpose of producing an explosion, and which contains any oxidizing or combustible units or other ingredients in such proportions, quantities or packing that an ignition by fire, by friction, by concussion, by percussion or by detonation of any part of the compound mixture may

cause such a sudden generation of highly heated gases that the resultant gaseous pressures are capable of producing destructible effects on contiguous objects or of destroying life or limb. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.170. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 18; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part. Cf. 1951 c 102 § 3.]

**46.04.174 Facial recognition matching system.** "Facial recognition matching system" means a system that compares the biometric template derived from an image of an applicant or holder of a driver's license, permit, or identocard with the biometric templates derived from the images in the department's negative file. [2012 c 80 § 3.]

**46.04.180 Farm tractor.** "Farm tractor" means every motor vehicle designed and used primarily as a farm implement for drawing plows, mowing machines, and other implements of husbandry. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.180. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 19; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.181 Farm vehicle.** "Farm vehicle" means any vehicle other than a farm tractor or farm implement which is: (1) Designed and/or used primarily in agricultural pursuits on farms for the purpose of transporting machinery, equipment, implements, farm products, supplies and/or farm labor thereon and is only incidentally operated on or moved along public highways for the purpose of going from one farm to another; or (2) for purposes of RCW 46.25.050, used to transport agricultural products, farm machinery, farm supplies, or any combination of these materials to or from a farm. [2012 c 130 § 1; 1967 c 202 § 1.]

**46.04.182 Farmer.** "Farmer" means any person, firm, partnership or corporation engaged in farming. If a person, firm, partnership or corporation is engaged in activities in addition to that of farming, the definition shall only apply to that portion of the activity that is defined as farming in RCW 46.04.183. [1969 ex.s. c 281 § 58.]

**46.04.183 Farming.** "Farming" means the cultivation and tillage of the soil, dairying, the production, cultivation, growing, and harvesting of any agricultural or horticultural commodities (except forestry or forestry operations), the raising of livestock, bees, fur-bearing animals, or poultry, and any practices performed on a farm as an incident to or in conjunction with such farming operations. [1969 ex.s. c 281 § 59.]

**46.04.186 Fixed load vehicle.** "Fixed load vehicle" means a commercial vehicle that has a structure or machinery permanently attached such as, but not limited to, an air compressor, a bunk house, a conveyor, a cook house, a donkey engine, a hoist, a rock crusher, a tool house, or a well drilling machine. Fixed load vehicles are not capable of carrying any additional load other than the structure or machinery permanently attached. [2010 c 161 § 116.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.187 Flammable liquid.** "Flammable liquid" means any liquid which has a flash point of 70° Fahrenheit, or less, as determined by a Tagliabue or equivalent closed cup test device. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.210. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 22; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part. Cf. 1951 c 102 § 3. Formerly RCW 46.04.210.]

**46.04.190 For hire vehicle.** "For hire vehicle" means any motor vehicle used for the transportation of persons for compensation, except auto stages and ride-sharing vehicles. [1979 c 111 § 13; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.190. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 20; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part; 1923 c 181 § 1, part; 1921 c 96 § 2, part; 1919 c 59 § 1, part; 1917 c 155 § 1, part; 1915 c 142 § 2, part; RRS § 6313, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

*Ride sharing: Chapter 46.74 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.192 Former prisoner of war license plates.** "Former prisoner of war license plates" means special license plates that may be issued to former prisoners of war as authorized under RCW 46.18.235. [2010 c 161 § 117.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.194 Garbage truck.** "Garbage truck" means a truck specially designed and used exclusively for garbage or refuse operations. [1983 c 68 § 1.]

**46.04.1945 Golf cart.** "Golf cart" means a gas-powered or electric-powered four-wheeled vehicle originally designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting purposes and has a speed attainable in one mile of not more than twenty miles per hour. A golf cart is not a nonhighway vehicle or off-road vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.365. [2011 c 171 § 12; 2010 c 217 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.04.1951 Gonzaga University alumni association license plates.** "Gonzaga University alumni association license plates" means license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display a symbol or artwork recognizing the efforts of the Gonzaga University alumni association in Washington state. [2011 c 171 § 13; 2005 c 85 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.04.1953 Gross vehicle weight rating.** "Gross vehicle weight rating" means the value specified by the manufacturer as the maximum load weight of a single vehicle. [2010 c 161 § 118.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.196 Helping Kids Speak license plates.** "Helping Kids Speak license plates" means license plates that display a symbol of an organization that supports programs that provide free diagnostic and therapeutic services to children

who have a severe delay in language or speech development. [2004 c 48 § 2.]

**46.04.197 Highway.** Highway means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way publicly maintained when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 87. Formerly RCW 46.04.431.]

**46.04.199 Horseless carriage license plate.** "Horseless carriage license plate" is a special license plate that may be assigned to a vehicle that is more than forty years old. [2010 c 161 § 120.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.200 Hours of darkness.** "Hours of darkness" means the hours from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, and any other time when persons or objects may not be clearly discernible at a distance of five hundred feet. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.200. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 21; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.204 Hybrid motor vehicle.** "Hybrid motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle that uses multiple power sources or fuel types for propulsion and meets the federal definition of a hybrid motor vehicle. [2010 c 161 § 121.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.215 Ignition interlock device.** "Ignition interlock device" means breath alcohol analyzing ignition equipment or other biological or technical device certified in conformance with RCW 43.43.395 and rules adopted by the state patrol and designed to prevent a motor vehicle from being operated by a person who has consumed an alcoholic beverage. [2010 c 268 § 1; 2005 c 200 § 1; 1997 c 229 § 9; 1994 c 275 § 23; 1987 c 247 § 3. Formerly RCW 46.20.730.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.217 Ignition interlock driver's license.** "Ignition interlock driver's license" means a permit issued to a person by the department that allows the person to operate a non-commercial motor vehicle with an ignition interlock device while the person's regular driver's license is suspended, revoked, or denied. [2008 c 282 § 1.]

**46.04.220 Intersection area.** (1) "Intersection area" means the area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines, or, if none then the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two or more highways which join one another at, or approximately at, right angles, or the area within which vehicles traveling upon different highways joining at any other angle may come in conflict.

(2) Where a highway includes two roadways thirty feet or more apart, then every crossing of each roadway of such divided highway by an intersecting highway shall be regarded as a separate intersection. In the event such intersecting highway also includes two roadways thirty feet or



more apart, then every crossing of two roadways of such highways shall be regarded as a separate intersection.

(3) The junction of an alley with a street or highway shall not constitute an intersection. [1975 c 62 § 4; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.220. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 23; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.240 Intersection control area.** "Intersection control area" means intersection area, together with such modification of the adjacent roadway area as results from the arc of curb corners and together with any marked or unmarked crosswalks adjacent to the intersection. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.240. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 25; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.249 Keep Kids Safe license plates.** "Keep Kids Safe license plates" means license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display artwork recognizing efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect in Washington state. [2011 c 171 § 14; 2005 c 53 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.04.251 Kit vehicle.** "Kit vehicle" means a passenger car or light truck assembled from a manufactured kit, and is either (1) a complete kit consisting of a prefabricated body and chassis used to construct a new vehicle, or (2) a kit consisting of a prefabricated body to be mounted on an existing vehicle chassis and drive train, commonly referred to as a donor vehicle. [1996 c 225 § 5.]

**Finding—1996 c 225:** See note following RCW 46.04.125.

**46.04.260 Laned highway.** "Laned highway" means a highway the roadway of which is divided into clearly marked lanes for vehicular traffic. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.260. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 27; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.265 Law enforcement memorial license plates.** "Law enforcement memorial license plates" means license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display a symbol honoring law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line of duty. [2011 c 171 § 15; 2004 c 221 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.04.270 Legal owner.** "Legal owner" means a person having a security interest in a vehicle perfected in accordance with chapter 46.12 RCW or the registered owner of a vehicle unencumbered by a security interest or the lessor of a vehicle unencumbered by a security interest. [1975 c 25 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.270. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 28; prior: 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part.]

**46.04.271 Light truck.** "Light truck" means a motor vehicle manufactured as a truck with a declared gross weight of twelve thousand pounds or less. [2010 c 161 § 122.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.272 Lightweight stud.** (1) "Lightweight stud" means a stud intended for installation and use in a vehicle tire. As used in this title, this means a stud that is recommended by the manufacturer of the tire for the type and size of the tire and that:

(a) Weighs no more than 1.5 grams if the stud conforms to Tire Stud Manufacturing Institute (TSMI) stud size 14 or less;

(b) Weighs no more than 2.3 grams if the stud conforms to TSMI stud size 15 or 16; or

(c) Weighs no more than 3.0 grams if the stud conforms to TSMI stud size 17 or larger.

(2) A lightweight stud may contain any materials necessary to achieve the lighter weight.

(3) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to retractable studs as described in RCW 46.37.420. [2007 c 140 § 1; 1999 c 219 § 1.]

**46.04.274 Limousine.** "Limousine" means a category of for hire, chauffeur-driven, unmetered, unmarked luxury motor vehicles. The director in consultation with the Washington state patrol will by rule define the categories of limousines. [2006 c 98 § 1; 1996 c 87 § 2.]

**Effective date—2006 c 98:** "This act takes effect November 1, 2006." [2006 c 98 § 2.]

**46.04.276 Limousine carrier.** "Limousine carrier" means a person engaged in the transportation of a person or group of persons, who, under a single contract, acquires, on a prearranged basis, the use of a limousine to travel to a specified destination or for a particular itinerary. The term "prearranged basis" refers to the manner in which the carrier dispatches vehicles. [1996 c 87 § 3.]

**46.04.280 Local authorities.** "Local authorities" includes every county, municipal, or other local public board or body having authority to adopt local police regulations under the Constitution and laws of this state. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.280. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 29; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part; 1923 c 181 § 1, part; 1921 c 96 § 2, part; 1919 c 59 § 1, part; 1917 c 155 § 1, part; 1915 c 142 § 2, part; RRS § 6313, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**46.04.290 Marked crosswalk.** "Marked crosswalk" means any portion of a roadway distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface thereof. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.290. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 30; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.292 Market value threshold amount.** "Market value threshold amount" means an amount set by rule by the department that is used to determine, together with the age of the vehicle, whether vehicle certificates of title for vehicles aged six years through twenty years should be identified as having been previously destroyed or reported as an insurance total loss. [2010 c 161 § 123.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.295 Medium-speed electric vehicle.** "Medium-speed electric vehicle" means a self-propelled, electrically powered four-wheeled motor vehicle, equipped with a roll cage or crush-proof body design, whose speed attainable in one mile is more than twenty-five miles per hour but not more than thirty-five miles per hour and otherwise meets or exceeds the federal regulations set forth in 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.500. [2010 c 144 § 1; 2007 c 510 § 2.]

**Effective date—2007 c 510:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**46.04.300 Metal tire.** "Metal tire" includes every tire, the bearing surface of which in contact with the highway is wholly or partly of metal or other hard, nonresilient material. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.300. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 31; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**46.04.301 Military affiliate radio system license plates.** "Military affiliate radio system license plates" means special license plates displaying official military affiliate radio system call letters assigned by the United States department of defense. [2010 c 161 § 124.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.302 Mobile home, manufactured home.** "Mobile home" or "manufactured home" means a structure, designed and constructed to be transportable in one or more sections, and is built on a permanent chassis, and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities that include plumbing, heating, and electrical systems contained therein. The structure must comply with the national mobile home construction and safety standards act of 1974 as adopted by chapter 43.22 RCW if applicable. Manufactured home does not include a modular home. A structure which met the definition of a "manufactured home" at the time of manufacture is still considered to meet this definition notwithstanding that it is no longer transportable. [1993 c 154 § 1. Prior: 1989 c 343 § 24; 1989 c 337 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 22 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 231 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.303 Modular home.** "Modular home" means a factory-assembled structure designed primarily for use as a dwelling when connected to the required utilities that include plumbing, heating, and electrical systems contained therein, does not contain its own running gear, and must be mounted on a permanent foundation. A modular home does not include a mobile home or manufactured home. [1990 c 250 § 17; 1971 ex.s. c 231 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.304 Moped.** "Moped" means a motorized device designed to travel with not more than three wheels in contact with the ground and having an electric or a liquid fuel motor with a cylinder displacement not exceeding fifty cubic centimeters which produces no more than two gross brake horsepower (developed by a prime mover, as measured by a brake

applied to the driving shaft) that is capable of propelling the device at not more than thirty miles per hour on level ground. [2009 c 275 § 1; 1990 c 250 § 18; 1987 c 330 § 702; 1979 ex.s. c 213 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.305 Motor homes.** "Motor homes" means motor vehicles originally designed, reconstructed, or permanently altered to provide facilities for human habitation, which include lodging and cooking or sewage disposal, and is enclosed within a solid body shell with the vehicle, but excludes a camper or like unit constructed separately and affixed to a motor vehicle. [1990 c 250 § 19; 1971 ex.s. c 231 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.310 Motor truck.** "Motor truck" means any motor vehicle designed or used for the transportation of commodities, merchandise, produce, freight, or animals. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.310. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 32; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part; 1923 c 181 § 1, part; 1921 c 96 § 2, part; 1919 c 59 § 1, part; 1917 c 155 § 1, part; 1915 c 142 § 2, part; RRS § 6313, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**46.04.320 Motor vehicle.** "Motor vehicle" means every vehicle that is self-propelled and every vehicle that is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires, but not operated upon rails. "Motor vehicle" includes a neighborhood electric vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.357. "Motor vehicle" includes a medium-speed electric vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.295. An electric personal assistive mobility device is not considered a motor vehicle. A power wheelchair is not considered a motor vehicle. A golf cart is not considered a motor vehicle, except for the purposes of chapter 46.61 RCW. [2010 c 217 § 1; 2007 c 510 § 1. Prior: 2003 c 353 § 1; 2003 c 141 § 2; 2002 c 247 § 2; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.320; prior: 1959 c 49 § 33; 1955 c 384 § 10; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part; 1923 c 181 § 1, part; 1921 c 96 § 2, part; 1919 c 59 § 1, part; 1917 c 155 § 1, part; 1915 c 142 § 2, part; RRS § 6313, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**Effective date—2007 c 510:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2007." [2007 c 510 § 6.]

**Effective date—2003 c 353:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2003." [2003 c 353 § 12.]

**Legislative review—2002 c 247:** See note following RCW 46.04.1695.

**46.04.330 Motorcycle.** "Motorcycle" means a motor vehicle designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, on which the driver:

- (1) Rides on a seat or saddle and the motor vehicle is designed to be steered with a handlebar; or
- (2) Rides on a seat in a partially or completely enclosed seating area that is equipped with safety belts and the motor vehicle is designed to be steered with a steering wheel.

"Motorcycle" excludes a farm tractor, a power wheelchair, an electric personal assistive mobility device, a motor-

ized foot scooter, an electric-assisted bicycle, and a moped. [2009 c 275 § 2; 2003 c 141 § 3; 2002 c 247 § 3; 1990 c 250 § 20; 1979 ex.s. c 213 § 2; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.330. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 34; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part; 1923 c 181 § 1, part; 1921 c 96 § 2, part; 1919 c 59 § 1, part; 1917 c 155 § 1, part; 1915 c 142 § 2, part; RRS § 6313, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**Legislative review—2002 c 247:** See note following RCW 46.04.1695. Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.332 Motor-driven cycle.** "Motor-driven cycle" means every motorcycle, including every motor scooter, with a motor that produces not to exceed five brake horsepower (developed by a prime mover, as measured by a brake applied to the driving shaft). A motor-driven cycle does not include a moped, a power wheelchair, a motorized foot scooter, or an electric personal assistive mobility device. [2003 c 353 § 7; 2003 c 141 § 4; 2002 c 247 § 4; 1979 ex.s. c 213 § 3; 1963 c 154 § 28.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2003 c 141 § 4 and by 2003 c 353 § 7, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2003 c 353:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**Legislative review—2002 c 247:** See note following RCW 46.04.1695. Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.336 Motorized foot scooter.** "Motorized foot scooter" means a device with no more than two ten-inch or smaller diameter wheels that has handlebars, is designed to be stood upon by the operator, and is powered by an internal combustion engine or electric motor that is capable of propelling the device with or without human propulsion at a speed no more than twenty miles per hour on level ground.

For purposes of this section, a motor-driven cycle, a moped, an electric-assisted bicycle, or a motorcycle is not a motorized foot scooter. [2009 c 275 § 3; 2003 c 353 § 6.]

**Effective date—2003 c 353:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**46.04.340 Muffler.** "Muffler" means a device consisting of a series of chambers, or other mechanical designs for the purpose of receiving exhaust gas from an internal combustion engine and effective in reducing noise resulting therefrom. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.340. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 35; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.350 Multiple lane highway.** "Multiple lane highway" means any highway the roadway of which is of sufficient width to reasonably accommodate two or more separate lanes of vehicular traffic in the same direction, each lane of which shall be not less than the maximum legal vehicle width and whether or not such lanes are marked. [1975 c 62 § 5; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.350. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 36; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.355 Municipal transit vehicle.** Municipal transit vehicle includes every motor vehicle, streetcar, train, trolley vehicle, and any other device, which (1) is capable of being

moved within, upon, above, or below a public highway, (2) is owned or operated by a city, county, county transportation authority, public transportation benefit area, regional transit authority, or metropolitan municipal corporation within the state, and (3) is used for the purpose of carrying passengers together with incidental baggage and freight on a regular schedule. [2004 c 118 § 2; 1984 c 167 § 2; 1974 ex.s. c 76 § 4.]

*Unlawful conduct in a transit vehicle: RCW 9.91.025.*

**46.04.3551 Music Matters license plates.** "Music Matters license plates" means special license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display the "Music Matters" logo. [2011 c 229 § 2.]

**Effective date—2011 c 229:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**46.04.356 Natural person.** "Natural person" means a human being. [2010 c 161 § 125.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.357 Neighborhood electric vehicle.** "Neighborhood electric vehicle" means a self-propelled, electrically powered four-wheeled motor vehicle whose speed attainable in one mile is more than twenty miles per hour and not more than twenty-five miles per hour and conforms to federal regulations under Title 49 C.F.R. Part 571.500. [2003 c 353 § 2.]

**Effective date—2003 c 353:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**46.04.358 New motor vehicle.** "New motor vehicle" means any motor vehicle that (1) is self-propelled and is required to be registered and titled under this title, (2) has not been previously titled to a retail purchaser or lessee, and (3) is not a used vehicle as defined under RCW 46.04.660. [2010 c 161 § 126.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.360 Nonresident.** "Nonresident" means any person whose residence is outside this state and who is temporarily sojourning within this state. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.360. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 37; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.363 Off-road motorcycle.** "Off-road motorcycle" means a motorcycle as defined in RCW 46.04.330 that is labeled by the manufacturer's statement or certificate of origin as intended for "off-road use only" or a similar message stamped into the frame of the motorcycle, contained in the owner's manual, or affixed to any part of the motorcycle. [2011 c 121 § 1.]

**Effective date—2011 c 121:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2012." [2011 c 121 § 5.]

**46.04.365 Off-road vehicle.** "Off-road vehicle" or "ORV" means a nonstreet registered vehicle when used for recreational purposes on nonhighway roads, trails, or a variety of other natural terrain. "Off-road vehicle" or "ORV" includes, but is not limited to, all-terrain vehicles, motorcy-

cles, four-wheel drive vehicles, and dune buggies. [2010 c 161 § 127.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.370 Operator or driver.** "Operator or driver" means every person who drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle. [1975 c 62 § 6; 1967 c 32 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.370. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 38; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part; 1923 c 181 § 1, part; 1921 c 96 § 2, part; RRS § 6313, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.372 ORV registration.** "ORV registration" means a registration certificate or decal issued under the laws of this state pertaining to the registration of off-road vehicles under chapter 46.09 RCW. [2010 c 161 § 128.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.380 Owner.** "Owner" means a person who has a lawful right of possession of a vehicle by reason of obtaining it by purchase, exchange, gift, lease, inheritance or legal action whether or not the vehicle is subject to a security interest and means registered owner where the reference to owner may be construed as either to registered or legal owner. [1975 c 25 § 2; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.380. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 39; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**46.04.3802 Ownership in doubt.** "Ownership in doubt" means that a vehicle or vessel owner is unable to obtain satisfactory evidence of ownership or releases of interest and is permitted to apply for a three-year registration period without a certificate of title or a three-year period with a bond covering the certificate of title. [2010 c 161 § 129.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.381 Park or parking.** "Park or parking" means the standing of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, otherwise than temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading property or passengers. [1975 c 62 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.3815 Parts car.**

**Reviser's note:** RCW 46.01.3815 was amended by 2011 c 171 § 16 without reference to its repeal by 2011 c 114 § 10. It has been decodified for publication purposes under RCW 1.12.025.

**46.04.382 Passenger car.** "Passenger car" means every motor vehicle except motorcycles and motor-driven cycles, designed for carrying ten passengers or less and used for the transportation of persons. [1963 c 154 § 29.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.385 Personalized license plates.** "Personalized license plates" means license plates that display the license plate number assigned to the vehicle or camper for which the license plate number was issued in a combination of letters or numbers, or both, requested by the owner of the vehicle or camper in accordance with chapter 46.18 RCW. [2010 c 161 § 131.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.400 Pedestrian.** "Pedestrian" means any person who is afoot or who is using a wheelchair, a power wheelchair, or a means of conveyance propelled by human power other than a bicycle. [2003 c 141 § 5; 1990 c 241 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.400. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 41; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.405 Person.** "Person" includes every natural person, firm, copartnership, corporation, association, or organization. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.405. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 42; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**46.04.408 Photograph, picture, negative.** "Photograph," along with the terms "picture" and "negative," means a pictorial representation, whether produced through photographic or other means, including, but not limited to, digital data imaging. [1990 c 250 § 21.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.410 Pneumatic tires.** "Pneumatic tires" includes every tire of rubber or other resilient material designed to be inflated with compressed air to support the load thereon. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.410. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 43; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**46.04.414 Pole trailer.** "Pole trailer" means every vehicle without motive power designed to be drawn by another vehicle and attached to the towing vehicle by means of a reach, or pole, or by being boomed or otherwise secured to the towing vehicle, and ordinarily used for transporting long or irregular shaped loads such as poles, pipes, logs or structural members capable, generally, of sustaining themselves as beams between the supporting connections. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.414. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 44; prior: 1951 c 56 § 1.]

**46.04.4141 Police officer.** Police officer means every officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic or to make arrests for violations of traffic regulations. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 89. Formerly RCW 46.04.391.]

**46.04.415 Power wheelchair.** "Power wheelchair" means any self-propelled vehicle capable of traveling no more than fifteen miles per hour, usable indoors, designed as a mobility aid for individuals with mobility impairments, and operated by such an individual. [2003 c 141 § 1.]

*Wheelchair conveyance:* RCW 46.04.710.

**46.04.416 Private carrier bus.** "Private carrier bus" means every motor vehicle designed for the purpose of carrying passengers (having a seating capacity for eleven or more persons) used regularly to transport persons in furtherance of any organized agricultural, religious or charitable purpose. Such term does not include buses operated by common carriers under a franchise granted by any city or town or the Washington public utilities commission. [1970 ex.s. c 100 § 3.]

**46.04.420 Private road or driveway.** "Private road or driveway" includes every way or place in private ownership and used for travel of vehicles by the owner or those having express or implied permission from the owner, but not by other persons. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.420. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 45; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**46.04.422 Private use single-axle trailer.** "Private use single-axle trailer" means a trailer owned by a natural person and used for the private noncommercial use of the owner. [2010 c 161 § 132.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.429 Professional firefighters and paramedics license plates.** "Professional firefighters and paramedics license plates" means license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display a symbol denoting professional firefighters and paramedics. [2011 c 171 § 17; 2004 c 35 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.04.435 Public scale.** "Public scale" means every scale under public or private ownership which is certified as to its accuracy and which is available for public weighing. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.435. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 47.]

**46.04.437 Purple heart license plates.** "Purple heart license plates" means special license plates that may be assigned to a motor vehicle required to display one or two license plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the department, to recipients of the Purple Heart medal or to another qualified person. [2011 c 332 § 2; 2010 c 161 § 133.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.440 Railroad.** "Railroad" means a carrier of persons or property upon vehicles, other than streetcars, operated upon stationary rails, the route of which is principally outside cities and towns. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.440. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 48; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.450 Railroad sign or signal.** "Railroad sign or signal" means any sign, signal, or device erected by authority of a public body or official or by a railroad and intended to give notice of the presence of railroad tracks or the approach

of a railroad train. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.450. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 49; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.455 Reasonable grounds.** "Reasonable grounds," when used in the context of a law enforcement officer's decision to make an arrest, means probable cause. [1995 c 332 § 19.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.460 Registered owner.** "Registered owner" means the person whose lawful right of possession of a vehicle has most recently been recorded with the department. [1975 c 25 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.460. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 50; prior: 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part.]

**46.04.462 Registration.** "Registration" means the registration certificate or license plates issued under the laws of this state pertaining to the registration of vehicles. [2010 c 161 § 134.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.464 Renewal notice.** "Renewal notice" means the notice to renew a vehicle registration sent to the registered owner by the department. [2010 c 161 § 135.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.465 Rental car.** (1) "Rental car" means a passenger car, as defined in RCW 46.04.382, that is used solely by a rental car business for rental to others, without a driver provided by the rental car business, for periods of not more than thirty consecutive days.

(2) "Rental car" does not include:

(a) Vehicles rented or loaned to customers by automotive repair businesses while the customer's vehicle is under repair;

(b) Vehicles licensed and operated as taxicabs. [1992 c 194 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.466 Rental car business.** "Rental car business" means a person engaging within this state in the business of renting rental cars, as determined under rules of the department of licensing. [1992 c 194 § 5.]

*Registration of rental car businesses: RCW 46.87.023.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.468 Report of sale.** "Report of sale" means a document or electronic record transaction that when properly completed and filed protects the seller of a vehicle from certain criminal and civil liabilities arising from use of the vehicle by another person after the vehicle has been sold or a change in ownership has occurred. [2010 c 161 § 136.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.470 Residence district.** "Residence district" means the territory contiguous to and including a public highway not comprising a business district, when the property on such public highway for a continuous distance of three hundred feet or more on either side thereof is in the main improved with residences or residences and buildings in use for business. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.470. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 51; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**46.04.480 Revoke.** "Revoke," in all its forms, means the invalidation for a period of one calendar year and thereafter until reissue. However, under the provisions of RCW 46.20.285, 46.20.311, 46.20.265, or 46.61.5055, and chapters 46.32 and 46.65 RCW, the invalidation may last for a period other than one calendar year. [2007 c 419 § 4; 1995 c 332 § 10; 1994 c 275 § 38; 1988 c 148 § 8; 1985 c 407 § 1; 1983 c 165 § 14; 1983 c 165 § 13; 1979 c 62 § 7; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.480. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 52; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**Findings—Short title—2007 c 419:** See notes following RCW 46.16A.010.

**Legislative finding—Severability—1988 c 148:** See notes following RCW 13.40.265.

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.485 Ride share license plates.** "Ride share license plates" means special license plates issued for motor vehicles that are used primarily for commuter ride sharing as defined in RCW 46.74.010. [2010 c 161 § 137.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.490 Road tractor.** "Road tractor" includes every motor vehicle designed and used primarily as a road building vehicle in drawing road building machinery and devices. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.490. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 53; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.500 Roadway.** "Roadway" means that portion of a highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, exclusive of the sidewalk or shoulder even though such sidewalk or shoulder is used by persons riding bicycles. In the event a highway includes two or more separated roadways, the term "roadway" shall refer to any such roadway separately but shall not refer to all such roadways collectively. [1977 c 24 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.500. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 54; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.510 Safety zone.** "Safety zone" means the area or space officially set apart within a roadway for the exclusive use of pedestrians and which is protected or is marked or indicated by painted marks, signs, buttons, standards, or otherwise, so as to be plainly discernible. [1961 c 12 §

46.04.510. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 55; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.514 Salvage vehicle.** "Salvage vehicle" means a vehicle whose certificate of title has been surrendered to the department under RCW 46.12.600 due to the vehicle's destruction or declaration as a total loss or for which there is documentation indicating that the vehicle has been declared salvage or has been damaged to the extent that the owner, an insurer, or other person acting on behalf of the owner, has determined that the cost of parts and labor plus the salvage value has made it uneconomical to repair the vehicle. "Salvage vehicle" does not include a motor vehicle having a model year designation of a calendar year that is at least six years before the calendar year in which the vehicle was wrecked, destroyed, or damaged, unless, after June 13, 2002, and immediately before the vehicle was wrecked, destroyed, or damaged, the vehicle had a retail fair market value of at least the then market value threshold amount and has a model year designation of a calendar year not more than twenty years before the calendar year in which the vehicle was wrecked, destroyed, or damaged. [2010 c 161 § 138.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.518 Scale weight.** "Scale weight" means the weight of a vehicle without a load. [2010 c 161 § 139.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.521 School bus.** School bus means every motor vehicle used regularly to transport children to and from school or in connection with school activities, which is subject to the requirements set forth in the most recent edition of "Specifications for School Buses" published by the state superintendent of public instruction, but does not include buses operated by common carriers in urban transportation of school children or private carrier buses operated as school buses in the transportation of children to and from private schools or school activities. [1995 c 141 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 90.]

**46.04.526 Secured party.** "Secured party" has the same meaning as in \*RCW 62A.1-201. [2010 c 161 § 140.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The reference to RCW 62A.1-201 appears to be erroneous. Reference to RCW 62A.9A-102 was apparently intended.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.527 Security interest.** "Security interest" has the same meaning as in RCW 62A.1-201. [2010 c 161 § 141.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.530 Semitrailer.** "Semitrailer" includes every vehicle without motive power designed to be drawn by a vehicle, motor vehicle, or truck tractor and so constructed that an appreciable part of its weight and that of its load rests

upon and is carried by such other vehicle, motor vehicle, or truck tractor. [1979 ex.s. c 149 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.530. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 57; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**46.04.535 Share the road license plates.** "Share the road license plates" means special license plates displaying a symbol or artwork recognizing an organization that promotes bicycle safety and awareness education. Share the road license plates commemorate the life of Cooper Jones. [2010 c 161 § 142.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.540 Sidewalk.** "Sidewalk" means that property between the curb lines or the lateral lines of a roadway and the adjacent property, set aside and intended for the use of pedestrians or such portion of private property parallel and in proximity to a public highway and dedicated to use by pedestrians. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.540. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 58; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.542 Ski & ride Washington license plates.** "Ski & ride Washington license plates" means special license plates displaying a symbol or artwork recognizing the Washington snowsports industry. [2010 c 161 § 143.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.546 Snowmobile.** "Snowmobile" means a self-propelled vehicle that is capable of traveling over snow or ice that (1) utilizes as its means of propulsion an endless belt tread or cleats, or any combination of these or other similar means of contact with the surface upon which it is operated, (2) is steered wholly or in part by skis or sled type runners, and (3) is not otherwise registered as, or subject to, the motor vehicle excise tax in the state of Washington. [2010 c 161 § 145.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.550 Solid tire.** "Solid tire" includes every tire of rubber or other resilient material which does not depend upon inflation with compressed air for the support of the load thereon. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.550. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 59; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**46.04.551 Special highway construction equipment.** (1) "Special highway construction equipment" means any vehicle that is (a) designed and used primarily for the grading of highways, the paving of highways, earth moving, and other construction work on highways, (b) not designed or used primarily to transport persons or property on a public

highway, and (c) only incidentally operated or moved over the highway.

(2) "Special highway construction equipment" includes, but is not limited to, road construction and maintenance machinery that is designed and used for the purposes described under subsection (1) of this section, such as portable air compressors, air drills, asphalt spreaders, bituminous mixers, bucket loaders, track laying tractors, ditchers, leveling graders, finishing machines, motor graders, paving mixers, road rollers, scarifiers, earth moving scrapers and carry-alls, lighting plants, welders, pumps, power shovels and draglines, and self-propelled and tractor-drawn earth moving equipment and machinery, including dump trucks and tractor-dump trailer combinations that (a) are in excess of the legal width, (b) because of their length, height, or unladen weight, may not be moved on a public highway without the permit specified in RCW 46.44.090 and are not operated laden except within the boundaries of the project limits as defined by the contract, and other similar types of construction equipment, or (c) are driven or moved upon a public highway only for the purpose of crossing the highway from one property to another, provided that the movement does not exceed five hundred feet and the vehicle is equipped with wheels or pads that will not damage the roadway surface. [2010 c 161 § 144.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.552 Special mobile equipment.** "Special mobile equipment" means every vehicle not designed or used primarily for the transportation of persons or property and only incidentally operated or moved over a highway, including but not limited to: Ditch digging apparatus, well boring apparatus and road construction and maintenance machinery such as asphalt spreaders, bituminous mixers, bucket loaders, tractors other than truck tractors, ditchers, leveling graders, finishing machines, motor graders, road rollers, scarifiers, earth moving carry-alls and scrapers, power shovels and draglines, and self-propelled cranes and earth moving equipment. The term does not include house trailers, dump trucks, truck mounted transit mixers, cranes or shovels or other vehicles designed for the transportation of persons or property to which machinery has been attached. [1973 1st ex.s. c 17 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 5 § 1; 1963 c 154 § 30.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.553 Sport utility vehicle.** "Sport utility vehicle" means a high performance motor vehicle weighing six thousand pounds or less, designed to carry ten passengers or less or designated as a sport utility vehicle by the manufacturer. [2010 c 161 § 146.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.554 Square dancer license plates.** "Square dancer license plates" means special license plates displaying a symbol of square dancers. [2010 c 161 § 147.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.555 Stand or standing.** "Stand or standing" means the halting of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, otherwise than temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in receiving or discharging passengers. [1975 c 62 § 10.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.556 Standard issue license plates.** "Standard issue license plates" means license plates that are held for general issue, and does not mean personalized license plates or any other special license plate. [2010 c 161 § 148.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.559 State flower license plates. (Effective January 1, 2013.)** "State flower license plates" means special license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display the Washington state flower. [2012 c 65 § 3.]

**Effective date—2012 c 65:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**46.04.560 State highway.** "State highway" includes every highway or part thereof, which has been designated as a state highway or branch thereof, by legislative enactment. [1975 c 62 § 7; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.560. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 60; prior: 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.565 Stop.** "Stop" when required means complete cessation from movement. [1975 c 62 § 11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.566 Stop or stopping.** "Stop or stopping" when prohibited means any halting even momentarily of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or traffic control sign or signal. [1975 c 62 § 12.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.570 Streetcar.** "Streetcar" means a vehicle other than a train for transporting persons or property and operated upon stationary rails principally within cities and towns. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.570. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 61; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.572 Street rod vehicle.** "Street rod vehicle" means a motor vehicle that:

(1) Is a 1948 or older vehicle or the vehicle was manufactured after 1948 to resemble a vehicle manufactured before 1949; and

(2) Has alterations to one or more of the major component parts listed in RCW 46.80.010 that change the appearance or performance of the vehicle from the original manufacturer's design or has a body constructed from nonoriginal materials. [2011 c 114 § 1.]

**Effective date—2011 c 114:** "This act takes effect October 1, 2011." [2011 c 114 § 11.]

**46.04.574 Subagency.** "Subagency" means the licensing office in which vehicle title and registration functions are carried out by a subagent. [2010 c 161 § 149.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.575 Subagent.** "Subagent" means a person or governmental entity recommended by a county auditor or other agent and who is appointed by the director to provide vehicle registration and certificate of title services under contract with the county auditor or other agent. [2010 c 161 § 150.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.580 Suspend.** "Suspend," in all its forms and unless a different period is specified, means invalidation for any period less than one calendar year and thereafter until reinstatement. [1994 c 275 § 28; 1990 c 250 § 22; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.580. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 62; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.581 Tab.** "Tab" or "license tab" means a sticker issued by the department and affixed to the rear license plate to identify the vehicle license expiration month and year for a specific vehicle. [2010 c 161 § 151.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.582 Tandem axle.** "Tandem axle" means any two or more consecutive axles whose centers are less than seven feet apart. [1988 c 6 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 149 § 2.]

**46.04.585 Temporarily sojourning.** "Temporarily sojourning," as the term is used in chapter 46.04 RCW, shall be construed to include any nonresident who is within this state for a period of not to exceed six months in any one year. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.585. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 63; prior: 1955 c 89 § 6.]

**46.04.587 Total loss vehicle.** "Total loss vehicle" means a vehicle that has been reported to the department as destroyed by an insurance company, self-insurer, or the vehicle owner or the owner's authorized representative. [2010 c 161 § 152.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.588 Tow dolly.** "Tow dolly" means a trailer equipped with between one and three axles designed to connect to a tow bar on the rear of a motor vehicle that is used to tow another vehicle. The front or rear wheels of the towed vehicle are secured to and rest on the tow dolly. [2010 c 161 § 153.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.



**46.04.590 Traffic.** "Traffic" includes pedestrians, ridden or herded animals, vehicles, streetcars, and other conveyances either singly or together, while using any public highways for purposes of travel. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.590. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 64; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.600 Traffic control signal.** "Traffic control signal" means any traffic device, whether manually, electrically, or mechanically operated, by which traffic alternately is directed to stop or proceed or otherwise controlled. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.600. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 65; prior: 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.611 Traffic-control devices.** Official traffic-control devices means all signs, signals, markings and devices not inconsistent with Title 46 RCW placed or erected by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction, for the purpose of regulating, warning or guiding traffic. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 88.]

**46.04.620 Trailer.** "Trailer" includes every vehicle without motive power designed for being drawn by or used in conjunction with a motor vehicle constructed so that no appreciable part of its weight rests upon or is carried by such motor vehicle, but does not include a municipal transit vehicle, or any portion thereof. [1974 ex.s. c 76 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.620. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 67; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part; 1923 c 181 § 1, part; 1921 c 96 § 2, part; 1919 c 59 § 1, part; 1917 c 155 § 1, part; RRS § 6313, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**46.04.621 Transit permit.** "Transit permit" means a document that authorizes a person to operate a vehicle on a public highway of this state solely for the purpose of obtaining the necessary documentation to complete and apply for a Washington certificate of title or vehicle registration. Unlimited use of the vehicle is prohibited when operated under a transit permit. [2010 c 161 § 154.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.622 Park trailer.** "Park trailer" or "park model trailer" means a travel trailer designed to be used with temporary connections to utilities necessary for operation of installed fixtures and appliances. The trailer's gross area shall not exceed four hundred square feet when in the setup mode. "Park trailer" excludes a mobile home. [1989 c 337 § 2.]

**46.04.62240 Share the Road license plates.** "Share the Road license plates" means license plates that commemorate the life of Cooper Jones and display a symbol of an organization that promote[s] bicycle safety and awareness education in communities throughout Washington. [2005 c 426 § 2.]

**46.04.62250 Signal preemption device.** "Signal preemption device" means a device that is capable of altering the normal operation of a traffic control signal. Any such device

manufactured by a vehicle manufacturer is not a signal preemption device for purposes of this section if the primary purpose of the device is any purpose other than the preemption of traffic signals and the device's ability to alter traffic signals is unintended and incidental to the device's primary purpose. [2005 c 183 § 1.]

**46.04.62260 Ski & Ride Washington license plates.** "Ski & Ride Washington license plates" means license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display a symbol or artwork recognizing the efforts of the Washington snowsports industry in this state. [2011 c 171 § 18; 2005 c 220 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.04.623 Travel trailer.** "Travel trailer" means a trailer built on a single chassis transportable upon the public streets and highways that is designed to be used as a temporary dwelling without a permanent foundation and may be used without being connected to utilities. [1989 c 337 § 3.]

**46.04.630 Train.** "Train" means a vehicle propelled by steam, electricity, or other motive power with or without cars coupled thereto, operated upon stationary rails, except streetcars. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.630. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 68; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.640 Trolley vehicle.** "Trolley vehicle" means a vehicle the motive power for which is supplied by means of a trolley line and which may or may not be confined in its operation to a certain portion of the roadway in order to maintain trolley line contact. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.640. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 69; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.650 Tractor.** "Tractor" means every motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles and not so constructed as to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the vehicle and load so drawn. [1986 c 18 § 1; 1975 c 62 § 8; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.650. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 70; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.653 Truck.** "Truck" means every motor vehicle designed, used, or maintained primarily for the transportation of property. [1986 c 18 § 2.]

**46.04.655 Truck tractor.** "Truck tractor" means every motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles but so constructed as to permit carrying a load in addition to part of the weight of the vehicle and load so drawn. [1986 c 18 § 3.]

**46.04.660 Used vehicle.** "Used vehicle" means a vehicle which has been sold, bargained, exchanged, given away, or title transferred from the person who first took title to it from the manufacturer or first importer, dealer, or agent of

the manufacturer or importer, and so used as to have become what is commonly known as "secondhand" within the ordinary meaning thereof. [1961 c 12 § 46.04.660. Prior: 1959 c 49 § 71; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part.]

**46.04.670 Vehicle.** "Vehicle" includes every device capable of being moved upon a public highway and in, upon, or by which any persons or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a public highway, including bicycles. "Vehicle" does not include power wheelchairs or devices other than bicycles moved by human or animal power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks. Mopeds are not considered vehicles or motor vehicles for the purposes of chapter 46.70 RCW. Bicycles are not considered vehicles for the purposes of chapter 46.12, 46.16A, or 46.70 RCW or RCW 82.12.045. Electric personal assistive mobility devices are not considered vehicles or motor vehicles for the purposes of chapter 46.12, 46.16A, 46.29, 46.37, or 46.70 RCW. A golf cart is not considered a vehicle, except for the purposes of chapter 46.61 RCW. [2011 c 171 § 19. Prior: 2010 c 217 § 2; 2010 c 161 § 155; 2003 c 141 § 6; 2002 c 247 § 5; 1994 c 262 § 2; 1991 c 214 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 213 § 4; 1961 c 12 § 46.04.670; prior: 1959 c 49 § 72; prior: (i) 1943 c 153 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-1, part. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 1, part; RRS § 6360-1, part; 1929 c 180 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 2, part; RRS § 6362-2, part.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Legislative review—2002 c 247:** See note following RCW 46.04.1695.

*Mopeds*

*helmet required:* RCW 46.37.530, 46.37.535.

*motorcycle endorsement, exemption:* RCW 46.20.500.

*operation and safety standards:* RCW 46.61.710, 46.61.720.

*registration:* RCW 46.16A.405(2), 46.17.350(1)(f).

**46.04.671 Vehicle license fee.** "Vehicle license fee" means a fee collected by the state of Washington as a license fee, as that term is construed in Article II, section 40 of the state Constitution, for the act of registering a vehicle under chapter 46.16A RCW. "Vehicle license fee" does not include license plate fees, or taxes and fees collected by the department for other jurisdictions. [2011 c 171 § 20; 2010 c 161 § 156.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.672 Vehicle or pedestrian right-of-way.** "Vehicle or pedestrian right-of-way" means the right of one vehicle or pedestrian to proceed in a lawful manner in preference to another vehicle or pedestrian approaching under such circumstances of direction, speed, and proximity as to give rise to danger of collision unless one grants precedence to the other. [1975 c 62 § 13.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.681 Vintage snowmobile.** "Vintage snowmobile" means a snowmobile manufactured at least thirty years ago. [2010 c 161 § 157.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.691 Washington Lighthouses license plates.** "Washington Lighthouses license plates" means license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display a symbol or artwork recognizing the efforts of lighthouse environmental programs in Washington state. [2011 c 171 § 21; 2005 c 48 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.04.6911 Washington state parks license plates.** "Washington state parks license plates" means special license plates displaying a symbol or artwork recognizing Washington state parks as premier destinations of uncommon quality that preserve significant natural, cultural, historical, and recreational resources. [2010 c 161 § 158.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.692 Washington's National Park Fund license plates.** "Washington's National Park Fund license plates" means license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display a symbol or artwork recognizing the efforts of Washington's National Park Fund in preserving Washington's national parks for future generations in Washington state. [2011 c 171 § 22; 2005 c 177 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.04.693 Washington's wildlife license plate collection.** "Washington's wildlife license plate collection" means the collection of three separate license plate designs. Each license plate design displays a distinct symbol or artwork, to include bear, deer, and elk, recognizing the wildlife of Washington. [2010 c 161 § 159.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.705 We love our pets license plates.** "We love our pets license plates" means license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display a symbol or artwork recognizing the efforts of the Washington state federation of animal care and control agencies in Washington state that assists local member agencies of the federation to promote and perform spay/neuter surgery of Washington state pets, in order to reduce pet overpopulation. [2011 c 171 § 23; 2005 c 71 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.04.710 Wheelchair conveyance.** "Wheelchair conveyance" means any vehicle specially manufactured or designed for the transportation of a physically or medically impaired wheelchair-bound person. The vehicle may be a separate vehicle used in lieu of a wheelchair or a separate vehicle used for transporting the impaired person while occu-

pying a wheelchair. The vehicle shall be equipped with a propulsion device capable of propelling the vehicle within a speed range established by the state patrol. The state patrol may approve and define as a wheelchair conveyance, a vehicle that fails to meet these specific criteria but is essentially similar in performance and application to vehicles that do meet these specific criteria. [1987 c 330 § 703; 1983 c 200 § 1.]

*Power wheelchairs: RCW 46.04.415.*

*Wheelchair conveyances*

*operator's license: RCW 46.20.109.*

*public roadways, operating on: RCW 46.61.730.*

*registration: RCW 46.16A.405(3).*

*safety standards: RCW 46.37.610.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.04.714 Wild on Washington license plates.** "Wild on Washington license plates" means special license plates that display a symbol or artwork symbolizing wildlife viewing in Washington state. [2010 c 161 § 161.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.04.900 Construction—Title applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521.** For the purposes of this title, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 112.]

## Chapter 46.08 RCW GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Sections

46.08.010	State preempts registration and licensing fields.
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*Extension of licensing period authorized—Rules and regulations, manner and content: RCW 43.24.140.*

**46.08.010 State preempts registration and licensing fields.** The provisions of this title relating to certificates of title, registration certificates, vehicle licenses, vehicle license plates, and drivers' licenses shall be exclusive and no political subdivision of the state of Washington shall require or issue any licenses or certificates for the same or a similar purpose, nor shall any city or town in this state impose a tax, license, or other fee upon vehicles operating exclusively between points outside of such city or town limits, and to points therein. [2010 c 161 § 1111; 1990 c 42 § 207; 1961 c 12 § 46.08.010. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 75; RRS § 6312-75.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**46.08.020 Precedence over local vehicle and traffic regulations.** The provisions of this title relating to vehicles shall be applicable and uniform throughout this state and in all incorporated cities and towns and all political subdivisions therein and no local authority shall enact or enforce any law, ordinance, rule or regulation in conflict with the provisions of this title except and unless expressly authorized by law to do so and any laws, ordinances, rules or regulations in conflict with the provisions of this title are hereby declared to be invalid and of no effect. Local authorities may, however, adopt additional vehicle and traffic regulations which are not in conflict with the provisions of this title. [1961 c 12 § 46.08.020. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 2; RRS § 6360-2.]

**46.08.030 Uniformity of application.** The provisions of this title relating to the operation of vehicles shall be applicable and uniform upon all persons operating vehicles upon the public highways of this state, except as otherwise specifically provided. [1961 c 12 § 46.08.030. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 3; RRS § 6360-3.]

**46.08.065 Publicly owned vehicles to be marked—Exceptions.** (1) It is unlawful for any public officer having charge of any vehicle owned or controlled by any county, city, town, or public body in this state other than the state of Washington and used in public business to operate the same upon the public highways of this state unless and until there shall be displayed upon such automobile or other motor vehicle in letters of contrasting color not less than one and one-quarter inches in height in a conspicuous place on the right and left sides thereof, the name of such county, city, town, or other public body, together with the name of the department or office upon the business of which the said vehicle is used. This section shall not apply to vehicles of a sheriff's office, local police department, or any vehicles used by local peace officers under public authority for special undercover or confidential investigative purposes. This subsection shall not apply to: (a) Any municipal transit vehicle operated for purposes of providing public mass transportation; (b) any vehicle governed by the requirements of subsection (4) of this section; nor to (c) any motor vehicle on loan to a school district for driver training purposes. It shall be lawful and constitute compliance with the provisions of this section, however, for the governing body of the appropriate county, city, town, or public body other than the state of Washington or its agen-

cies to adopt and use a distinctive insignia which shall be not less than six inches in diameter across its smallest dimension and which shall be displayed conspicuously on the right and left sides of the vehicle. Such insignia shall be in a color or colors contrasting with the vehicle to which applied for maximum visibility. The name of the public body owning or operating the vehicle shall also be included as part of or displayed above such approved insignia in colors contrasting with the vehicle in letters not less than one and one-quarter inches in height. Immediately below the lettering identifying the public entity and agency operating the vehicle or below an approved insignia shall appear the words "for official use only" in letters at least one inch high in a color contrasting with the color of the vehicle. The appropriate governing body may provide by rule or ordinance for marking of passenger motor vehicles as prescribed in subsection (2) of this section or for exceptions to the marking requirements for local governmental agencies for the same purposes and under the same circumstances as permitted for state agencies under subsection (3) of this section.

(2) Except as provided by subsections (3) and (4) of this section, passenger motor vehicles owned or controlled by the state of Washington, and purchased after July 1, 1989, must be plainly and conspicuously marked on the lower left-hand corner of the rear window with the name of the operating agency or institution or the words "state motor pool," as appropriate, the words "state of Washington — for official use only," and the seal of the state of Washington or the appropriate agency or institution insignia, approved by the \*department of general administration. Markings must be on a transparent adhesive material and conform to the standards established by the \*department of general administration. For the purposes of this section, "passenger motor vehicles" means sedans, station wagons, vans, light trucks, or other motor vehicles under ten thousand pounds gross vehicle weight.

(3) Subsection (2) of this section shall not apply to vehicles used by the Washington state patrol for general undercover or confidential investigative purposes. Traffic control vehicles of the Washington state patrol may be exempted from the requirements of subsection (2) of this section at the discretion of the chief of the Washington state patrol. The \*department of general administration shall adopt general rules permitting other exceptions to the requirements of subsection (2) of this section for other vehicles used for law enforcement, confidential public health work, and public assistance fraud or support investigative purposes, for vehicles leased or rented by the state on a casual basis for a period of less than ninety days, and those provided for in \*\*RCW 46.08.066(3). The exceptions in this subsection, subsection (4) of this section, and those provided for in \*\*RCW 46.08.066(3) shall be the only exceptions permitted to the requirements of subsection (2) of this section.

(4) Any motorcycle, vehicle over 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight, or other vehicle that for structural reasons cannot be marked as required by subsection (1) or (2) of this section that is owned or controlled by the state of Washington or by any county, city, town, or other public body in this state and used for public purposes on the public highways of this state shall be conspicuously marked in letters of a contrasting color with the words "State of Washington" or the name of

such county, city, town, or other public body, together with the name of the department or office that owns or controls the vehicle.

(5) All motor vehicle markings required under the terms of this chapter shall be maintained in a legible condition at all times. [1998 c 111 § 4; 1989 c 57 § 9; 1975 1st ex.s. c 169 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.08.065. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 46; RRS § 6360-46. Formerly RCW 46.36.140.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) The "department of general administration" was renamed the "department of enterprise services" by 2011 1st sp.s. c 43 § 107.

\*\* (2) RCW 46.08.066 was amended by 2010 c 161 § 211, deleting subsection (3), effective July 1, 2011. RCW 46.08.066 is the appropriate reference.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.08.066 Publicly owned vehicles—Confidential license plates—Issuance, rules governing.** (1) The department may issue confidential license plates to:

(a) Units of local government and agencies of the federal government for law enforcement purposes only;

(b) Any state official elected on a statewide basis for use on official business. Only one set of confidential license plates may be issued to these elected officials;

(c) Any other public officer or public employee for the personal security of the officer or employee when recommended by the chief of the Washington state patrol. These confidential license plates may only be used on an unmarked publicly owned or controlled vehicle of the employing government agency for the conduct of official business for the period of time that the personal security of the state official, public officer, or other public employee may require; and

(d) The office of the state treasurer. These confidential license plates may only be used on an unmarked state owned or controlled vehicle when required for the safe transportation of either state funds or negotiable securities to or from the office of the state treasurer.

(2) The use of confidential license plates on other vehicles owned or operated by the state of Washington by any officer or employee of the state is limited to confidential, investigative, or undercover work of state law enforcement agencies, confidential public health work, and confidential public assistance fraud or support investigations.

(3) The director may adopt rules governing applications for, and the use of, confidential license plates. [2010 c 161 § 211; 1986 c 158 § 20; 1982 c 163 § 14; 1979 c 158 § 128; 1975 1st ex.s. c 169 § 2.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.08.067 Publicly owned vehicles—Violations concerning marking and confidential license plates.** A violation of any provision of RCW 46.08.065 as now or hereafter amended or of RCW 46.08.066 shall subject the public officer or employee committing such violation to disciplinary action by the appropriate appointing authority or employing agency. Such disciplinary action may include, but shall not be limited to, suspension without pay or termination of employment in the case of repeated or continuing noncompliance. [1975 1st ex.s. c 169 § 3.]

**46.08.068 Publicly owned vehicles—Remarking not required, when.** Any vehicle properly marked pursuant to statutory requirements in effect prior to September 8, 1975, need not be remarked to conform to the requirements of RCW 46.08.065 through 46.08.067 until July 1, 1977. [1975 1st ex.s. c 169 § 4.]

**46.08.070 Nonresidents, application to.** Subject to a compliance with the motor vehicle laws of the state and acceptance of the provisions of this title, nonresident owners and operators of vehicles hereby are granted the privilege of using the public highways of this state, and use of such public highways shall be deemed and construed to be an acceptance by such nonresident owners and operators of the provisions of this title. [1961 c 12 § 46.08.070. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 128; RRS § 6360-128.]

**46.08.150 Control of traffic on capitol grounds.** The \*director of general administration shall have power to devise and promulgate rules and regulations for the control of vehicular and pedestrian traffic and the parking of motor vehicles on the state capitol grounds. However, the monetary penalty for parking a motor vehicle without a valid special license plate or placard in a parking place reserved for persons with physical disabilities shall be the same as provided in RCW 46.19.050. Such rules and regulations shall be promulgated by publication in one issue of a newspaper published at the state capitol and shall be given such further publicity as the director may deem proper. [2010 c 161 § 1112; 2010 c 161 § 212; 1995 c 384 § 2; 1961 c 12 § 46.08.150. Prior: 1955 c 285 § 21; 1947 c 11 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 7921-20.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The "director of general administration" was renamed the "director of enterprise services" by 2011 1st sp.s. c 43 § 108.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.08.160 Control of traffic on capitol grounds—Enforcing officer.** The chief of the Washington state patrol shall be the chief enforcing officer to assure the proper enforcement of such rules and regulations. [1961 c 12 § 46.08.160. Prior: 1947 c 11 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 7921-21.]

**46.08.170 Control of traffic on capitol grounds—Violations, traffic infractions, misdemeanors—Jurisdiction.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, any violation of a rule or regulation prescribed under RCW 46.08.150 is a traffic infraction, and the district courts of Thurston county shall have jurisdiction over such offenses: PROVIDED, That violation of a rule or regulation relating to traffic including parking, standing, stopping, and pedestrian offenses is a traffic infraction.

(2) Violation of such a rule or regulation equivalent to those provisions of Title 46 RCW set forth in RCW 46.63.020 remains a misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 232; 1987 c 202 § 213; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 40; 1963 c 158 § 2; 1961 c 12 § 46.08.170. Prior: 1947 c 11 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 7921-22.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.08.172 Parking rental fees—Establishment.** The director of the \*department of general administration shall establish equitable and consistent parking rental fees for the capitol campus and may, if requested by agencies, establish equitable and consistent parking rental fees for agencies off the capitol campus, to be charged to employees, visitors, clients, service providers, and others, that reflect the legislature's intent to reduce state subsidization of parking or to meet the commute trip reduction goals established in RCW 70.94.527. All fees shall take into account the market rate of comparable privately owned rental parking, as determined by the director. However, parking rental fees are not to exceed the local market rate of comparable privately owned rental parking.

The director may delegate the responsibility for the collection of parking fees to other agencies of state government when cost-effective. [1995 c 215 § 4; 1993 c 394 § 4. Prior: 1991 sp.s. c 31 § 12; 1991 sp.s. c 13 § 41; 1988 ex.s. c 2 § 901; 1985 c 57 § 59; 1984 c 258 § 323; 1963 c 158 § 1.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The "department of general administration" was renamed the "department of enterprise services" by 2011 1st sp.s. c 43 § 107.

**Finding—Purpose—1993 c 394:** See note following RCW 43.01.220.

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.34.130.

*Fee deposition:* RCW 43.01.225.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.08.175 Golf cart zones.** (1) The legislative authority of a city or county may by ordinance or resolution create a golf cart zone, for the purposes of permitting the incidental operation of golf carts, as defined in RCW 46.04.1945, upon a street or highway of this state having a speed limit of twenty-five miles per hour or less.

(2) Every person operating a golf cart as authorized under this section is granted all rights and is subject to all duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle under chapter 46.61 RCW.

(3) Every person operating a golf cart as authorized under this section must be at least sixteen years of age and must have completed a driver education course or have previous experience driving as a licensed driver.

(4) A person who has a revoked license under RCW 46.20.285 may not operate a golf cart as authorized under this section.

(5) The legislative authority of a city or county may prohibit any person from operating a golf cart as authorized under this section at any time from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise.

(6) The legislative authority of a city or county may require a decal or other identifying device to be displayed on golf carts authorized on the streets and highways of this state under this section. The city or county may charge a fee for the decal or other identifying device.

(7) The legislative authority of a city or county may prohibit the operation of golf carts in designated bicycle lanes that are within a golf cart zone.

(8) Golf carts must be equipped with reflectors, seat belts, and rearview mirrors when operated upon streets and highways as authorized under this section.

(9) A city or county that creates a golf cart zone under this section must clearly identify the zone by placing signage at the beginning and end of the golf cart zone on a street or road that is part of the golf cart zone. The signage must be in compliance with the department of transportation's manual on uniform traffic control devices for streets and highways.

(10) Accidents that involve golf carts operated upon streets and highways as authorized under this section must be recorded and tracked in compliance with chapter 46.52 RCW. The accident report must indicate that a golf cart operating within a golf cart zone is involved in the accident. [2010 c 217 § 4.]

**46.08.190 Jurisdiction of judges of district, municipal, and superior court.** Every district and municipal court judge shall have concurrent jurisdiction with superior court judges of the state for all violations of the provisions of this title, except the trial of felony charges on the merits, and may impose any punishment provided therefor. [1995 c 136 § 1; 1984 c 258 § 136; 1961 c 12 § 46.08.190. Prior: 1955 c 393 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 46.09 RCW

### OFF-ROAD AND NONHIGHWAY VEHICLES

#### Sections

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#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

**46.09.300 Application of chapter—Permission necessary to enter upon private lands.** The provisions of this chapter shall apply to all lands in this state. Nothing in this chapter, RCW 79A.35.040, 79A.35.070, 79A.35.090, 79A.35.110, and 79A.35.120 shall be deemed to grant to any person the right or authority to enter upon private property without permission of the property owner. [2005 c 213 § 2; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 6. Formerly RCW 46.09.010.]

**Findings—Construction—2005 c 213:** "The legislature finds that off-road recreational vehicles (ORVs) provide opportunities for a wide variety of outdoor recreation activities. The legislature further finds that the limited amount of ORV recreation areas presents a challenge for ORV recreational users, natural resource land managers, and private landowners. The legislature further finds that many nonhighway roads provide opportunities for ORV use and that these opportunities may reduce conflicts between users and facilitate responsible ORV recreation. However, restrictions intended for motor vehicles may prevent ORV use on certain roads, including forest service roads. Therefore, the legislature finds that local, state, and federal jurisdictions should be given the flexibility to allow ORV use on nonhighway roads they own and manage or for which they are authorized to allow public ORV use under an easement granted by the owner. Nothing in this act authorizes trespass on private property." [2005 c 213 § 1.]

**Effective date—2005 c 213:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2005." [2005 c 213 § 9.]

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 67.32.080.

**46.09.310 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Advisory committee" means the nonhighway and off-road vehicle activities advisory committee established in RCW 46.09.340.

(2) "Board" means the recreation and conservation funding board established in RCW 79A.25.110.

(3) "Dealer" means a person, partnership, association, or corporation engaged in the business of selling off-road vehicles at wholesale or retail in this state.

(4) "Highway," for the purpose of this chapter only, means the entire width between the boundary lines of every roadway publicly maintained by the state department of transportation or any county or city with funding from the motor vehicle fund. A highway is generally capable of travel by a conventional two-wheel drive passenger automobile during most of the year and in use by such vehicles.

(5) "Nonhighway road" means any road owned or managed by a public agency or any private road for which the owner has granted an easement for public use for which appropriations from the motor vehicle fund were not used for (a) original construction or reconstruction in the last twenty-five years; or (b) maintenance in the last four years.

(6) "Nonhighway road recreation facilities" means recreational facilities that are adjacent to, or accessed by, a nonhighway road and intended primarily for nonhighway road recreational users.

(7) "Nonhighway road recreational user" means a person whose purpose for consuming fuel on a nonhighway road or off-road is primarily for nonhighway road recreational purposes, including, but not limited to, hunting, fishing, camping, sightseeing, wildlife viewing, picnicking, driving for

pleasure, kayaking/canoeing, and gathering berries, firewood, mushrooms, and other natural products.

(8) "Nonhighway vehicle" means any motorized vehicle including an ORV when used for recreational purposes on nonhighway roads, trails, or a variety of other natural terrain.

Nonhighway vehicle does not include:

(a) Any vehicle designed primarily for travel on, over, or in the water;

(b) Snowmobiles or any military vehicles; or

(c) Any vehicle eligible for a motor vehicle fuel tax exemption or rebate under chapter 82.36 RCW while an exemption or rebate is claimed. This exemption includes but is not limited to farm, construction, and logging vehicles.

(9) "Nonmotorized recreational facilities" means recreational trails and facilities that are adjacent to, or accessed by, a nonhighway road and intended primarily for nonmotorized recreational users.

(10) "Nonmotorized recreational user" means a person whose purpose for consuming fuel on a nonhighway road or off-road is primarily for nonmotorized recreational purposes including, but not limited to, walking, hiking, backpacking, climbing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, mountain biking, horseback riding, and pack animal activities.

(11) "Organized competitive event" means any competition, advertised in advance through written notice to organized clubs or published in local newspapers, sponsored by recognized clubs, and conducted at a predetermined time and place.

(12) "ORV recreation facilities" include, but are not limited to, ORV trails, trailheads, campgrounds, ORV sports parks, and ORV use areas, designated for ORV use by the managing authority that are intended primarily for ORV recreational users.

(13) "ORV recreational user" means a person whose purpose for consuming fuel on nonhighway roads or off-road is primarily for ORV recreational purposes, including but not limited to riding an all-terrain vehicle, motorcycling, or driving a four-wheel drive vehicle or dune buggy.

(14) "ORV sports park" means a facility designed to accommodate competitive ORV recreational uses including, but not limited to, motocross racing, four-wheel drive competitions, and flat track racing. Use of ORV sports parks can be competitive or noncompetitive in nature.

(15) "ORV trail" means a multiple-use corridor designated by the managing authority and maintained for recreational use by motorized vehicles. [2010 c 161 § 213; 2007 c 241 § 13; 2004 c 105 § 1; 1986 c 206 § 1; 1979 c 158 § 129; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 7. Formerly RCW 46.09.020.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Intent—Effective date—2007 c 241:** See notes following RCW 79A.25.005.

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.09.320 Certificates of title.** The department shall issue a certificate of title to the owner of an off-road vehicle. The owner shall pay the fee established under RCW 46.17.100. Issuance of the certificate of title does not qualify

the vehicle for registration under chapter 46.16A RCW. [2011 c 171 § 24; 2010 c 161 § 214.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.09.330 Off-road vehicle dealers—Licenses—Fee—License plates—Title application upon sale—Violation.**

(1) Each dealer of off-road vehicles in this state shall obtain either a miscellaneous vehicle dealer license as defined in RCW 46.70.011 or an off-road vehicle dealer license from the department in a manner prescribed by the department. Upon receipt of an application for an off-road vehicle dealer license and the fee described under subsection (2) of this section, the dealer is licensed and an off-road vehicle dealer license number must be assigned.

(2) The annual fee for an off-road vehicle dealer license is twenty-five dollars, which covers all of the off-road vehicles owned by a dealer and not rented. Off-road vehicles rented on a regular, commercial basis by a dealer must have separate registrations.

(3) Upon the issuance of an off-road vehicle dealer license, each dealer may purchase, at a cost to be determined by the department, off-road vehicle dealer license plates of a size and color to be determined by the department. The off-road vehicle dealer license plates must contain the off-road vehicle dealer license number assigned to the dealer. Each off-road vehicle operated by a dealer, dealer representative, or prospective customer for the purposes of testing or demonstration shall display dealer license plates assigned by the department.

(4) A dealer, dealer representative, or prospective customer may only use dealer license plates for the purposes prescribed in subsection (3) of this section.

(5) Off-road vehicle dealer license numbers are non-transferable.

(6) It is unlawful for any dealer to sell any off-road vehicle at wholesale or retail or to test or demonstrate any off-road vehicle within the state unless the dealer has either a miscellaneous vehicle dealer license as defined in RCW 46.70.011 or an off-road vehicle dealer license as required under this section.

(7) When an off-road vehicle is sold by a dealer, the dealer shall apply for a certificate of title in the purchaser's name within fifteen days following the sale.

(8) Except as provided in RCW 46.09.420, it is unlawful for any dealer to sell at retail an off-road vehicle without registration required in RCW 46.09.440. [2010 c 161 § 220; 2010 c 8 § 9002; 1990 c 250 § 24; 1986 c 206 § 5; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 7; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 9; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 13. Formerly RCW 46.09.080.]

**Reviser's note:** RCW 46.09.080 was amended twice during the 2010 legislative session, each without reference to the other. For rule of construction concerning sections amended more than once during the same legislative session, see RCW 1.12.025.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.09.340 Nonhighway and off-road vehicle activities advisory committee.** (1) The board shall establish the non-highway and off-road vehicle activities advisory committee to provide advice regarding the administration of this chapter. The committee consists of governmental representatives, land managers, and a proportional representation of persons with recreational experience in areas identified in the most recent fuel use study, including but not limited to people with off-road vehicle, hiking, equestrian, mountain biking, hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing experience.

(2) After the advisory committee has made recommendations regarding the expenditure of the fuel tax revenue portion of the nonhighway and off-road vehicle account moneys, the advisory committee's off-road vehicle and mountain biking recreationists, governmental representatives, and land managers will make recommendations regarding the expenditure of funds received under RCW 46.68.045.

(3) At least once a year, the board, the department of natural resources, the department of fish and wildlife, and the state parks and recreation commission shall report to the non-highway and off-road vehicle activities advisory committee on the expenditures of funds received under RCW 46.68.045 and 46.09.520 and must proactively seek the advisory committee's advice regarding proposed expenditures.

(4) The advisory committee shall advise these agencies regarding the allocation of funds received under RCW 46.09.520 to ensure that overall expenditures reflect consideration of the results of the most recent fuel use study. [2010 c 161 § 224; 2007 c 241 § 19; 2004 c 105 § 8; 2003 c 185 § 1; 1986 c 206 § 13. Formerly RCW 46.09.280.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Intent—Effective date—2007 c 241:** See notes following RCW 79A.25.005.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.09.350 Accident reports.** The operator of any non-highway vehicle involved in any accident resulting in injury to or death of any person, or property damage to another to an apparent extent equal to or greater than the minimum amount established by rule adopted by the chief of the Washington state patrol in accordance with chapter 46.52 RCW, or a person acting for the operator shall submit such reports as are required under chapter 46.52 RCW, and the provisions of chapter 46.52 RCW applies to the reports when submitted. [1990 c 250 § 25; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 12; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 19. Formerly RCW 46.09.140.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.09.360 Regulation by local political subdivisions or state agencies.** Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this chapter, any city, county, or other political subdivision of this state, or any state agency, may regulate the operation of nonhighway vehicles on public lands, waters, and other properties under its jurisdiction, and on streets, roads, or highways within its boundaries by adopting regulations or ordinances of its governing body, provided such regulations are not less stringent than the provisions of this chapter. However, the legislative body of a city with a population of less than three thousand persons may, by ordinance, designate a street or

highway within its boundaries to be suitable for use by off-road vehicles. The legislative body of a county may, by ordinance, designate a road or highway within its boundaries to be suitable for use by off-road vehicles if the road or highway is a direct connection between a city with a population of less than three thousand persons and an off-road vehicle recreation facility. [2006 c 212 § 4; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 15; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 23. Formerly RCW 46.09.180.]

**46.09.370 Statewide plan.** The board shall maintain a statewide plan which shall be updated at least once every third biennium and shall be used by all participating agencies to guide distribution and expenditure of funds under this chapter. [2007 c 241 § 18; 1986 c 206 § 11; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 18. Formerly RCW 46.09.250.]

**Intent—Effective date—2007 c 241:** See notes following RCW 79A.25.005.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.09.380 Enforcement.** The provisions of this chapter shall be enforced by all persons having the authority to enforce any of the laws of this state, including, without limitation, officers of the state patrol, county sheriffs and their deputies, all municipal law enforcement officers within their respective jurisdictions, fish and wildlife officers, state park rangers, and those employees of the department of natural resources designated by the commissioner of public lands under RCW \*43.30.310, 76.04.035, and 76.04.045. [2001 c 253 § 3; 1986 c 100 § 52; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 25. Formerly RCW 46.09.200.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 43.30.310 was recodified as RCW 43.12.065 pursuant to 2003 c 334 § 127.

## REGISTRATIONS AND USE PERMITS

**46.09.400 Issuance—Decals—Fees.** The department shall:

(1) Issue registrations and temporary ORV use permits for off-road vehicles;

(2) Issue decals for off-road vehicles. The decals serve the same function as license plates for vehicles registered under chapter 46.16A RCW; and

(3) Charge a fee for each decal covering the actual cost of the decal. [2011 c 171 § 25; 2010 c 161 § 215; 1990 c 250 § 23; 1986 c 206 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 2; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 4; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 8. Formerly RCW 46.09.030.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.09.410 Registrations—Original and renewal application—Requirements—Decals—Out-of-state operators.** (1) The application for an original ORV registration has the same requirements as described for original vehicle registrations in RCW 46.16A.040 and must be accompanied by the annual off-road vehicle license fee required under RCW 46.17.350, in addition to any other fees or taxes due for the application.



(2) The application for renewal of an ORV registration has the same requirements as described for the renewal of vehicle registrations in RCW 46.16A.110 and must be accompanied by the annual off-road vehicle license fee required under RCW 46.17.350, in addition to any other fees or taxes due for the application.

(3) The annual ORV registration is valid for one year and may be renewed each subsequent year as prescribed by the department.

(4) A person who acquires an off-road vehicle that has an ORV registration must:

(a) Apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a transfer of the ORV registration within fifteen days of taking possession of the off-road vehicle; and

(b) Pay the ORV registration transfer fee required under RCW 46.17.410, in addition to any other fees or taxes due at the time of application.

(5) The department shall issue an ORV registration, decals, and tabs upon receipt of:

(a) A properly completed application for an original ORV registration; and

(b) The payment of all fees and taxes due at the time of application.

(6) The ORV registration must be carried on the vehicle for which it was issued at all times during its operation in this state.

(7) Off-road vehicle decals must be affixed to the off-road vehicle in a manner prescribed by the department.

(8) Unless exempt under RCW 46.09.420, any out-of-state operator of an off-road vehicle, when operating in this state, must comply with this chapter. If an ORV registration is required under this chapter, the out-of-state operator must obtain an ORV registration and decal or a temporary ORV use permit. [2010 c 161 § 218; 2004 c 106 § 1; 2002 c 352 § 1; 1997 c 241 § 1; 1986 c 206 § 4; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 6; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 8; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 12. Formerly RCW 46.09.070.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2004 c 106 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act takes effect with registrations that are due or become due November 1, 2004, or later." [2004 c 106 § 2.]

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** "Sections 7, 9, and 28 of this act are effective with registrations that are due or will become due September 1, 2002, and thereafter. Section 26 of this act takes effect October 1, 2002. The remainder of this act takes effect July 1, 2002." [2002 c 352 § 30.]

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.09.420 Registrations and decals—Exemptions.** ORV registrations and decals are required under this chapter except for the following:

(1) Off-road vehicles owned and operated by the United States, another state, or a political subdivision of the United States or another state.

(2) Off-road vehicles owned and operated by this state, a municipality, or a political subdivision of this state or the municipality.

(3) Off-road vehicles operated on agricultural lands owned or leased by the off-road vehicle owner or operator.

(4) Off-road vehicles owned by a resident of another state that have a valid ORV use permit or vehicle registration issued in accordance with the laws of the other state. This exemption applies only to the extent that a similar exemption or privilege is granted under the laws of that state.

(5) Off-road vehicles while being used for search and rescue purposes under the authority or direction of an appropriate search and rescue or law enforcement agency.

(6) Vehicles registered under chapter 46.16A RCW or, in the case of nonresidents, vehicles validly registered for operation over public highways in the jurisdiction of the owner's residence. [2011 c 171 § 26; 2010 c 161 § 217; 2004 c 105 § 9; 1986 c 206 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 4; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 6; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 10. Formerly RCW 46.09.050.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.09.430 Use permits—Application requirements.**

(1) The application for a temporary ORV use permit must be made by the owner or the owner's authorized representative to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director on a form furnished or approved by the department. The application must contain:

(a) The name and address of each owner of the off-road vehicle; and

(b) Other information that the department may require.

(2) The owner or the owner's authorized representative shall sign the application for a temporary ORV use permit.

(3) The application for a temporary ORV use permit must be accompanied by the temporary ORV use permit fee required under RCW 46.17.400, in addition to any other fees or taxes due for the application.

(4) A temporary ORV use permit:

(a) Is valid for sixty days; and

(b) Must be carried on the vehicle for which it was issued at all times during its operation in this state. [2010 c 161 § 219.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.09.440 Prerequisite to operation.** Except as provided in this chapter, a person shall not operate an off-road vehicle within this state unless the off-road vehicle has been assigned an ORV registration or temporary ORV use permit and displays current decals and tabs as required under this chapter. [2010 c 161 § 216; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 3; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 9. Formerly RCW 46.09.040.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

## USES AND VIOLATIONS

**46.09.450 Authorized and prohibited uses.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, it is lawful to operate an off-road vehicle upon:

(a) A nonhighway road and in parking areas serving designated off-road vehicle areas if the state, federal, local, or private authority responsible for the management of the nonhighway road authorizes the use of off-road vehicles; and

(b) A street, road, or highway as authorized under RCW 46.09.360.

(2) Operations of an off-road vehicle on a nonhighway road, or on a street, road, or highway as authorized under RCW 46.09.360, under this section is exempt from registration requirements of chapter 46.16A RCW and vehicle lighting and equipment requirements of chapter 46.37 RCW.

(3) It is unlawful to operate an off-road vehicle upon a private nonhighway road if the road owner has not authorized the use of off-road vehicles.

(4) Nothing in this section authorizes trespass on private property.

(5) The provisions of RCW 4.24.210(5) shall apply to public landowners who allow members of the public to use public facilities accessed by a highway, street, or nonhighway road for recreational off-road vehicle use. [2011 c 171 § 27; 2010 c 161 § 221; 2006 c 212 § 2; 2005 c 213 § 4. Formerly RCW 46.09.115.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Findings—Construction—Effective date—2005 c 213:** See notes following RCW 46.09.300.

**46.09.460 Operation by persons under thirteen.** (1) Except as specified in subsection (2) of this section, no person under thirteen years of age may operate an off-road vehicle on or across a highway or nonhighway road in this state.

(2) Persons under thirteen years of age may operate an off-road vehicle on a nonhighway road designated for off-road vehicle use under the direct supervision of a person eighteen years of age or older possessing a valid license to operate a motor vehicle under chapter 46.20 RCW. [2005 c 213 § 5. Formerly RCW 46.09.117.]

**Findings—Construction—Effective date—2005 c 213:** See notes following RCW 46.09.300.

**46.09.470 Operating violations—Exceptions.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, it is a traffic infraction for any person to operate any nonhighway vehicle:

(a) In such a manner as to endanger the property of another;

(b) On lands not owned by the operator or owner of the nonhighway vehicle without a lighted headlight and taillight between the hours of dusk and dawn, or when otherwise required for the safety of others regardless of ownership;

(c) On lands not owned by the operator or owner of the nonhighway vehicle without an adequate braking device or when otherwise required for the safety of others regardless of ownership;

(d) Without a spark arrester approved by the department of natural resources;

(e) Without an adequate, and operating, muffling device which effectively limits vehicle noise to no more than eighty-six decibels on the "A" scale at fifty feet as measured by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) test procedure J 331a, except that a maximum noise level of one hundred and five decibels on the "A" scale at a distance of twenty inches from the exhaust outlet shall be an acceptable substitute in lieu of the Society of Automotive Engineers test procedure J 331a when measured:

(i) At a forty-five degree angle at a distance of twenty inches from the exhaust outlet;

(ii) With the vehicle stationary and the engine running at a steady speed equal to one-half of the manufacturer's maximum allowable ("red line") engine speed or where the manufacturer's maximum allowable engine speed is not known the test speed in revolutions per minute calculated as sixty percent of the speed at which maximum horsepower is developed; and

(iii) With the microphone placed ten inches from the side of the vehicle, one-half way between the lowest part of the vehicle body and the ground plane, and in the same lateral plane as the rearmost exhaust outlet where the outlet of the exhaust pipe is under the vehicle;

(f) On lands not owned by the operator or owner of the nonhighway vehicle upon the shoulder or inside bank or slope of any nonhighway road or highway, or upon the median of any divided highway;

(g) On lands not owned by the operator or owner of the nonhighway vehicle in any area or in such a manner so as to unreasonably expose the underlying soil, or to create an erosion condition, or to injure, damage, or destroy trees, growing crops, or other vegetation;

(h) On lands not owned by the operator or owner of the nonhighway vehicle or on any nonhighway road or trail, when these are restricted to pedestrian or animal travel;

(i) On any public lands in violation of rules and regulations of the agency administering such lands; and

(j) On a private nonhighway road in violation of RCW 46.09.450(3).

(2) It is a misdemeanor for any person to operate any nonhighway vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a controlled substance.

(3)(a) Except for an off-road vehicle equipped with seat belts and roll bars or an enclosed passenger compartment, it is a traffic infraction for any person to operate or ride an off-road vehicle on a nonhighway road without wearing upon his or her head a motorcycle helmet fastened securely while in motion. For purposes of this section, "motorcycle helmet" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 46.37.530.

(b) Subsection (3)(a) of this section does not apply to an off-road vehicle operator operating on his or her own land.

(c) Subsection (3)(a) of this section does not apply to an off-road vehicle operator operating on agricultural lands owned or leased by the off-road vehicle operator or the operator's employer.

(4) It is not a traffic infraction to operate an off-road vehicle on a street, road, or highway as authorized under RCW 46.09.360 or 46.61.705. [2011 c 171 § 28; 2011 c 121 § 4; 2006 c 212 § 3; 2005 c 213 § 3; 2003 c 377 § 1; 1979

ex.s. c 136 § 41; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 10; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 12; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 17. Formerly RCW 46.09.120.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2011 c 121 § 4 and by 2011 c 171 § 28, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—2011 c 121:** See note following RCW 46.04.363.

**Findings—Construction—Effective date—2005 c 213:** See notes following RCW 46.09.300.

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.09.480 Additional violations—Penalty.** (1) No person may operate a nonhighway vehicle in such a way as to endanger human life.

(2) No person shall operate a nonhighway vehicle in such a way as to run down or harass any wildlife or animal, nor carry, transport, or convey any loaded weapon in or upon, nor hunt from, any nonhighway vehicle except by permit issued by the director of fish and wildlife under RCW 77.32.237: PROVIDED, That it shall not be unlawful to carry, transport, or convey a loaded pistol in or upon a nonhighway vehicle if the person complies with the terms and conditions of chapter 9.41 RCW.

(3) For the purposes of this section, "hunt" means any effort to kill, injure, capture, or purposely disturb a wild animal or bird.

(4) Violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor. [2004 c 105 § 4; (2004 c 105 § 3 expired July 1, 2004); 2003 c 53 § 233; 1994 c 264 § 35; 1989 c 297 § 3; 1986 c 206 § 7; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 11; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 18. Formerly RCW 46.09.130.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Expiration dates—Effective dates—2004 c 105 §§ 3-6:** "(1) Section 3 of this act expires July 1, 2004.

(2) Section 4 of this act takes effect July 1, 2004.

(3) Section 5 of this act expires June 30, 2005.

(4) Section 6 of this act takes effect June 30, 2005." [2004 c 105 § 11.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.09.490 General penalty—Civil liability.** (1) Except as provided in RCW 46.09.470(2) and 46.09.480 as now or hereafter amended, violation of the provisions of this chapter is a traffic infraction for which a penalty of not less than twenty-five dollars may be imposed.

(2) In addition to the penalties provided in subsection (1) of this section, the owner and/or the operator of any nonhighway vehicle shall be liable for any damage to property including damage to trees, shrubs, or growing crops injured as the result of travel by the nonhighway vehicle. The owner of such property may recover from the person responsible three times the amount of damage. [2011 c 171 § 29; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 42; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 16; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 16; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 24. Formerly RCW 46.09.190.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## REVENUE

**46.09.500 Motor vehicle fuel excise taxes on fuel for nonhighway vehicles not refundable.** Motor vehicle fuel excise taxes paid on fuel used and purchased for providing the motive power for nonhighway vehicles shall not be refundable in accordance with the provisions of RCW 82.36.280 as it now exists or is hereafter amended. [1977 ex.s. c 220 § 13; 1974 ex.s. c 144 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 13; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 20. Formerly RCW 46.09.150.]

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

**46.09.510 Nonhighway and off-road vehicle activities program account.** The nonhighway and off-road vehicle activities program account is created in the state treasury. Moneys in this account are subject to legislative appropriation. The recreation and conservation funding board shall administer the account for purposes specified in this chapter and shall hold it separate and apart from all other money, funds, and accounts of the board. Grants, gifts, or other financial assistance, proceeds received from public bodies as administrative cost contributions, and any moneys made available to the state of Washington by the federal government for outdoor recreation may be deposited into the account. [2007 c 241 § 15; 1995 c 166 § 11. Formerly RCW 46.09.165.]

**Intent—Effective date—2007 c 241:** See notes following RCW 79A.25.005.

**46.09.520 Refunds from motor vehicle fund—Distribution—Use.** (1) From time to time, but at least once each year, the state treasurer shall refund from the motor vehicle fund one percent of the motor vehicle fuel tax revenues collected under chapter 82.36 RCW, based on a tax rate of: (a) Nineteen cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel from July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2005; (b) twenty cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel from July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2007; (c) twenty-one cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel from July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2009; (d) twenty-two cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2011; and (e) twenty-three cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel beginning July 1, 2011, and thereafter, less proper deductions for refunds and costs of collection as provided in RCW 46.68.090.

(2) The treasurer shall place these funds in the general fund as follows:

(a) Thirty-six percent shall be credited to the ORV and nonhighway vehicle account and administered by the department of natural resources solely for acquisition, planning, development, maintenance, and management of ORV, nonmotorized, and nonhighway road recreation facilities, and information programs and maintenance of nonhighway roads;

(b) Three and one-half percent shall be credited to the ORV and nonhighway vehicle account and administered by the department of fish and wildlife solely for the acquisition,

planning, development, maintenance, and management of ORV, nonmotorized, and nonhighway road recreation facilities and the maintenance of nonhighway roads;

(c) Two percent shall be credited to the ORV and nonhighway vehicle account and administered by the parks and recreation commission solely for the acquisition, planning, development, maintenance, and management of ORV, nonmotorized, and nonhighway road recreation facilities; and

(d) Fifty-eight and one-half percent shall be credited to the nonhighway and off-road vehicle activities program account to be administered by the board for planning, acquisition, development, maintenance, and management of ORV, nonmotorized, and nonhighway road recreation facilities and for education, information, and law enforcement programs. The funds under this subsection shall be expended in accordance with the following limitations:

(i) Not more than thirty percent may be expended for education, information, and law enforcement programs under this chapter;

(ii) Not less than seventy percent may be expended for ORV, nonmotorized, and nonhighway road recreation facilities. Except as provided in (d)(iii) of this subsection, of this amount:

(A) Not less than thirty percent, together with the funds the board receives under RCW 46.68.045, may be expended for ORV recreation facilities;

(B) Not less than thirty percent may be expended for nonmotorized recreation facilities. Funds expended under this subsection (2)(d)(ii)(B) shall be known as Ira Spring outdoor recreation facilities funds; and

(C) Not less than thirty percent may be expended for nonhighway road recreation facilities;

(iii) The board may waive the minimum percentage cited in (d)(ii) of this subsection due to insufficient requests for funds or projects that score low in the board's project evaluation. Funds remaining after such a waiver must be allocated in accordance with board policy.

(3) On a yearly basis an agency may not, except as provided in RCW 46.68.045, expend more than ten percent of the funds it receives under this chapter for general administration expenses incurred in carrying out this chapter.

(4) During the 2009-2011 fiscal biennium, the legislature may appropriate such amounts as reflect the excess fund balance in the NOVA account to the department of natural resources to install consistent off-road vehicle signage at department-managed recreation sites, and to implement the recreation opportunities on department-managed lands in the Reiter block and Ahtanum state forest, and to the state parks and recreation commission. The legislature finds that the appropriation of funds from the NOVA account during the 2009-2011 fiscal biennium for maintenance and operation of state parks or to improve accessibility for boaters and off-road vehicle users at state parks will benefit boaters and off-road vehicle users and others who use nonhighway and nonmotorized recreational facilities. The appropriations under this subsection are not required to follow the specific distribution specified in subsection (2) of this section. [2010 1st sp.s. c 37 § 936; 2010 c 161 § 222. Prior: 2009 c 564 § 944; 2009 c 187 § 2; prior: 2007 c 522 § 953; 2007 c 241 § 16; 2004 c 105 § 6; (2004 c 105 § 5 expired June 30, 2005); prior: (2003 1st sp.s. c 26 § 920 expired June 30, 2005); 2003 1st

sp.s. c 25 § 922; 2003 c 361 § 407; 1995 c 166 § 9; 1994 c 264 § 36; 1990 c 42 § 115; 1988 c 36 § 25; 1986 c 206 § 8; 1979 c 158 § 130; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 14; 1975 1st ex.s. c 34 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 144 § 3; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 15; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 22. Formerly RCW 46.09.170.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2010 c 161 § 222 and by 2010 1st sp.s. c 37 § 936, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2010 1st sp.s. c 37:** See note following RCW 13.06.050.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2009 c 564:** See note following RCW 2.68.020.

**Severability—Effective date—2007 c 522:** See notes following RCW 15.64.050.

**Intent—Effective date—2007 c 241:** See notes following RCW 79A.25.005.

**Expiration dates—Effective dates—2004 c 105 §§ 3-6:** See note following RCW 46.09.480.

**Expiration date—Severability—Effective dates—2003 1st sp.s. c 26:** See notes following RCW 43.135.045.

**Severability—Effective date—2003 1st sp.s. c 25:** See note following RCW 19.28.351.

**Findings—Part headings not law—Severability—2003 c 361:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**Effective dates—2003 c 361:** See note following RCW 82.08.020.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.09.530 Administration and distribution of off-road vehicle moneys.** (1) After deducting administrative expenses and the expense of any programs conducted under this chapter, the board shall, at least once each year, distribute the funds it receives under RCW 46.68.045 and 46.09.520 to state agencies, counties, municipalities, federal agencies, nonprofit off-road vehicle organizations, and Indian tribes. Funds distributed under this section to nonprofit off-road vehicle organizations may be spent only on projects or activities that benefit off-road vehicle recreation on lands once publicly owned that come into private ownership in a federally approved land exchange completed between January 1, 1998, and January 1, 2005.

(2) The board shall adopt rules governing applications for funds administered by the recreation and conservation office under this chapter and shall determine the amount of money distributed to each applicant. Agencies receiving funds under this chapter for capital purposes shall consider the possibility of contracting with the state parks and recreation commission, the department of natural resources, or other federal, state, and local agencies to employ the youth development and conservation corps or other youth crews in completing the project.

(3) The board shall require each applicant for acquisition or development funds under this section to comply with the requirements of either the state environmental policy act, chapter 43.21C RCW, or the national environmental policy act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 4321 et seq.). [2010 c 161 § 223; 2007 c 241 § 17; 2004 c 105 § 7; 1998 c 144 § 1; 1991 c 363 § 122;

1986 c 206 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 17. Formerly RCW 46.09.240.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Intent—Effective date—2007 c 241:** See notes following RCW 79A.25.005.

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.09.900 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 47.** If any provision of this 1971 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this 1971 amendatory act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1971 ex.s. c 47 § 26.]

## Chapter 46.10 RCW SNOWMOBILES

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### GENERAL PROVISIONS

**46.10.300 Definitions.** The following definitions apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "All terrain vehicle" means any self-propelled vehicle other than a snowmobile, capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, snow, ice, marsh,

swampland, and other natural terrain, including, but not limited to, four-wheel vehicles, amphibious vehicles, ground effect or air cushion vehicles, and any other means of land transportation deriving motive power from any source other than muscle or wind; except any vehicle designed primarily for travel on, over, or in the water, farm vehicles, or any military or law enforcement vehicles.

(2) "Commission" means the Washington state parks and recreation commission.

(3) "Committee" means the Washington state parks and recreation commission snowmobile advisory committee.

(4) "Dealer" means a person, partnership, association, or corporation engaged in the business of selling snowmobiles or all terrain vehicles at wholesale or retail in this state.

(5) "Highway" means the entire width of the right-of-way of a primary and secondary state highway, including any portion of the interstate highway system.

(6) "Hunt" means any effort to kill, injure, capture, or disturb a wild animal or wild bird.

(7) "Public roadway" means the entire width of the right-of-way of any road or street designed and ordinarily used for travel or parking of motor vehicles, which is controlled by a public authority other than the Washington state department of transportation, and which is open as a matter of right to the general public for ordinary vehicular traffic. [2010 c 161 § 225; 2005 c 235 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 182 § 1; 1979 c 158 § 131; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.10.010.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Application—2005 c 235:** "This act applies to registrations due or to become due on October 1, 2005, and thereafter." [2005 c 235 § 4.]

**46.10.310 Registration prerequisite to operation. (1)** Except as provided in this chapter, a person may not operate a snowmobile within this state unless the snowmobile has been registered as required under this chapter.

(2) Snowmobile decals must be assigned, without the payment of a fee, to snowmobiles owned by the state of Washington or its political subdivisions. The snowmobile decals must be displayed upon each snowmobile in accordance with rules adopted by the department. [2010 c 161 § 226; 2008 c 52 § 1; 2005 c 235 § 2; 1982 c 17 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 182 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.10.020.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Application—2005 c 235:** See note following RCW 46.10.300.

**46.10.320 Snowmobile advisory committee. (1)** There is created in the Washington state parks and recreation commission a snowmobile advisory committee to advise the commission regarding the administration of this chapter.

(2) The purpose of the committee is to assist and advise the commission in the planned development of snowmobile facilities and programs.

(3) The committee shall consist of:

(a) Six interested snowmobilers, appointed by the commission; each such member shall be a resident of one of the

six geographical areas throughout this state where snowmobile activity occurs, as defined by the commission;

(b) Three representatives of the nonsnowmobiling public, appointed by the commission; and

(c) One representative of the department of natural resources, one representative of the department of fish and wildlife, and one representative of the Washington state association of counties; each of whom shall be appointed by the director of such department or association.

(4) Terms of the members appointed under subsection (3)(a) and (b) of this section shall commence on October 1st of the year of appointment and shall be for three years or until a successor is appointed, except in the case of appointments to fill vacancies which shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term: PROVIDED, That the first such members shall be appointed for terms as follows: Three members shall be appointed for one year, three members shall be appointed for two years, and three members shall be appointed for three years.

(5) Members of the committee shall be reimbursed for travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. Expenditures under this subsection shall be from the snowmobile account created by RCW 46.68.350.

(6) The committee may meet at times and places fixed by the committee. The committee shall meet not less than twice each year and additionally as required by the committee chair or by majority vote of the committee. One of the meetings shall be coincident with a meeting of the commission at which the committee shall provide a report to the commission. The chair of the committee shall be chosen under procedures adopted by the committee from those members appointed under subsection (3)(a) and (b) of this section.

(7) The Washington state parks and recreation commission shall serve as recording secretary to the committee. A representative of the department of licensing shall serve as an ex officio member of the committee and shall be notified of all meetings of the committee. The recording secretary and the ex officio member shall be nonvoting members.

(8) The committee shall adopt procedures to govern its proceedings. [2010 c 161 § 235; 2010 c 8 § 9004; 1994 c 264 § 38; 1989 c 175 § 110; 1988 c 36 § 26; 1987 c 330 § 1201. Prior: 1986 c 270 § 9; 1986 c 16 § 3; 1983 c 139 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 182 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.10.220.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2010 c 161 § 235 and by 2010 c 8 § 9004, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.10.330 Accident reports.** The operator of any snowmobile involved in any accident resulting in injury to or death of any person, or property damage to an apparent extent equal to or greater than the minimum amount established by rule adopted by the Washington state patrol in accordance with chapter 46.52 RCW, or a person acting for the operator, or the owner of the snowmobile having knowledge of the accident, if the operator of the snowmobile is unknown, shall submit such reports as are required under chapter 46.52 RCW, and the provisions of chapter 46.52 RCW applies to the reports

when submitted. [1990 c 250 § 27; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 14. Formerly RCW 46.10.140.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.10.340 Regulation by political subdivisions or state agencies.** Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this chapter, any city, county, or other political subdivision of this state, or any state agency, may regulate the operation of snowmobiles on public lands, waters, and other properties under its jurisdiction, and on streets or highways within its boundaries by adopting regulations or ordinances of its governing body, provided such regulations are not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter; and provided further that no such city, county, or other political subdivision of this state, nor any state agency, may adopt a regulation or ordinance which imposes a special fee for the use of public lands or waters by snowmobiles, or for the use of any access thereto which is owned by or under the jurisdiction of either the United States, this state, or any such city, county, or other political subdivision. [1971 ex.s. c 29 § 18. Formerly RCW 46.10.180.]

**46.10.350 Local authorities—Safety and convenience.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, the local governing body may provide for the safety and convenience of snowmobiles and snowmobile operators. Such provisions may include, but shall not necessarily be limited to, the clearing of areas for parking automobiles, the construction and maintenance of rest areas, and the designation and development of given areas for snowmobile use. [1972 ex.s. c 153 § 25. Formerly RCW 46.10.185.]

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

**46.10.360 Enforcement.** The provisions of this chapter shall be enforced by all persons having the authority to enforce any of the laws of this state, including, without limitation, officers of the state patrol, county sheriffs and their deputies, all municipal law enforcement officers within their respective jurisdictions, fish and wildlife officers, state park rangers, and those employees of the department of natural resources designated by the commissioner of public lands under \*RCW 43.30.310, as having police powers to enforce the laws of this state. [2001 c 253 § 4; 1980 c 78 § 131; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 20. Formerly RCW 46.10.200.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 43.30.310 was recodified as RCW 43.12.065 pursuant to 2003 c 334 § 127.

**Effective date—Intent, construction—Savings—Severability—1980 c 78:** See notes following RCW 77.04.010.

**46.10.370 Administration.** With the exception of the registration and licensing provisions, this chapter shall be administered by the Washington state parks and recreation commission. The department shall consult with the commission prior to adopting rules to carry out its duties under this chapter. After consultation with the committee, the commission shall adopt such rules as may be necessary to carry out its duties under this chapter. Nothing in this chapter is intended to discourage experimental or pilot programs which could enhance snowmobile safety or recreational snowmobiling. [1979 ex.s. c 182 § 15; 1973 1st ex.s. c 128 § 5. Formerly RCW 46.10.210.]

## REGISTRATION AND PERMITS

**46.10.400 Registration—Application—Renewal—Requirements—Decals.** (1) The application for an original snowmobile registration has the same requirements as described for original vehicle registrations in RCW 46.16A.040 and must be accompanied by the annual snowmobile registration fee required under RCW 46.17.350, in addition to any other fees and taxes due at the time of application.

(2) The application for renewal of a snowmobile registration has the same requirements as described for the renewal of vehicle registrations in RCW 46.16A.110 and must be accompanied by the annual snowmobile registration fee required under RCW 46.17.350, in addition to any other fees or taxes due at the time of application.

(3) The snowmobile registration is valid for one year and must be renewed each year thereafter as determined by the department.

(4) A person who acquires a snowmobile that has a valid snowmobile registration must:

(a) Apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a transfer of the snowmobile registration within ten days of taking possession of the snowmobile; and

(b) Pay the snowmobile registration transfer fee required under RCW 46.17.420, in addition to any other fees or taxes due at the time of application.

(5) The department shall issue a snowmobile registration and snowmobile decals upon receipt of:

(a) A properly completed application for an original snowmobile registration; and

(b) The payment of all fees and taxes due at the time of application.

(6) The snowmobile registration must be carried on the vehicle for which it was issued at all times during its operation in this state.

(7) Snowmobile decals must be affixed to the snowmobile as provided in RCW 46.10.440.

(8) Snowmobile registration fees provided in this section and in RCW 46.17.350 are in lieu of any personal property or excise tax imposed on snowmobiles by this state or any political subdivision. A state agency, city, county, or other municipality may not impose other registration fees on a snowmobile in this state. [2010 c 161 § 228; 2008 c 52 § 2; 2005 c 235 § 3; 2002 c 352 § 2; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 7 § 918; 1997 c 241 § 2; 1996 c 164 § 1; 1986 c 16 § 2; 1982 c 17 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 182 § 5; 1973 1st ex.s. c 128 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 20; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 4. Formerly RCW 46.10.040.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Application—2005 c 235:** See note following RCW 46.10.300.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**Purpose—Policy statement as to certain state lands—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.10.410 Registration—Exemptions.** Registration is not required under this chapter for the following snowmobiles:

(1) Snowmobiles owned and operated by the United States, another state, or a political subdivision thereof.

(2) A snowmobile owned by a resident of another state or Canadian province if that snowmobile is registered under the laws of the state or province in which its owner resides. This exemption applies only to the extent that a similar exemption or privilege is granted under the laws of that state or province. Any snowmobile that is validly registered in another state or province and that is physically located in this state for a period of more than fifteen consecutive days is subject to registration under this chapter. [2010 c 161 § 227; 1986 c 16 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 182 § 4; 1975 1st ex.s. c 181 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 3. Formerly RCW 46.10.030.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.10.420 Snowmobile dealer licenses—Fee—License plates—Violation—License application upon sale.** (1) Each dealer of snowmobiles in this state shall obtain a snowmobile dealer license from the department in a manner prescribed by the department. Upon receipt of an application for a snowmobile dealer's license and the fee provided in subsection (2) of this section, the dealer is licensed and a snowmobile dealer license number must be assigned.

(2) The annual license fee for a snowmobile dealer is twenty-five dollars, which covers all of the snowmobiles offered by a dealer for sale and not rented on a regular, commercial basis. Snowmobiles rented on a regular commercial basis by a snowmobile dealer must be registered separately under RCW 46.10.310, 46.10.400, 46.10.430, and 46.10.440.

(3) Upon the issuance of a snowmobile dealer license, a snowmobile dealer may purchase, at a cost to be determined by the department, snowmobile dealer license plates of a size and color to be determined by the department. The snowmobile dealer license plates must contain the snowmobile license number assigned to the dealer. Each snowmobile operated by a dealer, dealer representative, or prospective customer for the purposes of demonstration or testing shall display snowmobile dealer license plates in a clearly visible manner.

(4) Only a dealer, dealer representative, or prospective customer may display a snowmobile dealer plate, and only a dealer, dealer representative, or prospective customer may use a snowmobile dealer's license plate for the purposes described in subsection (3) of this section.

(5) Snowmobile dealer licenses are nontransferable.

(6) It is unlawful for any snowmobile dealer to sell a snowmobile at wholesale or retail, or to test or demonstrate any snowmobile, within the state, unless the dealer has a snowmobile dealer license as required under this section.

(7) When a snowmobile is sold by a snowmobile dealer, the dealer:

(a) Shall apply for licensing in the purchaser's name as provided by rules adopted by the department; and

(b) May issue a temporary license as provided by rules adopted by the department. [2012 c 74 § 13; 2010 c 161 § 231; 1990 c 250 § 26; 1982 c 17 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 5. Formerly RCW 46.10.050.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.10.430 Decals—Registration certificates—License tabs.** (1) Snowmobile decals assigned to a snowmobile in this state at the time of its original registration must remain with that snowmobile until the snowmobile is destroyed, abandoned, or permanently removed from this state, or until changed or terminated by the department.

(2) The department shall issue and deliver to the snowmobile owner upon proper application:

(a) A registration certificate, in a form as prescribed by the department. The registration certificate is not valid unless it is signed by the person who signed the application for registration; and

(b) License tabs showing the current expiration of the snowmobile registration. The license tabs must be affixed to the snowmobile as prescribed by the department.

(3) A snowmobile is not properly registered unless license tabs and a current registration certificate have been issued. [2010 c 161 § 233; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 6. Formerly RCW 46.10.060.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.10.440 Decals—Affixing and displaying dealer license plates.** (1) Snowmobile decals assigned to each snowmobile must be:

(a) Permanently affixed to and displayed upon each snowmobile as provided by rules adopted by the department; and

(b) Maintained in a legible condition.

(2) Dealer license plates as provided for in RCW 46.10.420 may be temporarily affixed.

(3) The department shall make available a pair of identical snowmobile decals consistent with subsection (1) of this section. The decals serve the same function as license plates for vehicles registered under chapter 46.16A RCW. The department shall charge each applicant for an original registration the actual cost of the snowmobile decal. The department shall make available replacement snowmobile decals for a fee equivalent to the actual cost of the snowmobile decals. [2011 c 171 § 30; 2010 c 161 § 234; 1973 1st ex.s. c 128 § 2; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 21; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 7. Formerly RCW 46.10.070.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

**46.10.450 Nonresident permits.** (1) The application for a nonresident temporary snowmobile permit must be made by the snowmobile owner or the owner's authorized representative to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director on a form furnished or approved by the department. The application must contain:

(a) The name and address of each owner of the snowmobile; and

(b) Other information the department may require.

(2) The snowmobile owner or the owner's authorized representative shall sign the application for a nonresident temporary snowmobile permit.

(3) The application for a nonresident temporary snowmobile permit must be accompanied by the nonresident temporary snowmobile permit fee required under RCW 46.17.400, in addition to any other fees or taxes due at the time of application.

(4) Nonresident temporary snowmobile permits:

(a) Are available for snowmobiles owned by residents of another state or Canadian province where registration is not required by law;

(b) Are valid for not more than sixty days; and

(c) Must be carried on the snowmobile at all times during its operation in this state. [2010 c 161 § 229.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

## USES AND VIOLATIONS

**46.10.460 Crossing public roadways and highways lawful, when.** It shall be lawful to drive or operate a snowmobile across public roadways and highways other than limited access highways when:

The crossing is made at an angle of approximately ninety degrees to the direction of the highway and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing; and

The snowmobile is brought to a complete stop before entering the public roadway or highway; and

The operator of the snowmobile yields the right-of-way to motor vehicles using the public roadway or highway; and

The crossing is made at a place which is greater than one hundred feet from any public roadway or highway intersection. [1971 ex.s. c 29 § 10. Formerly RCW 46.10.100.]

**46.10.470 Operating upon public road or highway lawful, when.** Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 46.10.460, it shall be lawful to operate a snowmobile upon a public roadway or highway:

Where such roadway or highway is completely covered with snow or ice and has been closed by the responsible governing body to motor vehicle traffic during the winter months; or

When the responsible governing body gives notice that such roadway or highway is open to snowmobiles or all-terrain vehicle use; or

In an emergency during the period of time when and at locations where snow upon the roadway or highway renders such impassible to travel by automobile; or

When traveling along a designated snowmobile trail. [2011 c 171 § 31; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 23; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 11. Formerly RCW 46.10.110.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.



**46.10.480 Restrictions on age of operators—Qualifications.** No person under twelve years of age shall operate a snowmobile on or across a public roadway or highway in this state, and no person between the ages of twelve and sixteen years of age shall operate a snowmobile on or across a public road or highway in this state unless he or she has taken a snowmobile safety education course and been certified as qualified to operate a snowmobile by an instructor designated by the commission as qualified to conduct such a course and issue such a certificate, and he or she has on his or her person at the time he or she is operating a snowmobile evidence of such certification: PROVIDED, That persons under sixteen years of age who have not been certified as qualified snowmobile operators may operate a snowmobile under the direct supervision of a qualified snowmobile operator. [2010 c 8 § 9003; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 24; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 12. Formerly RCW 46.10.120.]

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

**46.10.485 Denial, suspension, or revocation of dealer license or assessment of monetary civil penalty.** The director may by order deny, suspend, or revoke the license of any snowmobile dealer or, in lieu thereof or in addition thereto, may by order assess monetary civil penalties not to exceed five hundred dollars per violation, if the director finds that the order is in the public interest and that the applicant or licensee, or any partner, officer, director, or owner of ten percent of the assets of the firm, or any employee or agent:

(1) Has failed to comply with the applicable provisions of this chapter or any rules adopted under this chapter; or

(2) Has failed to pay any monetary civil penalty assessed by the director under this section within ten days after the assessment becomes final. [2010 c 161 § 232; 1982 c 17 § 4. Formerly RCW 46.10.055.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.10.490 Operating violations.** (1) It is a traffic infraction for any person to operate any snowmobile:

(a) At a rate of speed greater than reasonable and prudent under the existing conditions.

(b) In a manner so as to endanger the property of another.

(c) Without a lighted headlight and taillight between the hours of dusk and dawn, or when otherwise required for the safety of others.

(d) Without an adequate braking device which may be operated either by hand or foot.

(e) Without an adequate and operating muffling device which shall effectively blend the exhaust and motor noise in such a manner so as to preclude excessive or unusual noise, and, (i) on snowmobiles manufactured on or before January 4, 1973, which shall effectively limit such noise at a level of eighty-six decibels, or below, on the "A" scale at fifty feet, and (ii) on snowmobiles manufactured after January 4, 1973, which shall effectively limit such noise at a level of eighty-two decibels, or below, on the "A" scale at fifty feet, and (iii) on snowmobiles manufactured after January 1, 1975, which shall effectively limit such noise at a level of seventy-eight decibels, or below, as measured on the "A" scale at a distance of fifty feet, under testing procedures as established by the

department of ecology; except snowmobiles used in organized racing events in an area designated for that purpose may use a bypass or cutout device. This section shall not affect the power of the department of ecology to adopt noise performance standards for snowmobiles. Noise performance standards adopted or to be adopted by the department of ecology shall be in addition to the standards contained in this section, but the department's standards shall supersede this section to the extent of any inconsistency.

(f) Upon the paved portion or upon the shoulder or inside bank or slope of any public roadway or highway, or upon the median of any divided highway, except as provided in RCW 46.10.460 and 46.10.470.

(g) In any area or in such a manner so as to expose the underlying soil or vegetation, or to injure, damage, or destroy trees or growing crops.

(h) Without a current registration decal affixed thereon, if not exempted under RCW 46.10.410 as now or hereafter amended.

(2) It is a misdemeanor for any person to operate any snowmobile so as to endanger the person of another or while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics or habit-forming drugs. [2011 c 171 § 32; 1980 c 148 § 1. Prior: 1979 ex.s. c 182 § 10; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 43; 1975 1st ex.s. c 181 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 9. Formerly RCW 46.10.090.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.10.495 Additional violations—Penalty.** (1) No person shall operate a snowmobile in such a way as to endanger human life.

(2) No person shall operate a snowmobile in such a way as to run down or harass deer, elk, or any wildlife, or any domestic animal, nor shall any person carry any loaded weapon upon, nor hunt from, any snowmobile except by permit issued by the director of fish and wildlife under RCW 77.32.237.

(3) Any person violating this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 234; 1994 c 264 § 37; 1989 c 297 § 4; 1979 ex.s. c 182 § 11; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 13. Formerly RCW 46.10.130.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**46.10.500 Violations as traffic infractions—Exceptions—Civil liability.** (1) Except as provided in RCW 46.10.490(2), 46.10.485, and 46.10.495, any violation of the provisions of this chapter is a traffic infraction: PROVIDED, That the penalty for failing to display a valid registration decal under RCW 46.10.490 as now or hereafter amended shall be a fine of forty dollars and such fine shall be remitted to the general fund of the governmental unit, which personnel issued the citation, for expenditure solely for snowmobile law enforcement.

(2) In addition to the penalties provided in RCW 46.10.490 and subsection (1) of this section, the operator and/or the owner of any snowmobile used with the permission of the owner shall be liable for three times the amount of any damage to trees, shrubs, growing crops, or other property injured as the result of travel by such snowmobile over the property involved. [2011 c 171 § 33; 1982 c 17 § 8; 1980 c 148 § 2. Prior: 1979 ex.s. c 182 § 14; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 44; 1975 1st ex.s. c 181 § 6; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 19. Formerly RCW 46.10.190.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

REVENUE

**46.10.510 Refund of snowmobile fuel tax to snowmobile account.** From time to time, but at least once each biennium, the director shall request the state treasurer to refund from the motor vehicle fund amounts which have been determined to be a tax on snowmobile fuel, and the treasurer shall refund such amounts determined under RCW 46.10.530, and place them in the snowmobile account in the general fund. [2011 c 171 § 34; 1994 c 262 § 3; 1979 ex.s. c 182 § 12; 1975 1st ex.s. c 181 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 128 § 4; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 15. Formerly RCW 46.10.150.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.10.520 Snowmobile fuel excise tax nonrefundable.** Motor vehicle fuel used and purchased for providing the motive power for snowmobiles shall be considered a non-highway use of fuel, but persons so purchasing and using motor vehicle fuel shall not be entitled to a refund of the motor vehicle fuel excise tax paid in accordance with the provisions of RCW 82.36.280 as it now exists or is hereafter amended. [1971 ex.s. c 29 § 16. Formerly RCW 46.10.160.]

**46.10.530 Amount of snowmobile fuel tax paid as motor vehicle fuel tax.** From time to time, but at least once each four years, the department shall determine the amount of moneys paid to it as motor vehicle fuel tax that is tax on snowmobile fuel. Such determination shall use one hundred thirty-five gallons as the average yearly fuel usage per snowmobile, the number of registered snowmobiles during the calendar year under determination, and a fuel tax rate of: (1) Nineteen cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel from July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2005; (2) twenty cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel from July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2007; (3) twenty-one cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel from July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2009; (4) twenty-two cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2011; and (5) twenty-three cents per gallon of motor vehicle fuel beginning July 1, 2011, and thereafter. [2003 c 361 § 408; 1994 c 262 § 4; 1993 c 54 § 7; 1990 c 42 § 117; 1979 ex.s. c 182 § 13; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 17. Formerly RCW 46.10.170.]

**Findings—Part headings not law—Severability—2003 c 361:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**Effective dates—2003 c 361:** See note following RCW 82.08.020.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**46.10.900 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 29.** If any provision of this chapter, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this chapter, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1971 ex.s. c 29 § 21.]

**46.10.910 Short title.** This chapter may be known and cited as the "Snowmobile act". [1971 ex.s. c 29 § 22.]

Chapter 46.12 RCW

CERTIFICATES OF TITLE

(Formerly: Certificates of ownership and registration)

Sections

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 46.12.520 Certificate required to operate and sell vehicle—Manufacturer or dealer testing—Security interest, how perfected.
- 46.12.530 Application—Contents—Examination of vehicle.
- 46.12.540 Issuance of certificates—Contents.
- 46.12.550 Refusal or cancellation of certificate—Notice—Penalty for subsequent operation—Appeals.
- 46.12.555 Quick title—Application requirements—Limitation—Sub-agents.
- 46.12.560 Inspection by state patrol or other authorized inspector.
- 46.12.570 Stolen vehicle check.
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- 46.12.590 Procedure on installation of new or different motor—Penalty.
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- 46.12.610 Contaminated vehicles.
- 46.12.620 Legal owner not liable for acts of registered owner.
- 46.12.630 Lists of registered and legal owners of vehicles—Furnished for certain purposes—Penalty for unauthorized use.
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VIOLATIONS

- 46.12.750 Penalty for false statements, illegal transfers, alterations, or forgeries—Exception.
- 46.12.755 Ownership of motor vehicle by person under eighteen prohibited—Exception.

*Classification of manufactured homes: Chapter 65.20 RCW.*

*Hulk haulers and scrap processors: Chapter 46.79 RCW.*

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

**46.12.520 Certificate required to operate and sell vehicle—Manufacturer or dealer testing—Security interest, how perfected.** (1) A person shall not:

(a) Operate a vehicle in this state with a registration certificate issued by the department without having a certificate of title for the vehicle that contains the name of the registered owner exactly as it appears on the registration certificate; or

(b) Sell or transfer a vehicle without complying with the provisions of this chapter relating to certificates of title and vehicle registration.

(2) A certificate of title does not need to be obtained for a vehicle owned by a manufacturer or dealer and held for sale, even though incidentally moved on the highway or used for purposes of testing and demonstration, or for a vehicle used by a manufacturer or dealer solely for testing. A security interest in a vehicle held as inventory by a manufacturer or dealer must be perfected as described in chapter 62A.9A RCW. An endorsement is not required on certificates of title held by a manufacturer or dealer to perfect the security interest. A certificate of title may be issued for any vehicle without the vehicle needing to be registered. [2010 c 161 § 301; 1997 c 241 § 3; 1979 c 158 § 132; 1975 c 25 § 6; 1967 c 140 § 1; 1967 c 32 § 6; 1961 c 12 § 46.12.010. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 2; RRS § 6312-2. Formerly RCW 46.12.010.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.530 Application—Contents—Examination of vehicle.** (1) The application for a certificate of title of a vehicle must be made by the owner or owner's representative to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director on a form furnished or approved by the department and must contain:

(a) A description of the vehicle, including make, model, vehicle identification number, type of body, and the odometer reading at the time of delivery of the vehicle;

(b) The name and address of the person who is to be the registered owner of the vehicle and, if the vehicle is subject to a security interest, the name and address of the secured party; and

(c) Other information the department may require.

(2) The department may require additional information and a physical examination of the vehicle or of any class of vehicles, or either.

(3) The application for a certificate of title must be signed by the person applying to be the registered owner and be sworn to by that person in the manner described under RCW 9A.72.085. The department shall keep the application in the original, computer, or photostatic form.

(4) The application for an original certificate of title must be accompanied by:

(a) A draft, money order, certified bank check, or cash for all fees and taxes due for the application for certificate of title; and

(b) The most recent certificate of title or other satisfactory evidence of ownership.

(5) Once issued, a certificate of title is not subject to renewal. [2010 c 161 § 302; 2007 c 420 § 1; 2005 c 173 § 1; 2004 c 188 § 1; 2001 c 125 § 1. Prior: 1995 c 274 § 1; 1995 c 256 § 23; 1990 c 238 § 1; 1975 c 25 § 8; 1974 ex.s. c 128 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 99 § 2; 1967 c 32 § 8; 1961 c 12 § 46.12.030; prior: 1947 c 164 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 3, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-2, part. Formerly RCW 46.12.030.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

*Notice of liability insurance requirement: RCW 46.16A.130.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.540 Issuance of certificates—Contents.** (1) The department shall issue an electronic record of ownership or a written certificate of title if the department is satisfied from the statements on the application that the applicant is the legal owner of the vehicle or otherwise entitled to have a certificate of title in the applicant's name.

(2) Each certificate of title issued by the department must contain:

(a) The date of application;

(b) The certificate of title number assigned to the vehicle;

(c) The name and address of the registered owner and legal owner;

(d) The vehicle identification number;

(e) The mileage reading, if required, as provided by the odometer disclosure statement submitted with the application involving a transfer of ownership;

(f) A notation that the recorded mileage is actual, not actual, or exceeds mechanical limits;

(g) A blank space on the face of the certificate of title for the signature of the registered owner;

(h) Information on whether the vehicle was ever registered and operated as an exempt vehicle or taxicab;

(i) A brand conspicuously shown across its front if indicating that the vehicle has been rebuilt after becoming a salvage vehicle;

(j) The director's signature and the seal of the department; and

(k) Any other description of the vehicle and facts the department may require.

(3) The department shall deliver the registration certificate to the registered owner and the certificate of title to the legal owner, or both to the person who is both the registered owner and legal owner. [2010 c 161 § 305; 1996 c 26 § 2; 1993 c 307 § 1; 1990 c 238 § 3; 1975 c 25 § 9; 1967 c 32 § 9; 1961 c 12 § 46.12.050. Prior: 1959 c 166 § 1; 1947 c 164 § 2; 1937 c 188 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-4. Formerly RCW 46.12.050.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.550 Refusal or cancellation of certificate—Notice—Penalty for subsequent operation—Appeals.** (1) The department may refuse to issue or may cancel a certifi-

cate of title at any time if the department determines that an applicant for a certificate of title is not entitled to a certificate of title. Notice of cancellation may be accomplished by sending a notice by first-class mail using the last known address in department records for the registered or legal owner or owners, and completing an affidavit of first-class mail. It is unlawful for any person to remove, drive, or operate the vehicle until a proper certificate of title has been issued. Any person removing, driving, or operating a vehicle after the refusal to issue or cancellation of the certificate of title is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(2)(a) The suspension of, revocation of, cancellation of, or refusal to issue a certificate of title or vehicle registration provided for in chapters 46.12 and 46.16A RCW by the director is conclusive unless the person whose registration or certificate is suspended, revoked, canceled, or refused appeals to the superior court of Thurston county or the person's county of residence.

(b) Notice of appeal must be filed within ten days after receipt of the notice of suspension, revocation, cancellation, or refusal. Upon the filing of the notice of appeal, the court shall issue an order to the director to show cause why the registration should not be granted or reinstated and return the order not less than ten days after the date of service of the notice to the director. Service must be in the manner as prescribed for the service of a summons and complaint in other civil actions.

(c) Upon the hearing on the order to show cause, the court shall hear evidence concerning matters with reference to the suspension, revocation, cancellation, or refusal of the registration or certificate and enter judgment either affirming or setting aside the suspension, revocation, cancellation, or refusal. [2011 c 171 § 35; 2010 c 161 § 315; 1994 c 262 § 5; 1975 c 25 § 12; 1961 c 12 § 46.12.160. Prior: 1959 c 166 § 14; prior: 1947 c 164 § 4(g); 1937 c 188 § 6(g); Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-6(g). Formerly RCW 46.12.160.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.12.555 Quick title—Application requirements—Limitation—Subagents.** (1) The application for a quick title of a vehicle must be submitted by the owner or the owner's representative to the department, participating county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director on a form furnished or approved by the department and must contain:

(a) A description of the vehicle, including make, model, vehicle identification number, type of body, and the odometer reading at the time of delivery of the vehicle, when required;

(b) The name and address of the person who is to be the registered owner of the vehicle and, if the vehicle is subject to a security interest, the name and address of the secured party; and

(c) Other information as may be required by the department.

(2) The application for a quick title must be signed by the person applying to be the registered owner and be sworn to

by that person in the manner described under RCW 9A.72.085. The department must keep a copy of the application.

(3) The application for a quick title must be accompanied by:

(a) All fees and taxes due for an application for a certificate of title, including a quick title service fee under RCW 46.17.160; and

(b) The most recent certificate of title or other satisfactory evidence of ownership.

(4) All applications for quick title must meet the requirements established by the department.

(5) For the purposes of this section, "quick title" means a certificate of title printed at the time of application.

(6) The quick title process authorized under this section may not be used to obtain the first title issued to a vehicle previously designated as a salvage vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.514.

(7) A subagent may process a quick title under this section only after (a) the department has instituted a process in which blank certificates of title can be inventoried; (b) the county auditor of the county in which the subagent is located has processed quick titles for a minimum of six months; and (c) the county auditor approves a request from a subagent in its county to process quick titles. [2011 c 326 § 1.]

**Application—2011 c 326:** "This act applies to quick title transactions processed on and after January 1, 2012." [2011 c 326 § 6.]

**Effective date—2011 c 326:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2012." [2011 c 326 § 7.]

**46.12.560 Inspection by state patrol or other authorized inspector.** (1)(a) Before accepting an application for a certificate of title, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require an applicant to provide a certificate of vehicle inspection completed by the Washington state patrol or other authorized inspector if the vehicle:

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

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

(iii) Is presented with documents from another state showing that the vehicle was a total loss or salvage vehicle and has not been reissued a valid registration certificate from that state after the declaration of total loss or salvage.

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

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

for a person to remove the marking indicating that the vehicle was previously destroyed or declared a total loss.

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

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

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

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

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

(i) The names and addresses of the sellers and purchasers;

(ii) A description of the vehicle and the part or parts being sold, including the make, model, year, and identification or serial number;

(iii) The date of sale; and

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

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

(4)(a) Before accepting an application for a certificate of title, the department, county auditor or other agent, or sub-agent appointed by the director shall require an applicant to provide a certificate of vehicle inspection completed by the Washington state patrol or other authorized inspector when the application is for a vehicle being titled for the first time as:

- (i) Assembled;
- (ii) Glider kit;
- (iii) Homemade;
- (iv) Kit vehicle;
- (v) Street rod vehicle;
- (vi) Custom vehicle; or
- (vii) Subject to ownership in doubt under RCW 46.12.680.

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

(5)(a) Before accepting an application for a certificate of title, the department, county auditor or other agent, or sub-agent appointed by the director shall require an applicant to provide a certificate of vehicle inspection completed by the Washington state patrol when the application is for a vehicle with a vehicle identification number that has been:

- (i) Altered;
- (ii) Defaced;
- (iii) Obliterated;
- (iv) Omitted;
- (v) Removed; or
- (vi) Otherwise absent.

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

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

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

(6) The department may adopt rules as necessary to implement this section. [2011 c 114 § 7; 2010 c 161 § 303.]

**Effective date—2011 c 114:** See note following RCW 46.04.572.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.12.570 Stolen vehicle check.** The department shall institute software and systems modifications to enable a WACIC/NCIC stolen vehicle search of out-of-state vehicles as part of the application for a certificate of title transaction. During the stolen vehicle search, if the information obtained indicates the vehicle is stolen, the department shall immediately report that the vehicle is stolen to the Washington state patrol and the applicant must not be issued a certificate of title for the vehicle. Vehicles for which the stolen vehicle check is negative must be issued a certificate of title if the department is satisfied that all other requirements have been met. [2010 c 161 § 304; 2002 c 246 § 1; 2001 c 125 § 3. Formerly RCW 46.12.047.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.580 Duplicate for lost, stolen, mutilated, etc. certificate.** A legal owner or the legal owner's authorized representative may apply for a duplicate certificate of title if a certificate of title is lost, stolen, mutilated, or destroyed, or becomes illegible. The application for a duplicate certificate of title must include information required by the department and be accompanied by the fee required in RCW 46.17.100. The duplicate certificate of title must contain the word, "duplicate." It must be provided to the first priority secured party named in it or, if none, to the legal owner.

A person recovering a certificate of title for which a duplicate has been issued shall promptly return the certificate of title that has been recovered to the department. [2010 c 161 § 317; 2002 c 352 § 6; 1997 c 241 § 7; 1994 c 262 § 7; 1990 c 250 § 31; 1969 ex.s. c 170 § 1; 1967 c 140 § 8. Formerly RCW 46.12.181.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.590 Procedure on installation of new or different motor—Penalty.** (1) A person shall apply for a new certificate of title for any motor vehicle registered by its motor number when:

(a) A new or different motor has been installed; and

(b) The most recent certificate of title issued for the motor vehicle has recorded on it the previous motor number.

(2) The application for a new certificate of title required in subsection (1) of this section must:

(a) Be made within five days after installation of the new motor;

(b) Be made by the owner or owner's authorized representative to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent;

(c) Require the most recent certificate of title to be returned to the department;

(d) Include a statement of the disposition of the former motor; and

(e) Include the fee required under RCW 46.17.100 in addition to any other fee or tax required by law.

(3) A person who possesses a certificate of title that shows the previous motor number for a motor vehicle in which a new or different motor has been installed, after five days following the installation of the new motor, is in violation of this chapter. A violation of this section constitutes a misdemeanor. [2010 c 161 § 307; 2002 c 352 § 4; 1997 c 241 § 4; 1979 ex.s. c 113 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.12.080. Prior: 1959 c 166 § 5; prior: 1951 c 269 § 3; 1947 c 164 § 3(c); 1939 c 182 § 1(c); 1937 c 188 § 5(c); Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-5(c). Formerly RCW 46.12.080.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**46.12.600 Destruction of vehicle—Surrender of certificate, penalty—Report of settlement by insurance company—Market value threshold.** (1)(a) The registered owner or legal owner shall:

(i) Report the destruction of the vehicle issued a certificate of title or registration certificate to the department within fifteen days of its destruction; and

(ii) Submit the certificate of title or affidavit in lieu of title marked "DESTROYED." The registered owner's name, address, and the date of destruction must be clearly shown on the certificate of title or affidavit in lieu of title.

(b) It is a gross misdemeanor to fail to notify the department and be in possession of a certificate of title of a destroyed vehicle on the sixteenth day after the vehicle is destroyed and each day thereafter.

(2) The insurance company or self-insurer shall report the destruction or total loss of vehicles issued a certificate of title or registration certificate to the department within fifteen days after the settlement claim. The report must be submitted regardless of where or in what jurisdiction the total loss occurred. An insurer shall report total loss vehicles to the department in any of the following manners:

(a) Electronically through the department's online reporting system. An insurer choosing this option must immediately destroy ownership documents after filing the electronic report;

(b) Submitting the certificate of title or affidavit in lieu of title marked "DESTROYED." The insurer's name, address, and the date of loss must be clearly shown on the certificate of title or affidavit in lieu of title; or

(c) Submitting a properly completed total loss claim settlement form provided by the department.

(3) The registered owner, legal owner, or insurer reporting the destruction or total loss of a motor vehicle six years old or older must include a statement on whether the fair market value of the motor vehicle immediately before its destruction was at least equal to the market value threshold. The age of the motor vehicle is determined by subtracting the model year from the current calendar year.

(4) The market value threshold is six thousand seven hundred ninety dollars or a greater amount as set by rule of the department. The department shall:

(a) Increase the market value threshold amount:

(i) When the consumer price index for all urban consumers, compiled by the bureau of labor statistics, United States department of labor, or its successor, for the west region, in the expenditure category "used cars and trucks," shows an annual average increase over the previous year;

(ii) By the same percentage increase of the annual average shown in the consumer price index; and

(iii) On July 1st of the year immediately following the year with the increase of the annual average;

(b) Round each increase of the market value threshold to the nearest ten dollars;

(c) Not increase the market value threshold amount if the amount of the increase would be less than fifty dollars; and

(d) Carry forward any unmade increases to succeeding years until the cumulative increase is at least fifty dollars. [2011 c 171 § 36; 2010 c 161 § 306; 2003 c 53 § 235; 2002 c 245 § 2; 1990 c 250 § 28; 1961 c 12 § 46.12.070. Prior: 1959 c 166 § 4; prior: 1947 c 164 § 3(b); 1939 c 182 § 1(b); 1937 c 188 § 5(b); Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-5(b). Formerly RCW 46.12.070.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.610 Contaminated vehicles.** (1) A local health officer may notify the department that a vehicle has been:

(a) Declared unfit and prohibited from use as authorized in chapter 64.44 RCW if the vehicle has become contaminated as defined in RCW 64.44.010;

(b) Satisfactorily decontaminated and retested according to the written work plan approved by the local health officer.

(2) The department shall brand vehicle records and certificates of title when it receives the notification from a local health officer as provided in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) A person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor if he or she advertises for sale or sells a vehicle that has been declared unfit and prohibited from use by a local health officer if:

(a) The person has knowledge that the local health officer has issued an order declaring the vehicle unfit and prohibiting its use; or

(b) A notification has been placed on the certificate of title under subsection (2) of this section that the vehicle has been declared unfit and prohibited from use.

(4) A person may advertise or sell a vehicle if a release for reuse document has been issued by a local health officer under chapter 64.44 RCW or a notification has been placed on the certificate of title under subsection (2) of this section that the vehicle has been decontaminated and released for reuse. [2010 c 161 § 308.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.12.620 Legal owner not liable for acts of registered owner.** A person shown as the legal owner on a certificate of title which has a different person shown as the registered owner does not incur liability and is not responsible for damage or any liability resulting from any act or contract made by the registered owner or by any other person acting for, or by or under the authority of, the registered owner. [2010 c 161 § 318; 1961 c 12 § 46.12.190. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 10, part; RRS § 6312-10, part. Formerly RCW 46.12.190.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.12.630 Lists of registered and legal owners of vehicles—Furnished for certain purposes—Penalty for unauthorized use.** In addition to any other authority which it may have, the department of licensing may furnish lists of registered and legal owners of motor vehicles only for the purposes specified in this section to:

(1) The manufacturers of motor vehicles, or their authorized agents, to be used:

(a) To enable those manufacturers to carry out the provisions of the national traffic and motor vehicle safety act of 1966 (15 U.S.C. Sec. 1382-1418), including amendments or additions thereto, respecting safety-related defects in motor vehicles; or

(b) During the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium, in research activities, and in producing statistical reports, as long as the personal information is not published, redisclosed, or used to contact individuals;

(2) Any governmental agency of the United States or Canada, or political subdivisions thereof, to be used by it or by its authorized commercial agents or contractors only in connection with the enforcement of motor vehicle or traffic laws by, or programs related to traffic safety of, that government agency. Only such parts of the list as are required for completion of the work required of the agent or contractor shall be provided to such agent or contractor;

(3) A commercial parking company requiring the names and addresses of registered owners to notify them of outstanding parking violations. Subject to the disclosure agreement provisions of RCW 46.12.635 and the requirements of Executive Order 97-01, the department may provide only the parts of the list that are required for completion of the work required of the company;

(4) An authorized agent or contractor of the department, to be used only in connection with providing motor vehicle excise tax, licensing, title, and registration information to motor vehicle dealers;

(5) Any business regularly making loans to other persons to finance the purchase of motor vehicles, to be used to assist the person requesting the list to determine ownership of specific vehicles for the purpose of determining whether or not to provide such financing; or

(6) A company or its agents operating a toll facility under chapter 47.46 RCW or other applicable authority requiring the names, addresses, and vehicle information of motor vehicle registered owners to identify toll violators.

Where both a mailing address and residence address are recorded on the vehicle record and are different, only the mailing address will be disclosed. Both addresses will be disclosed in response to requests for disclosure from courts, law enforcement agencies, or government entities with enforcement, investigative, or taxing authority and only for use in the normal course of conducting their business.

If a list of registered and legal owners of motor vehicles is used for any purpose other than that authorized in this section, the manufacturer, governmental agency, commercial parking company, authorized agent, contractor, financial institution, toll facility operator, or their authorized agents or contractors responsible for the unauthorized disclosure or use will be denied further access to such information by the department of licensing. [2012 c 86 § 803; 2011 c 171 § 37; 2005 c 340 § 1; 2004 c 230 § 1. Prior: 1997 c 432 § 6; 1997 c 33 § 1; 1982 c 215 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.12.370.]

**Effective date—2012 c 86:** See note following RCW 47.76.360.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.12.635 Disclosure of names and addresses of individual vehicle owners.** (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 42.56 RCW, the name or address of an individual vehicle owner shall not be released by the department, county auditor, or agency or firm authorized by the department except under the following circumstances:

(a) The requesting party is a business entity that requests the information for use in the course of business;

(b) The request is a written request that is signed by the person requesting disclosure that contains the full legal name and address of the requesting party, that specifies the purpose for which the information will be used; and

(c) The requesting party enters into a disclosure agreement with the department in which the party promises that the party will use the information only for the purpose stated in the request for the information; and that the party does not intend to use, or facilitate the use of, the information for the purpose of making any unsolicited business contact with a person named in the disclosed information. The term "unsolicited business contact" means a contact that is intended to result in, or promote, the sale of any goods or services to a person named in the disclosed information. The term does not apply to situations where the requesting party and such person have been involved in a business transaction prior to the date of the disclosure request and where the request is made in connection with the transaction.

(2) Where both a mailing address and residence address are recorded on the vehicle record and are different, only the mailing address will be disclosed. Both addresses will be disclosed in response to requests for disclosure from courts, law enforcement agencies, or government entities with enforcement, investigative, or taxing authority and only for use in the normal course of conducting their business.

(3) The disclosing entity shall retain the request for disclosure for three years.

(4) Whenever the disclosing entity grants a request for information under this section by an attorney or private investigator, the disclosing entity shall provide notice to the vehicle owner, to whom the information applies, that the request has been granted. The notice also shall contain the name and address of the requesting party.

(5) Any person who is furnished vehicle owner information under this section shall be responsible for assuring that the information furnished is not used for a purpose contrary to the agreement between the person and the department.

(6) This section shall not apply to requests for information by governmental entities or requests that may be granted under any other provision of this title expressly authorizing the disclosure of the names or addresses of vehicle owners.

(7) This section shall not apply to title history information under RCW 19.118.170. [2005 c 340 § 2; 2005 c 274 § 304; 1995 c 254 § 10; 1990 c 232 § 2; 1987 c 299 § 1; 1984 c 241 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.12.380.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2005 c 274 § 304 and by 2005 c 340 § 2, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Part headings not law—Effective date—2005 c 274:** See RCW 42.56.901 and 42.56.902.

**Legislative finding and purpose—1990 c 232:** "The legislature recognizes the extraordinary value of the vehicle title and registration records for law enforcement and commerce within the state. The legislature also recognizes that indiscriminate release of the vehicle owner information to be an infringement upon the rights of the owner and can subject owners to intrusions on their privacy. The purpose of this act is to limit the release of vehicle owners' names and addresses while maintaining the availability of the vehicle records for the purposes of law enforcement and commerce." [1990 c 232 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.640 Disclosure violations, penalties.** (1) The department may review the activities of a person who receives vehicle record information to ensure compliance with the limitations imposed on the use of the information. The department shall suspend or revoke for up to five years the privilege of obtaining vehicle record information of a person found to be in violation of chapter 42.56 RCW, this chapter, or a disclosure agreement executed with the department.

(2) In addition to the penalty in subsection (1) of this section:

(a) The unauthorized disclosure of information from a department vehicle record; or

(b) The use of a false representation to obtain information from the department's vehicle records; or

(c) The use of information obtained from the department vehicle records for a purpose other than what is stated in the request for information or in the disclosure agreement executed with the department; or

(d) The sale or other distribution of any vehicle owner name or address to another person not disclosed in the request or disclosure agreement

is a gross misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars, or by imprisonment in a county jail for up to three hundred sixty-four days, or by both such fine and imprisonment for each violation. [2011 c 96 § 30; 2005 c 274 § 305; 1990 c 232 § 3. Formerly RCW 46.12.390.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

**Part headings not law—Effective date—2005 c 274:** See RCW 42.56.901 and 42.56.902.

**Legislative finding and purpose—1990 c 232:** See note following RCW 46.12.635.

VEHICLE SALES, TRANSFERS, AND SECURITY INTERESTS

**46.12.650 Releasing interest—Reports of sale—Transfer of ownership—Requirements—Penalty, exceptions.** (1) **Releasing interest.** An owner releasing interest in a vehicle shall:

(a) Sign the release of interest section provided on the certificate of title or on a release of interest document or form approved by the department;

(b) Give the certificate of title or most recent evidence of ownership to the person gaining the interest in the vehicle;

(c) Give the person gaining interest in the vehicle an odometer disclosure statement if one is required; and

(d) Report the vehicle sold as provided in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) **Report of sale.** An owner shall notify the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director in writing within five business days after a vehicle is or has been:

(a) Sold;

(b) Given as a gift to another person;

(c) Traded, either privately or to a dealership;

(d) Donated to charity;

(e) Turned over to an insurance company or wrecking yard; or

(f) Disposed of.

(3) **Report of sale properly filed.** A report of sale is properly filed if it is received by the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director within five business days after the date of sale or transfer and it includes:

(a) The date of sale or transfer;

(b) The owner's name and address;

(c) The name and address of the person acquiring the vehicle;

(d) The vehicle identification number and license plate number;

(e) A date or stamp by the department showing it was received on or before the fifth business day after the date of sale or transfer; and

(f) Payment of the fees required under RCW 46.17.050 if the report of sale is processed by a county auditor or other agent or subagent appointed by the director.

(4) **Report of sale - administration.** The department shall:

(a) Provide or approve reports of sale forms;



(b) Provide a system enabling an owner to submit reports of sale electronically;

(c) Immediately update the department's vehicle record when a report of sale has been filed;

(d) Provide instructions on release of interest forms that allow the seller of a vehicle to release their interest in a vehicle at the same time a financial institution, as defined in RCW 30.22.040, releases its lien on the vehicle; and

(e) Send a report to the department of revenue that lists vehicles for which a report of sale has been received but no transfer of ownership has taken place. The department shall send the report once each quarter.

(5)(a) **Transferring ownership.** A person who has recently acquired a vehicle by purchase, exchange, gift, lease, inheritance, or legal action shall apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a new certificate of title within fifteen days of delivery of the vehicle. A secured party who has possession of the certificate of title shall either:

(i) Apply for a new certificate of title on behalf of the owner and pay the fee required under RCW 46.17.100; or

(ii) Provide all required documents to the owner, as long as the transfer was not a breach of its security agreement, to allow the owner to apply for a new certificate of title.

(b) Compliance with this subsection does not affect the rights of the secured party.

(6) **Certificate of title delivered to secured party.** The certificate of title must be kept by or delivered to the person who becomes the secured party when a security interest is reserved or created at the time of the transfer of ownership. The parties must comply with RCW 46.12.675.

(7) **Penalty for late transfer.** A person who has recently acquired a motor vehicle by purchase, exchange, gift, lease, inheritance, or legal action who does not apply for a new certificate of title within fifteen calendar days of delivery of the vehicle is charged a penalty, as described in RCW 46.17.140, when applying for a new certificate of title. It is a misdemeanor to fail or neglect to apply for a transfer of ownership within forty-five days after delivery of the vehicle. The misdemeanor is a single continuing offense for each day that passes regardless of the number of days that have elapsed following the forty-five day time period.

(8) **Penalty for late transfer - exceptions.** The penalty is not charged if the delay in application is due to at least one of the following:

(a) The department requests additional supporting documents;

(b) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent fails to perform or is neglectful;

(c) The owner is prevented from applying due to an illness or extended hospitalization;

(d) The legal owner fails or neglects to release interest;

(e) The owner did not know of the filing of a report of sale by the previous owner and signs an affidavit to the fact; or

(f) The department finds other conditions exist that adequately explain the delay.

(9) **Review and issue.** The department shall review applications for certificates of title and issue certificates of title when it has determined that all applicable provisions of law have been complied with.

(10) **Rules.** The department may adopt rules as necessary to implement this section. [2010 c 161 § 309; 2008 c 316 § 1; 2007 c 96 § 1; 2006 c 291 § 2. Prior: 2004 c 223 § 1; 2004 c 200 § 2; 2003 c 264 § 7; 2002 c 279 § 1; 1998 c 203 § 11; 1991 c 339 § 19; 1990 c 238 § 4; 1987 c 127 § 1; 1984 c 39 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 99 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 38; 1969 ex.s. c 42 § 1; 1967 c 140 § 7. Formerly RCW 46.12.101.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2004 c 200:** See note following RCW 46.68.020.

**Finding—1998 c 203:** See note following RCW 46.55.105.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.655 Release of owner from liability.** (1) An owner is relieved of civil or criminal liability for the operation of a vehicle by another person when the owner has:

(a) Made a bona fide sale or transfer of a vehicle;

(b) Delivered possession of the vehicle to the person acquiring ownership;

(c) Released interest in the vehicle and provided the certificate of title and registration certificate to the person acquiring ownership; and

(d) Filed a report of sale that meets all the requirements in RCW 46.12.650(2).

(2) A person acquiring a vehicle assumes civil or criminal liability for any traffic violation under this title, whether designated as a traffic infraction or classified as a criminal offense, that occurs after the date of sale or transfer of ownership based on the vehicle's identification including, but not limited to:

(a) Parking infractions;

(b) High occupancy toll lane violations; and

(c) Violations recorded by automated traffic safety cameras.

(3) A person shown as the buyer of a vehicle on an abandoned vehicle report submitted to the department by a registered tow truck operator assumes liability for the vehicle. Any previous owner is relieved of civil or criminal liability for the operation of the vehicle from the date of sale.

(4) A person who had no knowledge of the filing of the report of sale is relieved of civil or criminal liability for the operation of the vehicle. Liability is then transferred to the seller shown on the report of sale. [2010 c 161 § 310; 2006 c 291 § 3; 2005 c 331 § 1; 2002 c 279 § 2; 1984 c 39 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.12.102.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.12.660 Transitional ownership record.** (1) A transitional ownership record:

(a) Enables a security interest in a motor vehicle to be perfected in a timely manner when the certificate of title is not available at the time the security interest is created;

(b) Provides for timely notification to security interest holders under chapter 46.55 RCW; and

(c) Is only acceptable as an ownership record for motor vehicles currently stored on the department's computer system and if the certificate of title or other authorized proof of ownership for the motor vehicle is not in the possession of the

selling vehicle dealer or new security interest holder when the transitional ownership record is submitted to the department.

(2) A person shall submit the transitional ownership record to the department or to the county auditor or other agents or subagents.

(3) A transitional ownership record must contain all of the following information:

- (a) The date of sale;
- (b) The name and address of each owner of the vehicle;
- (c) The name and address of each security interest holder;
- (d) The priorities of interest if there are multiple security interest holders and the security interest holders do not jointly hold a single security interest;
- (e) The vehicle identification number, the license plate number, if any, the year, make, and model of the vehicle;
- (f) The name of the selling dealer or security interest holder who is submitting the transitional ownership record; and
- (g) The transferee's driver's license number, if available.

(4) The report of sale form provided or approved by the department under RCW 46.12.650 may be used by a vehicle dealer as the transitional ownership record.

(5) A security interest is perfected in a motor vehicle on the date the department receives the transitional ownership record when:

- (a) The requirements of this section have been met; and
- (b) Any required fees have been paid.

(6)(a) The selling dealer or new security interest holder shall submit to the department, within ten days of receipt of the certificate of title for the vehicle, written confirmation that only an electronic record of ownership exists or that the certificate of title has been lost or destroyed with:

- (i) An application for a new certificate of title containing the name and address of the secured party; and
- (ii) Payment of the required fees as provided in RCW 46.17.060.

(b) A security interest becomes unperfected when a secured party fails to submit an application for a certificate of title within the ten-day time period provided in this subsection (6), unless the security interest is perfected otherwise. [2010 c 161 § 311; 2000 c 250 § 9A-823; 1998 c 203 § 12. Formerly RCW 46.12.103.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Finding—1998 c 203:** See note following RCW 46.55.105.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.665 Odometer disclosure statement required—Exemptions.** (1) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require a written odometer disclosure statement with every application for a certificate of title for a motor vehicle. The odometer disclosure statement must be on either the certificate of title or on a separate form approved by the department. A secure odometer disclosure statement is required if the certificate of title was issued after April 30, 1990. Odometer disclosure statements must include, at a minimum, the following:

- (a) The miles shown on the odometer at the time of transfer of ownership, but not to include tenths of miles;
- (b) The date of transfer of ownership;
- (c) The transferor's printed name, current address, and signature;
- (d) The transferee's printed name, current address, and signature;
- (e) The identity of the motor vehicle, including its make, model, year, body type, and vehicle identification number;
- (f) Information that the odometer statement is required by the federal truth in mileage act of 1986 and that failure to complete the odometer statement or providing false information may result in fines or imprisonment, or both; and
- (g) One of the following statements:
  - (i) The mileage shown is actual to the best of transferor's knowledge;
  - (ii) The odometer reading exceeds the mechanical limits of the odometer to the best of the transferor's knowledge; or
  - (iii) The odometer reading is not the actual mileage.

If the odometer reading is under one hundred thousand miles, the only options that can be certified are "actual to the best of the transferor's knowledge" or "not the actual mileage." If the odometer reading is one hundred thousand miles or more, the options "actual to the best of the transferor's knowledge" or "not the actual mileage" cannot be used unless the odometer has six digit capability.

(2) The transferee and the transferor shall each sign the odometer disclosure statement. Only one registered owner is required to complete the odometer disclosure statement for the transferee, and only one owner is required to complete the odometer disclosure statement for the transferor. When applicable, both the business name and a company representative's name must be shown on the odometer disclosure statement when the registered owner is a business or the transferee represents a company, or both.

(3) The transferee shall return a signed copy of the odometer disclosure statement to the transferor at the time of transfer of ownership.

(4) The following vehicles are not subject to odometer disclosure requirements at the time of ownership transfer:

- (a) A motor vehicle having a declared gross vehicle weight of more than sixteen thousand pounds;
- (b) A vehicle that is not self-propelled;
- (c) A motor vehicle that is ten years old or older;
- (d) A motor vehicle sold directly by a manufacturer to a federal agency in conformity with contract specifications; or
- (e) A new motor vehicle before its first retail sale.

(5) The requirements of this section also apply to the transfer of a motor vehicle held:

- (a) For lease when transferred to a lessee and then to the lessor at the end of the leasehold; and
- (b) In a fleet when transferred to a purchaser. [2010 c 161 § 312; 1990 c 238 § 6. Formerly RCW 46.12.124.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.670 Assigned certificates of title filed—Transfer of interest in vehicle.** (1) The department shall file and index certificates of title when assigned and returned to the

department, together with subsequent transactions so that at all times it will be possible to trace ownership to the vehicle designated on each certificate of title.

(2)(a) A person who acquires an interest in a vehicle, other than by voluntary transfer, shall within fifteen days mail or deliver to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director:

- (i) The last certificate of title if available;
- (ii) Proof of transfer; and
- (iii) An application for a new certificate of title.

(b) This subsection shall not apply to transactions described in subsection (4) of this section.

(3) A secured party named in the certificate of title who repossesses a vehicle under a security agreement shall within fifteen days mail or deliver to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director:

- (a) The last certificate of title;
- (b) An application for a new certificate of title; and
- (c) An affidavit made by or on the behalf of the secured party that the vehicle was repossessed and that the interest of the owner was lawfully terminated or sold under the terms of the security agreement.

(4) A secured party named in the certificate of title who holds the vehicle for resale is not required to apply for a new certificate of title. When the vehicle is sold, the secured party shall promptly mail or deliver to the buyer or to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director:

(a) The certificate of title;

(b) An affidavit made by or on the behalf of the secured party that the vehicle was repossessed and that the interest of the owner was lawfully terminated or sold under the terms of the security agreement; and

(c) Any other documents required to be sent to the department by the buyer. [2010 c 161 § 313; 2010 c 8 § 9005; 1967 c 140 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.12.130. Prior: 1959 c 166 § 11; prior: 1947 c 164 § 4(d); 1937 c 188 § 6(d); Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-6(d). Formerly RCW 46.12.130.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2010 c 8 § 9005 and by 2010 c 161 § 313, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **46.12.675 Perfection of security interest—Procedure.**

(1) A security interest in a vehicle other than one held as inventory by a manufacturer or a dealer and for which a certificate of title is required is perfected only by:

(a) Complying with the requirements of RCW 46.12.660 or this section;

(b) Receipt by the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director of:

- (i) The existing certificate of title, if any;
- (ii) An application for a certificate of title containing the name and address of the secured party; and
- (iii) Payment of the required fees.

(2) A security interest is perfected when it is created if the secured party's name and address appear on the most recently issued certificate of title or, if not, it is created when

the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director receives the certificate of title or an application for a certificate of title and the fees required in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) If a vehicle is subject to a security interest when brought into this state, perfection of the security interest is determined by the law of the jurisdiction where the vehicle was when the security interest was attached, subject to the following:

(a) The security interest continues perfected in this state if the name of the secured party is shown on the existing certificate of title issued by that jurisdiction. The name of the secured party must be shown on the certificate of title issued for the vehicle by this state. The security interest continues perfected in this state when the department issues the certificate of title.

(b) If the security interest was not perfected under the law of the jurisdiction where the vehicle was when the security interest was attached, it may be perfected in this state. Perfection begins when the department receives the information and fees required in subsection (1) of this section.

(4)(a) After a certificate of title has been issued, the registered owner or secured party must apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a new certificate of title when a security interest is granted on a vehicle. Within ten days after creating a security agreement, the registered owner or secured party must submit:

(i) An application for a certificate of title;

(ii) The certificate of title last issued for the vehicle, or other documentation required by the department; and

(iii) The fee required in RCW 46.17.100.

(b) If satisfied that a certificate of title should be reissued, the department shall change the vehicle record and issue a new certificate of title to the secured party.

(5) A secured party shall release the security interest when the conditions within the security agreement have been met and there is no further secured obligation. The secured party must either:

(a) Assign the certificate of title to the registered owner or the registered owner's designee and send the certificate of title to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director with the fee required in RCW 46.17.100; or

(b) Assign the certificate of title to the person acquiring the vehicle from the registered owner with the registered owner's release of interest.

(6) The department shall issue a new certificate of title to the registered owner when the department receives the release of interest and required fees as provided in subsection (5)(a) of this section.

(7) A secured party is liable for one hundred dollars payable to the registered owner or person acquiring the vehicle from the registered owner when:

(a) The secured party fails to either assign the certificate of title to the registered owner or to the person acquiring the vehicle from the registered owner or apply for a new certificate of title within ten days after proper demand; and

(b) The failure of the secured party to act as described in (a) of this subsection results in a loss to the registered owner or person acquiring the vehicle from the registered owner.

[2012 c 74 § 14; 2010 c 161 § 316; 2007 c 96 § 2; 2002 c 352 § 5. Prior: 1997 c 432 § 5; 1997 c 241 § 5; 1994 c 262 § 6; 1979 ex.s. c 113 § 2; 1975 c 25 § 13; 1967 c 140 § 4; 1961 c 12 § 46.12.170; prior: 1951 c 269 § 4; 1947 c 164 § 5; 1939 c 182 § 2; 1937 c 188 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-7. Formerly RCW 46.12.170.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.680 Ownership in doubt—Procedure.** (1) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director may register a vehicle and withhold issuance of a certificate of title or require a bond as a condition of issuing a certificate of title if the department is not satisfied:

- (a) As to the ownership of the vehicle; or
- (b) That there are no undisclosed security interests in the vehicle.

(2) A person who is unable to provide satisfactory evidence of ownership may:

- (a) Apply for ownership in doubt and receive either a:
  - (i) Registration without a certificate of title for a three-year period; or
  - (ii) A bonded certificate of title with or without registration as described in subsection (3) of this section; or
- (b) Petition any district court or superior court of any county in this state to receive a judgment awarding ownership of the vehicle.

(3) A person who is either required by the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director to file a bond or wants a certificate of title for a vehicle when ownership is in doubt shall file the bond for a three-year period. The bond must:

- (a) Be in the form approved by the department;
- (b) Be in an amount equal to one and one-half times the value of the vehicle as determined by the department;
- (c) Be signed by the applicant and the bonding agent; and
- (d) Offer protection to any previous owner, secured party, future purchaser, or their successors against any expense, loss, or damage, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

(4) A person who has or has held an interest in the vehicle may, during the three-year ownership in doubt period, petition any district court or superior court of any county in this state to receive a judgment either awarding ownership of the vehicle or be compensated for any expense, loss, or damage, including reasonable attorneys' fees. The total claim must not be more than the amount of the bond if a bond has been filed with the department.

(5) A person who has applied for ownership in doubt may apply for a certificate of title at any time during the three-year ownership in doubt period when satisfactory evidence of ownership becomes available. At the end of the three-year ownership in doubt period, the owner must apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a certificate of title. The new

certificate of title will not include reference to the bond if a bond was filed with the department.

(6) A person applying for ownership in doubt must have acquired the vehicle by purchase, exchange, gift, lease, or inheritance from the owner of record or interim owner.

(7) Ownership in doubt does not apply to:

- (a) Unauthorized vehicles, as defined in RCW 46.55.010;
- (b) Abandoned vehicles, as defined in RCW 46.55.010;
- (c) Snowmobiles, as defined in RCW 46.04.546; or
- (d) Washington vehicle dealer sales, as defined in RCW 46.70.011. [2010 c 161 § 314; 1990 c 250 § 30; 1967 c 140 § 9. Formerly RCW 46.12.151.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### SPECIFIC VEHICLES

**46.12.690 Campers.** A camper is considered a vehicle for the purposes of certificates of title, perfection of security interests, and registrations. The director may adopt rules to implement this section. [2010 c 161 § 321; 2010 c 8 § 9007; 1979 c 158 § 136; 1971 ex.s. c 231 § 6. Formerly RCW 46.12.280.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2010 c 8 § 9007 and by 2010 c 161 § 321, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.691 Custom vehicles.** (1) When applying for a certificate of title for a custom vehicle for the first time, the owner of the custom vehicle must:

- (a) Submit a certification that the custom vehicle:
  - (i) Will be maintained for occasional transportation, exhibitions, club activities, parades, tours, and similar uses; and
  - (ii) Will not be used for general daily transportation; and
- (b) Provide a certificate of vehicle inspection as required under RCW 46.12.560(4).

(2) The model year and the year of manufacture that are listed on the certificate of title of a custom vehicle must be the model year and year of manufacture that the body of the custom vehicle resembles.

(3) The presence of modern equipment including, but not limited to, brakes, engines, or seat belts, or the presence of optional equipment referenced in RCW 46.37.518, on a custom vehicle does not invalidate the year of manufacture on the certificate of title.

(4) A custom vehicle must be registered under RCW 46.18.220. [2011 c 114 § 4.]

**Effective date—2011 c 114:** See note following RCW 46.04.572.

**46.12.695 Kit vehicles.** (1) A person who applies for an original certificate of title for a kit vehicle shall provide:

(a) The manufacturer's certificate of origin or an equivalent document if the kit vehicle is a new manufactured vehicle kit or body kit;

(b) The certificate of title or a certified copy or equivalent document for the frame;

(c) Proof of ownership for all major parts used in the construction of the vehicle. Major parts include the frame, engine, axles, transmission, and any other parts that carry vehicle identification numbers;

(d) Bills of sale or invoices for all major components used in the construction of the vehicle. The bills of sale must be notarized unless the vendor is registered with the department of revenue for the collection of retail sales or use tax and must include:

(i) The names and addresses of the seller and purchaser;

(ii) A description of the vehicle or part being sold, including the make, model, and identification or serial number or the yard number if from a wrecking yard;

(iii) The date of sale; and

(iv) The purchase price of the vehicle or part;

(e) A certificate of vehicle inspection completed by the Washington state patrol or other authorized inspector verifying the vehicle identification number, and year and make when applicable. A Washington state patrol vehicle identification number inspector must ensure that all parts are documented by certificates of title, notarized bills of sale, or business receipts, such as those obtained from a wrecking yard purchase;

(f) A completed declaration of value form to determine the value for excise tax purposes if the purchase cost and year is unknown or incomplete;

(g) Payment of use tax on the frame and all component parts used, unless proof of payment of the sales or use tax is submitted; and

(h) An odometer disclosure statement on all originals and transfers of certificates of title for kit vehicles under ten years old, unless otherwise exempt by law.

(2) If the frame from a donor vehicle is used and the remainder of the donor vehicle is to be sold or destroyed, the certificate of title is required as an ownership document to the buyer. The department may make a certified copy of the certificate of title for documentation of the frame for this transaction.

(3) When accepting an application for an original certificate of title for a kit vehicle, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall:

(a) Use the vehicle identification number provided on the manufacturer's certificate of origin. If the vehicle identification number is not available, the Washington state patrol shall assign a vehicle identification number at the time of inspection;

(b) Use the actual model year provided on the manufacturer's certificate of origin as the model year. This is not the model year of the vehicle being replicated;

(c) Record the make as "KITV";

(d) Record in the series and body designation a discrete vehicle model; and

(e) Assign a use class identifying the actual use of the vehicle, such as a passenger car or truck.

(4) A kit vehicle may be registered under RCW 46.18.220 as a street rod vehicle if the vehicle is manufac-

ured to have the same appearance as a similar vehicle manufactured before 1949. Kit vehicles must comply with chapter 204-10 WAC unless the kit vehicle is registered under RCW 46.18.220.

(5) A kit vehicle is exempt from the welding requirements under WAC 204-10-022(8) if, upon application for a certificate of title, the owner furnishes documentation from the manufacturer of the vehicle frame that informs the owner that the welding on the frame was not completed by a certified welder and that the structural strength of the frame has not been certified by an engineer as meeting the applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards set under 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.201, 571.214, 571.216, and 571.220 through 571.224, and the applicable SAE standards.

(6) The department may not deny a certificate of title to an applicant who completes the requisite application, complies with this section, and pays the requisite titling fees and taxes. [2010 c 161 § 324; 2009 c 284 § 1; 1996 c 225 § 8. Formerly RCW 46.12.440.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Finding—1996 c 225:** See note following RCW 46.04.125.

**46.12.700 Manufactured homes.** (1) **Titling options.** An owner of a manufactured home shall establish ownership in the manufactured home by either:

(a) Applying for a certificate of title as required under this chapter; or

(b) Eliminating the certificate of title under chapter 65.20 RCW.

(2) **Exemption.** This section does not apply to a manufactured home held for resale by a dealer or manufacturer.

(3) **Transferring ownership.** A registered owner of record must sign the certificate of title releasing the owner's interest when transferring ownership of a manufactured home. If the manufactured home was manufactured before June 15, 1976, the registered owner must sign an affidavit on a form approved by the department. The affidavit must state that the purchaser was notified that failure of the manufactured home to meet federal housing and urban development standards or failure of the manufactured home to meet a fire and safety inspection by the department of labor and industries may result in denial by a local jurisdiction of a permit to site the manufactured home.

(4) **Evidence of taxes paid.** Before accepting an application for a certificate of title for a manufactured home, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to provide evidence that any taxes due on the sale of the manufactured home under chapters 82.45 and 84.52 RCW have been paid. Acceptable evidence includes a copy of:

(a) The real estate excise tax affidavit that has been stamped by the county treasurer; or

(b) A treasurer certificate that is prepared by the treasurer of the county in which a used manufactured home is located and that states that all property taxes due upon the used manufactured home being sold have been satisfied.

(5) **County assessor notification.** The department shall notify the county assessor of the county where the manufactured home is located when ownership of a manufactured

home is transferred. The notification must include the name and address of the former owner and the new owner.

(6) **Title elimination.** The certificate of title for a manufactured home may be eliminated or not issued when the manufactured home is registered under chapter 65.20 RCW. If the certificate of title is eliminated or not issued, the application must be recorded in the county property records of the county where the real property to which the home is affixed is located. All vehicle license fees and taxes applicable to manufactured homes under this chapter are due and must be collected before recording the ownership with the county auditor.

(7) **Rules.** The department may adopt rules as necessary to implement this section. [2011 c 171 § 38; 2010 c 161 § 322; 2005 c 399 § 4; 1993 c 154 § 2. Prior: 1989 c 343 § 20; 1989 c 337 § 4; 1981 c 304 § 2; 1979 c 158 § 137; 1971 ex.s. c 231 § 14. Formerly RCW 46.12.290.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.711 Street rod vehicles.** (1) When applying for a certificate of title for a street rod vehicle for the first time, the owner of the street rod vehicle must:

(a) Submit a certification that the street rod vehicle:

(i) Will be maintained for occasional transportation, exhibitions, club activities, parades, tours, and similar uses; and

(ii) Will not be used for general daily transportation; and

(b) Provide a certificate of vehicle inspection as required under RCW 46.12.560(4).

(2) The model year and the year of manufacture that are listed on the certificate of title of a street rod vehicle must be the model year and year of manufacture that the body of the street rod vehicle resembles.

(3) The presence of modern equipment including, but not limited to, brakes, engines, or seat belts, or the presence of optional equipment referenced in RCW 46.37.518, on a street rod vehicle does not invalidate the year of manufacture on the certificate of title.

(4) A street rod vehicle must be registered under RCW 46.18.220. [2011 c 114 § 2.]

**Effective date—2011 c 114:** See note following RCW 46.04.572.

#### SERIAL NUMBERS

**46.12.720 Buying, selling, etc. with numbers removed, altered, etc.—Penalty.** Whoever knowingly buys, sells, receives, disposes of, conceals, or has knowingly in his or her possession any vehicle, watercraft, camper, or component part thereof, from which the manufacturer's serial number or any other distinguishing number or identification mark has been removed, defaced, covered, altered, or destroyed for the purpose of concealment or misrepresenting the identity of the said vehicle, watercraft, camper, or component part thereof shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2010 c 8 § 9008; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 91 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.12.300.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.725 Seizure and impoundment—Notice to interested persons—Release to owner.** (1) Any vehicle, watercraft, camper, or any component part thereof, from which the manufacturer's serial number or any other distinguishing number or identification mark has been removed, defaced, covered, altered, obliterated, or destroyed, may be impounded and held by the seizing law enforcement agency for the purpose of conducting an investigation to determine the identity of the article or articles, and to determine whether it had been reported stolen.

(2) Within five days of the impounding of any vehicle, watercraft, camper, or component part thereof, the law enforcement agency seizing the article or articles shall send written notice of such impoundment by certified mail to all persons known to the agency as claiming an interest in the article or articles. The seizing agency shall exercise reasonable diligence in ascertaining the names and addresses of those persons claiming an interest in the article or articles. Such notice shall advise the person of the fact of seizure, the possible disposition of the article or articles, the requirement of filing a written claim requesting notification of potential disposition, and the right of the person to request a hearing to establish a claim of ownership. Within five days of receiving notice of other persons claiming an interest in the article or articles, the seizing agency shall send a like notice to each such person.

(3) If reported as stolen, the seizing law enforcement agency shall promptly release such vehicle, watercraft, camper, or parts thereof as have been stolen, to the person who is the lawful owner or the lawful successor in interest, upon receiving proof that such person presently owns or has a lawful right to the possession of the article or articles. [1995 c 256 § 2; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 91 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.12.310.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.730 Disposition authorized, when.** Unless a claim of ownership to the article or articles is established pursuant to RCW 46.12.735, the law enforcement agency seizing the vehicle, watercraft, camper, or component part thereof may dispose of them by destruction, by selling at public auction to the highest bidder, or by holding the article or articles for the official use of the agency, when:

(1) The true identity of the article or articles cannot be established by restoring the original manufacturer's serial number or other distinguishing numbers or identification marks or by any other means;

(2) After the true identity of the article or articles has been established, the seizing law enforcement agency cannot locate the person who is the lawful owner or if such lawful owner or his or her successor in interest fails to claim the article or articles within forty-five days after receiving notice from the seizing law enforcement agency that the article or articles is in its possession.

No disposition of the article or articles pursuant to this section shall be undertaken until at least sixty days have elapsed from the date of seizure and written notice of the right to a hearing to establish a claim of ownership pursuant to RCW 46.12.735 and of the potential disposition of the arti-

cle or articles shall have first been served upon the person who held possession or custody of the article when it was impounded and upon any other person who, prior to the final disposition of the article, has notified the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of a claim to ownership or lawful right to possession thereof. [2011 c 171 § 39; 2010 c 8 § 9009; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 91 § 3. Formerly RCW 46.12.320.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.735 Hearing—Appeal—Removal to court—Release after ruling.** (1) Any person may submit a written request for a hearing to establish a claim of ownership or right to lawful possession of the vehicle, watercraft, camper, or component part thereof seized pursuant to this section.

(2) Upon receipt of a request for hearing, one shall be held before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency or an administrative law judge appointed under chapter 34.12 RCW.

(3) Such hearing shall be held within a reasonable time after receipt of a request therefor. Reasonable investigative activities, including efforts to establish the identity of the article or articles and the identity of the person entitled to the lawful possession or custody of the article or articles shall be considered in determining the reasonableness of the time within which a hearing must be held.

(4) The hearing and any appeal therefrom shall be conducted in accordance with Title 34 RCW.

(5) The burden of producing evidence shall be upon the person claiming to be the lawful owner or to have the lawful right of possession to the article or articles.

(6) Any person claiming ownership or right to possession of an article or articles subject to disposition under RCW 46.12.725 through 46.12.740 may remove the matter to a court of competent jurisdiction if the aggregate value of the article or articles involved is two hundred dollars or more. In a court hearing between two or more claimants to the article or articles involved, the prevailing party shall be entitled to judgment for costs and reasonable attorney's fees. For purposes of this section the seizing law enforcement agency shall not be considered a claimant.

(7) The seizing law enforcement agency shall promptly release the article or articles to the claimant upon a determination by the administrative law judge or court that the claimant is the present lawful owner or is lawfully entitled to possession thereof. [2011 c 171 § 40; 1981 c 67 § 27; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 91 § 4. Formerly RCW 46.12.330.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.740 Release without hearing.** The seizing law enforcement agency may release the article or articles impounded pursuant to this section to the person claiming ownership without a hearing pursuant to RCW 46.12.735 when such law enforcement agency is satisfied after an appropriate investigation as to the claimant's right to lawful possession. If no hearing is contemplated as provided for in RCW 46.12.735 such release shall be within a reasonable

time following seizure. Reasonable investigative activity, including efforts to establish the identity of the article or articles and the identity of the person entitled to lawful possession or custody of the article or articles shall be considered in determining the reasonableness of the time in which release must be made. [2011 c 171 § 41; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 91 § 5. Formerly RCW 46.12.340.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.12.745 Assignment of new number.** An identification number shall be assigned to any article impounded pursuant to RCW 46.12.725 in accordance with the rules promulgated by the department of licensing prior to:

(1) The release of the article from the custody of the seizing agency; or

(2) The use of the article by the seizing agency. [2011 c 171 § 42; 1979 c 158 § 138; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 91 § 6. Formerly RCW 46.12.350.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## VIOLATIONS

**46.12.750 Penalty for false statements, illegal transfers, alterations, or forgeries—Exception.** (1) A person is guilty of a class B felony if the person:

(a) Knowingly makes any false statement of a material fact, either on an application for a certificate of title or in any transfer of a certificate of title;

(b) Intentionally acquires or passes ownership of a vehicle which that person knows or has reason to believe has been stolen;

(c) Receives or transfers possession of a stolen vehicle from or to another person;

(d) Possesses any vehicle which that person knows or has reason to believe has been stolen;

(e) Alters or forges or causes the alteration or forgery of:

(i) A certificate of title or registration certificate issued by the department;

(ii) An assignment of a certificate of title or registration certificate; or

(iii) A release or notice of release of an encumbrance referred to on a certificate of title or registration certificate; or

(f) Holds or uses a certificate of title, registration certificate, assignment, release, or notice of release, knowing that it has been altered or forged.

(2) A person convicted of violating subsection (1) of this section must be punished by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than ten years, or both such fine and imprisonment. This subsection does not exclude any other offenses or penalties prescribed by any existing or future law for the larceny or unauthorized taking of a vehicle.

(3) It is a class C felony for a person to sell or convey a vehicle certificate of title except in conjunction with the sale or transfer of the vehicle for which the certificate was originally issued.

(4) This section does not apply to an officer of the law engaged at the time in the performance of official authorized law enforcement activities. [2010 c 161 § 319; 2003 c 53 § 236; 1961 c 12 § 46.12.210. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 12; RRS § 6312-12. Formerly RCW 46.12.210.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**46.12.755 Ownership of motor vehicle by person under eighteen prohibited—Exception.** (1) A person under the age of eighteen may not be the registered or legal owner of a motor vehicle unless the:

(a) Motor vehicle was previously registered in the person's name in another jurisdiction while a resident of that jurisdiction;

(b) Person is on active military duty with the United States armed forces; or

(c) Person is, in effect, emancipated.

(2) It is unlawful for any person to convey, sell, or transfer the ownership of any motor vehicle to a person under the age of eighteen. This subsection does not apply to a vehicle dealer properly licensed under chapter 46.70 RCW if the minor provides the dealer with a certified copy of an original birth certificate showing that the minor is over eighteen years of age. The vehicle dealer shall submit the certified copy of the original birth certificate with an application for certificate of title to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director.

(3) A person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than two hundred fifty dollars or by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than ninety days if that person with actual notice of the prohibition:

(a) Gives, sells, or transfers the ownership of a motor vehicle to a person under the age of eighteen;

(b) Is a registered or legal owner of a motor vehicle in violation of subsection (1) of this section; or

(c) Transfers, sells, or encumbers an interest in a motor vehicle in violation of RCW 46.61.5058. [2010 c 161 § 320; 1969 ex.s. c 125 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.12.250.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Chapter 46.16A RCW  
REGISTRATION**

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GENERAL PROVISIONS

**46.16A.010 Definitions.** For the purposes of this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(1) "Commercial motor vehicle," for the purposes of requiring a department of transportation number, means the same as defined in RCW 46.25.010(6), or a motor vehicle used in commerce when the motor vehicle: (a) Has a gross vehicle weight rating of 11,794 kilograms or more (26,001 pounds or more) inclusive of a towed unit of a gross vehicle



weight rating of more than 4,536 kilograms (10,000 pounds or more); (b) has a gross vehicle weight rating of 11,794 kilograms or more (26,001 pounds or more); or (c) is used in the transportation of hazardous materials, as defined in RCW 46.25.010(13);

(2) "Department of transportation number" means a department of transportation number from the federal motor carrier safety administration;

(3) "Interstate commercial motor vehicle" means a commercial vehicle that operates in more than one state;

(4) "Intrastate commercial motor vehicle" means a commercial vehicle that operates exclusively within the state of Washington;

(5) "Motor carrier" means a person or entity who has been issued a department of transportation number and who owns a commercial motor vehicle;

(6) "Registration year" means the effective period of a vehicle registration issued by the department. A registration year begins at 12:01 a.m. on the date of the calendar year designated by the department and ends at 12:00 a.m. the same day the following year unless otherwise specified;

(7) "Renewal notice" means the notice to renew a vehicle registration sent to the registered owner by the department. [2010 c 161 § 401; 2007 c 419 § 3. Formerly RCW 46.16.004.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Findings—2007 c 419:** "The legislature finds and declares that it is the policy of the state of Washington to prevent the loss of human lives and the loss of property and vehicles, and to protect the traveling environment of the state of Washington through sound and consistent regulatory provisions for interstate and intrastate motor carriers.

The legislature further finds and declares that it is a policy of the state of Washington to require commercial motor vehicles operating on state roadways to comply with rigorous federal and state safety regulations. The legislature also finds that intrastate and interstate commercial motor vehicles should comply with consistent state and federal commercial vehicle regulations." [2007 c 419 § 1.]

**Short title—2007 c 419:** "This act may be known and cited as the Tony Qamar and Daniel Johnson act." [2007 c 419 § 2.]

**46.16A.020 Registration year assigned—Registration month—Registration period.** (1) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall assign a new registration year to a vehicle if:

(a) The Washington state vehicle registration has expired and registered ownership to the vehicle is being transferred. The renewed license is valid for a full twelve-month period unless a specific expiration date is required by law, rule, or program; or

(b) The Washington vehicle registration has expired and the registered owner:

- (i) Is a member of the United States armed forces;
- (ii) Was stationed outside of Washington under military orders during the prior vehicle registration year; and
- (iii) Provides the department a copy of the military orders.

(2) Each registration year may be divided into twelve registration months. Each registration month begins at 12:01 a.m. on a day of the month assigned by the department and ends at 12:00 a.m. on the same day the following month.

(3) A registration period extends through the end of the next business day when the final day of a registration year or month falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. [2010 c 161 § 402; 2009 c 159 § 1; 1992 c 222 § 1; 1983 c 27 § 1; 1981 c 214 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.16.006.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.025 Adjustment of vehicle registration periods to stagger renewal periods.** The department may by rule extend or reduce vehicle registration periods for the purpose of staggering renewal periods. The rules may exclude any classes or classifications of vehicles from the staggered renewal system and may provide for the gradual introduction of classes or classifications of vehicles into the system. The rules shall provide for the collection of proportionately increased or decreased vehicle license fees and of excise or property taxes required to be paid at the time of registration.

It is the intent of the legislature that there shall be neither a significant net gain nor loss of revenue to the state general fund or the motor vehicle fund as the result of implementing and maintaining a staggered vehicle registration system. [2010 c 161 § 431; 1986 c 18 § 15; 1979 c 158 § 140; 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.16.225.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.030 Registration and display of plates required—Penalties—Expired registration, impoundment.** (1) Vehicles must be registered as required by this chapter and must display license plates or decals assigned by the department.

(2) It is unlawful for a person to operate any vehicle on a public highway of this state without having in full force and effect a current and proper vehicle registration and displaying license plates on the vehicle.

(3) Vehicle license plates or registration certificates, whether original issues or duplicates, may not be issued or furnished by the department until the applicant makes satisfactory application for a certificate of title or presents satisfactory evidence that a certificate of title covering the vehicle has been previously issued.

(4) Failure to make initial registration before operating a vehicle on the public highways of this state is a traffic infraction. A person committing this infraction must pay a fine of five hundred twenty-nine dollars, which may not be suspended, deferred, or reduced. This fine is in addition to any delinquent taxes and fees that must be deposited and distributed in the same manner as if the taxes and fees were properly paid in a timely fashion. The five hundred twenty-nine dollar fine must be deposited into the vehicle licensing fraud account created in the state treasury in RCW 46.68.250.

(5) Failure to renew an expired registration before operating a vehicle on the public highways of this state is a traffic infraction.

(6) It is a gross misdemeanor for a resident, as identified in RCW 46.16A.140, to register a vehicle in another state, evading the payment of any tax or vehicle license fee imposed in connection with registration. It is punishable, in lieu of the fine in subsection (4) of this section, as follows:

(a) For a first offense:

(i) Up to three hundred sixty-four days in the county jail;

(ii) Payment of a fine of five hundred twenty-nine dollars plus any applicable assessments, which may not be suspended, deferred, or reduced. The fine of five hundred twenty-nine dollars must be deposited into the vehicle licensing fraud account created in the state treasury in RCW 46.68.250;

(iii) A fine of one thousand dollars to be deposited into the vehicle licensing fraud account created in the state treasury in RCW 46.68.250, which may not be suspended, deferred, or reduced; and

(iv) The delinquent taxes and fees, which must be deposited and distributed in the same manner as if the taxes and fees were properly paid in a timely fashion, and which may not be suspended, deferred, or reduced;

(b) For a second or subsequent offense:

(i) Up to three hundred sixty-four days in the county jail;

(ii) Payment of a fine of five hundred twenty-nine dollars plus any applicable assessments, which may not be suspended, deferred, or reduced. The fine of five hundred twenty-nine dollars must be deposited into the vehicle licensing fraud account created in the state treasury in RCW 46.68.250;

(iii) A fine of five thousand dollars to be deposited into the vehicle licensing fraud account created in the state treasury in RCW 46.68.250, which may not be suspended, deferred, or reduced; and

(iv) The amount of delinquent taxes and fees, which must be deposited and distributed in the same manner as if the taxes and fees were properly paid in a timely fashion, and which may not be suspended, deferred, or reduced.

(7) A vehicle with an expired registration of more than forty-five days parked on a public street may be impounded by a police officer under RCW 46.55.113(2). [2011 c 171 § 43; 2011 c 96 § 31. Prior: 2010 c 270 § 1; 2010 c 217 § 5; 2010 c 161 § 403; 2007 c 242 § 2; 2006 c 212 § 1; prior: 2005 c 350 § 1; 2005 c 323 § 2; 2005 c 213 § 6; prior: 2003 c 353 § 8; 2003 c 53 § 238; 2000 c 229 § 1; 1999 c 277 § 4; prior: 1997 c 328 § 2; 1997 c 241 § 13; 1996 c 184 § 1; 1993 c 238 § 1; 1991 c 163 § 1; 1989 c 192 § 2; 1986 c 186 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 148 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 17 § 2; 1972 ex.s. c 5 § 2; 1969 c 27 § 3; 1967 c 202 § 2; 1963 ex.s. c 3 § 51; 1961 ex.s. c 21 § 32; 1961 c 12 § 46.16.010; prior: 1955 c 265 § 1; 1947 c 33 § 1; 1937 c 188 § 15; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-15; 1929 c 99 § 5; RRS § 6324. Formerly RCW 46.16.010.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2011 c 96 § 31 and by 2011 c 171 § 43, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2005 c 350:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 9, 2005]." [2005 c 350 § 2.]

**Declaration and intent—2005 c 323:** "When a person establishes residency in this state, unless otherwise exempt by statute, the person must register any vehicles to be operated on public highways, and pay all required licensing fees and taxes. Washington residents must renew vehicle registrations annually as well. The intent of this act is to increase the monetary penalties associated with failure to properly register vehicles in the state of Washington." [2005 c 323 § 1.]

**Effective date—2005 c 323:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2005." [2005 c 323 § 4.]

**Application—2005 c 323:** "This act applies to registrations due or to become due on or after January 1, 2006." [2005 c 323 § 5.]

**Findings—Construction—Effective date—2005 c 213:** See notes following RCW 46.09.300.

**Effective date—2003 c 353:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Legislative intent—1989 c 192:** "The legislature recognizes that there are residents of this state who intentionally register motor vehicles in other states to evade payment of taxes and fees required by the laws of this state. This results in a substantial loss of revenue to the state. It is the intent of the legislature to impose a stronger criminal penalty upon those residents who defraud the state, thereby enhancing compliance with the registration laws of this state and further enhancing enforcement and collection efforts.

In order to encourage voluntary compliance with the registration laws of this state, administrative penalties associated with failing to register a motor vehicle are waived until September 1, 1989. It is not the intent of the legislature to waive traffic infraction or criminal traffic violations imposed prior to July 23, 1989." [1989 c 192 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.040 Original registration—Application—Form and contents.** (1) An owner or the owner's authorized representative must apply for an original vehicle registration to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director on a form furnished by the department. The application must contain:

(a) A description of the vehicle, including its make, model, vehicle identification number, type of body, and power to be used;

(b) The name and address of the person who is the registered owner of the vehicle and, if the vehicle is subject to a security interest, the name and address of the secured party;

(c) The purpose for which the vehicle is to be used;

(d) The licensed gross weight for the vehicle, which is:

(i) The adult seating capacity, including the operator, as provided for in RCW 46.16A.455(1) if the vehicle will be operated as a for hire vehicle or auto stage and has a seating capacity of more than six; or

(ii) The gross weight declared by the applicant as required in RCW 46.16A.455(2) if the vehicle will be operated as a motor truck, tractor, or truck tractor;

(e) The empty scale weight of the vehicle; and

(f) Other information that the department may require.

(2) The registered owner or the registered owner's authorized representative shall sign the application for an original vehicle registration and certify that the statements on the application are true to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

(3) The application for an original vehicle registration must be accompanied by a draft, money order, certified bank check, or cash for all fees and taxes due for the application for an original vehicle registration. [2010 c 161 § 413; 1987 c

244 § 2; 1975 c 25 § 15; 1969 ex.s. c 170 § 2. Prior: 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 59; 1967 c 32 § 16; 1961 c 12 § 46.16.040; prior: 1947 c 164 § 8; 1937 c 188 § 29; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-29; 1921 c 96 § 5; 1919 c 178 § 1; 1919 c 59 § 4; 1915 c 142 § 5; RRS § 6316. Formerly RCW 46.16.040.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.050 Registration—Requirements before issuance—Penalty—Rules.** (1) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall not issue an initial or renewal registration certificate for a motor vehicle to a natural person under this chapter unless the natural person at time of application:

(a) Presents an unexpired Washington state driver's license; or

(b) Certifies that he or she is:

(i) A Washington state resident who does not operate a motor vehicle on public roads; or

(ii) Exempt from the requirement to obtain a Washington state driver's license under RCW 46.20.025.

(2) The department must set up procedures to verify that all owners meet the requirements of this section.

(3) A person falsifying residency is guilty of a gross misdemeanor punishable only by a fine of five hundred twenty-nine dollars.

(4) The department may adopt rules necessary to implement this section, including rules under which a natural person applying for registration may be exempt from the requirements of this section if the person provides evidence satisfactory to the department that he or she has a valid and compelling reason for not being able to meet the requirements of this section. [2010 c 161 § 405.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.060 Registration—Emission control inspections required—Exemptions—Educational information—Rules.** (1) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director may not issue or renew a motor vehicle registration or change the registered owner of a registered vehicle for any motor vehicle required to be inspected under chapter 70.120 RCW, unless the application for issuance or renewal is: (a) Accompanied by a valid certificate of compliance or a valid certificate of acceptance issued as required under chapter 70.120 RCW; or (b) exempt, as described in subsection (2) of this section. The certificates must have a date of validation that is within twelve months of the assigned registration renewal date. Certificates for fleet or owner tested diesel vehicles may have a date of validation that is within twelve months of the assigned registration renewal date.

(2) The following motor vehicles are exempt from emission test requirements:

(a) Motor vehicles that are less than five years old or more than twenty-five years old;

(b) Motor vehicles that are a 2009 model year or newer;

(c) Motor vehicles powered exclusively by electricity, propane, compressed natural gas, or liquid petroleum gas;

(d) Motorcycles as defined in RCW 46.04.330 and motor-driven cycles as defined in RCW 46.04.332;

(e) Farm vehicles as defined in RCW 46.04.181;

(f) Street rod vehicles as defined in RCW 46.04.572 and custom vehicles as defined in RCW 46.04.161;

(g) Used vehicles that are offered for sale by a motor vehicle dealer licensed under chapter 46.70 RCW;

(h) Classes of motor vehicles exempted by the director of the department of ecology; and

(i) Hybrid motor vehicles that obtain a rating by the environmental protection agency of at least fifty miles per gallon of gas during city driving. For purposes of this section, a hybrid motor vehicle is one that uses propulsion units powered by both electricity and gas.

(3) The department of ecology shall provide information to motor vehicle owners:

(a) Regarding the boundaries of emission contributing areas and restrictions established under this section that apply to vehicles registered in such areas; and

(b) On the relationship between motor vehicles and air pollution and steps motor vehicle owners should take to reduce motor vehicle related air pollution.

(4) The department of licensing shall:

(a) Notify all registered motor vehicle owners affected by the emission testing program that they must have an emission test to renew their registration;

(b) Adopt rules implementing and enforcing this section, except for subsection (2)(e) of this section, as specified in chapter 34.05 RCW.

(5) A motor vehicle may not be registered, leased, rented, or sold for use in the state, starting with the model year as provided in RCW 70.120A.010, unless the vehicle:

(a) Has seven thousand five hundred miles or more; or

(b)(i) Is consistent with the vehicle emission standards and carbon dioxide equivalent emission standards adopted by the department of ecology; and

(ii) Has a California certification label for all emission standards, and carbon dioxide equivalent emission standards necessary to meet fleet average requirements.

(6) The department of licensing, in consultation with the department of ecology, may adopt rules necessary to implement this section and may provide for reasonable exemptions to these requirements. The department of ecology may exempt public safety vehicles from meeting the standards where the department finds that vehicles necessary to meet the needs of public safety agencies are not otherwise reasonably available. [2011 c 114 § 6; 2010 c 161 § 406; 2002 c 24 § 1; 1998 c 342 § 6; 1991 c 199 § 209; 1990 c 42 § 318; 1989 c 240 § 1; 1985 c 7 § 111. Prior: 1983 c 238 § 1; 1983 c 237 § 3; 1980 c 176 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 163 § 11. Formerly RCW 46.16.015.]

**Effective date—2011 c 114:** See note following RCW 46.04.572.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Finding—1991 c 199:** See note following RCW 70.94.011.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**Legislative finding—1983 c 237:** See note following RCW 46.37.467.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.070 Registration—Cancellation, refusal, etc.—Appeals.** (1) The department may refuse to issue or may cancel a registration certificate at any time when the department determines that an applicant for registration is not entitled to a registration certificate. Notice of cancellation may be accomplished by sending a notice by first-class mail using the last known address in department records for the registered or legal owner or owners, and completing an affidavit of first-class mail. It is unlawful for any person to remove, drive, or operate the vehicle until a proper registration certificate has been issued. A person removing, driving, or operating a vehicle after the refusal to issue or cancellation of the registration is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(2)(a) The suspension, revocation, cancellation, or refusal by the director of a registration certificate provided under this chapter is conclusive unless the person whose registration or certificate is suspended, revoked, canceled, or refused appeals to the superior court of Thurston county or the person's county of residence.

(b) Notice of appeal must be filed within ten days after receipt of the notice of suspension, revocation, cancellation, or refusal. Upon the filing of the notice of appeal, the court shall issue an order to the director to show cause why the registration should not be granted or reinstated and return the order not less than ten days after the date of service to the director. Service must be in the same manner as prescribed for the service of a summons and complaint in other civil actions.

(c) Upon the hearing on the order to show cause, the court shall hear evidence concerning matters with reference to the suspension, revocation, cancellation, or refusal of the registration and shall enter judgment either affirming or setting aside the suspension, revocation, cancellation, or refusal. [2011 c 171 § 44; 2010 c 161 § 414.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.080 Registration—Exemptions.** The following vehicles are not required to be registered under this chapter:

(1) Converter gears used to convert a semitrailer into a trailer or a two-axle truck or tractor into a three or more axle truck or tractor or used in any other manner to increase the number of axles of a vehicle;

(2) Electric-assisted bicycles;

(3)(a) Farm implements, tractors, trailers, and other farm vehicles (i) operated within a radius of fifteen miles of the farm where it is principally used or garaged, including trailers designed as cook or bunk houses, (ii) used exclusively for animal herding, and (iii) temporarily operating or drawn upon the public highways, and (b) trailers used exclusively to transport farm implements from one farm to another during daylight hours or at night when the trailer is equipped with lights that comply with applicable law;

(4) Forklifts operated during daylight hours on public highways adjacent to and within five hundred feet of the warehouses they serve;

(5) Golf carts, as defined in RCW 46.04.1945, operating within a designated golf cart zone as described in RCW 46.08.175;

(6) Motor vehicles operated solely within a national recreation area that is not accessible by a state highway, including motorcycles, motor homes, passenger cars, and sport utility vehicles. This exemption applies only after initial registration;

(7) Motorized foot scooters;

(8) Nurse rigs or equipment auxiliary for the use of and designed or modified for the fueling, repairing, or loading of spray and fertilizer applicator rigs and not used, designed, or modified primarily for the purpose of transportation;

(9) Off-road vehicles operated on a street, road, or highway as authorized under RCW 46.09.360, or nonhighway roads under RCW 46.09.450;

(10) Special highway construction equipment;

(11) Dump trucks and tractor-dump trailer combinations that are:

(a) Designed and used primarily for construction work on highways;

(b) Not designed or used primarily for the transportation of persons or property on a public highway; and

(c) Only incidentally operated or moved over the highways;

(12) Spray or fertilizer applicator rigs designed and used exclusively for spraying or fertilization in the conduct of agricultural operations and not primarily for the purpose of transportation;

(13) Tow dollies;

(14) Trams used for transporting persons to and from facilities related to the horse racing industry as regulated in chapter 67.16 RCW, as long as the public right-of-way routes over which the trams operate are not more than one mile from end to end, the public rights-of-way over which the tram operates have average daily traffic of not more than fifteen thousand vehicles per day, and the activity is in conformity with federal law. The operator must be a licensed driver and at least eighteen years old. For the purposes of this section, "tram" also means a vehicle, or combination of vehicles linked together with a single mode of propulsion, used to transport persons from one location to another; and

(15) Vehicles used by the state parks and recreation commission exclusively for park maintenance and operations upon public highways within state parks. [2011 c 171 § 45; 2010 c 161 § 404.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.090 Registration—Voluntary and opt-out donations—Discover pass.** (1) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director must provide an opportunity for a vehicle owner to make a voluntary donation as provided in this section when applying for an initial or renewal vehicle registration.

(2)(a) A vehicle owner who registers a vehicle under this chapter may donate one dollar or more to the organ and tissue donation awareness account to promote the donation of organs and tissues under the uniform anatomical gift act as described in chapter 68.64 RCW. The donation of one or more dollars is voluntary and may be refused by the vehicle owner.

(b) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director must:

(i) Ask a vehicle owner applying for a vehicle registration if the owner would like to donate one dollar or more;

(ii) Inform a vehicle owner of the option for organ and tissue donations as required under RCW 46.20.113; and

(iii) Make information booklets or other informational material available regarding the importance of organ and tissue donations to vehicle owners.

(c) All reasonable costs associated with the creation of the donation program created under this section must be paid proportionally or by another agreement by a participating Washington state organ procurement organization established for organ and tissue donation awareness purposes by the Washington state organ procurement organizations. For the purposes of this section, "reasonable costs" and "Washington state organ procurement organization" have the same meaning as in RCW 68.64.010.

(3) The department must collect from a vehicle owner who pays a vehicle license fee under RCW 46.17.350(1) (a), (d) through (l), (n), (o), or (q) or who registers a vehicle under RCW 46.16A.455 with a declared gross weight of twelve thousand pounds or less a voluntary donation of five dollars. The donation may not be collected from any vehicle owner actively opting not to participate in the donation program. The department must ensure that the opt-out donation under this section is clear, visible, and prominently displayed in both paper and online vehicle registration renewals. Notification of intent to not participate in the donation program must be provided annually at the time of vehicle registration renewal. The donation must be deposited in the state parks renewal and stewardship account established in RCW 79A.05.215 to be used for the operation and maintenance of state parks.

(4) A vehicle owner who registers a vehicle under this chapter may purchase a discover pass for the price amount established in RCW 79A.80.020. Purchase of a discover pass is voluntary by the vehicle owner. The discover pass fee must be deposited in the recreation access pass account created in RCW 79A.80.090. The department, county auditor, or other agent or subagent appointed by the director is not responsible for delivering a purchased discover pass to a motor vehicle owner. The agencies, as defined in RCW 79A.80.010, must deliver the purchased discover pass to a motor vehicle owner. [2012 c 261 § 9; 2011 c 320 § 12; 2010 c 161 § 420; 2009 c 512 § 1; 2007 c 340 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.16.076.]

**Effective date—2012 c 261:** See note following RCW 79A.80.010.

**Effective date—2011 c 320 § 12:** "Section 12 of this act takes effect October 1, 2011." [2011 c 320 § 26.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 320:** See RCW 79A.80.005.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.100 Registration—Federal heavy vehicle use tax.** The department may refuse registration of a vehicle if the applicant has failed to furnish proof, acceptable to the department, that the federal heavy vehicle use tax imposed by section 4481 of the internal revenue code of 1954 has been paid.

The department may adopt rules as deemed necessary to administer this section. [1985 c 79 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.16.073.]

**46.16A.110 Registration renewal—Exemptions.** (1) A registered owner or the registered owner's authorized representative must apply for a renewal vehicle registration to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director on a form approved by the director. The application for a renewal vehicle registration must be accompanied by a draft, money order, certified bank check, or cash for all fees and taxes required by law for the application for a renewal vehicle registration.

(2) An application and the fees and taxes for a renewal vehicle registration must be handled in the same manner as an original vehicle registration application. The registration does not need to show the name of the lien holder when the application for renewal vehicle registration becomes the renewal registration upon validation.

(3) A person expecting to be out of state during the normal renewal period of a vehicle registration may renew a vehicle registration and have license plates or tabs preissued by applying for a renewal as described in subsection (1) of this section. A vehicle registration may be renewed for the subsequent registration year up to eighteen months before the current expiration date and must be displayed from the date of issue or from the day of the expiration of the current registration year, whichever date is later.

(4) An application for a renewal vehicle registration is not required for those vehicles owned, rented, or leased by:

(a) The state of Washington, or by any county, city, town, school district, or other political subdivision of the state of Washington; or

(b) A governing body of an Indian tribe located within this state and recognized as a governmental entity by the United States department of the interior. [2010 c 161 § 428; 2010 c 8 § 9012; 2001 c 206 § 1; 1997 c 241 § 8; 1994 c 262 § 9; 1977 c 8 § 1. Prior: 1975 1st ex.s. c 169 § 6; 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 § 8; 1969 ex.s. c 75 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.16.210; prior: 1957 c 273 § 5; 1955 c 89 § 2; 1953 c 252 § 3; 1947 c 164 § 11; 1937 c 188 § 34; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-34. Formerly RCW 46.16.210.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2010 c 8 § 9012 and by 2010 c 161 § 428, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

*Rental cars:* RCW 46.87.023.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.120 Forwarding and payment of standing, stopping, and parking violations and other infractions required before registration renewal.** (1) Each court and government agency located in this state having jurisdiction

over standing, stopping, and parking violations, the use of a photo toll system under RCW 46.63.160, the use of automated traffic safety cameras under RCW 46.63.170, and the use of automated school bus safety cameras under RCW 46.63.180 may forward to the department any outstanding:

- (a) Standing, stopping, and parking violations;
- (b) Civil penalties for toll nonpayment detected through the use of photo toll systems issued under RCW 46.63.160;
- (c) Automated traffic safety camera infractions issued under RCW 46.63.030(1)(d); and
- (d) Automated school bus safety camera infractions issued under RCW 46.63.030(1)(e).

(2) Violations, civil penalties, and infractions described in subsection (1) of this section must be reported to the department in the manner described in RCW 46.20.270(3).

(3) The department shall:

(a) Record the violations, civil penalties, and infractions on the matching vehicle records; and

(b) Send notice approximately one hundred twenty days in advance of the current vehicle registration expiration date to the registered owner listing the dates and jurisdictions in which the violations, civil penalties, and infractions occurred, the amounts of unpaid fines and penalties, and the surcharge to be collected. Only those violations, civil penalties, and infractions received by the department one hundred twenty days or more before the current vehicle registration expiration date will be included in the notice. Violations, civil penalties, and infractions received by the department later than one hundred twenty days before the current vehicle registration expiration date that are not satisfied will be delayed until the next vehicle registration expiration date.

(4) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall not renew a vehicle registration if there are any outstanding standing, stopping, and parking violations, and other civil penalties issued under RCW 46.63.160 for the vehicle unless:

(a) The outstanding standing, stopping, or parking violations and civil penalties were received by the department within one hundred twenty days before the current vehicle registration expiration;

(b) There is a change in registered ownership; or

(c) The registered owner presents proof of payment of each violation, civil penalty, and infraction provided in this section and the registered owner pays the surcharge required under RCW 46.17.030.

(5) The department shall:

(a) Forward a change in registered ownership information to the court or government agency who reported the outstanding violations, civil penalties, or infractions; and

(b) Remove the outstanding violations, civil penalties, and infractions from the vehicle record. [2012 c 83 § 5. Prior: 2011 c 375 § 9; 2011 c 375 § 8; 2010 c 249 § 10; 2010 c 161 § 430; 2004 c 231 § 4; 1990 2nd ex.s. c 1 § 401; 1984 c 224 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.16.216.]

**Contingent effective date—2011 c 375 §§ 5, 7, and 9:** See note following RCW 46.63.030.

**Intent—2011 c 375:** See note following RCW 46.63.180.

**Contingent effective date—2010 c 249:** See note following RCW 47.56.795.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **46.16A.130 Notice of liability insurance requirement.**

The department shall notify motor vehicle owners of the liability insurance requirements described in RCW 46.30.020 through 46.30.040 at the time of issuance of an original motor vehicle registration and when the department sends a motor vehicle registration renewal notice. [2010 c 161 § 429; 1989 c 353 § 10. Formerly RCW 46.16.212.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **46.16A.140 "Resident" defined—Natural person residency requirements—Vehicle registration required.**

(1) For the purposes of vehicle registration, a resident is a person who manifests an intent to live or be located in this state on more than a temporary or transient basis. Evidence of residency includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Becoming a registered voter in this state;

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

(c) Declaring residency for the purpose of obtaining a state license or tuition fees at resident rates.

(2) A natural person may be a resident of this state even though that person has or claims residency or domicile in another state or intends to leave this state at some future time. A natural person is presumed a resident if the natural person meets at least two of the following conditions:

(a) Maintains a residence in this state for personal use;

(b) Has a Washington state driver's license or a Washington state resident hunting or fishing license;

(c) Uses a Washington state address for federal income tax or state tax purposes;

(d) Has previously maintained a residence in this state for personal use and has not established a permanent residence outside the state of Washington, such as a person who retires and lives in a motor home or vessel that is not permanently attached to any property;

(e) Claims this state as his or her residence for obtaining eligibility to hold a public office or for judicial actions;

(f) Is a custodial parent with a child attending public schools in this state.

(3) "Washington public assistance programs," as referred to in subsection (1)(b) of this section, includes only public assistance programs for which more than fifty percent of the combined costs of benefits and administration are paid from state funds. "Washington public assistance programs" does not include: The food stamp program under the federal food stamp act of 1964; programs under the child nutrition act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. Secs. 1771 through 1788; and temporary assistance for needy families.

(4) A resident of the state shall apply for a certificate of title under chapter 46.12 RCW and register under this chapter a vehicle to be operated on the highways of the state. New Washington residents are allowed thirty days from the date they become residents as defined in this section to obtain Washington registration for their vehicles. This thirty-day

period may not be combined with any other period of reciprocity provided for in this chapter or chapter 46.85 RCW. [2010 c 161 § 410; 1997 c 59 § 7; 1987 c 142 § 1; 1986 c 186 § 2; 1985 c 353 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.16.028.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **46.16A.150 Purchasing a vehicle with foreign plates.**

A person may not purchase a vehicle displaying foreign license plates without removing and destroying the license plates unless:

(1) The out-of-state vehicle is sold to a Washington resident by a resident of a jurisdiction where the license plates follow the owner;

(2) The out-of-state license plates may be returned to the jurisdiction of issuance by the owner for refund purposes; or

(3) For other reasons as determined by the department by rule. [2010 c 161 § 411; 1987 c 142 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.16.029.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

#### **46.16A.160 Nonresident exemption—Reciprocity—**

**Rules.** (1) The provisions of this chapter relating to the registration of vehicles and display of license plates and registration certificates do not apply to vehicles owned by nonresidents of this state if:

(a) The owner has complied with the law requiring the registration of vehicles in the names of the owners in force in the state, foreign country, territory, or federal district of residence; and

(b) The license plate showing the initial or abbreviation of the name of the state, foreign country, territory, or federal district is displayed on the vehicle substantially as required in this state.

(2) This section applies only if the laws of the state, foreign country, territory, or federal district of the nonresident's residence allow similar exemptions and privileges to vehicles registered under the laws of the foreign state, country, territory, or federal district.

(3) Foreign businesses owning, maintaining, or operating places of business in this state and using vehicles in connection with those places of business shall comply with this chapter. Under provisions of the international registration plan, the nonmotor vehicles of member and nonmember jurisdictions that are properly based and registered in such jurisdictions have reciprocity in this state as provided in RCW 46.87.070.

(4) The director may adopt and enforce rules for the registration of nonresident vehicles on a reciprocal basis and with respect to any character or class of operation. [2010 c 161 § 412; 1991 c 163 § 2; 1990 c 42 § 110; 1967 c 32 § 15; 1961 c 12 § 46.16.030. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 23; RRS § 6312-23; 1931 c 120 § 1; 1929 c 99 § 4; 1921 c 96 § 11; 1919 c 59 § 6; 1917 c 155 § 7; 1915 c 142 § 11; RRS § 6322. Formerly RCW 46.16.030.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**46.16A.170 Exemptions from vehicle license fees—State and publicly owned vehicles.** (1) The following vehicles are exempt from the payment of vehicle license fees:

(a) Any vehicle owned, rented, or leased by the state of Washington, or by any county, city, town, school district, or other political subdivision of the state of Washington and used exclusively by them;

(b) Vehicles owned or leased with an option to purchase by the United States government, or by the government of foreign countries, or by international bodies to which the United States government is a signatory by treaty;

(c) Vehicles owned or leased by the governing body of an Indian tribe located within this state and recognized as a governmental entity by the United States department of the interior, and used exclusively in its service;

(d) Any bus or vehicle owned and operated by a private school or schools meeting the requirements of RCW 28A.195.010 and used by that school or schools primarily to transport children to and from school or to transport children in connection with school activities. A registration issued by the department for these buses or vehicles is exempt from the motor vehicle excise tax provided in chapter 82.44 RCW;

(e) Vehicles owned and used exclusively by the United States government and are clearly identified by displaying registration numbers or license plates assigned by the United States government if the vehicle is registered and displays license plates assigned to it by the United States government; and

(f) Except for payment of the license plate fee required under RCW 46.17.240, vehicles owned and used exclusively by the United States government and are clearly identified by displaying registration numbers of license plates assigned by the state of Washington if the vehicle is registered and displays license plates assigned to it by the state of Washington.

(2) The department shall assign a license plate or plates to each vehicle or may assign a block of license plates to an agency or political subdivision for further assignment by the agency or political subdivision to individual vehicles registered to it. The agency, political subdivision, or Indian tribe, except a foreign government or international body, shall pay the fee required in RCW 46.17.240 for the license plate or plates for each vehicle.

(3) An Indian tribe located within this state and recognized as a governmental entity by the United States department of the interior is not entitled to register any tribal government service vehicle under this section if that tribe itself registers any tribal government service vehicles under tribal law.

(4) A vehicle registration or license plates may not be issued to any vehicle under this section for the transportation of school children unless the vehicle has been first inspected by the director or the director's authorized representative. [2010 c 161 § 407; 1986 c 30 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 169 § 5; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 22; 1967 c 32 § 14; 1965 ex.s. c 106 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.16.020. Prior: 1939 c 182 § 4; 1937 c 188 § 21; RRS § 6312-21; 1925 ex.s. c 47 § 1; 1921 c 96 § 17; 1919 c 46 § 2; 1917 c 155 § 12; 1915 c 142 § 17; RRS § 6329. Formerly RCW 46.16.020.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

*Marking of publicly owned vehicles:* RCW 46.08.065 through 46.08.068.

*Special license plates issued without fee*

*Congressional Medal of Honor recipients:* RCW 46.18.230.

*surviving spouse or surviving domestic partner of deceased prisoner of war:* RCW 73.04.115.

*veterans with disabilities, prisoners of war:* RCW 46.18.235.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.175 Exemptions from vehicle license fees—Vehicles owned by Indian tribes—Conditions.** (1) The provisions of this chapter relating to registering vehicles by this state, including the display of license plates and registration certificates, do not apply to vehicles owned or leased by the governing body of an Indian tribe located within this state and recognized as a governmental entity by the United States department of the interior if:

(a) The vehicle is used exclusively in tribal government service;

(b) The vehicle has been registered under a law adopted by the tribal government;

(c) License plates issued by the tribe showing the initial or abbreviation of the name of the tribe are displayed on the vehicle as required in this state;

(d) The tribe has not elected to receive Washington state license plates for tribal government service vehicles as authorized in RCW 46.16A.170; and

(e) If required by the department, the tribe provides the department with vehicle description and ownership information similar to that required for vehicles registered in this state, which may include the model year, make, model series, body type, type of power, vehicle identification number, and the license plate number assigned to each government service vehicle registered by that tribe.

(2) This section applies only if the laws of the tribe:

(a) Allow similar exemptions and privileges to all vehicles registered under the laws of this state on all tribal roads within the tribe's reservation; and

(b) Do not require persons operating vehicles registered by this state to pay a registration fee or to carry or display license plates or a registration certificate issued by the tribe. [2010 c 161 § 408; 1986 c 30 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.16.022.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.180 Registration certificates—Requirements—Penalty—Exception.** (1) A registration certificate must be:

(a) Signed by the registered owner, or if a firm or corporation, the signature of one of its officers or other authorized agent, to be valid;

(b) Carried in the vehicle for which it is issued; and

(c) Provided to law enforcement and the department by the operator of the vehicle upon demand.

(2) It is unlawful for any person to operate or be in possession of a vehicle without carrying a registration certificate for the vehicle. Any person in charge of a vehicle shall, upon demand of any of the local authorities or of any police officer

or of any representative of the department, permit an inspection of the vehicle registration certificate. This section does not apply to a vehicle for which registration is not required to be renewed annually and is a publicly owned vehicle marked as required under RCW 46.08.065. [2010 c 161 § 432; 2010 c 8 § 9014; 1986 c 18 § 16; 1979 ex.s. c 113 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 170 § 11; 1967 c 32 § 19; 1961 c 12 § 46.16.260. Prior: 1955 c 384 § 18; 1937 c 188 § 8; RRS § 6312-8. Formerly RCW 46.16.260.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2010 c 8 § 9014 and by 2010 c 161 § 432, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.185 Requirement for commercial motor vehicle registration certificate.** The registration certificate for a commercial vehicle must include a statement that the owner or person operating a commercial vehicle must be in compliance with the requirements of the United States department of transportation federal motor carrier safety regulations contained in 49 C.F.R. Part 382. [2010 c 161 § 434.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.190 Replacement registration certificates.** A registered owner or the registered owner's authorized representative shall promptly apply for a duplicate registration certificate if a registration certificate is lost, stolen, mutilated, or destroyed, or becomes illegible. The application for a duplicate registration certificate must include information required by the department and be accompanied by the fee required in RCW 46.17.320. The duplicate registration certificate must contain the word, "duplicate."

A person recovering a registration certificate for which a duplicate has been issued shall promptly return the recovered registration certificate to the department. [2010 c 161 § 433; 1997 c 241 § 6. Formerly RCW 46.16.265.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.200 License plates.** (1) **Design.** All license plates may be obtained by the director from the metal working plant of a state correctional facility or from any source in accordance with existing state of Washington purchasing procedures. License plates:

(a) May vary in background, color, and design;

(b) Must be legible and clearly identifiable as a Washington state license plate;

(c) Must designate the name of the state of Washington without abbreviation;

(d) Must be treated with fully reflectorized materials designed to increase visibility and legibility at night;

(e) Must be of a size and color and show the registration period as determined by the director; and

(f) Before July 1, 2010, may display a symbol or artwork approved by the former special license plate review board and the legislature. Beginning July 1, 2010, special license



plate series approved by the department and enacted into law by the legislature may display a symbol or artwork approved by the department.

(2) **Exceptions to reflectorized materials.** License plates issued before January 1, 1968, are not required to be treated with reflectorized materials.

(3) **Dealer license plates.** License plates issued to a dealer must contain an indication that the license plates have been issued to a vehicle dealer.

(4)(a) **Furnished.** The director shall furnish to all persons making satisfactory application for a vehicle registration:

(i) Two identical license plates each containing the license plate number; or

(ii) One license plate if the vehicle is a trailer, semi-trailer, camper, moped, collector vehicle, horseless carriage, or motorcycle.

(b) The director may adopt types of license plates to be used as long as the license plates are legible.

(5)(a) **Display.** License plates must be:

(i) Attached conspicuously at the front and rear of each vehicle if two license plates have been issued;

(ii) Attached to the rear of the vehicle if one license plate has been issued;

(iii) Kept clean and be able to be plainly seen and read at all times; and

(iv) Attached in a horizontal position at a distance of not more than four feet from the ground.

(b) The Washington state patrol may grant exceptions to this subsection if the body construction of the vehicle makes compliance with this section impossible.

(6) **Change of license classification.** A person who has altered a vehicle that makes the current license plate or plates invalid for the vehicle's use shall:

(a) Surrender the current license plate or plates to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director;

(b) Apply for a new license plate or plates; and

(c) Pay a change of classification fee required under RCW 46.17.310.

(7) **Unlawful acts.** It is unlawful to:

(a) Display a license plate or plates on the front or rear of any vehicle that were not issued by the director for the vehicle;

(b) Display a license plate or plates on any vehicle that have been changed, altered, or disfigured, or have become illegible;

(c) Use holders, frames, or other materials that change, alter, or make a license plate or plates illegible. License plate frames may be used on license plates only if the frames do not obscure license tabs or identifying letters or numbers on the plates and the license plates can be plainly seen and read at all times;

(d) Operate a vehicle unless a valid license plate or plates are attached as required under this section;

(e) Transfer a license plate or plates issued under this chapter between two or more vehicles without first making application to transfer the license plates. A violation of this subsection (7)(e) is a traffic infraction subject to a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars. Any law enforcement agency that determines that a license plate or plates have been trans-

ferred between two or more vehicles shall confiscate the license plate or plates and return them to the department for nullification along with full details of the reasons for confiscation. Each vehicle identified in the transfer will be issued a new license plate or plates upon application by the owner or owners and the payment of full fees and taxes; or

(f) Fail, neglect, or refuse to endorse the registration certificate and deliver the license plate or plates to the purchaser or transferee of the vehicle, except as authorized under this section.

(8) **Transfer.** (a) Standard issue license plates follow the vehicle when ownership of the vehicle changes unless the registered owner wishes to retain the license plates and transfer them to a replacement vehicle of the same use. A registered owner wishing to keep standard issue license plates shall pay the license plate transfer fee required under RCW 46.17.200(1)(c) when applying for license plate transfer.

(b) Special license plates and personalized license plates may be treated in the same manner as described in (a) of this subsection unless otherwise limited by law.

(c) License plates issued to the state or any county, city, town, school district, or other political subdivision entitled to exemption as provided by law may be treated in the same manner as described in (a) of this subsection.

(9) **Replacement.** (a) An owner or the owner's authorized representative shall apply for a replacement license plate or plates if the current license plate or plates assigned to the vehicle have been lost, defaced, or destroyed, or if one or both plates have become so illegible or are in such a condition as to be difficult to distinguish. An owner or the owner's authorized representative may apply for a replacement license plate or plates at any time the owner chooses.

(b) The application for a replacement license plate or plates must:

(i) Be on a form furnished or approved by the director; and

(ii) Be accompanied by the fee required under RCW 46.17.200(1)(a).

(c) The department shall not require the payment of any fee to replace a license plate or plates for vehicles owned, rented, or leased by foreign countries or international bodies to which the United States government is a signatory by treaty.

(10) **Periodic replacement.** License plates must be replaced periodically to ensure maximum legibility and reflectivity. The department shall:

(a) Use empirical studies documenting the longevity of the reflective materials used to make license plates;

(b) Determine how frequently license plates must be replaced; and

(c) Offer to owners the option of retaining the current license plate number when obtaining replacement license plates for the fee required in RCW 46.17.200(1)(b).

(11) **Periodic replacement—Exceptions.** The following license plates are not required to be periodically replaced as required in subsection (10) of this section:

(a) Horseless carriage license plates issued under RCW 46.18.255 before January 1, 1987;

(b) Congressional Medal of Honor license plates issued under RCW 46.18.230;

(c) License plates for commercial motor vehicles with a gross weight greater than twenty-six thousand pounds.

(12) **Rules.** The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

(13) **Tags or emblems.** The director may issue tags or emblems to be attached to license plates or elsewhere on the vehicle to signify initial registration and renewals. Renewals become effective when tags or emblems have been issued and properly displayed on license plates. [2011 c 171 § 46; 2010 c 161 § 422.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.210 Emblems—Material, display requirements.** License plate emblems and veteran remembrance emblems must use fully reflectorized materials designed to provide visibility at night. Emblems must be designed to be affixed to a license plate by pressure-sensitive adhesive so as not to obscure the plate identification numbers or letters.

Emblems must be issued for display on the front and rear license plates. Single emblems must be issued for vehicles authorized to display one license plate. [2011 c 171 § 47; 1990 c 250 § 8. Formerly RCW 46.16.327.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.215 Military emblems—Fees. (Effective until January 1, 2013.)** (1) The director may adopt fees to be charged by the department for emblems issued by the department under RCW 46.18.295.

(2) The fee for each remembrance emblem issued under RCW 46.18.295 shall be in an amount sufficient to offset the costs of production of remembrance emblems and the administration of that program by the department plus an amount for use by the department of veterans affairs, not to exceed a total fee of twenty-five dollars per emblem.

(3) The veterans' emblem account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts by the department from the issuance of remembrance emblems under RCW 46.18.295 shall be deposited into this fund. Expenditures from the fund may be used only for the costs of production of remembrance emblems and administration of the program by the department of licensing, with the balance used only by the department of veterans affairs for projects that pay tribute to those living veterans and to those who have died defending freedom in our nation's wars and conflicts and for the upkeep and operations of existing memorials, as well as for planning, acquiring land for, and constructing future memorials. Only the director of licensing, the director of veterans affairs, or their designees may authorize expenditures from the fund. The fund is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for expenditures. [2011 c 171 § 48; 1994 c 194 § 5; 1990 c 250 § 9. Formerly RCW 46.16.332.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.215 Military emblems—Fees. (Effective January 1, 2013.)** (1) The director may adopt fees to be charged by the department for emblems issued by the department under RCW 46.18.295.

(2) The fee for each remembrance emblem and military service award emblem issued under RCW 46.18.295 shall be in an amount sufficient to offset the costs of production of remembrance emblems and military service award emblems and the administration of that program by the department plus an amount for use by the department of veterans affairs, not to exceed a total fee of twenty-five dollars per emblem.

(3) The veterans' emblem account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts by the department from the issuance of remembrance emblems and military service award emblems under RCW 46.18.295 shall be deposited into this fund. Expenditures from the fund may be used only for the costs of production of remembrance emblems and military service award emblems and administration of the program by the department of licensing, with the balance used only by the department of veterans affairs for projects that pay tribute to those living veterans and to those who have died defending freedom in our nation's wars and conflicts and for the upkeep and operations of existing memorials, as well as for planning, acquiring land for, and constructing future memorials. Only the director of licensing, the director of veterans affairs, or their designees may authorize expenditures from the fund. The fund is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for expenditures. [2012 c 69 § 2; 2011 c 171 § 48; 1994 c 194 § 5; 1990 c 250 § 9. Formerly RCW 46.16.332.]

**Effective date—2012 c 69:** See note following RCW 46.18.295.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.220 Rules.** The director may make and enforce rules to implement this chapter. [1986 c 30 § 4. Formerly RCW 46.16.276.]

## PERMITS AND USES

**46.16A.300 Temporary permits—Authority—Dealer fees—Secure system.** (1) The department may authorize vehicle dealers properly licensed under chapters 46.09, 46.10, and 46.70 RCW to issue temporary permits to operate vehicles under rules adopted by the department.

(2) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall collect the fee required under RCW 46.17.400(1)(a) for each temporary permit application sold to an authorized vehicle dealer.

(3) The payment of vehicle license fees to an authorized dealer is considered payment to the state of Washington.

(4) The department shall provide access to a secure system that allows temporary permits issued by vehicle dealers properly licensed under chapters 46.09, 46.10, and 46.70 RCW to be generated and printed on demand. By July 1, 2011, all such permits must be generated using the designated system. [2010 c 161 § 415; 2008 c 51 § 1; 2007 c 155 § 1; 1990 c 198 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 23; 1961 c 12 § 46.16.045. Prior: 1959 c 66 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.16.045.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2007 c 155:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2007." [2007 c 155 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.305 Temporary permits—Application form and contents—Display and duration—Application fee.**

(1) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director may grant a temporary permit to operate a vehicle for which an application for registration has been made. The application for a temporary permit must be made by the owner or the owner's representative to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director on a form furnished by the department and must contain:

(a) A full description of the vehicle, including its make, model, vehicle identification number, and type of body;

(b) The name and address of the applicant;

(c) The date of application; and

(d) Other information that the department may require.

(2) Temporary permits must:

(a) Be consecutively numbered;

(b) Be displayed where it is visible from outside of the vehicle, such as on the inside left side of the rear window; and

(c) Remain on the vehicle only until the receipt of permanent license plates.

(3) The application must be accompanied by the fee required under RCW 46.17.400(1)(b). [2010 c 161 § 416; 2010 c 8 § 9011; 1961 c 12 § 46.16.047. Prior: 1959 c 66 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.16.047.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2010 c 8 § 9011 and by 2010 c 161 § 416, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.320 Vehicle trip permits—Restrictions and requirements—Fee—Penalty—Rules.**

(1)(a) A vehicle owner may operate an unregistered vehicle on public highways under the authority of a trip permit issued by this state. For purposes of trip permits, a vehicle is considered unregistered if:

(i) Under reciprocal relations with another jurisdiction, the owner would be required to register the vehicle in this state;

(ii) Not registered when registration is required under this chapter;

(iii) The license tabs have expired; or

(iv) The current gross weight license is insufficient for the load being carried. The licensed gross weight may not exceed eighty thousand pounds for a combination of vehicles or forty thousand pounds for a single unit vehicle with three or more axles.

(b) Trip permits are required to move mobile homes or park model trailers and may only be issued if property taxes are paid in full.

(2) Trip permits may not be:

(a) Issued to vehicles registered under RCW 46.16A.455(5) in lieu of further registration within the same registration year; or

(b) Used for commercial motor vehicles owned by a motor carrier subject to RCW 46.32.080 if the motor carrier's department of transportation number has been placed out of service by the Washington state patrol. A violation of or a failure to comply with this subsection is a gross misdemeanor, subject to a minimum monetary penalty of two thousand five hundred dollars for the first violation and five thousand dollars for each subsequent violation.

(3)(a) Each trip permit authorizes the operation of a single vehicle at the maximum legal weight limit for the vehicle for a period of three consecutive days beginning with the day of first use. No more than three trip permits may be used for any one vehicle in any thirty consecutive day period. No more than two trip permits may be used for any one recreational vehicle, as defined in RCW 43.22.335, in a one-year period. Every trip permit must:

(i) Identify the vehicle for which it is issued;

(ii) Be completed in its entirety;

(iii) Be signed by the operator before operation of the vehicle on the public highways of this state;

(iv) Not be altered or corrected. Altering or correcting data on the trip permit invalidates the trip permit; and

(v) Be displayed on the vehicle for which it is issued as required by the department.

(b) Vehicles operating under the authority of trip permits are subject to all laws, rules, and regulations affecting the operation of similar vehicles in this state.

(4) Prorate operators operating commercial vehicles on trip permits in Washington shall retain the customer copy of each permit for four years.

(5) Trip permits may be obtained from field offices of the department of transportation, department of licensing, county auditors or other agents, and subagents appointed by the department for the fee provided in RCW 46.17.400(1)(h). Exchanges, credits, or refunds may not be given for trip permits after they have been purchased.

(6) Except as provided in subsection (2)(b) of this section, a violation of or a failure to comply with this section is a gross misdemeanor.

(7) The department may adopt rules necessary to administer this section. [2012 c 74 § 15; 2010 c 161 § 425; 2007 c 419 § 6. Prior: 2002 c 352 § 8; 2002 c 168 § 5; 1999 c 270 § 1; 1996 c 184 § 2; 1993 c 102 § 2; 1987 c 244 § 6; 1981 c 318 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 22 § 5; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 6; 1969 ex.s. c 170 § 8; 1961 c 306 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.16.160; prior: 1957 c 273 § 3; 1955 c 384 § 17; 1949 c 174 § 1; 1947 c 176 § 1; 1937 c 188 § 24; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6312-24. Formerly RCW 46.16.160.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Findings—Short title—2007 c 419:** See notes following RCW 46.16A.010.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.330 Farm vehicle trip permits—Restrictions and requirements—Fee—Rules.**

(1) The owner of a farm

vehicle registered under RCW 46.16A.425 purchasing a monthly registration under RCW 46.16A.455(5) may operate the farm vehicle under the authority of a farm vehicle trip permit if:

(a) There is less than one full month remaining in the first month of the registration; or

(b) A previously issued monthly registration has expired.

(2) A vehicle operating under the authority of a farm vehicle trip permit is subject to all laws and rules affecting the operation of similar vehicles in this state. The licensed gross weight of a vehicle operating under a farm vehicle trip permit may not exceed eighty thousand pounds for a combination of vehicles or forty thousand pounds for a single unit vehicle with three or more axles.

(3) Each farm vehicle trip permit authorizes the operation of a single vehicle at the maximum legal weight limit for the vehicle for thirty days, beginning with the day of first use. No more than four farm vehicle trip permits may be used for any one vehicle in any twelve-month period. Every farm vehicle trip permit must:

(a) Identify the vehicle for which it is issued;

(b) Be completed in its entirety;

(c) Be signed by the operator before operation of the vehicle on the public highways of this state;

(d) Not be altered or corrected. Altering or correcting data on the farm vehicle trip permit invalidates the permit; and

(e) Be displayed on the vehicle to which it is issued as required by the department.

(4) Farm vehicle trip permits may be obtained from the department, county auditors or other agents, or subagents appointed by the director for the fee provided in RCW 46.17.400(1)(c). Exchanges, credits, or refunds may not be given for farm vehicle trip permits after they have been purchased.

(5) The department may adopt rules as it deems necessary to administer this section. [2010 c 161 § 426; 2009 c 452 § 1; 2006 c 337 § 3; 2005 c 314 § 206. Formerly RCW 46.16.162.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective dates—2005 c 314 §§ 110 and 201-206:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Application—2005 c 314 §§ 201-206, 301, and 302:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**46.16A.340 Temporary permits for nonresident members of armed forces—Fee—Rules.** (1) A nonresident member of the armed forces of the United States may apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a temporary permit for a recently purchased motor vehicle. The permit:

(a) Allows the motor vehicle to be used in Washington state while the owner applies for out-of-state registration;

(b) Is valid for forty-five days; and

(c) Must be carried on the motor vehicle so that it is clearly visible from outside of the motor vehicle.

(2) A person applying for the forty-five day permit provided in subsection (1) of this section is not subject to sales and use taxes or motor vehicle excise taxes during or after the forty-five day period of the permit unless the motor vehicle is:

(a) Still in Washington state after the forty-five day period of the permit; or

(b) Returned to Washington state within one year after the forty-five day permit has expired.

(3) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall collect the fee required under RCW 46.17.400(1)(d) when issuing the forty-five day permit described in this section.

(4) The department shall adopt rules to implement this section. Those rules may require proof that the nonresident member of the armed forces of the United States qualifies for the forty-five day permit before the permit may be issued. [2010 c 161 § 435; 1979 c 158 § 141; 1967 c 202 § 4. Formerly RCW 46.16.460.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.350 Temporary letter of authority for movement of unregistered vehicle for special community activity.** The department may issue a temporary letter of authority authorizing the movement of an unregistered vehicle or the temporary use of a special plate for the purpose of promoting or participating in an event such as a parade, pageant, fair, convention, or other special community activity. The letter of authority may not be issued to or used by anyone for personal gain, but public identification of the sponsor or owner of the donated vehicle shall not be considered to be personal gain. [2010 c 161 § 417; 1977 c 25 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.16.048.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.360 Thirty, sixty, or ninety-day permits for registered out-of-state commercial vehicles.** The owner of a commercial vehicle properly registered in another state may apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for an out-of-state commercial vehicle intrastate permit when operating the commercial vehicle in Washington state for periods less than one year. The permit may be issued for a thirty, sixty, or ninety-day period. For each thirty-day period, the cost of each permit is one-twelfth of the fees required under chapter 82.44 RCW if the vehicle is subject to locally imposed motor vehicle excise taxes and (1) under RCW 46.17.355(1) if the vehicle is a motor vehicle or (2) under RCW 46.17.350(1)(c) if the vehicle is a commercial trailer. [2010 c 161 § 427.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

## SPECIFIC VEHICLES

**46.16A.405 Campers, mopeds, and wheelchair conveyances.** This chapter applies to the following:

(1) Campers are considered vehicles for the purposes of vehicle registration and license plate display, except for campers held as part of a manufacturer's or dealer's inventory that:

- (a) Are unoccupied at all times;
- (b) Have been issued a dated demonstration permit that is valid for no more than seventy-two hours. The permit must be carried in the vehicle on which the camper is mounted; and
- (c) Are mounted on a properly registered vehicle.

(2) Mopeds are considered vehicles for the purposes of vehicle registration and license plate display. The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall charge the fee required under RCW 46.17.200(1)(a) when issuing an original moped license plate. Mopeds are exempt from personal property taxes and vehicle excise taxes imposed under chapter 82.44 RCW.

(3) Wheelchair conveyances are considered vehicles for the purposes of vehicle registration and license plate display. Wheelchair conveyances that do not meet braking equipment requirements described in RCW 46.37.340 must be registered as mopeds. [2011 c 171 § 49; 2010 c 161 § 437.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.410 Commercial motor vehicles.** (1) The department shall refuse to register a commercial motor vehicle that is owned by a motor carrier subject to RCW 46.32.080, 46.87.294, and 46.87.296 upon notification to the department by the Washington state patrol or the federal motor carrier safety administration that an out-of-service order has been placed on the department of transportation number issued to the motor carrier.

(2) The department shall revoke the vehicle registration of all commercial motor vehicles that are owned by a motor carrier subject to RCW 46.32.080, upon notification to the department by the Washington state patrol or the federal motor carrier safety administration that an out-of-service order has been placed on the department of transportation number issued to the motor carrier. The revocation must remain in effect until the department has been notified by the Washington state patrol that the out-of-service order has been rescinded.

(3) Except as provided in subsections (4) and (5) of this section, by June 30, 2009, any original or renewal application for registration of a commercial motor vehicle that is owned by a motor carrier subject to RCW 46.32.080 that is submitted to the department must be accompanied by:

- (a) The department of transportation number issued to the motor carrier; and
- (b) The federal taxpayer identification number of the motor carrier.

(4) By June 30, 2010, the requirements of subsection (3) of this section apply to any original or renewal application that is submitted to the department for registration of a commercial motor vehicle that is to be operated by an entity with authority under chapter 81.66, 81.68, 81.70, or 81.77 RCW, or by a household goods carrier with authority under chapter 81.80 RCW.

(5) By June 30, 2012, the requirements of subsection (3) of this section apply to any original or renewal application that is submitted to the department for registration of a commercial motor vehicle that is owned by a motor carrier subject to RCW 46.32.080, and that has a gross vehicle weight rating of 7,258 kilograms (16,001 pounds) or more. [2009 c 46 § 5; 2007 c 419 § 5. Formerly RCW 46.16.615.]

**Findings—Short title—2007 c 419:** See notes following RCW 46.16A.010.

**46.16A.420 Farm vehicles—Farm exempt decal—Fee—Rules.** (1) A farmer shall apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a farm exempt decal for a farm vehicle if the farm vehicle is exempt under RCW 46.16A.080(3). The farm exempt decal:

(a) Allows the farm vehicle to be operated within a radius of fifteen miles of the farm where it is principally used or garaged;

(b) Must be displayed on the farm vehicle so that it is clearly visible from outside of the farm vehicle; and

(c) Must identify that the farm vehicle is exempt from the registration requirements of this chapter.

(2) A farmer or the farmer's representative must apply for a farm exempt decal on a form furnished or approved by the department. The application must show:

(a) The name and address of the person who is the owner of the vehicle;

(b) A full description of the vehicle, including its make, model, year, the motor number or the vehicle identification number if the vehicle is a motor vehicle, or the serial number if the vehicle is a trailer;

(c) The purpose for which the vehicle is principally used;

(d) The place where the farm vehicle is principally used or garaged; and

(e) Other information as required by the department upon application.

(3) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall collect the fee required under RCW 46.17.325 when issuing a farm exempt decal.

(4) A farm exempt decal may not be renewed. The status as an exempt vehicle continues until suspended or revoked for misuse, or when the vehicle is no longer used as a farm vehicle.

(5) The department may adopt rules to implement this section. [2010 c 161 § 409; 2010 c 8 § 9010; 1979 c 158 § 139; 1967 c 202 § 3. Formerly RCW 46.16.025]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2010 c 8 § 9010 and by 2010 c 161 § 409, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.425 Farm vehicles based on gross weight—Farm tabs—Penalty.** (1) Motor trucks, truck tractors, and tractors owned and operated by farmers may receive a reduction in gross weight license fees as described in RCW 46.17.330 only if the vehicle is used exclusively to transport:

(a) The farmer's own farm, orchard, dairy, or private sector cultured aquatic products as defined in RCW 15.85.020, from point of production to market or warehouse. Fish other than private sector cultured aquatic products or forestry products are not considered farm products;

(b) Supplies used on the farmer's farm; or

(c) Products owned by the farm as listed in (a) of this subsection for another farmer in the neighborhood on a seasonal or infrequent basis. This may only be for compensation other than money.

(2) Farm vehicles that meet the requirements provided in subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section may receive a reduction in gross weight license fees if the farm is exempt from property taxes under RCW 84.36.630. The reduction is the reduced gross weight license fee provided in RCW 46.17.330. To qualify for the additional gross weight license fee reduction, the farmer must submit copies of the forms as required under RCW 84.36.630.

(3) An additional eight thousand pounds gross weight within the legal limits on farm vehicles may be used if the farmer is transporting the farmer's own farm machinery between the farmer's own farm or farms and for a distance of not more than thirty-five miles.

(4) The application for a reduced gross weight license fee must be made by the farmer or the farmer's authorized representative to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director on a form furnished or approved by the department and must contain a statement that the vehicle will be used subject to the limitations of this section.

(5) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall issue a unique series of license tabs for farm vehicles registered under this section. Farm tabs must be placed on all farm vehicles registered under this section to indicate that the vehicle is registered as a farm vehicle. The department may substitute a special license plate for farm vehicles.

(6) It is a traffic infraction to operate a farm vehicle registered under this section on the public highways in violation of the limitations of this section. [2010 c 161 § 423; 1989 c 156 § 3; 1986 c 18 § 10. Prior: 1985 c 457 § 16; 1985 c 380 § 18; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 45; 1977 c 25 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 169 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.16.090; prior: 1957 c 273 § 13; 1955 c 363 § 6; prior: 1953 c 227 § 1; 1951 c 269 § 12; 1950 ex.s. c 15 § 1, part; 1949 c 220 § 10, part; 1947 c 200 § 15, part; 1941 c 224 § 1, part; 1939 c 182 § 3, part; 1937 c 188 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6312-17, part; 1931 c 140 § 1, part; 1921 c 96 § 15, part; 1919 c 46 § 1, part; 1917 c 155 § 10, part; 1915 c 142 § 15, part; RRS § 6326, part. Formerly RCW 46.16.090.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

*Unprocessed agricultural products, license for transport: RCW 20.01.120.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.435 Off-road motorcycles—Declaration required—Contents.** (1) The department shall establish a declaration subject to the requirements of RCW 9A.72.085, which must be submitted by an off-road motorcycle owner when applying for on-road registration of the off-road motor-

cycle. In order to be registered for on-road use, an off-road motorcycle must travel on two wheels with a seat designed to be straddled by the operator and with handlebar-type steering control.

(2) Registration for on-road use of an off-road motorcycle is prohibited for dune buggies, snowmobiles, trimobiles, mopeds, pocket bikes, motor vehicles registered by the department, side-by-sides, utility vehicles, grey-market vehicles, off-road three-wheeled vehicles, and, as determined by the department, any other vehicles that were not originally certified by the manufacturer for use on public roads.

(3) The declaration must include the following:

(a) Documentation of a safety inspection to be completed by a licensed motorcycle dealer or repair shop in the state of Washington that must outline the vehicle information and certify that all off-road to on-road motorcycle equipment as required under RCW 46.61.705 meets the requirements outlined in state and federal law;

(b) Documentation that the licensed motorcycle dealer or repair shop did not charge more than one hundred dollars per safety inspection and that the entire safety inspection fee is paid directly and only to the licensed motorcycle dealer or repair shop;

(c) A statement that the licensed motorcycle dealer or repair shop is entitled to the full amount charged for the motorcycle safety inspection;

(d) A vehicle identification number verification that must be completed by a licensed motorcycle dealer or repair shop in the state of Washington; and

(e) A release signed by the owner of the off-road motorcycle and verified by the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director that releases the state from any liability and outlines that the owner understands that the original off-road motorcycle was not manufactured for on-road use and that it has been modified for use on public roads.

(4) The department must track off-road motorcycles in a separate registration category for reporting purposes. [2011 c 121 § 3.]

**Effective date—2011 c 121:** See note following RCW 46.04.363.

**46.16A.440 Private use, single-axle trailers—Reduced license fee.** Private use single-axle trailers of two thousand pounds scale weight or less may qualify for a reduced vehicle license fee described in RCW 46.17.350(1)(k). To qualify for the reduced vehicle license fee:

(1) The trailer must be operated upon public highways;

(2) The vehicle license fee must be collected annually for each registration year or fraction of a registration year; and

(3) The trailer must be operated for personal use of the owner and not held for rental to the public or used in any commercial or business endeavor. [2010 c 161 § 421; 2006 c 337 § 2; 2005 c 314 § 203. Formerly RCW 46.16.086.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective dates—2005 c 314 §§ 110 and 201-206:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Application—2005 c 314 §§ 201-206, 301, and 302:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

*Boat trailer fee: RCW 46.17.305.*

**46.16A.445 Street rod or custom vehicles.** A vehicle registration issued to a street rod or custom vehicle under this chapter need not be an initial vehicle registration for that vehicle. [2011 c 114 § 5.]

**Effective date—2011 c 114:** See note following RCW 46.04.572.

**46.16A.450 Trailers—Permanent license plates and registration—Penalty—Rules.** (1) Trailers that are towed in combination with a truck, motor truck, truck tractor, road tractor, or tractor and used to transport loads in excess of forty thousand pounds combined gross weight may be issued a permanent license plate and registration. The permanent license plate and registration is valid until the trailer is sold, permanently removed from the state, or otherwise disposed of by the registered owner. The owner of the trailer shall:

(a) Apply for the permanent license plate and registration with the department, county auditor or other agent, or sub-agent;

(b) Pay the combination trailer license plate fee required under RCW 46.17.250 in addition to any other fee or taxes due by law; and

(c) Return the license plate and registration certificate to the department if the trailer is sold, permanently removed from the state, or otherwise disposed of.

(2) The permanent license plate and registration authorized in subsection (1) of this section may not be issued to trailers that haul logs.

(3) A violation of this section or misuse of a permanent license plate may subject the registered owner to prosecution or denial, or both, of future permanent registration of any trailer.

(4) The department may adopt rules to implement this section for leased vehicles and other applications as necessary. [2010 c 161 § 418; 1998 c 321 § 32 (Referendum Bill No. 49, approved November 3, 1998); 1993 c 123 § 4. Formerly RCW 46.16.068.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Purpose—Severability—1998 c 321:** See notes following RCW 82.14.045.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.455 Trucks, buses, and for hire vehicles based on gross weight.** (1) **Auto stage, bus, for hire vehicle - more than six seats.** The declared gross weight for an auto stage, bus, or for hire vehicle, except taxicabs, with a seating capacity of more than six is determined by:

(a) Multiplying the number of seats, including the driver, times one hundred fifty pounds per seat;

(b) Adding the scale weight to the product derived in (a) of this subsection; and

(c) Locating the sum derived in (b) of this subsection in the registration fee based on declared gross weight table provided in RCW 46.17.355 and rounding up to the next greater weight.

(2) **Motor truck, road tractor, truck, truck tractor - sufficient declared gross weight required.** The declared gross weight for a motor truck, road tractor, truck, or truck tractor must have a sufficient declared gross weight, as required under chapter 46.44 RCW, to cover:

(a) Its empty scale weight plus the maximum load it will carry; and

(b) The empty scale weight of any trailer it will tow and the maximum load that the trailer will carry. The declared gross weight of the motor vehicle does not need to include the trailer if:

(i) The empty scale weight of the trailer and the maximum load the trailer will carry does not exceed four thousand pounds; or

(ii) The trailer is for personal use, such as a horse trailer, travel trailer, or utility trailer.

(3) **Motor truck, road tractor, truck, and truck tractor -exceeding six thousand pounds empty scale weight.** Every truck, motor truck, truck tractor, and tractor exceeding six thousand pounds empty scale weight registered under this chapter or chapter 46.87 RCW must be licensed for not less than one hundred fifty percent of its empty weight unless:

(a) The amount would exceed the legal limits described in RCW 46.44.041 or 46.44.042, in which event the vehicle must be licensed for the maximum weight authorized for the vehicle; or

(b) The vehicle is a fixed load vehicle.

(4) **Increasing declared gross weight.** The following provisions apply when increasing declared gross weight for a motor vehicle licensed under this section:

(a) The declared gross weight must be increased to the end of the current registration year when the declared gross weight remains at 12,000 pounds or less.

(b) For motor vehicles increasing to a declared gross weight of 14,000 pounds or more, the declared gross weight must be increased, at a minimum, to the expiration of the current declared gross weight license.

(c) The new license fee is one-twelfth of the annual license fee listed in RCW 46.17.355 for each of the number of months remaining in the registration period. The department shall:

(i) Apply credit to any gross weight license fees already paid for the full months remaining in the registration period;

(ii) Charge the monthly declared gross weight license fee required under RCW 46.17.360, in addition to any other fees or taxes due; and

(iii) Not apply credit to monthly declared gross weight license fees already used.

(d) (c) of this subsection does not apply to motor vehicles described in (a) of this subsection.

(e) Upon surrender of the current registration certificate or cab card, credit must be applied as described in (c) of this subsection.

(5) **Monthly license—Authorized.** The annual license fees required in RCW 46.17.355 for any motor vehicle or combination of vehicles having a declared gross weight of twelve thousand one pounds or more may be paid for any full registration month or months at one-twelfth of the annual license fee plus the monthly declared gross weight license fee required in RCW 46.17.360. This sum must be multiplied by

the number of full months for which the fees are paid if for less than a full year.

(6) **Monthly license—Penalty.** Operation of a vehicle registered under subsection (5) of this section by any person upon the public highways after the expiration of the monthly license is a traffic infraction. The person shall pay a license fee for the vehicle involved covering an entire registration year's operation, less the fees for any registration month or months of the registration year already paid. If, within five days, a license fee for a full registration year has not been paid as required, the Washington state patrol, county sheriff, or city police shall impound the vehicle until the fees have been paid.

(7) **Camper, school bus—Exemptions.** (a) The weight of a camper must not be included when determining declared gross weight.

(b) Motor vehicles used for the transportation of school children or teachers to and from school and other school activities are exempt from subsection (1) of this section and the seating capacity fee provided in RCW 46.17.340. If the motor vehicle is used for any other purpose, it must be appropriately registered as required under this chapter.

(8) **Credit for unused license fee.** A registered owner of a motor vehicle with a declared gross weight of more than twelve thousand pounds may obtain credit for the unused portion of the license fee paid or transfer the credit to a new owner under the following conditions:

(a) The motor vehicle must have been recently sold or transferred to another owner, is no longer in the possession of the owner, or is reported destroyed under RCW 46.12.600;

(b) The available credit must be fifteen dollars or more;

(c) Credit will be given for any unused months of the declared gross weight license already purchased at the rate of one-twelfth for each full or partial month of registration;

(d) Credit only applies to license fees due under RCW 46.17.355 for the registration year for which it was purchased;

(e) Credit as used in this section may not be refunded. [2011 c 171 § 50; 2010 c 161 § 419; 2005 c 314 § 204. Prior: 2003 c 361 § 201; 2003 c 1 § 3 (Initiative Measure No. 776, approved November 5, 2002); 1994 c 262 § 8; 1993 sp.s. c 23 § 60; prior: 1993 c 123 § 5; 1993 c 102 § 1; 1990 c 42 § 105; 1989 c 156 § 1; prior: 1987 1st ex.s. c 9 § 4; 1987 c 244 § 3; 1986 c 18 § 4; 1985 c 380 § 15; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 54; 1967 ex.s. c 118 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 56; 1961 ex.s. c 7 § 11; 1961 c 12 § 46.16.070; prior: 1957 c 273 § 1; 1955 c 363 § 2; prior: 1951 c 269 § 9; 1950 ex.s. c 15 § 1, part; 1939 c 182 § 3, part; 1937 c 188 § 17, part; 1931 c 140 § 1, part; 1921 c 96 § 15, part; 1919 c 46 § 1, part; 1917 c 155 § 10, part; 1915 c 142 § 15, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6312-17, part; RRS § 6326, part. Formerly RCW 46.16.070.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective dates—2005 c 314 §§ 110 and 201-206:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Application—2005 c 314 §§ 201-206, 301, and 302:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Application—2003 c 361 § 201:** "Section 201 of this act is effective with registrations that are due or will become due August 1, 2003, and thereafter." [2003 c 361 § 704.]

**Findings—Part headings not law—Severability—2003 c 361:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**Effective dates—2003 c 361:** See note following RCW 82.08.020.

**Policies and purposes—2003 c 1 (Initiative Measure No. 776):** "This measure would require license tab fees to be \$30 per year for motor vehicles and light trucks and would repeal certain government-imposed charges, including excise taxes and fees, levied on motor vehicles. Politicians promised "\$30 license tabs are here to stay" and promised any increases in vehicle-related taxes, fees and surcharges would be put to a public vote. Politicians should keep their promises. As long as taxpayers must pay incredibly high sales taxes when buying motor vehicles (meaning state and local governments receive huge windfalls of sales tax revenue from these transactions), the people want license tab fees to not exceed the promised \$30 per year. Without this follow-up measure, "tab creep" will continue until license tab fees are once again obscenely expensive, as they were prior to Initiative 695. The people want a public vote on any increases in vehicle-related taxes, fees and surcharges to ensure increased accountability. Voters will require more cost-effective use of existing revenues and fundamental reforms before approving higher charges on motor vehicles (such changes may remove the need for any increases). Also, dramatic changes to transportation plans and programs previously presented to voters must be resubmitted. This measure provides a strong directive to all taxing districts to obtain voter approval before imposing taxes, fees and surcharges on motor vehicles. However, if the legislature ignores this clear message, a referendum will be filed to protect the voters' rights. Politicians should just do the right thing and keep their promises." [2003 c 1 § 1 (Initiative Measure No. 776, approved November 5, 2002).]

**Construction—2003 c 1 (Initiative Measure No. 776):** "The provisions of this act are to be liberally construed to effectuate the intent, policies, and purposes of this act." [2003 c 1 § 9 (Initiative Measure No. 776, approved November 5, 2002).]

**Intent—2003 c 1 (Initiative Measure No. 776):** "The people have made clear through the passage of numerous initiatives and referenda that taxes need to be reasonable and tax increases should always be a last resort. However, politicians throughout the state of Washington continue to ignore these repeated mandates.

The people expect politicians to keep their promises. The legislative intent of this measure is to ensure that they do.

Politicians are reminded:

(1) Washington voters want license tab fees to be \$30 per year for motor vehicles unless voters authorize higher vehicle-related charges at an election.

(2) All political power is vested in the people, as stated in Article I, section 1 of the Washington state Constitution.

(3) The first power reserved by the people is the initiative, as stated in Article II, section 1 of the Washington state Constitution.

(4) When voters approve initiatives, politicians have a moral, ethical, and constitutional obligation to fully implement them. When politicians ignore this obligation, they corrupt the term "public servant."

(5) Any attempt to violate the clear intent and spirit of this measure undermines the trust of the people in their government and will increase the likelihood of future tax limitation measures." [2003 c 1 § 11 (Initiative Measure No. 776, approved November 5, 2002).]

**Severability—Savings—2003 c 1 (Initiative Measure No. 776):** See note following RCW 81.104.160.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## LIABILITY AND VIOLATIONS

**46.16A.500 Liability of operator, owner, lessee for violations.** Both a person operating a vehicle with the express or implied permission of the owner and the owner of the vehicle are responsible for any act or omission that is declared unlawful in this chapter. The primary responsibility is the owner's.



If the person operating the vehicle at the time of the unlawful act or omission is not the owner of the vehicle, the operator may accept the citation and execute the promise to appear on behalf of the owner. [2010 c 161 § 436; 1980 c 104 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 69 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.16.500.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.16A.510 Immunity from liability for issuing a vehicle registration or license plates to nonroadworthy vehicle.** The director, the state of Washington, and its political subdivisions are immune from civil liability arising from the issuance of a vehicle registration or license plates to a nonroadworthy vehicle. [2011 c 171 § 51; 1986 c 186 § 5. Formerly RCW 46.16.012.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.16A.520 Allowing unauthorized person to drive—Penalty.** It is unlawful for any person in whose name a vehicle is registered knowingly to permit another person to drive the vehicle when the other person is not authorized to do so under the laws of this state. A violation of this section is a misdemeanor. [1987 c 388 § 10. Formerly RCW 46.16.011.]

*Allowing unauthorized child to drive: RCW 46.20.024.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.530 Unlawful to carry passengers for hire without vehicle registration.** It is unlawful for the owner or operator of any vehicle not registered annually for hire or as an auto stage and for which additional seating capacity fee as required by this chapter has not been paid, to carry passengers therein for hire. [2011 c 171 § 52; 1961 c 12 § 46.16.180. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 20; RRS § 6312-20. Formerly RCW 46.16.180.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.16A.540 Overloading registered capacity—Additional registration—Penalties—Exceptions.** It is a traffic infraction for any person to operate, or cause, permit, or suffer to be operated upon a public highway of this state any bus, auto stage, motor truck, truck tractor, or tractor, with passengers, or with a maximum gross weight, in excess of that for which the motor vehicle or combination is registered.

Any person who operates or causes to be operated upon a public highway of this state any motor truck, truck tractor, or tractor with a maximum gross weight in excess of the maximum gross weight for which the vehicle is registered shall be deemed to have set a new maximum gross weight and shall, in addition to any penalties otherwise provided, be required to purchase a new registration covering the new maximum gross weight, and any failure to secure such new registration is a traffic infraction. No such person may be permitted or required to purchase the new registration for a gross weight or combined gross weight which would exceed the maximum gross weight or combined gross weight allowed by law. This section does not apply to for hire vehicles, buses, or auto stages operating principally within cities and towns. [2011 c 171 § 53; 1986 c 18 § 13; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 47; 1961 c 12 §

46.16.140. Prior: 1955 c 384 § 16; 1951 c 269 § 18; 1937 c 188 § 25, part; RRS § 6312-25, part. Formerly RCW 46.16.140.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.16A.545 Overloading registered capacity—Penalties.** Any person violating any of the provisions of RCW 46.16A.540 shall, upon a first offense, pay a penalty of not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than fifty dollars; upon a second offense pay a penalty of not less than fifty dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, and in addition the court may suspend the registration certificate of the vehicle for not more than thirty days; upon a third and subsequent offense pay a penalty of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than two hundred dollars, and in addition the court shall suspend the registration certificate of the vehicle for not less than thirty days nor more than ninety days.

Upon ordering the suspension of any registration certificate, the court or judge shall forthwith secure the registration certificate and mail it to the director. [2011 c 171 § 54; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 48; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 5; 1961 c 12 § 46.16.145. Prior: 1951 c 269 § 19; 1937 c 188 § 25, part; RRS § 6312-25, part. Formerly RCW 46.16.145.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## MISCELLANEOUS

**46.16A.900 Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 132.** If any provision of this 1973 amendatory act is declared unconstitutional, or the applicability thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the constitutionality of the remainder of the amendatory act and the applicability thereof to persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby. [1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 24. Formerly RCW 46.16.900.]

## Chapter 46.17 RCW

### VEHICLE FEES

(Formerly: Vehicle weight fees)

#### Sections

#### FILING AND SERVICE FEES

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## FILING AND SERVICE FEES

**46.17.005 Filing fees.** (1) A person who applies for a vehicle registration or for any other right to operate a vehicle on the highways of this state shall pay a three dollar filing fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law.

(2) A person who applies for a certificate of title shall pay a four dollar filing fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law.

(3) The filing fees established in this section must be distributed under RCW 46.68.400. [2010 c 161 § 501.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.015 License plate technology fee.** (1) A person who applies for a vehicle registration or for any other right to operate a vehicle on the highways of this state shall pay a twenty-five cent license plate technology fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. The license plate technology fee must be distributed under RCW 46.68.370.

(2) A vehicle registered under RCW 46.16A.455 or 46.17.330 is not subject to the license plate technology fee. [2010 c 161 § 502.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.025 License service fee.** (1) A person who applies for a vehicle registration or for any other right to operate a vehicle on the highways of this state shall pay a fifty cent license service fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. The license service fee must be distributed under RCW 46.68.220.

(2) A vehicle registered under RCW 46.16A.455 or 46.17.330 is not subject to the license service fee. [2010 c 161 § 503.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.030 Parking ticket surcharge.** The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require a person who applies for a vehicle registration for a vehicle subject to RCW 46.16A.120 to pay a fifteen dollar parking ticket surcharge. The fifteen dollar surcharge must be distributed under RCW 46.68.445. [2010 c 161 § 504.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.040 Subagent service fees.** A subagent appointed by the director shall collect a service fee of:

(1) Twelve dollars for changes in a certificate of title, with or without registration renewal, or for verification of record and preparation of an affidavit of lost title other than at the time of the certificate of title application or transfer; and

(2) Five dollars for a registration renewal, issuing a transit permit, or any other service under this section. [2011 c 171 § 55; 2010 c 161 § 506.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.050 Fees associated with a report of sale.** Before accepting a report of sale filed under RCW 46.12.650(2), the county auditor or other agent or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay:

(1) The filing fee under RCW 46.17.005(1), the license plate technology fee under RCW 46.17.015, and the license service fee under RCW 46.17.025 to the county auditor or other agent; and

(2) The subagent service fee under RCW 46.17.040(2) to the subagent. [2010 c 161 § 505.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.060 Fees associated with a transitional ownership record.** Before accepting a transitional ownership record filed under RCW 46.12.660, the county auditor or other agent or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay:

(1) The filing fee under RCW 46.17.005(1), the license plate technology fee under RCW 46.17.015, and the license service fee under RCW 46.17.025 to the county auditor or other agent; and

(2) The subagent service fee under RCW 46.17.040(2) to the subagent. [2010 c 161 § 507.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

## CERTIFICATE OF TITLE FEES

**46.17.100 Application fee.** (*Effective until October 1, 2012.*) Before accepting an application for a certificate of

title as required in this title, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a five dollar application fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. The certificate of title application fee must be distributed under RCW 46.68.020. [2010 c 161 § 508.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.100 Application fee. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** Before accepting an application for a certificate of title as required in this title, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a fifteen dollar application fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law.

(1) Five dollars of the certificate of title application fee must be distributed under RCW 46.68.020.

(2) Ten dollars of the certificate of title application fee must be credited to the transportation 2003 account (nickel account) created in RCW 46.68.280. [2012 c 74 § 1; 2010 c 161 § 508.]

**Effective date—2012 c 74 §§ 1-12:** "Sections 1 through 12 of this act take effect October 1, 2012." [2012 c 74 § 17.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.110 Emergency medical services fee.** (1) Before accepting an application for a certificate of title for a motor vehicle as required in this title, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a six dollar and fifty cent emergency medical services fee for the following transactions:

(a) All retail sales or leases of any new or used motor vehicles; and

(b) Original and transfer certificate of title transactions.

(2) The emergency medical services fee:

(a) Is not considered a violation of RCW 46.70.180(2);

(b) Does not apply to motor vehicles declared a total loss by an insurer or self-insurer unless an application for certificate of title is made to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director after the declaration of total loss; and

(c) Must be distributed under RCW 46.68.440. [2010 c 161 § 509.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.120 Stolen vehicle check fee.** Before accepting an application for a certificate of title for a vehicle previously registered in any other state or country, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a fee of fifteen dollars. The fifteen dollar fee must be distributed under RCW 46.68.020. [2010 c 161 § 513.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.130 Vehicle identification number inspection fee.** Before accepting an application for a certificate of title, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require an applicant to pay a sixty-five dollar inspection fee if an inspection of the vehicle was completed by the Washington state patrol. The inspection fee must be distributed under \*RCW 46.68.020. [2010 c 161 § 514.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The reference to RCW 46.68.020 appears to be erroneous. RCW 46.68.410 was apparently intended.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.135 Vehicle identification number reassignment fee.** Before accepting an application for a certificate of title, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require an applicant to pay a five dollar vehicle identification number reassignment fee if the Washington state patrol has reassigned an identification number as authorized under RCW 46.12.560. The reassignment fee must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070. [2010 c 161 § 515.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.140 Late transfer of title penalty. (Effective until October 1, 2012.)** The penalty for a late transfer under RCW 46.12.650(7) is twenty-five dollars assessed on the sixteenth day after the date of delivery and two dollars for each additional day thereafter, but the total penalty must not exceed one hundred dollars. The penalty must be distributed under RCW 46.68.020. [2010 c 161 § 512.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.140 Late transfer of title penalty. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** The penalty for a late transfer under RCW 46.12.650(7) is fifty dollars assessed on the sixteenth day after the date of delivery and two dollars for each additional day thereafter, but the total penalty must not exceed one hundred twenty-five dollars. The penalty must be distributed under RCW 46.68.020. [2012 c 74 § 2; 2010 c 161 § 512.]

**Effective date—2012 c 74 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.17.100.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.150 Manufactured home title transfer fee.** Before accepting an application for a transfer of certificate of title for a new or used manufactured home as required in this title and chapter 65.20 RCW, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a fifteen dollar fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. The fifteen dollar fee must be forwarded to the state treasurer, who shall deposit the fee in the manufactured home installation training account created in RCW 43.22A.100. [2011 c 158 § 4; 2010 c 161 § 510.]

**Transfer of residual funds to manufactured home installation training account—2011 c 158:** See note following RCW 43.22A.100.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.155 Manufactured home transaction fee.** (1)

Before accepting an application for a certificate of title for an original or transfer manufactured home transaction as required in this title or chapter 65.20 RCW, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a one hundred dollar fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law if the manufactured home:

- (a) Is located in a mobile home park;
- (b) Is one year old or older;
- (c) Is new or ownership changes, excluding changes that involve adding or deleting spouse or domestic partner coregistered owners or legal owners; and
- (d) Sales price is five thousand dollars or more.

(2) The one hundred dollar fee must be forwarded to the state treasurer, who shall deposit the fee in the mobile home park relocation fund created in RCW 59.21.050.

(3) The department and the state treasurer may adopt rules necessary to carry out this section. [2010 c 161 § 511.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.160 Quick title service fee.**

Before accepting an application for a quick title of a vehicle under RCW 46.12.555, the department, participating county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a fifty dollar quick title service fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. The quick title service fee must be distributed under RCW 46.68.025. [2011 c 326 § 2.]

**Application—Effective date—2011 c 326:** See notes following RCW 46.12.555.

LICENSE PLATE FEES

**46.17.200 Reflectivity fee—Replacement fees—Moped fee—Retention fee—Transfer fees—Recovery fee for nonvehicular use.** (*Effective until October 1, 2012.*) (1)

In addition to all other fees and taxes required by law, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall charge:

(a) The following license plate fees for each license plate, unless the owner or type of vehicle is exempt from payment:

FEE TYPE	FEE	DISTRIBUTION
Reflectivity	\$ 2.00	RCW 46.68.070
Replacement	\$ 10.00	RCW 46.68.070
Replacement, motorcycle	\$ 2.00	RCW 46.68.070
Original issue, moped	\$1.50	RCW 46.68.070

(b) A license plate retention fee, as required under \*RCW 46.16A.200(10)(a)(iii), of twenty dollars if the owner

wishes to retain the current license plate number upon license plate replacement, unless the owner or type of vehicle is exempt from payment. The twenty dollar fee must be deposited in the multimodal transportation account created in RCW 47.66.070.

(c) A ten dollar license plate transfer fee, as required under RCW 46.16A.200(8)(a), when transferring standard issue license plates from one vehicle to another, unless the owner or type of vehicle is exempt from payment. The ten dollar license plate transfer fee must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070.

(d) Former prisoner of war license plates, as described in RCW 46.18.235, may be transferred to a replacement vehicle upon payment of a five dollar license plate fee, in addition to any other fee required by law.

(2) The department may, upon request, provide license plates that have been used and returned to the department to individuals for nonvehicular use. The department may charge a fee of up to five dollars per license plate to cover costs or recovery for postage and handling. The department may waive the fee for license plates used in educational projects and may, by rule, provide standards for the fee waiver and restrictions on the number of license plates provided to any one person. The fee must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070. [2011 c 171 § 56; 2010 c 161 § 518.]

**\*Reviser’s note:** RCW 46.16A.200 was amended by 2011 c 171 § 46, changing subsection (10)(a)(iii) to subsection (10)(c).

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.200 Original issue fees—Reflectivity fee—Replacement fees—Moped fee—Retention fee—Transfer fees—Recovery fee for nonvehicular use.** (*Effective October 1, 2012.*)

(1) In addition to all other fees and taxes required by law, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall charge:

(a) The following license plate fees for each license plate, unless the owner or type of vehicle is exempt from payment:

FEE TYPE	FEE	DISTRIBUTION
Original issue	\$ 10.00	RCW 46.68.070
Reflectivity	\$ 2.00	RCW 46.68.070
Replacement	\$ 10.00	RCW 46.68.070
Original issue, motorcycle	\$ 4.00	RCW 46.68.070
Replacement, motorcycle	\$ 4.00	RCW 46.68.070
Original issue, moped	\$1.50	RCW 46.68.070

(b) A license plate retention fee, as required under RCW 46.16A.200(10)(c), of twenty dollars if the owner wishes to retain the current license plate number upon license plate replacement, unless the owner or type of vehicle is exempt from payment. The twenty dollar fee must be deposited in

the multimodal transportation account created in RCW 47.66.070.

(c) A ten dollar license plate transfer fee, as required under RCW 46.16A.200(8)(a), when transferring standard issue license plates from one vehicle to another, unless the owner or type of vehicle is exempt from payment. The ten dollar license plate transfer fee must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070.

(d) Former prisoner of war license plates, as described in RCW 46.18.235, may be transferred to a replacement vehicle upon payment of a five dollar license plate fee, in addition to any other fee required by law.

(2) The department may, upon request, provide license plates that have been used and returned to the department to individuals for nonvehicular use. The department may charge a fee of up to five dollars per license plate to cover costs or recovery for postage and handling. The department may waive the fee for license plates used in educational projects and may, by rule, provide standards for the fee waiver and restrictions on the number of license plates provided to any one person. The fee must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070. [2012 c 74 § 3; 2011 c 171 § 56; 2010 c 161 § 518.]

**Effective date—2012 c 74 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.17.100.

PLATE TYPE	INITIAL FEE	RENEWAL FEE	DISTRIBUTED UNDER
(a) Amateur radio license	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
(b) Armed forces	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(c) Baseball stadium	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	Subsection (2) of this section
(d) Collector vehicle	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
(e) Collegiate	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.430
(f) Endangered wildlife	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(g) Gonzaga University alumni association	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(h) Helping kids speak	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(i) Horseless carriage	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
(j) Keep kids safe	\$ 45.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(k) Law enforcement memorial	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(l) Military affiliate radio system	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
(m) Music matters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(n) Professional firefighters and paramedics	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(o) Ride share	\$ 25.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
(p) Share the road	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(q) Ski & ride Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(r) Square dancer	\$ 40.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
(s) Volunteer firefighters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(t) Washington lighthouses	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(u) Washington state parks	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(v) Washington's national parks	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.210 Personalized license plate fees.** In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon application for a vehicle registration under chapter 46.16A RCW, the holder of a personalized license plate shall pay an initial fee of forty-two dollars and thirty-two dollars for each renewal. The personalized license plate fee must be distributed as provided in RCW 46.68.435. [2011 c 171 § 57; 2010 c 161 § 520.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.220 Special license plate fees. (Effective until January 1, 2013.)** (1) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon application for a vehicle registration in chapter 46.16A RCW, the holder of a special license plate shall pay the appropriate special license plate fee as listed in this section.

(w) Washington’s wildlife collection	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(x) We love our pets	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(y) Wild on Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425

**Effective date—2011 c 229:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**Effective date—2011 c 225:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

(2) After deducting administration and collection expenses for the sale of baseball stadium license plates, the remaining proceeds must be distributed to a county for the purpose of paying the principal and interest payments on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball stadium, as defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds to the state general fund. [2011 c 229 § 3; 2011 c 225 § 2; 2011 c 171 § 58; 2010 c 161 § 521.]

**Reviser’s note:** This section was amended by 2011 c 171 § 58, 2011 c 225 § 2, and by 2011 c 229 § 3, each without reference to the other. All amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**46.17.220 Special license plate fees. (Effective January 1, 2013.)** (1) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon application for a vehicle registration in chapter 46.16A RCW, the holder of a special license plate shall pay the appropriate special license plate fee as listed in this section.

PLATE TYPE	INITIAL FEE	RENEWAL FEE	DISTRIBUTED UNDER
(a) 4-H	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(b) Amateur radio license	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
(c) Armed forces	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(d) Baseball stadium	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	Subsection (2) of this section
(e) Collector vehicle	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
(f) Collegiate	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.430
(g) Endangered wildlife	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(h) Gonzaga University alumni association	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(i) Helping kids speak	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(j) Horseless carriage	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
(k) Keep kids safe	\$ 45.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(l) Law enforcement memorial	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(m) Military affiliate radio system	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
(n) Music matters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(o) Professional firefighters and paramedics	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(p) Ride share	\$ 25.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
(q) Share the road	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(r) Ski & ride Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(s) Square dancer	\$ 40.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
(t) State flower	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(u) Volunteer firefighters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(v) Washington lighthouses	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(w) Washington state parks	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(x) Washington’s national parks	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(y) Washington’s wildlife collection	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(z) We love our pets	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(aa) Wild on Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425

## VEHICLE LICENSE FEES

(2) After deducting administration and collection expenses for the sale of baseball stadium license plates, the remaining proceeds must be distributed to a county for the purpose of paying the principal and interest payments on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball stadium, as defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds to the state general fund. [2012 c 65 § 4. Prior: 2011 c 229 § 3; 2011 c 225 § 2; 2011 c 171 § 58; 2010 c 161 § 521.]

**Effective date—2012 c 65:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**Effective date—2011 c 229:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**Effective date—2011 c 225:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.230 Replacement license tab and windshield emblem fee.** Before accepting an application for a replacement license tab or windshield emblem, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall charge a one dollar fee for each pair of tabs or windshield emblem. The license tab or windshield emblem replacement fee must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070. [2011 c 171 § 59; 2010 c 161 § 519.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.240 Government vehicle license plate fee.** State agencies, political subdivisions, Indian tribes, and the United States government, except foreign governments or international bodies, shall pay a fee of two dollars for a license plate or plates for each vehicle when the department assigns license plates for further assignment by the entity. [2010 c 161 § 517.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.250 Combination trailer license plate fee.** Before accepting an application for a combination trailer license plate authorized under RCW 46.16A.450, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require an applicant to pay a thirty-six dollar license plate fee. The thirty-six dollar license plate fee must be deposited and distributed under RCW 46.68.035. [2010 c 161 § 516.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.305 Boat trailer fee.** Before accepting an application for a vehicle registration for a boat trailer, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a three dollar aquatic weed fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. The three dollar fee must be deposited in the freshwater aquatic weeds account created in RCW 43.21A.650. [2010 c 161 § 522.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.310 Change of class fee.** Before accepting an application for a change of class as required under RCW 46.16A.200(6), the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a one dollar fee. The one dollar fee must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070. [2010 c 161 § 523.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.315 Commercial vehicle safety enforcement fee.** (1) Before accepting an application for a motor vehicle base plated in the state of Washington that is subject to highway inspections and compliance reviews by the Washington state patrol under RCW 46.32.080 or the international registration plan if base plated in a foreign jurisdiction, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a sixteen dollar commercial vehicle safety enforcement fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. The sixteen dollar fee:

(a) Must be apportioned for those vehicles operating interstate and registered under the international registration plan;

(b) Does not apply to trailers; and

(c) Is not refundable when the motor vehicle is no longer subject to RCW 46.32.080.

(2) The department may deduct an amount equal to the cost of administering the program. All remaining fees must be deposited with the state treasurer and credited to the state patrol highway account of the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070. [2011 c 171 § 60; 2010 c 161 § 524.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.320 Duplicate registration fees.** Before accepting an application for a duplicate registration as required under RCW 46.16A.190, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a one dollar and twenty-five cent fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. The one dollar and twenty-five cent fee must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070. [2010 c 161 § 525.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.323 Electric vehicle registration renewal fee.** *(Effective October 1, 2012, contingent expiration date.)* (1) Before accepting an application for an annual vehicle registration renewal for an electric vehicle that uses propulsion units powered solely by electricity, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director must require the applicant to pay a one hundred dollar fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. The one hundred dollar fee is due only at the time of annual registration renewal.

(2) This section only applies to:

(a) A vehicle that is designed to have the capability to drive at a speed of more than thirty-five miles per hour; and

(b) An annual vehicle registration renewal that is due on or after February 1, 2013.

(3)(a) The fee under this section is imposed to provide funds to mitigate the impact of vehicles on state roads and highways and for the purpose of evaluating the feasibility of transitioning from a revenue collection system based on fuel taxes to a road user assessment system, and is separate and distinct from other vehicle license fees. Proceeds from the fee must be used for highway purposes, and must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070, subject to (b) of this subsection.

(b) If in any year the amount of proceeds from the fee collected under this section exceeds one million dollars, the excess amount over one million dollars must be deposited as follows:

(i) Seventy percent to the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070;

(ii) Fifteen percent to the transportation improvement account created in RCW 47.26.084; and

(iii) Fifteen percent to the rural arterial trust account created in RCW 36.79.020. [2012 c 74 § 10.]

**Contingent expiration date—2012 c 74 § 10:** "Section 10 of this act expires on the effective date of legislation enacted by the legislature that imposes a vehicle miles traveled fee or tax." [2012 c 74 § 11.]

**Notice of expiration date—2012 c 74 § 10:** "The department of licensing must provide written notice of the expiration date of section 10 of this act to affected parties, the chief clerk of the house of representatives, the secretary of the senate, the office of the code reviser, and others as deemed appropriate by the department." [2012 c 74 § 12.]

**Effective date—2012 c 74 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.17.100.

**46.17.325 Farm exempt decal fee.** Before accepting an application for a farm exempt decal as required under RCW 46.16A.420, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a five dollar fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. The five dollar fee must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070. [2010 c 161 § 526.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.330 Farm vehicle reduced gross weight license fee.** (1) In lieu of the vehicle license fee required under RCW 46.17.350 and before accepting an application for a vehicle registration for farm vehicles described in RCW 46.16A.425, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant, unless specifically exempt, to pay the following farm vehicle reduced gross weight license fee by weight:

WEIGHT	SCHEDULE A	SCHEDULE B
4,000 pounds	\$24.50	\$24.50
6,000 pounds	\$24.50	\$24.50
8,000 pounds	\$24.50	\$24.50
10,000 pounds	\$40.50	\$40.50
12,000 pounds	\$49.00	\$49.00
14,000 pounds	\$54.50	\$54.50
16,000 pounds	\$60.50	\$60.50
18,000 pounds	\$86.50	\$86.50
20,000 pounds	\$95.00	\$95.00
22,000 pounds	\$102.00	\$102.00
24,000 pounds	\$109.50	\$109.50
26,000 pounds	\$115.00	\$115.00
28,000 pounds	\$134.00	\$134.00
30,000 pounds	\$153.00	\$153.00
32,000 pounds	\$182.50	\$182.50
34,000 pounds	\$193.50	\$193.50
36,000 pounds	\$209.00	\$209.00
38,000 pounds	\$228.50	\$228.50
40,000 pounds	\$260.00	\$260.00
42,000 pounds	\$270.00	\$315.00



44,000 pounds	\$275.50	\$320.50
46,000 pounds	\$295.50	\$340.50
48,000 pounds	\$307.50	\$352.50
50,000 pounds	\$333.00	\$378.00
52,000 pounds	\$349.50	\$394.50
54,000 pounds	\$376.50	\$421.50
56,000 pounds	\$397.00	\$442.00
58,000 pounds	\$412.50	\$457.50
60,000 pounds	\$439.00	\$484.00
62,000 pounds	\$470.00	\$515.00
64,000 pounds	\$480.00	\$525.00
66,000 pounds	\$533.50	\$578.50
68,000 pounds	\$556.00	\$601.00
70,000 pounds	\$598.00	\$643.00
72,000 pounds	\$639.00	\$684.00
74,000 pounds	\$693.50	\$738.50
76,000 pounds	\$748.50	\$793.50
78,000 pounds	\$816.50	\$861.50
80,000 pounds	\$880.50	\$925.50
82,000 pounds	\$941.00	\$986.00
84,000 pounds	\$1,001.00	\$1,046.00
86,000 pounds	\$1,061.50	\$1,106.50
88,000 pounds	\$1,122.00	\$1,167.00
90,000 pounds	\$1,182.50	\$1,127.50
92,000 pounds	\$1,242.50	\$1,287.50
94,000 pounds	\$1,303.00	\$1,348.00
96,000 pounds	\$1,363.50	\$1,408.50
98,000 pounds	\$1,424.00	\$1,469.00
100,000 pounds	\$1,484.00	\$1,529.00
102,000 pounds	\$1,544.50	\$1,589.50
104,000 pounds	\$1,605.00	\$1,650.00
105,500 pounds	\$1,665.50	\$1,710.50

(2) Schedule A applies to vehicles either used exclusively for hauling logs or that do not tow trailers. Schedule B applies to vehicles that tow trailers and are not covered under Schedule A.

(3) If the resultant gross weight is not listed in the table provided in subsection (1) of this section, it must be increased to the next higher weight.

(4) The farm vehicle reduced gross weight license fees provided in subsection (1) of this section are in addition to the filing fee required under RCW 46.17.005 and any other fee or tax required by law.

(5) The farm vehicle reduced gross weight license fee as provided in subsection (1) of this section must be distributed under RCW 46.68.030. [2010 c 161 § 527.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

#### **46.17.335 Fixed load motor vehicle registration fees.**

Before accepting an application for a fixed load motor vehicle registration, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require an applicant to pay:

(1) The license fee based on declared gross weight as provided in RCW 46.17.355. The declared gross weight must be equal to the scale weight of the motor vehicle, rounded up to the next higher amount in the schedule provided in RCW 46.17.355, up to the legal limit provided in chapter 46.44 RCW; or

(2) A twenty-five dollar capacity fee if the vehicle is equipped for lifting or towing any abandoned, disabled, or impounded vehicle or parts of vehicles. The twenty-five dollar capacity fee is in lieu of the license fee based on declared gross weight as provided in RCW 46.17.355 and must be deposited under RCW 46.68.030. [2010 c 161 § 528.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.340 For hire vehicle and auto stage seating capacity fee.** (1) Before accepting an application for a vehicle registration for a for hire vehicle or auto stage with a seating capacity of six or less, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a fifteen dollar seating capacity fee. The seating capacity fee must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070.

(2) The for hire vehicle and auto stage seating capacity fee imposed in subsection (1) of this section does not apply to taxicabs. [2010 c 161 § 529.]

VEHICLE TYPE	INITIAL FEE	RENEWAL FEE	DISTRIBUTED UNDER
(a) Auto stage, six seats or less	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.030
(b) Camper	\$ 4.90	\$ 3.50	RCW 46.68.030
(c) Commercial trailer	\$ 34.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.035
(d) For hire vehicle, six seats or less	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.030
(e) Mobile home (if registered)	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.030
(f) Moped	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.030
(g) Motor home	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.030
(h) Motorcycle	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.030
(i) Off-road vehicle	\$ 18.00	\$ 18.00	RCW 46.68.045
(j) Passenger car	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.030
(k) Private use single-axle trailer	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	*RCW 46.68.035(2)
(l) Snowmobile	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.350
(m) Snowmobile, vintage	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.00	RCW 46.68.350
(n) Sport utility vehicle	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.030
(o) Tow truck	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.030
(p) Trailer, over 2000 pounds	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.030
(q) Travel trailer	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.030

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.350 License fees by vehicle type.** (1) Before accepting an application for a vehicle registration, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant, unless specifically exempt, to pay the following vehicle license fee by vehicle type:

(2) The vehicle license fee required in subsection (1) of this section is in addition to the filing fee required under RCW 46.17.005, and any other fee or tax required by law. [2010 c 161 § 531.]

**\*Reviser’s note:** The reference to RCW 46.68.035(2) appears to be erroneous. RCW 46.68.035 was apparently intended.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.355 License fees by weight.** (1) In lieu of the vehicle license fee required under RCW 46.17.350 and before accepting an application for a vehicle registration for motor vehicles described in RCW 46.16A.455, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant, unless specifically exempt, to pay the following license fee by weight:

WEIGHT	SCHEDULE A	SCHEDULE B
4,000 pounds	\$ 38.00	\$ 38.00
6,000 pounds	\$ 48.00	\$ 48.00
8,000 pounds	\$ 58.00	\$ 58.00
10,000 pounds	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00
12,000 pounds	\$ 77.00	\$ 77.00
14,000 pounds	\$ 88.00	\$ 88.00
16,000 pounds	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
18,000 pounds	\$ 152.00	\$ 152.00
20,000 pounds	\$ 169.00	\$ 169.00
22,000 pounds	\$ 183.00	\$ 183.00
24,000 pounds	\$ 198.00	\$ 198.00

26,000 pounds	\$ 209.00	\$ 209.00
28,000 pounds	\$ 247.00	\$ 247.00
30,000 pounds	\$ 285.00	\$ 285.00
32,000 pounds	\$ 344.00	\$ 344.00
34,000 pounds	\$ 366.00	\$ 366.00
36,000 pounds	\$ 397.00	\$ 397.00
38,000 pounds	\$ 436.00	\$ 436.00
40,000 pounds	\$ 499.00	\$ 499.00
42,000 pounds	\$ 519.00	\$ 609.00
44,000 pounds	\$ 530.00	\$ 620.00
46,000 pounds	\$ 570.00	\$ 660.00
48,000 pounds	\$ 594.00	\$ 684.00
50,000 pounds	\$ 645.00	\$ 735.00
52,000 pounds	\$ 678.00	\$ 768.00
54,000 pounds	\$ 732.00	\$ 822.00
56,000 pounds	\$ 773.00	\$ 863.00
58,000 pounds	\$ 804.00	\$ 894.00
60,000 pounds	\$ 857.00	\$ 947.00
62,000 pounds	\$ 919.00	\$ 1,009.00
64,000 pounds	\$ 939.00	\$ 1,029.00
66,000 pounds	\$ 1,046.00	\$ 1,136.00
68,000 pounds	\$ 1,091.00	\$ 1,181.00
70,000 pounds	\$ 1,175.00	\$ 1,265.00
72,000 pounds	\$ 1,257.00	\$ 1,347.00
74,000 pounds	\$ 1,366.00	\$ 1,456.00
76,000 pounds	\$ 1,476.00	\$ 1,566.00
78,000 pounds	\$ 1,612.00	\$ 1,702.00
80,000 pounds	\$ 1,740.00	\$ 1,830.00
82,000 pounds	\$ 1,861.00	\$ 1,951.00
84,000 pounds	\$ 1,981.00	\$ 2,071.00
86,000 pounds	\$ 2,102.00	\$ 2,192.00
88,000 pounds	\$ 2,223.00	\$ 2,313.00
90,000 pounds	\$ 2,344.00	\$ 2,434.00
92,000 pounds	\$ 2,464.00	\$ 2,554.00
94,000 pounds	\$ 2,585.00	\$ 2,675.00
96,000 pounds	\$ 2,706.00	\$ 2,796.00
98,000 pounds	\$ 2,827.00	\$ 2,917.00
100,000 pounds	\$ 2,947.00	\$ 3,037.00
102,000 pounds	\$ 3,068.00	\$ 3,158.00
104,000 pounds	\$ 3,189.00	\$ 3,279.00
105,500 pounds	\$ 3,310.00	\$ 3,400.00

(2) Schedule A applies to vehicles either used exclusively for hauling logs or that do not tow trailers. Schedule B applies to vehicles that tow trailers and are not covered under Schedule A.

(3) If the resultant gross weight is not listed in the table provided in subsection (1) of this section, it must be increased to the next higher weight.

(4) The license fees provided in subsection (1) of this section are in addition to the filing fee required under RCW 46.17.005 and any other fee or tax required by law.

(5) The license fee based on declared gross weight as provided in subsection (1) of this section must be distributed under RCW 46.68.035. [2011 c 171 § 61; 2010 c 161 § 530.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.360 Monthly declared gross weight license fees.**

A person applying for a monthly declared gross weight license as authorized in RCW 46.16A.455 shall pay an additional two dollars for each month of the declared gross weight license, plus an additional two dollars. These two dollar fees must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070. [2010 c 161 § 532.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.365 Motor vehicle weight fee—Motor home vehicle weight fee.** (1) A person applying for a motor vehicle registration and paying the vehicle license fee required in RCW 46.17.350(1) (a), (d), (e), (h), (j), (n), and (o) shall pay a motor vehicle weight fee in addition to all other fees and taxes required by law. The motor vehicle weight fee:

- (a) Must be based on the motor vehicle scale weight;
- (b) Is the difference determined by subtracting the vehicle license fee required in RCW 46.17.350 from the license fee in Schedule B of RCW 46.17.355, plus two dollars; and
- (c) Must be distributed under RCW 46.68.415.

(2) A person applying for a motor home vehicle registration shall, in lieu of the motor vehicle weight fee required in subsection (1) of this section, pay a motor home vehicle weight fee of seventy-five dollars in addition to all other fees and taxes required by law. The motor home vehicle weight fee must be distributed under RCW 46.68.415.

(3) The department shall:

PERMIT TYPE	FEE
(a) Dealer temporary	\$15.00
(b) Department temporary	\$.50
(c) Farm vehicle trip	\$6.25
(d) Nonresident military	\$10.00
(e) Nonresident temporary snowmobile	\$5.00
(f) Special fuel trip	\$30.00
(g) Temporary ORV use	\$7.00
(h) Vehicle trip	\$25.00

(2) Permit fees as provided in subsection (1) of this section are in addition to the filing fee required under RCW 46.17.005, except an additional filing fee may not be charged for:

- (a) Dealer temporary permits;
- (b) Special fuel trip permits; and
- (c) Vehicle trip permits.

(3) Five dollars of the fifteen dollar dealer temporary permit fee provided in subsection (1)(a) of this section must be credited to the payment of vehicle license fees at the time application for registration is made. The remainder must be deposited to the state patrol highway account created in RCW 46.68.030. [2011 c 171 § 62; 2010 c 161 § 535.]

(a) Rely on motor vehicle empty scale weights provided by vehicle manufacturers, or other sources defined by the department, to determine the weight of each motor vehicle; and

(b) Adopt rules for determining weight for vehicles without manufacturer empty scale weights. [2010 c 161 § 533.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.375 Recreational vehicle sanitary disposal fee.**

(1) Before accepting an application for registration for a recreational vehicle, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require an applicant to pay a three dollar fee in addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. The recreational vehicle sanitary disposal fee must be deposited in the RV account created in RCW 46.68.170.

(2) For the purposes of this section, "recreational vehicle" means a camper, motor home, or travel trailer. [2010 c 161 § 534.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

*Fee increase by department of transportation authorized: RCW 47.01.460.*

PERMIT AND TRANSFER FEES

**46.17.400 Permit fees by permit type.** (1) Before accepting an application for one of the following permits, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay the following permit fee by permit type in addition to any other fee or tax required by law:

AUTHORITY	DISTRIBUTION
RCW 46.16A.300	RCW 46.68.030
RCW 46.16A.305	RCW 46.68.450
RCW 46.16A.330	RCW 46.68.035
RCW 46.16A.340	RCW 46.68.070
RCW 46.10.450	RCW 46.68.350
RCW 82.38.100	RCW 46.68.460
RCW 46.09.430	RCW 46.68.045
RCW 46.16A.320	RCW 46.68.455

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.410 Off-road vehicle registration transfer fee.**

Before accepting an application for a transfer of an off-road vehicle registration as required under RCW 46.09.410, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a five dollar off-road vehicle registration transfer fee. The five dollar off-road vehicle registration transfer fee must be distributed under RCW 46.68.020. [2010 c 161 § 536.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.17.420 Snowmobile registration transfer fee.**

Before accepting an application for a transfer of a snowmobile registration as required under RCW 46.10.400, the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director shall require the applicant to pay a five dollar snowmobile registration transfer fee. The five dollar snowmobile registration transfer fee must be distributed under RCW 46.68.350. [2010 c 161 § 537.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

## Chapter 46.18 RCW SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES

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## GENERAL PROVISIONS

**46.18.005 Intent.** The legislature has seen an increase in the demand from constituent groups seeking recognition and funding through the establishment of commemorative or special license plates. The high cost of implementing a new special license plate series coupled with the uncertainty of the

state's ability to recoup its costs has led the legislature to delay the implementation of new special license plates. In order to address these issues, it is the intent of the legislature to create a mechanism that will allow for the evaluation of special license plate requests and establish a funding policy that will alleviate the financial burden currently placed on the state. Using these two strategies, the legislature will be better equipped to efficiently process special license plate legislation. [2010 c 161 § 601; 2003 c 196 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.16.700.]

**Reviser's note:** 2010 c 161 § 1226 directed that RCW 46.16.700 be recodified under the subchapter heading "review board" under chapter 46.18 RCW. However, recodification under the subchapter heading "general provisions" appears to be more appropriate.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Part headings not law—2003 c 196:** "Part headings used in this act are not part of the law." [2003 c 196 § 601.]

**46.18.010 Application.** Persons applying to the department for special license plates shall apply on forms obtained from the department and in accordance with RCW 46.16A.040. The applicant shall provide all information as is required by the department in order to determine the applicant's eligibility for the special license plates. [2011 c 171 § 63; 1997 c 291 § 7; 1990 c 250 § 3. Formerly RCW 46.16.309.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.18.020 Rules.** The director shall adopt rules to implement this chapter, including the setting of fees. [2011 c 171 § 64; 2010 c 161 § 631; 1990 c 250 § 10. Formerly RCW 46.16.335.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## REVIEW BOARD

**46.18.050 Department duties—Applications, financial reports.** The department shall:

(1) Process special license plate applications and confirm that the sponsoring organization has submitted all required documentation. If an incomplete application is received, the department must return it to the sponsoring organization; and

(2) Compile the annual financial reports submitted by sponsoring organizations with active special license plate series. [2011 c 171 § 65. Prior: 2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 93; 2010 c 161 § 603; 2005 c 319 § 118; 2003 c 196 § 102. Formerly RCW 46.16.715.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Part headings not law—2003 c 196:** See note following RCW 46.18.005.

**46.18.060 Department duties continued—Moratorium on issuance of special license plates (as amended by 2011 c 171). (Effective until January 1, 2013.)** (1) ~~((The creation of the board does not in any way preclude the authority of the legislature to independently propose and enact special license plate legislation.~~

~~((2)) The ~~((board))~~ department must review and either approve or reject special license plate applications submitted by sponsoring organizations.~~

~~((3)) (2) Duties of the ~~((board))~~ department include, but are not limited to the following:~~

~~(a) Review and approve the annual financial reports submitted by sponsoring organizations with active special license plate series and present those annual financial reports to the senate and house transportation committees;~~

~~(b) Report annually to the senate and house of representatives transportation committees on the special license plate applications that were considered by the ~~((board))~~ department;~~

~~(c) Issue approval and rejection notification letters to sponsoring organizations, ~~((the department,))~~ the chairs of the senate and house of representatives transportation committees, and the legislative sponsors identified in each application. The letters must be issued within seven days of making a determination on the status of an application; and~~

~~(d) Review annually the number of plates sold for each special license plate series created after January 1, 2003. The ~~((board))~~ department may submit a recommendation to discontinue a special plate series to the chairs of the senate and house of representatives transportation committees~~(; and~~~~

~~(e) Provide policy guidance and directions to the department concerning the adoption of rules necessary to limit the number of special license plates for which an organization or a governmental entity may apply).~~

~~((4)) (3) Except as provided in RCW 46.18.245, in order to assess the effects and impact of the proliferation of special license plates, the legislature declares a temporary moratorium on the issuance of any additional plates until July 1, 2011. During this period of time, ~~((the special license plate review board created in RCW 46.16.705 and))~~ the department ~~((are))~~ is prohibited from accepting, reviewing, processing, or approving any applications. Additionally, a special license plate may not be enacted by the legislature during the moratorium, unless the proposed license plate has been approved by the former special license plate review board before February 15, 2005. [2011 c 171 § 66. Prior: 2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 94; 2010 c 161 § 604; 2009 c 470 § 710; 2008 c 72 § 2; 2007 c 518 § 711; prior: 2005 c 319 § 119; 2005 c 210 § 7; 2003 c 196 § 103. Formerly RCW 46.16.725.]~~

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.18.060 Department duties continued—Moratorium on issuance of special license plates (as amended by 2011 c 225). (Effective until January 1, 2013.)** (1) ~~((The creation of the board does not in any way preclude the authority of the legislature to independently propose and enact special license plate legislation.~~

~~((2)) The ~~((board))~~ department must review and either approve or reject special license plate applications submitted by sponsoring organizations.~~

~~((3)) (2) Duties of the ~~((board))~~ department include but are not limited to the following:~~

~~(a) Review and approve the annual financial reports submitted by sponsoring organizations with active special license plate series and present those annual financial reports to the ~~((senate and house transportation committees))~~ joint transportation committee;~~

~~(b) Report annually to the ~~((senate and house of representatives transportation committees))~~ joint transportation committee on the special license plate applications that were considered by the ~~((board))~~ department;~~

~~(c) Issue approval and rejection notification letters to sponsoring organizations, ~~((the department,))~~ the ~~((chairs of the senate and house of representatives transportation committees))~~ joint transportation committee, and the legislative sponsors identified in each application. The letters must be issued within seven days of making a determination on the status of an application; and~~

~~(d) Review annually the number of plates sold for each special license plate series created after January 1, 2003. The ~~((board))~~ department may submit a recommendation to discontinue a special plate series to the ~~((chairs of the senate and house of representatives transportation committees; and~~~~

~~(e) Provide policy guidance and directions to the department concerning the adoption of rules necessary to limit the number of special license plates for which an organization or a governmental entity may apply))~~ joint transportation committee.

~~((4)) (3) Except as provided in RCW 46.18.245, in order to assess the effects and impact of the proliferation of special license plates, the legislature declares a temporary moratorium on the issuance of any additional plates until July 1, 2011. During this period of time, ~~((the special license plate review board created in RCW 46.16.705 and))~~ the department ~~((are))~~ is prohibited from accepting, reviewing, processing, or approving any applications. Additionally, a special license plate may not be enacted by the legislature during the moratorium, unless the proposed license plate has been approved by the former special license plate review board before February 15, 2005.~~

~~(4) The volunteer firefighters license plates created under RCW 46.18.200 are exempt from the requirements of subsection (3) of this section. [2011 c 225 § 4. Prior: 2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 94; 2010 c 161 § 604; 2009 c 470 § 710; 2008 c 72 § 2; 2007 c 518 § 711; prior: 2005 c 319 § 119; 2005 c 210 § 7; 2003 c 196 § 103. Formerly RCW 46.16.725.]~~

**Effective date—2011 c 225:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**46.18.060 Department duties continued—Moratorium on issuance of special license plates (as amended by 2011 c 229). (Effective until January 1, 2013.)** (1) ~~((The creation of the board does not in any way preclude the authority of the legislature to independently propose and enact special license plate legislation.~~

~~((2)) The ~~((board))~~ department must review and either approve or reject special license plate applications submitted by sponsoring organizations.~~

~~((3)) (2) Duties of the ~~((board))~~ department include, but are not limited to the following:~~

~~(a) Review and approve the annual financial reports submitted by sponsoring organizations with active special license plate series and present those annual financial reports to the ~~((senate and house transportation committees))~~ joint transportation committee;~~

~~(b) Report annually to the ~~((senate and house of representatives transportation committees))~~ joint transportation committee on the special license plate applications that were considered by the ~~((board))~~ department;~~

~~(c) Issue approval and rejection notification letters to sponsoring organizations, ~~((the department,))~~ the ~~((chairs of the senate and house of representatives transportation committees))~~ joint transportation committee, and the legislative sponsors identified in each application. The letters must be issued within seven days of making a determination on the status of an application; and~~

~~(d) Review annually the number of plates sold for each special license plate series created after January 1, 2003. The ~~((board))~~ department may submit a recommendation to discontinue a special plate series to the chairs of the ~~((senate and house of representatives transportation committees; and~~~~

~~(e) Provide policy guidance and directions to the department concerning the adoption of rules necessary to limit the number of special license plates for which an organization or a governmental entity may apply))~~ joint transportation committee.

~~((4)) (3) Except as provided in RCW 46.18.245, in order to assess the effects and impact of the proliferation of special license plates, the legislature declares a temporary moratorium on the issuance of any additional plates until July 1, 2011. During this period of time, ~~((the special license plate review board created in RCW 46.16.705 and))~~ the department ~~((are))~~ is prohibited from accepting, reviewing, processing, or approving any applications. Additionally, a special license plate may not be enacted by the legislature during the moratorium, unless the proposed license plate has been approved by the former special license plate review board before February 15, 2005.~~

~~(4) The Music Matters license plates created under RCW 46.18.200 are exempt from the requirements of subsection (3) of this section. [2011 c 229 § 5. Prior: 2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 94; 2010 c 161 § 604; 2009 c 470 § 710; 2008 c 72 § 2; 2007 c 518 § 711; prior: 2005 c 319 § 119; 2005 c 210 § 7; 2003 c 196 § 103. Formerly RCW 46.16.725.]~~

**Effective date—2011 c 229:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**46.18.060 Department duties continued—Moratorium on issuance of special license plates (as amended by 2011 c 367). (Effective until January 1, 2013.)** (1) The department must review and either approve or reject special license plate applications submitted by sponsoring organizations.

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

(a) Review and approve the annual financial reports submitted by sponsoring organizations with active special license plate series and present those annual financial reports to the ~~(senate and house transportation committee)~~ joint transportation committee;

(b) Report annually to the ~~(senate and house of representatives transportation committees)~~ joint transportation committee on the special license plate applications that were considered by the department;

(c) Issue approval and rejection notification letters to sponsoring organizations, the department, the ~~(chairs of the senate and house of representatives transportation committees)~~ executive committee of the joint transportation committee, and the legislative sponsors identified in each application. The letters must be issued within seven days of making a determination on the status of an application; and

(d) Review annually the number of plates sold for each special license plate series created after January 1, 2003. The department may submit a recommendation to discontinue a special license plate series to the ~~(chairs of the senate and house of representatives transportation committees)~~ executive committee of the joint transportation committee.

(3) Except as provided in RCW 46.18.245, in order to assess the effects and impact of the proliferation of special license plates, the legislature declares a temporary moratorium on the issuance of any additional plates until July 1, ~~(2014)~~ 2013. During this period of time, the department is prohibited from accepting, reviewing, processing, or approving any applications. Additionally, a special license plate may not be enacted by the legislature during the moratorium, unless the proposed license plate has been approved by the former special license plate review board before February 15, 2005. [2011 c 367 § 703. Prior: 2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 94; 2010 c 161 § 604; 2009 c 470 § 710; 2008 c 72 § 2; 2007 c 518 § 711; prior: 2005 c 319 § 119; 2005 c 210 § 7; 2003 c 196 § 103. Formerly RCW 46.16.725.]

**Reviser's note:** RCW 46.18.060 was amended four times during the 2011 legislative session, each without reference to the other. For rule of construction concerning sections amended more than once during the same legislative session, see RCW 1.12.025.

**Effective date—2011 c 367 §§ 703, 704, 716, and 719:** "Sections 703, 704, 716, and 719 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect July 1, 2011." [2011 c 367 § 1103.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2009 c 470:** See note following RCW 46.68.170.

**Severability—Effective date—2007 c 518:** See notes following RCW 46.68.170.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Part headings not law—2003 c 196:** See note following RCW 46.18.005.

**46.18.060 Department duties continued—Moratorium on issuance of special license plates, exceptions. (Effective January 1, 2013.)** (1) The department must review and either approve or reject special license plate applications submitted by sponsoring organizations.

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

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

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

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

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

(3) Except as provided in RCW 46.18.245, in order to assess the effects and impact of the proliferation of special license plates, the legislature

declares a temporary moratorium on the issuance of any additional plates until July 1, 2013. During this period of time, the department is prohibited from accepting, reviewing, processing, or approving any applications. Additionally, a special license plate may not be enacted by the legislature during the moratorium, unless the proposed license plate has been approved by the former special license plate review board before February 15, 2005.

(4) The limitations under subsection (3) of this section do not apply to the following special license plates:

(a) 4-H license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

(b) Music Matters license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

(c) State flower license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

(d) Volunteer firefighter license plates created under RCW 46.18.200.

[2012 c 65 § 6. Prior: 2011 c 367 § 703; 2011 c 229 § 5; 2011 c 225 § 4; 2011 c 171 § 66; prior: 2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 94; 2010 c 161 § 604; 2009 c 470 § 710; 2008 c 72 § 2; 2007 c 518 § 711; prior: 2005 c 319 § 119; 2005 c 210 § 7; 2003 c 196 § 103. Formerly RCW 46.16.725.]

**Effective date—2012 c 65:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**Effective date—2011 c 367 §§ 703, 704, 716, and 719:** "Sections 703, 704, 716, and 719 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect July 1, 2011." [2011 c 367 § 1103.]

**Effective date—2011 c 229:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**Effective date—2011 c 225:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2009 c 470:** See note following RCW 46.68.170.

**Severability—Effective date—2007 c 518:** See notes following RCW 46.68.170.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Part headings not law—2003 c 196:** See note following RCW 46.18.005.

## REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

### 46.18.100 Sponsoring organization requirements.

(1) For an organization to qualify for a special license plate under the special license plate approval program created in this chapter, the sponsoring organization must submit documentation in conjunction with the application to the department that verifies that the organization is:

(a) A nonprofit organization, as defined in 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3). The department may request a copy of an Internal Revenue Service ruling to verify an organization's nonprofit status; and

(b) Located in Washington state and has registered as a charitable organization with the secretary of state's office as required by law.

(2) For a governmental body to qualify for a special license plate under the special license plate approval program created in this chapter, a governmental body must be:

(a) A political subdivision including, but not limited to, any county, city, town, municipal corporation, or special purpose taxing district that has the express permission of the political subdivision's executive body to sponsor a special license plate;

(b) A federally recognized tribal government that has received the approval of the executive body of that government to sponsor a special license plate;

(c) A state agency that has received approval from the director of the agency or the department head; or

(d) A community or technical college that has the express permission of the college's board of trustees to sponsor a special license plate. [2010 c 161 § 605; 2004 c 222 § 3; 2003 c 196 § 201. Formerly RCW 46.16.735.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Part headings not law—2003 c 196:** See note following RCW 46.18.005.

**46.18.110 Application requirements.** (1) A sponsoring organization meeting the requirements of RCW 46.18.100, applying for the creation of a special license plate must, on an application supplied by the department, provide the minimum application requirements in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) The sponsoring organization shall:

(a) Submit prepayment of all start-up costs associated with the creation and implementation of the special license plate in an amount determined by the department. The department shall place this money into the special license plate applicant trust account created under RCW 46.68.380;

(b) Provide a proposed license plate design;

(c) Provide a marketing strategy outlining short and long-term marketing plans for each special license plate and a financial analysis outlining the anticipated revenue and the planned expenditures of the revenues derived from the sale of the special license plate;

(d) Provide a signature of a legislative sponsor and proposed legislation creating the special license plate;

(e) Provide proof of organizational qualifications as determined by the department as provided for in RCW 46.18.100;

(f) Provide signature sheets that include signatures from individuals who intend to purchase the special license plate and the number of plates each individual intends to purchase. The sheets must reflect a minimum of three thousand five hundred intended purchases of the special license plate.

(3) After an application is approved by the department, the application need not be reviewed again for a period of three years. [2011 c 171 § 67. Prior: 2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 95; 2010 c 161 § 606; 2005 c 210 § 8; 2003 c 196 § 301. Formerly RCW 46.16.745.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Part headings not law—2003 c 196:** See note following RCW 46.18.005.

**46.18.120 Written agreement—Financial report.** (1) Within thirty days of legislative enactment of a new special license plate series for a qualifying organization meeting the requirements of RCW 46.18.100(1), the department shall enter into a written agreement with the organization that sponsored the special license plate. The agreement must identify the services to be performed by the sponsoring organization. The agreement must be consistent with all applicable state law and include the following provision:

"No portion of any funds disbursed under the agreement may be used, directly or indirectly, for any of the following purposes:

(a) Attempting to influence: (i) The passage or defeat of legislation by the legislature of the state of Washington, by a county, city, town, or other political subdivision of the state of Washington, or by the Congress; or (ii) the adoption or rejection of a rule, standard, rate, or other legislative enactment of a state agency;

(b) Making contributions reportable under \*chapter 42.17 RCW; or

(c) Providing a: (i) Gift; (ii) honoraria; or (iii) travel, lodging, meals, or entertainment to a public officer or employee."

(2) The sponsoring organization must submit an annual financial report by September 30th of each year to the department detailing actual revenues and expenditures of the revenues received from sales of the special license plate. Consistent with the agreement under subsection (1) of this section, the sponsoring organization must expend the revenues generated from the sale of the special license plate series for the benefit of the public, and it must be spent within this state. Disbursement of the revenue generated from the sale of the special license plate to the sponsoring organization is contingent upon the organization meeting all reporting and review requirements as required by the department.

(3) If the sponsoring organization ceases to exist or the purpose of the special license plate series ceases to exist, revenues generated from the sale of the special license plates must be deposited into the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070.

(4) A sponsoring organization may not seek to redesign its special license plate series until the entire inventory is sold or purchased by the organization itself. All costs for the redesign of a special license plate series must be paid by the sponsoring organization. [2010 c 161 § 608; 2003 c 196 § 303. Formerly RCW 46.16.765.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Provisions in chapter 42.17 RCW relating to campaign disclosure and contribution were recodified in chapter 42.17A RCW by 2010 c 204, effective January 1, 2012.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Part headings not law—2003 c 196:** See note following RCW 46.18.005.

**46.18.130 Disposition of revenues.** (1) Revenues generated from the sale of special license plates for those sponsoring organizations who used the application process in RCW 46.68.110 must be deposited into the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070 until the department determines that the state's implementation costs have been fully reimbursed.

(2) When it is determined that the state has been fully reimbursed the department must notify the house of representatives and senate transportation committees, the sponsoring organization, and the state treasurer, and begin distributing the revenue as otherwise provided by law.

(3) If reimbursement does not occur within two years from the date the special license plate is first offered for sale to the public, the special license plate series must be placed in



probationary status for a period of one year from that date. If the state is still not fully reimbursed for its implementation costs after the one-year probation, the special license plate series must be discontinued immediately. Special license plates issued before discontinuation are valid until replaced under RCW 46.16A.200(10).

(4) The department shall:

(a) Provide the special license plate applicant with a written receipt for the payment; and

(b) Maintain a record of each special license plate applicant trust account deposit including, but not limited to, the name and address of each special license plate applicant whose funds are being deposited, the amount paid, and the date of the deposit.

(5) After the department receives written notice that the special license plate applicant's application has been approved by the legislature, the director shall request that the money be transferred to the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070.

(6) After the department receives written notice that the special license plate applicant's application has been denied by the department or the legislature, the director shall provide a refund to the applicant within thirty days.

(7) After the department receives written notice that the special license plate applicant's application has been withdrawn by the special license plate applicant, the director shall provide a refund to the applicant within thirty days. [2011 c 171 § 68. Prior: 2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 96; 2010 c 161 § 607; 2004 c 222 § 4; 2003 c 196 § 302. Formerly RCW 46.16.755.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—2010 1st sp.s. c 26; 2010 1st sp.s. c 7:** See note following RCW 43.03.027.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Part headings not law—2003 c 196:** See note following RCW 46.18.005.

**46.18.140 Nonreviewed special license plates.** (1) A special license plate series created by the legislature after January 1, 2011, that has not been reviewed and approved by the department is subject to the following requirements:

(a) The organization sponsoring the license plate series shall, within thirty days of enactment of the legislation creating the special license plate series, submit prepayment of all start-up costs associated with the creation and implementation of the special license plate in an amount determined by the department. The prepayment will be credited to the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070. The creation and implementation of the special license plate series may not begin until payment is received by the department.

(b) If the sponsoring organization is not able to meet the prepayment requirements in (a) of this subsection and can demonstrate this fact to the satisfaction of the department, the revenues generated from the sale of the special license plates must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070 until the department determines that the state's portion of the implementation costs have been fully reimbursed. When it has determined that the state has been fully

reimbursed, the department must notify the treasurer to commence distribution of the revenue according to statutory provisions.

(c) The sponsoring organization must provide a proposed special license plate design to the department within thirty days of enactment of the legislation creating the special license plate series.

(2) The state must be reimbursed for its portion of the implementation costs within two years from the date the new special license plate series goes on sale to the public. If the reimbursement does not occur within the two-year time frame, the special license plate series must be placed in probationary status for a period of one year from that date. If the state is still not fully reimbursed for its implementation costs after the one-year probation, the special license plate series must be discontinued immediately. Those special license plates issued before discontinuation are valid until replaced under RCW 46.16A.200(10).

(3) If the sponsoring organization ceases to exist or the purpose of the special license plate series ceases to exist, revenues generated from the sale of the special license plates must be deposited into the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070.

(4) A sponsoring organization may not seek to redesign its special license plate series until the entire existing inventory is sold or purchased by the organization itself. All costs for the redesign of a special license plate series must be paid by the sponsoring organization. [2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 97; 2010 c 161 § 609; 2003 c 196 § 304. Formerly RCW 46.16.775.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2010 c 161 § 609 and by 2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 97, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2010 1st sp.s. c 26; 2010 1st sp.s. c 7:** See note following RCW 43.03.027.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Part headings not law—2003 c 196:** See note following RCW 46.18.005.

**46.18.150 Design services—Fees.** The department shall offer special license plate design services to organizations that are sponsoring a new special license plate series and organizations seeking to redesign the appearance of an existing special license plate series that they sponsored. In providing this service, the department must work with the requesting organization in determining the specific qualities of the new special license plate design and must provide full design services to the organization. The department shall collect from the requesting organization a fee of two hundred dollars for providing special license plate design services. This fee includes one original special license plate design and up to five additional renditions of the original design. If the organization requests the department to provide further renditions, in addition to the five renditions provided for under the original fee, the department shall collect an additional fee of one hundred dollars per rendition. All revenue collected under this section must be deposited into the multimodal transportation account created in RCW 47.66.070. [2010 c 161 § 610; 2005 c 210 § 6; 2003 c 361 § 502. Formerly RCW 46.16.690.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Findings—Part headings not law—Severability—2003 c 361:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**Effective dates—2003 c 361:** See note following RCW 82.08.020.

#### PLATE TYPES, DECALS, AND EMBLEMS

**46.18.200 Department-approved plate types. (Effective until January 1, 2013.)** (1) Special license plate series reviewed and approved by the department:

##### LICENSE PLATE

Armed forces collection

Endangered wildlife

Gonzaga University alumni association

Helping kids speak

Keep kids safe

Law enforcement memorial

Music matters

Professional firefighters and paramedics

Share the road

Ski & ride Washington

Volunteer firefighters

Washington lighthouses

Washington state parks

Washington's national park fund

Washington's wildlife collection

We love our pets

Wild on Washington

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

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

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

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

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

(2) The department approves and shall issue the following special license plates:

##### DESCRIPTION, SYMBOL, OR ARTWORK

Recognizes the contribution of veterans, active duty military personnel, reservists, and members of the national guard, and includes six separate designs, each containing a symbol representing a different branch of the armed forces to include army, navy, air force, marine corps, coast guard, and national guard.

Displays a symbol or artwork, approved by the special license plate review board and the legislature.

Recognizes the Gonzaga University alumni association.

Recognizes an organization that supports programs that provide no-cost speech pathology programs to children.

Recognizes efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Honors law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line of duty.

Displays the "Music Matters" logo.

Recognizes professional firefighters and paramedics who are members of the Washington state council of firefighters.

Recognizes an organization that promotes bicycle safety and awareness education.

Recognizes the Washington snowsports industry.

Recognizes volunteer firefighters.

Recognizes an organization that supports selected Washington state lighthouses and provides environmental education programs.

Recognizes Washington state parks as premier destinations of uncommon quality that preserve significant natural, cultural, historical, and recreational resources.

Builds awareness of Washington's national parks and supports priority park programs and projects in Washington's national parks, such as enhancing visitor experience, promoting volunteerism, engaging communities, and providing educational opportunities related to Washington's national parks.

Recognizes Washington's wildlife.

Recognizes an organization that assists local member agencies of the federation of animal welfare and control agencies to promote and perform spay/neuter surgery on Washington state pets to reduce pet overpopulation.

Symbolizes wildlife viewing in Washington state.

(4) Applicants for initial volunteer firefighters special license plates must (a) have been a volunteer firefighter for at least ten years or be a volunteer firefighter for one or more years and (b) have documentation of service from the district of the appropriate fire service. If the volunteer firefighter leaves firefighting service before ten years of service have

been completed, the volunteer firefighter shall surrender the license plates to the department on the registration renewal date. If the volunteer firefighter stays in service for at least ten years and then leaves, the license plate may be retained by the former volunteer firefighter and as long as the license plate is retained for use the person will continue to pay the future registration renewals. A qualifying volunteer firefighter may have no more than one set of license plates per vehicle, and a maximum of two sets per applicant, for their personal vehicles. If the volunteer firefighter is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or a felony, the license plates must be surrendered upon conviction. [2011 c 229 § 1; 2011 c 225 § 1; 2011 c 171 § 69; 2010 c 161 § 611.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2011 c 171 § 69, 2011 c 225 § 1, and by 2011 c 229 § 1, each without reference to the other. All amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2011 c 229:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2012." [2011 c 229 § 6.]

**Effective date—2011 c 225:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2012." [2011 c 225 § 5.]

LICENSE PLATE	DESCRIPTION, SYMBOL, OR ARTWORK
4-H Armed forces collection	Displays the "4-H" logo. Recognizes the contribution of veterans, active duty military personnel, reservists, and members of the national guard, and includes six separate designs, each containing a symbol representing a different branch of the armed forces to include army, navy, air force, marine corps, coast guard, and national guard.
Endangered wildlife	Displays a symbol or artwork, approved by the special license plate review board and the legislature.
Gonzaga University alumni association	Recognizes the Gonzaga University alumni association.
Helping kids speak	Recognizes an organization that supports programs that provide no-cost speech pathology programs to children.
Keep kids safe	Recognizes efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect.
Law enforcement memorial	Honors law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line of duty.
Music matters	Displays the "Music Matters" logo.
Professional firefighters and paramedics	Recognizes professional firefighters and paramedics who are members of the Washington state council of firefighters.
Share the road	Recognizes an organization that promotes bicycle safety and awareness education.
Ski & ride Washington	Recognizes the Washington snowsports industry.
State flower	Recognizes the Washington state flower.
Volunteer firefighters	Recognizes volunteer firefighters.
Washington lighthouses	Recognizes an organization that supports selected Washington state lighthouses and provides environmental education programs.
Washington state parks	Recognizes Washington state parks as premier destinations of uncommon quality that preserve significant natural, cultural, historical, and recreational resources.
Washington's national park fund	Builds awareness of Washington's national parks and supports priority park programs and projects in Washington's national parks, such as enhancing visitor experience, promoting volunteerism, engaging communities, and providing educational opportunities related to Washington's national parks.
Washington's wildlife collection	Recognizes Washington's wildlife.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.200 Department-approved plate types. (Effective January 1, 2013.)** (1) Special license plate series reviewed and approved by the department:

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

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

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

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

(2) The department approves and shall issue the following special license plates:

We love our pets

Wild on Washington

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

(4) Applicants for initial volunteer firefighters special license plates must (a) have been a volunteer firefighter for at least ten years or be a volunteer firefighter for one or more years and (b) have documentation of service from the district of the appropriate fire service. If the volunteer firefighter leaves firefighting service before ten years of service have been completed, the volunteer firefighter shall surrender the license plates to the department on the registration renewal date. If the volunteer firefighter stays in service for at least ten years and then leaves, the license plate may be retained by the former volunteer firefighter and as long as the license plate is retained for use the person will continue to pay the future registration renewals. A qualifying volunteer firefighter may have no more than one set of license plates per vehicle, and a maximum of two sets per applicant, for their personal vehicles. If the volunteer firefighter is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or a felony, the license plates must be surrendered upon conviction. [2012 c 65 § 1. Prior: 2011 c 229 § 1; 2011 c 225 § 1; 2011 c 171 § 69; 2010 c 161 § 611.]

**Effective date—2012 c 65:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2013." [2012 c 65 § 7.]

**Effective date—2011 c 229:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2012." [2011 c 229 § 6.]

**Effective date—2011 c 225:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2012." [2011 c 225 § 5.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.205 Amateur radio license plates.** (1) A registered owner may apply to the department for special license plates showing the official amateur radio call letters assigned by the federal communications commission. The amateur radio operator must:

(a) Provide a copy of the current valid federal communications commission amateur radio license;

(b) Pay the amateur radio license plate fee required under \*RCW 46.17.220(1)(a), in addition to any other fees and taxes due; and

(c) Be recorded as the registered owner of the vehicle on which the amateur radio license plates will be displayed.

(2) Amateur radio license plates must be issued only for motor vehicles owned by persons who have a valid official radio operator license issued by the federal communications commission.

(3) The department shall not issue or may refuse to issue amateur radio license plates that display the consecutive letters "WSP."

Recognizes an organization that assists local member agencies of the federation of animal welfare and control agencies to promote and perform spay/neuter surgery on Washington state pets to reduce pet overpopulation.

Symbolizes wildlife viewing in Washington state.

(4) A person who has been issued amateur radio operator license plates as provided in this section must:

(a) Notify the department within thirty days after the federal communications commission license assigned is canceled or expires, and return the amateur radio license plates; and

(b) Provide a copy of the renewed federal communications commission license to the department after it is renewed.

(5) Amateur radio license plates may be transferred from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the amateur radio operator upon application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director.

(6) Facilities of official amateur radio stations may be utilized to the fullest extent in the work of governmental agencies. The director shall furnish the state military department, the department of commerce, the Washington state patrol, and all county sheriffs a list of the names, addresses, and license plate or official amateur radio call letters of each person possessing the amateur radio license plates.

(7) Failure to return the amateur radio license plates as required under subsection (4) of this section is a traffic infraction. [2010 c 161 § 616.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 46.17.220 was amended by 2012 c 65 § 4, changing subsection (1)(a) to subsection (1)(b), effective January 1, 2013.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.210 Armed forces license plates.** (1) A registered owner may apply to the department for special armed forces license plates for motor vehicles representing the following:

- (a) Air force;
- (b) Army;
- (c) Coast guard;
- (d) Marine corps;
- (e) National guard; or
- (f) Navy.

(2) Armed forces license plates may be purchased by:

- (a) Active duty military personnel;
- (b) Families of veterans and service members;
- (c) Members of the national guard;
- (d) Reservists; or
- (e) Veterans, as defined in RCW 41.04.007.

(3) A person who applies for special armed forces license plates shall provide:

(a) DD-214 or discharge papers if the applicant is a veteran;

(b) A military identification card or retired military identification card; or

(c) A declaration of fact attesting to the applicant's eligibility as required under this section.

(4) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Child" includes stepchild, adopted child, foster child, grandchild, or son or daughter-in-law.

(b) "Family" or "families" includes an individual's spouse, child, parent, sibling, aunt, uncle, or cousin.

(c) "Parent" includes stepparent, grandparent, or in-laws.

(d) "Sibling" includes brother, half brother, stepbrother, sister, half sister, stepsister, or brother or sister-in-law.

(5) Armed forces license plates are not free of charge to disabled veterans, former prisoners of war, or spouses or domestic partners of deceased former prisoners of war under RCW 46.18.235. [2010 c 161 § 612.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.212 Armed forces decals.** (1) The department must make available, upon request by a purchaser of special armed forces license plates, at no additional cost, a decal indicating the purchaser's military status. The list of available decals must include, but is not limited to:

(a) Active duty;

(b) Disabled veteran;

(c) Reservist;

(d) Retiree;

(e) Veteran; or

(f) Other decals established in cooperation with the department of veterans affairs.

(2) Armed forces decals must be made available only for standard six-inch by twelve-inch license plates. The department may specify where the decal may be placed on the license plate.

(3) The department of veterans affairs must enter into an agreement with the department to reimburse the department for the costs associated with providing military status decals described in this section. [2010 c 161 § 613.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.215 Baseball stadium license plates.** The department shall create, design, and issue a special baseball stadium license plate that may be used in lieu of standard issue or personalized license plates for motor vehicles required to display one or two license plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the department. The special license plates commemorate the construction of a baseball stadium, as defined in RCW 82.14.0485. The department shall also issue to each recipient of a special baseball stadium license plate a certificate of participation in the construction of the baseball stadium. [2011 c 332 § 3; 2010 c 161 § 614; 1997 c 291 § 5; 1995 3rd sp.s. c 1 § 102; 1994 c 194 § 2; 1990 c 250 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.16.301.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Finding—1997 c 291:** "The legislature finds that the proliferation of special license plate series has decreased the ready identification of vehicles by law enforcement, and increased the amount of computer programming conducted by the department of licensing, thereby increasing costs. Furthermore, rarely has the actual demand for special license plates met the requesters' projections. Most importantly, special plates detract from the primary purpose of license plates, that of vehicle identification." [1997 c 291 § 1.]

*State contribution for baseball stadium limited: RCW 82.14.0486.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.18.220 Collector vehicle license plates.** (1) A registered owner may apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a collector vehicle license plate for a motor vehicle that is at least thirty years old. The motor vehicle must be operated primarily as a collector vehicle and be in good running order. The applicant for the collector vehicle license plate shall:

(a) Purchase a registration for the motor vehicle as required under chapters 46.16A and 46.17 RCW; and

(b) Pay the special license plate fee established under \*RCW 46.17.220(1)(d), in addition to any other fees or taxes required by law.

(2) A person applying for a collector vehicle license plate may:

(a) Receive a collector vehicle license plate assigned by the department; or

(b) Provide an actual Washington state issued license plate designated for general use in the year of the vehicle's manufacture.

(3) Collector vehicle license plates:

(a) Are valid for the life of the motor vehicle;

(b) Are not required to be renewed; and

(c) Must be displayed on the rear of the motor vehicle.

(4) A collector vehicle registered under this section may only be used for participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades, and occasional pleasure driving.

(5) Collector vehicle license plates under subsection (2)(b) of this section may be transferred from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle described in subsection (1) of this section upon application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director.

(6) Any person who knowingly provides a false or facsimile license plate under subsection (2)(b) of this section is subject to a traffic infraction and fine in an amount equal to the monetary penalty for a violation of RCW 46.16A.200(7)(b). Additionally, the person must pay for the cost of a collector vehicle license plate as listed in \*RCW 46.17.220(1)(d), unless already paid. [2011 c 243 § 1; 2011 c 171 § 70; 2010 c 161 § 617.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 46.17.220 was amended by 2012 c 65 § 4, changing subsection (1)(d) to subsection (1)(e), effective January 1, 2013.

(2) This section was amended by 2011 c 171 § 70 and by 2011 c 243 § 1, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2011 c 243 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act takes effect August 1, 2011." [2011 c 243 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.2201 Collector vehicle license plates—Vehicle information and identification.** The department must provide a method by which law enforcement officers may readily access vehicle information for collector vehicles by using the collector vehicle license plate number. In the event duplicate license plate numbers have been issued to more than one

collector vehicle, the department must provide a method for law enforcement officers to identify the correct vehicle. [2011 c 243 § 2.]

**Effective date—2011 c 243 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act takes effect January 1, 2012." [2011 c 243 § 4.]

**46.18.225 Collegiate license plates.** A state university, regional university, or state college as defined in RCW 28B.10.016 may apply to the department, in a form approved by the department and request the department to issue a series of collegiate license plates, for display on motor vehicles required to display one or two license plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the department, depicting the name and mascot or symbol of the college or university, as submitted and approved for use by the requesting institution. [2011 c 332 § 4; 2010 c 161 § 615; 1994 c 194 § 3. Formerly RCW 46.16.324.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.230 Congressional medal of honor license plates.** (1) A registered owner who has been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor may apply to the department for special license plates for use on a motor vehicle required to display one or two license plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the department. The Congressional Medal of Honor recipient must:

(a) Provide proof from the Washington state department of veterans affairs showing receipt of the medal; and

(b) Be recorded as the registered owner of the motor vehicle on which the Congressional Medal of Honor license plate or plates will be displayed.

(2) Congressional Medal of Honor license plates must be issued:

(a) Only for a personal motor vehicle owned by persons who have received the Congressional Medal of Honor; and

(b) Without payment of vehicle license fees, license plate fees, and motor vehicle excise taxes.

(3) Congressional Medal of Honor license plates must be replaced, free of charge, if the license plates become lost, stolen, damaged, defaced, or destroyed.

(4) A Congressional Medal of Honor license plate or plates may be transferred, free of charge, from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the Congressional Medal of Honor recipient upon application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director. [2011 c 332 § 5; 2010 c 161 § 618.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.235 Disabled American veteran or former prisoner of war license plates.** (1) A registered owner who is a veteran, as defined in RCW 41.04.007, may apply to the department for disabled American veteran or former prisoner of war license plates, for use on one personal use motor vehicle required to display one or two license plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the department. The veteran

must be recorded as the registered owner of the motor vehicle on which the disabled American veteran or former prisoner of war license plate or plates will be displayed and:

(a) Provide certification from the veterans administration or the military service from which the veteran was discharged that the veteran has a service-connected disability rating;

(b) Have lost the use of both hands or one foot;

(c) Have been captured and incarcerated by an enemy of the United States during a period of war with the United States and have received a prisoner of war medal;

(d) Have become blind in both eyes as the result of military service; or

(e) Be rated by the veterans administration or the military service from which the veteran was discharged and be receiving service-connected compensation at the one hundred percent rate that is expected to exist for more than one year.

(2) The special license plates under this section must:

(a) Display distinguishing marks, letters, or numerals indicating that the registered owner is a disabled American veteran or former prisoner of war; and

(b) Be issued for one personal use vehicle without the payment of any vehicle license fees, license plate fees, or excise taxes.

(3) A registered owner who is a veteran, as defined in RCW 41.04.007, may, in lieu of applying for the special license plates under this section, apply for regular issue or any qualifying special license plate and receive the full benefit of the vehicle license fee and excise tax exemption provided in subsection (2)(b) of this section.

(4) The department may periodically verify the one hundred percent rate as described in subsection (1)(e) of this section.

(5) A veteran who has been issued disabled American veteran or former prisoner of war license plates under this section before July 1, 1983, continues to be eligible for the vehicle license fee and excise tax exemption described in subsection (2)(b) of this section.

(6) A disabled American veteran and former prisoner of war license plate or plates may be transferred from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the veteran upon application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director.

(7) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Blind" means the definition of "blind" used by the state of Washington in determining eligibility for financial assistance to the blind under Title 74 RCW; and

(b) "Special license plates" does not include any plate from the armed forces license plate collection established in \*RCW 46.18.200(3).

(8) Any unauthorized use of a special license plate under this section is a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 332 § 6; 2010 c 161 § 619.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 46.18.200 was amended by 2011 c 229 § 1, 2011 c 225 § 1, and 2011 c 171 § 69, each changing subsection (3) to subsection (2).

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.240 Foreign organization license plates.** (1) A registered owner who is an officer of the Taipei economic and cultural office may apply to the department for special license plates for a motor vehicle owned or leased by the officer. The special license plates must:

- (a) Be issued for passenger vehicles having a manufacturer's rated carrying capacity of one ton or less;
- (b) Show the words "Foreign Organization";
- (c) Be in a distinguishing color and a separate numerical series;
- (d) Be returned to the department when no longer in use or when the owner or lessee is relieved of his or her duties as a representative of the recognized foreign organization; and
- (e) Be removed from the vehicle when the officer of the Taipei economic and cultural office transfers or assigns the interest or certificate of title in the motor vehicle for which the special license plates were issued.

(2) Motor vehicles described in subsection (1) of this section are exempt from the vehicle license fees under RCW 46.17.350.

(3) Foreign organization license plates may be transferred from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the officer as described in subsection (1) of this section upon application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director.

(4) The Taipei economic and cultural office shall bear the entire cost of production of the special license plates described in subsection (1) of this section. [2010 c 161 § 620.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.245 Gold star license plates.** (1) A registered owner who is the mother or father of a member of the United States armed forces who died while in service to his or her country, or as a result of his or her service, may apply to the department for special gold star license plates for use on a motor vehicle. The registered owner must:

- (a) Be a resident of this state;
- (b) Provide certification from the Washington state department of veterans affairs that the registered owner qualifies for the special license plate under this section;
- (c) Be recorded as the registered owner of the motor vehicle on which the gold star license plates will be displayed; and
- (d) Pay all fees and taxes required by law for registering the motor vehicle.

(2) Gold star license plates must be issued:

- (a) Only for motor vehicles owned by qualifying applicants; and
  - (b) Without payment of any license plate fee.
- (3) Gold star license plates must be replaced, free of charge, if the license plates become lost, stolen, damaged, defaced, or destroyed.

(4) Gold star license plates may be transferred from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the mother or father, as described in subsection (1) of this section, upon application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director. [2010 c 161 § 621.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.250 Honorary consul special license plates.** (1) A registered owner who is an honorary consul or official representative of any foreign government may apply to the department for special license plates for a motor vehicle owned or leased by the honorary consul or official representative. The honorary consul or official representative must be a citizen of the United States, pay all required vehicle license fees and taxes, and either (a) provide a copy of the honorary consul identification card or (b) show the exequatur issued by the United States department of state.

(2) The special honorary consul license plates must be:

- (a) A distinguishing color and separate numerical series;
- (b) Returned to the department when no longer in use or when the honorary consul or official representative is relieved of his or her official duties; and

(c) Removed from the vehicle when the honorary consul or official representative transfers or assigns the interest or certificate of title in the motor vehicle for which the special license plates were issued.

(3) The special honorary consul license plates may be transferred to a replacement vehicle. The honorary consul or official representative shall immediately notify the department of the transfer of the special license plates. [2010 c 161 § 622.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.255 Horseless carriage license plates.** (1) A registered owner may apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a horseless carriage license plate for a motor vehicle that is at least forty years old. The motor vehicle must be operated primarily as a collector vehicle and be in good running order. The applicant for the horseless carriage license plate shall:

(a) Purchase a registration for the motor vehicle as required under chapters 46.16A and 46.17 RCW; and

(b) Pay the special license plate fee established under \*RCW 46.17.220(1)(i), in addition to any other fees or taxes required by law.

(2) Horseless carriage license plates:

- (a) Are valid for the life of the motor vehicle;
- (b) Are not required to be renewed;
- (c) Are not transferrable to any other motor vehicle; and
- (d) Must be displayed on the rear of the motor vehicle. [2011 c 171 § 71; 2010 c 161 § 623.]

\***Reviser's note:** RCW 46.17.220 was amended by 2012 c 65 § 4, changing subsection (1)(i) to subsection (1)(j), effective January 1, 2013.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.265 Military affiliate radio system license plates.** (1) A registered owner who has a valid military affiliate radio system station license may apply to the department

for special license plates for use on only one motor vehicle owned by the qualified applicant. The applicant must:

- (a) Be a resident of this state;
- (b) Provide a copy of the current official military affiliate radio system station license authorized by the department of defense and issued by the United States army, air force, navy, or marine corps;
- (c) Be recorded as the registered owner of the motor vehicle on which the military affiliate radio system license plates will be displayed; and
- (d) Pay the military affiliate radio system license plate fee required under \*RCW 46.17.220(1)(l), in addition to any other fees or taxes required by law.

(2) A person who has been issued military affiliate radio system license plates as provided in this section must:

- (a) Notify the department if the military affiliate radio system station license assigned is canceled or expires; and
  - (b) Provide a copy of the renewed military affiliate radio system station license to the department when it is renewed.
- (3) Military affiliate radio system license plates:
- (a) Are not available for motorcycles; and
  - (b) May be transferred from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the military affiliate radio system operator upon application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director. [2010 c 161 § 624.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 46.17.220 was amended by 2012 c 65 § 4, changing subsection (1)(l) to subsection (1)(m), effective January 1, 2013.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.270 Pearl Harbor survivor license plates.** (1) A registered owner who has survived the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, may apply to the department for special license plates for use on only one motor vehicle required to display one or two license plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the department, and owned by the qualified applicant. The applicant must:

- (a) Be a resident of this state;
- (b) Have been a member of the United States armed forces on December 7, 1941;
- (c) Have been on station on December 7, 1941, between the hours of 7:55 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. Hawaii time at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a distance not to exceed three miles;
- (d) Have received an honorable discharge from the United States armed forces;
- (e) Provide certification by a Washington state chapter of the Pearl Harbor survivors association showing that qualifications in (c) of this subsection have been met;
- (f) Be recorded as the registered owner of the motor vehicle on which the Pearl Harbor survivor license plate or plates will be displayed; and
- (g) Pay all fees and taxes required by law for registering the motor vehicle.

(2) Pearl Harbor survivor license plates must be issued without the payment of any license plate fee.

(3) Pearl Harbor survivor license plates must be replaced, free of charge, if the license plates have become lost, stolen, damaged, defaced, or destroyed.

(4) Pearl Harbor survivor license plates may be issued to the surviving spouse or domestic partner of a Pearl Harbor survivor who met the requirements in subsection (1) of this section. The surviving spouse or domestic partner must be a resident of this state. If the surviving spouse remarries or the surviving domestic partner marries or enters into a new domestic partnership, he or she must return the special license plates to the department within fifteen days and apply for regular license plates or another type of special license plate.

(5) A Pearl Harbor survivor license plate or plates may be transferred from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the Pearl Harbor survivor or the surviving spouse or domestic partner as described in subsection (4) of this section upon application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director. [2011 c 332 § 7; 2010 c 161 § 625.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.275 Personalized license plates.** (1) A registered owner may apply to the department for a personalized license plate for any vehicle required to display one or two vehicle license plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the department. The application for personalized license plates must contain the combination of letters or numbers, or both, requested by the registered owner.

- (2) Personalized license plates must:
  - (a) Be the same design as standard issue license plates;
  - (b) Consist of numbers or letters or any combination of numbers or letters;
  - (c) Not exceed seven positions unless proposed by the department and approved by the Washington state patrol; and
  - (d) Not contain less than one character.
- (3) A person who purchased personalized license plates containing three letters and three digits on or between the dates of August 9, 1971, and November 6, 1973, is not required to pay the additional annual renewal fee described in RCW 46.17.210.

(4) The department shall not issue or may refuse to issue personalized license plates that:

- (a) Duplicate or conflict with an existing or projected vehicle license plate series or other numbering systems for records kept by the department; or
- (b) May carry connotations offensive to good taste and decency or which would be misleading.

(5) Personalized license plates must be issued only to the registered owner of the vehicle on which they are to be displayed. The registered owner must:

- (a) Pay the personalized license plate fee required under RCW 46.17.210, in addition to any other fee or taxes due;
- (b) Renew personalized license plates annually, regardless of whether or not the vehicle on which the personalized license plates are displayed will be driven on the public highways;



(c) Surrender personalized license plates that have not been renewed to the department. The failure to surrender expired personalized license plates is a traffic infraction; and

(d) Immediately report to the department when personalized license plates have been transferred to another vehicle or another owner.

(6) The department may establish rules as necessary to carry out this section including, but not limited to, identifying the maximum number of positions on personalized license plates for motorcycles. [2010 c 161 § 626.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.277 Personalized special license plates.** (1) A registered owner may purchase personalized license plates with a special license plate background for any vehicle required to display one or two vehicle license plates, excluding:

- (a) Amateur radio license plates;
- (b) Collector vehicle license plates;
- (c) Disabled American veteran license plates;
- (d) Former prisoner of war license plates;
- (e) Horseless carriage license plates;
- (f) Congressional Medal of Honor license plates;
- (g) Military affiliate radio system license plates;
- (h) Pearl Harbor survivor license plates;
- (i) Restored license plates; and
- (j) Vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW.

(2) Personalized special license plates issued under this section must:

- (a) Consist of numbers or letters or any combination of numbers or letters;
- (b) Not exceed seven characters; and
- (c) Not contain less than one character.

(3) The department may not issue or may refuse to issue personalized special license plates that:

(a) Duplicate or conflict with existing or projected vehicle license plate series or other numbering systems for records kept by the department; or

(b) May carry connotations offensive to good taste and decency or which would be misleading.

(4) Personalized special license plates must be issued only to the registered owner of the vehicle on which they are to be displayed. The registered owner must:

(a) Pay both the personalized license plate fee required under RCW 46.17.210 and the special license plate fee required under the applicable special license plate provision, in addition to any other fee or taxes due. License plate fees must be distributed as provided in chapter 46.68 RCW;

(b) Renew personalized special license plates annually, regardless of whether or not the vehicle on which the personalized special license plates are displayed will be driven on the public highways;

(c) Surrender personalized special license plates that have not been renewed to the department. The failure to surrender expired personalized special license plates is a traffic infraction; and

(d) Immediately report to the department when personalized special license plates have been transferred to another vehicle or another owner.

(5) The department may establish rules as necessary to carry out this section including, but not limited to, identifying the maximum number of positions on personalized special license plates for motorcycles. [2010 c 161 § 627.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.280 Purple heart license plates.** (1) A registered owner who has been awarded a Purple Heart medal by any branch of the United States armed forces, including the merchant marines and the women's air forces service pilots may apply to the department for special license plates for use on only one motor vehicle required to display one or two license plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the department, and owned by the qualified applicant. The applicant must:

- (a) Be a resident of this state;
- (b) Have been wounded during one of this nation's wars or conflicts identified in RCW 41.04.005;
- (c) Have received an honorable discharge from the United States armed forces;
- (d) Provide a copy of the armed forces document showing the recipient was awarded the Purple Heart medal;
- (e) Be recorded as the registered owner of the motor vehicle on which the Purple Heart survivor license plate or plates will be displayed; and
- (f) Pay all fees and taxes required by law for registering the motor vehicle.

(2) Purple Heart license plates must be issued without the payment of any special license plate fee.

(3) Purple Heart license plates may be issued to the surviving spouse or domestic partner of a Purple Heart recipient who met the requirements in subsection (1) of this section. The surviving spouse or domestic partner must be a resident of this state. If the surviving spouse remarries or the surviving domestic partner marries or enters into a new domestic partnership, he or she must return the special license plates to the department within fifteen days and apply for regular license plates or another type of special license plate.

(4) A Purple Heart license plate or plates may be transferred from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the Purple Heart recipient or the surviving spouse or domestic partner as described in subsection (3) of this section upon application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director. [2011 c 332 § 8; 2010 c 161 § 628.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.285 Ride share license plates.** (1) A registered owner who uses a passenger motor vehicle for commuter ride sharing or ride sharing for persons with special transportation needs, as defined in RCW 46.74.010, shall apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for special ride share license plates. The registered owner must qualify for the tax exemptions provided in RCW 82.08.0287, 82.12.0282, or 82.44.015, and pay the special ride share license plate fee required under

\*RCW 46.17.220(1)(n) when the special ride share license plates are initially issued.

(2) The special ride share license plates:

(a) Must be of a distinguishing separate numerical series or design as defined by the department;

(b) Must be returned to the department when no longer in use or when the registered owner no longer qualifies for the tax exemptions provided in subsection (1) of this section; and

(c) Are not required to be renewed annually for motor vehicles described in RCW 46.16A.170.

(3) Special ride share license plates may be transferred from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle as described in subsection (1) of this section upon application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director.

(4) Any person who knowingly makes a false statement of a material fact in the application for a special license plate under subsection (1) of this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 171 § 72; 2010 c 161 § 629.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 46.17.220 was amended by 2011 c 229 § 3, changing subsection (1)(n) to subsection (1)(o), effective January 1, 2012. RCW 46.17.220 was subsequently amended by 2012 c 65 § 4, changing subsection (1)(o) to subsection (1)(p), effective January 1, 2013.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.290 Square dancer license plates.** A registered owner may apply to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director for a square dancer license plate. The registered owner shall pay the special license plate fee required under \*RCW 46.17.220(1)(q), in addition to any other fee or tax required by law. The square dancer license plate may be issued in lieu of standard issue or personalized license plates for motor vehicles required to display one or two license plates, but may not be issued for vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW. [2011 c 332 § 9; 2010 c 161 § 630.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 46.17.220 was amended by 2011 c 229 § 3, changing subsection (1)(q) to subsection (1)(r), effective January 1, 2012. RCW 46.17.220 was subsequently amended by 2012 c 65 § 4, changing subsection (1)(r) to subsection (1)(s), effective January 1, 2013.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.18.295 Veterans and military personnel emblems.** *(Effective until January 1, 2013.)* (1) Veterans discharged under honorable conditions (veterans) and individuals serving on active duty in the United States armed forces (active duty military personnel) may purchase a veterans remembrance emblem or campaign medal emblem. The emblem is to be displayed on license plates in the manner described by the department, existing vehicular registration procedures, and current laws.

(2) Veterans and active duty military personnel who served during periods of war or armed conflict may purchase a remembrance emblem depicting campaign ribbons which they were awarded.

(3) The following campaign ribbon remembrance emblems are available:

- (a) World War I victory medal;
- (b) World War II Asiatic-Pacific campaign medal;
- (c) World War II European-African Middle East campaign medal;
- (d) World War II American campaign medal;
- (e) Korean service medal;
- (f) Vietnam service medal;
- (g) Armed forces expeditionary medal awarded after 1958; and
- (h) Southwest Asia medal.

The director may issue additional campaign ribbon emblems by rule as authorized decorations by the United States department of defense.

(4) Veterans or active duty military personnel requesting a veteran remembrance emblem or campaign medal emblem or emblems must:

- (a) Pay a prescribed fee set by the department; and
- (b) Show proof of eligibility through:
  - (i) Providing a DD-214 or discharge papers if a veteran;
  - (ii) Providing a copy of orders awarding a campaign ribbon if an individual serving on military active duty; or
  - (iii) Attesting in a notarized affidavit of their eligibility as required under this section.

(5) Veterans or active duty military personnel who purchase a veteran remembrance emblem or a campaign medal emblem must be the legal or registered owner of the vehicle on which the emblem is to be displayed. [2011 c 171 § 73; 1997 c 234 § 1; 1991 c 339 § 11; 1990 c 250 § 6. Formerly RCW 46.16.319.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.18.295 Veterans and military personnel emblems.** *(Effective January 1, 2013.)* (1) Veterans discharged under honorable conditions (veterans) and individuals serving on active duty in the United States armed forces (active duty military personnel) may purchase a veterans remembrance emblem, campaign medal emblem, or military service award emblem. The emblem is to be displayed on license plates in the manner described by the department, existing vehicular registration procedures, and current laws.

(2) Veterans and active duty military personnel who served during periods of war or armed conflict may purchase a remembrance emblem depicting campaign ribbons which they were awarded.

(3) The following campaign ribbon remembrance emblems are available:

- (a) World War I victory medal;
- (b) World War II Asiatic-Pacific campaign medal;
- (c) World War II European-African Middle East campaign medal;
- (d) World War II American campaign medal;
- (e) Korean service medal;
- (f) Vietnam service medal;
- (g) Armed forces expeditionary medal awarded after 1958; and
- (h) Southwest Asia medal.

The director may issue additional campaign ribbon emblems by rule as authorized decorations by the United States department of defense.

(4) The following military service award emblems are available:

- (a) Distinguished Service Cross;
- (b) Navy Cross;
- (c) Air Force Cross;
- (d) Silver Star medal; and
- (e) Bronze Star medal.

(5) Veterans or active duty military personnel requesting a veteran remembrance emblem, campaign medal emblem, or military service award emblem or emblems must:

- (a) Pay a prescribed fee set by the department; and
- (b) Show proof of eligibility through:
  - (i) Providing a DD-214 or discharge papers if a veteran;
  - (ii) Providing a copy of orders awarding a campaign ribbon if an individual serving on military active duty;
  - (iii) Providing a copy of orders awarding a military service award; or
  - (iv) Attesting in a notarized affidavit of their eligibility as required under this section.

(6) Veterans or active duty military personnel who purchase a veteran remembrance emblem, campaign medal emblem, or military service award emblem must be the legal or registered owner of the vehicle on which the emblem is to be displayed. [2012 c 69 § 1; 2011 c 171 § 73; 1997 c 234 § 1; 1991 c 339 § 11; 1990 c 250 § 6. Formerly RCW 46.16.319.]

**Effective date—2012 c 69:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2013." [2012 c 69 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### Chapter 46.19 RCW

#### SPECIAL PARKING PRIVILEGES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

##### Sections

46.19.010	Criteria for natural persons—Application—Identification cards, placards, and license plates.
46.19.020	Eligible organizations—Rules.
46.19.030	Display and design of placards, license plates, and year tabs.
46.19.040	Renewal—Rules.
46.19.050	Restrictions—Prohibitions—Violations—Penalties.
46.19.060	Special license plates for persons with disabilities, special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities—Fees—Renewal—Transfer.
46.19.070	Special plate or card issued by another jurisdiction.

##### 46.19.010 Criteria for natural persons—Application—Identification cards, placards, and license plates.

(1) A natural person who has a disability that meets one of the following criteria may apply for special parking privileges:

- (a) Cannot walk two hundred feet without stopping to rest;
- (b) Is severely limited in ability to walk due to arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition;
- (c) Has such a severe disability that the person cannot walk without the use of or assistance from a brace, cane, another person, prosthetic device, wheelchair, or other assistive device;
- (d) Uses portable oxygen;
- (e) Is restricted by lung disease to an extent that forced expiratory respiratory volume, when measured by spirometry,

is less than one liter per second or the arterial oxygen tension is less than sixty mm/hg on room air at rest;

(f) Impairment by cardiovascular disease or cardiac condition to the extent that the person's functional limitations are classified as class III or IV under standards accepted by the American heart association;

(g) Has a disability resulting from an acute sensitivity to automobile emissions that limits or impairs the ability to walk. The personal physician, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or physician assistant of the applicant shall document that the disability is comparable in severity to the others listed in this subsection;

(h) Has limited mobility and has no vision or whose vision with corrective lenses is so limited that the person requires alternative methods or skills to do efficiently those things that are ordinarily done with sight by persons with normal vision;

(i) Has an eye condition of a progressive nature that may lead to blindness; or

(j) Is restricted by a form of porphyria to the extent that the applicant would significantly benefit from a decrease in exposure to light.

(2) The disability must be determined by either:

- (a) A licensed physician;
- (b) An advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW; or
- (c) A physician assistant licensed under chapter 18.71A or 18.57A RCW.

(3) The application for special parking privileges for persons with disabilities must contain:

(a) The following statement immediately below the physician's, advanced registered nurse practitioner's, or physician assistant's signature: "A parking permit for a person with disabilities may be issued only for a medical necessity that severely affects mobility or involves acute sensitivity to light (RCW 46.19.010). Knowingly providing false information on this application is a gross misdemeanor. The penalty is up to three hundred sixty-four days in jail and a fine of up to \$5,000 or both"; and

(b) Other information as required by the department.

(4) A natural person who has a disability described in subsection (1) of this section and is expected to improve within six months may be issued a temporary placard for a period not to exceed six months. If the disability exists after six months, a new temporary placard must be issued upon receipt of a new application with certification from the person's physician. Special license plates for persons with disabilities may not be issued to a person with a temporary disability.

(5) A natural person who qualifies for special parking privileges under this section must receive an identification card showing the name and date of birth of the person to whom the parking privilege has been issued and the serial number of the placard.

(6) A natural person who qualifies for permanent special parking privileges under this section may receive one of the following:

- (a) Up to two parking placards;
- (b) One set of special license plates for persons with disabilities if the person with the disability is the registered

owner of the vehicle on which the license plates will be displayed;

(c) One parking placard and one set of special license plates for persons with disabilities if the person with the disability is the registered owner of the vehicle on which the license plates will be displayed; or

(d) One special parking year tab for persons with disabilities and one parking placard.

(7) Parking placards and identification cards described in this section must be issued free of charge.

(8) The parking placard and identification card must be immediately returned to the department upon the placard holder's death. [2011 c 96 § 32; 2010 c 161 § 701.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.19.020 Eligible organizations—Rules.** (1) The following organizations may apply for special parking privileges:

(a) Public transportation authorities;

(b) Nursing homes licensed under chapter 18.51 RCW;

(c) Assisted living facilities licensed under chapter 18.20 RCW;

(d) Senior citizen centers;

(e) Private nonprofit corporations, as defined in RCW 24.03.005; and

(f) Cabulance companies that regularly transport persons with disabilities who have been determined eligible for special parking privileges under this section and who are registered with the department under chapter 46.72 RCW.

(2) An organization that qualifies for special parking privileges may receive, upon application, parking license plates or placards, or both, for persons with disabilities as defined by the department.

(3) Public transportation authorities, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, senior citizen centers, private nonprofit corporations, and cabulance services are responsible for ensuring that the special placards and license plates are not used improperly and are responsible for all fines and penalties for improper use.

(4) The department shall adopt rules to determine organization eligibility. [2012 c 10 § 42; 2010 c 161 § 702.]

**Application—2012 c 10:** See note following RCW 18.20.010.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.19.030 Display and design of placards, license plates, and year tabs.** (1) The department shall design special license plates for persons with disabilities, parking placards, and year tabs displaying the international symbol of access.

(2) Special license plates for persons with disabilities must be displayed on the motor vehicle as standard issue license plates as described in RCW 46.16A.200.

(3) Parking placards must be displayed when the motor vehicle is parked by suspending it from the rearview mirror. In the absence of a rearview mirror, the parking placard must be displayed on the dashboard.

(4) Special year tabs for persons with disabilities must be displayed on license plates as defined by the department.

(5) Persons who have been issued special license plates for persons with disabilities, parking placards, or special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities may park in places reserved for persons with physical disabilities. [2010 c 161 § 704.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.19.040 Renewal—Rules.** (1) Parking privileges for persons with disabilities must be renewed at least every five years, as required by the director, by satisfactory proof of the right to continued use of the privileges.

(2) The department shall match and purge its database of parking permits issued to persons with disabilities with available death record information at least every twelve months.

(3) The department shall adopt rules to administer the parking privileges for persons with disabilities program. [2010 c 161 § 703.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.19.050 Restrictions—Prohibitions—Violations—Penalties.** (1) **False information.** Knowingly providing false information in conjunction with the application for special parking privileges for persons with disabilities is a gross misdemeanor punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(2) **Unauthorized use.** Any unauthorized use of the special placard, special license [plate], or identification card issued under this chapter is a parking infraction with a monetary penalty of two hundred fifty dollars. In addition to any penalty or fine imposed under this subsection, two hundred dollars must be assessed.

(3) **Inaccessible access.** It is a parking infraction, with a monetary penalty of two hundred fifty dollars, for a person to park in, block, or otherwise make inaccessible the access aisle located next to a space reserved for persons with physical disabilities. In addition to any penalty or fine imposed under this subsection, two hundred dollars must be assessed. The clerk of the court shall report all violations related to this subsection to the department.

(4) **Parking without placard/plate.** It is a parking infraction, with a monetary penalty of two hundred fifty dollars, for any person to park a vehicle in a parking place provided on private property without charge or on public property reserved for persons with physical disabilities without a placard or special license plate issued under this chapter. In addition to any penalty or fine imposed under this subsection, two hundred dollars must be assessed. If a person is charged with a violation, the person will not be determined to have committed an infraction if the person produces in court or before the court appearance the placard or special license plate issued under this chapter as required under this chapter. A local jurisdiction providing nonmetered, on-street parking places reserved for persons with physical disabilities may impose by ordinance time restrictions of no less than four hours on the use of these parking places.

(5) **Time restrictions.** A local jurisdiction may impose by ordinance time restrictions of no less than four hours on the use of nonreserved, on-street parking spaces by vehicles displaying the special parking placards or special license plates issued under this chapter. All time restrictions must be clearly posted.

(6) **Allocation and use of funds - reimbursement.** (a) The assessment imposed under subsections (2), (3), and (4) of this section must be allocated as follows:

(i) One hundred dollars must be deposited in the accessible communities account created in RCW 50.40.071; and

(ii) One hundred dollars must be deposited in the multi-modal transportation account under RCW 47.66.070 for the sole purpose of supplementing a grant program for special needs transportation provided by transit agencies and non-profit providers of transportation that is administered by the department of transportation.

(b) Any reduction in any penalty or fine and assessment imposed under subsections (2), (3), and (4) of this section must be applied proportionally between the penalty or fine and the assessment. When a reduced penalty is imposed under subsection (2), (3), or (4) of this section, the amount deposited in the accounts identified in (a) of this subsection must be reduced equally and proportionally.

(c) The penalty or fine amounts must be used by that local jurisdiction exclusively for law enforcement. The court may also impose an additional penalty sufficient to reimburse the local jurisdiction for any costs that it may have incurred in the removal and storage of the improperly parked vehicle.

(7) **Illegal obtainment.** Except as provided in subsection (1) of this section, it is a traffic infraction with a monetary penalty of two hundred fifty dollars for any person willfully to obtain a special license plate, placard, or identification card issued under this chapter in a manner other than that established under this chapter.

(8) **Volunteer appointment.** A law enforcement agency authorized to enforce parking laws may appoint volunteers, with a limited commission, to issue notices of infractions for violations of RCW \*46.19.010 and 46.19.030 or 46.61.581. Volunteers must be at least twenty-one years of age. The law enforcement agency appointing volunteers may establish any other qualifications that the agency deems desirable.

(a) An agency appointing volunteers under this section must provide training to the volunteers before authorizing them to issue notices of infractions.

(b) A notice of infraction issued by a volunteer appointed under this subsection has the same force and effect as a notice of infraction issued by a police officer for the same offense.

(c) A police officer or a volunteer may request a person to show the person's identification card or special parking placard when investigating the possibility of a violation of this section. If the request is refused, the person in charge of the vehicle may be issued a notice of infraction for a violation of this section.

(9) **Community restitution.** For second or subsequent violations of this section, in addition to a monetary penalty, the violator must complete a minimum of forty hours of:

(a) Community restitution for a nonprofit organization that serves persons with disabilities or disabling diseases; or

(b) Any other community restitution that may sensitize the violator to the needs and obstacles faced by persons with disabilities.

(10) **Fine suspension.** The court may not suspend more than one-half of any fine imposed under subsection (2), (3), (4), or (7) of this section. [2011 c 171 § 74; 2010 c 161 § 706.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The reference to RCW 46.19.010 appears to be erroneous. Reference to "this section" was apparently intended.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.19.060 Special license plates for persons with disabilities, special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities—Fees—Renewal—Transfer. (Effective until January 1, 2013.)** (1) An additional fee may not be charged for special license plates for persons with disabilities except for any other fees and taxes required to be paid upon registration of a motor vehicle.

(2) A registered owner who qualifies for special parking privileges as described in RCW 46.19.010 may apply to the department for special license plates for persons with disabilities or special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities. Special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities are available on the following special license plate designs:

PLATE TYPE

Armed forces collection  
Baseball stadium  
Collegiate  
Disabled American veteran  
Endangered wildlife  
Former prisoner of war  
Helping kids speak  
Keep kids safe  
Law enforcement memorial  
Pearl Harbor survivor  
Personalized

ISSUED UNDER

RCW 46.18.210  
RCW 46.18.215  
RCW 46.18.225  
RCW 46.18.235  
RCW 46.18.200  
RCW 46.18.235  
RCW 46.18.200  
RCW 46.18.200  
RCW 46.18.200  
RCW 46.18.270  
RCW 46.18.275

Professional firefighters and paramedics	RCW 46.18.200
Purple Heart	RCW 46.18.280
Share the road	RCW 46.18.200
Ski & ride Washington	RCW 46.18.200
Square dancer	RCW 46.18.290
Washington lighthouses	RCW 46.18.200
Washington's national park fund	RCW 46.18.200
Washington state parks	RCW 46.18.200
Washington's wildlife collection	RCW 46.18.200
We love our pets	RCW 46.18.200
Wild on Washington	RCW 46.18.200

(3) A registered owner who chooses to purchase special license plates as described in subsection (2) of this section shall pay the applicable special license plate fee, in addition to any other fees or taxes required for registering a motor vehicle.

(4) Special license plates for persons with disabilities or special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities must be renewed in the same manner and at the time required for the renewal of standard motor vehicle license plates under chapter 46.16A RCW.

(5) Special license plates for persons with disabilities or special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities may be transferred from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the person with the parking privilege upon application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director.

(6) Special license plates for persons with disabilities or special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities must be removed from the motor vehicle when the person with disabilities transfers or assigns his or her interest in the motor vehicle. [2011 c 171 § 75; 2010 c 161 § 705.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.19.060 Special license plates for persons with disabilities, special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities—Fees—Renewal—Transfer. (Effective January 1, 2013.)** (1) An additional fee may not be charged for special license plates for persons with disabilities except for any other fees and taxes required to be paid upon registration of a motor vehicle.

(2) A registered owner who qualifies for special parking privileges as described in RCW 46.19.010 may apply to the department for special license plates for persons with disabilities or special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities. Special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities are available on any special license plate created under chapter 46.18 RCW, except the collector vehicle, horseless carriage, and ride share special license plates.

(3) A registered owner who chooses to purchase special license plates as described in subsection (2) of this section

shall pay the applicable special license plate fee, in addition to any other fees or taxes required for registering a motor vehicle.

(4) Special license plates for persons with disabilities or special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities must be renewed in the same manner and at the time required for the renewal of standard motor vehicle license plates under chapter 46.16A RCW.

(5) Special license plates for persons with disabilities or special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities may be transferred from one motor vehicle to another motor vehicle owned by the person with the parking privilege upon application to the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director.

(6) Special license plates for persons with disabilities or special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities must be removed from the motor vehicle when the person with disabilities transfers or assigns his or her interest in the motor vehicle. [2012 c 71 § 1; 2011 c 171 § 75; 2010 c 161 § 705.]

**Effective date—2012 c 71:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2013." [2012 c 71 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.19.070 Special plate or card issued by another jurisdiction.** A special license plate or card issued by another state or country that indicates that an occupant of a vehicle has disabilities entitles the vehicle on or in which it is displayed and being used to transport the person with disabilities to lawfully park in a parking place reserved for persons with physical disabilities pursuant to chapter 70.92 RCW. [2010 c 161 § 707; 2005 c 390 § 4; 1991 c 339 § 22; 1984 c 51 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.16.390.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

## Chapter 46.20 RCW

### DRIVERS' LICENSES—IDENTICARDS

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## DRIVER'S LICENSE AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

**46.20.001 License required—Rights and restriction.**

(1) No person may drive a motor vehicle upon a highway in this state without first obtaining a valid driver's license issued to Washington residents under this chapter. The only exceptions to this requirement are those expressly allowed by RCW 46.20.025.

(2) A person licensed as a driver under this chapter:

(a) May exercise the privilege upon all highways in this state;

(b) May not be required by a political subdivision to obtain any other license to exercise the privilege; and

(c) May not have more than one valid driver's license at any time. [1999 c 6 § 3.]

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

**46.20.005 Driving without a license—Misdemeanor, when.** Except as expressly exempted by this chapter, it is a misdemeanor for a person to drive any motor vehicle upon a highway in this state without a valid driver's license issued to Washington residents under this chapter. This section does not apply if at the time of the stop the person is not in violation of RCW 46.20.342(1) or \*46.20.420 and has in his or her possession an expired driver's license or other valid identifying documentation under RCW 46.20.035. A violation of this section is a lesser included offense within the offenses described in RCW 46.20.342(1) or \*46.20.420. [1997 c 66 § 1.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 46.20.420 was recodified as RCW 46.20.345, June 1999.

**46.20.015 Driving without a license—Traffic infraction, when.** (1) Except as expressly exempted by this chapter, it is a traffic infraction and not a misdemeanor under RCW 46.20.005 if a person:

(a) Drives any motor vehicle upon a highway in this state without a valid driver's license issued to Washington residents under this chapter in his or her possession;

(b) Provides the citing officer with an expired driver's license or other valid identifying documentation under RCW 46.20.035 at the time of the stop; and

(c) Is not driving while suspended or revoked in violation of RCW 46.20.342(1) or \*46.20.420.

(2) A person who violates this section is subject to a penalty of two hundred fifty dollars. If the person appears in person before the court or submits by mail written proof that he or she obtained a valid license after being cited, the court shall reduce the penalty to fifty dollars. [1999 c 6 § 4; 1997 c 66 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 46.20.420 was recodified as RCW 46.20.345, June 1999.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

**46.20.017 Immediate possession and displayed on demand.** Every licensee shall have his or her driver's license in his or her immediate possession at all times when operating a motor vehicle and shall display the same upon demand to any police officer or to any other person when and if required by law to do so. The offense described in this section is a nonmoving offense. [2010 c 8 § 9018; 1979 ex.s. c

136 § 56; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 15; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.190. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 59; RRS § 6312-59; 1921 c 108 § 7, part; RRS § 6369, part. Formerly RCW 46.20.190.]

*Driver's license, duty to display under other circumstances:* RCW 46.52.020, 46.61.020, 46.61.021.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.021 New residents.** (1) New Washington residents must obtain a valid Washington driver's license within thirty days from the date they become residents.

(2) To qualify for a Washington driver's license, a person must surrender to the department all valid driver's licenses that any other jurisdiction has issued to him or her. The department must invalidate the surrendered photograph license and may return it to the person.

(a) The invalidated license, along with a valid temporary Washington driver's license provided for in RCW 46.20.065, is proper identification.

(b) The department shall notify the previous issuing department that the licensee is now licensed in a new jurisdiction.

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

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

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

(c) Declaring residency for the purpose of obtaining a state license or tuition fees at resident rates.

(4)(a) "Washington public assistance programs" means public assistance programs that receive more than fifty percent of the combined costs of benefits and administration from state funds.

(b) "Washington public assistance programs" does not include:

(i) The Food Stamp program under the federal Food Stamp Act of 1964;

(ii) Programs under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. Secs. 1771 through 1788;

(iii) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; and

(iv) Any other program that does not meet the criteria of (a) of this subsection. [1999 c 6 § 5. Prior: 1997 c 66 § 3; 1997 c 59 § 8; 1996 c 307 § 5; prior: 1991 c 293 § 3; 1991 c 73 § 1; 1990 c 250 § 33; 1988 c 88 § 1; 1985 c 302 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 53; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 2.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

**Purpose—Construction—1965 ex.s. c 121:** "With the advent of greatly increased interstate vehicular travel and the migration of motorists between the states, the legislature recognizes the necessity of enacting driver licensing laws which are reasonably uniform with the laws of other states and are at the same time based upon sound, realistic principles, stated in clear explicit language. To achieve these ends the legislature does hereby adopt this 1965 amendatory act relating to driver licensing modeled after the Uniform Vehicle Code subject to such variances as are deemed better suited to the people of this state. It is intended that this 1965 amendatory act be liberally construed to effectuate the purpose of improving the safety of our highways through driver licensing procedures within the framework of the traditional freedoms to which every motorist is entitled." [1965 ex.s. c 121 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)



**46.20.022 Unlicensed drivers—Subject to Title 46 RCW.** Any person who operates a motor vehicle on the public highways of this state without a driver's license or nonresident privilege to drive shall be subject to all of the provisions of Title 46 RCW to the same extent as a person who is licensed. [1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 29 § 1.]

*Allowing unauthorized person to drive: RCW 46.16A.520, 46.20.024.*

**46.20.024 Unlawful to allow unauthorized minors to drive.** No person shall cause or knowingly permit his or her child or ward under the age of eighteen years to drive a motor vehicle upon any highway when such minor is not authorized hereunder or in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter. [2010 c 8 § 9019; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 44. Formerly RCW 46.20.343.]

**46.20.025 Exemptions.** The following persons may operate a motor vehicle on a Washington highway without a valid Washington driver's license:

(1) A member of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, or in the service of the National Guard of this state or any other state, if licensed by the military to operate an official motor vehicle in such service;

(2) A nonresident driver who is at least:

(a) Sixteen years of age and has immediate possession of a valid driver's license issued to the driver by his or her home state; or

(b) Fifteen years of age with:

(i) A valid instruction permit issued to the driver by his or her home state; and

(ii) A licensed driver who has had at least five years of driving experience occupying a seat beside the driver; or

(c) Sixteen years of age and has immediate possession of a valid driver's license issued to the driver by his or her home country. A nonresident driver may operate a motor vehicle in this state under this subsection (2)(c) for up to one year;

(3) Any person operating special highway construction equipment as defined in RCW 46.04.551;

(4) Any person while driving or operating any farm tractor or implement of husbandry that is only incidentally operated or moved over a highway; or

(5) An operator of a locomotive upon rails, including a railroad crossing over a public highway. A locomotive operator is not required to display a driver's license to any law enforcement officer in connection with the operation of a locomotive or train within this state. [2010 c 161 § 1113; 1999 c 6 § 6; 1993 c 148 § 1; 1979 c 75 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 3.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

**46.20.027 Armed forces, dependents.** A Washington state motor vehicle driver's license issued to any service member if valid and in force and effect while such person is serving in the armed forces, shall remain in full force and effect so long as such service continues unless the same is sooner suspended, canceled, or revoked for cause as provided by law and for not to exceed ninety days following the date

on which the holder of such driver's license is honorably separated from service in the armed forces of the United States. A Washington state driver's license issued to the spouse or dependent child of such service member likewise remains in full force and effect if the person is residing with the service member.

For purposes of this section, "service member" means every person serving in the armed forces whose branch of service as of the date of application for the driver's license is included in the definition of veteran pursuant to RCW 41.04.007 or the person will meet the definition of veteran at the time of discharge. [2002 c 292 § 3; 1999 c 199 § 1; 1967 c 129 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.031 Ineligibility.** The department shall not issue a driver's license to a person:

(1) Who is under the age of sixteen years;

(2) Whose driving privilege has been withheld unless and until the department may authorize the driving privilege under RCW 46.20.311;

(3) Who has been classified as an alcoholic, drug addict, alcohol abuser, or drug abuser by a program approved by the department of social and health services. The department may, however, issue a license if the person:

(a) Has been granted a deferred prosecution under chapter 10.05 RCW; or

(b) Is satisfactorily participating in or has successfully completed an alcohol or drug abuse treatment program approved by the department of social and health services and has established control of his or her alcohol or drug abuse problem;

(4) Who has previously been adjudged to be mentally ill or insane, or to be incompetent due to a mental disability or disease. The department shall, however, issue a license to the person if he or she otherwise qualifies and:

(a) Has been restored to competency by the methods provided by law; or

(b) The superior court finds the person able to operate a motor vehicle with safety upon the highways during such incompetency;

(5) Who has not passed the driver's licensing examination required by RCW 46.20.120 and 46.20.305, if applicable;

(6) Who is required under the laws of this state to deposit proof of financial responsibility and who has not deposited such proof;

(7) Who is unable to safely operate a motor vehicle upon the highways due to a physical or mental disability. The department's conclusion that a person is barred from licensing under this subsection must be reasonable and be based upon good and substantial evidence. This determination is subject to review by a court of competent jurisdiction. [2002 c 279 § 3; 1999 c 6 § 7; 1995 c 219 § 1; 1993 c 501 § 2; 1985 c 101 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 162 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 4.]

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

*Allowing unauthorized person to drive: RCW 46.16A.520, 46.20.024.*

*Juvenile driving privileges, alcohol or drug violations: RCW 66.44.365, 69.50.420.*

**46.20.035 Proof of identity.** The department may not issue an identicard or a Washington state driver's license that is valid for identification purposes unless the applicant meets the identification requirements of subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section.

(1) A driver's license or identicard applicant must provide the department with at least one of the following pieces of valid identifying documentation that contains the signature and a photograph of the applicant:

(a) A valid or recently expired driver's license or instruction permit that includes the date of birth of the applicant;

(b) A Washington state identicard or an identification card issued by another state;

(c) An identification card issued by the United States, a state, or an agency of either the United States or a state, of a kind commonly used to identify the members or employees of the government agency;

(d) A military identification card;

(e) A United States passport; or

(f) An immigration and naturalization service form.

(2) An applicant who is a minor may establish identity by providing an affidavit of the applicant's parent or guardian. The parent or guardian must accompany the minor and display or provide:

(a) At least one piece of documentation in subsection (1) of this section establishing the identity of the parent or guardian; and

(b) Additional documentation establishing the relationship between the parent or guardian and the applicant.

(3) A person unable to provide identifying documentation as specified in subsection (1) or (2) of this section may request that the department review other available documentation in order to ascertain identity. The department may waive the requirement if it finds that other documentation clearly establishes the identity of the applicant. Notwithstanding the requirements in subsection (2) of this section, the department shall issue an identicard to an applicant for whom it receives documentation pursuant to RCW 74.13.283.

(4) An identicard or a driver's license that includes a photograph that has been renewed by mail or by electronic commerce is valid for identification purposes if the applicant met the identification requirements of subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section at the time of previous issuance.

(5) The form of an applicant's name, as established under this section, is the person's name of record for the purposes of this chapter.

(6) If the applicant is unable to prove his or her identity under this section, the department shall plainly label the license "not valid for identification purposes." [2008 c 267 § 8; 2004 c 249 § 2; 1999 c 6 § 8; 1998 c 41 § 10; 1993 c 452 § 1.]

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—1998 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.265.

**46.20.037 Facial recognition matching system.** (1) The department may implement a facial recognition matching system for drivers' licenses, permits, and identicards. Any facial recognition matching system selected by the department must be used only to verify the identity of an

applicant for or holder of a driver's license, permit, or identicard to determine whether the person has been issued a driver's license, permit, or identicard under a different name or names.

(2) Any facial recognition matching system selected by the department must be capable of highly accurate matching, and must be compliant with appropriate standards established by the American association of motor vehicle administrators that exist on June 7, 2012, or such subsequent date as may be provided by the department by rule, consistent with the purposes of this section.

(3) The department shall post notices in conspicuous locations at all department driver licensing offices, make written information available to all applicants at department driver licensing offices, and provide information on the department's web site regarding the facial recognition matching system. The notices, written information, and information on the web site must address how the facial recognition matching system works, all ways in which the department may use results from the facial recognition matching system, how an investigation based on results from the facial recognition matching system would be conducted, and a person's right to appeal any determinations made under this chapter.

(4) Results from the facial recognition matching system:

(a) Are not available for public inspection and copying under chapter 42.56 RCW;

(b) May only be disclosed when authorized by a court order;

(c) May only be disclosed to a federal government agency if specifically required under federal law; and

(d) May only be disclosed by the department to a government agency, including a court or law enforcement agency, for use in carrying out its functions if the department has determined that person has committed one of the prohibited practices listed in RCW 46.20.0921 and this determination has been confirmed by a hearings examiner under this chapter or the person declined a hearing or did not attend a scheduled hearing.

(5) All personally identifying information derived from the facial recognition matching system must be stored with appropriate security safeguards. The office of the chief information officer shall develop the appropriate security standards for the department's use of the facial recognition matching system, subject to approval and oversight by the technology services board.

(6) The department shall develop procedures to handle instances in which the facial recognition matching system fails to verify the identity of an applicant for a renewal or duplicate driver's license, permit, or identicard. These procedures must allow an applicant to prove identity without using the facial recognition matching system. [2012 c 80 § 1; 2006 c 292 § 1; 2004 c 273 § 3.]

**Finding—Purpose—Effective date—2004 c 273:** See notes following RCW 9.35.020.

**46.20.0371 Facial recognition matching system—Report to governor and legislature on investigations based on system results and related data. (Expires June 30, 2017.)** (1) The department shall report to the governor and the legislature by October 1st of each year, beginning October 1, 2012, on the following numbers during the previ-

ous fiscal year: The number of investigations initiated by the department based on results from the facial recognition matching system; the number of determinations made that a person has committed one of the prohibited practices in RCW 46.20.0921 after the completion of an investigation; the number of determinations that were confirmed by a hearings examiner and the number that were overturned by a hearings examiner; the number of cases where a person declined a hearing or did not attend a scheduled hearing; and the number of determinations that were referred to law enforcement.

(2) This section expires June 30, 2017. [2012 c 80 § 2.]

**46.20.041 Persons with physical or mental disabilities or diseases.** (1) If the department has reason to believe that a person is suffering from a physical or mental disability or disease that may affect that person's ability to drive a motor vehicle, the department must evaluate whether the person is able to safely drive a motor vehicle. As part of the evaluation:

(a) The department shall permit the person to demonstrate personally that notwithstanding the disability or disease he or she is able to safely drive a motor vehicle.

(b) The department may require the person to obtain a statement signed by a licensed physician or other proper authority designated by the department certifying the person's condition.

(i) The statement is for the confidential use of the director and the chief of the Washington state patrol and for other public officials designated by law. It is exempt from public inspection and copying notwithstanding chapter 42.56 RCW.

(ii) The statement may not be offered as evidence in any court except when appeal is taken from the order of the director canceling or withholding a person's driving privilege. However, the department may make the statement available to the director of the department of retirement systems for use in determining eligibility for or continuance of disability benefits and it may be offered and admitted as evidence in any administrative proceeding or court action concerning the disability benefits.

(2) On the basis of the evaluation the department may:

(a) Issue or renew a driver's license to the person without restrictions;

(b) Cancel or withhold the driving privilege from the person; or

(c) Issue a restricted driver's license to the person. The restrictions must be suitable to the licensee's driving ability. The restrictions may include:

(i) Special mechanical control devices on the motor vehicle operated by the licensee;

(ii) Limitations on the type of motor vehicle that the licensee may operate; or

(iii) Other restrictions determined by the department to be appropriate to assure the licensee's safe operation of a motor vehicle.

(3) The department may either issue a special restricted license or may set forth the restrictions upon the usual license form.

(4) The department may suspend or revoke a restricted license upon receiving satisfactory evidence of any violation of the restrictions. In that event the licensee is entitled to a

driver improvement interview and a hearing as provided by RCW 46.20.322 or 46.20.328.

(5) Operating a motor vehicle in violation of the restrictions imposed in a restricted license is a traffic infraction. [2005 c 274 § 306; 1999 c 274 § 12; 1999 c 6 § 9; 1986 c 176 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 54; 1979 c 61 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 5.]

**Part headings not law—Effective date—2005 c 274:** See RCW 42.56.901 and 42.56.902.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.045 School bus, for hire drivers—Age.** A person who is under the age of eighteen years shall not drive:

(1) A school bus transporting school children; or

(2) A motor vehicle transporting persons for compensation. [1999 c 6 § 10; 1971 ex.s. c 292 § 43; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 6.]

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.049 Commercial driver's license—Additional fee, disposition. (Effective until October 1, 2012.)** There shall be an additional fee for issuing any class of commercial driver's license in addition to the prescribed fee required for the issuance of the original driver's license. The additional fee for each class shall be sixty-one dollars for the original commercial driver's license or subsequent renewals. If the commercial driver's license is renewed or extended for a period other than five years, the fee for each class shall be twelve dollars and twenty cents for each year that the commercial driver's license is renewed or extended. The fee shall be deposited in the highway safety fund. [2011 c 227 § 6; 2005 c 314 § 309; 1999 c 308 § 4; 1989 c 178 § 21; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 7; 1969 ex.s. c 68 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 20 § 4. Formerly RCW 46.20.470.]

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.049 Commercial driver's license—Additional fee, disposition. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** There shall be an additional fee for issuing any class of commercial driver's license in addition to the prescribed fee required for the issuance of the original driver's license. The additional fee for each class shall be eighty-five dollars from October 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, and one hundred two dollars after June 30, 2013, for the original commercial driver's license or subsequent renewals. If the commercial driver's license is issued, renewed, or extended for a period other than five years from October 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, or six years after June 30, 2013, the fee for each class shall be seventeen dollars for each year that the commercial driver's license is issued, renewed, or extended. The fee shall be deposited in the highway safety fund. [2012 c 80 § 11; 2011 c 227 § 6; 2005 c 314 § 309; 1999 c 308 § 4; 1989 c 178 § 21; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 7; 1969 ex.s. c 68 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 20 § 4. Formerly RCW 46.20.470.]

**Effective date—2012 c 80 §§ 5-13:** See note following RCW 46.20.055.

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.055 Instruction permit. (Effective until October 1, 2012.)** (1) **Driver's instruction permit.** The department may issue a driver's instruction permit with or without a photograph to an applicant who has successfully passed all parts of the examination other than the driving test, provided the information required by RCW 46.20.091, paid a fee of twenty dollars, and meets the following requirements:

- (a) Is at least fifteen and one-half years of age; or
- (b) Is at least fifteen years of age and:
  - (i) Has submitted a proper application; and
  - (ii) Is enrolled in a traffic safety education program offered, approved, and accredited by the superintendent of public instruction or offered by a driver training school licensed and inspected by the department of licensing under chapter 46.82 RCW, that includes practice driving.

(2) **Waiver of written examination for instruction permit.** The department may waive the written examination, if, at the time of application, an applicant is enrolled in:

- (a) A traffic safety education course as defined by RCW 28A.220.020(2); or
- (b) A course of instruction offered by a licensed driver training school as defined by RCW 46.82.280.

The department may require proof of registration in such a course as it deems necessary.

(3) **Effect of instruction permit.** A person holding a driver's instruction permit may drive a motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, upon the public highways if:

- (a) The person has immediate possession of the permit;
- (b) The person is not using a wireless communications device, unless the person is using the device to report illegal activity, summon medical or other emergency help, or prevent injury to a person or property; and
- (c) An approved instructor, or a licensed driver with at least five years of driving experience, occupies the seat beside the driver.

(4) **Term of instruction permit.** A driver's instruction permit is valid for one year from the date of issue.

(a) The department may issue one additional one-year permit.

(b) The department may issue a third driver's permit if it finds after an investigation that the permittee is diligently seeking to improve driving proficiency.

(c) A person applying to renew an instruction permit must submit the application to the department in person. [2010 c 223 § 1; 2006 c 219 § 14; 2005 c 314 § 303; 2004 c 249 § 3. Prior: 2002 c 352 § 10; 2002 c 195 § 2; 1999 c 274 § 13; 1999 c 6 § 11; 1990 c 250 § 34; 1986 c 17 § 1; 1985 c 234 § 1; 1981 c 260 § 10; prior: 1979 c 63 § 1; 1979 c 61 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 218 § 8; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 7.]

**Effective date—2006 c 219:** See note following RCW 46.82.285.

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.055 Instruction permit. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** (1) **Driver's instruction permit.** The department may issue a driver's instruction permit with or without a photograph to an applicant who has successfully passed all parts of the examination other than the driving test, provided the information required by RCW 46.20.091, paid an application fee of twenty-five dollars, and meets the following requirements:

- (a) Is at least fifteen and one-half years of age; or
- (b) Is at least fifteen years of age and:
  - (i) Has submitted a proper application; and
  - (ii) Is enrolled in a traffic safety education program offered, approved, and accredited by the superintendent of public instruction or offered by a driver training school licensed and inspected by the department of licensing under chapter 46.82 RCW, that includes practice driving.

(2) **Waiver of written examination for instruction permit.** The department may waive the written examination, if, at the time of application, an applicant is enrolled in:

- (a) A traffic safety education course as defined by RCW 28A.220.020(2); or
- (b) A course of instruction offered by a licensed driver training school as defined by RCW 46.82.280.

The department may require proof of registration in such a course as it deems necessary.

(3) **Effect of instruction permit.** A person holding a driver's instruction permit may drive a motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, upon the public highways if:

- (a) The person has immediate possession of the permit;
- (b) The person is not using a wireless communications device, unless the person is using the device to report illegal activity, summon medical or other emergency help, or prevent injury to a person or property; and
- (c) An approved instructor, or a licensed driver with at least five years of driving experience, occupies the seat beside the driver.

(4) **Term of instruction permit.** A driver's instruction permit is valid for one year from the date of issue.

(a) The department may issue one additional one-year permit.

(b) The department may issue a third driver's permit if it finds after an investigation that the permittee is diligently seeking to improve driving proficiency.

(c) A person applying for an additional instruction permit must submit the application to the department in person and pay an application fee of twenty-five dollars for each issuance. [2012 c 80 § 5; 2010 c 223 § 1; 2006 c 219 § 14; 2005 c 314 § 303; 2004 c 249 § 3. Prior: 2002 c 352 § 10; 2002 c 195 § 2; 1999 c 274 § 13; 1999 c 6 § 11; 1990 c 250 § 34; 1986 c 17 § 1; 1985 c 234 § 1; 1981 c 260 § 10; prior: 1979 c 63 § 1; 1979 c 61 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 218 § 8; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 7.]

**Effective date—2012 c 80 §§ 5-13:** "Sections 5 through 13 of this act take effect October 1, 2012." [2012 c 80 § 14.]

**Effective date—2006 c 219:** See note following RCW 46.82.285.

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.065 Temporary permit.** (1) If the department is completing an investigation and determination of facts concerning an applicant's right to receive a driver's license, it may issue a temporary driver's permit to the applicant.

(2) A temporary driver's permit authorizes the permittee to drive a motor vehicle for up to sixty days. The permittee must have immediate possession of the permit while driving a motor vehicle.

(3) A temporary driver's permit is invalid if the department has issued a license to the permittee or refused to issue a license to the permittee for good cause. [1999 c 6 § 12.]

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

**46.20.070 Juvenile agricultural driving permit.** (1) **Agricultural driving permit authorized.** The director may issue a juvenile agricultural driving permit to a person under the age of eighteen years if:

(a) The application is signed by the applicant and the applicant's father, mother, or legal guardian;

(b) The applicant has passed the driving examination required by RCW 46.20.120;

(c) The department has investigated the applicant's need for the permit and determined that the need justifies issuance;

(d) The department has determined the applicant is capable of operating a motor vehicle without endangering himself or herself or other persons and property; and

(e) The applicant has paid a fee of twenty dollars.

The permit must contain a photograph of the person.

(2) **Effect of agricultural driving permit.** (a) The permit authorizes the holder to:

(i) Drive a motor vehicle on the public highways of this state in connection with farm work. The holder may drive only within a restricted farming locality described on the permit; and

(ii) Participate in the classroom portion of a traffic safety education course authorized under RCW 28A.220.030 or the classroom portion of a traffic safety education course offered by a driver training school licensed and inspected by the department of licensing under chapter 46.82 RCW offered in the community where the holder resides.

(b) The director may transfer the permit from one farming locality to another. A transfer is not a renewal of the permit.

(3) **Term and renewal of agricultural driving permit.** An agricultural driving permit expires one year from the date of issue.

(a) A person under the age of eighteen who holds a permit may renew the permit by paying a fee of fifteen dollars.

(b) A person applying to renew an agricultural driving permit must submit the application to the department in person.

(c) An agricultural driving permit is invalidated when a permittee attains age eighteen. In order to drive a motor vehicle on a highway he or she must obtain a motor vehicle driver's license under this chapter.

(4) **Suspension, revocation, or cancellation.** The director has sole discretion to suspend, revoke, or cancel a juvenile agricultural driving permit if:

(a) The permittee has been found to have committed an offense that requires mandatory suspension or revocation of a driver's license; or

(b) The director is satisfied that the permittee has violated the permit's restrictions. [2005 c 314 § 304; 2004 c 249 § 4. Prior: 2002 c 352 § 11; 2002 c 195 § 3; 1999 c 6 § 13; 1997 c 82 § 1; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 1; 1979 c 61 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 218 § 9; 1969 ex.s. c 170 § 12; 1967 c 32 § 27; 1963 c 39 § 9; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.070; prior: 1947 c 158 § 1, part; 1937 c 188 § 45, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-45, part.]

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.075 Intermediate license.** (1) An intermediate license authorizes the holder to drive a motor vehicle under the conditions specified in this section. An applicant for an intermediate license must be at least sixteen years of age and:

(a) Have possessed a valid instruction permit for a period of not less than six months;

(b) Have passed a driver licensing examination administered by the department;

(c) Have passed a course of driver's education in accordance with the standards established in RCW 46.20.100;

(d) Present certification by his or her parent, guardian, or employer to the department stating (i) that the applicant has had at least fifty hours of driving experience, ten of which were at night, during which the driver was supervised by a person at least twenty-one years of age who has had a valid driver's license for at least three years, and (ii) that the applicant has not been issued a notice of traffic infraction or cited for a traffic violation that is pending at the time of the application for the intermediate license;

(e) Not have been convicted of or found to have committed a traffic violation within the last six months before the application for the intermediate license; and

(f) Not have been adjudicated for an offense involving the use of alcohol or drugs during the period the applicant held an instruction permit.

(2) For the first six months after the issuance of an intermediate license or until the holder reaches eighteen years of age, whichever occurs first, the holder of the license may not operate a motor vehicle that is carrying any passengers under the age of twenty who are not members of the holder's immediate family as defined in RCW 42.17A.005. For the remaining period of the intermediate license, the holder may not operate a motor vehicle that is carrying more than three passengers who are under the age of twenty who are not members of the holder's immediate family.

(3) The holder of an intermediate license may not operate a motor vehicle between the hours of 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. except when the holder is accompanied by a parent, guardian, or a licensed driver who is at least twenty-five years of age.

(4) The holder of an intermediate license may not operate a moving motor vehicle while using a wireless communications device unless the holder is using the device to report illegal activity, summon medical or other emergency help, or prevent injury to a person or property.

(5) It is a traffic infraction for the holder of an intermediate license to operate a motor vehicle in violation of the restrictions imposed under this section.

(6) Except for a violation of subsection (4) of this section, enforcement of this section by law enforcement officers may be accomplished only as a secondary action when a driver of a motor vehicle has been detained for a suspected violation of this title or an equivalent local ordinance or some other offense.

(7) An intermediate licensee may drive at any hour without restrictions on the number of passengers in the vehicle if necessary for agricultural purposes.

(8) An intermediate licensee may drive at any hour without restrictions on the number of passengers in the vehicle if, for the twelve-month period following the issuance of the intermediate license, he or she:

(a) Has not been involved in an accident involving only one motor vehicle;

(b) Has not been involved in an accident where he or she was cited in connection with the accident or was found to have caused the accident;

(c) Has not been involved in an accident where no one was cited or was found to have caused the accident; and

(d) Has not been convicted of or found to have committed a traffic offense described in chapter 46.61 RCW or violated restrictions placed on an intermediate licensee under this section. [2011 c 60 § 44; 2010 c 223 § 2; 2009 c 125 § 1; 2000 c 115 § 2.]

**Effective date—2011 c 60:** See RCW 42.17A.919.

**Finding—2000 c 115:** "The legislature has recognized the need to develop a graduated licensing system in light of the disproportionately high incidence of motor vehicle crashes involving youthful motorists. This system will improve highway safety by progressively developing and improving the skills of younger drivers in the safest possible environment, thereby reducing the number of vehicle crashes." [2000 c 115 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## OBTAINING OR RENEWING A DRIVER'S LICENSE

### 46.20.091 Application—Penalty for false statement—Driving records from and to other jurisdictions.

(1) **Application.** In order to apply for a driver's license or instruction permit the applicant must provide his or her:

(a) Name of record, as established by documentation required under RCW 46.20.035;

(b) Date of birth, as established by satisfactory evidence of age;

(c) Sex;

(d) Washington residence address;

(e) Description;

(f) Driving licensing history, including:

(i) Whether the applicant has ever been licensed as a driver or chauffeur and, if so, (A) when and by what state or country; (B) whether the license has ever been suspended or revoked; and (C) the date of and reason for the suspension or revocation; or

(ii) Whether the applicant's application to another state or country for a driver's license has ever been refused and, if so, the date of and reason for the refusal; and

(g) Any additional information required by the department.

(2) **Sworn statement.** An application for an instruction permit or for an original driver's license must be made upon a form provided by the department. The form must include a section for the applicant to indicate whether he or she has received driver training and, if so, where. The identifying documentation verifying the name of record must be accompanied by the applicant's written statement that it is valid. The information provided on the form must be sworn to and signed by the applicant before a person authorized to administer oaths. An applicant who makes a false statement on an application for a driver's license or instruction permit is guilty of false swearing, a gross misdemeanor, under RCW 9A.72.040.

(3) **Driving records from other jurisdictions.** If a person previously licensed in another jurisdiction applies for a Washington driver's license, the department shall request a copy of the applicant's driver's record from the other jurisdiction. The driving record from the other jurisdiction becomes a part of the driver's record in this state.

(4) **Driving records to other jurisdictions.** If another jurisdiction requests a copy of a person's Washington driver's record, the department shall provide a copy of the record. The department shall forward the record without charge if the other jurisdiction extends the same privilege to the state of Washington. Otherwise the department shall charge a reasonable fee for transmittal of the record. [2000 c 115 § 4; 1999 c 6 § 14; 1998 c 41 § 11; 1996 c 287 § 5; 1990 c 250 § 35; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 2; 1979 c 63 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 8.]

**Finding—2000 c 115:** See note following RCW 46.20.075.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—1998 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.265.

*Social security number:* RCW 26.23.150.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.0921 Violations—Penalty.** (1) It is a misdemeanor for any person:

(a) To display or cause or permit to be displayed or have in his or her possession any fictitious or fraudulently altered driver's license or identicard;

(b) To lend his or her driver's license or identicard to any other person or knowingly permit the use thereof by another;

(c) To display or represent as one's own any driver's license or identicard not issued to him or her;

(d) Willfully to fail or refuse to surrender to the department upon its lawful demand any driver's license or identicard which has been suspended, revoked or canceled;

(e) To use a false or fictitious name in any application for a driver's license or identicard or to knowingly make a false statement or to knowingly conceal a material fact or otherwise commit a fraud in any such application;

(f) To permit any unlawful use of a driver's license or identicard issued to him or her.

(2) It is a class C felony for any person to sell or deliver a stolen driver's license or identicard.

(3) It is unlawful for any person to manufacture, sell, or deliver a forged, fictitious, counterfeit, fraudulently altered, or unlawfully issued driver's license or identicard, or to manufacture, sell, or deliver a blank driver's license or identicard except under the direction of the department. A violation of this subsection is:

(a) A class C felony if committed (i) for financial gain or (ii) with intent to commit forgery, theft, or identity theft; or

(b) A gross misdemeanor if the conduct does not violate (a) of this subsection.

(4) Notwithstanding subsection (3) of this section, it is a misdemeanor for any person under the age of twenty-one to manufacture or deliver fewer than four forged, fictitious, counterfeit, or fraudulently altered driver's licenses or identicards for the sole purpose of misrepresenting a person's age.

(5) In a proceeding under subsection (2), (3), or (4) of this section that is related to an identity theft under RCW 9.35.020, the crime will be considered to have been committed in any locality where the person whose means of identification or financial information was appropriated resides, or in which any part of the offense took place, regardless of whether the defendant was ever actually in that locality. [2003 c 214 § 1; 1990 c 210 § 3; 1981 c 92 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 41. Formerly RCW 46.20.336.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**46.20.093 Bicycle safety.** The department of licensing shall incorporate a section on bicycle safety and sharing the road into its instructional publications for drivers and shall include questions in the written portion of the driver's license examination on bicycle safety and sharing the road with bicycles. [1998 c 165 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.095 Instructional publication information.** The department's instructional publications for drivers must include information on:

(1) The proper use of the left-hand lane by motor vehicles on multilane highways; and

(2) Bicyclists' and pedestrians' rights and responsibilities. [1999 c 6 § 15; 1998 c 165 § 5; 1986 c 93 § 3.]

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

*Keep right except when passing, etc.: RCW 46.61.100.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.100 Persons under eighteen.** (1) **Application.** The application of a person under the age of eighteen years for a driver's license or a motorcycle endorsement must be signed by a parent or guardian with custody of the minor. If the person under the age of eighteen has no father, mother, or guardian, then the application must be signed by the minor's employer.

(2) **Traffic safety education requirement.** For a person under the age of eighteen years to obtain a driver's license he or she must meet the traffic safety education requirements of this subsection.

(a) To meet the traffic safety education requirement for a driver's license the applicant must satisfactorily complete a traffic safety education course as defined in RCW 28A.220.020 for a course offered by a school district, or as

defined by the department of licensing for a course offered by a driver training school licensed under chapter 46.82 RCW. The course offered by a school district or an approved private school must meet the standards established by the office of the state superintendent of public instruction. The course offered by a driver training school must meet the standards established by the department of licensing. The traffic safety education course may be provided by:

(i) A recognized secondary school; or

(ii) A driver training school licensed under chapter 46.82 RCW that is annually approved by the department of licensing.

(b) To meet the traffic safety education requirement for a motorcycle endorsement, the applicant must successfully complete a motorcycle safety education course that meets the standards established by the department of licensing.

(c) The department may waive the traffic safety education requirement for a driver's license if the applicant demonstrates to the department's satisfaction that:

(i) He or she was unable to take or complete a traffic safety education course;

(ii) A need exists for the applicant to operate a motor vehicle; and

(iii) He or she has the ability to operate a motor vehicle in such a manner as not to jeopardize the safety of persons or property.

The department may adopt rules to implement this subsection (2)(c) in concert with the supervisor of the traffic safety education section of the office of the superintendent of public instruction.

(d) The department may waive the traffic safety education requirement if the applicant was licensed to drive a motor vehicle or motorcycle outside this state and provides proof that he or she has had education equivalent to that required under this subsection. [2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 18; 2002 c 195 § 1; 1999 c 274 § 14; 1999 c 6 § 16; 1990 c 250 § 36; 1985 c 234 § 2; 1979 c 158 § 146; 1973 1st ex.s. c 154 § 87; 1972 ex.s. c 71 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 218 § 10; 1967 c 167 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 43; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.100. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 51; RRS § 6312-51; 1921 c 108 § 6, part; RRS § 6368, part.]

**Effective date—2010 1st sp.s. c 26; 2010 1st sp.s. c 7:** See note following RCW 43.03.027.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **46.20.105 Identifying types of licenses and permits.**

(1) The department may provide a method to distinguish the driver's license of a person who is under the age of twenty-one from the driver's license of a person who is twenty-one years of age or older.

(2) An instruction permit must be identified as an "instruction permit" and issued in a distinctive form as determined by the department.

(3) An intermediate license must be identified as an "intermediate license" and issued in a distinctive form as determined by the department. [2000 c 115 § 5; 1987 c 463 § 3.]

**Finding—2000 c 115:** See note following RCW 46.20.075.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.109 Wheelchair conveyances.** Each operator of a wheelchair conveyance shall undergo a special examination conducted for the purpose of determining whether that person can properly and safely operate the conveyance on public roadways within a specified area. An operator's license issued after the special examination may specify the route, area, time, or other restrictions that are necessary to ensure the safety of the operator as well as the general motoring public. The department shall adopt rules for periodic review of the performance of operators of wheelchair conveyances. Operation of a wheelchair conveyance in violation of these rules is a traffic infraction. [1983 c 200 § 3. Formerly RCW 46.20.550]

*Wheelchair conveyances*

*definition: RCW 46.04.710.*

*public roadways, operating on: RCW 46.61.730.*

*registration: RCW 46.16A.405(3).*

*safety standards: RCW 46.37.610.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.111 Registration with selective service system for males under twenty-six upon application—Opportunity to consent or decline.** (1) Subject to the availability of funds appropriated for this purpose, any person who is a male citizen or noncitizen of the United States, who applies for an original, the renewal of, or a replacement instruction permit, intermediate license, driver's license, or identicard under this chapter, and who is under the age of twenty-six, must be given the opportunity to register as required by the military selective service act (62 Stat. 604; 50 App. U.S.C. Sec. 451 et seq.), as amended.

(2) The submission of an application by an applicant under subsection (1) of this section indicates that:

(a) The applicant has already registered with the selective service system;

(b) The applicant authorizes the department to forward to the selective service system the necessary personal information required for registration into the system; or

(c) The applicant declines registration for purposes of the military selective service act (62 Stat. 604; 50 App. U.S.C. Sec. 451 et seq.), as amended, in conjunction with the submission of an application under subsection (1) of this section.

(3)(a) The department shall forward electronically any necessary personal information of the applicant to the selective service system within ten days of receipt of the application, as authorized under subsection (2)(b) of this section.

(b) When applicable, the department shall notify the applicant at the time of application submission that, by submitting the application, the applicant authorizes the department to register the applicant with the selective service system. If the applicant is under the age of eighteen at the time of application, the department shall notify the applicant that he will be registered with the selective service system as required by federal law. When providing notice under this subsection (3)(b), the department shall provide the applicant with materials containing the following statement:

"By submitting this application, I am consenting to registration with the Selective Service System, if so required by federal law. If under age 18, I understand that I will be registered as required by federal law when I attain age 18."

(4)(a) If an applicant declines to register with the selective service system under subsection (2)(c) of this section, the department may not create a record indicating that the applicant declined to register.

(b) Any department information that indicates that an applicant has declined to register under subsection (2)(c) of this section is exempt from the disclosure requirements under chapter 42.56 RCW, and the department may not disclose the information to any other government agency.

(5) The department may not deny the issuance of an instruction permit, intermediate license, driver's license, or identicard if the applicant declines to register with the selective service system, provided that the applicant meets all other requirements of this chapter.

(6) The department may provide selective service system registration information to applicants who choose to decline the opportunity to register with the selective service system if the applicant requests registration information.

(7) The department may adopt rules as necessary to implement this section. [2011 c 350 § 1.]

**Effective date—2011 c 350:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2012." [2011 c 350 § 3.]

**46.20.113 Anatomical gift statement.** The department of licensing shall provide a statement whereby the licensee may certify his or her willingness to make an anatomical gift under RCW 68.64.030, as now or hereafter amended. The department shall provide the statement in at least one of the following ways:

(1) On each driver's license; or

(2) With each driver's license; or

(3) With each in-person driver's license application. [2008 c 139 § 27; 1993 c 228 § 18; 1987 c 331 § 81; 1979 c 158 § 147; 1975 c 54 § 1.]

**Uniformity of application and construction—2008 c 139:** See RCW 68.64.902.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.1131 Information for organ donor registry.** The department shall electronically transfer the information of all persons who upon application for a driver's license or identicard volunteer to donate organs or tissue to a registry created in RCW 68.64.200, and any subsequent changes to the applicant's donor status when the applicant renews a driver's license or identicard or applies for a new driver's license or identicard. [2008 c 139 § 28; 2003 c 94 § 5.]

**Uniformity of application and construction—2008 c 139:** See RCW 68.64.902.

**Findings—2003 c 94:** See note following RCW 68.64.200.

**46.20.114 Preventing alteration or reproduction.** The department shall prepare and issue drivers' licenses and identicards using processes that prohibit as nearly as possible the alteration or reproduction of such cards, or the superimposing of other photographs on such cards, without ready detection. [1999 c 6 § 17; 1977 ex.s. c 27 § 2.]

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

**Purpose—1977 ex.s. c 27:** "The legislature finds that the falsification of cards and licenses is a serious social problem creating economic hardship and problems which impede the efficient conduct of commerce and government. The legislature is particularly concerned that the increasing use of false drivers' licenses and identicards to purchase liquor, to cash bad checks,



and to obtain food stamps and other benefits is causing the loss of liquor licenses, the loss of jobs, the loss of income, and the loss of human life in addition to significant monetary losses in business and government. It is the purpose of RCW 46.20.114 to require an effective means of rendering drivers' licenses and identicards as immune as possible from alteration and counterfeiting in order to promote the public health and safety of the people of this state." [1977 ex.s. c 27 § 1.]

**46.20.117 Identicards. (Effective until October 1, 2012.)** (1) **Issuance.** The department shall issue an identicard, containing a picture, if the applicant:

(a) Does not hold a valid Washington driver's license;  
 (b) Proves his or her identity as required by RCW 46.20.035; and

(c) Pays the required fee. The fee is twenty dollars unless an applicant is a recipient of continuing public assistance grants under Title 74 RCW, who is referred in writing by the secretary of social and health services. For those persons the fee must be the actual cost of production of the identicard.

(2) **Design and term.** The identicard must:

(a) Be distinctly designed so that it will not be confused with the official driver's license; and

(b) Expire on the fifth anniversary of the applicant's birthdate after issuance.

(3) **Renewal.** An application for identicard renewal may be submitted by means of:

(a) Personal appearance before the department; or

(b) Mail or electronic commerce, if permitted by rule of the department and if the applicant did not renew his or her identicard by mail or by electronic commerce when it last expired. However, the department may accept an application for renewal of an identicard submitted by means of mail or electronic commerce only if specific authority and funding is provided for this purpose by June 30, 2004, in the omnibus transportation appropriations act.

An identicard may not be renewed by mail or by electronic commerce unless the renewal issued by the department includes a photograph of the identicard holder.

(4) **Cancellation.** The department may cancel an identicard if the holder of the identicard used the card or allowed others to use the card in violation of RCW 46.20.0921. [2005 c 314 § 305; 2004 c 249 § 5; 2002 c 352 § 12; 1999 c 274 § 15; 1999 c 6 § 18; 1993 c 452 § 3; 1986 c 15 § 1; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 3; 1985 c 212 § 1; 1981 c 92 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 65 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 155 § 4.]

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

**Purpose—1971 ex.s. c 65:** "The efficient and effective operation and administration of state government affects the health, safety, and welfare of the people of this state and it is the intent and purpose of this act to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the people by improving the operation and administration of state government." [1971 ex.s. c 65 § 2.]

**Effective date—Purpose—1969 ex.s. c 155:** See notes following RCW 46.20.118.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.117 Identicards. (Effective October 1, 2012.)**

(1) **Issuance.** The department shall issue an identicard, containing a picture, if the applicant:

(a) Does not hold a valid Washington driver's license;

(b) Proves his or her identity as required by RCW 46.20.035; and

(c) Pays the required fee. Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, the fee is forty-five dollars from October 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, and fifty-four dollars after June 30, 2013, unless an applicant is a recipient of continuing public assistance grants under Title 74 RCW, who is referred in writing by the secretary of social and health services. For those persons the fee must be the actual cost of production of the identicard.

(2) **Design and term.** The identicard must:

(a) Be distinctly designed so that it will not be confused with the official driver's license; and

(b) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, expire on the sixth anniversary of the applicant's birthdate after issuance.

(3) **Renewal.** An application for identicard renewal may be submitted by means of:

(a) Personal appearance before the department; or

(b) Mail or electronic commerce, if permitted by rule of the department and if the applicant did not renew his or her identicard by mail or by electronic commerce when it last expired.

An identicard may not be renewed by mail or by electronic commerce unless the renewal issued by the department includes a photograph of the identicard holder.

(4) **Cancellation.** The department may cancel an identicard if the holder of the identicard used the card or allowed others to use the card in violation of RCW 46.20.0921.

(5) **Alternative issuance/renewal/extension.** The department may issue or renew an identicard for a period other than five years from October 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, or six years after June 30, 2013, or may extend by mail or electronic commerce an identicard that has already been issued, in order to evenly distribute, as nearly as possible, the yearly renewal rate of identicard holders. The fee for an identicard issued or renewed for a period other than five years from October 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, or six years after June 30, 2013, or that has been extended by mail or electronic commerce, is nine dollars for each year that the identicard is issued, renewed, or extended. The department may adopt any rules as are necessary to carry out this subsection. [2012 c 80 § 6; 2005 c 314 § 305; 2004 c 249 § 5; 2002 c 352 § 12; 1999 c 274 § 15; 1999 c 6 § 18; 1993 c 452 § 3; 1986 c 15 § 1; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 3; 1985 c 212 § 1; 1981 c 92 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 65 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 155 § 4.]

**Effective date—2012 c 80 §§ 5-13:** See note following RCW 46.20.055.

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

**Purpose—1971 ex.s. c 65:** "The efficient and effective operation and administration of state government affects the health, safety, and welfare of the people of this state and it is the intent and purpose of this act to promote

the health, safety, and welfare of the people by improving the operation and administration of state government." [1971 ex.s. c 65 § 2.]

**Effective date—Purpose—1969 ex.s. c 155:** See notes following RCW 46.20.118.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.118 Negative file.** (1) The department shall maintain a negative file. It shall contain negatives of all pictures taken by the department of licensing as authorized by this chapter. Negatives in the file shall not be available for public inspection and copying under chapter 42.56 RCW.

(2) The department may make the file available to official governmental enforcement agencies to assist in the investigation by the agencies of suspected criminal activity or for the purposes of verifying identity when a law enforcement officer is authorized by law to request identification from an individual.

(3) The department shall make the file available to the office of the secretary of state, at the expense of the secretary of state, to assist in maintenance of the statewide voter registration database.

(4) The department may also provide a print to the driver's next of kin in the event the driver is deceased. [2009 c 366 § 1. Prior: 2005 c 274 § 307; 2005 c 246 § 23; 1990 c 250 § 37; 1981 c 22 § 1; 1979 c 158 § 149; 1969 ex.s. c 155 § 5.]

**Part headings not law—Effective date—2005 c 274:** See RCW 42.56.901 and 42.56.902.

**Effective date—2005 c 246:** See note following RCW 10.64.140.

**Purpose—1969 ex.s. c 155:** "The identification of the injured or the seriously ill is often difficult. The need for an identification file to facilitate use by proper law enforcement officers has hampered law enforcement. Personal identification for criminal, personal and commercial reasons is becoming most important at a time when it is increasingly difficult to accomplish. The legislature finds that the public health and welfare requires a standard and readily recognizable means of identification of each person living within the state. The legislature further finds that the need for an identification file by law enforcement agencies must be met. The use of photographic drivers' licenses will greatly aid the problem, but some means of identification must be provided for persons who do not possess a driver's license. The purpose of this 1969 amendatory act is to provide for the positive identification of persons, both through an expanded use of drivers' licenses and also through issue of personal identification cards for nondrivers." [1969 ex.s. c 155 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.119 Reasonable rules.** The rules and regulations adopted pursuant to RCW 46.20.070 through 46.20.119 shall be reasonable in view of the purposes to be served by RCW 46.20.070 through 46.20.119. [1990 c 250 § 38; 1969 ex.s. c 155 § 6.]

**Effective date—Purpose—1969 ex.s. c 155:** See notes following RCW 46.20.118.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.120 Examinations—Waiver—Fees—Renewals—Administration.** (*Effective until October 1, 2012.*) An applicant for a new or renewed driver's license must successfully pass a driver licensing examination to qualify for a driver's license. The department must ensure that examinations are given at places and times reasonably available to the people of this state. If the department does not administer driver licensing examinations as a routine part of its licensing services within a department region because adequate testing sites are provided by driver training schools or school dis-

tricts within that region, the department shall, at a minimum, administer driver licensing examinations by appointment to applicants eighteen years of age and older in at least one licensing office within that region.

(1) **Waiver.** The department may waive:

(a) All or any part of the examination of any person applying for the renewal of a driver's license unless the department determines that the applicant is not qualified to hold a driver's license under this title; or

(b) All or any part of the examination involving operating a motor vehicle if the applicant:

(i) Surrenders a valid driver's license issued by the person's previous home state; or

(ii) Provides for verification a valid driver's license issued by a foreign driver licensing jurisdiction with which the department has an informal agreement under RCW 46.20.125; and

(iii) Is otherwise qualified to be licensed.

(2) **Fee.** Each applicant for a new license must pay an examination fee of twenty dollars.

(a) The examination fee is in addition to the fee charged for issuance of the license.

(b) "New license" means a license issued to a driver:

(i) Who has not been previously licensed in this state; or

(ii) Whose last previous Washington license has been expired for more than five years.

(3) An application for driver's license renewal may be submitted by means of:

(a) Personal appearance before the department; or

(b) Mail or electronic commerce, if permitted by rule of the department and if the applicant did not renew his or her license by mail or by electronic commerce when it last expired.

(4) A person whose license expired or will expire while he or she is living outside the state, may:

(a) Apply to the department to extend the validity of his or her license for no more than twelve months. If the person establishes to the department's satisfaction that he or she is unable to return to Washington before the date his or her license expires, the department shall extend the person's license. The department may grant consecutive extensions, but in no event may the cumulative total of extensions exceed twelve months. An extension granted under this section does not change the expiration date of the license for purposes of RCW 46.20.181. The department shall charge a fee of five dollars for each license extension;

(b) Apply to the department to renew his or her license by mail or, if permitted by rule of the department, by electronic commerce even if subsection (3)(b) of this section would not otherwise allow renewal by that means. If the person establishes to the department's satisfaction that he or she is unable to return to Washington within twelve months of the date that his or her license expires, the department shall renew the person's license by mail or, if permitted by rule of the department, by electronic commerce.

(5) If a qualified person submits an application for renewal under subsection (3)(b) or (4)(b) of this section, he or she is not required to pass an examination nor provide an updated photograph. A license renewed by mail or by electronic commerce that does not include a photograph of the

licensee must be labeled "not valid for identification purposes."

(6) Driver training schools licensed by the department under chapter 46.82 RCW may administer the portions of the driver licensing examination that test the applicant's knowledge of traffic laws and ability to safely operate a motor vehicle.

(7) School districts that offer a traffic safety education program under chapter 28A.220 RCW may administer the portions of the driver licensing examination that test the applicant's knowledge of traffic laws and ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. [2011 c 370 § 4. Prior: 2005 c 314 § 306; 2005 c 61 § 2; 2004 c 249 § 6; 2002 c 352 § 13; prior: 1999 c 308 § 1; 1999 c 199 § 3; 1999 c 6 § 19; 1990 c 9 § 1; 1988 c 88 § 2; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 4; 1979 c 61 § 6; 1975 1st ex.s. c 191 § 2; 1967 c 167 § 4; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 9; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.120; prior: 1959 c 284 § 1; 1953 c 221 § 2; 1937 c 188 § 55, part; RRS § 6312-55, part.]

**Intent—2011 c 370:** See note following RCW 28A.220.030.

**Inclusion of stakeholder groups in communications to facilitate transition of driver licensing examination administration—2011 c 370:** See note following RCW 46.82.450.

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Intent—2005 c 61:** See note following RCW 46.20.125.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.120 Examinations—Waiver—Fees—Renewals—Administration. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** An applicant for a new or renewed driver's license must successfully pass a driver licensing examination to qualify for a driver's license. The department must ensure that examinations are given at places and times reasonably available to the people of this state. If the department does not administer driver licensing examinations as a routine part of its licensing services within a department region because adequate testing sites are provided by driver training schools or school districts within that region, the department shall, at a minimum, administer driver licensing examinations by appointment to applicants eighteen years of age and older in at least one licensing office within that region.

(1) **Waiver.** The department may waive:

(a) All or any part of the examination of any person applying for the renewal of a driver's license unless the department determines that the applicant is not qualified to hold a driver's license under this title; or

(b) All or any part of the examination involving operating a motor vehicle if the applicant:

(i) Surrenders a valid driver's license issued by the person's previous home state; or

(ii) Provides for verification a valid driver's license issued by a foreign driver licensing jurisdiction with which the department has an informal agreement under RCW 46.20.125; and

(iii) Is otherwise qualified to be licensed.

(2) **Fee.** Each applicant for a new license must pay an examination fee of thirty-five dollars.

(a) The examination fee is in addition to the fee charged for issuance of the license.

(b) "New license" means a license issued to a driver:

(i) Who has not been previously licensed in this state; or

(ii) Whose last previous Washington license has been expired for more than six years.

(3) An application for driver's license renewal may be submitted by means of:

(a) Personal appearance before the department; or

(b) Mail or electronic commerce, if permitted by rule of the department and if the applicant did not renew his or her license by mail or by electronic commerce when it last expired.

(4) A person whose license expired or will expire while he or she is living outside the state, may:

(a) Apply to the department to extend the validity of his or her license for no more than twelve months. If the person establishes to the department's satisfaction that he or she is unable to return to Washington before the date his or her license expires, the department shall extend the person's license. The department may grant consecutive extensions, but in no event may the cumulative total of extensions exceed twelve months. An extension granted under this section does not change the expiration date of the license for purposes of RCW 46.20.181. The department shall charge a fee of five dollars for each license extension;

(b) Apply to the department to renew his or her license by mail or, if permitted by rule of the department, by electronic commerce even if subsection (3)(b) of this section would not otherwise allow renewal by that means. If the person establishes to the department's satisfaction that he or she is unable to return to Washington within twelve months of the date that his or her license expires, the department shall renew the person's license by mail or, if permitted by rule of the department, by electronic commerce.

(5) If a qualified person submits an application for renewal under subsection (3)(b) or (4)(b) of this section, he or she is not required to pass an examination nor provide an updated photograph. A license renewed by mail or by electronic commerce that does not include a photograph of the licensee must be labeled "not valid for identification purposes."

(6) Driver training schools licensed by the department under chapter 46.82 RCW may administer the portions of the driver licensing examination that test the applicant's knowledge of traffic laws and ability to safely operate a motor vehicle.

(7) School districts that offer a traffic safety education program under chapter 28A.220 RCW may administer the portions of the driver licensing examination that test the applicant's knowledge of traffic laws and ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. [2012 c 80 § 7; 2011 c 370 § 4. Prior: 2005 c 314 § 306; 2005 c 61 § 2; 2004 c 249 § 6; 2002 c 352 § 13; prior: 1999 c 308 § 1; 1999 c 199 § 3; 1999 c 6 § 19; 1990 c 9 § 1; 1988 c 88 § 2; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 4; 1979 c 61 § 6; 1975 1st ex.s. c 191 § 2; 1967 c 167 § 4; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 9; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.120; prior: 1959 c 284 § 1; 1953 c 221 § 2; 1937 c 188 § 55, part; RRS § 6312-55, part.]

**Effective date—2012 c 80 §§ 5-13:** See note following RCW 46.20.055.

**Intent—2011 c 370:** See note following RCW 28A.220.030.

**Inclusion of stakeholder groups in communications to facilitate transition of driver licensing examination administration—2011 c 370:** See note following RCW 46.82.450.

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Intent—2005 c 61:** See note following RCW 46.20.125.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.125 Waiver—Agreement with other jurisdictions.** (1) The department may enter into an informal agreement with one or more other licensing jurisdictions to waive the requirement for the examination involving operating a motor vehicle by licensed drivers, age eighteen years or older, from that jurisdiction.

(2) The department may only enter into an agreement with a jurisdiction if:

(a) The jurisdiction has procedures in place to verify the validity of the drivers' licenses it issues; and

(b) The jurisdiction has agreed to waive all or any part of the driver's license examination requirements for Washington licensed drivers applying for a driver's license in that jurisdiction. [2005 c 61 § 3.]

**Intent—2005 c 61:** "The legislature recognizes the importance of global markets to our state and national economy. As a leader among states in international commerce, Washington houses many multinational corporations. Competition among states for foreign businesses and personnel is fierce and it is necessary to Washington's future economic viability to eliminate a significant regulatory barrier to efficient personnel exchange, resulting in a more attractive business climate in Washington. The legislature recognizes that more than twenty other states have entered into informal reciprocal agreements with other nations to waive driver's license testing requirements in order to ease the transition of personnel to and from those states. By removing an unnecessary barrier to efficient personnel mobility it is the intent of the legislature to strengthen and diversify Washington's economy." [2005 c 61 § 1.]

**46.20.126 Rules.** The department may make rules to carry out the purposes of RCW 46.20.120 and 46.20.125. [2005 c 61 § 4.]

**46.20.130 Content and conduct of examinations.** (1) The director shall prescribe the content of the driver licensing examination and the manner of conducting the examination, which shall include but is not limited to:

(a) A test of the applicant's eyesight and ability to see, understand, and follow highway signs regulating, warning, and directing traffic;

(b) A test of the applicant's knowledge of traffic laws and ability to understand and follow the directives of lawful authority, orally or graphically, that regulate, warn, and direct traffic in accordance with the traffic laws of this state;

(c) An actual demonstration of the applicant's ability to operate a motor vehicle without jeopardizing the safety of persons or property. If the applicant is deaf or hearing impaired, the applicant may be accompanied by an interpreter to assist the applicant during the demonstration. The interpreter will be of the applicant's choosing from a list provided by the department of licensing; and

(d) Such further examination as the director deems necessary;

(i) To determine whether any facts exist that would bar the issuance of a vehicle operator's license under chapters 46.20, 46.21, and 46.29 RCW; and

(ii) To determine the applicant's fitness to operate a motor vehicle safely on the highways.

(2) If the applicant desires to drive a motorcycle or a motor-driven cycle he or she must qualify for a motorcycle endorsement under RCW 46.20.500 through 46.20.515. [2006 c 190 § 1; 1999 c 6 § 20; 1990 c 250 § 39; 1981 c 245 § 4; 1967 c 232 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 10; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.130. Prior: 1959 c 284 § 2; 1943 c 151 § 1; 1937 c 188 § 57; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6312-57.]

**Collective bargaining rights not affected—2006 c 190:** "This act does not affect the right of state employees to collectively bargain wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment under chapter 41.80 RCW." [2006 c 190 § 2.]

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.153 Voter registration—Posting signs.** The department shall post signs at each driver licensing facility advertising the availability of voter registration services and advising of the qualifications to register to vote. [2001 c 41 § 15.]

**46.20.155 Voter registration—Services.** (1) Before issuing an original license or identicard or renewing a license or identicard under this chapter, the licensing agent shall determine if the applicant wants to register to vote or transfer his or her voter registration by asking the following question:

"Do you want to register to vote or transfer your voter registration?"

If the applicant chooses to register or transfer a registration, the agent shall ask the following:

(1) "Are you a United States citizen?"

(2) "Are you or will you be eighteen years of age on or before the next election?"

If the applicant answers in the affirmative to both questions, the agent shall then submit the registration or transfer. If the applicant answers in the negative to either question, the agent shall not submit a voter registration application.

(2) The department shall establish a procedure that substantially meets the requirements of subsection (1) of this section when permitting an applicant to renew a license or identicard by mail or by electronic commerce. [2009 c 369 § 42; 2005 c 246 § 24; 2004 c 249 § 7; 2001 c 41 § 14; 1990 c 143 § 6.]

**Effective date—2005 c 246:** See note following RCW 10.64.140.

*Voter registration with driver licensing: RCW 29A.08.340 and 29A.08.350.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.157 Data to consolidated technology services agency—Confidentiality.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the department shall annually provide to the consolidated technology services agency an electronic data file. The data file must:

(a) Contain information on all licensed drivers and identicard holders who are eighteen years of age or older and whose records have not expired for more than two years;

(b) Be provided at no charge; and

(c) Contain the following information on each such person: Full name, date of birth, residence address including county, sex, and most recent date of application, renewal, replacement, or change of driver's license or identicaid.

(2) Before complying with subsection (1) of this section, the department shall remove from the file the names of any certified participants in the Washington state address confidentiality program under chapter 40.24 RCW that have been identified to the department by the secretary of state. [2011 1st sp.s. c 43 § 811; 1999 c 6 § 21; 1993 c 408 § 12.]

**Effective date—Purpose—2011 1st sp.s. c 43:** See notes following RCW 43.19.003.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.161 Issuance of license—Contents—Fee. (Effective until October 1, 2012.)** The department, upon receipt of a fee of twenty-five dollars, unless the driver's license is issued for a period other than five years, in which case the fee shall be five dollars for each year that the license is issued, which includes the fee for the required photograph, shall issue to every qualifying applicant a driver's license. A driver's license issued to a person under the age of eighteen is an intermediate license, subject to the restrictions imposed under RCW 46.20.075, until the person reaches the age of eighteen. The license must include a distinguishing number assigned to the licensee, the name of record, date of birth, Washington residence address, photograph, a brief description of the licensee, and either a facsimile of the signature of the licensee or a space upon which the licensee shall write his or her usual signature with pen and ink immediately upon receipt of the license. No license is valid until it has been so signed by the licensee. [2000 c 115 § 6; 1999 c 308 § 2; 1999 c 6 § 22; 1998 c 41 § 12; 1990 c 250 § 40; 1981 c 245 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 191 § 3; 1969 c 99 § 6; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 11.]

**Finding—2000 c 115:** See note following RCW 46.20.075.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—1998 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.265.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.161 Issuance—Contents—Fee. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** The department, upon receipt of a fee of forty-five dollars from October 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, and fifty-four dollars after June 30, 2013, unless the driver's license is issued for a period other than five years from October 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, or six years after June 30, 2013, in which case the fee shall be nine dollars for each year that the license is issued, which includes the fee for the required photograph, shall issue to every qualifying applicant a driver's license. A driver's license issued to a person under the age of eighteen is an intermediate license, subject to the restrictions imposed under RCW 46.20.075, until the person reaches the age of eighteen. The license must include a distinguishing number assigned to the licensee, the name of record, date of birth, Washington residence address, photograph, a brief description of the licensee, and either a facsimile of the signature of the licensee or a space upon which the licensee shall write his or her usual signature with pen and ink immediately upon receipt of the license. No license is valid until it has

been so signed by the licensee. [2012 c 80 § 8; 2000 c 115 § 6; 1999 c 308 § 2; 1999 c 6 § 22; 1998 c 41 § 12; 1990 c 250 § 40; 1981 c 245 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 191 § 3; 1969 c 99 § 6; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 11.]

**Effective date—2012 c 80 §§ 5-13:** See note following RCW 46.20.055.

**Finding—2000 c 115:** See note following RCW 46.20.075.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—1998 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.265.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.181 Expiration date—Renewal—Fees—Penalty. (Effective until October 1, 2012.)** (1) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, every driver's license expires on the fifth anniversary of the licensee's birthdate following the issuance of the license.

(2) A person may renew his or her license on or before the expiration date by submitting an application as prescribed by the department and paying a fee of twenty-five dollars. This fee includes the fee for the required photograph.

(3) A person renewing his or her driver's license more than sixty days after the license has expired shall pay a penalty fee of ten dollars in addition to the renewal fee, unless his or her license expired when:

(a) The person was outside the state and he or she renews the license within sixty days after returning to this state; or

(b) The person was incapacitated and he or she renews the license within sixty days after the termination of the incapacity.

(4) During the period from July 1, 2000, to July 1, 2006, the department may issue or renew a driver's license for a period other than five years, or may extend by mail a license that has already been issued, in order to evenly distribute, as nearly as possible, the yearly renewal rate of licensed drivers. The fee for a driver's license issued or renewed for a period other than five years, or that has been extended by mail, is five dollars for each year that the license is issued, renewed, or extended. The department may adopt any rules as are necessary to carry out this subsection. [1999 c 308 § 3; 1999 c 6 § 23; 1990 c 250 § 41; 1981 c 245 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 191 § 4; 1969 c 99 § 7; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 46; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 17.]

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.181 Expiration date—Renewal—Fees—Penalty. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** (1) Except as provided in subsection (4) or (5) of this section, every driver's license expires on the sixth anniversary of the licensee's birthdate following the issuance of the license.

(2) A person may renew his or her license on or before the expiration date by submitting an application as prescribed by the department and paying a fee of forty-five dollars from October 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, and fifty-four dollars after June 30, 2013. This fee includes the fee for the required photograph.

(3) A person renewing his or her driver's license more than sixty days after the license has expired shall pay a penalty fee of ten dollars in addition to the renewal fee, unless his or her license expired when:

(a) The person was outside the state and he or she renews the license within sixty days after returning to this state; or

(b) The person was incapacitated and he or she renews the license within sixty days after the termination of the incapacity.

(4) The department may issue or renew a driver's license for a period other than five years from October 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, or six years after June 30, 2013, or may extend by mail or electronic commerce a license that has already been issued, in order to evenly distribute, as nearly as possible, the yearly renewal rate of licensed drivers. The fee for a driver's license issued or renewed for a period other than five years from October 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, or six years after June 30, 2013, or that has been extended by mail or electronic commerce, is nine dollars for each year that the license is issued, renewed, or extended. The department may adopt any rules as are necessary to carry out this subsection.

(5) A driver's license that includes a hazardous materials endorsement under chapter 46.25 RCW may expire on an anniversary of the licensee's birthdate other than the sixth year following issuance or renewal of the license in order to match, as nearly as possible, the validity of certification from the federal transportation security administration that the licensee has been determined not to pose a security risk. The fee for a driver's license issued or renewed for a period other than five years from October 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, or six years after June 30, 2013, is nine dollars for each year that the license is issued or renewed, not including any endorsement fees. The department may adjust the expiration date of a driver's license that has previously been issued to conform to the provisions of this subsection if a hazardous materials endorsement is added to the license subsequent to its issuance. If the validity of the driver's license is extended, the licensee must pay a fee of nine dollars for each year that the license is extended.

(6) The department may adopt any rules as are necessary to carry out this section. [2012 c 80 § 9; 1999 c 308 § 3; 1999 c 6 § 23; 1990 c 250 § 41; 1981 c 245 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 191 § 4; 1969 c 99 § 7; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 46; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 17.]

**Effective date—2012 c 80 §§ 5-13:** See note following RCW 46.20.055.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.185 Photograph during renewal.** The department of licensing shall establish a procedure for renewal of drivers' licenses under this chapter which does not deprive the applicant during the renewal process of an identification bearing the applicant's photograph.

This identification shall be designed to and shall be accepted as proper identification under \*RCW 66.16.040. [1979 ex.s. c 87 § 1.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 66.16.040 was repealed by 2012 c 2 § 215 (Initiative Measure No. 1183).

**46.20.187 Registration of sex offenders.** The department, at the time a person renews his or her driver's license or identicard, or surrenders a driver's license from another jurisdiction pursuant to RCW 46.20.021 and makes an application for a driver's license or an identicard, shall provide the

applicant with written information on the registration requirements of RCW 9A.44.130. [1990 c 3 § 407.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.191 Compliance with federal REAL ID Act of 2005 requirements.** Before issuing a driver's license or identicard that complies with the requirements of the REAL ID Act of 2005, P.L. 109-13, and before storing or including data about Washington state residents in any database, records facility, or computer system for purposes of meeting the requirements of the REAL ID Act of 2005, the department of licensing shall certify that the driver's license, identicard, database, records facility, computer system, and the department's personnel screening and training procedures: (1) Include all reasonable security measures to protect the privacy of Washington state residents; (2) include all reasonable safeguards to protect against unauthorized disclosure of data; and (3) do not place unreasonable costs or recordkeeping burdens on a driver's license or identicard applicant. [2007 c 85 § 2.]

**46.20.1911 Costs and burdens of compliance with federal REAL ID Act of 2005 requirements—Legal challenge.** (1) The department of licensing and the office of financial management may analyze the costs and burdens to the state of Washington, and to applicants of drivers' licenses or identicards, of complying with the requirements of the REAL ID Act of 2005, P.L. 109-13, and any related federal regulations.

(2) The attorney general may, with approval of the governor, challenge the legality or constitutionality of the REAL ID Act of 2005. [2007 c 85 § 3.]

**46.20.200 Lost, destroyed, corrected licenses or permits. (Effective until October 1, 2012.)** (1) If an instruction permit, identicard, or a driver's license is lost or destroyed, the person to whom it was issued may obtain a duplicate of it upon furnishing proof of such fact satisfactory to the department and payment of a fee of fifteen dollars to the department.

(2) A replacement permit, identicard, or driver's license may be obtained to change or correct material information upon payment of a fee of ten dollars and surrender of the permit, identicard, or driver's license being replaced. [2002 c 352 § 14; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 5; 1975 1st ex.s. c 191 § 5; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 16; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.200. Prior: 1947 c 164 § 18; 1937 c 188 § 60; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-60; 1921 c 108 § 11; RRS § 6373.]

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.200 Lost, destroyed, or corrected licenses, identicards, or permits. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** (1) If an instruction permit, identicard, or a driver's license is lost or destroyed, the person to whom it was issued may obtain a duplicate of it upon furnishing proof of such fact satisfactory to the department and payment of a fee of twenty dollars to the department.

(2) A replacement permit, identicard, or driver's license may be obtained to change or correct material information upon payment of a fee of ten dollars and surrender of the per-

mit, identicard, or driver's license being replaced. [2012 c 80 § 10; 2002 c 352 § 14; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 5; 1975 1st ex.s. c 191 § 5; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 16; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.200. Prior: 1947 c 164 § 18; 1937 c 188 § 60; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-60; 1921 c 108 § 11; RRS § 6373.]

**Effective date—2012 c 80 §§ 5-13:** See note following RCW 46.20.055.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.202 Enhanced drivers' licenses and identicards for Canadian border crossing—Border-crossing initiative.** (1) The department may enter into a memorandum of understanding with any federal agency for the purposes of facilitating the crossing of the border between the state of Washington and the Canadian province of British Columbia.

(2) The department may enter into an agreement with the Canadian province of British Columbia for the purposes of implementing a border-crossing initiative.

(3)(a) The department may issue an enhanced driver's license or identicard for the purposes of crossing the border between the state of Washington and the Canadian province of British Columbia to an applicant who provides the department with proof of: United States citizenship, identity, and state residency. The department shall continue to offer a standard driver's license and identicard. If the department chooses to issue an enhanced driver's license, the department must allow each applicant to choose between a standard driver's license or identicard, or an enhanced driver's license or identicard.

(b) The department shall implement a one-to-many biometric matching system for the enhanced driver's license or identicard. An applicant for an enhanced driver's license or identicard shall submit a biometric identifier as designated by the department. The biometric identifier must be used solely for the purpose of verifying the identity of the holders and for any purpose set out in RCW 46.20.037. Applicants are required to sign a declaration acknowledging their understanding of the one-to-many biometric match.

(c) The enhanced driver's license or identicard must include reasonable security measures to protect the privacy of Washington state residents, including reasonable safeguards to protect against unauthorized disclosure of data about Washington state residents. If the enhanced driver's license or identicard includes a radio frequency identification chip, or similar technology, the department shall ensure that the technology is encrypted or otherwise secure from unauthorized data access.

(d) The requirements of this subsection are in addition to the requirements otherwise imposed on applicants for a driver's license or identicard. The department shall adopt such rules as necessary to meet the requirements of this subsection. From time to time the department shall review technological innovations related to the security of identity cards and amend the rules related to enhanced driver's licenses and identicards as the director deems consistent with this section and appropriate to protect the privacy of Washington state residents.

(e) Notwithstanding RCW 46.20.118, the department may make images associated with enhanced drivers' licenses or identicards from the negative file available to United

States customs and border agents for the purposes of verifying identity.

(4) The department may set a fee for the issuance of enhanced drivers' licenses and identicards under this section. [2007 c 7 § 1.]

**Effective date—2007 c 7:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 23, 2007]." [2007 c 7 § 4.]

**46.20.2021 Statewide education campaign for border-crossing initiative.** The department shall develop and implement a statewide education campaign to educate Washington citizens about the border-crossing initiative authorized by chapter 7, Laws of 2007. The educational campaign must include information on the forms of travel for which the existing and enhanced driver's license can be used. The campaign must include information on the time frames for implementation of laws that impact identification requirements at the border with Canada. [2007 c 7 § 2.]

**Effective date—2007 c 7:** See note following RCW 46.20.202.

**46.20.205 Change of address or name.** (1) Whenever any person after applying for or receiving a driver's license or identicard moves from the address named in the application or in the license or identicard issued to him or her, the person shall within ten days thereafter notify the department of the address change. The notification must be in writing on a form provided by the department and must include the number of the person's driver's license. The written notification, or other means as designated by rule of the department, is the exclusive means by which the address of record maintained by the department concerning the licensee or identicard holder may be changed.

(a) The form must contain a place for the person to indicate that the address change is not for voting purposes. The department of licensing shall notify the secretary of state by the means described in \*RCW 29.07.270(3) of all change of address information received by means of this form except information on persons indicating that the change is not for voting purposes.

(b) Any notice regarding the cancellation, suspension, revocation, disqualification, probation, or nonrenewal of the driver's license, commercial driver's license, driving privilege, or identicard mailed to the address of record of the licensee or identicard holder is effective notwithstanding the licensee's or identicard holder's failure to receive the notice.

(2) When a licensee or holder of an identicard changes his or her name of record, the person shall notify the department of the name change. The person must make the notification within ten days of the date that the name change is effective. The notification must be in writing on a form provided by the department and must include the number of the person's driver's license. The department of licensing shall not change the name of record of a person under this section unless the person has again satisfied the department regarding his or her identity in the manner provided by RCW 46.20.035. [1999 c 6 § 24; 1998 c 41 § 13; 1996 c 30 § 4; 1994 c 57 § 52; 1989 c 337 § 6; 1969 ex.s. c 170 § 13; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 18.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 29.07.270 was recodified as RCW 29A.08.350 pursuant to 2003 c 111 § 2401, effective July 1, 2004. RCW 29.07.270 was also amended by 2003 c 111 § 226, deleting subsection (3).

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—1998 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.265.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## RESTRICTING THE DRIVING PRIVILEGE

**46.20.207 Cancellation.** (1) The department is authorized to cancel any driver's license upon determining that the licensee was not entitled to the issuance of the license, or that the licensee failed to give the required or correct information in his or her application, or that the licensee is incompetent to drive a motor vehicle for any of the reasons under RCW 46.20.031 (4) and (7).

(2) Upon such cancellation, the licensee must surrender the license so canceled to the department. [1993 c 501 § 3; 1991 c 293 § 4; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 20.]

**46.20.215 Nonresidents—Suspension or revocation—Reporting offenders.** (1) The privilege of driving a motor vehicle on the highways of this state given to a nonresident hereunder shall be subject to suspension or revocation by the department in like manner and for like cause as a driver's license issued hereunder may be suspended or revoked.

(2) The department shall, upon receiving a record of the conviction in this state of a nonresident driver of a motor vehicle of any offense under the motor vehicle laws of this state, forward a report of such conviction to the motor vehicle administrator in the state wherein the person so convicted is a resident. Such report shall clearly identify the person convicted; describe the violation specifying the section of the statute, code or ordinance violated; identify the court in which action was taken; and indicate whether a plea of guilty or not guilty was entered, or the conviction was a result of the forfeiture of bail, bond or other security.

(3) The department shall, upon receiving a record of the commission of a traffic infraction in this state by a nonresident driver of a motor vehicle, forward a report of the traffic infraction to the motor vehicle administrator in the state where the person who committed the infraction resides. The report shall clearly identify the person found to have committed the infraction; describe the infraction, specifying the section of the statute, code or ordinance violated; identify the court in which action was taken; and indicate whether the determination that an infraction was committed was contested or whether the individual failed to respond to the notice of infraction. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 57; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 21.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.220 Vehicle rentals—Records.** (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to rent a motor vehicle of any kind including a motorcycle to any other person unless the latter person is then duly licensed as a vehicle driver for the kind of motor vehicle being rented in this state or, in case of a nonresident, then that he or she is duly licensed as a driver under the laws of the state or country of his or her residence except a

nonresident whose home state or country does not require that a motor vehicle driver be licensed;

(2) It shall be unlawful for any person to rent a motor vehicle to another person until he or she has inspected the vehicle driver's license of such other person and compared and verified the signature thereon with the signature of such other person written in his or her presence;

(3) Every person renting a motor vehicle to another person shall keep a record of the vehicle license number of the motor vehicle so rented, the name and address of the person to whom the motor vehicle is rented, the number of the vehicle driver's license of the person renting the vehicle and the date and place when and where such vehicle driver's license was issued. Such record shall be open to inspection by any police officer or anyone acting for the director. [2010 c 8 § 9020; 1969 c 27 § 1. Prior: 1967 c 232 § 9; 1967 c 32 § 28; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.220; prior: 1937 c 188 § 63; RRS § 6312-63.]

*Allowing unauthorized person to drive:* RCW 46.16A.520, 46.20.024.

*Helmet requirements:* RCW 46.37.535.

**46.20.245 Mandatory revocation—Notice—Administrative, judicial review—Rules—Application.** (1) Whenever the department proposes to withhold the driving privilege of a person or disqualify a person from operating a commercial motor vehicle and this action is made mandatory by the provisions of this chapter or other law, the department must give notice to the person in writing by posting in the United States mail, appropriately addressed, postage prepaid, or by personal service. Notice by mail is given upon deposit in the United States mail. Notice given under this subsection must specify the date upon which the driving privilege is to be withheld which shall not be less than forty-five days after the original notice is given.

(2) Within fifteen days after notice has been given to a person under subsection (1) of this section, the person may request in writing an administrative review before the department. If the request is mailed, it must be postmarked within fifteen days after the date the department has given notice. If a person fails to request an administrative review within fifteen days after the date the department gives notice, the person is considered to have defaulted and loses his or her right to an administrative review unless the department finds good cause for a request after the fifteen-day period.

(a) An administrative review under this subsection shall consist solely of an internal review of documents and records submitted or available to the department, unless the person requests an interview before the department, in which case all or any part of the administrative review may, at the discretion of the department, be conducted by telephone or other electronic means.

(b) The only issues to be addressed in the administrative review are:

(i) Whether the records relied on by the department identify the correct person; and

(ii) Whether the information transmitted from the court or other reporting agency or entity regarding the person accurately describes the action taken by the court or other reporting agency or entity.

(c) For the purposes of this section, the notice received from a court or other reporting agency or entity, regardless of



form or format, is prima facie evidence that the information from the court or other reporting agency or entity regarding the person is accurate. A person requesting administrative review has the burden of showing by a preponderance of the evidence that the person is not subject to the withholding of the driving privilege.

(d) The action subject to the notification requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall be stayed during the administrative review process.

(e) Judicial review of a department order affirming the action subject to the notification requirements of subsection (1) of this section after an administrative review shall be available in the same manner as provided in RCW 46.20.308(9). The department shall certify its record to the court within thirty days after service upon the department of the petition for judicial review. The action subject to the notification requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall not automatically be stayed during the judicial review. If judicial relief is sought for a stay or other temporary remedy from the department's action, the court shall not grant relief unless the court finds that the appellant is likely to prevail in the appeal and that without a stay the appellant will suffer irreparable injury.

(3) The department may adopt rules that are considered necessary or convenient by the department for purposes of administering this section, including, but not limited to, rules regarding expedited procedures for issuing orders and expedited notice procedures.

(4) This section does not apply where an opportunity for an informal settlement, driver improvement interview, or formal hearing is otherwise provided by law or rule of the department. [2005 c 288 § 1.]

**Effective date—2005 c 288:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2005." [2005 c 288 § 9.]

**46.20.265 Juvenile driving privileges—Revocation for alcohol or drug violations.** (1) In addition to any other authority to revoke driving privileges under this chapter, the department shall revoke all driving privileges of a juvenile when the department receives notice from a court pursuant to RCW 9.41.040(5), 13.40.265, 66.44.365, 69.41.065, 69.50.420, 69.52.070, or a substantially similar municipal ordinance adopted by a local legislative authority, or from a diversion unit pursuant to RCW 13.40.265.

(2) The driving privileges of the juvenile revoked under subsection (1) of this section shall be revoked in the following manner:

(a) Upon receipt of the first notice, the department shall impose a revocation for one year, or until the juvenile reaches seventeen years of age, whichever is longer.

(b) Upon receipt of a second or subsequent notice, the department shall impose a revocation for two years or until the juvenile reaches eighteen years of age, whichever is longer.

(c) Each offense for which the department receives notice shall result in a separate period of revocation. All periods of revocation imposed under this section that could otherwise overlap shall run consecutively up to the juvenile's twenty-first birthday, and no period of revocation imposed

under this section shall begin before the expiration of all other periods of revocation imposed under this section or other law. Periods of revocation imposed consecutively under this section shall not extend beyond the juvenile's twenty-first birthday.

(3)(a) If the department receives notice from a court that the juvenile's privilege to drive should be reinstated, the department shall immediately reinstate any driving privileges that have been revoked under this section if the minimum term of revocation as specified in RCW 13.40.265(1)(c), 66.44.365(3), 69.41.065(3), 69.50.420(3), 69.52.070(3), or similar ordinance has expired, and subject to subsection (2)(c) of this section.

(b) The juvenile may seek reinstatement of his or her driving privileges from the department when the juvenile reaches the age of twenty-one. A notice from the court reinstating the juvenile's driving privilege shall not be required if reinstatement is pursuant to this subsection.

(4)(a) If the department receives notice pursuant to RCW 13.40.265(2)(b) from a diversion unit that a juvenile has completed a diversion agreement for which the juvenile's driving privileges were revoked, the department shall reinstate any driving privileges revoked under this section as provided in (b) of this subsection, subject to subsection (2)(c) of this section.

(b) If the diversion agreement was for the juvenile's first violation of chapter 66.44, 69.41, 69.50, or 69.52 RCW, the department shall not reinstate the juvenile's privilege to drive until the later of ninety days after the date the juvenile turns sixteen or ninety days after the juvenile entered into a diversion agreement for the offense. If the diversion agreement was for the juvenile's second or subsequent violation of chapter 66.44, 69.41, 69.50, or 69.52 RCW, the department shall not reinstate the juvenile's privilege to drive until the later of the date the juvenile turns seventeen or one year after the juvenile entered into the second or subsequent diversion agreement. [2005 c 288 § 2; 2003 c 20 § 1; 1998 c 41 § 2; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 439; 1991 c 260 § 1; 1989 c 271 § 117; 1988 c 148 § 7.]

**Effective date—2005 c 288:** See note following RCW 46.20.245.

**Intent—Construction—1998 c 41:** "It is the intent and purpose of this act to clarify procedural issues and make technical corrections to statutes relating to drivers' licenses. This act should not be construed as changing existing public policy." [1998 c 41 § 1.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**Legislative finding—Severability—1988 c 148:** See notes following RCW 13.40.265.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.267 Intermediate licensees.** If a person issued an intermediate license is convicted of or found to have committed a traffic offense described in chapter 46.61 RCW or violated restrictions placed on an intermediate license under RCW 46.20.075:

(1) On the first such conviction or finding the department shall mail the parent or guardian of the person a letter warning the person of the provisions of this section;

(2) On the second such conviction or finding, the department shall suspend the person's intermediate driver's license for a period of six months or until the person reaches eighteen

years of age, whichever occurs first, and mail the parent or guardian of the person a notification of the suspension;

(3) On the third such conviction or finding, the department shall suspend the person's intermediate driver's license until the person reaches eighteen years of age, and mail the parent or guardian of the person a notification of the suspension.

For the purposes of this section, a single ticket for one or more traffic offenses constitutes a single traffic offense. [2000 c 115 § 3.]

**Finding—2000 c 115:** See note following RCW 46.20.075.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.270 Conviction of offense requiring withholding driving privilege—Procedures—Definitions.** (1)

Whenever any person is convicted of any offense for which this title makes mandatory the withholding of the driving privilege of such person by the department, the court in which such conviction is had shall forthwith mark the person's Washington state driver's license or permit to drive, if any, in a manner authorized by the department. A valid driver's license or permit to drive marked under this subsection shall remain in effect until the person's driving privilege is withheld by the department pursuant to notice given under RCW 46.20.245, unless the license or permit expires or otherwise becomes invalid prior to the effective date of this action. Perfection of notice of appeal shall stay the execution of sentence including the withholding of the driving privilege.

(2) Every court having jurisdiction over offenses committed under this chapter, or any other act of this state or municipal ordinance adopted by a local authority regulating the operation of motor vehicles on highways, or any federal authority having jurisdiction over offenses substantially the same as those set forth in this title which occur on federal installations within this state, shall immediately forward to the department a forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure the defendant's appearance in court, a payment of a fine, penalty, or court cost, a plea of guilty or nolo contendere or a finding of guilt, or a finding that any person has committed a traffic infraction an abstract of the court record in the form prescribed by rule of the supreme court, showing the conviction of any person or the finding that any person has committed a traffic infraction in said court for a violation of any said laws other than regulations governing standing, stopping, parking, and pedestrian offenses.

(3) Every state agency or municipality having jurisdiction over offenses committed under this chapter, or under any other act of this state or municipal ordinance adopted by a state or local authority regulating the operation of motor vehicles on highways, may forward to the department within ten days of failure to respond, failure to pay a penalty, failure to appear at a hearing to contest the determination that a violation of any statute, ordinance, or regulation relating to standing, stopping, parking, or civil penalties issued under RCW 46.63.160 has been committed, or failure to appear at a hearing to explain mitigating circumstances, an abstract of the citation record in the form prescribed by rule of the department, showing the finding by such municipality that two or more violations of laws governing standing, stopping, and parking or one or more civil penalties issued under RCW

46.63.160 have been committed and indicating the nature of the defendant's failure to act. Such violations or infractions may not have occurred while the vehicle is stolen from the registered owner or is leased or rented under a bona fide commercial vehicle lease or rental agreement between a lessor engaged in the business of leasing vehicles and a lessee who is not the vehicle's registered owner. The department may enter into agreements of reciprocity with the duly authorized representatives of the states for reporting to each other violations of laws governing standing, stopping, and parking.

(4) For the purposes of this title and except as defined in RCW 46.25.010, "conviction" means a final conviction in a state or municipal court or by any federal authority having jurisdiction over offenses substantially the same as those set forth in this title which occur on federal installations in this state, an unvacated forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure a defendant's appearance in court, the payment of a fine or court cost, a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or a finding of guilt on a traffic law violation charge, regardless of whether the imposition of sentence or sanctions are deferred or the penalty is suspended, but not including entry into a deferred prosecution agreement under chapter 10.05 RCW.

(5) For the purposes of this title, "finding that a traffic infraction has been committed" means a failure to respond to a notice of infraction or a determination made by a court pursuant to this chapter. Payment of a monetary penalty made pursuant to RCW 46.63.070(2) is deemed equivalent to such a finding. [2010 c 249 § 11; 2009 c 181 § 1; 2006 c 327 § 1; 2005 c 288 § 3; 2004 c 231 § 5; 1990 2nd ex.s. c 1 § 402; 1990 c 250 § 42; 1982 1st ex.s. c 14 § 5; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 58; 1979 c 61 § 7; 1977 ex.s. c 3 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 55; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 22; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.270. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 68; RRS § 6312-68; prior: 1923 c 122 § 2, part; 1921 c 108 § 9, part; RRS § 6371, part.]

**Contingent effective date—2010 c 249:** See note following RCW 47.56.795.

**Effective date—2005 c 288:** See note following RCW 46.20.245.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.285 Offenses requiring revocation.** The department shall revoke the license of any driver for the period of one calendar year unless otherwise provided in this section, upon receiving a record of the driver's conviction of any of the following offenses, when the conviction has become final:

(1) For vehicular homicide the period of revocation shall be two years. The revocation period shall be tolled during any period of total confinement for the offense;

(2) Vehicular assault. The revocation period shall be tolled during any period of total confinement for the offense;

(3) Driving a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a narcotic drug, or under the influence of any other drug to a degree which renders the driver incapable of safely driving a motor vehicle, for the period prescribed in RCW 46.61.5055;

(4) Any felony in the commission of which a motor vehicle is used;

(5) Failure to stop and give information or render aid as required under the laws of this state in the event of a motor vehicle accident resulting in the death or personal injury of

another or resulting in damage to a vehicle that is driven or attended by another;

(6) Perjury or the making of a false affidavit or statement under oath to the department under Title 46 RCW or under any other law relating to the ownership or operation of motor vehicles;

(7) Reckless driving upon a showing by the department's records that the conviction is the third such conviction for the driver within a period of two years. [2005 c 288 § 4; 2001 c 64 § 6. Prior: 1998 c 207 § 4; 1998 c 41 § 3; 1996 c 199 § 5; 1990 c 250 § 43; 1985 c 407 § 2; 1984 c 258 § 324; 1983 c 165 § 16; 1983 c 165 § 15; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 24.]

**Effective date—2005 c 288:** See note following RCW 46.20.245.

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—1998 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.265.

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.34.130.

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

*Revocation of license for attempting to elude pursuing police vehicle:* RCW 46.61.024.

*Vehicular assault, penalty:* RCW 46.61.522.

*Vehicular homicide, penalty:* RCW 46.61.520.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.286 Adoption of procedures.** The department of licensing shall adopt procedures in cooperation with the administrative office of the courts and the department of corrections to implement RCW 46.20.285. [2005 c 282 § 47; 1996 c 199 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.289 Suspension for failure to respond, appear, etc. (Effective until June 1, 2013.)** The department shall suspend all driving privileges of a person when the department receives notice from a court under RCW 46.63.070(6), 46.63.110(6), or 46.64.025 that the person has failed to respond to a notice of traffic infraction, failed to appear at a requested hearing, violated a written promise to appear in court, or has failed to comply with the terms of a notice of traffic infraction or citation, other than for a standing, stopping, or parking violation, provided that the traffic infraction or traffic offense is committed on or after July 1, 2005. A suspension under this section takes effect pursuant to the provisions of RCW 46.20.245, and remains in effect until the department has received a certificate from the court showing that the case has been adjudicated, and until the person meets the requirements of RCW 46.20.311. In the case of failure to respond to a traffic infraction issued under RCW 46.55.105, the department shall suspend all driving privileges until the person provides evidence from the court that all penalties and restitution have been paid. A suspension under this section does not take effect if, prior to the effective date of the suspension, the department receives a certificate from the court showing that the case has been adjudicated. [2005 c 288 § 5; 2002 c 279 § 4; 1999 c 274 § 1; 1995 c 219 § 2; 1993 c 501 § 1.]

**Effective date—2005 c 288:** See note following RCW 46.20.245.

**46.20.289 Suspension for failure to respond, appear, etc. (Effective June 1, 2013.)** The department shall suspend all driving privileges of a person when the department

receives notice from a court under RCW 46.63.070(6), 46.63.110(6), or 46.64.025 that the person has failed to respond to a notice of traffic infraction for a moving violation, failed to appear at a requested hearing for a moving violation, violated a written promise to appear in court for a notice of infraction for a moving violation, or has failed to comply with the terms of a notice of traffic infraction or citation for a moving violation, or when the department receives notice from another state under Article IV of the nonresident violator compact under RCW 46.23.010 or from a jurisdiction that has entered into an agreement with the department under RCW 46.23.020, other than for a standing, stopping, or parking violation, provided that the traffic infraction or traffic offense is committed on or after July 1, 2005. A suspension under this section takes effect pursuant to the provisions of RCW 46.20.245, and remains in effect until the department has received a certificate from the court showing that the case has been adjudicated, and until the person meets the requirements of RCW 46.20.311. In the case of failure to respond to a traffic infraction issued under RCW 46.55.105, the department shall suspend all driving privileges until the person provides evidence from the court that all penalties and restitution have been paid. A suspension under this section does not take effect if, prior to the effective date of the suspension, the department receives a certificate from the court showing that the case has been adjudicated. [2012 c 82 § 3; 2005 c 288 § 5; 2002 c 279 § 4; 1999 c 274 § 1; 1995 c 219 § 2; 1993 c 501 § 1.]

**Effective date—Contingency—2012 c 82:** See note following RCW 46.63.110.

**Effective date—2005 c 288:** See note following RCW 46.20.245.

**46.20.2891 Moving violation, definition by rule—Notice.** The department of licensing in consultation with the administrative office of the courts must adopt and maintain rules, by November 1, 2012, in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW that define a moving violation for the purposes of this act. "Moving violation" shall be defined pursuant to Title 46 RCW. Upon adoption of these rules, the department must provide written notice to affected parties, the chief clerk of the house of representatives, the secretary of the senate, the office of the code reviser, and others as deemed appropriate by the department. [2012 c 82 § 4.]

**46.20.291 Authority to suspend—Grounds.** The department is authorized to suspend the license of a driver upon a showing by its records or other sufficient evidence that the licensee:

(1) Has committed an offense for which mandatory revocation or suspension of license is provided by law;

(2) Has, by reckless or unlawful operation of a motor vehicle, caused or contributed to an accident resulting in death or injury to any person or serious property damage;

(3) Has been convicted of offenses against traffic regulations governing the movement of vehicles, or found to have committed traffic infractions, with such frequency as to indicate a disrespect for traffic laws or a disregard for the safety of other persons on the highways;

(4) Is incompetent to drive a motor vehicle under RCW 46.20.031(3);

(5) Has failed to respond to a notice of traffic infraction, failed to appear at a requested hearing, violated a written promise to appear in court, or has failed to comply with the terms of a notice of traffic infraction or citation, as provided in RCW 46.20.289;

(6) Is subject to suspension under RCW 46.20.305 or 9A.56.078;

(7) Has committed one of the prohibited practices relating to drivers' licenses defined in RCW 46.20.0921; or

(8) Has been certified by the department of social and health services as a person who is not in compliance with a child support order or a residential or visitation order as provided in RCW 74.20A.320. [2007 c 393 § 2; 1998 c 165 § 12; 1997 c 58 § 806; 1993 c 501 § 4; 1991 c 293 § 5; 1980 c 128 § 12; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 25.]

**Effective dates—Intent—1997 c 58:** See notes following RCW 74.20A.320.

*Reckless driving, suspension of license:* RCW 46.61.500.

*Vehicle assault*

*drug and alcohol evaluation and treatment:* RCW 9.94A.703.  
*penalty:* RCW 46.61.522.

*Vehicle homicide*

*drug and alcohol evaluation and treatment:* RCW 9.94A.703.  
*penalty:* RCW 46.61.520.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.292 Finding of juvenile court officer.** The department may suspend, revoke, restrict, or condition any driver's license upon a showing of its records that the licensee has been found by a juvenile court, chief probation officer, or any other duly authorized officer of a juvenile court to have committed any offense or offenses which under Title 46 RCW constitutes grounds for said action. [1979 c 61 § 8; 1967 c 167 § 9.]

**46.20.293 Minor's record to juvenile court, parents, or guardians. (Effective until October 1, 2012.)** The department is authorized to provide juvenile courts with the department's record of traffic charges compiled under RCW 46.52.101 and 13.50.200, against any minor upon the request of any state juvenile court or duly authorized officer of any juvenile court of this state. Further, the department is authorized to provide any juvenile court with any requested service which the department can reasonably perform which is not inconsistent with its legal authority which substantially aids juvenile courts in handling traffic cases and which promotes highway safety.

The department is authorized to furnish to the parent, parents, or guardian of any person under eighteen years of age who is not emancipated from such parent, parents, or guardian, the department records of traffic charges compiled against the person and shall collect for the copy a fee of ten dollars fifty percent of which must be deposited in the highway safety fund and fifty percent of which must be deposited according to RCW 46.68.038. [2007 c 424 § 1; 2002 c 352 § 15; 1999 c 86 § 3; 1990 c 250 § 44; 1979 c 61 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 3 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 292 § 45; 1969 ex.s. c 170 § 14; 1967 c 167 § 10.]

**Effective date—2007 c 424:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2007." [2007 c 424 § 5.]

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.293 Minor's record to juvenile court, parents, or guardians. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** The department is authorized to provide juvenile courts with the department's record of traffic charges compiled under RCW 46.52.101 and 13.50.200, against any minor upon the request of any state juvenile court or duly authorized officer of any juvenile court of this state. Further, the department is authorized to provide any juvenile court with any requested service which the department can reasonably perform which is not inconsistent with its legal authority which substantially aids juvenile courts in handling traffic cases and which promotes highway safety.

The department is authorized to furnish to the parent, parents, or guardian of any person under eighteen years of age who is not emancipated from such parent, parents, or guardian, the department records of traffic charges compiled against the person and shall collect for the copy a fee of thirteen dollars, fifty percent of which must be deposited in the highway safety fund and fifty percent of which must be deposited according to RCW 46.68.038. [2012 c 74 § 4; 2007 c 424 § 1; 2002 c 352 § 15; 1999 c 86 § 3; 1990 c 250 § 44; 1979 c 61 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 3 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 292 § 45; 1969 ex.s. c 170 § 14; 1967 c 167 § 10.]

**Effective date—2012 c 74 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.17.100.

**Effective date—2007 c 424:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2007." [2007 c 424 § 5.]

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.300 Extraterritorial convictions.** The director of licensing shall suspend, revoke, or cancel the vehicle driver's license of any resident of this state upon receiving notice of the conviction of such person in another state of an offense therein which, if committed in this state, would be ground for the suspension or revocation of the vehicle driver's license. The director may further, upon receiving a record of the conviction in this state of a nonresident driver of a motor vehicle of any offense under the motor vehicle laws of this state, forward a certified copy of such record to the motor vehicle administrator in the state of which the person so convicted is a resident; such record to consist of a copy of the judgment and sentence in the case. [1989 c 337 § 7; 1979 c 158 § 150; 1967 c 32 § 29; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.300. Prior: 1957 c 273 § 8; prior: 1937 c 188 § 66, part; RRS § 6312-66, part; 1923 c 122 § 1, part; 1921 c 108 § 9, part; RRS § 6371, part.]

**46.20.305 Incompetent, unqualified driver—Reexamination—Physician's certificate—Action by department.** (1) The department, having good cause to believe that a licensed driver is incompetent or otherwise not qualified to be licensed may upon notice require him or her to submit to an examination.

(2) The department shall require a driver reported under RCW 46.52.070 (2) and (3) to submit to an examination. The examination must be completed no later than one hundred twenty days after the accident report required under RCW 46.52.070(2) is received by the department unless the depart-

ment, at the request of the operator, extends the time for examination.

(3) The department may in addition to an examination under this section require such person to obtain a certificate showing his or her condition signed by a licensed physician or other proper authority designated by the department.

(4) Upon the conclusion of an examination under this section the department shall take driver improvement action as may be appropriate and may suspend or revoke the license of such person or permit him or her to retain such license, or may issue a license subject to restrictions as permitted under RCW 46.20.041. The department may suspend or revoke the license of such person who refuses or neglects to submit to such examination.

(5) The department may require payment of a fee by a person subject to examination under this section. The department shall set the fee in an amount that is sufficient to cover the additional cost of administering examinations required by this section. [1999 c 351 § 3; 1998 c 165 § 13; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 26.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.308 Implied consent—Test refusal—Procedures.** (*Effective until October 1, 2012.*) (1) Any person who operates a motor vehicle within this state is deemed to have given consent, subject to the provisions of RCW 46.61.506, to a test or tests of his or her breath or blood for the purpose of determining the alcohol concentration or presence of any drug in his or her breath or blood if arrested for any offense where, at the time of the arrest, the arresting officer has reasonable grounds to believe the person had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug or was in violation of RCW 46.61.503. Neither consent nor this section precludes a police officer from obtaining a search warrant for a person's breath or blood.

(2) The test or tests of breath shall be administered at the direction of a law enforcement officer having reasonable grounds to believe the person to have been driving or in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug or the person to have been driving or in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while having alcohol in a concentration in violation of RCW 46.61.503 in his or her system and being under the age of twenty-one. However, in those instances where the person is incapable due to physical injury, physical incapacity, or other physical limitation, of providing a breath sample or where the person is being treated in a hospital, clinic, doctor's office, emergency medical vehicle, ambulance, or other similar facility or where the officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the person is under the influence of a drug, a blood test shall be administered by a qualified person as provided in RCW 46.61.506(5). The officer shall inform the person of his or her right to refuse the breath or blood test, and of his or her right to have additional tests administered by any qualified person of his or her choosing as provided in RCW 46.61.506. The officer shall warn the driver, in substantially the following language, that:

(a) If the driver refuses to take the test, the driver's license, permit, or privilege to drive will be revoked or denied for at least one year; and

(b) If the driver refuses to take the test, the driver's refusal to take the test may be used in a criminal trial; and

(c) If the driver submits to the test and the test is administered, the driver's license, permit, or privilege to drive will be suspended, revoked, or denied for at least ninety days if the driver is age twenty-one or over and the test indicates the alcohol concentration of the driver's breath or blood is 0.08 or more, or if the driver is under age twenty-one and the test indicates the alcohol concentration of the driver's breath or blood is 0.02 or more, or if the driver is under age twenty-one and the driver is in violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504; and

(d) If the driver's license, permit, or privilege to drive is suspended, revoked, or denied the driver may be eligible to immediately apply for an ignition interlock driver's license.

(3) Except as provided in this section, the test administered shall be of the breath only. If an individual is unconscious or is under arrest for the crime of felony driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs under RCW 46.61.502(6), felony physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug under RCW 46.61.504(6), vehicular homicide as provided in RCW 46.61.520, or vehicular assault as provided in RCW 46.61.522, or if an individual is under arrest for the crime of driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs as provided in RCW 46.61.502, which arrest results from an accident in which there has been serious bodily injury to another person, a breath or blood test may be administered without the consent of the individual so arrested.

(4) Any person who is dead, unconscious, or who is otherwise in a condition rendering him or her incapable of refusal, shall be deemed not to have withdrawn the consent provided by subsection (1) of this section and the test or tests may be administered, subject to the provisions of RCW 46.61.506, and the person shall be deemed to have received the warnings required under subsection (2) of this section.

(5) If, following his or her arrest and receipt of warnings under subsection (2) of this section, the person arrested refuses upon the request of a law enforcement officer to submit to a test or tests of his or her breath or blood, no test shall be given except as authorized under subsection (3) or (4) of this section.

(6) If, after arrest and after the other applicable conditions and requirements of this section have been satisfied, a test or tests of the person's blood or breath is administered and the test results indicate that the alcohol concentration of the person's breath or blood is 0.08 or more if the person is age twenty-one or over, or 0.02 or more if the person is under the age of twenty-one, or the person refuses to submit to a test, the arresting officer or other law enforcement officer at whose direction any test has been given, or the department, where applicable, if the arrest results in a test of the person's blood, shall:

(a) Serve notice in writing on the person on behalf of the department of its intention to suspend, revoke, or deny the person's license, permit, or privilege to drive as required by subsection (7) of this section;

(b) Serve notice in writing on the person on behalf of the department of his or her right to a hearing, specifying the steps he or she must take to obtain a hearing as provided by subsection (8) of this section and that the person waives the

right to a hearing if he or she receives an ignition interlock driver's license;

(c) Mark the person's Washington state driver's license or permit to drive, if any, in a manner authorized by the department;

(d) Serve notice in writing that the marked license or permit, if any, is a temporary license that is valid for sixty days from the date of arrest or from the date notice has been given in the event notice is given by the department following a blood test, or until the suspension, revocation, or denial of the person's license, permit, or privilege to drive is sustained at a hearing pursuant to subsection (8) of this section, whichever occurs first. No temporary license is valid to any greater degree than the license or permit that it replaces; and

(e) Immediately notify the department of the arrest and transmit to the department within seventy-two hours, except as delayed as the result of a blood test, a sworn report or report under a declaration authorized by RCW 9A.72.085 that states:

(i) That the officer had reasonable grounds to believe the arrested person had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, or both, or was under the age of twenty-one years and had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while having an alcohol concentration in violation of RCW 46.61.503;

(ii) That after receipt of the warnings required by subsection (2) of this section the person refused to submit to a test of his or her blood or breath, or a test was administered and the results indicated that the alcohol concentration of the person's breath or blood was 0.08 or more if the person is age twenty-one or over, or was 0.02 or more if the person is under the age of twenty-one; and

(iii) Any other information that the director may require by rule.

(7) The department of licensing, upon the receipt of a sworn report or report under a declaration authorized by RCW 9A.72.085 under subsection (6)(e) of this section, shall suspend, revoke, or deny the person's license, permit, or privilege to drive or any nonresident operating privilege, as provided in RCW 46.20.3101, such suspension, revocation, or denial to be effective beginning sixty days from the date of arrest or from the date notice has been given in the event notice is given by the department following a blood test, or when sustained at a hearing pursuant to subsection (8) of this section, whichever occurs first.

(8) A person receiving notification under subsection (6)(b) of this section may, within twenty days after the notice has been given, request in writing a formal hearing before the department. The person shall pay a fee of two hundred dollars as part of the request. If the request is mailed, it must be postmarked within twenty days after receipt of the notification. Upon timely receipt of such a request for a formal hearing, including receipt of the required two hundred dollar fee, the department shall afford the person an opportunity for a hearing. The department may waive the required two hundred dollar fee if the person is an indigent as defined in RCW 10.101.010. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the hearing is subject to and shall be scheduled and conducted in accordance with RCW 46.20.329 and 46.20.332. The hearing shall be conducted in the county of the arrest, except that

all or part of the hearing may, at the discretion of the department, be conducted by telephone or other electronic means. The hearing shall be held within sixty days following the arrest or following the date notice has been given in the event notice is given by the department following a blood test, unless otherwise agreed to by the department and the person, in which case the action by the department shall be stayed, and any valid temporary license marked under subsection (6)(c) of this section extended, if the person is otherwise eligible for licensing. For the purposes of this section, the scope of the hearing shall cover the issues of whether a law enforcement officer had reasonable grounds to believe the person had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug or had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state while having alcohol in his or her system in a concentration of 0.02 or more if the person was under the age of twenty-one, whether the person was placed under arrest, and (a) whether the person refused to submit to the test or tests upon request of the officer after having been informed that such refusal would result in the revocation of the person's license, permit, or privilege to drive, or (b) if a test or tests were administered, whether the applicable requirements of this section were satisfied before the administration of the test or tests, whether the person submitted to the test or tests, or whether a test was administered without express consent as permitted under this section, and whether the test or tests indicated that the alcohol concentration of the person's breath or blood was 0.08 or more if the person was age twenty-one or over at the time of the arrest, or 0.02 or more if the person was under the age of twenty-one at the time of the arrest. The sworn report or report under a declaration authorized by RCW 9A.72.085 submitted by a law enforcement officer is prima facie evidence that the officer had reasonable grounds to believe the person had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, or both, or the person had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state while having alcohol in his or her system in a concentration of 0.02 or more and was under the age of twenty-one and that the officer complied with the requirements of this section.

A hearing officer shall conduct the hearing, may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents, and shall administer oaths to witnesses. The hearing officer shall not issue a subpoena for the attendance of a witness at the request of the person unless the request is accompanied by the fee required by RCW 5.56.010 for a witness in district court. The sworn report or report under a declaration authorized by RCW 9A.72.085 of the law enforcement officer and any other evidence accompanying the report shall be admissible without further evidentiary foundation and the certifications authorized by the criminal rules for courts of limited jurisdiction shall be admissible without further evidentiary foundation. The person may be represented by counsel, may question witnesses, may present evidence, and may testify. The department shall order that the suspension, revocation, or denial either be rescinded or sustained.

(9) If the suspension, revocation, or denial is sustained after such a hearing, the person whose license, privilege, or

permit is suspended, revoked, or denied has the right to file a petition in the superior court of the county of arrest to review the final order of revocation by the department in the same manner as an appeal from a decision of a court of limited jurisdiction. Notice of appeal must be filed within thirty days after the date the final order is served or the right to appeal is waived. Notwithstanding RCW 46.20.334, RALJ 1.1, or other statutes or rules referencing de novo review, the appeal shall be limited to a review of the record of the administrative hearing. The appellant must pay the costs associated with obtaining the record of the hearing before the hearing officer. The filing of the appeal does not stay the effective date of the suspension, revocation, or denial. A petition filed under this subsection must include the petitioner's grounds for requesting review. Upon granting petitioner's request for review, the court shall review the department's final order of suspension, revocation, or denial as expeditiously as possible. The review must be limited to a determination of whether the department has committed any errors of law. The superior court shall accept those factual determinations supported by substantial evidence in the record: (a) That were expressly made by the department; or (b) that may reasonably be inferred from the final order of the department. The superior court may reverse, affirm, or modify the decision of the department or remand the case back to the department for further proceedings. The decision of the superior court must be in writing and filed in the clerk's office with the other papers in the case. The court shall state the reasons for the decision. If judicial relief is sought for a stay or other temporary remedy from the department's action, the court shall not grant such relief unless the court finds that the appellant is likely to prevail in the appeal and that without a stay the appellant will suffer irreparable injury. If the court stays the suspension, revocation, or denial it may impose conditions on such stay.

(10)(a) If a person whose driver's license, permit, or privilege to drive has been or will be suspended, revoked, or denied under subsection (7) of this section, other than as a result of a breath or blood test refusal, and who has not committed an offense for which he or she was granted a deferred prosecution under chapter 10.05 RCW, petitions a court for a deferred prosecution on criminal charges arising out of the arrest for which action has been or will be taken under subsection (7) of this section, or notifies the department of licensing of the intent to seek such a deferred prosecution, then the license suspension or revocation shall be stayed pending entry of the deferred prosecution. The stay shall not be longer than one hundred fifty days after the date charges are filed, or two years after the date of the arrest, whichever time period is shorter. If the court stays the suspension, revocation, or denial, it may impose conditions on such stay. If the person is otherwise eligible for licensing, the department shall issue a temporary license, or extend any valid temporary license marked under subsection (6) of this section, for the period of the stay. If a deferred prosecution treatment plan is not recommended in the report made under RCW 10.05.050, or if treatment is rejected by the court, or if the person declines to accept an offered treatment plan, or if the person violates any condition imposed by the court, then the court shall immediately direct the department to cancel the stay and any temporary marked license or extension of a temporary license issued under this subsection.

(b) A suspension, revocation, or denial imposed under this section, other than as a result of a breath or blood test refusal, shall be stayed if the person is accepted for deferred prosecution as provided in chapter 10.05 RCW for the incident upon which the suspension, revocation, or denial is based. If the deferred prosecution is terminated, the stay shall be lifted and the suspension, revocation, or denial reinstated. If the deferred prosecution is completed, the stay shall be lifted and the suspension, revocation, or denial canceled.

(c) The provisions of (b) of this subsection relating to a stay of a suspension, revocation, or denial and the cancellation of any suspension, revocation, or denial do not apply to the suspension, revocation, denial, or disqualification of a person's commercial driver's license or privilege to operate a commercial motor vehicle.

(11) When it has been finally determined under the procedures of this section that a nonresident's privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this state has been suspended, revoked, or denied, the department shall give information in writing of the action taken to the motor vehicle administrator of the state of the person's residence and of any state in which he or she has a license. [2012 c 183 § 7; 2008 c 282 § 2. Prior: 2005 c 314 § 307; 2005 c 269 § 1; prior: 2004 c 187 § 1; 2004 c 95 § 2; 2004 c 68 § 2; prior: 1999 c 331 § 2; 1999 c 274 § 2; prior: 1998 c 213 § 1; 1998 c 209 § 1; 1998 c 207 § 7; 1998 c 41 § 4; 1995 c 332 § 1; 1994 c 275 § 13; 1989 c 337 § 8; 1987 c 22 § 1; prior: 1986 c 153 § 5; 1986 c 64 § 1; 1985 c 407 § 3; 1983 c 165 § 2; 1983 c 165 § 1; 1981 c 260 § 11; prior: 1979 ex.s. c 176 § 3; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 59; 1979 c 158 § 151; 1975 1st ex.s. c 287 § 4; 1969 c 1 § 1 (Initiative Measure No. 242, approved November 5, 1968).]

**Effective date—2012 c 183:** See note following RCW 2.28.175.

**Effective date—2008 c 282:** "Sections 2, 4 through 8, and 11 through 14 of this act take effect January 1, 2009." [2008 c 282 § 23.]

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Effective date—2004 c 187 §§ 1, 5, 7, 8, and 10:** "Sections 1, 5, 7, 8, and 10 of this act take effect July 1, 2005." [2004 c 187 § 11.]

**Contingent effect—2004 c 95 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act takes effect if section 2 of Substitute House Bill No. 3055 is enacted into law." [2004 c 95 § 17.] 2004 c 68 § 2 was enacted into law, effective June 10, 2004.

**Finding—Intent—2004 c 68:** "The legislature finds that previous attempts to curtail the incidence of driving while intoxicated have been inadequate. The legislature further finds that property loss, injury, and death caused by drinking drivers continue at unacceptable levels. This act is intended to convey the seriousness with which the legislature views this problem. To that end the legislature seeks to ensure swift and certain consequences for those who drink and drive.

To accomplish this goal, the legislature adopts standards governing the admissibility of tests of a person's blood or breath. These standards will provide a degree of uniformity that is currently lacking, and will reduce the delays caused by challenges to various breath test instrument components and maintenance procedures. Such challenges, while allowed, will no longer go to admissibility of test results. Instead, such challenges are to be considered by the finder of fact in deciding what weight to place upon an admitted blood or breath test result.

The legislature's authority to adopt standards governing the admissibility of evidence involving alcohol is well established by the Washington Supreme Court. See generally *State v. Long*, 113 Wn.2d 266, 778 P.2d 1027 (1989); *State v. Sears*, 4 Wn.2d 200, 215, 103 P.2d 337 (1940) (the legislature has the power to enact laws which create rules of evidence); *State v. Pavelich*, 153 Wash. 379, 279 P. 1102 (1929) ("rules of evidence are substantive law"). [2004 c 68 § 1.]

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—1998 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.265.

**Legislative finding, intent—1983 c 165:** "The legislature finds that previous attempts to curtail the incidence of driving while intoxicated have been inadequate. The legislature further finds that property loss, injury, and death caused by drinking drivers have reached unacceptable levels. This act is intended to convey the seriousness with which the legislature views this problem. To that end the legislature seeks to insure swift and certain punishment for those who drink and drive. The legislature does not intend to discourage or deter courts and other agencies from directing or providing treatment for problem drinkers. However, it is the intent that such treatment, where appropriate, be in addition to and not in lieu of the sanctions to be applied to all those convicted of driving while intoxicated." [1983 c 165 § 44.]

*Liability of medical personnel withdrawing blood:* RCW 46.61.508.

*Refusal of test—Admissibility as evidence:* RCW 46.61.517.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.308 Implied consent—Test refusal—Procedures. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** (1) Any person who operates a motor vehicle within this state is deemed to have given consent, subject to the provisions of RCW 46.61.506, to a test or tests of his or her breath or blood for the purpose of determining the alcohol concentration or presence of any drug in his or her breath or blood if arrested for any offense where, at the time of the arrest, the arresting officer has reasonable grounds to believe the person had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug or was in violation of RCW 46.61.503. Neither consent nor this section precludes a police officer from obtaining a search warrant for a person's breath or blood.

(2) The test or tests of breath shall be administered at the direction of a law enforcement officer having reasonable grounds to believe the person to have been driving or in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug or the person to have been driving or in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while having alcohol in a concentration in violation of RCW 46.61.503 in his or her system and being under the age of twenty-one. However, in those instances where the person is incapable due to physical injury, physical incapacity, or other physical limitation, of providing a breath sample or where the person is being treated in a hospital, clinic, doctor's office, emergency medical vehicle, ambulance, or other similar facility or where the officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the person is under the influence of a drug, a blood test shall be administered by a qualified person as provided in RCW 46.61.506(5). The officer shall inform the person of his or her right to refuse the breath or blood test, and of his or her right to have additional tests administered by any qualified person of his or her choosing as provided in RCW 46.61.506. The officer shall warn the driver, in substantially the following language, that:

(a) If the driver refuses to take the test, the driver's license, permit, or privilege to drive will be revoked or denied for at least one year; and

(b) If the driver refuses to take the test, the driver's refusal to take the test may be used in a criminal trial; and

(c) If the driver submits to the test and the test is administered, the driver's license, permit, or privilege to drive will be suspended, revoked, or denied for at least ninety days if the driver is age twenty-one or over and the test indicates the

alcohol concentration of the driver's breath or blood is 0.08 or more, or if the driver is under age twenty-one and the test indicates the alcohol concentration of the driver's breath or blood is 0.02 or more, or if the driver is under age twenty-one and the driver is in violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504; and

(d) If the driver's license, permit, or privilege to drive is suspended, revoked, or denied the driver may be eligible to immediately apply for an ignition interlock driver's license.

(3) Except as provided in this section, the test administered shall be of the breath only. If an individual is unconscious or is under arrest for the crime of felony driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs under RCW 46.61.502(6), felony physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug under RCW 46.61.504(6), vehicular homicide as provided in RCW 46.61.520, or vehicular assault as provided in RCW 46.61.522, or if an individual is under arrest for the crime of driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs as provided in RCW 46.61.502, which arrest results from an accident in which there has been serious bodily injury to another person, a breath or blood test may be administered without the consent of the individual so arrested.

(4) Any person who is dead, unconscious, or who is otherwise in a condition rendering him or her incapable of refusal, shall be deemed not to have withdrawn the consent provided by subsection (1) of this section and the test or tests may be administered, subject to the provisions of RCW 46.61.506, and the person shall be deemed to have received the warnings required under subsection (2) of this section.

(5) If, following his or her arrest and receipt of warnings under subsection (2) of this section, the person arrested refuses upon the request of a law enforcement officer to submit to a test or tests of his or her breath or blood, no test shall be given except as authorized under subsection (3) or (4) of this section.

(6) If, after arrest and after the other applicable conditions and requirements of this section have been satisfied, a test or tests of the person's blood or breath is administered and the test results indicate that the alcohol concentration of the person's breath or blood is 0.08 or more if the person is age twenty-one or over, or 0.02 or more if the person is under the age of twenty-one, or the person refuses to submit to a test, the arresting officer or other law enforcement officer at whose direction any test has been given, or the department, where applicable, if the arrest results in a test of the person's blood, shall:

(a) Serve notice in writing on the person on behalf of the department of its intention to suspend, revoke, or deny the person's license, permit, or privilege to drive as required by subsection (7) of this section;

(b) Serve notice in writing on the person on behalf of the department of his or her right to a hearing, specifying the steps he or she must take to obtain a hearing as provided by subsection (8) of this section and that the person waives the right to a hearing if he or she receives an ignition interlock driver's license;

(c) Mark the person's Washington state driver's license or permit to drive, if any, in a manner authorized by the department;



(d) Serve notice in writing that the marked license or permit, if any, is a temporary license that is valid for sixty days from the date of arrest or from the date notice has been given in the event notice is given by the department following a blood test, or until the suspension, revocation, or denial of the person's license, permit, or privilege to drive is sustained at a hearing pursuant to subsection (8) of this section, whichever occurs first. No temporary license is valid to any greater degree than the license or permit that it replaces; and

(e) Immediately notify the department of the arrest and transmit to the department within seventy-two hours, except as delayed as the result of a blood test, a sworn report or report under a declaration authorized by RCW 9A.72.085 that states:

(i) That the officer had reasonable grounds to believe the arrested person had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, or both, or was under the age of twenty-one years and had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while having an alcohol concentration in violation of RCW 46.61.503;

(ii) That after receipt of the warnings required by subsection (2) of this section the person refused to submit to a test of his or her blood or breath, or a test was administered and the results indicated that the alcohol concentration of the person's breath or blood was 0.08 or more if the person is age twenty-one or over, or was 0.02 or more if the person is under the age of twenty-one; and

(iii) Any other information that the director may require by rule.

(7) The department of licensing, upon the receipt of a sworn report or report under a declaration authorized by RCW 9A.72.085 under subsection (6)(e) of this section, shall suspend, revoke, or deny the person's license, permit, or privilege to drive or any nonresident operating privilege, as provided in RCW 46.20.3101, such suspension, revocation, or denial to be effective beginning sixty days from the date of arrest or from the date notice has been given in the event notice is given by the department following a blood test, or when sustained at a hearing pursuant to subsection (8) of this section, whichever occurs first.

(8) A person receiving notification under subsection (6)(b) of this section may, within twenty days after the notice has been given, request in writing a formal hearing before the department. The person shall pay a fee of three hundred seventy-five dollars as part of the request. If the request is mailed, it must be postmarked within twenty days after receipt of the notification. Upon timely receipt of such a request for a formal hearing, including receipt of the required three hundred seventy-five dollar fee, the department shall afford the person an opportunity for a hearing. The department may waive the required three hundred seventy-five dollar fee if the person is an indigent as defined in RCW 10.101.010. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the hearing is subject to and shall be scheduled and conducted in accordance with RCW 46.20.329 and 46.20.332. The hearing shall be conducted in the county of the arrest, except that all or part of the hearing may, at the discretion of the department, be conducted by telephone or other electronic means. The hearing shall be held within sixty days following the arrest or following the date notice has been given in the event

notice is given by the department following a blood test, unless otherwise agreed to by the department and the person, in which case the action by the department shall be stayed, and any valid temporary license marked under subsection (6)(c) of this section extended, if the person is otherwise eligible for licensing. For the purposes of this section, the scope of the hearing shall cover the issues of whether a law enforcement officer had reasonable grounds to believe the person had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug or had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state while having alcohol in his or her system in a concentration of 0.02 or more if the person was under the age of twenty-one, whether the person was placed under arrest, and (a) whether the person refused to submit to the test or tests upon request of the officer after having been informed that such refusal would result in the revocation of the person's license, permit, or privilege to drive, or (b) if a test or tests were administered, whether the applicable requirements of this section were satisfied before the administration of the test or tests, whether the person submitted to the test or tests, or whether a test was administered without express consent as permitted under this section, and whether the test or tests indicated that the alcohol concentration of the person's breath or blood was 0.08 or more if the person was age twenty-one or over at the time of the arrest, or 0.02 or more if the person was under the age of twenty-one at the time of the arrest. The sworn report or report under a declaration authorized by RCW 9A.72.085 submitted by a law enforcement officer is prima facie evidence that the officer had reasonable grounds to believe the person had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, or both, or the person had been driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state while having alcohol in his or her system in a concentration of 0.02 or more and was under the age of twenty-one and that the officer complied with the requirements of this section.

A hearing officer shall conduct the hearing, may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents, and shall administer oaths to witnesses. The hearing officer shall not issue a subpoena for the attendance of a witness at the request of the person unless the request is accompanied by the fee required by RCW 5.56.010 for a witness in district court. The sworn report or report under a declaration authorized by RCW 9A.72.085 of the law enforcement officer and any other evidence accompanying the report shall be admissible without further evidentiary foundation and the certifications authorized by the criminal rules for courts of limited jurisdiction shall be admissible without further evidentiary foundation. The person may be represented by counsel, may question witnesses, may present evidence, and may testify. The department shall order that the suspension, revocation, or denial either be rescinded or sustained.

(9) If the suspension, revocation, or denial is sustained after such a hearing, the person whose license, privilege, or permit is suspended, revoked, or denied has the right to file a petition in the superior court of the county of arrest to review the final order of revocation by the department in the same manner as an appeal from a decision of a court of limited

jurisdiction. Notice of appeal must be filed within thirty days after the date the final order is served or the right to appeal is waived. Notwithstanding RCW 46.20.334, RALJ 1.1, or other statutes or rules referencing de novo review, the appeal shall be limited to a review of the record of the administrative hearing. The appellant must pay the costs associated with obtaining the record of the hearing before the hearing officer. The filing of the appeal does not stay the effective date of the suspension, revocation, or denial. A petition filed under this subsection must include the petitioner's grounds for requesting review. Upon granting petitioner's request for review, the court shall review the department's final order of suspension, revocation, or denial as expeditiously as possible. The review must be limited to a determination of whether the department has committed any errors of law. The superior court shall accept those factual determinations supported by substantial evidence in the record: (a) That were expressly made by the department; or (b) that may reasonably be inferred from the final order of the department. The superior court may reverse, affirm, or modify the decision of the department or remand the case back to the department for further proceedings. The decision of the superior court must be in writing and filed in the clerk's office with the other papers in the case. The court shall state the reasons for the decision. If judicial relief is sought for a stay or other temporary remedy from the department's action, the court shall not grant such relief unless the court finds that the appellant is likely to prevail in the appeal and that without a stay the appellant will suffer irreparable injury. If the court stays the suspension, revocation, or denial it may impose conditions on such stay.

(10)(a) If a person whose driver's license, permit, or privilege to drive has been or will be suspended, revoked, or denied under subsection (7) of this section, other than as a result of a breath or blood test refusal, and who has not committed an offense for which he or she was granted a deferred prosecution under chapter 10.05 RCW, petitions a court for a deferred prosecution on criminal charges arising out of the arrest for which action has been or will be taken under subsection (7) of this section, or notifies the department of licensing of the intent to seek such a deferred prosecution, then the license suspension or revocation shall be stayed pending entry of the deferred prosecution. The stay shall not be longer than one hundred fifty days after the date charges are filed, or two years after the date of the arrest, whichever time period is shorter. If the court stays the suspension, revocation, or denial, it may impose conditions on such stay. If the person is otherwise eligible for licensing, the department shall issue a temporary license, or extend any valid temporary license marked under subsection (6) of this section, for the period of the stay. If a deferred prosecution treatment plan is not recommended in the report made under RCW 10.05.050, or if treatment is rejected by the court, or if the person declines to accept an offered treatment plan, or if the person violates any condition imposed by the court, then the court shall immediately direct the department to cancel the stay and any temporary marked license or extension of a temporary license issued under this subsection.

(b) A suspension, revocation, or denial imposed under this section, other than as a result of a breath or blood test refusal, shall be stayed if the person is accepted for deferred prosecution as provided in chapter 10.05 RCW for the inci-

dent upon which the suspension, revocation, or denial is based. If the deferred prosecution is terminated, the stay shall be lifted and the suspension, revocation, or denial reinstated. If the deferred prosecution is completed, the stay shall be lifted and the suspension, revocation, or denial canceled.

(c) The provisions of (b) of this subsection relating to a stay of a suspension, revocation, or denial and the cancellation of any suspension, revocation, or denial do not apply to the suspension, revocation, denial, or disqualification of a person's commercial driver's license or privilege to operate a commercial motor vehicle.

(11) When it has been finally determined under the procedures of this section that a nonresident's privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this state has been suspended, revoked, or denied, the department shall give information in writing of the action taken to the motor vehicle administrator of the state of the person's residence and of any state in which he or she has a license. [2012 c 183 § 7; 2012 c 80 § 12; 2008 c 282 § 2. Prior: 2005 c 314 § 307; 2005 c 269 § 1; prior: 2004 c 187 § 1; 2004 c 95 § 2; 2004 c 68 § 2; prior: 1999 c 331 § 2; 1999 c 274 § 2; prior: 1998 c 213 § 1; 1998 c 209 § 1; 1998 c 207 § 7; 1998 c 41 § 4; 1995 c 332 § 1; 1994 c 275 § 13; 1989 c 337 § 8; 1987 c 22 § 1; prior: 1986 c 153 § 5; 1986 c 64 § 1; 1985 c 407 § 3; 1983 c 165 § 2; 1983 c 165 § 1; 1981 c 260 § 11; prior: 1979 ex.s. c 176 § 3; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 59; 1979 c 158 § 151; 1975 1st ex.s. c 287 § 4; 1969 c 1 § 1 (Initiative Measure No. 242, approved November 5, 1968).]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2012 c 80 § 12 and by 2012 c 183 § 7, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2012 c 183:** See note following RCW 2.28.175.

**Effective date—2012 c 80 §§ 5-13:** See note following RCW 46.20.055.

**Effective date—2008 c 282:** "Sections 2, 4 through 8, and 11 through 14 of this act take effect January 1, 2009." [2008 c 282 § 23.]

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

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**Finding—Intent—2004 c 68:** "The legislature finds that previous attempts to curtail the incidence of driving while intoxicated have been inadequate. The legislature further finds that property loss, injury, and death caused by drinking drivers continue at unacceptable levels. This act is intended to convey the seriousness with which the legislature views this problem. To that end the legislature seeks to ensure swift and certain consequences for those who drink and drive.

To accomplish this goal, the legislature adopts standards governing the admissibility of tests of a person's blood or breath. These standards will provide a degree of uniformity that is currently lacking, and will reduce the delays caused by challenges to various breath test instrument components and maintenance procedures. Such challenges, while allowed, will no longer go to admissibility of test results. Instead, such challenges are to be considered by the finder of fact in deciding what weight to place upon an admitted blood or breath test result.

The legislature's authority to adopt standards governing the admissibility of evidence involving alcohol is well established by the Washington Supreme Court. See generally *State v. Long*, 113 Wn.2d 266, 778 P.2d 1027 (1989); *State v. Sears*, 4 Wn.2d 200, 215, 103 P.2d 337 (1940) (the legislature has the power to enact laws which create rules of evidence); *State v.*

*Pavelich*, 153 Wash. 379, 279 P. 1102 (1929) ("rules of evidence are substantive law"). [2004 c 68 § 1.]

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—1998 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.265.

**Legislative finding, intent—1983 c 165:** "The legislature finds that previous attempts to curtail the incidence of driving while intoxicated have been inadequate. The legislature further finds that property loss, injury, and death caused by drinking drivers have reached unacceptable levels. This act is intended to convey the seriousness with which the legislature views this problem. To that end the legislature seeks to insure swift and certain punishment for those who drink and drive. The legislature does not intend to discourage or deter courts and other agencies from directing or providing treatment for problem drinkers. However, it is the intent that such treatment, where appropriate, be in addition to and not in lieu of the sanctions to be applied to all those convicted of driving while intoxicated." [1983 c 165 § 44.]

*Liability of medical personnel withdrawing blood:* RCW 46.61.508.

*Refusal of test—Admissibility as evidence:* RCW 46.61.517.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.3101 Implied consent—License sanctions, length of.** Pursuant to RCW 46.20.308, the department shall suspend, revoke, or deny the arrested person's license, permit, or privilege to drive as follows:

(1) In the case of a person who has refused a test or tests:

(a) For a first refusal within seven years, where there has not been a previous incident within seven years that resulted in administrative action under this section, revocation or denial for one year;

(b) For a second or subsequent refusal within seven years, or for a first refusal where there has been one or more previous incidents within seven years that have resulted in administrative action under this section, revocation or denial for two years or until the person reaches age twenty-one, whichever is longer.

(2) In the case of an incident where a person has submitted to or been administered a test or tests indicating that the alcohol concentration of the person's breath or blood was 0.08 or more:

(a) For a first incident within seven years, where there has not been a previous incident within seven years that resulted in administrative action under this section, suspension for ninety days;

(b) For a second or subsequent incident within seven years, revocation or denial for two years.

(3) In the case of an incident where a person under age twenty-one has submitted to or been administered a test or tests indicating that the alcohol concentration of the person's breath or blood was 0.02 or more:

(a) For a first incident within seven years, suspension or denial for ninety days;

(b) For a second or subsequent incident within seven years, revocation or denial for one year or until the person reaches age twenty-one, whichever is longer.

(4) The department shall grant credit on a day-for-day basis for any portion of a suspension, revocation, or denial already served under this section for a suspension, revocation, or denial imposed under RCW 46.61.5055 arising out of the same incident. [2004 c 95 § 4; 2004 c 68 § 3. Prior: 1998 c 213 § 2; 1998 c 209 § 2; 1998 c 207 § 8; 1995 c 332 § 3.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2004 c 68 § 3 and by 2004 c 95 § 4, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Finding—Intent—2004 c 68:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.311 Duration of license sanctions—Reissuance or renewal.** (1)(a) The department shall not suspend a driver's license or privilege to drive a motor vehicle on the public highways for a fixed period of more than one year, except as specifically permitted under RCW 46.20.267, 46.20.342, or other provision of law.

(b) Except for a suspension under RCW 46.20.267, 46.20.289, 46.20.291(5), 46.61.740, or 74.20A.320, whenever the license or driving privilege of any person is suspended by reason of a conviction, a finding that a traffic infraction has been committed, pursuant to chapter 46.29 RCW, or pursuant to RCW 46.20.291 or 46.20.308, the suspension shall remain in effect until the person gives and thereafter maintains proof of financial responsibility for the future as provided in chapter 46.29 RCW.

(c) If the suspension is the result of a nonfelony violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, the department shall determine the person's eligibility for licensing based upon the reports provided by the alcoholism agency or probation department designated under RCW 46.61.5056 and shall deny reinstatement until enrollment and participation in an approved program has been established and the person is otherwise qualified. If the suspension is the result of a violation of RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), the department shall determine the person's eligibility for licensing based upon the reports provided by the alcohol or drug dependency agency required under RCW 46.61.524 and shall deny reinstatement until satisfactory progress in an approved program has been established and the person is otherwise qualified. If the suspension is the result of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, and the person is required pursuant to RCW 46.20.720 to drive only a motor vehicle equipped with a functioning ignition interlock, the department shall determine the person's eligibility for licensing based upon written verification by a company doing business in the state that it has installed the required device on a vehicle owned or operated by the person seeking reinstatement. If, based upon notification from the interlock provider or otherwise, the department determines that an interlock required under RCW 46.20.720 is no longer installed or functioning as required, the department shall suspend the person's license or privilege to drive. Whenever the license or driving privilege of any person is suspended or revoked as a result of noncompliance with an ignition interlock requirement, the suspension shall remain in effect until the person provides notice issued by a company doing business in the state that a vehicle owned or operated by the person is equipped with a functioning ignition interlock device.

(d) Whenever the license or driving privilege of any person is suspended as a result of certification of noncompliance with a child support order under chapter 74.20A RCW or a residential or visitation order, the suspension shall remain in effect until the person provides a release issued by the department of social and health services stating that the person is in compliance with the order.

(e)(i) The department shall not issue to the person a new, duplicate, or renewal license until the person pays a reissue fee of seventy-five dollars.

(ii) If the suspension is the result of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, or is the result of administrative action under RCW 46.20.308, the reissue fee shall be one hundred fifty dollars.

(2)(a) Any person whose license or privilege to drive a motor vehicle on the public highways has been revoked, unless the revocation was for a cause which has been removed, is not entitled to have the license or privilege renewed or restored until: (i) After the expiration of one year from the date the license or privilege to drive was revoked; (ii) after the expiration of the applicable revocation period provided by RCW 46.20.3101 or 46.61.5055; (iii) after the expiration of two years for persons convicted of vehicular homicide; or (iv) after the expiration of the applicable revocation period provided by RCW 46.20.265.

(b)(i) After the expiration of the appropriate period, the person may make application for a new license as provided by law together with a reissue fee in the amount of seventy-five dollars.

(ii) If the revocation is the result of a violation of RCW 46.20.308, 46.61.502, or 46.61.504, the reissue fee shall be one hundred fifty dollars. If the revocation is the result of a nonfelony violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, the department shall determine the person's eligibility for licensing based upon the reports provided by the alcoholism agency or probation department designated under RCW 46.61.5056 and shall deny reissuance of a license, permit, or privilege to drive until enrollment and participation in an approved program has been established and the person is otherwise qualified. If the suspension is the result of a violation of RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), the department shall determine the person's eligibility for licensing based upon the reports provided by the alcohol or drug dependency agency required under RCW 46.61.524 and shall deny reinstatement until satisfactory progress in an approved program has been established and the person is otherwise qualified. If the revocation is the result of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, and the person is required pursuant to RCW 46.20.720 to drive only a motor vehicle equipped with a functioning ignition interlock or other biological or technical device, the department shall determine the person's eligibility for licensing based upon written verification by a company doing business in the state that it has installed the required device on a vehicle owned or operated by the person applying for a new license. If, following issuance of a new license, the department determines, based upon notification from the interlock provider or otherwise, that an interlock required under RCW 46.20.720 is no longer functioning, the department shall suspend the person's license or privilege to drive until the department has received written verification from an interlock provider that a functioning interlock is installed.

(c) Except for a revocation under RCW 46.20.265, the department shall not then issue a new license unless it is satisfied after investigation of the driving ability of the person that it will be safe to grant the privilege of driving a motor vehicle on the public highways, and until the person gives and thereafter maintains proof of financial responsibility for the future as provided in chapter 46.29 RCW. For a revocation under RCW 46.20.265, the department shall not issue a new license unless it is satisfied after investigation of the

driving ability of the person that it will be safe to grant that person the privilege of driving a motor vehicle on the public highways.

(3)(a) Whenever the driver's license of any person is suspended pursuant to Article IV of the nonresident violators compact or RCW 46.23.020 or 46.20.289 or 46.20.291(5), the department shall not issue to the person any new or renewal license until the person pays a reissue fee of seventy-five dollars.

(b) If the suspension is the result of a violation of the laws of this or any other state, province, or other jurisdiction involving (i) the operation or physical control of a motor vehicle upon the public highways while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, or (ii) the refusal to submit to a chemical test of the driver's blood alcohol content, the reissue fee shall be one hundred fifty dollars. [2006 c 73 § 15; 2005 c 314 § 308; 2004 c 95 § 3; 2003 c 366 § 2; 2001 c 325 § 2; 2000 c 115 § 7; 1998 c 212 § 1; 1997 c 58 § 807; 1995 c 332 § 11; 1994 c 275 § 27; 1993 c 501 § 5; 1990 c 250 § 45; 1988 c 148 § 9. Prior: 1985 c 407 § 4; 1985 c 211 § 1; 1984 c 258 § 325; 1983 c 165 § 18; 1983 c 165 § 17; 1982 c 212 § 5; 1981 c 91 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 60; 1973 1st ex.s. c 36 § 1; 1969 c 1 § 2 (Initiative Measure No. 242, approved November 5, 1968); 1967 c 167 § 5; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 27.]

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Finding—2000 c 115:** See note following RCW 46.20.075.

**Effective dates—Intent—1997 c 58:** See notes following RCW 74.20A.320.

**Legislative finding—Severability—1988 c 148:** See notes following RCW 13.40.265.

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.34.130.

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.315 Surrender of license.** The department upon suspending or revoking a license shall require that such license shall be surrendered to and be retained by the department. [1985 c 302 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 28.]

**46.20.317 Unlicensed drivers.** The department is hereby authorized to place any unlicensed person into a suspended or revoked status under any circumstances which would have resulted in the suspension or revocation of the driver's license had that person been licensed. [1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 29 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.20.414.]

**46.20.320 Suspension, etc., effective although certificate not delivered.** Any suspension, revocation, or cancellation of a vehicle driver's license shall be in effect notwithstanding the certificate itself is not delivered over or possession thereof obtained by a court, officer, or the director. [1967 c 32 § 30; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.320. Prior: 1957 c 273 § 10; prior: 1937 c 188 § 66, part; RRS § 6312-66, part; 1923 c 122 § 1, part; 1921 c 108 § 9, part; RRS § 6371, part.]

## DRIVER IMPROVEMENT

**46.20.322 Interview before suspension, etc.—Exceptions—Appearance of minor’s parent or guardian.** (1) Whenever the department proposes to suspend or revoke the driving privilege of any person or proposes to impose terms of probation on a person’s driving privilege or proposes to refuse to renew a driver’s license, notice and an opportunity for a driver improvement interview shall be given before taking such action, except as provided in RCW 46.20.324 and 46.20.325.

(2) Whenever the department proposes to suspend, revoke, restrict, or condition a minor driver’s driving privilege the department may require the appearance of the minor’s legal guardian or father or mother, otherwise the parent or guardian having custody of the minor. [1979 c 61 § 10; 1973 1st ex.s. c 154 § 88; 1967 c 167 § 6; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 29.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.323 Notice of interview—Contents.** The notice shall contain a statement setting forth the proposed action and the grounds therefor, and notify the person to appear for a driver improvement interview not less than ten days from the date notice is given. [1965 ex.s. c 121 § 30.]

**46.20.324 Persons not entitled to interview or hearing.** Unless otherwise provided by law, a person shall not be entitled to a driver improvement interview or formal hearing under the provisions of RCW 46.20.322 through 46.20.333 when the person:

(1) Has been granted the opportunity for an administrative review, informal settlement, or formal hearing under RCW 46.20.245, 46.20.308, 46.25.120, 46.25.125, 46.65.065, 74.20A.320, or by rule of the department; or

(2) Has refused or neglected to submit to an examination as required by RCW 46.20.305. [2005 c 288 § 6; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 31.]

**Effective date—2005 c 288:** See note following RCW 46.20.245.

**46.20.325 Suspension or probation before interview—Alternative procedure.** In the alternative to the procedure set forth in RCW 46.20.322 and 46.20.323 the department, whenever it determines from its records or other sufficient evidence that the safety of persons upon the highways requires such action, shall forthwith and without a driver improvement interview suspend the privilege of a person to operate a motor vehicle or impose reasonable terms and conditions of probation consistent with the safe operation of a motor vehicle. The department shall in such case, immediately notify such licensee in writing and upon his or her request shall afford him or her an opportunity for a driver improvement interview as early as practical within not to exceed seven days after receipt of such request, or the department, at the time it gives notice may set the date of a driver improvement interview, giving not less than ten days’ notice thereof. [2010 c 8 § 9021; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 32.]

**46.20.326 Failure to appear or request interview constitutes waiver—Procedure.** Failure to appear for a driver improvement interview at the time and place stated by the

department in its notice as provided in RCW 46.20.322 and 46.20.323 or failure to request a driver improvement interview within ten days as provided in RCW 46.20.325 constitutes a waiver of a driver improvement interview, and the department may take action without such driver improvement interview, or the department may, upon request of the person whose privilege to drive may be affected, or at its own option, re-open the case, take evidence, change or set aside any order theretofore made, or grant a driver improvement interview. [1990 c 250 § 46; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 33.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.327 Conduct of interview—Referee—Evidence—Not deemed hearing.** A driver improvement interview shall be conducted in a completely informal manner before a driver improvement analyst sitting as a referee. The applicant or licensee shall have the right to make or file a written answer or statement in which he or she may controvert any point at issue, and present any evidence or arguments for the consideration of the department pertinent to the action taken or proposed to be taken or the grounds therefor. The department may consider its records relating to the applicant or licensee. The driver improvement interview shall not be deemed an agency hearing. [2010 c 8 § 9022; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 34.]

**46.20.328 Findings and notification after interview—Request for formal hearing.** Upon the conclusion of a driver improvement interview, the department’s referee shall make findings on the matter under consideration and shall notify the person involved in writing by personal service of the findings. The referee’s findings shall be final unless the person involved is notified to the contrary by personal service or by certified mail within fifteen days. The decision is effective upon notice. The person upon receiving such notice may, in writing and within ten days, request a formal hearing. [1979 c 61 § 11; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 35.]

*Persons not entitled to formal hearing: RCW 46.20.324.*

**46.20.329 Formal hearing—Procedures, notice, stay.** Upon receiving a request for a formal hearing as provided in RCW 46.20.328, the department shall fix a time and place for hearing as early as may be arranged in the county where the applicant or licensee resides, and shall give ten days’ notice of the hearing to the applicant or licensee, except that the hearing may be set for a different place with the concurrence of the applicant or licensee and the period of notice may be waived.

Any decision by the department suspending or revoking a person’s driving privilege shall be stayed and shall not take effect while a formal hearing is pending as herein provided or during the pendency of a subsequent appeal to superior court: PROVIDED, That this stay shall be effective only so long as there is no conviction of a moving violation or a finding that the person has committed a traffic infraction which is a moving violation during pendency of hearing and appeal: PROVIDED FURTHER, That nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the department from seeking an order setting aside the stay during the pendency of such appeal in those cases where the action of the department is based upon

physical or mental incapacity, or a failure to successfully complete an examination required by this chapter.

A formal hearing shall be conducted by the director or by a person or persons appointed by the director from among the employees of the department. [1982 c 189 § 4; 1981 c 67 § 28; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 61; 1972 ex.s. c 29 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 36.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.331 Hearing and decision by director's designee.** The director may appoint a designee, or designees, to preside over hearings in adjudicative proceedings that may result in the denial, restriction, suspension, or revocation of a driver's license or driving privilege, or in the imposition of requirements to be met prior to issuance or reissuance of a driver's license, under Title 46 RCW. The director may delegate to any such designees the authority to render the final decision of the department in such proceedings. Chapter 34.12 RCW shall not apply to such proceedings. [1989 c 175 § 111; 1982 c 189 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.332 Formal hearing—Evidence—Subpoenas—Reexamination—Findings and recommendations.** At a formal hearing the department shall consider its records and may receive sworn testimony and may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of relevant books and papers in the manner and subject to the conditions provided in chapter 5.56 RCW relating to the issuance of subpoenas. In addition the department may require a reexamination of the licensee or applicant. Proceedings at a formal hearing shall be recorded stenographically or by mechanical device. Upon the conclusion of a formal hearing, if not heard by the director or a person authorized by him or her to make final decisions regarding the issuance, denial, suspension, or revocation of licenses, the referee or board shall make findings on the matters under consideration and may prepare and submit recommendations to the director or such person designated by the director who is authorized to make final decisions regarding the issuance, denial, suspension, or revocation of licenses. [2010 c 8 § 9023; 1972 ex.s. c 29 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 37.]

**46.20.333 Decision after formal hearing.** In all cases not heard by the director or a person authorized by him or her to make final decisions regarding the issuance, denial, suspension, or revocation of licenses the director, or a person so authorized shall review the records, evidence, and the findings after a formal hearing, and shall render a decision sustaining, modifying, or reversing the order of suspension or revocation or the refusal to grant, or renew a license or the order imposing terms or conditions of probation, or may set aside the prior action of the department and may direct that probation be granted to the applicant or licensee and in such case may fix the terms and conditions of the probation. [2010 c 8 § 9024; 1972 ex.s. c 29 § 3; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 38.]

**46.20.334 Appeal to superior court.** Unless otherwise provided by law, any person denied a license or a renewal of a license or whose license has been suspended or revoked by the department shall have the right within thirty days, after

receiving notice of the decision following a formal hearing to file a notice of appeal in the superior court in the county of his or her residence. The hearing on the appeal hereunder shall be de novo. [2010 c 8 § 9025; 2005 c 288 § 7; 1972 ex.s. c 29 § 4; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 39.]

**Effective date—2005 c 288:** See note following RCW 46.20.245.

**46.20.335 Probation in lieu of suspension or revocation.** Whenever by any provision of this chapter the department has discretionary authority to suspend or revoke the privilege of a person to operate a motor vehicle, the department may in lieu of a suspension or revocation place the person on probation, the terms of which may include a suspension as a condition of probation, and upon such other reasonable terms and conditions as shall be deemed by the department to be appropriate. [1965 ex.s. c 121 § 40.]

#### DRIVING OR USING LICENSE WHILE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED

**46.20.338 Display or possession of invalidated license or identicard.** It is a traffic infraction for any person to display or cause or permit to be displayed or have in his or her possession any canceled, revoked, or suspended driver's license or identicard. [1990 c 210 § 4.]

**46.20.341 Relicensing diversion programs—Program information to administrative office of the courts.** (1)(a) A person who violates RCW 46.20.342(1)(c)(iv) in a jurisdiction that does not have a relicensing diversion program shall be provided with an abstract of his or her driving record by the court or the prosecuting attorney, in addition to a list of his or her unpaid traffic offense related fines and the contact information for each jurisdiction or collection agency to which money is owed.

(b) A fee of up to twenty dollars may be imposed by the court in addition to any fee required by the department for provision of the driving abstract.

(2)(a) Superior courts or courts of limited jurisdiction in counties or cities are authorized to participate or provide relicensing diversion programs to persons who violate RCW 46.20.342(1)(c)(iv).

(b) Eligibility for the relicensing diversion program shall be limited to violators with no more than four convictions under RCW 46.20.342(1)(c)(iv) in the ten years preceding the date of entering the relicensing diversion program, subject to a less restrictive rule imposed by the presiding judge of the county district court or municipal court. People subject to arrest under a warrant are not eligible for the diversion program.

(c) The diversion option may be offered at the discretion of the prosecuting attorney before charges are filed, or by the court after charges are filed.

(d) A person who is the holder of a commercial driver's license or who was operating a commercial motor vehicle at the time of the violation of RCW 46.20.342(1)(c)(iv) may not participate in the diversion program under this section.

(e) A relicensing diversion program that is structured to occur after charges are filed may charge participants a one-time fee of up to one hundred dollars, which is not subject to chapters 3.50, 3.62, and 35.20 RCW, and shall be used to

support administration of the program. The fee of up to one hundred dollars shall be included in the total to be paid by the participant in the relicensing diversion program.

(3) A relicensing diversion program shall be designed to assist suspended drivers to regain their license and insurance and pay outstanding fines.

(4)(a) Counties and cities that operate relicensing diversion programs shall, subject to available funds, provide information to the administrative office of the courts on an annual basis regarding the eligibility criteria used for the program, the number of referrals from law enforcement, the number of participants accepted into the program, the number of participants who regain their driver's license and insurance, the total amount of fines collected, the costs associated with the program, and other information as determined by the office.

(b) The administrative office of the courts is directed, subject to available funds, to compile and analyze the data required to be submitted in this section and develop recommendations for a best practices model for relicensing diversion programs. [2009 c 490 § 1.]

**46.20.342 Driving while license invalidated—Penalties—Extension of invalidation.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to drive a motor vehicle in this state while that person is in a suspended or revoked status or when his or her privilege to drive is suspended or revoked in this or any other state. Any person who has a valid Washington driver's license is not guilty of a violation of this section.

(a) A person found to be a habitual offender under chapter 46.65 RCW, who violates this section while an order of revocation issued under chapter 46.65 RCW prohibiting such operation is in effect, is guilty of driving while license suspended or revoked in the first degree, a gross misdemeanor. Upon the first such conviction, the person shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than ten days. Upon the second conviction, the person shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than ninety days. Upon the third or subsequent conviction, the person shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than one hundred eighty days. If the person is also convicted of the offense defined in RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, when both convictions arise from the same event, the minimum sentence of confinement shall be not less than ninety days. The minimum sentence of confinement required shall not be suspended or deferred. A conviction under this subsection does not prevent a person from petitioning for reinstatement as provided by RCW 46.65.080.

(b) A person who violates this section while an order of suspension or revocation prohibiting such operation is in effect and while the person is not eligible to reinstate his or her driver's license or driving privilege, other than for a suspension for the reasons described in (c) of this subsection, is guilty of driving while license suspended or revoked in the second degree, a gross misdemeanor. For the purposes of this subsection, a person is not considered to be eligible to reinstate his or her driver's license or driving privilege if the person is eligible to obtain an ignition interlock driver's license but did not obtain such a license. This subsection applies when a person's driver's license or driving privilege has been suspended or revoked by reason of:

(i) A conviction of a felony in the commission of which a motor vehicle was used;

(ii) A previous conviction under this section;

(iii) A notice received by the department from a court or diversion unit as provided by RCW 46.20.265, relating to a minor who has committed, or who has entered a diversion unit concerning an offense relating to alcohol, legend drugs, controlled substances, or imitation controlled substances;

(iv) A conviction of RCW 46.20.410, relating to the violation of restrictions of an occupational driver's license, a temporary restricted driver's license, or an ignition interlock driver's license;

(v) A conviction of RCW 46.20.345, relating to the operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended or revoked license;

(vi) A conviction of RCW 46.52.020, relating to duty in case of injury to or death of a person or damage to an attended vehicle;

(vii) A conviction of RCW 46.61.024, relating to attempting to elude pursuing police vehicles;

(viii) A conviction of RCW 46.61.212(4), relating to reckless endangerment of emergency zone workers;

(ix) A conviction of RCW 46.61.500, relating to reckless driving;

(x) A conviction of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, relating to a person under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs;

(xi) A conviction of RCW 46.61.520, relating to vehicular homicide;

(xii) A conviction of RCW 46.61.522, relating to vehicular assault;

(xiii) A conviction of RCW 46.61.527(4), relating to reckless endangerment of roadway workers;

(xiv) A conviction of RCW 46.61.530, relating to racing of vehicles on highways;

(xv) A conviction of RCW 46.61.685, relating to leaving children in an unattended vehicle with motor running;

(xvi) A conviction of RCW 46.61.740, relating to theft of motor vehicle fuel;

(xvii) A conviction of RCW 46.64.048, relating to attempting, aiding, abetting, coercing, and committing crimes;

(xviii) An administrative action taken by the department under chapter 46.20 RCW;

(xix) A conviction of a local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution of a political subdivision of this state, the federal government, or any other state, of an offense substantially similar to a violation included in this subsection; or

(xx) A finding that a person has committed a traffic infraction under RCW 46.61.526 and suspension of driving privileges pursuant to RCW 46.61.526 (4)(b) or (7)(a)(ii).

(c) A person who violates this section when his or her driver's license or driving privilege is, at the time of the violation, suspended or revoked solely because (i) the person must furnish proof of satisfactory progress in a required alcoholism or drug treatment program, (ii) the person must furnish proof of financial responsibility for the future as provided by chapter 46.29 RCW, (iii) the person has failed to comply with the provisions of chapter 46.29 RCW relating to uninsured accidents, (iv) the person has failed to respond to a notice of traffic infraction, failed to appear at a requested hearing, violated a written promise to appear in court, or has failed to comply with the terms of a notice of traffic infraction or citation, as provided in RCW 46.20.289, (v) the per-

son has committed an offense in another state that, if committed in this state, would not be grounds for the suspension or revocation of the person's driver's license, (vi) the person has been suspended or revoked by reason of one or more of the items listed in (b) of this subsection, but was eligible to reinstate his or her driver's license or driving privilege at the time of the violation, or (vii) the person has received traffic citations or notices of traffic infraction that have resulted in a suspension under RCW 46.20.267 relating to intermediate drivers' licenses, or any combination of (c)(i) through (vii) of this subsection, is guilty of driving while license suspended or revoked in the third degree, a misdemeanor. For the purposes of this subsection, a person is not considered to be eligible to reinstate his or her driver's license or driving privilege if the person is eligible to obtain an ignition interlock driver's license but did not obtain such a license.

(2) Upon receiving a record of conviction of any person or upon receiving an order by any juvenile court or any duly authorized court officer of the conviction of any juvenile under this section, the department shall:

(a) For a conviction of driving while suspended or revoked in the first degree, as provided by subsection (1)(a) of this section, extend the period of administrative revocation imposed under chapter 46.65 RCW for an additional period of one year from and after the date the person would otherwise have been entitled to apply for a new license or have his or her driving privilege restored; or

(b) For a conviction of driving while suspended or revoked in the second degree, as provided by subsection (1)(b) of this section, not issue a new license or restore the driving privilege for an additional period of one year from and after the date the person would otherwise have been entitled to apply for a new license or have his or her driving privilege restored; or

(c) Not extend the period of suspension or revocation if the conviction was under subsection (1)(c) of this section. If the conviction was under subsection (1)(a) or (b) of this section and the court recommends against the extension and the convicted person has obtained a valid driver's license, the period of suspension or revocation shall not be extended. [2011 c 372 § 2. Prior: 2010 c 269 § 7; 2010 c 252 § 4; 2008 c 282 § 4; 2004 c 95 § 5; 2001 c 325 § 3; 2000 c 115 § 8; 1999 c 274 § 3; 1993 c 501 § 6; 1992 c 130 § 1; 1991 c 293 § 6; prior: 1990 c 250 § 47; 1990 c 210 § 5; 1987 c 388 § 1; 1985 c 302 § 3; 1980 c 148 § 3; prior: 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 62; 1979 ex.s. c 74 § 1; 1969 c 27 § 2; prior: 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 52; 1967 c 167 § 7; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 43.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Application—Effective date—2011 c 372:** See notes following RCW 46.61.526.

**Effective date—2010 c 269:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Effective date—2010 c 252:** See note following RCW 46.61.212.

**Effective date—2008 c 282:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

**Finding—2000 c 115:** See note following RCW 46.20.075.

*Impoundment of vehicle: RCW 46.55.113.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.345 Operation under other license or permit while license suspended or revoked—Penalty.** Any resident or nonresident whose driver's license or right or privilege

to operate a motor vehicle in this state has been suspended or revoked as provided in this title shall not operate a motor vehicle in this state under a license, permit, or registration certificate issued by any other jurisdiction or otherwise during such suspension or after such revocation until a new license is obtained when and as permitted under this chapter. A person who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1990 c 210 § 6; 1985 c 302 § 5; 1967 c 32 § 35; 1961 c 134 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.20.420.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**46.20.349 Stopping vehicle of suspended or revoked driver.** Any police officer who has received notice of the suspension or revocation of a driver's license from the department of licensing may, during the reported period of such suspension or revocation, stop any motor vehicle identified by its vehicle license number as being registered to the person whose driver's license has been suspended or revoked. The driver of such vehicle shall display his or her driver's license upon request of the police officer. [2010 c 8 § 9026; 1979 c 158 § 152; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 47. Formerly RCW 46.20.430.]

**46.20.355 Alcohol violator—Probationary license.**

(1) Upon receipt of an abstract indicating a deferred prosecution has been granted under RCW 10.05.060, or upon receipt of a notice of conviction of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, the department of licensing shall order the person to surrender any nonprobationary Washington state driver's license that may be in his or her possession. The department shall revoke the license, permit, or privilege to drive of any person who fails to surrender it as required by this section for one year, unless the license has been previously surrendered to the department, a law enforcement officer, or a court, or the person has completed an affidavit of lost, stolen, destroyed, or previously surrendered license, such revocation to take effect thirty days after notice is given of the requirement for license surrender.

(2) The department shall place a person's driving privilege in probationary status as required by RCW 10.05.060 or 46.61.5055 for a period of five years from the date the probationary status is required to go into effect.

(3) Following receipt of an abstract indicating a deferred prosecution has been granted under RCW 10.05.060, or upon reinstatement or reissuance of a driver's license suspended or revoked as the result of a conviction of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, the department shall require the person to obtain a probationary license in order to operate a motor vehicle in the state of Washington, except as otherwise exempt under RCW 46.20.025. The department shall not issue the probationary license unless the person is otherwise qualified for licensing, and the person must renew the probationary license on the same cycle as the person's regular license would have been renewed until the expiration of the five-year probationary status period imposed under subsection (2) of this section.

(4) For each original issue or renewal of a probationary license under this section, the department shall charge a fee of fifty dollars in addition to any other licensing fees required. Except for when renewing a probationary license, the department shall waive the requirement to obtain an addi-



tional probationary license and the fifty dollar fee if the person has a probationary license in his or her possession at the time a new probationary license is required.

(5) A probationary license shall enable the department and law enforcement personnel to determine that the person is on probationary status. The fact that a person's driving privilege is in probationary status or that the person has been issued a probationary license shall not be a part of the person's record that is available to insurance companies. [1998 c 209 § 3; 1998 c 41 § 5; 1995 1st sp.s. c 17 § 1; 1995 c 332 § 4; 1994 c 275 § 8.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1998 c 41 § 5 and by 1998 c 209 § 3, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—1998 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.265.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### IGNITION INTERLOCK, TEMPORARY RESTRICTED, OCCUPATIONAL LICENSES

**46.20.380 Fee.** No person may file an application for an occupational driver's license, a temporary restricted driver's license, or an ignition interlock driver's license as provided in RCW 46.20.391 and 46.20.385 unless he or she first pays to the director or other person authorized to accept applications and fees for driver's licenses a fee of one hundred dollars. The applicant shall receive upon payment an official receipt for the payment of such fee. All such fees shall be forwarded to the director who shall transmit such fees to the state treasurer in the same manner as other driver's license fees. [2008 c 282 § 5; 2004 c 95 § 6; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 6; 1979 c 61 § 12; 1967 c 32 § 31; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.380. Prior: 1957 c 268 § 1.]

**Effective date—2008 c 282:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.385 Ignition interlock driver's license—Application—Eligibility—Cancellation—Costs—Rules.** (1)(a) Beginning January 1, 2009, any person licensed under this chapter who is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 or an equivalent local or out-of-state statute or ordinance, or a violation of RCW 46.61.520(1)(a) or 46.61.522(1)(b), or who has had or will have his or her license suspended, revoked, or denied under RCW 46.20.3101, or who is otherwise permitted under subsection (8) of this section, may submit to the department an application for an ignition interlock driver's license. The department, upon receipt of the prescribed fee and upon determining that the petitioner is eligible to receive the license, may issue an ignition interlock driver's license.

(b) A person may apply for an ignition interlock driver's license anytime, including immediately after receiving the notices under RCW 46.20.308 or after his or her license is suspended, revoked, or denied. A person receiving an ignition interlock driver's license waives his or her right to a hearing or appeal under RCW 46.20.308.

(c) An applicant under this subsection shall provide proof to the satisfaction of the department that a functioning

ignition interlock device has been installed on all vehicles operated by the person.

(i) The department shall require the person to maintain the device on all vehicles operated by the person and shall restrict the person to operating only vehicles equipped with the device, for the remainder of the period of suspension, revocation, or denial. The installation of an ignition interlock device is not necessary on vehicles owned, leased, or rented by a person's employer and on those vehicles whose care and/or maintenance is the temporary responsibility of the employer, and driven at the direction of a person's employer as a requirement of employment during working hours. The person must provide the department with a declaration pursuant to RCW 9A.72.085 from his or her employer stating that the person's employment requires the person to operate a vehicle owned by the employer or other persons during working hours. However, when the employer's vehicle is assigned exclusively to the restricted driver and used solely for commuting to and from employment, the employer exemption does not apply.

(ii) Subject to any periodic renewal requirements established by the department under this section and subject to any applicable compliance requirements under this chapter or other law, an ignition interlock driver's license granted upon a suspension or revocation under RCW 46.61.5055 or 46.20.3101 extends through the remaining portion of any concurrent or consecutive suspension or revocation that may be imposed as the result of administrative action and criminal conviction arising out of the same incident.

(iii) The time period during which the person is licensed under this section shall apply on a day-for-day basis toward satisfying the period of time the ignition interlock device restriction is required under RCW 46.20.720 and 46.61.5055. Beginning with incidents occurring on or after September 1, 2011, when calculating the period of time for the restriction under RCW 46.20.720(3), the department must also give the person a day-for-day credit for the time period, beginning from the date of the incident, during which the person kept an ignition interlock device installed on all vehicles the person operates. For the purposes of this subsection (1)(c)(iii), the term "all vehicles" does not include vehicles that would be subject to the employer exception under RCW 46.20.720(3).

(2) An applicant for an ignition interlock driver's license who qualifies under subsection (1) of this section is eligible to receive a license only if the applicant files satisfactory proof of financial responsibility under chapter 46.29 RCW.

(3) Upon receipt of evidence that a holder of an ignition interlock driver's license granted under this subsection no longer has a functioning ignition interlock device installed on all vehicles operated by the driver, the director shall give written notice by first-class mail to the driver that the ignition interlock driver's license shall be canceled. If at any time before the cancellation goes into effect the driver submits evidence that a functioning ignition interlock device has been installed on all vehicles operated by the driver, the cancellation shall be stayed. If the cancellation becomes effective, the driver may obtain, at no additional charge, a new ignition interlock driver's license upon submittal of evidence that a functioning ignition interlock device has been installed on all vehicles operated by the driver.

(4) A person aggrieved by the decision of the department on the application for an ignition interlock driver's license may request a hearing as provided by rule of the department.

(5) The director shall cancel an ignition interlock driver's license after receiving notice that the holder thereof has been convicted of operating a motor vehicle in violation of its restrictions, no longer meets the eligibility requirements, or has been convicted of or found to have committed a separate offense or any other act or omission that under this chapter would warrant suspension or revocation of a regular driver's license. The department must give notice of the cancellation as provided under RCW 46.20.245. A person whose ignition interlock driver's license has been canceled under this section may reapply for a new ignition interlock driver's license if he or she is otherwise qualified under this section and pays the fee required under RCW 46.20.380.

(6)(a) Unless costs are waived by the ignition interlock company or the person is indigent under RCW 10.101.010, the applicant shall pay the cost of installing, removing, and leasing the ignition interlock device and shall pay an additional fee of twenty dollars per month. Payments shall be made directly to the ignition interlock company. The company shall remit the additional twenty dollar fee to the department.

(b) The department shall deposit the proceeds of the twenty dollar fee into the ignition interlock device revolving account. Expenditures from the account may be used only to administer and operate the ignition interlock device revolving account program. The department shall adopt rules to provide monetary assistance according to greatest need and when funds are available.

(7) The department shall adopt rules to implement ignition interlock licensing. The department shall consult with the administrative office of the courts, the state patrol, the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs, ignition interlock companies, and any other organization or entity the department deems appropriate.

(8)(a) Any person licensed under this chapter who is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.500 when the charge was originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, or an equivalent local ordinance, may submit to the department an application for an ignition interlock driver's license under this section.

(b) A person who does not have any driver's license under this chapter, but who would otherwise be eligible under this section to apply for an ignition interlock license, may submit to the department an application for an ignition interlock license. The department may require the person to take any driver's licensing examination under chapter 46.20 RCW and may require the person to also apply and qualify for a temporary restricted driver's license under RCW 46.20.391. [2012 c 183 § 8; 2011 c 293 § 1; 2010 c 269 § 1; 2008 c 282 § 9.]

**Effective date—2012 c 183:** See note following RCW 2.28.175.

**Effective date—2011 c 293 §§ 1-9:** "Sections 1 through 9 of this act take effect September 1, 2011." [2011 c 293 § 16.]

**Effective date—2010 c 269:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2011." [2010 c 269 § 12.]

#### **46.20.391 Temporary restricted, occupational licenses—Application—Eligibility—Restrictions—Can-**

**cellation. (Effective until June 1, 2013.)** (1) Any person licensed under this chapter who is convicted of an offense relating to motor vehicles for which suspension or revocation of the driver's license is mandatory, other than vehicular homicide, vehicular assault, driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, may submit to the department an application for a temporary restricted driver's license. The department, upon receipt of the prescribed fee and upon determining that the petitioner is eligible to receive the license, may issue a temporary restricted driver's license and may set definite restrictions as provided in RCW 46.20.394.

(2)(a) A person licensed under this chapter whose driver's license is suspended administratively due to failure to appear or pay a traffic ticket under RCW 46.20.289; a violation of the financial responsibility laws under chapter 46.29 RCW; or for multiple violations within a specified period of time under RCW 46.20.291, may apply to the department for an occupational driver's license.

(b) If the suspension is for failure to respond, pay, or comply with a notice of traffic infraction or conviction, the applicant must enter into a payment plan with the court.

(c) An occupational driver's license issued to an applicant described in (a) of this subsection shall be valid for the period of the suspension or revocation.

(3) An applicant for an occupational or temporary restricted driver's license who qualifies under subsection (1) or (2) of this section is eligible to receive such license only if:

(a) Within seven years immediately preceding the date of the offense that gave rise to the present conviction or incident, the applicant has not committed vehicular homicide under RCW 46.61.520 or vehicular assault under RCW 46.61.522; and

(b) The applicant demonstrates that it is necessary for him or her to operate a motor vehicle because he or she:

(i) Is engaged in an occupation or trade that makes it essential that he or she operate a motor vehicle;

(ii) Is undergoing continuing health care or providing continuing care to another who is dependent upon the applicant;

(iii) Is enrolled in an educational institution and pursuing a course of study leading to a diploma, degree, or other certification of successful educational completion;

(iv) Is undergoing substance abuse treatment or is participating in meetings of a twelve-step group such as Alcoholics Anonymous that requires the petitioner to drive to or from the treatment or meetings;

(v) Is fulfilling court-ordered community service responsibilities;

(vi) Is in a program that assists persons who are enrolled in a WorkFirst program pursuant to chapter 74.08A RCW to become gainfully employed and the program requires a driver's license;

(vii) Is in an apprenticeship, on-the-job training, or welfare-to-work program; or

(viii) Presents evidence that he or she has applied for a position in an apprenticeship or on-the-job training program for which a driver's license is required to begin the program,

provided that a license granted under this provision shall be in effect for no longer than fourteen days; and

(c) The applicant files satisfactory proof of financial responsibility under chapter 46.29 RCW; and

(d) Upon receipt of evidence that a holder of an occupational driver's license granted under this subsection is no longer enrolled in an apprenticeship or on-the-job training program, the director shall give written notice by first-class mail to the driver that the occupational driver's license shall be canceled. If at any time before the cancellation goes into effect the driver submits evidence of continued enrollment in the program, the cancellation shall be stayed. If the cancellation becomes effective, the driver may obtain, at no additional charge, a new occupational driver's license upon submission of evidence of enrollment in another program that meets the criteria set forth in this subsection; and

(e) The department shall not issue an occupational driver's license under (b)(iv) of this subsection if the applicant is able to receive transit services sufficient to allow for the applicant's participation in the programs referenced under (b)(iv) of this subsection.

(4) A person aggrieved by the decision of the department on the application for an occupational or temporary restricted driver's license may request a hearing as provided by rule of the department.

(5) The director shall cancel an occupational or temporary restricted driver's license after receiving notice that the holder thereof has been convicted of operating a motor vehicle in violation of its restrictions, no longer meets the eligibility requirements, or has been convicted of or found to have committed a separate offense or any other act or omission that under this chapter would warrant suspension or revocation of a regular driver's license. The department must give notice of the cancellation as provided under RCW 46.20.245. A person whose occupational or temporary restricted driver's license has been canceled under this section may reapply for a new occupational or temporary restricted driver's license if he or she is otherwise qualified under this section and pays the fee required under RCW 46.20.380. [2010 c 269 § 2; 2008 c 282 § 6; 2004 c 95 § 7. Prior: 1999 c 274 § 4; 1999 c 272 § 1; prior: 1998 c 209 § 4; 1998 c 207 § 9; 1995 c 332 § 12; 1994 c 275 § 29; 1985 c 407 § 5; 1983 c 165 § 24; 1983 c 165 § 23; 1983 c 164 § 4; 1979 c 61 § 13; 1973 c 5 § 1.]

**Effective date—2010 c 269:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Effective date—2008 c 282:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.391 Temporary restricted, occupational licenses—Application—Eligibility—Restrictions—Cancellation. (Effective June 1, 2013.)** (1) Any person licensed under this chapter who is convicted of an offense relating to motor vehicles for which suspension or revocation of the driver's license is mandatory, other than vehicular homicide, vehicular assault, driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, may submit to the department an application for a temporary restricted driver's license. The department, upon receipt of the prescribed fee and upon determin-

ing that the petitioner is eligible to receive the license, may issue a temporary restricted driver's license and may set definite restrictions as provided in RCW 46.20.394.

(2)(a) A person licensed under this chapter whose driver's license is suspended administratively due to failure to appear or pay a traffic ticket under RCW 46.20.289; a violation of the financial responsibility laws under chapter 46.29 RCW; or for multiple violations within a specified period of time under RCW 46.20.291, may apply to the department for an occupational driver's license.

(b) An occupational driver's license issued to an applicant described in (a) of this subsection shall be valid for the period of the suspension or revocation.

(3) An applicant for an occupational or temporary restricted driver's license who qualifies under subsection (1) or (2) of this section is eligible to receive such license only if:

(a) Within seven years immediately preceding the date of the offense that gave rise to the present conviction or incident, the applicant has not committed vehicular homicide under RCW 46.61.520 or vehicular assault under RCW 46.61.522; and

(b) The applicant demonstrates that it is necessary for him or her to operate a motor vehicle because he or she:

(i) Is engaged in an occupation or trade that makes it essential that he or she operate a motor vehicle;

(ii) Is undergoing continuing health care or providing continuing care to another who is dependent upon the applicant;

(iii) Is enrolled in an educational institution and pursuing a course of study leading to a diploma, degree, or other certification of successful educational completion;

(iv) Is undergoing substance abuse treatment or is participating in meetings of a twelve-step group such as Alcoholics Anonymous that requires the petitioner to drive to or from the treatment or meetings;

(v) Is fulfilling court-ordered community service responsibilities;

(vi) Is in a program that assists persons who are enrolled in a WorkFirst program pursuant to chapter 74.08A RCW to become gainfully employed and the program requires a driver's license;

(vii) Is in an apprenticeship, on-the-job training, or welfare-to-work program; or

(viii) Presents evidence that he or she has applied for a position in an apprenticeship or on-the-job training program for which a driver's license is required to begin the program, provided that a license granted under this provision shall be in effect for no longer than fourteen days; and

(c) The applicant files satisfactory proof of financial responsibility under chapter 46.29 RCW; and

(d) Upon receipt of evidence that a holder of an occupational driver's license granted under this subsection is no longer enrolled in an apprenticeship or on-the-job training program, the director shall give written notice by first-class mail to the driver that the occupational driver's license shall be canceled. If at any time before the cancellation goes into effect the driver submits evidence of continued enrollment in the program, the cancellation shall be stayed. If the cancellation becomes effective, the driver may obtain, at no additional charge, a new occupational driver's license upon sub-

mittal of evidence of enrollment in another program that meets the criteria set forth in this subsection; and

(e) The department shall not issue an occupational driver's license under (b)(iv) of this subsection if the applicant is able to receive transit services sufficient to allow for the applicant's participation in the programs referenced under (b)(iv) of this subsection.

(4) A person aggrieved by the decision of the department on the application for an occupational or temporary restricted driver's license may request a hearing as provided by rule of the department.

(5) The director shall cancel an occupational or temporary restricted driver's license after receiving notice that the holder thereof has been convicted of operating a motor vehicle in violation of its restrictions, no longer meets the eligibility requirements, or has been convicted of or found to have committed a separate offense or any other act or omission that under this chapter would warrant suspension or revocation of a regular driver's license. The department must give notice of the cancellation as provided under RCW 46.20.245. A person whose occupational or temporary restricted driver's license has been canceled under this section may reapply for a new occupational or temporary restricted driver's license if he or she is otherwise qualified under this section and pays the fee required under RCW 46.20.380. [2012 c 82 § 2; 2010 c 269 § 2; 2008 c 282 § 6; 2004 c 95 § 7. Prior: 1999 c 274 § 4; 1999 c 272 § 1; prior: 1998 c 209 § 4; 1998 c 207 § 9; 1995 c 332 § 12; 1994 c 275 § 29; 1985 c 407 § 5; 1983 c 165 § 24; 1983 c 165 § 23; 1983 c 164 § 4; 1979 c 61 § 13; 1973 c 5 § 1.]

**Effective date—Contingency—2012 c 82:** See note following RCW 46.63.110.

**Effective date—2010 c 269:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Effective date—2008 c 282:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.394 Detailed restrictions—Violation.** In issuing an occupational or a temporary restricted driver's license under RCW 46.20.391, the department shall describe the type of qualifying circumstances for the license and shall set forth in detail the specific hours of the day during which the person may drive to and from his or her residence, which may not exceed twelve hours in any one day; the days of the week during which the license may be used; and the general routes over which the person may travel. In issuing an occupational or temporary restricted driver's license that meets the qualifying circumstance under RCW 46.20.391(3)(b)(iv), the department shall set forth in detail the specific hours during which the person may drive to and from substance abuse treatment or meetings of a twelve-step group such as alcoholics anonymous, the days of the week during which the license may be used, and the general routes over which the person may travel. These restrictions shall be prepared in written form by the department, which document shall be carried in the vehicle at all times and presented to a law enforcement officer under the same terms as the occupational or temporary restricted driver's license. Any violation of the restrictions constitutes a violation of RCW 46.20.342 and subjects the

person to all procedures and penalties therefor. [2004 c 95 § 8; 1999 c 272 § 2; 1983 c 165 § 26.]

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.400 Obtaining new driver's license—Surrender of order and current license.** If an occupational driver's license, a temporary restricted driver's license, or an ignition interlock driver's license is issued and is not revoked during the period for which issued the licensee may obtain a new driver's license at the end of such period, but no new driver's license may be issued to such person until he or she surrenders his or her occupational driver's license, temporary restricted driver's license, or ignition interlock driver's license and his or her copy of the order, and the director is satisfied that the person complies with all other provisions of law relative to the issuance of a driver's license. [2008 c 282 § 7; 2004 c 95 § 9; 1967 c 32 § 33; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.400. Prior: 1957 c 268 § 3.]

**Effective date—2008 c 282:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

**46.20.410 Penalty—Violation.** (1) Any person convicted for violation of any restriction of an occupational driver's license or a temporary restricted driver's license shall in addition to the cancellation of such license and any other penalties provided by law be fined not less than fifty nor more than two hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months or both such fine and imprisonment.

(2) It is a gross misdemeanor for a person to violate any restriction of an ignition interlock driver's license. [2010 c 269 § 6; 2008 c 282 § 8; 2004 c 95 § 10; 1967 c 32 § 34; 1961 c 12 § 46.20.410. Prior: 1957 c 268 § 4.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Effective date—2010 c 269:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Effective date—2008 c 282:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

## MOTORCYCLES

**46.20.500 Special endorsement—Exceptions.** (1) No person may drive either a two-wheeled or a three-wheeled motorcycle, or a motor-driven cycle unless such person has a valid driver's license specially endorsed by the director to enable the holder to drive such vehicles.

(2) However, a person sixteen years of age or older, holding a valid driver's license of any class issued by the state of the person's residence, may operate a moped without taking any special examination for the operation of a moped.

(3) No driver's license is required for operation of an electric-assisted bicycle if the operator is at least sixteen years of age. Persons under sixteen years of age may not operate an electric-assisted bicycle.

(4) No driver's license is required to operate an electric personal assistive mobility device or a power wheelchair.

(5) No driver's license is required to operate a motorized foot scooter. Motorized foot scooters may not be operated at any time from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise without reflectors of a type approved by the state patrol.

(6) A person holding a valid driver's license may operate a motorcycle as defined under RCW 46.04.330(2) without a motorcycle endorsement. [2009 c 275 § 4. Prior: 2003 c 353 § 9; 2003 c 141 § 7; 2003 c 41 § 1; 2002 c 247 § 6; 1999 c 274 § 8; 1997 c 328 § 3; 1982 c 77 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 213 § 6; 1967 c 232 § 1.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Effective date—2003 c 353:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**Short title—2003 c 41:** "This act shall be known as the Monty Lish Memorial Act." [2003 c 41 § 6.]

**Effective date—2003 c 41:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2004." [2003 c 41 § 7.]

**Legislative review—2002 c 247:** See note following RCW 46.04.1695.

*Mopeds*

*operation and safety standards:* RCW 46.61.710, 46.61.720.

*registration:* RCW 46.16A.405(2).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.505 Special endorsement fees. (Effective until October 1, 2012.)** Every person applying for a special endorsement of a driver's license authorizing such person to drive a two or three-wheeled motorcycle or a motor-driven cycle shall pay a fee of five dollars, which is not refundable. In addition, the endorsement fee for the initial motorcycle endorsement shall not exceed ten dollars, and the subsequent renewal endorsement fee shall not exceed twenty-five dollars, unless the endorsement is renewed or extended for a period other than five years, in which case the subsequent renewal endorsement fee shall not exceed five dollars for each year that the endorsement is renewed or extended. Fees collected under this section shall be deposited in the motorcycle safety education account of the highway safety fund. [2007 c 97 § 1; 2003 c 41 § 2; 2002 c 352 § 16; 2001 c 104 § 1. Prior: 1999 c 308 § 5; 1999 c 274 § 9; 1993 c 115 § 1; 1989 c 203 § 2; 1988 c 227 § 5; 1987 c 454 § 2; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 8; 1982 c 77 § 2; 1979 c 158 § 153; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 50.]

**Short title—Effective date—2003 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.500.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

*Motorcycle safety education account:* RCW 46.68.065.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.505 Special endorsement fees. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** Every person applying for a special endorsement of a driver's license authorizing such person to drive a two or three-wheeled motorcycle or a motor-driven cycle shall pay a fee of five dollars, which is not refundable. In addition, the endorsement fee for the initial motorcycle endorsement shall not exceed twelve dollars, unless the endorsement is issued for a period other than six years, in which case the endorsement fee shall not exceed two dollars for each year the initial motorcycle endorsement is issued. The subsequent renewal endorsement fee shall not exceed thirty dollars, unless the endorsement is renewed or extended for a period other than six years, in which case the subsequent renewal endorsement fee shall not exceed five dollars for each year that the endorsement is renewed or extended. Fees collected under this section shall be deposited in the motorcycle safety education account of the highway safety fund. [2012 c 80 § 13; 2007 c 97 § 1; 2003 c 41 § 2; 2002 c 352 § 16; 2001 c 104 § 1. Prior: 1999 c 308 § 5; 1999 c 274 § 9;

1993 c 115 § 1; 1989 c 203 § 2; 1988 c 227 § 5; 1987 c 454 § 2; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 8; 1982 c 77 § 2; 1979 c 158 § 153; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 50.]

**Effective date—2012 c 80 §§ 5-13:** See note following RCW 46.20.055.

**Short title—Effective date—2003 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.500.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

*Motorcycle safety education account:* RCW 46.68.065.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.510 Instruction permit—Fee. (1) Motorcycle instruction permit.** A person holding a valid driver's license who wishes to learn to ride a motorcycle may apply for a motorcycle instruction permit. The department may issue a motorcycle instruction permit after the applicant has successfully passed all parts of the motorcycle examination other than the driving test. The director shall collect a fee of fifteen dollars for the motorcycle instruction permit or renewal, and deposit the fee in the motorcycle safety education account of the highway safety fund.

(2) **Effect of motorcycle instruction permit.** A person holding a motorcycle instruction permit may drive a motorcycle upon the public highways if the person has immediate possession of the permit and a valid driver's license. An individual with a motorcyclist's instruction permit may not carry passengers and may not operate a motorcycle during the hours of darkness.

(3) **Term of motorcycle instruction permit.** A motorcycle instruction permit is valid for ninety days from the date of issue.

(a) The department may issue one additional ninety-day permit.

(b) The department may issue a third motorcycle instruction permit upon presentation of documented evidence that the permittee is enrolled in a motorcycle skills education program as authorized in RCW 46.81A.020 with a class start date prior to the expiration of the third permit. The department may not issue more than three motorcycle instruction permits to an applicant within a five-year period. [2011 c 246 § 1; 2002 c 352 § 17; 1999 c 274 § 10; 1999 c 6 § 25; 1989 c 337 § 9; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 9; 1985 c 234 § 3; 1982 c 77 § 3.]

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.515 Examination—Emphasis—Administration—Waiver. (1)** The motorcycle endorsement examination must emphasize maneuvers necessary for on-street operation, including emergency braking and turning as may be required to avoid an impending collision.

(2) The examination for a two-wheeled motorcycle endorsement and the examination for a three-wheeled motorcycle endorsement must be separate and distinct examinations emphasizing the skills and maneuvers necessary to operate each type of motorcycle.

(3) The department may authorize an entity that has entered into a contract under RCW 46.20.520 to administer the motorcycle endorsement examination.

(4) The department may waive all or part of the examination for persons who satisfactorily complete the voluntary

motorcycle operator training and education program authorized under RCW 46.20.520 or who satisfactorily complete a private motorcycle skills education course that has been certified by the department under RCW 46.81A.020. [2011 c 370 § 5; 2003 c 41 § 3; 2002 c 197 § 1; 2001 c 104 § 2; 1999 c 274 § 11; 1982 c 77 § 4.]

**Intent—2011 c 370:** See note following RCW 28A.220.030.

**Inclusion of stakeholder groups in communications to facilitate transition of driver licensing examination administration—2011 c 370:** See note following RCW 46.82.450.

**Short title—Effective date—2003 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.500.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.520 Training and education program—Advisory board.** (1) The director of licensing shall use moneys designated for the motorcycle safety education account of the highway safety fund to implement by July 1, 1983, a voluntary motorcycle operator training and education program. The director may contract with public and private entities to implement this program.

(2) There is created a motorcycle safety education advisory board to assist the director of licensing in the development of a motorcycle operator training education program. The board shall monitor this program following implementation and report to the director of licensing as necessary with recommendations including, but not limited to, administration, application, and substance of the motorcycle operator training and education program.

The board shall consist of five members appointed by the director of licensing. Three members of the board, one of whom shall be appointed chairperson, shall be active motorcycle riders or members of nonprofit motorcycle organizations which actively support and promote motorcycle safety education. One member shall be a currently employed Washington state patrol motorcycle officer with at least five years experience and at least one year cumulative experience as a motorcycle officer. One member shall be a member of the public. The term of appointment shall be two years. The board shall meet at the call of the director, but not less than two times annually and not less than five times during its term of appointment, and shall receive no compensation for services but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses while engaged in business of the board in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 as now existing or hereafter amended.

(3) The priorities of the program shall be in the following order of priority:

- (a) Public awareness of motorcycle safety.
- (b) Motorcycle safety education programs conducted by public and private entities.
- (c) Classroom and on-cycle training.
- (d) Improved motorcycle operator testing. [1998 c 245 § 89; 1987 c 454 § 3; 1982 c 77 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### ALCOHOL DETECTION DEVICES

**46.20.710 Legislative finding.** The legislature finds and declares:

(1) There is a need to reduce the incidence of drivers on the highways and roads of this state who, because of their use, consumption, or possession of alcohol, pose a danger to the health and safety of other drivers;

(2) One method of dealing with the problem of drinking drivers is to discourage the use of motor vehicles by persons who possess or have consumed alcoholic beverages;

(3) The installation of an ignition interlock breath alcohol device or other biological or technical device will provide a means of deterring the use of motor vehicles by persons who have consumed alcoholic beverages;

(4) Ignition interlock and other biological and technical devices are designed to supplement other methods of punishment that prevent drivers from using a motor vehicle after using, possessing, or consuming alcohol;

(5) It is economically and technically feasible to have an ignition interlock or other biological or technical device installed in a motor vehicle in such a manner that the vehicle will not start if the operator has recently consumed alcohol. [1994 c 275 § 21; 1987 c 247 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.720 Drivers convicted of alcohol offenses.** (1) The court may order that after a period of suspension, revocation, or denial of driving privileges, and for up to as long as the court has jurisdiction, any person convicted of any offense involving the use, consumption, or possession of alcohol while operating a motor vehicle may drive only a motor vehicle equipped with a functioning ignition interlock. The court shall establish a specific calibration setting at which the interlock will prevent the vehicle from being started. The court shall also establish the period of time for which interlock use will be required.

(2) Under RCW 46.61.5055 and subject to the exceptions listed in that statute, the court shall order any person convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 or an equivalent local ordinance to comply with the rules and requirements of the department regarding the installation and use of a functioning ignition interlock device installed on all motor vehicles operated by the person. The court shall order any person participating in a deferred prosecution program under RCW 10.05.020 for a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 or an equivalent local ordinance to have a functioning ignition interlock device installed on all motor vehicles operated by the person.

(3) The department shall require that, after any applicable period of suspension, revocation, or denial of driving privileges, a person may drive only a motor vehicle equipped with a functioning ignition interlock device if the person is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 or an equivalent local or out-of-state statute or ordinance. The department shall require that a person may drive only a motor vehicle equipped with a functioning ignition interlock device if the person is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.5249 or 46.61.500 and is required under RCW 46.61.5249(4) or 46.61.500(3) (a) or (b) to install an ignition interlock device on all vehicles operated by the person.

The department may waive the requirement for the use of such a device if it concludes that such devices are not reasonably available in the local area. The installation of an ignition interlock device is not necessary on vehicles owned,

leased, or rented by a person's employer and on those vehicles whose care and/or maintenance is the temporary responsibility of the employer, and driven at the direction of a person's employer as a requirement of employment during working hours. The person must provide the department with a declaration pursuant to RCW 9A.72.085 from his or her employer stating that the person's employment requires the person to operate a vehicle owned by the employer or other persons during working hours. However, when the employer's vehicle is assigned exclusively to the restricted driver and used solely for commuting to and from employment, the employer exemption does not apply.

The ignition interlock device shall be calibrated to prevent the motor vehicle from being started when the breath sample provided has an alcohol concentration of 0.025 or more. Subject to the provisions of subsections (4) and (5) of this section, the period of time of the restriction will be no less than:

(a) For a person who has not previously been restricted under this section, a period of one year;

(b) For a person who has previously been restricted under (a) of this subsection, a period of five years;

(c) For a person who has previously been restricted under (b) of this subsection, a period of ten years.

(4) A restriction imposed under subsection (3) of this section shall remain in effect until the department receives a declaration from the person's ignition interlock device vendor, in a form provided or approved by the department, certifying that there have been none of the following incidents in the four consecutive months prior to the date of release:

(a) An attempt to start the vehicle with a breath alcohol concentration of 0.04 or more;

(b) Failure to take or pass any required retest; or

(c) Failure of the person to appear at the ignition interlock device vendor when required for maintenance, repair, calibration, monitoring, inspection, or replacement of the device.

(5) For a person required to install an ignition interlock device pursuant to RCW 46.61.5249(4) or 46.61.500(3), the period of time of the restriction shall be for six months and shall be subject to subsection (4) of this section.

(6) In addition to any other costs associated with the use of an ignition interlock device imposed on the person restricted under this section, the person shall pay an additional fee of twenty dollars per month. Payments must be made directly to the ignition interlock company. The company shall remit the additional twenty dollar fee to the department to be deposited into the ignition interlock device revolving account. [2012 c 183 § 9; 2011 c 293 § 6; 2010 c 269 § 3; 2008 c 282 § 12; 2004 c 95 § 11; 2003 c 366 § 1; 2001 c 247 § 1; 1999 c 331 § 3; 1998 c 210 § 2; 1997 c 229 § 8; 1994 c 275 § 22; 1987 c 247 § 2.]

**Effective date—2012 c 183:** See note following RCW 2.28.175.

**Effective date—2011 c 293 §§ 1-9:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Effective date—2010 c 269:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Effective date—2008 c 282:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

**Finding—Intent—1998 c 210:** "The legislature finds that driving is a privilege and that the state may restrict that privilege in the interests of public safety. One such reasonable restriction is requiring certain individuals, if they choose to drive, to drive only vehicles equipped with ignition interlock

devices. The legislature further finds that the costs of these devices are minimal and are affordable. It is the intent of the legislature that these devices be paid for by the drivers using them and that neither the state nor entities of local government provide any public funding for this purpose." [1998 c 210 § 7.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.740 Notation on driving record—Verification of interlock—Penalty.** (1) The department shall attach or imprint a notation on the driving record of any person restricted under RCW 46.20.720, 46.61.5055, or 10.05.140 stating that the person may operate only a motor vehicle equipped with a functioning ignition interlock device. The department shall determine the person's eligibility for licensing based upon written verification by a company doing business in the state that it has installed the required device on a vehicle owned or operated by the person seeking reinstatement. If, based upon notification from the interlock provider or otherwise, the department determines that an ignition interlock required under this section is no longer installed or functioning as required, the department shall suspend the person's license or privilege to drive. Whenever the license or driving privilege of any person is suspended or revoked as a result of noncompliance with an ignition interlock requirement, the suspension shall remain in effect until the person provides notice issued by a company doing business in the state that a vehicle owned or operated by the person is equipped with a functioning ignition interlock device.

(2) It is a gross misdemeanor for a person with such a notation on his or her driving record to operate a motor vehicle that is not so equipped. [2010 c 269 § 8; 2008 c 282 § 13; 2004 c 95 § 12; 2001 c 55 § 1; 1997 c 229 § 10; 1994 c 275 § 24; 1987 c 247 § 4.]

**Effective date—2010 c 269:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Effective date—2008 c 282:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.745 Ignition interlock device revolving account program—Pilot program.** (1) The ignition interlock device revolving account program is created within the department to assist in covering the monetary costs of installing, removing, and leasing an ignition interlock device, and applicable licensing, for indigent persons who are required under RCW 46.20.385, 46.20.720, and 46.61.5055 to install an ignition interlock device in all vehicles owned or operated by the person. For purposes of this subsection, "indigent" has the same meaning as in RCW 10.101.010, as determined by the department.

(2) A pilot program is created within the ignition interlock device revolving account program for the purpose of monitoring compliance by persons required to use ignition interlock devices and by ignition interlock companies and vendors.

(3) The department, the state patrol, and the Washington traffic safety commission shall coordinate to establish a compliance pilot program that will target at least one county from eastern Washington and one county from western Washington, as determined by the department, state patrol, and Washington traffic safety commission.

(4) At a minimum, the compliance pilot program shall:

(a) Review the number of ignition interlock devices that are required to be installed in the targeted county and the number of ignition interlock devices actually installed;

(b) Work to identify those persons who are not complying with ignition interlock requirements or are repeatedly violating ignition interlock requirements; and

(c) Identify ways to track compliance and reduce non-compliance.

(5) As part of monitoring compliance, the Washington traffic safety commission shall also track recidivism for violations of RCW 46.61.502 and 46.61.504 by persons required to have an ignition interlock driver's license under RCW 46.20.385 and 46.20.720. [2012 c 183 § 10; 2008 c 282 § 10.]

**Effective date—2012 c 183:** See note following RCW 2.28.175.

**46.20.750 Circumventing ignition interlock—Penalty.** (1) A person who is restricted to the use of a vehicle equipped with an ignition interlock device and who tampers with the device or directs, authorizes, or requests another to tamper with the device, in order to circumvent the device by modifying, detaching, disconnecting, or otherwise disabling it, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(2) A person who knowingly assists another person who is restricted to the use of a vehicle equipped with an ignition interlock device to circumvent the device or to start and operate that vehicle in violation of a court order is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. The provisions of this subsection do not apply if the starting of a motor vehicle, or the request to start a motor vehicle, equipped with an ignition interlock device is done for the purpose of safety or mechanical repair of the device or the vehicle and the person subject to the court order does not operate the vehicle. [2005 c 200 § 2; 1994 c 275 § 25; 1987 c 247 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.20.755 Local verification of ignition interlock device installation—Immunity.** If a person is required, as part of the person's judgment and sentence, to install an ignition interlock device on all motor vehicles operated by the person and the person is under the jurisdiction of the municipality or county probation or supervision department, the probation or supervision department must verify the installation of the ignition interlock device or devices. The municipality or county probation or supervision department satisfies the requirement to verify the installation or installations if the municipality or county probation or supervision department receives written verification by one or more companies doing business in the state that it has installed the required device on a vehicle owned or operated by the person. The municipality or county shall have no further obligation to supervise the use of the ignition interlock device or devices by the person and shall not be civilly liable for any injuries or damages caused by the person for failing to use an ignition interlock device or for driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug or being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug. [2010 c 269 § 5.]

**Reviser's note:** 2010 c 269 § 5 directed that this section be added to chapter 46.61 RCW, but codification in chapter 46.20 RCW appears to be more appropriate.

**Effective date—2010 c 269:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**46.20.900 Repeal and saving.** Section 46.20.010, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.20.010, section 46.20.020, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 as amended by section 1, chapter 134, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.20.020, section 46.20.030, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 as amended by section 12, chapter 39, Laws of 1963 and RCW 46.20.030, section 46.20.060, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.20.060, sections 46.20.080 through 46.20.090, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.20.080 through 46.20.090, section 46.20.110, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 as last amended by section 10, chapter 39, Laws of 1963 and RCW 46.20.110, sections 46.20.140 through 46.20.180, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.20.140 through 46.20.180, section 46.20.210, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.20.210, sections 46.20.230 through 46.20.250, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.20.230 through 46.20.250, section 46.20.280, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.20.280, section 46.20.290, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.20.290, section 46.20.310, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.20.310, and section 46.20.330, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.20.330; section 46.20.350, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.20.350; section 46.20.360, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.20.360 are each hereby repealed. Such repeals shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under the statutes repealed, nor as affecting any proceedings instituted thereunder, nor any rule, regulation or order promulgated thereunder, nor any administrative action taken thereunder. [1965 ex.s. c 121 § 46.]

**46.20.910 Severability—1965 ex.s. c 121.** If any provision of this 1965 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this 1965 amendatory act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1965 ex.s. c 121 § 47.]

**46.20.911 Severability, implied consent law—1969 c 1.** If any provision of RCW 46.20.308, 46.20.311, and 46.61.506 or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of RCW 46.20.308, 46.20.311, and 46.61.506, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1990 c 250 § 49; 1969 c 1 § 6 (Initiative Measure No. 242, approved November 5, 1968).]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 46.21 RCW DRIVER LICENSE COMPACT

### Sections

46.21.010	Compact enacted—Provisions.
46.21.020	"Licensing authority" defined—Duty to furnish information.
46.21.030	Expenses of compact administrator.
46.21.040	"Executive head" defined.

**46.21.010 Compact enacted—Provisions.** The driver license compact prepared pursuant to resolutions of the western governors' conference and the western interstate commit-



tee on highway policy problems of the council of state governments is hereby entered into and enacted into law, the terms and provisions of which shall be as follows:

#### DRIVER LICENSE COMPACT

##### ARTICLE I—Findings and Declaration of Policy

(a) The party states find that:

(1) The safety of their streets and highways is materially affected by the degree of compliance with state laws and local ordinances relating to the operation of motor vehicles.

(2) Violation of such a law or ordinance is evidence that the violator engages in conduct which is likely to endanger the safety of persons and property.

(3) The continuance in force of a license to drive is predicated upon compliance with laws and ordinances relating to the operation of motor vehicles, in whichever jurisdiction the vehicle is operated.

(b) It is the policy of each of the party states to:

(1) Promote compliance with the laws, ordinances, and administrative rules and regulations relating to the operation of motor vehicles by their operators in each of the jurisdictions where such operators drive motor vehicles.

(2) Make the reciprocal recognition of licenses to drive and eligibility therefor more just and equitable by considering the over-all compliance with motor vehicle laws, ordinances and administrative rules and regulations as a condition precedent to the continuance or issuance of any license by reason of which the licensee is authorized or permitted to operate a motor vehicle in any of the party states.

##### ARTICLE II—Definitions

As used in this compact:

(a) "State" means a state, territory or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(b) "Home state" means the state which has issued and has the power to suspend or revoke the use of the license or permit to operate a motor vehicle.

(c) "Conviction" means a conviction of any offense related to the use or operation of a motor vehicle which is prohibited by state law, municipal ordinance or administrative rule or regulation, or a forfeiture of bail, bond or other security deposited to secure appearance by a person charged with having committed any such offense, and which conviction or forfeiture is required to be reported to the licensing authority.

##### ARTICLE III—Reports of Conviction

The licensing authority of a party state shall report each conviction of a person from another party state occurring within its jurisdiction to the licensing authority of the home state of the licensee. Such report shall clearly identify the person convicted; describe the violation specifying the section of the statute, code or ordinance violated; identify the court in which action was taken; indicate whether a plea of guilty or not guilty was entered, or the conviction was a result of the forfeiture of bail, bond or other security; and shall include any special findings made in connection therewith.

##### ARTICLE IV—Effect of Conviction

(a) The licensing authority in the home state, for the purposes of suspension, revocation or limitation of the license to operate a motor vehicle, shall give the same effect to the conduct reported, pursuant to Article III of this compact, as it would if such conduct had occurred in the home state, in the case of convictions for:

(1) Vehicular homicide;

(2) Driving a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a narcotic drug, or under the influence of any other drug to a degree which renders the driver incapable of safely driving a motor vehicle;

(3) Any felony in the commission of which a motor vehicle is used;

(4) Failure to stop and render aid in the event of a motor vehicle accident resulting in the death or personal injury of another.

(b) If the laws of a party state do not provide for offenses or violations denominated or described in precisely the words employed in subdivision (a) of this Article, such party state shall construe the denominations and descriptions appearing in subdivision (a) hereof as being applicable to and identifying those offenses or violations of a substantially similar nature and the laws of such party state shall contain such provisions as may be necessary to ensure that full force and effect is given to this Article.

##### ARTICLE V—Applications for New Licenses

Upon application for a license to drive, the licensing authority in a party state shall ascertain whether the applicant has ever held, or is the holder of a license to drive issued by any other party state. The licensing authority in the state where application is made shall not issue a license to drive to the applicant if:

(1) The applicant has held such a license, but the same has been suspended by reason, in whole or in part, of a violation and if such suspension period has not terminated.

(2) The applicant has held such a license, but the same has been revoked by reason, in whole or in part, of a violation and if such revocation has not terminated, except that after the expiration of one year from the date the license was revoked, such person may make application for a new license if permitted by law. The licensing authority may refuse to issue a license to any such applicant if, after investigation, the licensing authority determines that it will not be safe to grant to such person the privilege of driving a motor vehicle on the public highways.

(3) The applicant is the holder of a license to drive issued by another party state and currently in force unless the applicant surrenders such license.

##### ARTICLE VI—Applicability of Other Laws

Except as expressly required by provisions of this compact, nothing contained herein shall be construed to affect the right of any party state to apply any of its other laws relating to licenses to drive to any person or circumstance, nor to invalidate or prevent any driver license agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a party state and a non-party state.

ARTICLE VII—Compact Administrator and Interchange of Information

(a) The head of the licensing authority of each party state shall be the administrator of this compact for his state. The administrators, acting jointly, shall have the power to formulate all necessary and proper procedures for the exchange of information under this compact.

(b) The administrator of each party state shall furnish to the administrator of each other party state any information or documents reasonably necessary to facilitate the administration of this compact.

ARTICLE VIII—Entry into Force and Withdrawal

(a) This compact shall enter into force and become effective as to any state when it has enacted the same into law.

(b) Any party state may withdraw from this compact by enacting a statute repealing the same, but no such withdrawal shall take effect until six months after the executive head of the withdrawing state has given notice of the withdrawal to the executive heads of all other party states. No withdrawal shall affect the validity or applicability by the licensing authorities of states remaining party to the compact of any report of conviction occurring prior to the withdrawal.

ARTICLE IX—Construction and Severability

This compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes thereof. The provisions of this compact shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of this compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution of any party state or of the United States or the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this compact and the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby. If this compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of any state party thereto, the compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining states and in full force and effect as to the state affected as to all severable matters. [1983 c 164 § 5; 1963 c 120 § 1.]

**46.21.020 "Licensing authority" defined—Duty to furnish information.** As used in the compact, the term "licensing authority" with reference to this state, shall mean the department of licensing. Said department shall furnish to the appropriate authorities of any other party state any information or documents reasonably necessary to facilitate the administration of Articles III, IV, and V of the compact. [1979 c 158 § 154; 1967 c 32 § 36; 1963 c 120 § 2.]

**46.21.030 Expenses of compact administrator.** The compact administrator provided for in Article VII of the compact shall not be entitled to any additional compensation on account of his or her service as such administrator, but shall be entitled to expenses incurred in connection with his or her duties and responsibilities as such administrator, in the same manner as for expenses incurred in connection with any other duties or responsibilities of his or her office or employment. [2012 c 117 § 128; 1963 c 120 § 3.]

**46.21.040 "Executive head" defined.** As used in the compact, with reference to this state, the term "executive head" shall mean governor. [1963 c 120 § 4.]

Chapter 46.23 RCW

NONRESIDENT VIOLATOR COMPACT

Sections

46.23.010	Compact established—Provisions.
46.23.020	Reciprocal agreements authorized—Provisions.
46.23.050	Rules.

**46.23.010 Compact established—Provisions.** The nonresident violator compact, hereinafter called "the compact," is hereby established in the form substantially as follows, and the Washington state department of licensing is authorized to enter into such compact with all other jurisdictions legally joining therein:

NONRESIDENT VIOLATOR COMPACT

Article I — Findings, Declaration of Policy, and Purpose

(a) The party jurisdictions find that:

(1) In most instances, a motorist who is cited for a traffic violation in a jurisdiction other than his home jurisdiction: Must post collateral or bond to secure appearance for trial at a later date; or if unable to post collateral or bond, is taken into custody until the collateral or bond is posted; or is taken directly to court for his trial to be held.

(2) In some instances, the motorist's driver's license may be deposited as collateral to be returned after he has complied with the terms of the citation.

(3) The purpose of the practices described in paragraphs (1) and (2) above is to ensure compliance with the terms of a traffic citation by the motorist who, if permitted to continue on his way after receiving the traffic citation, could return to him [his] home jurisdiction and disregard his duty under the terms of the traffic citation.

(4) A motorist receiving a traffic citation in his home jurisdiction is permitted, except for certain violations, to accept the citation from the officer at the scene of the violation and to immediately continue on his way after promising or being instructed to comply with the terms of the citation.

(5) The practice described in paragraph (1) above, causes unnecessary inconvenience and, at times, a hardship for the motorist who is unable at the time to post collateral, furnish a bond, stand trial, or pay the fine, and thus is compelled to remain in custody until some arrangement can be made.

(6) The deposit of a driver's license as a bail bond, as described in paragraph (2) above, is viewed with disfavor.

(7) The practices described herein consume an undue amount of law enforcement time.

(b) It is the policy of the party jurisdictions to:

(1) Seek compliance with the laws, ordinances, and administrative rules and regulations relating to the operation of motor vehicles in each of the jurisdictions.

(2) Allow motorists to accept a traffic citation for certain violations and proceed on their way without delay whether or not the motorist is a resident of the jurisdiction in which the citation was issued.

(3) Extend cooperation to its fullest extent among the jurisdictions for obtaining compliance with the terms of a traffic citation issued in one jurisdiction to a resident of another jurisdiction.

(4) Maximize effective utilization of law enforcement personnel and assist court systems in the efficient disposition of traffic violations.

(c) The purpose of this compact is to:

(1) Provide a means through which the party jurisdictions may participate in a reciprocal program to effectuate the policies enumerated in paragraph (b) above in a uniform and orderly manner.

(2) Provide for the fair and impartial treatment of traffic violators operating within party jurisdictions in recognition of the motorist's right of due process and the sovereign status of a party jurisdiction.

#### Article II — Definitions

As used in the compact, the following words have the meaning indicated, unless the context requires otherwise.

(1) "Citation" means any summons, ticket, notice of infraction, or other official document issued by a police officer for a traffic offense containing an order which requires the motorist to respond.

(2) "Collateral" means any cash or other security deposited to secure an appearance for trial, following the issuance by a police officer of a citation for a traffic offense.

(3) "Court" means a court of law or traffic tribunal.

(4) "Driver's license" means any license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle issued under the laws of the home jurisdiction.

(5) "Home jurisdiction" means the jurisdiction that issued the driver's license of the traffic violator.

(6) "Issuing jurisdiction" means the jurisdiction in which the traffic citation was issued to the motorist.

(7) "Jurisdiction" means a state, territory, or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(8) "Motorist" means a driver of a motor vehicle operating in a party jurisdiction other than the home jurisdiction.

(9) "Personal recognizance" means an agreement by a motorist made at the time of issuance of the traffic citation that he will comply with the terms of that traffic citation.

(10) "Police officer" means any individual authorized by the party jurisdiction to issue a citation for a traffic offense.

(11) "Terms of the citation" means those options expressly stated upon the citation.

#### Article III — Procedure for Issuing Jurisdiction

(a) When issuing a citation for a traffic violation or infraction, a police officer shall issue the citation to a motorist who possesses a driver's license issued by a party jurisdiction and shall not, subject to the exceptions noted in paragraph (b) of this article, require the motorist to post collateral to secure appearance, if the officer receives the motorist's personal recognizance that he or she will comply with the terms of the citation.

(b) Personal recognizance is acceptable only if not prohibited by law. If mandatory appearance is required, it must take place immediately following issuance of the citation.

(c) Upon failure of a motorist to comply with the terms of a traffic citation, the appropriate official shall report the failure to comply to the licensing authority of the jurisdiction in which the traffic citation was issued. The report shall be made in accordance with procedures specified by the issuing jurisdiction and insofar as practical shall contain information as specified in the compact manual as minimum requirements for effective processing by the home jurisdiction.

(d) Upon receipt of the report, the licensing authority of the issuing jurisdiction shall transmit to the licensing authority in the home jurisdiction of the motorist the information in a form and content substantially conforming to the compact manual.

(e) The licensing authority of the issuing jurisdiction may not suspend the privilege of a motorist for whom a report has been transmitted.

(f) The licensing authority of the issuing jurisdiction shall not transmit a report on any violation if the date of transmission is more than six months after the date on which the traffic citation was issued.

(g) The licensing authority of the issuing jurisdiction shall not transmit a report on any violation where the date of issuance of the citation predates the most recent of the effective dates of entry for the two jurisdictions affected.

#### Article IV — Procedure for Home Jurisdiction

(a) Upon receipt of a report of a failure to comply with the licensing authority of the issuing jurisdiction, the licensing authority of the home jurisdiction shall notify the motorist and initiate a suspension action, in accordance with the home jurisdiction's procedures, to suspend the motorist's driver's license until satisfactory evidence of compliance with the terms of the traffic citation has been furnished to the home jurisdiction licensing authority. Due process safeguards will be accorded.

(b) The licensing authority of the home jurisdiction shall maintain a record of actions taken and make reports to issuing jurisdictions as provided in the compact manual.

#### Article V — Applicability of Other Laws

Except as expressly required by provisions of this compact, nothing contained herein shall be construed to affect the right of any party jurisdiction to apply any of its other laws relating to licenses to drive to any person or circumstance, or to invalidate or prevent any driver license agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a party jurisdiction and a nonparty jurisdiction.

#### Article VI — Compact Administrator Procedures

(a) For the purpose of administering the provisions of this compact and to serve as a governing body for the resolution of all matters relating to the operation of this compact, a board of compact administrators is established. The board shall be composed of one representative from each party jurisdiction to be known as the compact administrator. The compact administrator shall be appointed by the jurisdiction executive and will serve and be subject to removal in accordance with the laws of the jurisdiction he represents. A compact administrator may provide for the discharge of his duties and the performance of his functions as a board member by

an alternate. An alternate may not be entitled to serve unless written notification of his identity has been given to the board.

(b) Each member of the board of compact administrators shall be entitled to one vote. No action of the board shall be binding unless taken at a meeting at which a majority of the total number of votes on the board are cast in favor. Action by the board shall be only at a meeting at which a majority of the party jurisdictions are represented.

(c) The board shall elect annually, from its membership, a chairman and a vice chairman.

(d) The board shall adopt bylaws, not inconsistent with the provisions of this compact or the laws of a party jurisdiction, for the conduct of its business and shall have the power to amend and rescind its bylaws.

(e) The board may accept for any of its purposes and functions under this compact any and all donations, and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services, conditional or otherwise, from any jurisdiction, the United States, or any other governmental agency, and may receive, utilize, and dispose of the same.

(f) The board may contract with, or accept services or personnel from, any governmental or intergovernmental agency, person, firm, or corporation, or any private nonprofit organization or institution.

(g) The board shall formulate all necessary procedures and develop uniform forms and documents for administering the provisions of this compact. All procedures and forms adopted pursuant to board action shall be contained in the compact manual.

#### Article VII — Entry into Compact and Withdrawal

(a) This compact shall become effective when it has been adopted by at least two jurisdictions.

(b) Entry into the compact shall be made by a resolution of ratification executed by the department of licensing and submitted to the chairman of the board. The resolution shall be in a form and content as provided in the compact manual and shall include statements that in substance are as follows:

(1) A citation of the authority by which the jurisdiction is empowered to become a party to this compact.

(2) Agreement to comply with the terms and provisions of the compact.

(3) That compact entry is with all jurisdictions then party to the compact and with any jurisdiction that legally becomes a party to the compact.

(c) The effective date of entry shall be specified by the applying jurisdiction, but it shall not be less than sixty days after notice has been given by the chairman of the board of compact administrators or by the secretariat of the board to each party jurisdiction that the resolution from the applying jurisdiction has been received.

(d) A party jurisdiction may withdraw from this compact by official written notice to the other party jurisdictions, but a withdrawal shall not take effect until ninety days after notice of withdrawal is given. The notice shall be directed to the compact administrator of each member jurisdiction. No withdrawal shall affect the validity of this compact as to the remaining party jurisdictions.

#### Article VIII — Exceptions

The provisions of this compact shall not apply to parking or standing violations, highway weight limit violations, and violations of law governing the transportation of hazardous materials.

#### Article IX — Amendments to the Compact

(a) This compact may be amended from time to time. Amendments shall be presented in resolution form to the chairman of the board of compact administrators and may be initiated by one or more party jurisdictions.

(b) Adoption of an amendment shall require endorsement of all party jurisdictions and shall become effective thirty days after the date of the last endorsement.

(c) Failure of a party jurisdiction to respond to the compact chairman within one hundred twenty days after receipt of the proposed amendment shall constitute endorsement.

#### Article X — Construction and Severability

This compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes stated herein. The provisions of this compact shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence, or provision of this compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution of any party jurisdiction or of the United States or the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person, or circumstance, the compact shall not be affected thereby. If this compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of any jurisdiction party thereto, the compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining jurisdictions and in full force and effect as to the jurisdiction affected as to all severable matters.

#### Article XI — Title

This compact shall be known as the nonresident violator compact. [1982 c 212 § 1.]

**46.23.020 Reciprocal agreements authorized—Provisions.** (1) The Washington state department of licensing is authorized and encouraged to execute a reciprocal agreement with the Canadian province of British Columbia, and with any other state which is not a member of the nonresident violator compact, concerning the rendering of mutual assistance in the disposition of traffic infractions committed by persons licensed in one state or province while in the jurisdiction of the other.

(2) Such agreements shall provide that if a person licensed by either state or province is issued a citation by the other state or province for a moving traffic violation covered by the agreement, he or she shall not be detained or required to furnish bail or collateral, and that if he or she fails to comply with the terms of the citation, his or her license shall be suspended or renewal refused by the state or province that issued the license until the home jurisdiction is notified by the issuing jurisdiction that he or she has complied with the terms of the citation.

(3) Such agreement shall also provide such terms and procedures as are necessary and proper to facilitate its administration. [2012 c 117 § 129; 1982 c 212 § 2.]

**46.23.050 Rules.** The department shall adopt rules for the administration and enforcement of RCW 46.23.010 and 46.23.020 in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW. [1982 c 212 § 6.]

### Chapter 46.25 RCW

## UNIFORM COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE ACT

### Sections

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**46.25.001 Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the Uniform Commercial Driver's License Act. [1989 c 178 § 1.]

**46.25.005 Purpose—Construction.** (1) The purpose of this chapter is to implement the federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986 (CMVSA), Title XII, P.L. 99-570, and reduce or prevent commercial motor vehicle accidents, fatalities, and injuries by:

(a) Permitting commercial drivers to hold only one license;

(b) Disqualifying commercial drivers who have committed certain serious traffic violations, or other specified offenses;

(c) Strengthening licensing and testing standards.

(2) This chapter is a remedial law and shall be liberally construed to promote the public health, safety, and welfare. To the extent that this chapter conflicts with general driver licensing provisions, this chapter prevails. Where this chapter is silent, the general driver licensing provisions apply. [1989 c 178 § 2.]

**46.25.010 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Alcohol" means any substance containing any form of alcohol, including but not limited to ethanol, methanol, propanol, and isopropanol.

(2) "Alcohol concentration" means:

(a) The number of grams of alcohol per one hundred milliliters of blood; or

(b) The number of grams of alcohol per two hundred ten liters of breath.

(3) "Commercial driver's license" (CDL) means a license issued to an individual under chapter 46.20 RCW that has been endorsed in accordance with the requirements of this chapter to authorize the individual to drive a class of commercial motor vehicle.

(4) The "commercial driver's license information system" (CDLIS) is the information system established pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Sec. 31309 to serve as a clearinghouse for locating information related to the licensing and identification of commercial motor vehicle drivers.

(5) "Commercial driver's instruction permit" means a permit issued under RCW 46.25.060(5).

(6) "Commercial motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles used in commerce to transport passengers or property if the motor vehicle:

(a) Has a gross vehicle weight rating of 11,794 kilograms or more (26,001 pounds or more) inclusive of a towed unit with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 4,536 kilograms (10,000 pounds or more); or

(b) Has a gross vehicle weight rating of 11,794 kilograms or more (26,001 pounds or more); or

(c) Is designed to transport sixteen or more passengers, including the driver; or

(d) Is of any size and is used in the transportation of hazardous materials as defined in this section; or

(e) Is a school bus regardless of weight or size.

(7) "Conviction" means an unvacated adjudication of guilt, or a determination that a person has violated or failed to comply with the law in a court of original jurisdiction or by an authorized administrative tribunal, an unvacated forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure the person's appearance in court, a plea of guilty or nolo contendere accepted by the court, the payment of a fine or court cost, entry into a deferred prosecution program under chapter 10.05 RCW, or violation of a condition of release without bail, regardless of whether or not the penalty is rebated, suspended, or probated.

(8) "Disqualification" means a prohibition against driving a commercial motor vehicle.

(9) "Drive" means to drive, operate, or be in physical control of a motor vehicle in any place open to the general public for purposes of vehicular traffic. For purposes of RCW 46.25.100, 46.25.110, and 46.25.120, "drive" includes operation or physical control of a motor vehicle anywhere in the state.

(10) "Drugs" are those substances as defined by RCW 69.04.009, including, but not limited to, those substances defined by 49 C.F.R. Sec. 40.3.

(11) "Employer" means any person, including the United States, a state, or a political subdivision of a state, who owns or leases a commercial motor vehicle, or assigns a person to drive a commercial motor vehicle.

(12) "Gross vehicle weight rating" (GVWR) means the value specified by the manufacturer as the maximum loaded weight of a single vehicle. The GVWR of a combination or articulated vehicle, commonly referred to as the "gross combined weight rating" or GCWR, is the GVWR of the power unit plus the GVWR of the towed unit or units. If the GVWR

of any unit cannot be determined, the actual gross weight will be used. If a vehicle with a GVWR of less than 11,794 kilograms (26,001 pounds or less) has been structurally modified to carry a heavier load, then the actual gross weight capacity of the modified vehicle, as determined by RCW 46.44.041 and 46.44.042, will be used as the GVWR.

(13) "Hazardous materials" means any material that has been designated as hazardous under 49 U.S.C. Sec. 5103 and is required to be placarded under subpart F of 49 C.F.R. Part 172 or any quantity of a material listed as a select agent or toxin in 42 C.F.R. Part 73.

(14) "Motor vehicle" means a vehicle, machine, tractor, trailer, or semitrailer propelled or drawn by mechanical power used on highways, or any other vehicle required to be registered under the laws of this state, but does not include a vehicle, machine, tractor, trailer, or semitrailer operated exclusively on a rail.

(15) "Out-of-service order" means a declaration by an authorized enforcement officer of a federal, state, Canadian, Mexican, or local jurisdiction that a driver, a commercial motor vehicle, or a motor carrier operation is out-of-service pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Secs. 386.72, 392.5, 395.13, 396.9, or compatible laws, or the North American uniform out-of-service criteria.

(16) "Positive alcohol confirmation test" means an alcohol confirmation test that:

(a) Has been conducted by a breath alcohol technician under 49 C.F.R. Part 40; and

(b) Indicates an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or more.

A report that a person has refused an alcohol test, under circumstances that constitute the refusal of an alcohol test under 49 C.F.R. Part 40, will be considered equivalent to a report of a positive alcohol confirmation test for the purposes of this chapter.

(17) "School bus" means a commercial motor vehicle used to transport preprimary, primary, or secondary school students from home to school, from school to home, or to and from school-sponsored events. School bus does not include a bus used as a common carrier.

(18) "Serious traffic violation" means:

(a) Excessive speeding, defined as fifteen miles per hour or more in excess of the posted limit;

(b) Reckless driving, as defined under state or local law;

(c) A violation of a state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, arising in connection with an accident or collision resulting in death to any person;

(d) Driving a commercial motor vehicle without obtaining a commercial driver's license;

(e) Driving a commercial motor vehicle without a commercial driver's license in the driver's possession; however, any individual who provides proof to the court by the date the individual must appear in court or pay any fine for such a violation, that the individual held a valid CDL on the date the citation was issued, is not guilty of a "serious traffic offense";

(f) Driving a commercial motor vehicle without the proper class of commercial driver's license endorsement or endorsements for the specific vehicle group being operated or for the passenger or type of cargo being transported; and

(g) Any other violation of a state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, that the department determines by rule to be serious.

(19) "State" means a state of the United States and the District of Columbia.

(20) "Substance abuse professional" means an alcohol and drug specialist meeting the credentials, knowledge, training, and continuing education requirements of 49 C.F.R. Sec. 40.281.

(21) "Tank vehicle" means a vehicle that is designed to transport a liquid or gaseous material within a tank that is either permanently or temporarily attached to the vehicle or the chassis. Tank vehicles include, but are not limited to cargo tanks and portable tanks. However, this definition does not include portable tanks having a rated capacity under one thousand gallons.

(22) "Type of driving" means one of the following:

(a) "Nonexcepted interstate," which means the CDL holder or applicant operates or expects to operate in interstate commerce, is both subject to and meets the qualification requirements under 49 C.F.R. Part 391 as it existed on January 30, 2012, or such subsequent date as may be provided by the department by rule, consistent with the purposes of this section, and is required to obtain a medical examiner's certificate under 49 C.F.R. Sec. 391.45 as it existed on January 30, 2012, or such subsequent date as may be provided by the department by rule, consistent with the purposes of this section;

(b) "Excepted interstate," which means the CDL holder or applicant operates or expects to operate in interstate commerce, but engages exclusively in transportation or operations excepted under 49 C.F.R. Secs. 390.3(f), 391.2, 391.68, or 398.3, as they existed on January 30, 2012, or such subsequent date as may be provided by the department by rule, consistent with the purposes of this section, from all or parts of the qualification requirements of 49 C.F.R. Part 391 as it existed on January 30, 2012, or such subsequent date as may be provided by the department by rule, consistent with the purposes of this section, and is therefore not required to obtain a medical examiner's certificate under 49 C.F.R. Sec. 391.45 as it existed on January 30, 2012, or such subsequent date as may be provided by the department by rule, consistent with the purposes of this section;

(c) "Nonexcepted intrastate," which means the CDL holder or applicant operates only in intrastate commerce and is therefore subject to state driver qualification requirements; or

(d) "Excepted intrastate," which means the CDL holder or applicant operates in intrastate commerce, but engages exclusively in transportation or operations excepted from all or parts of the state driver qualification requirements.

(23) "United States" means the fifty states and the District of Columbia.

(24) "Verified positive drug test" means a drug test result or validity testing result from a laboratory certified under the authority of the federal department of health and human services that:

(a) Indicates a drug concentration at or above the cutoff concentration established under 49 C.F.R. Sec. 40.87; and

(b) Has undergone review and final determination by a medical review officer.

A report that a person has refused a drug test, under circumstances that constitute the refusal of a federal department of transportation drug test under 49 C.F.R. Part 40, will be considered equivalent to a report of a verified positive drug test for the purposes of this chapter. [2011 c 227 § 1; 2009 c 181 § 2. Prior: 2006 c 327 § 2; 2006 c 50 § 1; 2005 c 325 § 2; 2004 c 187 § 2; 1996 c 30 § 1; 1989 c 178 § 3.]

**Effective date—2011 c 227 §§ 1-3:** See note following RCW 46.25.075.

**Intent—2005 c 325:** "It is the intent of the legislature to promote the safety of drivers and passengers on Washington roads and public transportation systems. To this end, Washington has established a reporting requirement for employers of commercial drivers who test positive for unlawful substances. The legislature recognizes that transit operators and their employers are an asset to the public transportation system and continuously strive to provide a safe and efficient mode of travel. In light of this, the legislature further intends that the inclusion of transit employers in the reporting requirements serve only to enhance the current efforts of these dedicated employers and employees as they continue to provide a safe public transportation system to the citizens of Washington." [2005 c 325 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.25.020 One license limit.** No person who drives a commercial motor vehicle may have more than one driver's license. [1989 c 178 § 4.]

**46.25.030 Duties of driver—Notice to department and employer.** (1)(a) A driver of a commercial motor vehicle holding a driver's license issued by this state who is convicted of violating a state law or local ordinance relating to motor vehicle traffic control, in any other state or federal, provincial, territorial, or municipal laws of Canada, other than parking violations, shall notify the department in the manner specified by rule of the department within thirty days of the date of conviction.

(b) A driver of a commercial motor vehicle holding a driver's license issued by this state who is convicted of violating a state law or local ordinance relating to motor vehicle traffic control in this or any other state or federal, provincial, territorial, or municipal laws of Canada, other than parking violations, shall notify his or her employer in writing of the conviction within thirty days of the date of conviction.

(c) The notification requirements contained in (a) and (b) of this subsection as they relate to the federal, provincial, territorial, or municipal laws of Canada become effective only when the federal law or federal rules are changed to require the notification or a bilateral or multilateral agreement is entered into between the state of Washington and any Canadian province implementing essentially the same standards of regulation and penalties of all parties as encompassed in this chapter.

(2) A driver whose driver's license is suspended, revoked, or canceled by a state, who loses the privilege to drive a commercial motor vehicle in a state for any period, or who is disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle for any period, shall notify his or her employer of that fact before the end of the business day following the day the driver received notice of that fact.

(3) A person who applies to be a commercial motor vehicle driver shall provide the employer, at the time of the application, with the following information for the ten years preceding the date of application:

(a) A list of the names and addresses of the applicant's previous employers for which the applicant was a driver of a commercial motor vehicle;

(b) The dates between which the applicant drove for each employer; and

(c) The reason for leaving that employer.

The applicant shall certify that all information furnished is true and complete. An employer may require an applicant to provide additional information. [1989 c 178 § 5.]

**46.25.040 Duties of employer.** (1) An employer shall require the applicant to provide the information specified in RCW 46.25.030(3).

(2) No employer may knowingly allow, permit, or authorize a driver to drive a commercial motor vehicle during any period:

(a) In which the driver has a driver's license suspended, revoked, or canceled by a state, has lost the privilege to drive a commercial motor vehicle in a state, or has been disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle; or

(b) In which the driver has more than one driver's license. [1989 c 178 § 6.]

**46.25.050 Commercial driver's license required—Exceptions, restrictions, reciprocity.** (1) Drivers of commercial motor vehicles shall obtain a commercial driver's license as required under this chapter. Except when driving under a commercial driver's instruction permit and a valid automobile or classified license and accompanied by the holder of a commercial driver's license valid for the vehicle being driven, no person may drive a commercial motor vehicle unless the person holds and is in immediate possession of a commercial driver's license and applicable endorsements valid for the vehicle they are driving. However, this requirement does not apply to any person:

(a) Who is the operator of a farm vehicle, and the vehicle is:

(i) Controlled and operated by a farmer;

(ii) Used to transport either agricultural products, which in this section include Christmas trees and wood products harvested from private tree farms and transported by vehicles weighing no more than forty thousand pounds licensed gross vehicle weight, farm machinery, farm supplies, animal manure, animal manure compost, or any combination of those materials to or from a farm;

(iii) Not used in the operations of a common or contract motor carrier; and

(iv) Used within one hundred fifty miles of the person's farm; or

(b) Who is a firefighter or law enforcement officer operating emergency equipment, and:

(i) The firefighter or law enforcement officer has successfully completed a driver training course approved by the director; and

(ii) The firefighter or law enforcement officer carries a certificate attesting to the successful completion of the approved training course; or

(c) Who is operating a recreational vehicle for noncommercial purposes. As used in this section, "recreational vehicle" includes a vehicle towing a horse trailer for a noncommercial purpose; or

(d) Who is operating a commercial motor vehicle for military purposes. This exception is applicable to active duty military personnel; members of the military reserves; members of the national guard on active duty, including personnel on full-time national guard duty, personnel on part-time national guard training, and national guard military technicians (civilians who are required to wear military uniforms); and active duty United States coast guard personnel. This exception is not applicable to United States reserve technicians.

(2) No person may drive a commercial motor vehicle while his or her driving privilege is suspended, revoked, or canceled, while subject to disqualification, or in violation of an out-of-service order. Violations of this subsection shall be punished in the same way as violations of RCW 46.20.342(1).

(3) The department shall to the extent possible enter into reciprocity agreements with adjoining states to allow the waivers described in subsection (1) of this section to apply to drivers holding commercial driver's licenses from those adjoining states. [2011 c 142 § 1; 2006 c 327 § 3; 1995 c 393 § 1; 1990 c 56 § 1; 1989 c 178 § 7.]

#### **46.25.055 Medical examiner's certificate—Required.**

A person may not drive a commercial motor vehicle unless he or she is physically qualified to do so and, except as provided in 49 C.F.R. Sec. 391.67, has on his or her person the original, or a photographic copy, of a medical examiner's certificate that he or she is physically qualified to drive a commercial motor vehicle. [2003 c 195 § 3.]

**Findings—2003 c 195:** See note following RCW 46.25.070.

**46.25.057 Medical examiner's certificate—Failure to carry—Penalty.** (1) It is a traffic infraction for a licensee under this chapter to drive a commercial vehicle without having on his or her person the original, or a photographic copy, of a medical examiner's certificate that he or she is physically qualified to drive a commercial motor vehicle.

(2) A person who violates this section is subject to a penalty of two hundred fifty dollars. If the person appears in person before the court or submits by mail written proof that he or she had, at the time the infraction took place, the medical examiner's certificate, the court shall reduce the penalty to fifty dollars. [2003 c 195 § 4.]

**Findings—2003 c 195:** See note following RCW 46.25.070.

**46.25.060 Knowledge and skills test, exemptions—Instruction permit.** (1)(a) No person may be issued a commercial driver's license unless that person is a resident of this state, has successfully completed a course of instruction in the operation of a commercial motor vehicle that has been approved by the director or has been certified by an employer as having the skills and training necessary to operate a commercial motor vehicle safely, and has passed a knowledge and skills test for driving a commercial motor vehicle that complies with minimum federal standards established by federal regulation enumerated in 49 C.F.R. part 383, subparts G and H, and has satisfied all other requirements of the CMVSA in addition to other requirements imposed by state law or federal regulation. The tests must be prescribed and conducted by the department. In addition to the fee charged

for issuance or renewal of any license, the applicant shall pay a fee of no more than ten dollars for each classified knowledge examination, classified endorsement knowledge examination, or any combination of classified license and endorsement knowledge examinations. The applicant shall pay a fee of no more than one hundred dollars for each classified skill examination or combination of classified skill examinations conducted by the department.

(b) The department may authorize a person, including an agency of this or another state, an employer, a private driver training facility, or other private institution, or a department, agency, or instrumentality of local government, to administer the skills test specified by this section under the following conditions:

(i) The test is the same which would otherwise be administered by the state;

(ii) The third party has entered into an agreement with the state that complies with the requirements of 49 C.F.R. part 383.75; and

(iii) The director has adopted rules as to the third party testing program and the development and justification for fees charged by any third party.

(c) If the applicant's primary use of a commercial driver's license is for any of the following, then the applicant shall pay a fee of no more than seventy-five dollars for each classified skill examination or combination of classified skill examinations whether conducted by the department or a third-party tester:

(i) Public benefit not-for-profit corporations that are federally supported head start programs; or

(ii) Public benefit not-for-profit corporations that support early childhood education and assistance programs as described in RCW 43.215.405(2).

(2) The department shall work with the office of the superintendent of public instruction to develop modified P1 and P2 skill examinations that also include the skill examination components required to obtain an "S" endorsement. In no event may a new applicant for an "S" endorsement be required to take two separate examinations to obtain an "S" endorsement and either a P1 or P2 endorsement, unless that applicant is upgrading his or her existing commercial driver's license to include an "S" endorsement. The combined P1/S or P2/S skill examination must be offered to the applicant at the same cost as a regular P1 or P2 skill examination.

(3)(a) The department may waive the skills test and the requirement for completion of a course of instruction in the operation of a commercial motor vehicle specified in this section for a commercial driver's license applicant who meets the requirements of 49 C.F.R. part 383.77.

(b) An applicant who operates a commercial motor vehicle for agribusiness purposes is exempt from the course of instruction completion and employer skills and training certification requirements under this section. By January 1, 2010, the department shall submit recommendations regarding the continuance of this exemption to the transportation committees of the legislature. For purposes of this subsection (3)(b), "agribusiness" means a private carrier who in the normal course of business primarily transports:

(i) Farm machinery, farm equipment, implements of husbandry, farm supplies, and materials used in farming;



(ii) Agricultural inputs, such as seed, feed, fertilizer, and crop protection products;

(iii) Unprocessed agricultural commodities, as defined in RCW 17.21.020, where such commodities are produced by farmers, ranchers, vineyardists, or orchardists; or

(iv) Any combination of (b)(i) through (iii) of this subsection.

The department shall notify the transportation committees of the legislature if the federal government takes action affecting the exemption provided in this subsection (3)(b).

(4) A commercial driver's license or commercial driver's instruction permit may not be issued to a person while the person is subject to a disqualification from driving a commercial motor vehicle, or while the person's driver's license is suspended, revoked, or canceled in any state, nor may a commercial driver's license be issued to a person who has a commercial driver's license issued by any other state unless the person first surrenders all such licenses, which must be returned to the issuing state for cancellation.

(5)(a) The department may issue a commercial driver's instruction permit to an applicant who is at least eighteen years of age and holds a valid Washington state driver's license and who has submitted a proper application, passed the general knowledge examination required for issuance of a commercial driver's license under subsection (1) of this section, and paid the appropriate fee for the knowledge examination and an application fee of ten dollars.

(b) A commercial driver's instruction permit may not be issued for a period to exceed six months. Only one renewal or reissuance may be granted within a two-year period.

(c) The holder of a commercial driver's instruction permit may drive a commercial motor vehicle on a highway only when accompanied by the holder of a commercial driver's license valid for the type of vehicle driven who occupies a seat beside the individual for the purpose of giving instruction in driving the commercial motor vehicle. The holder of a commercial driver's instruction permit is not authorized to operate a commercial motor vehicle transporting hazardous materials.

(d) The department shall transmit the fees collected for commercial driver's instruction permits to the state treasurer. [2011 c 153 § 1; 2009 c 339 § 1; 2007 c 418 § 1; 2004 c 187 § 3; 2002 c 352 § 18; 1989 c 178 § 8.]

**Effective date—2011 c 153:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2011." [2011 c 153 § 2.]

**Effective date—2007 c 418:** "This act takes effect January 15, 2008." [2007 c 418 § 2.]

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**46.25.070 Application—Change of address—Residency—Hazardous materials endorsement.** (1) The application for a commercial driver's license or commercial driver's instruction permit must include the following:

(a) The full name and current mailing and residential address of the person;

(b) A physical description of the person, including sex, height, weight, and eye color;

(c) Date of birth;

(d) The applicant's social security number;

(e) The person's signature;

(f) Certifications including those required by 49 C.F.R. part 383.71(a);

(g) The names of all states where the applicant has previously been licensed to drive any type of motor vehicle during the previous ten years;

(h) Any other information required by the department; and

(i) A consent to release driving record information to parties identified in chapter 46.52 RCW and this chapter.

(2) An applicant for a hazardous materials endorsement must submit an application and comply with federal transportation security administration requirements as specified in 49 C.F.R. part 1572, and meet the requirements specified in 49 C.F.R. 383.71(a)(9).

(3) When a licensee changes his or her name, mailing address, or residence address, the person shall notify the department as provided in RCW 46.20.205.

(4) No person who has been a resident of this state for thirty days may drive a commercial motor vehicle under the authority of a commercial driver's license issued by another jurisdiction. [2004 c 187 § 4; 2003 c 195 § 2; 1991 c 73 § 2; 1989 c 178 § 9.]

**Findings—2003 c 195:** "The legislature finds that current economic conditions impose severe hardships on many commercial vehicle drivers. The legislature finds that commercial drivers who may not currently be working may not be able to afford the expense of a required physical in order to maintain their commercial driver's license. The legislature finds that Washington's commercial driver's license statutes should be harmonized with federal requirements, which require proof of a physical capacity to drive a commercial vehicle, along with a valid commercial driver's license, but do not link the two requirements. The legislature finds that allowing commercial drivers to delay getting a physical until they are actually driving a commercial vehicle will prevent the imposition of unnecessary expense and hardship on Washington's commercial vehicle drivers." [2003 c 195 § 1.]

**46.25.075 Certification—Recordkeeping and administration—Downgrade.** (1)(a) Any person applying for a CDL must certify that he or she is or expects to be engaged in one of the following types of driving:

(i) Nonexcepted interstate;

(ii) Excepted interstate;

(iii) Nonexcepted intrastate; or

(iv) Excepted intrastate.

(b) From January 30, 2012, to January 30, 2014, the department may require that any person holding a CDL prior to January 30, 2012, must provide the department with the certification required under (a) of this subsection. The CDL of a person failing to submit the required certification is subject to downgrade under subsection (4) of this section.

(2) A CDL applicant or holder who certifies under subsection (1)(a)(i) of this section that he or she is or expects to be engaged in nonexcepted interstate commerce must provide a copy of a medical examiner's certificate prepared by a medical examiner, as defined in 49 C.F.R. Sec. 390.5 as it existed on January 30, 2012, or such subsequent date as may be provided by the department by rule, consistent with the purposes of this section. Upon submission, a copy of the medical examiner's certificate must be date-stamped by the department. A CDL holder who certifies under subsection (1)(a)(i) of this section must submit a copy of each subsequently issued medical examiner's certificate.

(3) For each operator of a commercial motor vehicle required to have a commercial driver's license, the department must meet the following requirements:

(a)(i) The driver's self-certification of type of driving under subsection (1) of this section must be maintained on the driver's record and the CDLIS driver record;

(ii) The copy of a medical examiner's certificate, when submitted under subsection (2) of this section, must by [be] retained for three years beyond the date the certificate was issued; and

(iii) When a medical examiner's certificate is submitted under subsection (2) of this section, the information required under 49 C.F.R. Sec. 383.73(j)(1)(iii) as it existed on January 30, 2012, or such subsequent date as may be provided by the department by rule, consistent with the purposes of this section must be posted to the CDLIS driver record within ten calendar days from the date submitted. The indicator of medical certification status, such as "certified" or "not-certified," must be maintained on the driver's record.

(b) Within ten calendar days of the driver's medical certification status expiring or a medical variance expiring or being rescinded, the medical certification status of the driver must be updated to "not-certified."

(c) Within ten calendar days of receiving information from the federal motor carrier safety administration regarding issuance or renewal of a medical variance for a driver, the department must update the CDLIS driver record to include the medical variance information.

(4)(a) If a driver's medical certification or medical variance expires, or the federal motor carrier safety administration notifies the department that a medical variance was removed or rescinded, the department must:

(i) Notify the driver of his or her "not-certified" medical certification status and that the CDL privilege will be removed from the driver's license unless the driver submits a current medical certificate or medical variance, or changes his or her self-certification to driving only in excepted or intrastate commerce; and

(ii) Initiate procedures for downgrading the license. The CDL downgrade must be completed and recorded within sixty days of the driver's medical certification status becoming "not-certified" to operate a commercial motor vehicle.

(b) Beginning January 30, 2014, if a driver fails to provide the department with the certification required in subsection (1) of this section, or a current medical examiner's certificate if the driver self-certifies under subsection (1)(a)(i) of this section that he or she is operating in nonexcepted interstate commerce as required in subsection (2) of this section, the department must mark the CDLIS driver record as "not-certified" and initiate a CDL downgrade in accordance with (a)(ii) of this subsection.

(c) A driver whose CDL has been downgraded under this subsection may restore the CDL privilege by providing the necessary certifications or medical variance information to the department. [2011 c 227 § 3.]

**Effective date—2011 c 227 §§ 1-3:** "Sections 1 through 3 of this act take effect January 30, 2012." [2011 c 227 § 7.]

**46.25.080 License contents, classifications, endorsements, restrictions, expiration—Exchange of information.** (1) The commercial driver's license must be marked

"commercial driver's license" or "CDL," and must be, to the maximum extent practicable, tamperproof. It must include, but not be limited to, the following information:

(a) The name and residence address of the person;

(b) The person's color photograph;

(c) A physical description of the person including sex, height, weight, and eye color;

(d) Date of birth;

(e) The person's social security number or any number or identifier deemed appropriate by the department;

(f) The person's signature;

(g) The class or type of commercial motor vehicle or vehicles that the person is authorized to drive, together with any endorsements or restrictions;

(h) The name of the state; and

(i) The dates between which the license is valid.

(2) Commercial driver's licenses may be issued with the classifications, endorsements, and restrictions set forth in this subsection. The holder of a valid commercial driver's license may drive all vehicles in the class for which that license is issued and all lesser classes of vehicles except motorcycles and vehicles that require an endorsement, unless the proper endorsement appears on the license.

(a) Licenses may be classified as follows:

(i) Class A is a combination of vehicles with a gross combined weight rating (GCWR) of 26,001 pounds or more, if the GVWR of the vehicle or vehicles being towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds.

(ii) Class B is a single vehicle with a GVWR of 26,001 pounds or more, and any such vehicle towing a vehicle not in excess of 10,000 pounds.

(iii) Class C is a single vehicle with a GVWR of less than 26,001 pounds or any such vehicle towing a vehicle with a GVWR not in excess of 10,000 pounds consisting of:

(A) Vehicles designed to transport sixteen or more passengers, including the driver; or

(B) Vehicles used in the transportation of hazardous materials.

(b) The following endorsements and restrictions may be placed on a license:

(i) "H" authorizes the driver to drive a vehicle transporting hazardous materials.

(ii) "K" restricts the driver to vehicles not equipped with air brakes.

(iii) "T" authorizes driving double and triple trailers.

(iv) "P1" authorizes driving all vehicles, other than school buses, carrying passengers.

(v) "P2" authorizes driving vehicles with a GVWR of less than 26,001 pounds, other than school buses, carrying sixteen or more passengers, including the driver.

(vi) "N" authorizes driving tank vehicles.

(vii) "X" represents a combination of hazardous materials and tank vehicle endorsements.

(viii) "S" authorizes driving school buses.

(ix) "V" means that the driver has been issued a medical variance.

The license may be issued with additional endorsements and restrictions as established by rule of the director.

(3) All school bus drivers must have either a "P1" or "P2" endorsement depending on the GVWR of the school bus being driven.

(4) Before issuing a commercial driver's license, the department shall obtain driving record information:

- (a) Through the commercial driver's license information system;
- (b) Through the national driver register;
- (c) From the current state of record; and
- (d) From all states where the applicant was previously licensed over the last ten years to drive any type of motor vehicle.

A check under (d) of this subsection need be done only once, either at the time of application for a new commercial driver's license, or upon application for a renewal of a commercial driver's license for the first time after July 1, 2005, provided a notation is made on the driver's record confirming that the driving record check has been made and noting the date it was completed.

(5) Within ten days after issuing a commercial driver's license, the department must notify the commercial driver's license information system of the information required under 49 C.F.R. Sec. 383.73 as it existed on January 30, 2012, or such subsequent date as may be provided by the department by rule, consistent with the purposes of this section and provide all information required to ensure identification of the person.

(6) A commercial driver's license shall expire in the same manner as provided in RCW 46.20.181.

(7) When applying for renewal of a commercial driver's license, the applicant shall:

- (a) Complete the application form required by RCW 46.25.070(1), providing updated information and required certifications;
- (b) Submit the application to the department in person; and
- (c) If the applicant wishes to retain a hazardous materials endorsement, take and pass the written test for a hazardous materials endorsement. [2011 c 227 § 2. Prior: 2004 c 249 § 8; 2004 c 187 § 5; 1996 c 30 § 2; 1989 c 178 § 10.]

**Effective date—2011 c 227 §§ 1-3:** See note following RCW 46.25.075.

**Effective date—2004 c 187 §§ 1, 5, 7, 8, and 10:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.25.085 Hazardous materials endorsement.** (1) The department may not issue, renew, upgrade, or transfer a hazardous materials endorsement for a commercial driver's license to any individual authorizing that individual to operate a commercial motor vehicle transporting a hazardous material in commerce unless the federal transportation security administration has determined that the individual does not pose a security risk warranting denial of the endorsement.

(2) An individual who is prohibited from holding a commercial driver's license with a hazardous materials endorsement under 49 C.F.R. 1572.5 must surrender any hazardous materials endorsement in his or her possession to the department.

(3) The department may adopt such rules as may be necessary to comply with the provisions of 49 C.F.R. part 1572. [2004 c 187 § 6.]

**46.25.090 Disqualification—Grounds for, period of—Records.** (1) A person is disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle for a period of not less than one year if a report has been received by the department pursuant to RCW 46.20.308 or 46.25.120, or if the person has been convicted of a first violation, within this or any other jurisdiction, of:

- (a) Driving a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or any drug;
- (b) Driving a commercial motor vehicle while the alcohol concentration in the person's system is 0.04 or more, or driving a noncommercial motor vehicle while the alcohol concentration in the person's system is 0.08 or more, or is 0.02 or more if the person is under age twenty-one, as determined by any testing methods approved by law in this state or any other state or jurisdiction;
- (c) Leaving the scene of an accident involving a motor vehicle driven by the person;
- (d) Using a motor vehicle in the commission of a felony;
- (e) Refusing to submit to a test or tests to determine the driver's alcohol concentration or the presence of any drug while driving a motor vehicle;

(f) Driving a commercial motor vehicle when, as a result of prior violations committed while operating a commercial motor vehicle, the driver's commercial driver's license is revoked, suspended, or canceled, or the driver is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle;

(g) Causing a fatality through the negligent operation of a commercial motor vehicle, including but not limited to the crimes of vehicular homicide and negligent homicide.

If any of the violations set forth in this subsection occurred while transporting hazardous material, the person is disqualified for a period of not less than three years.

(2) A person is disqualified for life if it has been determined that the person has committed or has been convicted of two or more violations of any of the offenses specified in subsection (1) of this section, or any combination of those offenses, arising from two or more separate incidents.

(3) The department may adopt rules, in accordance with federal regulations, establishing guidelines, including conditions, under which a disqualification for life under subsection (2) of this section may be reduced to a period of not less than ten years.

(4) A person is disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle for life who uses a motor vehicle in the commission of a felony involving the manufacture, distribution, or dispensing of a controlled substance, as defined by chapter 69.50 RCW, or possession with intent to manufacture, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance, as defined by chapter 69.50 RCW.

(5)(a) A person is disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle for a period of:

- (i) Not less than sixty days if:
  - (A) Convicted of or found to have committed a second serious traffic violation while driving a commercial motor vehicle; or
  - (B) Convicted of reckless driving, where there has been a prior serious traffic violation; or
- (ii) Not less than one hundred twenty days if:

(A) Convicted of or found to have committed a third or subsequent serious traffic violation while driving a commercial motor vehicle; or

(B) Convicted of reckless driving, where there has been two or more prior serious traffic violations.

(b) The disqualification period under (a)(ii) of this subsection must be in addition to any other previous period of disqualification.

(c) For purposes of determining prior serious traffic violations under this subsection, each conviction of or finding that a driver has committed a serious traffic violation while driving a commercial motor vehicle or noncommercial motor vehicle, arising from a separate incident occurring within a three-year period, must be counted.

(6) A person is disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle for a period of:

(a) Not less than one hundred eighty days nor more than one year if convicted of or found to have committed a first violation of an out-of-service order while driving a commercial vehicle;

(b) Not less than two years nor more than five years if, during a ten-year period, the person is convicted of or is found to have committed two violations of out-of-service orders while driving a commercial motor vehicle in separate incidents;

(c) Not less than three years nor more than five years if, during a ten-year period, the person is convicted of or is found to have committed three or more violations of out-of-service orders while driving commercial motor vehicles in separate incidents;

(d) Not less than one hundred eighty days nor more than two years if the person is convicted of or is found to have committed a first violation of an out-of-service order while transporting hazardous materials, or while operating motor vehicles designed to transport sixteen or more passengers, including the driver. A person is disqualified for a period of not less than three years nor more than five years if, during a ten-year period, the person is convicted of or is found to have committed subsequent violations of out-of-service orders, in separate incidents, while transporting hazardous materials, or while operating motor vehicles designed to transport sixteen or more passengers, including the driver.

(7) A person is disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle if a report has been received by the department under RCW 46.25.125 that the person has received a verified positive drug test or positive alcohol confirmation test as part of the testing program conducted under 49 C.F.R. 40. A disqualification under this subsection remains in effect until the person undergoes a drug and alcohol assessment by a substance abuse professional meeting the requirements of 49 C.F.R. 40, and the person presents evidence of satisfactory participation in or successful completion of a drug or alcohol treatment and/or education program as recommended by the substance abuse professional, and until the person has met the requirements of RCW 46.25.100. The substance abuse professional shall forward a diagnostic evaluation and treatment recommendation to the department of licensing for use in determining the person's eligibility for driving a commercial motor vehicle. Persons who are disqualified under this subsection more than twice in a five-year period are disqualified for life.

(8)(a) A person is disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle for the period of time specified in (b) of this subsection if he or she is convicted of or is found to have committed one of the following six offenses at a railroad-highway grade crossing while operating a commercial motor vehicle in violation of a federal, state, or local law or regulation:

(i) For drivers who are not required to always stop, failing to slow down and check that the tracks are clear of an approaching train;

(ii) For drivers who are not required to always stop, failing to stop before reaching the crossing, if the tracks are not clear;

(iii) For drivers who are always required to stop, failing to stop before driving onto the crossing;

(iv) For all drivers, failing to have sufficient space to drive completely through the crossing without stopping;

(v) For all drivers, failing to obey a traffic control device or the directions of an enforcement officer at the crossing;

(vi) For all drivers, failing to negotiate a crossing because of insufficient undercarriage clearance.

(b) A person is disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle for a period of:

(i) Not less than sixty days if the driver is convicted of or is found to have committed a first violation of a railroad-highway grade crossing violation;

(ii) Not less than one hundred twenty days if the driver is convicted of or is found to have committed a second railroad-highway grade crossing violation in separate incidents within a three-year period;

(iii) Not less than one year if the driver is convicted of or is found to have committed a third or subsequent railroad-highway grade crossing violation in separate incidents within a three-year period.

(9) A person is disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle for not more than one year if a report has been received by the department from the federal motor carrier safety administration that the person's driving has been determined to constitute an imminent hazard as defined by 49 C.F.R. 383.5. A person who is simultaneously disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle under this subsection and under other provisions of this chapter, or under 49 C.F.R. 383.52, shall serve those disqualification periods concurrently.

(10) Within ten days after suspending, revoking, or canceling a commercial driver's license or disqualifying a driver from operating a commercial motor vehicle, the department shall update its records to reflect that action. [2011 c 227 § 4; 2006 c 327 § 4; 2005 c 325 § 5; 2004 c 187 § 7. Prior: 2002 c 272 § 3; 2002 c 193 § 1; 1996 c 30 § 3; 1989 c 178 § 11.]

**Intent—2005 c 325:** See note following RCW 46.25.010.

**Effective date—2004 c 187 §§ 1, 5, 7, 8, and 10:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.25.100 Restoration after disqualification.** When a person has been disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle, the person is not entitled to have the commercial driver's license restored until after the expiration of the appropriate disqualification period required under RCW 46.25.090 or until the department has received a drug and

alcohol assessment and evidence is presented of satisfactory participation in or completion of any required drug or alcohol treatment program for ending the disqualification under RCW 46.25.090(7). After expiration of the appropriate period and upon payment of a requalification fee of twenty dollars, or one hundred fifty dollars if the person has been disqualified under RCW 46.25.090(7), the person may apply for a new, duplicate, or renewal commercial driver's license as provided by law. If the person has been disqualified for a period of one year or more, the person shall demonstrate that he or she meets the commercial driver's license qualification standards specified in RCW 46.25.060. [2002 c 272 § 4; 1989 c 178 § 12.]

**46.25.110 Driving with alcohol in system.** (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of Title 46 RCW, a person may not drive, operate, or be in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle while having alcohol in his or her system.

(2) Law enforcement or appropriate officials shall issue an out-of-service order valid for twenty-four hours against a person who drives, operates, or is in physical control of a commercial motor vehicle while having alcohol in his or her system or who refuses to take a test to determine his or her alcohol content as provided by RCW 46.25.120. [1989 c 178 § 13.]

**46.25.120 Test for alcohol or drugs—Disqualification for refusal of test or positive test—Procedures.** (1) A person who drives a commercial motor vehicle within this state is deemed to have given consent, subject to RCW 46.61.506, to take a test or tests of that person's blood or breath for the purpose of determining that person's alcohol concentration or the presence of other drugs.

(2) A test or tests may be administered at the direction of a law enforcement officer, who after stopping or detaining the commercial motor vehicle driver, has probable cause to believe that driver was driving a commercial motor vehicle while having alcohol in his or her system or while under the influence of any drug.

(3) The law enforcement officer requesting the test under subsection (1) of this section shall warn the person requested to submit to the test that a refusal to submit will result in that person being disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle under RCW 46.25.090.

(4) If the person refuses testing, or submits to a test that discloses an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or more, the law enforcement officer shall submit a sworn report to the department certifying that the test was requested pursuant to subsection (1) of this section and that the person refused to submit to testing, or submitted to a test that disclosed an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or more.

(5) Upon receipt of the sworn report of a law enforcement officer under subsection (4) of this section, the department shall disqualify the driver from driving a commercial motor vehicle under RCW 46.25.090, subject to the hearing provisions of RCW 46.20.329 and 46.20.332. The hearing shall be conducted in the county of the arrest. For the purposes of this section, the hearing shall cover the issues of whether a law enforcement officer had reasonable grounds to believe the person had been driving or was in actual physical control of a commercial motor vehicle within this state while

having alcohol in the person's system or while under the influence of any drug, whether the person refused to submit to the test or tests upon request of the officer after having been informed that the refusal would result in the disqualification of the person from driving a commercial motor vehicle, and, if the test was administered, whether the results indicated an alcohol concentration of 0.04 percent or more. The department shall order that the disqualification of the person either be rescinded or sustained. Any decision by the department disqualifying a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle is stayed and does not take effect while a formal hearing is pending under this section or during the pendency of a subsequent appeal to superior court so long as there is no conviction for a moving violation or no finding that the person has committed a traffic infraction that is a moving violation during the pendency of the hearing and appeal. If the disqualification of the person is sustained after the hearing, the person who is disqualified may file a petition in the superior court of the county of arrest to review the final order of disqualification by the department in the manner provided in RCW 46.20.334.

(6) If a motor carrier or employer who is required to have a testing program under 49 C.F.R. 382 knows that a commercial driver in his or her employ has refused to submit to testing under this section and has not been disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle, the employer may notify law enforcement or his or her medical review officer or breath alcohol technician that the driver has refused to submit to the required testing.

(7) The hearing provisions of this section do not apply to those persons disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle under RCW 46.25.090(7). [2006 c 327 § 5; 2002 c 272 § 5; 1998 c 41 § 6; 1990 c 250 § 50; 1989 c 178 § 14.]

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—1998 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.265.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.25.123 Mandatory reporting of positive test.** (1) All medical review officers or breath alcohol technicians hired by or under contract to a motor carrier or employer who employs drivers who operate commercial motor vehicles and who is required to have a testing program conducted under the procedures established by 49 C.F.R. 40 or to a consortium the carrier or employer belongs to, as defined in 49 C.F.R. 40.3, shall report the finding of a commercial motor vehicle driver's verified positive drug test or positive alcohol confirmation test to the department of licensing on a form provided by the department. If the employer is required to have a testing program under 49 C.F.R. 655, a report of a verified positive drug test or positive alcohol confirmation test must not be forwarded to the department under this subsection unless the test is a preemployment drug test conducted under 49 C.F.R. 655.41 or a preemployment alcohol test conducted under 49 C.F.R. 655.42.

(2)(a) A motor carrier or employer who employs drivers who operate commercial motor vehicles and who is required to have a testing program conducted under the procedures established by 49 C.F.R. 40, or the consortium the carrier or employer belongs to, must report a refusal by a commercial motor vehicle driver to take a drug or alcohol test, under circumstances that constitute the refusal of a test under 49

C.F.R. 40 and where such refusal has not been reported by a medical review officer or breath alcohol technician, to the department of licensing on a form provided by the department.

(b) An employer who is required to have a testing program under 49 C.F.R. 655 must report a commercial motor vehicle driver's verified positive drug test or a positive alcohol confirmation test when: (i) The driver's employment has been terminated or the driver has resigned; (ii) any grievance process, up to but not including arbitration, has been concluded; and (iii) at the time of termination or resignation the driver has not been cleared to return to safety-sensitive functions.

(3) Motor carriers, employers, or consortiums shall make it a written condition of their contract or agreement with a medical review officer or breath alcohol technician, regardless of the state where the medical review officer or breath alcohol technician is located, that the medical review officer or breath alcohol technician is required to report all Washington state licensed drivers who have a verified positive drug test or positive alcohol confirmation test to the department of licensing within three business days of the verification or confirmation. Failure to obtain this contractual condition or agreement with the medical review officer or breath alcohol technician by the motor carrier, employer, or consortium, or failure to report a refusal as required by subsection (2) of this section, will result in an administrative fine as provided in RCW 46.32.100 or 81.04.405.

(4) Substances obtained for testing may not be used for any purpose other than drug or alcohol testing under 49 C.F.R. 40. [2005 c 325 § 3; 2002 c 272 § 1.]

**Intent—2005 c 325:** See note following RCW 46.25.010.

#### **46.25.125 Disqualification for positive test—Procedure.**

(1) When the department of licensing receives a report from a medical review officer, breath alcohol technician, employer, contractor, or consortium that a driver has a verified positive drug test or positive alcohol confirmation test, as part of the testing program conducted under 49 C.F.R. 40, the department shall disqualify the driver from driving a commercial motor vehicle under RCW 46.25.090(7) subject to a hearing as provided in this section. The department shall notify the person in writing of the disqualification by first-class mail. The notice must explain the procedure for the person to request a hearing.

(2) A person disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle for having a verified positive drug test or positive alcohol confirmation test may request a hearing to challenge the disqualification within twenty days from the date notice is given. If the request for a hearing is mailed, it must be postmarked within twenty days after the department has given notice of the disqualification.

(3) The hearing must be conducted in the county of the person's residence, except that the department may conduct all or part of the hearing by telephone or other electronic means.

(4) For the purposes of this section, or for the purpose of a hearing de novo in an appeal to superior court, the hearing must be limited to the following issues: (a) Whether the driver is the person who is the subject of the report; (b) whether the motor carrier, employer, or consortium has a pro-

gram that is subject to the federal requirements under 49 C.F.R. 40; and (c) whether the medical review officer or breath alcohol technician making the report accurately followed the protocols established to verify or confirm the results, or if the driver refused a test, whether the circumstances constitute the refusal of a test under 49 C.F.R. 40. Evidence may be presented to demonstrate that the test results are a false positive. For the purpose of a hearing under this section, a copy of a positive test result with a declaration by the tester or medical review officer or breath alcohol technician stating the accuracy of the laboratory protocols followed to arrive at the test result is prima facie evidence:

(i) Of a verified positive drug test or positive alcohol confirmation test result;

(ii) That the motor carrier, employer, or consortium has a program that is subject to the federal requirements under 49 C.F.R. 40; and

(iii) That the medical review officer or breath alcohol technician making the report accurately followed the protocols for testing established to verify or confirm the results.

After the hearing, the department shall order the disqualification of the person either be rescinded or sustained.

(5) If the person does not request a hearing within the twenty-day time limit, or if the person fails to appear at a hearing, the person has waived the right to a hearing and the department shall sustain the disqualification.

(6) A decision by the department disqualifying a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle is stayed and does not take effect while a formal hearing is pending under this section or during the pendency of a subsequent appeal to superior court so long as there is no conviction for a moving violation or no finding that the person has committed a traffic infraction that is a moving violation and the department receives no further report of a verified positive drug test or positive alcohol confirmation test during the pendency of the hearing and appeal. If the disqualification is sustained after the hearing, the person who is disqualified may file a petition in the superior court of the county of his or her residence to review the final order of disqualification by the department in the manner provided in RCW 46.20.334.

(7) The department of licensing may adopt rules specifying further requirements for requesting and conducting a hearing under this section.

(8) The department of licensing is not civilly liable for damage resulting from disqualifying a driver based on a verified positive drug test or positive alcohol confirmation test result as required by this section or for damage resulting from release of this information that occurs in the normal course of business. [2005 c 325 § 4; 2002 c 272 § 2.]

**Intent—2005 c 325:** See note following RCW 46.25.010.

#### **46.25.130 Report of violation, disqualification by nonresident.**

(1) Within ten days after receiving a report of the conviction of or finding that a traffic infraction has been committed by any nonresident holder of a commercial driver's license, or any nonresident operating a commercial motor vehicle, for any violation of state law or local ordinance relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than parking violations, the department shall notify the driver licensing authority in the licensing state of the conviction.

(2)(a) No later than ten days after disqualifying any non-resident holder of a commercial driver's license from operating a commercial motor vehicle, or revoking, suspending, or canceling the nonresident driving privileges of the nonresident holder of a commercial driver's license for at least sixty days, the department must notify the state that issued the license of the disqualification, revocation, suspension, or cancellation.

(b) The notification must include both the disqualification and the violation that resulted in the disqualification, revocation, suspension, or cancellation. The notification and the information it provides must be recorded on the driver's record. [2004 c 187 § 8; 1989 c 178 § 15.]

**Effective date—2004 c 187 §§ 1, 5, 7, 8, and 10:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

**46.25.140 Rules.** The department may adopt rules necessary to carry out this chapter. [1989 c 178 § 16.]

**46.25.150 Agreements to carry out chapter.** The department may enter into or make agreements, arrangements, or declarations to carry out this chapter. [1989 c 178 § 17.]

**46.25.160 Licenses issued by other jurisdictions.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a person may drive a commercial motor vehicle if the person has a commercial driver's license or commercial driver's instruction permit issued by any state or jurisdiction in accordance with the minimum federal standards for the issuance of commercial motor vehicle driver's licenses or permits, if the person's license or permit is not suspended, revoked, or canceled, and if the person is not disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle or is subject to an out-of-service order. [2004 c 187 § 9; 1989 c 178 § 18.]

**46.25.170 Civil and criminal penalties.** (1) A person subject to RCW 81.04.405 who is determined by the utilities and transportation commission, after notice, to have committed an act that is in violation of RCW 46.25.020, 46.25.030, 46.25.040, 46.25.050, or 46.25.110 is liable to Washington state for the civil penalties provided for in RCW 81.04.405.

(2) A person who violates or fails to comply with, or who procures, aids, or abets in the violation of any provision of RCW 46.25.020, 46.25.030, 46.25.040, 46.25.050, or 46.25.110 is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1989 c 178 § 19.]

**46.25.900 Severability—1989 c 178.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1989 c 178 § 30.]

**46.25.901 Effective dates—1989 c 178.** Sections 25, 26, 28, and 32 of this act shall take effect on April 1, 1992. The remainder of this act shall take effect on October 1, 1989. The director of licensing may immediately take such steps as are necessary to insure that all sections of this act are implemented on their respective effective dates. [1989 c 178 § 33.]

## Chapter 46.29 RCW FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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## ADMINISTRATION

**46.29.010 Purpose.** It is the purpose of this chapter to adopt in substance the provisions of the uniform vehicle code relating to financial responsibility in order to achieve greater uniformity with the laws of other states and thereby reduce the conflicts in laws confronting motorists as they travel between states. [1963 c 169 § 1.]

**46.29.020 Definitions.** (1) The term "owner" as used in this chapter shall mean registered owner as defined in RCW 46.04.460.

(2) The term "registration" as used in this chapter shall mean the certificate of license registration issued under the laws of this state. [1963 c 169 § 2.]

**46.29.030 Director to administer chapter.** (1) The director shall administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter and may make rules and regulations necessary for its administration.

(2) The director shall prescribe and provide suitable forms requisite or deemed necessary for the purposes of this chapter. [1963 c 169 § 3.]

**46.29.040 Court review.** Any order of the director under the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to review, at the instance of any party in interest, by appeal to the superior court of Thurston county, or at his or her option to the superior court of the county of his or her residence. The scope of such review shall be limited to that prescribed by RCW 7.16.120 governing review by certiorari. Notice of appeal must be filed within thirty days after service of the notice of such order. The court shall determine whether the filing of the appeal shall operate as a stay of any such order of the director. Upon the filing the notice of appeal the court shall issue an order to the director to show cause why the order should not be reversed or modified. The order to show cause shall be returnable not less than ten nor more than thirty days after the date of service thereof upon the director. The court after hearing the matter may modify, affirm, or reverse the order of the director in whole or in part. [2010 c 8 § 9027; 1998 c 41 § 7; 1963 c 169 § 4.]

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—1998 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.265.

**46.29.050 Furnishing driving record and evidence of ability to respond in damages—Fees. (Effective until October 1, 2012.)** (1) The department shall upon request furnish any person or his or her attorney a certified abstract of his or her driving record, which abstract shall include enumeration of any motor vehicle accidents in which such person has been involved. Such abstract shall (a) indicate the total number of vehicles involved, whether the vehicles were

legally parked or moving, and whether the vehicles were occupied at the time of the accident; and (b) contain reference to any convictions of the person for violation of the motor vehicle laws as reported to the department, reference to any findings that the person has committed a traffic infraction which have been reported to the department, and a record of any vehicles registered in the name of the person. The department shall collect for each abstract the sum of ten dollars, fifty percent of which shall be deposited in the highway safety fund and fifty percent of which must be deposited according to RCW 46.68.038.

(2) The department shall upon request furnish any person who may have been injured in person or property by any motor vehicle, with an abstract of all information of record in the department pertaining to the evidence of the ability of any driver or owner of any motor vehicle to respond in damages. The department shall collect for each abstract the sum of ten dollars, fifty percent of which shall be deposited in the highway safety fund and fifty percent of which must be deposited according to RCW 46.68.038. [2010 c 8 § 9028; 2007 c 424 § 2; 2002 c 352 § 19; 1987 1st ex.s. c 9 § 1; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 10; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 63; 1969 ex.s. c 40 § 1; 1967 c 174 § 1; 1963 c 169 § 5.]

**Effective date—2007 c 424:** See note following RCW 46.20.293.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

*Abstract of driving record furnished to insurance company: RCW 46.52.130.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.29.050 Furnishing driving record and evidence of ability to respond in damages—Fees. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** (1) The department shall upon request furnish any person or his or her attorney a certified abstract of his or her driving record, which abstract shall include enumeration of any motor vehicle accidents in which such person has been involved. Such abstract shall (a) indicate the total number of vehicles involved, whether the vehicles were legally parked or moving, and whether the vehicles were occupied at the time of the accident; and (b) contain reference to any convictions of the person for violation of the motor vehicle laws as reported to the department, reference to any findings that the person has committed a traffic infraction which have been reported to the department, and a record of any vehicles registered in the name of the person. The department shall collect for each abstract the sum of thirteen dollars, fifty percent of which shall be deposited in the highway safety fund and fifty percent of which must be deposited according to RCW 46.68.038.

(2) The department shall upon request furnish any person who may have been injured in person or property by any motor vehicle, with an abstract of all information of record in the department pertaining to the evidence of the ability of any driver or owner of any motor vehicle to respond in damages. The department shall collect for each abstract the sum of thirteen dollars, fifty percent of which shall be deposited in the highway safety fund and fifty percent of which must be deposited according to RCW 46.68.038. [2012 c 74 § 5; 2010 c 8 § 9028; 2007 c 424 § 2; 2002 c 352 § 19; 1987 1st ex.s. c 9 § 1; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 10; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 63; 1969 ex.s. c 40 § 1; 1967 c 174 § 1; 1963 c 169 § 5.]



**Effective date—2012 c 74 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.17.100.

**Effective date—2007 c 424:** See note following RCW 46.20.293.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

*Abstract of driving record furnished to insurance company:* RCW 46.52.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## SECURITY FOLLOWING ACCIDENT

### **46.29.060 Application of sections requiring deposit of security and suspensions for failure to deposit security.**

The provisions of this chapter, requiring deposit of security and suspensions for failure to deposit security, subject to certain exemptions, shall apply to the driver and owner of any vehicle of a type subject to registration under the motor vehicle laws of this state which is in any manner involved in an accident within this state, which accident has resulted in bodily injury or death of any person or damage to the property of any one person to an apparent extent equal to or greater than the minimum amount established by rule adopted by the director. The director shall adopt rules establishing the property damage threshold at which the provisions of this chapter apply with respect to the deposit of security and suspensions for failure to deposit security. Beginning October 1, 1987, the property damage threshold shall be five hundred dollars. The thresholds shall be revised when necessary, but not more frequently than every two years. The revisions shall only be for the purpose of recognizing economic changes as reflected by an inflationary index recommended by the office of financial management. The revisions shall be guided by the change in the index for the time period since the last revision and by the threshold established by the chief of the Washington state patrol for the filing of accident reports as provided in RCW 46.52.030. [1987 c 463 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 369 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 22 § 2; 1963 c 169 § 6.]

**46.29.070 Department to determine amount of security required—Notices.** (1) The department, not less than twenty days after receipt of a report of an accident as described in the preceding section, shall determine the amount of security which shall be sufficient in its judgment to satisfy any judgment or judgments for damages resulting from such accident as may be recovered against each driver or owner. Such determination shall not be made with respect to drivers or owners who are exempt under succeeding sections of this chapter from the requirements as to security and suspension.

(2) The department shall determine the amount of security deposit required of any person upon the basis of the reports or other information submitted. In the event a person involved in an accident as described in this chapter fails to make a report or submit information indicating the extent of his or her injuries or the damage to his or her property within one hundred eighty days after the accident and the department does not have sufficient information on which to base an evaluation of such injuries or damage, then the department after reasonable notice to such person, if it is possible to give such notice, otherwise without such notice, shall not require any deposit of security for the benefit or protection of such person.

(3) The department after receipt of report of any accident referred to herein and upon determining the amount of security to be required of any person involved in such accident or to be required of the owner of any vehicle involved in such accident shall give written notice to every such person of the amount of security required to be deposited by him or her and that an order of suspension will be made as hereinafter provided not less than twenty days and not more than sixty days after the sending of such notice unless within said time security be deposited as required by said notice. [2010 c 8 § 9029; 1981 c 309 § 1; 1979 c 78 § 1; 1963 c 169 § 7.]

*Proof of financial security for the future required in addition to security after accident:* RCW 46.29.420.

### **46.29.080 Exceptions as to requirement of security.**

The requirements as to security and suspension in this chapter shall not apply:

(1) To the driver or owner if the owner had in effect at the time of the accident an automobile liability policy or bond with respect to the vehicle involved in the accident, except that a driver shall not be exempt under this subsection if at the time of the accident the vehicle was being operated without the owner's permission, express or implied;

(2) To the driver, if not the owner of the vehicle involved in the accident, if there was in effect at the time of the accident an automobile liability policy or bond with respect to his or her driving of vehicles not owned by him or her;

(3) To the driver, if not the owner of the vehicle involved in the accident, if there was in effect at the time of the accident an automobile liability policy or bond as to which there is a bona fide dispute concerning coverage of such driver as evidenced by the pendency of litigation seeking a declaration of said driver's coverage under such policy or bond;

(4) To the driver, whether or not the owner, if there is a bona fide claim on the part of the driver that there was in effect at the time of the accident, an automobile liability policy or bond insuring or covering such driver;

(5) To any person qualifying as a self-insurer under RCW 46.29.630 or to any person operating a vehicle for such self-insurer;

(6) To the driver or the owner of a vehicle involved in an accident wherein no injury or damage was caused to the person or property of anyone other than such driver or owner;

(7) To the driver or owner of a vehicle which at the time of the accident was parked, unless such vehicle was parked at a place where parking was at the time of the accident prohibited under any applicable law or ordinance;

(8) To the owner of a vehicle if at the time of the accident the vehicle was being operated without his or her permission, express or implied, or was parked by a person who had been operating such vehicle without such permission, except if the vehicle was operated by his or her minor child or spouse;

(9) To the owner of a vehicle involved in an accident if at the time of the accident such vehicle was owned by or leased to the United States, this state or any political subdivision of this state or a municipality thereof, or to the driver of such vehicle if operating such vehicle with permission; or

(10) To the driver or the owner of a vehicle in the event at the time of the accident the vehicle was being operated by or under the direction of a police officer who, in the performance of his or her duties, shall have assumed custody of

such vehicle. [2010 c 8 § 9030; 1965 c 124 § 1; 1963 c 169 § 8.]

**46.29.090 Requirements as to policy or bond.** (1) No policy or bond is effective under RCW 46.29.080 unless issued by an insurance company or surety company authorized to do business in this state, except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, nor unless such policy or bond is subject, if the accident has resulted in bodily injury or death, to a limit, exclusive of interest and costs, of not less than twenty-five thousand dollars because of bodily injury to or death of one person in any one accident and, subject to said limit for one person, to a limit of not less than fifty thousand dollars because of bodily injury to or death of two or more persons in any one accident, and if the accident has resulted in injury to, or destruction of, property to a limit of not less than ten thousand dollars because of injury to or destruction of property of others in any one accident.

(2) No policy or bond is effective under RCW 46.29.080 with respect to any vehicle which was not registered in this state or was a vehicle which was registered elsewhere than in this state at the effective date of the policy or bond or the most recent renewal thereof, unless the insurance company or surety company issuing such policy or bond is authorized to do business in this state, or if said company is not authorized to do business in this state, unless it executes a power of attorney authorizing the director of licensing to accept service on its behalf of notice or process in any action upon such policy or bond arising out of such accident.

(3) The department may rely upon the accuracy of the information in a required report of an accident as to the existence of insurance or a bond unless and until the department has reason to believe that the information is erroneous. [1980 c 117 § 3; 1979 c 158 § 155; 1967 ex.s. c 3 § 1; 1963 c 169 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.29.100 Form and amount of security.** (1) The security required under this chapter shall be in such form and in such amount as the department may require, but in no case in excess of the limits specified in RCW 46.29.090 in reference to the acceptable limits of a policy or bond.

(2) Every depositor of security shall designate in writing every person in whose name such deposit is made and may at any time change such designation, but any single deposit of security shall be applicable only on behalf of persons required to furnish security because of the same accident. [1963 c 169 § 10.]

**46.29.110 Failure to deposit security—Suspensions.** If a person required to deposit security under this chapter fails to deposit such security within sixty days after the department has sent the notice as hereinbefore provided, the department shall thereupon suspend:

(1) The driver's license of each driver in any manner involved in the accident;

(2) The driver's license of the owner of each vehicle of a type subject to registration under the laws of this state involved in the accident;

(3) If the driver or owner is a nonresident, the privilege of operating within this state a vehicle of a type subject to registration under the laws of this state.

Such suspensions shall be made in respect to persons required by the department to deposit security who fail to deposit such security except as otherwise provided under succeeding sections of this chapter. [1990 c 250 § 51; 1987 c 378 § 1; 1967 c 32 § 37; 1963 c 169 § 11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.29.120 Release from liability.** (1) A person shall be relieved from the requirement for deposit of security for the benefit or protection of another person injured or damaged in the accident in the event he or she is released from liability by such other person.

(2) In the event the department has evaluated the injuries or damage to any minor the department may accept, for the purposes of this chapter only, evidence of a release from liability executed by a natural guardian or a legal guardian on behalf of such minor without the approval of any court or judge. [2010 c 8 § 9031; 1965 c 124 § 2; 1963 c 169 § 12.]

**46.29.130 Adjudication of nonliability.** A person shall be relieved from the requirement for deposit of security in respect to a claim for injury or damage arising out of the accident in the event such person has been finally adjudicated not to be liable in respect to such claim. [1963 c 169 § 13.]

**46.29.140 Agreements for payment of damages.** (1) Any two or more of the persons involved in or affected by an accident as described in RCW 46.29.060 may at any time enter into a written agreement for the payment of an agreed amount with respect to all claims of any of such persons because of bodily injury to or death or property damage arising from such accident, which agreement may provide for payment in installments, and may file a signed copy thereof with the department.

(2) The department, to the extent provided by any such written agreement filed with it, shall not require the deposit of security and shall terminate any prior order of suspension, or, if security has previously been deposited, the department shall immediately return such security to the depositor or his or her personal representative.

(3) In the event of a default in any payment under such agreement and upon notice of such default the department shall take action suspending the license of such person in default as would be appropriate in the event of failure of such person to deposit security when required under this chapter.

(4) Such suspension shall remain in effect and such license shall not be restored unless and until:

(a) Security is deposited as required under this chapter in such amount as the department may then determine,

(b) When, following any such default and suspension, the person in default has paid the balance of the agreed amount,

(c) When, following any such default and suspension, the person in default has resumed installment payments under an agreement acceptable to the creditor, or

(d) Three years have elapsed following the accident and evidence satisfactory to the department has been filed with it that during such period no action at law upon such agreement

has been instituted and is pending. [2010 c 8 § 9032; 1981 c 309 § 2; 1963 c 169 § 14.]

**46.29.150 Payment upon judgment.** The payment of a judgment arising out of an accident or the payment upon such judgment of an amount equal to the maximum amount which could be required for deposit under this chapter shall, for the purposes of this chapter, release the judgment debtor from the liability evidenced by such judgment. [1963 c 169 § 15.]

**46.29.160 Termination of security requirement.** The department, if satisfied as to the existence of any fact which under RCW 46.29.120, 46.29.130, 46.29.140 or 46.29.150 would entitle a person to be relieved from the security requirements of this chapter, shall not require the deposit of security by the person so relieved from such requirement, or if security has previously been deposited by such person, the department shall immediately return such deposit to such person or to his or her personal representative. [2010 c 8 § 9033; 1963 c 169 § 16.]

**46.29.170 Duration of suspension.** Unless a suspension is terminated under other provisions of this chapter, any order of suspension by the department under this chapter shall remain in effect and no license shall be renewed for or issued to any person whose license is so suspended until:

(1) Such person shall deposit or there shall be deposited on his or her behalf the security required under this chapter, or

(2) Three years have elapsed following the date of the accident resulting in such suspension and evidence satisfactory to the department has been filed with it that during such period no action for damages arising out of the accident resulting in such suspension has been instituted.

An affidavit of the applicant that no action at law for damages arising out of the accident has been filed against him or her or, if filed, that it is not still pending shall be prima facie evidence of that fact. The department may take whatever steps are necessary to verify the statement set forth in any said affidavit. [2010 c 8 § 9034; 1981 c 309 § 3; 1963 c 169 § 17.]

**46.29.180 Application to nonresidents, unlicensed drivers, unregistered vehicles, and accidents in other states.** (1) In case the driver or the owner of a vehicle of a type subject to registration under the laws of this state involved in an accident within this state has no driver's license in this state, then such driver shall not be allowed a driver's license until he or she has complied with the requirements of this chapter to the same extent that would be necessary if, at the time of the accident, he or she had held a license or been the owner of a vehicle registered in this state.

(2) When a nonresident's driving privilege is suspended pursuant to RCW 46.29.110, the department shall transmit a certified copy of the record or abstract of such action to the official in charge of the issuance of licenses and registration certificates in the state in which such nonresident resides, if the law of such other state provided for action in relation thereto similar to that provided for in subsection (3) of this section.

(3) Upon receipt of such certification that the driving privilege of a resident of this state has been suspended or revoked in any such other state pursuant to a law providing for its suspension or revocation for failure to deposit security for the payment of judgments arising out of a motor vehicle accident, under circumstances which would require the department to suspend a nonresident's driving privilege had the accident occurred in this state, the department shall suspend the license of such resident. Such suspension shall continue until such resident furnishes evidence of his or her compliance with the law of such other state relating to the deposit of such security. [2010 c 8 § 9035; 1967 c 32 § 38; 1963 c 169 § 18.]

**46.29.190 Authority of department to decrease amount of security.** The department may reduce the amount of security ordered in any case if in its judgment the amount ordered is excessive. In case the security originally ordered has been deposited, the excess deposit over the reduced amount ordered shall be returned to the depositor or his or her personal representative forthwith. [2010 c 8 § 9036; 1965 c 124 § 3; 1963 c 169 § 19.]

**46.29.200 Correction of action by department.** Whenever the department has taken any action or has failed to take any action under this chapter by reason of having received erroneous information, then upon receiving correct information within three years after the date of an accident the department shall take appropriate action to carry out the purposes and effect of this chapter. The foregoing, however, shall not be deemed to require the department to reevaluate the amount of any deposit required under this chapter. [1967 c 61 § 1; 1965 c 124 § 4; 1963 c 169 § 20.]

**46.29.210 Custody of security.** The department shall place any security deposited with it under this chapter in the custody of the state treasurer. [1963 c 169 § 21.]

**46.29.220 Disposition of security.** (1) Such security shall be applicable and available only:

(a) For the payment of any settlement agreement covering any claim arising out of the accident upon instruction of the person who made the deposit, or

(b) For the payment of a judgment or judgments, rendered against the person required to make the deposit, for damages arising out of the accident in an action at law begun not later than three years after the date of the accident.

(2) Every distribution of funds from the security deposits shall be subject to the limits of the department's evaluation on behalf of a claimant. [1981 c 309 § 4; 1963 c 169 § 22.]

**46.29.230 Return of deposit.** Upon the expiration of three years from the date of the accident resulting in the security requirement, any security remaining on deposit shall be returned to the person who made such deposit or to his or her personal representative if an affidavit or other evidence satisfactory to the department has been filed with it:

(1) That no action for damages arising out of the accident for which deposit was made is pending against any person on whose behalf the deposit was made, and

(2) That there does not exist any unpaid judgment rendered against any such person in such an action.

The foregoing provisions of this section shall not be construed to limit the return of any deposit of security under any other provision of this chapter authorizing such return. [2010 c 8 § 9037; 1981 c 309 § 5; 1963 c 169 § 23.]

#### **46.29.240 Certain matters not evidence in civil suits.**

The report required following an accident, the action taken by the department pursuant to this chapter, the findings, if any, of the department upon which such action is based, and the security filed as provided in this chapter, shall not be referred to in any way, and shall not be any evidence of the negligence or due care of either party, at the trial of any action at law to recover damages. [1963 c 169 § 24.]

### PROOF OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FUTURE

**46.29.250 Application of sections requiring deposit of proof of financial responsibility for the future.** The provisions of this chapter requiring the deposit of proof of financial responsibility for the future, subject to certain exemptions, shall apply with respect to persons who have been convicted of or forfeited bail for certain offenses under motor vehicle laws, or who have failed to pay judgments upon causes of action arising out of ownership, maintenance or use of vehicles of a type subject to registration under the laws of this state, or who having driven or owned a vehicle involved in an accident are required to deposit security under the provisions of RCW 46.29.070. [1963 c 169 § 25.]

**46.29.260 "Proof of financial responsibility for the future" defined.** The term "proof of financial responsibility for the future" as used in this chapter means: Proof of ability to respond in damages for liability, on account of accidents occurring subsequent to the effective date of said proof, arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of a vehicle of a type subject to registration under the laws of this state, in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars because of bodily injury to or death of one person in any one accident, and, subject to said limit for one person, in the amount of fifty thousand dollars because of bodily injury to or death of two or more persons in any one accident, and in the amount of ten thousand dollars because of injury to or destruction of property of others in any one accident. Wherever used in this chapter the terms "proof of financial responsibility" or "proof" shall be synonymous with the term "proof of financial responsibility for the future." [1980 c 117 § 4; 1967 ex.s. c 3 § 2; 1963 c 169 § 26.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.29.270 "Judgment," "state" defined.** The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall, for the purpose of this chapter, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section.

(1) The term "judgment" shall mean: Any judgment which shall have become final by expiration without appeal of the time within which an appeal might have been perfected, or by final affirmation on appeal, rendered by a court of competent jurisdiction of any state or of the United States,

upon a cause of action arising out of the ownership, maintenance or use of any vehicle of a type subject to registration under the laws of this state, for damages, including damages for care and loss of services, because of bodily injury to or death of any person, or for damages because of injury to or destruction of property, including the loss of use thereof, or upon a cause of action on an agreement of settlement for such damages. The first page of a judgment must include a judgment summary that states damages are awarded under this section and the clerk of the court must give notice as outlined in RCW 46.29.310.

(2) The term "state" shall mean: Any state, territory, or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, or any province of the Dominion of Canada. [1999 c 296 § 2; 1963 c 169 § 27.]

**46.29.280 Suspension continues until proof furnished.** Whenever, under any law of this state, the license of any person is suspended or revoked by reason of a conviction, forfeiture of bail, or finding that a traffic infraction has been committed, the suspension or revocation hereinbefore required shall remain in effect and the department shall not issue to such person any new or renewal of license until permitted under the motor vehicle laws of this state, and not then unless and until such person shall give and thereafter maintain proof of financial responsibility for the future. Upon receiving notice of the termination or cancellation of proof of financial responsibility for the future, the department shall resuspend or revoke the person's driving privilege until the person again gives and thereafter maintains proof of financial responsibility for the future. [1985 c 157 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 64; 1963 c 169 § 28.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.29.290 Action in respect to unlicensed person.** If a person has no license, but by final order or judgment is convicted of or forfeits any bail or collateral deposited to secure an appearance for trial for any offense requiring the suspension or revocation of license, no license shall be thereafter issued to such person unless he or she shall give and thereafter maintain proof of financial responsibility for the future. [2010 c 8 § 9038; 1965 c 124 § 5; 1963 c 169 § 29.]

**46.29.300 Action in respect to nonresidents.** Whenever the department suspends or revokes a nonresident's driving privilege by reason of a conviction, forfeiture of bail, or finding that a traffic infraction has been committed such privilege shall remain so suspended or revoked unless such person shall have previously given or shall immediately give and thereafter maintain proof of financial responsibility for the future. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 65; 1967 c 32 § 39; 1963 c 169 § 30.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.29.310 When courts to report nonpayment of judgments.** Whenever any person fails within thirty days to satisfy any judgment, then it shall be the duty of the clerk of the court, or of the judge of a court which has no clerk, in which any such judgment is rendered within this state to forward immediately to the department the following:

(1) A certified copy or abstract of such judgment;

(2) A certificate of facts relative to such judgment;

(3) Where the judgment is by default, a certified copy or abstract of that portion of the record which indicates the manner in which service of summons was effectuated and all the measures taken to provide the defendant with timely and actual notice of the suit against him or her. [2010 c 8 § 9039; 1969 ex.s. c 44 § 1; 1963 c 169 § 31.]

**46.29.320 Further action with respect to nonresidents.** If the defendant named in any certified copy or abstract of a judgment reported to the department is a nonresident, the department shall transmit those certificates furnished to it under RCW 46.29.310 to the official in charge of the issuance of licenses and registrations of the state of which the defendant is a resident. [1969 ex.s. c 44 § 2; 1963 c 169 § 32.]

**46.29.330 Suspension for nonpayment of judgments.** The department upon receipt of the certificates provided for by RCW 46.29.310, on a form provided by the department, shall forthwith suspend the license and any nonresident's driving privilege of any person against whom such judgment was rendered, except as otherwise provided in this chapter. [1990 c 250 § 52; 1969 ex.s. c 44 § 3; 1967 c 32 § 40; 1963 c 169 § 33.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.29.340 Exception in relation to government vehicles.** The provisions of RCW 46.29.330 shall not apply with respect to any such judgment arising out of an accident caused by the ownership or operation, with permission, of a vehicle owned or leased to the United States, this state or any political subdivision of this state or a municipality thereof. [1963 c 169 § 34.]

**46.29.350 Exception when consent granted by judgment creditor.** If the judgment creditor consents in writing, in such form as the department may prescribe, that the judgment debtor be allowed a license or nonresident's driving privilege, the same may be allowed by the department, in its discretion, for six months from the date of such consent and thereafter until such consent is revoked in writing, notwithstanding default in the payment of such judgment, or of any installments thereof prescribed in RCW 46.29.400, provided the judgment debtor furnishes proof of financial responsibility. [1967 c 32 § 41; 1963 c 169 § 35.]

**46.29.360 Exception when insurer liable.** No license or nonresident's driving privilege of any person shall be suspended under the provisions of this chapter if the department shall find that an insurer was obligated to pay the judgment upon which suspension is based, at least to the extent and for the amounts required in this chapter, but has not paid such judgment for any reason. A finding by the department that an insurer is obligated to pay a judgment shall not be binding upon such insurer and shall have no legal effect whatever except for the purpose of administering this section. If the department finds that no insurer is obligated to pay such a judgment, the judgment debtor may file with the department a written notice of his or her intention to contest such finding by an action in the superior court. In such a case the license

or the nonresident's driving privilege of such judgment debtor shall not be suspended by the department under the provisions of this chapter for thirty days from the receipt of such notice nor during the pendency of any judicial proceedings brought in good faith to determine the liability of an insurer so long as the proceedings are being diligently prosecuted to final judgment by such judgment debtor. Whenever in any judicial proceedings it shall be determined by any final judgment, decree, or order that an insurer is not obligated to pay any such judgment, the department, notwithstanding any contrary finding theretofore made by it, shall forthwith suspend the license and any nonresident's driving privilege of any person against whom such judgment was rendered, as provided in RCW 46.29.330. [2010 c 8 § 9040; 1967 c 32 § 42; 1963 c 169 § 36.]

**46.29.370 Suspension continues until judgments paid and proof given.** Such license and nonresident's driving privilege shall remain so suspended and shall not be renewed, nor shall any such license be thereafter issued in the name of such person, including any such person not previously licensed, unless and until every such judgment is stayed, satisfied in full or to the extent hereinafter provided and until the said person gives proof of financial responsibility subject to the exemptions stated in RCW 46.29.350, 46.29.360 and 46.29.400. [1967 c 32 § 43; 1963 c 169 § 37.]

**46.29.390 Payments sufficient to satisfy requirements.** (1) Judgments herein referred to are, for the purpose of this chapter only, deemed satisfied:

(a) When twenty-five thousand dollars has been credited upon any judgment or judgments rendered in excess of that amount because of bodily injury to or death of one person as the result of any one accident; or

(b) When, subject to such limit of twenty-five thousand dollars because of bodily injury to or death of one person, the sum of fifty thousand dollars has been credited upon any judgment or judgments rendered in excess of that amount because of bodily injury to or death of two or more persons as the result of any one accident; or

(c) When ten thousand dollars has been credited upon any judgment or judgments rendered in excess of that amount because of injury to or destruction of property of others as a result of any one accident.

(2) Payments made in settlements of any claims because of bodily injury, death, or property damage arising from such accident shall be credited in reduction of the amounts provided for in this section. [1980 c 117 § 5; 1979 c 61 § 14; 1967 ex.s. c 3 § 3; 1963 c 169 § 39.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.29.400 Installment payment of judgments—Default.** (1) A judgment debtor upon due notice to the judgment creditor may apply to the court in which such judgment was rendered for the privilege of paying such judgment in installments and the court, in its discretion and without prejudice to any other legal remedies which the judgment creditor may have, may so order and fix the amounts and times of payment of the installments.

(2) The department shall not suspend a license or nonresident's driving privilege, and shall restore any license or non-

resident's driving privilege suspended following nonpayment of a judgment, when the judgment debtor gives proof of financial responsibility and obtain such an order permitting the payment of such judgment in installments, and while the payment of any said installments is not in default. [1967 c 32 § 44; 1963 c 169 § 40.]

**46.29.410 Action if breach of agreement.** In the event the judgment debtor fails to pay any installment as specified by such order, then upon notice of such default, the department shall forthwith suspend the license or nonresident's driving privilege of the judgment debtor until such judgment is satisfied, as provided in this chapter. [1967 c 32 § 45; 1963 c 169 § 41.]

**46.29.420 Proof required in addition to deposit of security after accident.** Any person required to deposit security under RCW 46.29.070, for the benefit or protection of another person injured or damaged in an accident, shall in addition be required to give proof of financial responsibility for the future. The department shall give written notice of such additional requirement to every such person at the time and in the manner provided in RCW 46.29.070 for giving notice of the requirement for security. [1963 c 169 § 42.]

**46.29.430 Additional proof required—Suspension or revocation for failure to give proof.** If a person required to give proof of financial responsibility under RCW 46.29.420 fails to give such proof within sixty days after the department has sent notice as hereinbefore provided, the department shall suspend, or continue in effect any existing suspension or revocation of, the license or any nonresident's driving privilege of the person. [1990 c 250 § 53; 1987 c 371 § 1; 1967 c 32 § 46; 1963 c 169 § 43.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.29.440 Additional proof required—Suspension to continue until proof given and maintained.** Such license or nonresident's driving privilege shall remain so suspended and shall not be renewed, nor shall any such license be thereafter issued in the name of such person, including any such person not previously licensed, unless and until such person shall give and thereafter maintain proof of financial responsibility for the future. The furnishing of such proof shall permit such person to operate only a motor vehicle covered by such proof. The department shall endorse appropriate restrictions on the license held by such person or may issue a new license containing such restrictions. [1967 c 32 § 47; 1965 c 124 § 6; 1963 c 169 § 44.]

**46.29.450 Alternate methods of giving proof.** Proof of financial responsibility when required under this chapter, with respect to such a vehicle or with respect to a person who is not the owner of such a vehicle, may be given by filing:

- (1) A certificate of insurance as provided in RCW 46.29.460 or 46.29.470;
- (2) A bond as provided in RCW 46.29.520;
- (3) A certificate of deposit of money or securities as provided in RCW 46.29.550; or
- (4) A certificate of self-insurance, as provided in RCW 46.29.630, supplemented by an agreement by the self-insurer

that, with respect to accidents occurring while the certificate is in force, he or she will pay the same amounts that an insurer would have been obliged to pay under an owner's motor vehicle liability policy if it had issued such a policy to said self-insurer. [2010 c 8 § 9041; 1963 c 169 § 45.]

**46.29.460 Certificate of insurance as proof.** Proof of financial responsibility for the future may be furnished by filing with the department the written certificate of any insurance carrier duly authorized to do business in this state certifying that there is in effect a motor vehicle liability policy for the benefit of the person required to furnish proof of financial responsibility. Such certificate shall give the effective date of such motor vehicle liability policy, which date shall be the same as the effective date of the certificate, and shall designate by explicit description or by appropriate reference all vehicles covered thereby, unless the policy is issued to a person who is not the owner of a motor vehicle. [1963 c 169 § 46.]

**46.29.470 Certificate furnished by nonresident as proof.** A nonresident may give proof of financial responsibility by filing with the department a written certificate or certificates of an insurance carrier authorized to transact business in the state in which the vehicle, or vehicles, owned by such nonresident is registered, or in the state in which such nonresident resides, if he or she does not own a vehicle, provided such certificate otherwise conforms with the provisions of this chapter, and the department shall accept the same upon condition that said insurance carrier complies with the following provisions with respect to the policies so certified:

(1) Said insurance carrier shall execute a power of attorney authorizing the director to accept service on its behalf of notice or process in any action arising out of a motor vehicle accident in this state;

(2) Said insurance carrier shall agree in writing that such policies shall be deemed to conform with the laws of this state relating to the terms of motor vehicle liability policies issued therein. [2010 c 8 § 9042; 1963 c 169 § 47.]

**46.29.480 Default by nonresident insurer.** If any insurance carrier not authorized to transact business in this state, which has qualified to furnish proof of financial responsibility, defaults in any said undertakings or agreements, the department shall not thereafter accept as proof any certificate of said carrier whether theretofore filed or thereafter tendered as proof, so long as such default continues. [1963 c 169 § 48.]

**46.29.490 "Motor vehicle liability policy" defined.** (1) Certification. A "motor vehicle liability policy" as said term is used in this chapter means an "owner's policy" or an "operator's policy" of liability insurance, certified as provided in RCW 46.29.460 or 46.29.470 as proof of financial responsibility for the future, and issued, except as otherwise provided in RCW 46.29.470, by an insurance carrier duly authorized to transact business in this state, to or for the benefit of the person named in the policy as insured.

(2) Owner's policy. Such owner's policy of liability insurance:

(a) Shall designate by explicit description or by appropriate reference all vehicles with respect to which coverage is to be granted by the policy; and

(b) Shall insure the person named therein and any other person, as insured, using any such vehicle or vehicles with the express or implied permission of such named insured, against loss from the liability imposed by law for damages arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of such vehicle or vehicles within the United States of America or the Dominion of Canada, subject to limits exclusive of interest and costs, with respect to each such vehicle as follows: Twenty-five thousand dollars because of bodily injury to or death of one person in any one accident and, subject to said limit for one person, fifty thousand dollars because of bodily injury to or death of two or more persons in any one accident, and ten thousand dollars because of injury to or destruction of property of others in any one accident.

(3) Operator's policy. Such operator's policy of liability insurance shall insure the person named as insured therein against loss from the liability imposed upon him or her by law for damages arising out of the use by him or her of any motor vehicle not owned by him or her, within the same territorial limits and subject to the same limits of liability as are set forth above with respect to an owner's policy of liability insurance.

(4) Required statements in policies. Such motor vehicle liability policy shall state the name and address of the named insured, the coverage afforded by the policy, the premium charged therefor, the policy period, and the limits of liability, and shall contain an agreement or be endorsed that insurance is provided under the policy in accordance with the coverage defined in this chapter as respects bodily injury and death or property damage, or both, and is subject to all the provisions of this chapter.

(5) Policy need not insure workers' compensation, etc. Such motor vehicle liability policy need not insure any liability under any workers' compensation law nor any liability on account of bodily injury or death of an employee of the insured while engaged in the employment, other than domestic, of the insured, or while engaged in the operation, maintenance, or repair of any such vehicle nor any liability for damage to property owned by, rented to, in charge of, or transported by the insured.

(6) Provisions incorporated in policy. Every motor vehicle liability policy is subject to the following provisions which need not be contained therein:

(a) The liability of the insurance carrier with respect to the insurance required by this chapter becomes absolute whenever injury or damage covered by said motor vehicle liability policy occurs; said policy may not be canceled or annulled as to such liability by any agreement between the insurance carrier and the insured after the occurrence of the injury or damage; no statement made by the insured or on his or her behalf and no violation of said policy defeats or voids said policy.

(b) The satisfaction by the insured of a judgment for such injury or damage shall not be a condition precedent to the right or duty of the insurance carrier to make payment on account of such injury or damage.

(c) The insurance carrier may settle any claim covered by the policy, and if such settlement is made in good faith, the

amount thereof is deductible from the limits of liability specified in subsection (2)(b) of this section.

(d) The policy, the written application therefor, if any, and any rider or endorsement which does not conflict with the provisions of this chapter constitutes the entire contract between the parties.

(7) Excess or additional coverage. Any policy which grants the coverage required for a motor vehicle liability policy may also grant any lawful coverage in excess of or in addition to the coverage specified for a motor vehicle liability policy, and such excess or additional coverage is not subject to the provisions of this chapter. With respect to a policy which grants such excess or additional coverage the term "motor vehicle liability policy" applies only to that part of the coverage which is required by this section.

(8) Reimbursement provision permitted. Any motor vehicle liability policy may provide that the insured shall reimburse the insurance carrier for any payment the insurance carrier would not have been obligated to make under the terms of the policy except for the provisions of this chapter.

(9) Proration of insurance permitted. Any motor vehicle liability policy may provide for the prorating of the insurance thereunder with other valid and collectible insurance.

(10) Multiple policies. The requirements for a motor vehicle liability policy may be fulfilled by the policies of one or more insurance carrier which policies together meet such requirements.

(11) Binders. Any binder issued pending the issuance of a motor vehicle liability policy is deemed to fulfill the requirements for such a policy. [2010 c 8 § 9043; 1980 c 117 § 6; 1967 ex.s. c 3 § 4; 1963 c 169 § 49.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.29.500 Notice of cancellation or termination of certified policy.** When an insurance carrier has certified a motor vehicle liability policy under RCW 46.29.460 or 46.29.470 the insurance so certified shall not be canceled or terminated until at least ten days after a notice of cancellation or termination of the insurance so certified shall be filed in the department, except that such a policy subsequently procured and certified shall, on the effective date of its certification, terminate the insurance previously certified with respect to any vehicle designated in both certificates. [1963 c 169 § 50.]

**46.29.510 Chapter not to affect other policies.** (1) This chapter shall not be held to apply to or affect policies of automobile insurance against liability which may now or hereafter be required by any other law of this state, and such policies, if they contain an agreement or are endorsed to conform with the requirements of this chapter, may be certified as proof of financial responsibility under this chapter.

(2) This chapter shall not be held to apply to or affect policies insuring solely the insured named in the policy against liability resulting from the maintenance or use by persons in the insured's employ or on his or her behalf of vehicles not owned by the insured. [2010 c 8 § 9044; 1963 c 169 § 51.]

**46.29.520 Bond as proof.** Proof of financial responsibility may be evidenced by the bond of a surety company

duly authorized to transact business within this state, or a bond with at least two individual sureties each owning real estate within this state, and together having equities equal in value to at least twice the amount of the bond, which real estate shall be scheduled in the bond approved by a judge of the superior court, which said bond shall be conditioned for payment of the amounts specified in RCW 46.29.260. Such bond shall be filed with the department and shall not be cancellable except after ten days written notice to the department. [1963 c 169 § 52.]

**46.29.530 When bond constitutes a lien.** Before a bond with individual sureties is accepted by the department it shall be recorded as other instruments affecting real property in the county or counties wherein any real estate scheduled in such bond is located. Such bond shall constitute a lien from the date of such recording in favor of the state upon the real estate so scheduled of any surety, which lien shall exist in favor of any holder of a final judgment against the person who has filed such bond, for damages, including damages for care and loss of services, because of bodily injury to or death of any person, or for damage because of injury to or destruction of property, including the loss of use thereof, resulting from the ownership, maintenance, use or operation of a vehicle of a type subject to registration under the laws of this state after such bond was filed. [1963 c 169 § 53.]

**46.29.540 Action on bond.** If a judgment, rendered against the principal on any bond described in RCW 46.29.520, shall not be satisfied within thirty days after it has become final, the judgment creditor may, for his or her own use and benefit and at his or her sole expense, bring an action or actions in the name of the state against the company or persons executing such bond, including an action or proceeding to foreclose any lien that may exist upon the real estate of a person who has executed such bond. Such an action to foreclose a lien shall be prosecuted in the same manner as an action to foreclose a mortgage on real estate. [2010 c 8 § 9045; 1963 c 169 § 54.]

**46.29.550 Money or securities as proof.** Proof of financial responsibility may be evidenced by the certificate of the state treasurer that the person named therein has deposited with him or her sixty thousand dollars in cash, or securities such as may legally be purchased by savings banks or for trust funds of a market value of sixty thousand dollars. The state treasurer shall not accept any such deposit and issue a certificate therefor and the department shall not accept such certificate unless accompanied by evidence that there are no unsatisfied judgments of any character against the depositor in the county where the depositor resides. [2010 c 8 § 9046; 1980 c 117 § 7; 1967 ex.s. c 3 § 5; 1963 c 169 § 55.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.29.560 Application of deposit.** Such deposit shall be held by the state treasurer to satisfy, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, any execution on a judgment issued against such person making the deposit, for damages, including damages for care and loss of services, because of bodily injury to or death of any person, or for damages because of injury to or destruction of property, including the

loss of use thereof, resulting from the ownership, maintenance, use, or operation of a vehicle of a type subject to registration under the laws of this state after such deposit was made. Money or securities so deposited shall not be subject to attachment or execution unless such attachment or execution shall arise out of a suit for damages as aforesaid. Any interest or other income accruing to such money or securities, so deposited, shall be paid by the state treasurer to the depositor, or his or her order, as received. [2010 c 8 § 9047; 1963 c 169 § 56.]

**46.29.570 Owner may give proof for others.** The owner of a motor vehicle may give proof of financial responsibility on behalf of his or her employee or a member of his or her immediate family or household in lieu of the furnishing of proof by any said person. The furnishing of such proof shall permit such person to operate only a motor vehicle covered by such proof. The department shall endorse appropriate restrictions on the license held by such person, or may issue a new license containing such restrictions. [2010 c 8 § 9048; 1963 c 169 § 57.]

**46.29.580 Substitution of proof.** The department shall consent to the cancellation of any bond or certificate of insurance or the department shall direct and the state treasurer shall return any money or securities to the person entitled thereto upon the substitution and acceptance of other adequate proof of financial responsibility pursuant to this chapter. [1963 c 169 § 58.]

**46.29.590 Other proof required, when.** Whenever any proof of financial responsibility filed under the provisions of this chapter no longer fulfills the purposes for which required, the department shall, for the purpose of this chapter, require other proof as required by this chapter and shall suspend the license and registration pending the filing of such other proof. [1963 c 169 § 59.]

**46.29.600 Duration of proof—When proof may be canceled or returned.** (1) The department shall upon request consent to the immediate cancellation of any bond or certificate of insurance, or the department shall direct and the state treasurer shall return to the person entitled thereto any money or securities deposited pursuant to this chapter as proof of financial responsibility, or the department shall waive the requirement of filing proof, in any of the following events:

(a) At any time after three years from the date such proof was required when, during the three-year period preceding the request, the department has not received record of a conviction, forfeiture of bail, or finding that a traffic infraction has been committed which would require or permit the suspension or revocation of the license of the person by or for whom such proof was furnished; or

(b) In the event of the death of the person on whose behalf such proof was filed or the permanent incapacity of such person to operate a motor vehicle; or

(c) In the event the person who has given proof surrenders his or her license to the department.

(2) Provided, however, that the department shall not consent to the cancellation of any bond or the return of any



money or securities in the event any action for damages upon a liability covered by such proof is then pending or any judgment upon any such liability is then unsatisfied, or in the event the person who has filed such bond or deposited such money or securities has within one year immediately preceding such request been involved as a driver or owner in any motor vehicle accident resulting in injury or damage to the person or property of others. An affidavit of the applicant as to the nonexistence of such facts, or that he or she has been released from all of his or her liability, or has been finally adjudicated not to be liable, for such injury or damage, shall be sufficient evidence thereof in the absence of evidence to the contrary in the records of the department.

(3) Whenever any person whose proof has been canceled or returned under subsection (1)(c) of this section applies for a license within a period of three years from the date proof was originally required, any such application shall be refused unless the applicant shall reestablish such proof for the remainder of such three-year period. [2010 c 8 § 9049; 1979 ex. s. c 136 § 66; 1963 c 169 § 60.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### VIOLATIONS

**46.29.605 Suspension of registration, notice—Surrender of license plates—Penalties.** (1) Whenever the involvement in a motor vehicle accident in this state results in the driving privilege of a person being suspended for failure to pay a judgment or deposit security, the department shall suspend the Washington registration of the motor vehicle if the person driving at the time of the accident was also the registered owner of the motor vehicle.

(2) A notice of suspension shall be mailed by first-class mail to the owner's last known address of record in the department and shall be effective notwithstanding the owner's failure to receive the notice.

(3) Upon suspension of the registration of a motor vehicle, the registered owner shall surrender all vehicle license plates registered to the vehicle. The department shall destroy the license plates and, upon reinstatement of the registration, shall issue new vehicle license plates as provided in RCW 46.16A.200(9).

(4) Failure to surrender license plates under subsection (3) of this section is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not less than one day nor more than five days and by a fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more than two hundred fifty dollars.

(5) No vehicle license plates, certificate of title, or registration certificate for a motor vehicle may be issued, and no vehicle registration may be renewed during the time the registration of the motor vehicle is suspended.

(6) Any person who operates a vehicle in this state while the registration of the vehicle is suspended is guilty of a gross misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be imprisoned for not less than two days nor more than five days and fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars. [2010 c 161 § 1114; 1981 c 309 § 6.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.29.610 Surrender of license—Penalty.** (1) Any person whose license shall have been suspended under any provision of this chapter, or whose policy of insurance or bond, when required under this chapter, shall have been canceled or terminated, shall immediately return the license to the department.

(2) Any person willfully failing to return a license as required in subsection (1) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. [1990 c 250 § 54; 1963 c 169 § 61.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.29.620 Forged proof—Penalty.** Any person who shall forge, or, without authority, sign any evidence of proof of financial responsibility for the future, or who files or offers for filing any such evidence of proof knowing or having reason to believe that it is forged or signed without authority, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1963 c 169 § 62.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

#### MISCELLANEOUS

**46.29.630 Self-insurers.** (1) Any person in whose name more than twenty-five vehicles are registered in this state may qualify as a self-insurer by obtaining a certificate of self-insurance issued by the department as provided in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) The department may, in its discretion, upon the application of such a person, issue a certificate of self-insurance when it is satisfied that such person is possessed and will continue to be possessed of ability to pay judgment obtained against such person. Such certificate may be issued authorizing a person to act as a self-insurer for either property damage or bodily injury, or both.

(3) Upon not less than five days' notice and a hearing pursuant to such notice, the department may upon reasonable grounds cancel a certificate of self-insurance. Failure to pay any judgment within thirty days after such judgment shall have become final shall constitute a reasonable ground for the cancellation of a certificate of self-insurance. [1963 c 169 § 63.]

**46.29.640 Chapter not to prevent other process.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as preventing the plaintiff in any action at law from relying for relief upon the other processes provided by law. [1963 c 169 § 64.]

**46.29.900 Construction—1963 c 169.** RCW 46.29.010 through 46.29.640 shall be codified as a single chapter of the Revised Code of Washington. RCW 46.29.010 through 46.29.050 shall be captioned "ADMINISTRATION." RCW 46.29.060 through 46.29.240 shall be captioned "SECURITY FOLLOWING ACCIDENT." RCW 46.29.250 through 46.29.600 shall be captioned "PROOF OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FUTURE." RCW 46.29.610 through 46.29.620 shall be captioned "VIOLATIONS OF THIS CHAPTER." RCW 46.29.630 through 46.29.640 shall be captioned "MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS RELATING TO FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY." Such captions

and subsection headings, as used in this chapter, do not constitute any part of the law. [1963 c 169 § 67.]

**46.29.910 Severability—1963 c 169.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1963 c 169 § 68.]

**46.29.920 Repeals and saving.** Sections 46.24.010 through 46.24.910 and sections 46.28.010 through 46.28.200, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.24.010 through 46.24.910 and RCW 46.28.010 through 46.28.200 are each repealed.

Such repeals shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under the statutes repealed, nor as affecting any proceeding instituted thereunder, nor any rule, regulation or order promulgated thereunder, nor any administrative action taken thereunder. [1963 c 169 § 69.]

### Chapter 46.30 RCW

#### MANDATORY LIABILITY INSURANCE

##### Sections

46.30.010	Legislative intent.
46.30.020	Liability insurance or other financial responsibility required—Violations—Exceptions.
46.30.030	Insurance identification card.
46.30.040	Providing false evidence of financial responsibility—Penalty.
46.30.900	Severability—1989 c 353.
46.30.901	Effective date—1989 c 353.

**46.30.010 Legislative intent.** It is a privilege granted by the state to operate a motor vehicle upon the highways of this state. The legislature recognizes the threat that uninsured drivers are to the people of the state. In order to alleviate the threat posed by uninsured drivers it is the intent of the legislature to require that all persons driving vehicles registered in this state satisfy the financial responsibility requirements of this chapter. By enactment of this chapter it is not the intent of the legislature to modify, amend, or invalidate existing insurance contract terms, conditions, limitations, or exclusions or to preclude insurance companies from using similar terms, conditions, limitations, or exclusions in future contracts. [1989 c 353 § 1.]

**46.30.020 Liability insurance or other financial responsibility required—Violations—Exceptions.** (1)(a) No person may operate a motor vehicle subject to registration under chapter 46.16A RCW in this state unless the person is insured under a motor vehicle liability policy with liability limits of at least the amounts provided in RCW 46.29.090, is self-insured as provided in RCW 46.29.630, is covered by a certificate of deposit in conformance with RCW 46.29.550, or is covered by a liability bond of at least the amounts provided in RCW 46.29.090. Written proof of financial responsibility for motor vehicle operation must be provided on the request of a law enforcement officer in the format specified under RCW 46.30.030.

(b) A person who drives a motor vehicle that is required to be registered in another state that requires drivers and owners of vehicles in that state to maintain insurance or financial

responsibility shall, when requested by a law enforcement officer, provide evidence of financial responsibility or insurance as is required by the laws of the state in which the vehicle is registered.

(c) When asked to do so by a law enforcement officer, failure to display an insurance identification card as specified under RCW 46.30.030 creates a presumption that the person does not have motor vehicle insurance.

(d) Failure to provide proof of motor vehicle insurance is a traffic infraction and is subject to penalties as set by the supreme court under RCW 46.63.110 or community restitution.

(2) If a person cited for a violation of subsection (1) of this section appears in person before the court or a violations bureau and provides written evidence that at the time the person was cited, he or she was in compliance with the financial responsibility requirements of subsection (1) of this section, the citation shall be dismissed and the court or violations bureau may assess court administrative costs of twenty-five dollars at the time of dismissal. In lieu of personal appearance, a person cited for a violation of subsection (1) of this section may, before the date scheduled for the person's appearance before the court or violations bureau, submit by mail to the court or violations bureau written evidence that at the time the person was cited, he or she was in compliance with the financial responsibility requirements of subsection (1) of this section, in which case the citation shall be dismissed without cost, except that the court or violations bureau may assess court administrative costs of twenty-five dollars at the time of dismissal.

(3) The provisions of this chapter shall not govern:

(a) The operation of a motor vehicle registered under \*RCW 46.18.255, governed by RCW 46.16A.170, or registered with the Washington utilities and transportation commission as common or contract carriers; or

(b) The operation of a motorcycle as defined in RCW 46.04.330, a motor-driven cycle as defined in RCW 46.04.332, or a moped as defined in RCW 46.04.304.

(4) RCW 46.29.490 shall not be deemed to govern all motor vehicle liability policies required by this chapter but only those certified for the purposes stated in chapter 46.29 RCW. [2011 c 171 § 76; 2010 c 161 § 1115; 2003 c 221 § 1; 2002 c 175 § 35; 1991 sp.s. c 25 § 1; 1991 c 339 § 24; 1989 c 353 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The reference to RCW 46.18.220 (collector vehicle license plates) was erroneously omitted when amended by 2010 c 161 § 115 and subsequently by 2011 c 171 § 76.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

*Notice of liability insurance requirement: RCW 46.16A.130.*

**46.30.030 Insurance identification card.** (1) Whenever an insurance company issues or renews a motor vehicle liability insurance policy, the company shall provide the policyholder with an identification card as specified by the department of licensing. At the policyholder's request, the

insurer shall provide the policyholder a card for each vehicle covered under the policy.

(2) The department of licensing shall adopt rules specifying the type, style, and content of insurance identification cards to be used for proof of compliance with RCW 46.30.020, including the method for issuance of such identification cards by persons or organizations providing proof of compliance through self-insurance, certificate of deposit, or bond. In adopting such rules the department shall consider the guidelines for insurance identification cards developed by the insurance industry committee on motor vehicle administration. [1989 c 353 § 3.]

**46.30.040 Providing false evidence of financial responsibility—Penalty.** Any person who knowingly provides false evidence of financial responsibility to a law enforcement officer or to a court, including an expired or canceled insurance policy, bond, or certificate of deposit is guilty of a misdemeanor. [1991 sp.s. c 25 § 2; 1989 c 353 § 4.]

**46.30.900 Severability—1989 c 353.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1989 c 353 § 12.]

**46.30.901 Effective date—1989 c 353.** This act shall take effect January 1, 1990. The director of the department of licensing may immediately take such steps as are necessary to ensure that this act is implemented on its effective date. [1989 c 353 § 13.]

## Chapter 46.32 RCW VEHICLE INSPECTION

### Sections

46.32.005	Definitions.
46.32.010	Types of inspection authorized—Duties of state patrol—Penalties.
46.32.020	Rules—Supplies—Assistants—Prioritization of higher risk motor carriers.
46.32.040	Frequency of inspection—High-risk carrier compliance review fee.
46.32.050	Prohibited practices—Penalty.
46.32.060	Moving defective vehicle unlawful—Impounding authorized.
46.32.070	Inspection of damaged vehicle.
46.32.080	Commercial motor vehicle safety enforcement—Application for department of transportation number.
46.32.085	Rules to regulate commercial motor vehicle safety requirements.
46.32.100	Violations—Penalties—Out-of-service orders.
46.32.110	Controlled substances, alcohol.
46.32.120	Application to state and publicly owned vehicles.

**46.32.005 Definitions.** For the purpose of this chapter "commercial motor vehicle" means a self-propelled or towed vehicle used on a highway in interstate or intrastate commerce to transport passengers or property, when the vehicle:

- (1) Has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating or gross weight or gross combination weight of 4,536 kilograms or more (10,001 pounds or more); or
- (2) Is designed or used to transport more than eight passengers, including the driver, for compensation; or

- (3) Is designed or used to transport more than fifteen passengers, including the driver, and is not used to transport passengers for compensation; or

- (4) Is used in transporting materials found by the secretary of transportation to be hazardous under 49 U.S.C. Sec. 5103 and transported in a quantity requiring placarding under regulations prescribed by the secretary under 49 C.F.R., subtitle B, Chapter I, subchapter C.

A recreational vehicle used for noncommercial purposes is not considered a commercial motor vehicle. "Recreational vehicle" includes a vehicle towing a horse trailer for a non-commercial purpose. [2006 c 50 § 2; 1993 c 403 § 1.]

**46.32.010 Types of inspection authorized—Duties of state patrol—Penalties.** (1) The chief of the Washington state patrol may operate, maintain, or designate, throughout the state of Washington, stations for the inspection of commercial motor vehicles, school buses, and private carrier buses, with respect to vehicle equipment, drivers' qualifications, and hours of service and to set reasonable times when inspection of vehicles shall be performed.

(2) The state patrol may inspect a commercial motor vehicle while the vehicle is operating on the public highways of this state with respect to vehicle equipment, hours of service, and driver qualifications.

(3) It is unlawful for any vehicle required to be inspected to be operated over the public highways of this state unless and until it has been approved periodically as to equipment.

(4) Inspections shall be performed by a responsible employee of the chief of the Washington state patrol, who shall be duly authorized and who shall have authority to secure and withhold, with written notice to the director of licensing, the certificate of license registration and license plates of any vehicle found to be defective in equipment so as to be unsafe or unfit to be operated upon the highways of this state, and it shall be unlawful for any person to operate a vehicle placed out of service by an officer unless and until it has been placed in a condition satisfactory to pass a subsequent equipment inspection. The officer in charge of such vehicle equipment inspection shall grant to the operator of such defective vehicle the privilege to move such vehicle to a place for repair under such restrictions as may be reasonably necessary.

(5) In the event any insignia, sticker, or other marker is adopted to be displayed upon vehicles in connection with the inspection of vehicle equipment, it shall be displayed as required by the rules of the chief of the Washington state patrol, and it is a traffic infraction for any person to mutilate, destroy, remove, or otherwise interfere with the display thereof.

(6) It is a traffic infraction for any person to refuse to have his or her motor vehicle examined as required by the chief of the Washington state patrol, or, after having had it examined, to refuse to place an insignia, sticker, or other marker, if issued, upon the vehicle, or fraudulently to obtain any such insignia, sticker, or other marker, or to refuse to place his or her motor vehicle in proper condition after having had it examined, or in any manner, to fail to conform to the provisions of this chapter.

(7) It is a traffic infraction for any person to perform false or improvised repairs, or repairs in any manner not in

accordance with acceptable and customary repair practices, upon a motor vehicle. [2010 c 8 § 9050; 2007 c 419 § 7; 1993 c 403 § 2; 1986 c 123 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 67; 1979 c 158 § 156; 1967 c 32 § 48; 1961 c 12 § 46.32.010. Prior: 1947 c 267 § 1; 1945 c 44 § 1; 1937 c 189 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-7.]

**Findings—Short title—2007 c 419:** See notes following RCW 46.16A.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.32.020 Rules—Supplies—Assistants—Prioritization of higher risk motor carriers.** (1)(a) The chief of the Washington state patrol may adopt reasonable rules regarding types of vehicles to be inspected, inspection criteria, times for the inspection of vehicle equipment, drivers' qualifications, hours of service, and all other matters with respect to the conduct of vehicle equipment and driver inspections.

(b) The chief of the Washington state patrol shall prepare and furnish such stickers, tags, record and report forms, stationery, and other supplies as shall be deemed necessary. The chief of the Washington state patrol is empowered to appoint and employ such assistants as he or she may consider necessary and to fix hours of employment and compensation.

(2) The chief of the Washington state patrol shall use data-driven analysis to prioritize for inspections and compliance reviews those motor carriers whose relative safety fitness identify them as higher risk motor carriers. [2010 c 8 § 9051; 2007 c 419 § 8; 1993 c 403 § 3; 1986 c 123 § 2; 1961 c 12 § 46.32.020. Prior: 1945 c 44 § 2; 1937 c 189 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6360-8.]

**Findings—Short title—2007 c 419:** See notes following RCW 46.16A.010.

**46.32.040 Frequency of inspection—High-risk carrier compliance review fee.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, vehicle equipment inspection shall be at such intervals as required by the chief of the Washington state patrol and shall be made without charge.

(2) When a motor carrier is identified as a high-risk carrier through a data-driven analysis due to formerly or recently identified deficiencies or violations, the fee for each motor carrier compliance review follow-up to ensure those deficiencies or violations have been corrected is two hundred fifty dollars. The fee shall be collected by the Washington state patrol and shall be deposited into the state patrol highway account. This fee applies to motor carriers already identified as a high-risk carrier or a motor carrier that has been reclassified as a high-risk carrier due to recently identified deficiencies or violations. [2007 c 419 § 9; 1986 c 123 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.32.040. Prior: 1945 c 44 § 4; 1937 c 189 § 10; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6360-10.]

**Findings—Short title—2007 c 419:** See notes following RCW 46.16A.010.

**46.32.050 Prohibited practices—Penalty.** It shall be unlawful for any person employed by the chief of the Washington state patrol at any vehicle equipment inspection station, to order, direct, recommend, or influence the correction of vehicle equipment defects by any person or persons whomsoever.

It shall be unlawful for any person employed by the chief of the Washington state patrol while in or about any vehicle equipment inspection station, to perform any repair or adjustment upon any vehicle or any equipment or appliance of any vehicle whatsoever.

It shall be unlawful for any person to solicit in any manner the repair to any vehicle or the adjustment of any equipment or appliance of any vehicle, upon the property of any vehicle equipment inspection station or upon any public highway adjacent thereto.

Violation of the provisions of this section is a traffic infraction. [1986 c 123 § 4; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 68; 1961 c 12 § 46.32.050. Prior: 1945 c 44 § 5; 1937 c 189 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6360-11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.32.060 Moving defective vehicle unlawful—Impounding authorized.** It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or move, or for any owner to cause or permit to be operated or moved upon any public highway, any vehicle or combination of vehicles, which is not at all times equipped in the manner required by this title, or the equipment of which is not in a proper condition and adjustment as required by this title or rules adopted by the chief of the Washington state patrol.

Any vehicle operating upon the public highways of this state and at any time found to be defective in equipment in such a manner that it may be considered unsafe shall be an unlawful vehicle and may be prevented from further operation until such equipment defect is corrected and any peace officer is empowered to impound such vehicle until the same has been placed in a condition satisfactory to vehicle inspection. The necessary cost of impounding any such unlawful vehicle and any cost for the storage and keeping thereof shall be paid by the owner thereof. The impounding of any such vehicle shall be in addition to any penalties for such unlawful operation.

The provisions of this section shall not be construed to prevent the operation of any such defective vehicle to a place for correction of equipment defect in the manner directed by any peace officer or representative of the state patrol. [1987 c 330 § 705; 1986 c 123 § 5; 1961 c 12 § 46.32.060. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 12; RRS § 6360-12.]

*Moving unsafe or noncomplying vehicle:* RCW 46.37.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.32.070 Inspection of damaged vehicle.** If a vehicle required to be inspected becomes damaged or deteriorated in such a manner that such vehicle has become unsafe for operation upon the public highways of this state, it is unlawful for the owner or operator thereof to cause such vehicle to be operated upon a public highway upon its return to service unless such owner or operator presents such vehicle for inspection of equipment within twenty-four hours after its return to service. [1986 c 123 § 6; 1961 c 12 § 46.32.070. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 13; RRS § 6360-13.]

**46.32.080 Commercial motor vehicle safety enforcement—Application for department of transportation number.** (1) The Washington state patrol is responsible for enforcement of safety requirements for commercial motor

vehicles including, but not limited to, safety audits and compliance reviews. Those motor carriers that have operations in this state are subject to the patrol's safety audits and compliance review programs. Compliance reviews may result in the initiation of an enforcement action, which may include monetary penalties. The utilities and transportation commission is responsible for adoption and enforcement of safety requirements for vehicles operated by entities holding authority under chapters 81.66, 81.68, 81.70, and 81.77 RCW, and by household goods carriers holding authority under chapter 81.80 RCW.

(2) Motor vehicles owned and operated by farmers in the transportation of their own farm, orchard, or dairy products, including livestock and plant or animal wastes, from point of production to market or disposal, or supplies or commodities to be used on the farm, orchard, or dairy, must have a department of transportation number, as defined in RCW 46.16A.010, but are exempt from safety audits and compliance reviews.

(3) All records and documents required of motor carriers with operations in this state must be available for review and inspection during normal business hours. Duly authorized agents of the state patrol conducting safety audits and compliance reviews may enter the motor carrier's place of business, or any location where records or equipment are located, at reasonable times and without advanced notice. Motor carriers who do not permit duly authorized agents to enter their place of business, or any location where records or equipment are located, for safety audits and compliance reviews are subject to enforcement action, including a monetary penalty.

(4)(a) All motor carriers with a commercial motor vehicle, as defined in RCW 46.16A.010, that operate in this state must apply for a department of transportation number, as defined in RCW 46.16A.010, by January 1, 2008. All entities with authority under chapters 81.66, 81.68, 81.70, and 81.77 RCW, and all household goods carriers with authority under chapter 81.80 RCW, must apply for a department of transportation number by January 1, 2010.

(b) All motor carriers operating in this state who (i) have not applied under (a) of this subsection for a department of transportation number, as defined in RCW 46.16A.010, and (ii) have a commercial motor vehicle that has a gross vehicle weight rating of 7,258 kilograms (16,001 pounds) or more, must apply for a department of transportation number by January 1, 2011.

(c) The state patrol may deny an application if the applicant does not meet the requirements and standards under this chapter. The state patrol shall not issue a department of transportation number to an applicant who at the time of application has been placed out of service by the federal motor carrier safety administration. Commercial motor vehicles must be marked as prescribed by the state patrol. Those applicants with a current United States department of transportation number are exempt from applying for a department of transportation number.

(d) The state patrol may (i) place a motor carrier out of service or (ii) refuse to issue or recognize as valid a department of transportation number to an applicant who: (A) Formerly held a department of transportation number that was placed out of service for cause, and where cause has not been removed; (B) is a subterfuge for the real party in interest

whose department of transportation number was placed out of service for cause, and where cause has not been removed; (C) as an individual licensee, or officer, director, owner, or managing employee of a nonindividual licensee, had a department of transportation number and was placed out of service for cause, and where cause has not been removed; or (D) has an unsatisfied debt to the state assessed under this chapter.

(e) Upon a finding by the chief of the state patrol or the chief's designee that a motor carrier is an imminent hazard or danger to the public health, safety, or welfare, the state patrol shall notify the department, and the department shall revoke the registrations for all commercial motor vehicles that are owned by the motor carrier subject to RCW 46.32.080. In determining whether a motor carrier is an imminent hazard or danger to the public health, safety, or welfare, the chief or the chief's designee shall consider safety factors. [2011 c 171 § 77; 2009 c 46 § 1; 2007 c 419 § 10; 1995 c 272 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—2007 c 419 § 10:** "Section 10 of this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 11, 2007]." [2007 c 419 § 19.]

**Findings—Short title—2007 c 419:** See notes following RCW 46.16A.010.

**Transfer of powers, duties, and functions:** "(1) All powers, duties, and functions of the utilities and transportation commission pertaining to safety inspections of commercial vehicles, including but not limited to terminal safety audits, except for those carriers subject to the economic regulation of the commission, are transferred to the Washington state patrol.

(2)(a) All reports, documents, surveys, books, records, files, papers, or written material in the possession of the utilities and transportation commission pertaining to the powers, functions, and duties transferred shall be delivered to the custody of the Washington state patrol. All cabinets, furniture, office equipment, motor vehicles, and other tangible property employed by the utilities and transportation commission in carrying out the powers, functions, and duties transferred shall be made available to the Washington state patrol. All funds, credits, or other assets held in connection with the powers, functions, and duties transferred shall be assigned to the Washington state patrol.

(b) Any appropriations made to the utilities and transportation commission for carrying out the powers, functions, and duties transferred shall, on January 1, 1996, be transferred and credited to the Washington state patrol.

(c) Whenever any question arises as to the transfer of any personnel, funds, books, documents, records, papers, files, equipment, or other tangible property used or held in the exercise of the powers and the performance of the duties and functions transferred, the director of financial management shall make a determination as to the proper allocation and certify the same to the state agencies concerned.

(3) All employees of the utilities and transportation commission engaged in performing the powers, functions, and duties transferred are transferred to the jurisdiction of the Washington state patrol. All employees classified under chapter 41.06 RCW, the state civil service law, are assigned to the Washington state patrol to perform their usual duties upon the same terms as formerly, without any loss of rights, subject to any action that may be appropriate thereafter in accordance with the laws and rules governing state civil service. These employees will only be transferred upon successful completion of the Washington state patrol background investigation.

(4) All rules and all pending business before the utilities and transportation commission pertaining to the powers, functions, and duties transferred shall be continued and acted upon by the Washington state patrol. All existing contracts and obligations remain in full force and shall be performed by the Washington state patrol.

(5) The transfer of the powers, duties, functions, and personnel of the utilities and transportation commission does not affect the validity of any act performed before January 1, 1996.

(6) If apportionments of budgeted funds are required because of the transfers directed by this section, the director of financial management shall certify the apportionments to the agencies affected, the state auditor, and the

state treasurer. Each of these shall make the appropriate transfer and adjustments in funds and appropriation accounts and equipment records in accordance with the certification.

(7) Nothing contained in this section alters an existing collective bargaining unit or the provisions of an existing collective bargaining agreement until the agreement has expired or until the bargaining unit has been modified by action of the personnel board as provided by law." [1995 c 272 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.32.085 Rules to regulate commercial motor vehicle safety requirements.** (1) The Washington state patrol, in consultation with the department of licensing, shall adopt rules consistent with this chapter to regulate vehicle safety requirements for motor carriers who own, control, manage, or operate a commercial motor vehicle within this state. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the rules adopted by the state patrol under this section must be as rigorous as federal regulations governing certain interstate motor carriers at 49 C.F.R. Parts 40 and 380 through 397, which cover the areas of commercial motor carrier driver training, controlled substance and alcohol use and testing, compliance with the federal driver's license requirements and penalties, vehicle equipment and safety standards, hazardous material practices, financial responsibility, driver qualifications, hours of service, vehicle inspection and corrective actions, and assessed penalties for noncompliance. The state patrol shall amend these rules periodically to maintain, to the extent permissible under this chapter, standards as rigorous as the federal regulations governing certain interstate motor carriers. The state patrol shall submit a report to the legislature by December 31st of each year that outlines new rules or rule changes and explains how the state rules compare to the federal regulations.

(2) Motor vehicles operated by entities with authority under chapters 81.66, 81.68, 81.70, and 81.77 RCW, and by household goods carriers operating under chapter 81.80 RCW, must comply with rules regulating vehicle safety adopted by the utilities and transportation commission. [2009 c 46 § 2; 2007 c 419 § 14.]

**Findings—Short title—2007 c 419:** See notes following RCW 46.16A.010.

**46.32.100 Violations—Penalties—Out-of-service orders.** (1)(a) In addition to all other penalties provided by law, and except as provided otherwise in (a)(i), (ii), or (iii) of this subsection, a commercial motor vehicle that is subject to compliance reviews under this chapter and an officer, agent, or employee of a company operating a commercial motor vehicle who violates or who procures, aids, or abets in the violation of this title or any order or rule of the state patrol is liable for a penalty of one hundred dollars for each violation.

(i) It is a violation of this chapter for a person operating a commercial motor vehicle to fail to comply with the requirements of 49 C.F.R. Pt. 382, controlled substances and alcohol use and testing, 49 C.F.R. Sec. 391.15, disqualification of drivers, and 49 C.F.R. Sec. 396.9(c)(2), moving a vehicle placed out of service before the out of service defects have been satisfactorily repaired. For each violation the person is liable for a penalty of five hundred dollars.

(ii) The driver of a commercial motor vehicle who is convicted of violating an out-of-service order is liable for a penalty of at least two thousand five hundred dollars for a

first violation, and not less than five thousand dollars for a second or subsequent violation.

(iii) An employer who allows the operation of a commercial motor vehicle when there is an out-of-service order is liable for a penalty of at least two thousand seven hundred fifty dollars but not more than twenty-five thousand dollars for each violation.

(iv) Each violation under this subsection (1)(a) is a separate and distinct offense, and in case of a continuing violation every day's continuance is a separate and distinct violation.

(b) In addition to all other penalties provided by law, any motor carrier, company, or any officer or agent of a motor carrier or company operating a commercial motor vehicle subject to compliance reviews under this chapter who refuses entry or to make the required records, documents, and vehicles available to a duly authorized agent of the state patrol is liable for a penalty of at least five thousand dollars as well as an out-of-service order being placed on the department of transportation number, as defined in RCW 46.16A.010, and vehicle registration to operate. Each violation is a separate and distinct offense, and in case of a continuing violation every day's continuance is a separate and distinct violation.

(c) A motor carrier operating a commercial motor vehicle after receiving a final unsatisfactory rating or being placed out of service is liable for a penalty of not more than eleven thousand dollars for each violation. Each violation is a separate and distinct offense, and in case of a continuing violation every day's continuance is a separate and distinct violation.

(d) A high-risk carrier is liable for double the amount of the penalty of a prior violation if the high-risk carrier repeats the same violation during a follow-up compliance review. Each repeat violation is a separate and distinct offense, and in case of a repeat continuing violation every day's continuance is a separate and distinct violation.

(2) The Washington state patrol may place an out-of-service order on a department of transportation number, as defined in RCW 46.16A.010, for violations of this chapter or for nonpayment of any monetary penalties assessed by the state patrol or the utilities and transportation commission, as a result of compliance reviews, or for violations of cease and desist orders issued by the utilities and transportation commission. The state patrol shall notify the department of licensing when an out-of-service order has been placed on a motor carrier's department of transportation number. The state patrol shall notify the motor carrier when there has been an out-of-service order placed on the motor carrier's department of transportation number and the vehicle registrations have been revoked by sending a notice by first-class mail using the last known address for the registered or legal owner or owners, and recording the transmittal on an affidavit of first-class mail. Notices under this section fulfill the requirements of RCW 46.12.550. Motor carriers may not be eligible for a new department of transportation number, vehicle registration, or temporary permits to operate unless the violations that resulted in the out-of-service order have been corrected. The Washington state patrol or other law enforcement agency must confiscate and may recycle or destroy the license plates from a motor carrier who operates a commercial motor vehicle while the vehicle registration is revoked, suspended, or

canceled. The confiscation of license plates under this subsection only applies to trucks, truck tractors, and tractors.

(3) Any penalty provided in this section is due and payable when the person incurring it receives a notice in writing from the state patrol describing the violation and advising the person that the penalty is due.

(a)(i) Any motor carrier who incurs a penalty as provided in this section, except for a high-risk carrier that incurs a penalty for a repeat violation during a follow-up compliance review, may, upon written application, request that the state patrol mitigate the penalty. An application for mitigation must be received by the state patrol within twenty days of the receipt of notice.

(ii) The state patrol may decline to consider any application for mitigation.

(b) Any motor carrier who incurs a penalty as provided in this section has a right to an administrative hearing under chapter 34.05 RCW to contest the violation or the penalty imposed, or both. In all such hearings, the procedure and rules of evidence are as specified in chapter 34.05 RCW except as otherwise provided in this chapter. Any request for an administrative hearing must be made in writing and must be received by the state patrol within twenty days after the later of (i) receipt of the notice imposing the penalty, or (ii) disposition of a request for mitigation, or the right to a hearing is waived.

(c) All penalties recovered under this section shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the state patrol highway account of the motor vehicle fund. [2012 c 70 § 1; 2011 c 227 § 5; 2010 c 161 § 1116; 2009 c 46 § 4; 2007 c 419 § 12; 2005 c 444 § 1; 1998 c 172 § 1; 1995 c 272 § 3.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Findings—Short title—2007 c 419:** See notes following RCW 46.16A.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.32.110 Controlled substances, alcohol.** A person or employer operating as a motor carrier shall comply with the requirements of the United States department of transportation federal motor carrier safety regulations as contained in Title 49 C.F.R. Part 382, controlled substances and alcohol use and testing. A person or employer who begins or conducts commercial motor vehicle operations without having a controlled substance and alcohol testing program that is in compliance with the requirements of Title 49 C.F.R. Part 382 is subject to a penalty, under the process set forth in RCW 46.32.100, of up to one thousand five hundred dollars and up to an additional five hundred dollars for each motor vehicle driver employed by the person or employer who is not in compliance with the motor vehicle driver testing requirements. A person or employer having actual knowledge that a driver has tested positive for controlled substances or alcohol who allows a positively tested person to continue to perform a safety-sensitive function is subject to a penalty, under the process set forth in RCW 46.32.100, of one thousand five hundred dollars. [1999 c 351 § 5.]

**46.32.120 Application to state and publicly owned vehicles.** This chapter does not apply to vehicles exempted

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from registration by RCW 46.16A.170. [2011 c 171 § 78; 2009 c 46 § 7.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

## Chapter 46.35 RCW

### RECORDING DEVICES IN MOTOR VEHICLES

#### Sections

46.35.010	Definitions.
46.35.020	Disclosure in owner's manual, subscription service agreement, and product manual.
46.35.030	Confidential information—Exceptions—Penalty.
46.35.040	Tools available to access and retrieve information—When.
46.35.050	Application of consumer protection act.

**46.35.010 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Owner" means:

(a) A person having all the incidents of ownership, including legal title, of a motor vehicle, whether or not the person lends, rents, or creates a security interest in the motor vehicle;

(b) A person entitled to the possession of a motor vehicle as the purchaser under a security agreement;

(c) A person entitled to possession of a motor vehicle as a lessee pursuant to a written lease agreement for a period of more than three months; or

(d) If a third party requests access to a recording device to investigate a collision, the owner of the motor vehicle at the time the collision occurred.

(2) "Recording device" means an electronic system, and the physical device or mechanism containing the electronic system, that primarily, or incidental to its primary function, preserves or records, in electronic form, data collected by sensors or provided by other systems within a motor vehicle. "Recording device" includes event data recorders, sensing and diagnostic modules, electronic control modules, automatic crash notification systems, geographic information systems, and any other device that records and preserves data that can be accessed related to that motor vehicle. "Recording device" does not include onboard diagnostic systems whose exclusive function is to capture fault codes used to diagnose or service the motor vehicle. [2009 c 485 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Effective date—2009 c 485:** "Sections 1 through 4 and 6 of this act take effect July 1, 2010." [2009 c 485 § 8.]

**46.35.020 Disclosure in owner's manual, subscription service agreement, and product manual.** (1) A manufacturer of a motor vehicle sold or leased in this state, that is equipped with one or more recording devices, shall disclose in the owner's manual that the motor vehicle is equipped with one or more recording devices and, if so, the type of data recorded and whether the recording device or devices have the ability to transmit information to a central communications system or other external device.

(2) If a recording device is used as part of a subscription service, the subscription service agreement must disclose the type of information that the device may record or transmit.

(3) A disclosure made in writing is deemed a disclosure in the owner’s manual.

(4) If a recording device is to be installed in a vehicle aftermarket, the manufacturer or distributor of the device shall disclose in the product manual the type of information that the device may record and whether the recording device has the ability to transmit information to a central communications system or other external device.

(5) A disclosure made in writing is deemed a disclosure in the product manual. [2009 c 485 § 2.]

Effective date—2009 c 485: See note following RCW 46.35.010.

**46.35.030 Confidential information—Exceptions—Penalty.** (1) Information recorded or transmitted by a recording device may not be retrieved, downloaded, scanned, read, or otherwise accessed by a person other than the owner of the motor vehicle in which the recording device is installed except:

(a) Upon a court order or pursuant to discovery. Any information recorded or transmitted by a recording device and obtained by a court order or pursuant to discovery is private and confidential and is not subject to public disclosure;

(b) With the consent of the owner, given for a specific instance of access, for any purpose;

(c) For improving motor vehicle safety, including medical research on the human body’s reaction to motor vehicle collisions, if the identity of the motor vehicle or the owner or driver of the motor vehicle is not disclosed in connection with the retrieved information;

(d) For determining the need for or facilitating emergency medical response if a motor vehicle collision occurs, provided that the information retrieved is used solely for medical purposes; or

(e) For subscription services pursuant to an agreement in which disclosure required under RCW 46.35.020 has been made, provided that the information retrieved is used solely for the purposes of fulfilling the subscription service.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(c) of this section:

(a) The disclosure of a motor vehicle’s vehicle identification number with the last six digits deleted or redacted is not a disclosure of the identity of the owner or driver; and

(b) Retrieved information may only be disclosed to a data processor.

(3) Information that can be associated with an individual and that is recorded or transmitted by a recording device may not be sold to a third party unless the owner of the information explicitly grants permission for the sale.

(4) Any person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. [2009 c 485 § 3.]

Effective date—2009 c 485: See note following RCW 46.35.010.

**46.35.040 Tools available to access and retrieve information—When.** A manufacturer of a motor vehicle sold or leased in this state that is equipped with a recording device shall ensure by licensing agreement or other means that a tool or tools are available that are capable of accessing and retrieving the information stored in a recording device. The tool or tools must be commercially available no later than ninety days after July 26, 2009. [2009 c 485 § 5.]

**46.35.050 Application of consumer protection act.** The legislature finds that the practices covered by this chapter are matters vitally affecting the public interest for the purpose of applying chapter 19.86 RCW. A violation of this chapter is not reasonable in relation to the development and preservation of business and is an unfair or deceptive act in trade or commerce and an unfair method of competition for the purpose of applying chapter 19.86 RCW. [2009 c 485 § 4.]

Effective date—2009 c 485: See note following RCW 46.35.010.

**Chapter 46.37 RCW  
VEHICLE LIGHTING AND OTHER EQUIPMENT**

Sections

- 46.37.005 State patrol—Additional powers and duties.
- 46.37.010 Scope and effect of regulations—General penalty.
- 46.37.020 When lighted lamps and signaling devices are required.
- 46.37.030 Visibility distance and mounted height of lamps.
- 46.37.040 Head lamps on motor vehicles.
- 46.37.050 Tail lamps.
- 46.37.060 Reflectors.
- 46.37.070 Stop lamps and electric turn signals required.
- 46.37.080 Application of succeeding sections.
- 46.37.090 Additional equipment required on certain vehicles.
- 46.37.100 Color of clearance lamps, side marker lamps, back-up lamps, and reflectors.
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*Emission control program: Chapter 70.120 RCW.*

*Lowering vehicle below legal clearance: RCW 46.61.680.*

*Moving defective vehicle: RCW 46.32.060.*

**46.37.005 State patrol—Additional powers and duties.** In addition to those powers and duties elsewhere granted, the chief of the Washington state patrol shall have the power and the duty to adopt, apply, and enforce such reasonable rules and regulations (1) relating to proper types of vehicles or combinations thereof for hauling passengers, commodities, freight, and supplies, (2) relating to vehicle equipment, and (3) relating to the enforcement of the provisions of this title with regard to vehicle equipment, as may be deemed necessary for the public welfare and safety in addition to but not inconsistent with the provisions of this title.

The chief of the Washington state patrol is authorized to adopt by regulation, federal standards relating to motor vehicles and vehicle equipment, issued pursuant to the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966, or any amendment to said act, notwithstanding any provision in Title 46 RCW inconsistent with such standards. Federal standards adopted pursuant to this section shall be applicable only to vehicles manufactured in a model year following the adoption of such standards. [1987 c 330 § 706; 1985 c 165 § 1; 1982 c 106 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 56; 1967 c 32 § 49; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.005. Prior: 1943 c 133 § 1; 1937 c 189 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6360-6; 1927 c 309 § 14, part; RRS § 6362-14, part. Formerly RCW 46.36.010.]

*Towing operators, appointment of: RCW 46.55.115.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.010 Scope and effect of regulations—General penalty.** (1) It is a traffic infraction for any person to drive or move, or for a vehicle owner to cause or knowingly permit to be driven or moved, on any highway any vehicle or combination of vehicles that:

- (a) Is in such unsafe condition as to endanger any person;
- (b) Is not at all times equipped with such lamps and other equipment in proper working condition and adjustment as required by this chapter or by rules issued by the Washington state patrol;
- (c) Contains any parts in violation of this chapter or rules issued by the Washington state patrol.

(2) It is a traffic infraction for any person to do any act forbidden or fail to perform any act required under this chapter or rules issued by the Washington state patrol.

(3) Nothing contained in this chapter or the state patrol's regulations shall be construed to prohibit the use of additional parts and accessories on any vehicle not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter or the state patrol's regulations.

(4) The provisions of the chapter and the state patrol's regulations with respect to equipment on vehicles shall not apply to implements of husbandry, road machinery, road rollers, or farm tractors except as herein made applicable.

(5) No owner or operator of a farm tractor, self-propelled unit of farm equipment, or implement of husbandry shall be guilty of a crime or subject to penalty for violation of RCW 46.37.160 as now or hereafter amended unless such violation occurs on a public highway.

(6) It is a traffic infraction for any person to sell or offer for sale vehicle equipment which is required to be approved by the state patrol as prescribed in RCW 46.37.005 unless it has been approved by the state patrol.

(7) The provisions of this chapter with respect to equipment required on vehicles shall not apply to:

(a) Motorcycles or motor-driven cycles except as herein made applicable;

(b) Golf carts, as defined in RCW 46.04.1945, operating within a designated golf cart zone as described in RCW 46.08.175, except as provided in RCW 46.08.175(8).

(8) This chapter does not apply to off-road vehicles used on nonhighway roads or used on streets, roads, or highways as authorized under RCW 46.09.360.

(9) This chapter does not apply to vehicles used by the state parks and recreation commission exclusively for park maintenance and operations upon public highways within state parks.

(10) Notices of traffic infraction issued to commercial drivers under the provisions of this chapter with respect to equipment required on commercial motor vehicles shall not be considered for driver improvement purposes under chapter 46.20 RCW.

(11) Whenever a traffic infraction is chargeable to the owner or lessee of a vehicle under subsection (1) of this section, the driver shall not be arrested or issued a notice of traffic infraction unless the vehicle is registered in a jurisdiction other than Washington state, or unless the infraction is for an offense that is clearly within the responsibility of the driver.

(12) Whenever the owner or lessee is issued a notice of traffic infraction under this section the court may, on the request of the owner or lessee, take appropriate steps to make the driver of the vehicle, or any other person who directs the loading, maintenance, or operation of the vehicle, a codefendant. If the codefendant is held solely responsible and is found to have committed the traffic infraction, the court may dismiss the notice against the owner or lessee. [2011 c 171 § 79; 2010 c 217 § 6. Prior: 2006 c 306 § 1; 2006 c 212 § 5; 2005 c 213 § 7; 1997 c 241 § 14; 1989 c 178 § 22; 1987 c 330 § 707; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 69; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 1; 1963 c 154 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.010; prior: 1955 c 269 § 1; prior: 1937 c 189 § 14, part; RRS § 6360-14, part; RCW 46.40.010, part; 1929 c 178 § 2; 1927 c 309 § 19; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part; 1915 c 142 § 21, part; RRS § 6362-19.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Findings—Construction—Effective date—2005 c 213:** See notes following RCW 46.09.300.

*Moving defective vehicle: RCW 46.32.060.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.020 When lighted lamps and signaling devices are required.** Every vehicle upon a highway within this state at any time from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise and at any other time when, due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, persons and vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible at a distance of one thousand feet ahead shall display lighted headlights, other lights, and illuminating devices as hereinafter respectively required for different classes of vehicles, subject to exceptions with respect to parked vehicles, and such stop lights, turn signals, and other signaling devices shall be lighted as prescribed for the use of such devices. [1977 ex.s.

c 355 § 2; 1974 ex.s. c 124 § 2; 1963 c 154 § 2; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.020. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 2; prior: 1937 c 189 § 14, part; RRS § 6360-14, part; RCW 46.40.010, part; 1929 c 178 § 2; 1927 c 309 § 19; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part; 1915 c 142 § 21, part; RRS § 6362-19.]

*Local twenty-four hour headlight policy: RCW 47.04.180.*

*Motorcycles and motor-driven cycles—When headlamps and tail lamps to be lighted: RCW 46.37.522.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.030 Visibility distance and mounted height of lamps.** (1) Whenever requirement is hereinafter declared as to distance from which certain lamps and devices shall render objects visible or within which such lamps or devices shall be visible, said provisions shall apply during the times stated in RCW 46.37.020 in respect to a vehicle without load when upon a straight, level, unlighted highway under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or condition is expressly stated.

(2) Whenever requirement is hereinafter declared as to the mounted height of lamps or devices it shall mean from the center of such lamp or device to the level ground upon which the vehicle stands when such vehicle is without a load.

(3) No additional lamp, reflective device, or other motor vehicle equipment shall be added which impairs the effectiveness of this standard. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.030. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 3; prior: 1937 c 189 § 14, part; RRS § 6360-14, part; RCW 46.40.010, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.040 Head lamps on motor vehicles.** (1) Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with at least two head lamps with at least one on each side of the front of the motor vehicle, which head lamps shall comply with the requirements and limitations set forth in this chapter.

(2) Every head lamp upon every motor vehicle shall be located at a height measured from the center of the head lamp of not more than fifty-four inches nor less than twenty-four inches to be measured as set forth in RCW 46.37.030(2). [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 4; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.040. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 4; prior: 1937 c 189 § 15; RRS § 6360-15; RCW 46.40.020; 1933 c 156 § 1, part; 1929 c 178 § 3, part; 1927 c 309 §§ 20, part, 24; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part; 1915 c 142 § 21, part; RRS §§ 6362-20, part, 6362-24.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.050 Tail lamps.** (1) After January 1, 1964, every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer, and any other vehicle which is being drawn at the end of a combination of vehicles, shall be equipped with at least two tail lamps mounted on the rear, which, when lighted as required in RCW 46.37.020, shall emit a red light plainly visible from a distance of one thousand feet to the rear, except that passenger cars manufactured or assembled prior to January 1, 1939, shall have at least one tail lamp. On a combination of vehicles only the tail lamps on the rearmost vehicle need actually be seen from the distance specified. On vehicles equipped with more than one tail lamp, the lamps shall be mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable.

(2) Every tail lamp upon every vehicle shall be located at a height of not more than seventy-two inches nor less than fifteen inches.

(3) Either a tail lamp or a separate lamp shall be so constructed and placed as to illuminate with a white light the rear registration plate and render it clearly legible from a distance of fifty feet to the rear. Any tail lamp or tail lamps, together with any separate lamp or lamps for illuminating the rear registration plate, shall be so wired as to be lighted whenever the head lamps or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 5; 1963 c 154 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.050. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 5; prior: 1947 c 267 § 2, part; 1937 c 189 § 16, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-16, part; RCW 46.40.030, part; 1929 c 178 § 7; 1927 c 309 § 27; RRS § 6362-27; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part; 1915 c 142 § 21, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.060 Reflectors.** (1) Every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer shall carry on the rear, either as a part of the tail lamps or separately, two or more red reflectors meeting the requirements of this section: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That vehicles of the types mentioned in RCW 46.37.090 shall be equipped with reflectors meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.110 and 46.37.120.

(2) Every such reflector shall be mounted on the vehicle at a height not less than fifteen inches nor more than seventy-two inches measured as set forth in RCW 46.37.030(2), and shall be of such size and characteristics and so mounted as to be visible at night from all distances within six hundred feet to one hundred feet from such vehicle when directly in front of lawful upper beams of head lamps, except that reflectors on vehicles manufactured or assembled prior to January 1, 1970, shall be visible at night from all distances within three hundred and fifty feet to one hundred feet when directly in front of lawful upper beams of head lamps. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 6; 1963 c 154 § 4; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.060. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 6; prior: 1947 c 267 § 2, part; 1937 c 189 § 16, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-16, part; RCW 46.40.030, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.070 Stop lamps and electric turn signals required.** (1) After January 1, 1964, every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer shall be equipped with two or more stop lamps meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.200, except that passenger cars manufactured or assembled prior to January 1, 1964, shall be equipped with at least one such stop lamp. On a combination of vehicles, only the stop lamps on the rearmost vehicle need actually be seen from the distance specified in RCW 46.37.200(1).

(2) After January 1, 1960, every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer and pole trailer shall be equipped with electric turn signal lamps meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.200(2), except that passenger cars, trailers, semitrailers, pole trailers, and trucks less than eighty inches in width, manufactured or assembled prior to January 1, 1953, need not be equipped with electric turn signal lamps.

(3) Every passenger car manufactured or assembled after September 1, 1985; and every passenger truck, passenger van, or passenger sports [sport] utility vehicle manufactured or assembled after September 1, 1993, must be equipped with

a rear center high-mounted stop lamp meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.200(3). [2006 c 306 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 7; 1963 c 154 § 5; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.070. Prior: 1959 c 319 § 32; 1955 c 269 § 7; prior: 1953 c 248 § 2, part; 1947 c 267 § 4, part; 1937 c 189 § 23, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-23, part; RCW 46.40.090, part; 1929 c 178 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 15, part; RRS § 6362-15, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.080 Application of succeeding sections.** Those sections of this chapter which follow immediately, including RCW 46.37.090, 46.37.100, 46.37.110, 46.37.120, and 46.37.130, relating to clearance lamps, marker lamps, and reflectors, shall apply as stated in said sections to vehicles of the type therein enumerated, namely buses, trucks, truck tractors, and trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers, respectively, when operated upon any highway, and said vehicles shall be equipped as required and all lamp equipment required shall be lighted at the times mentioned in RCW 46.37.020. For purposes of the sections enumerated above, a camper, when mounted upon a motor vehicle, shall be considered part of the permanent structure of that motor vehicle. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 8; 1963 c 154 § 6; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.080. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 8; prior: 1947 c 267 § 3, part; 1937 c 189 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-17, part; RCW 46.40.040, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.090 Additional equipment required on certain vehicles.** In addition to other equipment required in RCW 46.37.040, 46.37.050, 46.37.060, and 46.37.070, the following vehicles shall be equipped as herein stated under the conditions stated in RCW 46.37.080, and in addition, the reflectors elsewhere enumerated for such vehicles shall conform to the requirements of RCW 46.37.120(1).

(1) Buses, trucks, motor homes, and motor vehicles with mounted campers eighty inches or more in over-all width:

(a) On the front, two clearance lamps, one at each side, and on vehicles manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, three identification lamps meeting the specifications of subdivision (6) [(7)] of this section;

(b) On the rear, two clearance lamps, one at each side, and after January 1, 1964, three identification lamps meeting the specifications of subdivision (6) [(7)] of this section;

(c) On each side, two side marker lamps, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear;

(d) On each side, two reflectors, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear.

(2) Trailers and semitrailers eighty inches or more in over-all width:

(a) On the front, two clearance lamps, one at each side;

(b) On the rear, two clearance lamps, one at each side, and after January 1, 1964, three identification lamps meeting the specifications of subdivision (6) [(7)] of this section;

(c) On each side, two side marker lamps, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear;

(d) On each side, two reflectors, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear: PROVIDED, That a mobile home as defined by RCW 46.04.302 need not be equipped with two side marker lamps or two side reflectors as required by subsection (2) (c) and (d) of this section while operated under the terms of a special permit authorized by RCW 46.44.090.

## (3) Truck tractors:

On the front, two cab clearance lamps, one at each side, and on vehicles manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, three identification lamps meeting the specifications of subdivision (6) [(7)] of this section.

(4) Trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers thirty feet or more in over-all length:

On each side, one amber side marker lamp and one amber reflector, centrally located with respect to the length of the vehicle: PROVIDED, That a mobile home as defined by RCW 46.04.302 need not be equipped with such side marker lamp or reflector while operated under the terms of a special permit authorized by RCW 46.44.090.

## (5) Pole trailers:

(a) On each side, one amber side marker lamp at or near the front of the load;

(b) One amber reflector at or near the front of the load;

(c) On the rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to indicate maximum width of the pole trailer.

## (6) Boat trailers eighty inches or more in overall width:

(a) One on each side, at or near the midpoint, one clearance lamp performing the function of both a front and rear clearance lamp;

(b) On the rear, after June 1, 1978, three identification lamps meeting the specifications of subsection (7) of this section;

(c) One on each side, two side marker lamps, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear;

(d) On each side, two reflectors, one at or near the front and one at or near the rear.

(7) Whenever required or permitted by this chapter, identification lamps shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp centers spaced not less than six nor more than twelve inches apart, and mounted on the permanent structure of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical centerline: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That where the cab of a vehicle is not more than forty-two inches wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirements for front identification lamps. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 9; 1963 c 154 § 7; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.090. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 9; prior: 1947 c 267 § 3, part; 1937 c 189 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-17, part; RCW 46.40.040, part; 1933 c 156 §§ 5, part, 6, part; 1929 c 178 §§ 7, part, 8, part; 1927 c 309 §§ 27, part, 28, part; RRS §§ 6362-27, part, 6362-28, part; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.100 Color of clearance lamps, side marker lamps, back-up lamps, and reflectors.** (1) Front clearance lamps and those marker lamps and reflectors mounted on the front or on the side near the front of a vehicle shall display or reflect an amber color.

(2) Rear clearance lamps and those marker lamps and reflectors mounted on the rear or on the sides near the rear of a vehicle shall display or reflect a red color.

(3) All lighting devices and reflectors mounted on the rear of any vehicle shall display or reflect a red color, except the stop lamp or other signal device, which may be red,

amber, or yellow, and except that on any vehicle forty or more years old, or on any motorcycle regardless of age, the taillight may also contain a blue or purple insert of not more than one inch in diameter, and except that the light illuminating the license plate shall be white and the light emitted by a back-up lamp shall be white or amber. [2002 c 196 § 1; 1992 c 46 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.100. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 10; prior: 1947 c 267 § 3, part; 1937 c 189 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-17, part; RCW 46.40.040, part; 1933 c 156 §§ 5, part, 6, part; 1929 c 178 §§ 7, part, 8, part; 1927 c 309 §§ 27, part, 28, part; RRS §§ 6362-27, part, 6362-28, part; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part; 1915 c 142 § 21, part.]

**46.37.110 Mounting of reflectors, clearance lamps, identification lamps, and side marker lamps.** (1) Reflectors when required by RCW 46.37.090 shall be mounted at a height not less than twenty-four inches and not higher than sixty inches above the ground on which the vehicle stands, except that if the highest part of the permanent structure of the vehicle is less than twenty-four inches the reflector at such point shall be mounted as high as that part of the permanent structure will permit.

The rear reflectors on a pole trailer may be mounted on each side of the bolster or load.

Any required red reflector on the rear of a vehicle may be incorporated with the tail lamp, but such reflector shall meet all the other reflector requirements of this chapter.

(2) Clearance lamps shall be mounted on the permanent structure of the vehicle in such a manner as to indicate the extreme height and width of the vehicle. When rear identification lamps are required and are mounted as high as is practicable, rear clearance lamps may be mounted at optional height, and when the mounting of front clearance lamps results in such lamps failing to indicate the extreme width of the trailer, such lamps may be mounted at optional height but must indicate, as near as practicable, the extreme width of the trailer. Clearance lamps on truck tractors shall be located so as to indicate the extreme width of the truck tractor cab. Clearance lamps and side marker lamps may be mounted in combination provided illumination is given as required herein with reference to both: PROVIDED, That no rear clearance lamp may be combined in any shell or housing with any tail lamp or identification lamp. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 10; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.110. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 11; prior: 1947 c 267 § 3, part; 1937 c 189 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-17, part; RCW 46.40.040, part; 1933 c 156 §§ 5, part, 6, part; 1929 c 178 §§ 7, part, 8, part; 1927 c 309 §§ 27, part, 28, part; RRS §§ 6362-27, part, 6362-28, part; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.120 Visibility of reflectors, clearance lamps, identification lamps, and side marker lamps.** (1) Every reflector upon any vehicle referred to in RCW 46.37.090 shall be of such size and characteristics and so maintained as to be readily visible at nighttime from all distances within six hundred feet to one hundred feet from the vehicle when directly in front of lawful lower beams of head lamps, except that the visibility for reflectors on vehicles manufactured or assembled prior to January 1, 1970, shall be measured in

front of the lawful upper beams of headlamps. Reflectors required to be mounted on the sides of the vehicle shall reflect the required color of light to the sides, and those mounted on the rear shall reflect a red color to the rear.

(2) Front and rear clearance lamps and identification lamps shall be capable of being seen and distinguished under normal atmospheric conditions at the times lights are required at all distances between five hundred feet and fifty feet from the front and rear, respectively, of the vehicle.

(3) Side marker lamps shall be capable of being seen and distinguished under normal atmospheric conditions at the times lights are required at all distances between five hundred feet and fifty feet from the side of the vehicle on which mounted. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 11; 1963 c 154 § 8; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.120. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 12; prior: 1947 c 267 § 3, part; 1937 c 189 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-17, part; RCW 46.40.040, part; 1933 c 156 §§ 5, part, 6, part; 1929 c 178 §§ 7, part, 8, part; 1927 c 309 §§ 27, part, 28, part; RRS §§ 6362-27, part, 6362-28, part; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.130 Obstructed lights not required.** Whenever motor and other vehicles are operated in combination during the time that lights are required, any lamp (except tail lamps) need not be lighted which, by reason of its location on a vehicle of the combination, would be obscured by another vehicle of the combination, but this shall not affect the requirement that lighted clearance lamps be displayed on the front of the foremost vehicle required to have clearance lamps, nor that all lights required on the rear of the rearmost vehicle of any combination shall be lighted. [1961 c 12 § 46.37.130. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 13.]

**46.37.140 Lamps, reflectors, and flags on projecting load.** Whenever the load upon any vehicle extends to the rear four feet or more beyond the bed or body of such vehicle there shall be displayed at the extreme rear end of the load, at the times specified in RCW 46.37.020, two red lamps, visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet to the rear, two red reflectors visible at night from all distances within six hundred feet to one hundred feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful lower beams of headlamps, and located so as to indicate maximum width, and on each side one red lamp, visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet to the side, located so as to indicate maximum overhang. There shall be displayed at all other times on any vehicle having a load which extends beyond its sides or more than four feet beyond its rear, red flags, not less than twelve inches square, marking the extremities of such loads, at each point where a lamp would otherwise be required by this section, under RCW 46.37.020. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 12; 1963 c 154 § 9; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.140. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 14; prior: 1937 c 189 § 18; RRS § 6360-18; RCW 46.40.050; 1929 c 178 § 11, part; 1927 c 309 § 32, part, RRS § 6362-32, part; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.150 Lamps on vehicles—Parked or stopped vehicles, lighting requirements.** (1) Every vehicle shall be equipped with one or more lamps, which, when lighted, shall

display a white or amber light visible from a distance of one thousand feet to the front of the vehicle, and a red light visible from a distance of one thousand feet to the rear of the vehicle. The location of said lamp or lamps shall always be such that at least one lamp or combination of lamps meeting the requirements of this section is installed as near as practicable to the side of the vehicle which is closest to passing traffic.

(2) Whenever a vehicle is lawfully parked upon a street or highway during the hours between a half hour after sunset and a half hour before sunrise and in the event there is sufficient light to reveal any person or object within a distance of one thousand feet upon such street or highway, no lights need be displayed upon such parked vehicle.

(3) Whenever a vehicle is parked or stopped upon a roadway or shoulder adjacent thereto, outside an incorporated city or town, whether attended or unattended, during the hours between a half hour after sunset and a half hour before sunrise and there is insufficient light to reveal any person or object within a distance of one thousand feet upon such highway, such vehicle so parked or stopped shall be equipped with and shall display lamps meeting the requirements of subsection (1) of this section.

(4) Any lighted head lamps upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 13; 1963 c 154 § 10; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.150. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 15; prior: 1937 c 189 § 19; RRS § 6360-19; RCW 46.40.060; 1933 c 156 § 8; 1929 c 178 § 10; 1927 c 309 § 31; RRS § 6362-31.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.160 Hazard warning lights and reflectors on farm equipment—Slow-moving vehicle emblem.** (1) Every farm tractor and every self-propelled unit of farm equipment or implement of husbandry manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1970, shall be equipped with vehicular hazard warning lights of the type described in RCW 46.37.215 visible from a distance of not less than one thousand feet to the front and rear in normal sunlight, which shall be displayed whenever any such vehicle is operated upon a highway.

(2) Every self-propelled unit of farm equipment or implement of husbandry manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1970, shall at all times, and every other motor vehicle shall at times mentioned in RCW 46.37.020, be equipped with lamps and reflectors as follows:

(a) At least two headlamps meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.220, 46.37.240, or 46.37.260;

(b) At least one red lamp visible when lighted from a distance of not less than one thousand feet to the rear mounted as far to the left of center of vehicle as practicable;

(c) At least two red reflectors visible from all distances within six hundred to one hundred feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful lower beams of headlamps.

(3) Every combination of farm tractor and towed farm equipment or towed implement of husbandry shall at all times mentioned in RCW 46.37.020 be equipped with lamps and reflectors as follows:

(a) The farm tractor element of every such combination shall be equipped as required in subsections (1) and (2) of this section;

(b) The towed unit of farm equipment or implement of husbandry element of such combination shall be equipped on

the rear with two red lamps visible when lighted from a distance of not less than one thousand feet to the rear, and two red reflectors visible to the rear from all distances within six hundred feet to one hundred feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of head lamps. One reflector shall be so positioned to indicate, as nearly as practicable, the extreme left projection of the towed unit;

(c) If the towed unit or its load obscures either of the vehicle hazard warning lights on the tractor, the towed unit shall be equipped with vehicle hazard warning lights described in subsection (1) of this section.

(4) The two red lamps and the two red reflectors required in the foregoing subsections of this section on a self-propelled unit of farm equipment or implement of husbandry or combination of farm tractor and towed farm equipment shall be so positioned as to show from the rear as nearly as practicable the extreme width of the vehicle or combination carrying them: PROVIDED, That if all other requirements are met, reflective tape or paint may be used in lieu of reflectors required by subsection (3) of this section.

(5) After January 1, 1970, every farm tractor and every self-propelled unit of farm equipment or implement of husbandry designed for operation at speeds not in excess of twenty-five miles per hour shall at all times be equipped with a slow moving vehicle emblem mounted on the rear except as provided in subsection (6) of this section.

(6) After January 1, 1970, every combination of farm tractor and towed farm equipment or towed implement of husbandry normally operating at speeds not in excess of twenty-five miles per hour shall at all times be equipped with a slow moving vehicle emblem as follows:

(a) Where the towed unit is sufficiently large to obscure the slow moving vehicle emblem on the farm tractor, the towed unit shall be equipped with a slow moving vehicle emblem. In such cases, the towing vehicle need not display the emblem;

(b) Where the slow moving vehicle emblem on the farm tractor unit is not obscured by the towed unit, then either or both may be equipped with the required emblem but it shall be sufficient if either has it.

(7) The emblem required by subsections (5) and (6) of this section shall comply with current standards and specifications as promulgated by the Washington state patrol. [1987 c 330 § 708; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 14; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 22; 1963 c 154 § 11; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.160. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 16.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.170 Lamps and reflectors on other vehicles and equipment—Slow-moving vehicle emblem on animal-drawn vehicles.** (1) Every vehicle, including animal-drawn vehicles and vehicles referred to in \*RCW 46.37.010(3), not specifically required by the provisions of RCW 46.37.020 through 46.37.330 to be equipped with lamps, or other lighting devices, shall at all times specified in RCW 46.37.020 be equipped with at least one lamp displaying a white light visible from a distance of not less than one thousand feet to the front of said vehicle, and shall also be equipped with two lamps displaying red light visible from a distance of not less than one thousand feet to the rear of said vehicle, or as an alternative, one lamp displaying a red light visible from a dis-

tance of not less than one thousand feet to the rear and two red reflectors visible from all distances of six hundred to one hundred feet to the rear when illuminated by the lawful lower beams of head lamps.

(2) After June 1, 1978, every animal-drawn vehicle shall at all times be equipped with a slow-moving vehicle emblem complying with RCW 46.37.160(7). [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 15; 1963 c 154 § 12; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.170. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 17; prior: 1937 c 189 § 21; RRS § 6360-21; RCW 46.40.080; 1927 c 309 § 34; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1917 c 40 § 1; RRS § 6362-34.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 46.37.010 was amended by 2006 c 306 § 1, changing subsection (3) to subsection (4).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.180 Spot lamps and auxiliary lamps.** (1) Spot lamps. Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not to exceed two spot lamps and every lighted spot lamp shall be so aimed and used that no part of the high intensity portion of the beam will strike the windshield, or any windows, mirror, or occupant of another vehicle in use.

(2) Fog lamps. Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not to exceed two fog lamps mounted on the front at a height of not less than twelve inches nor more than thirty inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands and so aimed that when the vehicle is not loaded none of the high intensity portion of the light to the left of the center of the vehicle shall at a distance of twenty-five feet ahead project higher than a level of four inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes. Lighted fog lamps meeting the above requirements may be used with lower head lamp beams as specified in RCW 46.37.220.

(3) Auxiliary passing lamps. Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not to exceed two auxiliary passing lamps mounted on the front at a height not less than twenty-four inches nor more than forty-two inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. The provisions of RCW 46.37.220 shall apply to any combinations of head lamps and auxiliary passing lamps.

(4) Auxiliary driving lamps. Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not to exceed two auxiliary driving lamps mounted on the front at a height not less than sixteen inches nor more than forty-two inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. The provisions of RCW 46.37.220 shall apply to any combination of head lamps and auxiliary driving lamps. [1963 c 154 § 13; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.180. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 18; prior: 1949 c 157 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-22a; RCW 46.40.110, 46.40.120.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.184 Red flashing lights on fire department vehicles.** All fire department vehicles in service shall be identified by red lights of an intermittent flashing type, visible from both front and rear for a distance of five hundred feet under normal atmospheric conditions. Such red flashing lights shall be well separated from the headlights so that they will not black out when headlights are on. Such red flashing lights shall be in operation at all times when such vehicle is on emergency status. [1961 c 12 § 46.37.184. Prior: 1953 c 161 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.40.220.]

**46.37.185 Green light on firefighters' private cars.** Firefighters, when approved by the chief of their respective service, shall be authorized to use a green light on the front of their private cars when on emergency duty only. Such green light shall be visible for a distance of two hundred feet under normal atmospheric conditions and shall be of a type and mounting approved by the Washington state patrol. The use of the green light shall only be for the purpose of identification and the operator of a vehicle so equipped shall not be entitled to any of the privileges provided in RCW 46.61.035 for the operators of authorized emergency vehicles. [2007 c 218 § 73; 1987 c 330 § 709; 1971 ex.s. c 92 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.185. Prior: 1953 c 161 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.40.230.]

**Intent—Finding—2007 c 218:** See note following RCW 1.08.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.186 Fire department sign or plate on private car.** (1) No private vehicle, bearing a sign or plate indicating a fire department connection, shall be driven or operated on any public highway, except when the owner thereof is a bona fide member of a fire department.

(2) Any sign or plate indicating fire department connection on a private car of any member of a fire department shall include the name of the municipality or fire department organization to which the owner belongs. [1961 c 12 § 46.37.186. Prior: 1953 c 161 § 3. Formerly RCW 46.40.240.]

**46.37.187 Green light, sign or plate—Identification card required.** Any individual displaying a green light as authorized in RCW 46.37.185, or a sign or plate as authorized in RCW 46.37.186, shall also carry attached to a convenient location on the private vehicle to which the green light or sign or plate is attached, an identification card showing the name of the owner of said vehicle, the organization to which he or she belongs and bearing the signature of the chief of the service involved. [1971 ex.s. c 92 § 2; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.187. Prior: 1953 c 161 § 4. Formerly RCW 46.40.250.]

**46.37.188 Penalty for violation of RCW 46.37.184 through 46.37.188.** Every violation of RCW 46.37.184, 46.37.185, 46.37.186, or 46.37.187 is a traffic infraction. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 70; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.188. Prior: 1953 c 161 § 5. Formerly RCW 46.40.260.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.190 Warning devices on vehicles—Other drivers yield and stop.** (1) Every authorized emergency vehicle shall, in addition to any other equipment and distinctive marking required by this chapter, be equipped with at least one lamp capable of displaying a red light visible from at least five hundred feet in normal sunlight and a siren capable of giving an audible signal.

(2) Every school bus and private carrier bus shall, in addition to any other equipment and distinctive markings required by this chapter, be equipped with a "stop" signal upon a background not less than fourteen by eighteen inches displaying the word "stop" in letters of distinctly contrasting colors not less than eight inches high, and shall further be equipped with signal lamps mounted as high and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, which shall be capable of dis-

playing to the front two alternately flashing red lights located at the same level and to the rear two alternately flashing red lights located at the same level and these lights shall have sufficient intensity to be visible at five hundred feet in normal sunlight.

(3) Vehicles operated by public agencies whose law enforcement duties include the authority to stop and detain motor vehicles on the public highways of the state may be equipped with a siren and lights of a color and type designated by the state patrol for that purpose. The state patrol may prohibit the use of these sirens and lights on vehicles other than the vehicles described in this subsection.

(4) The lights described in this section shall not be mounted nor used on any vehicle other than a school bus, a private carrier bus, or an authorized emergency or law enforcement vehicle.

(5) The use of the signal equipment described in this section and RCW 46.37.670, except the signal preemption devices used by public transit vehicles and department of transportation, city, or county maintenance vehicles that are not used in conjunction with emergency equipment, shall impose upon drivers of other vehicles the obligation to yield right-of-way and stop as prescribed in RCW 46.61.210, 46.61.370, and 46.61.350. [2005 c 183 § 8; 1993 c 401 § 2; 1987 c 330 § 710; 1985 c 331 § 1; 1982 c 101 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 92 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 100 § 5; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 53; 1963 c 154 § 14; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.190. Prior: 1957 c 66 § 1; 1955 c 269 § 19.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.191 Implementing rules.** The state patrol shall adopt rules to implement RCW 46.37.190. [1993 c 401 § 3.]

**46.37.193 Signs on buses.** Every school bus and private carrier bus, in addition to any other equipment or distinctive markings required by this chapter, shall bear upon the front and rear thereof, above the windows thereof, plainly visible signs containing only the words "school bus" on a school bus and only the words "private carrier bus" on a private carrier bus in letters not less than eight inches in height, and in addition shall be equipped with visual signals meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.190. School districts may affix signs designed according to RCW 46.61.380 informing motorists of the monetary penalty for failure to stop for a school bus when the visual signals are activated.

However, a private carrier bus that regularly transports children to and from a private school or in connection with school activities may display the words "school bus" in a manner provided in this section and need not comply with the requirements set forth in the most recent edition of "Specifications for School Buses" published by the superintendent of public instruction. [1997 c 80 § 3; 1995 c 141 § 2; 1990 c 241 § 10.]

*School bus markings: RCW 46.61.380.*

**46.37.194 Authorized emergency vehicles—State patrol authority, maintenance, and applicant and driver screening.** The state patrol may make rules and regulations relating to authorized emergency vehicles and shall test and approve sirens and emergency vehicle lamps to be used on

such vehicles. The equipment and standards review unit shall require a record check of all applicants and drivers for an authorized emergency vehicle permit through the Washington state patrol criminal identification section pursuant to RCW 10.97.050 and through the federal bureau of investigation before issuing an authorized emergency vehicle permit. The record check shall include a fingerprint check using a complete Washington state criminal identification fingerprint card. When necessary, applicants and drivers may be employed on a conditional basis pending completion of the investigation. Pursuant to RCW 43.43.742, the applicant, driver, or employer shall pay costs associated with the record check. [2006 c 27 § 1; 1987 c 330 § 711; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.194. Prior: 1957 c 66 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.195 Sale of emergency vehicle lighting equipment restricted—Removal of emergency vehicle equipment, when required—Exception.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a public agency, business, entity, or person shall not sell or give emergency vehicle lighting equipment or other equipment to a person who may not lawfully operate the lighting equipment or other equipment on the public streets and highways. Prior to selling or giving an emergency vehicle to a person or entity that is not a public law enforcement or emergency agency within or outside the state, public law enforcement or emergency agency in another country, or private ambulance business within or outside the state, the seller or donor must remove all emergency lighting as defined in rules by the Washington state patrol, radios, and any other emergency equipment from the vehicle, except for reflective stripes and paint on fire trucks, that was not originally installed by the original vehicle manufacturer and that visibly identifies the vehicle as an emergency vehicle from the exterior, including spotlights and confinement or rear seat safety cages. If the equipment is not retained or transferred to another public law enforcement or emergency agency within or outside the state, public law enforcement or emergency agency in another country, or private ambulance business within or outside the state, the equipment must be dismantled with the individual parts being recycled or destroyed prior to being disposed of. The agency must also remove all decals, state and local designated law enforcement colors, and stripes that were not installed by the original vehicle manufacturer.

(2) The sale or donation to a broker specializing in the resale of emergency vehicles, or a charitable organization, intending to deliver the vehicle or equipment to a public law enforcement or emergency agency within or outside the state, public law enforcement or emergency agency in another country, or private ambulance business within or outside the state, is allowed with the emergency equipment still installed and intact. If the broker or charitable organization sells or donates the emergency vehicle to a person or entity that is not a public law enforcement or emergency agency, or private ambulance business, the broker or charitable organization must remove the equipment and designations and is accountable and responsible for the removal of the equipment and designations not installed on the vehicle by the original vehicle manufacturer. Equipment not sold or donated to a public law enforcement or emergency agency, or a private ambulance

business, must be removed and transferred, destroyed, or recycled in accordance with subsection (1) of this section. [2010 c 117 § 2; 1990 c 94 § 2.]

**Intent—2010 c 117:** "It is the intent of the legislature to protect the public to ensure that only federal, state, and local law enforcement and emergency personnel, public or private, or other entities authorized by law to use emergency equipment have access to emergency equipment and vehicles." [2010 c 117 § 1.]

**Legislative finding—1990 c 94:** "The legislature declares that public agencies should not engage in activity that leads or abets a person to engage in conduct that is not lawful. The legislature finds that some public agencies sell emergency vehicle lighting equipment at public auctions to persons who may not lawfully use the equipment. The legislature further finds that this practice misleads well-intentioned citizens and also benefits malevolent individuals." [1990 c 94 § 1.]

**46.37.196 Red lights on emergency tow trucks.** All emergency tow trucks shall be identified by an intermittent or revolving red light capable of 360° visibility at a distance of five hundred feet under normal atmospheric conditions. This intermittent or revolving red light shall be used only at the scene of an emergency or accident, and it will be unlawful to use such light while traveling to or from an emergency or accident, or for any other purposes. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 16.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.200 Stop lamps and electric turn signals displayed.** (1) Any vehicle may be equipped and when required under this chapter shall be equipped with a stop lamp or lamps on the rear of the vehicle which shall display a red or amber light, or any shade of color between red and amber, visible from a distance of not less than one hundred feet and on any vehicle manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, three hundred feet to the rear in normal sunlight, and which shall be actuated upon application of a service brake, and which may but need not be incorporated with one or more other rear lamps.

(2) Any vehicle may be equipped and when required under RCW 46.37.070(2) shall be equipped with electric turn signals which shall indicate an intention to turn by flashing lights showing to the front and rear of a vehicle or on a combination of vehicles on the side of the vehicle or combination toward which the turn is to be made. The lamps showing to the front shall be mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and, when signaling, shall emit amber light: PROVIDED, That on any vehicle manufactured prior to January 1, 1969, the lamps showing to the front may emit white or amber light, or any shade of light between white and amber. The lamp showing to the rear shall be mounted on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and, when signaling, shall emit a red or amber light, or any shade of color between red and amber. Turn signal lamps shall be visible from a distance of not less than five hundred feet to the front and rear in normal sunlight. Turn signal lamps may, but need not be, incorporated in other lamps on the vehicle.

(3) Any vehicle may be equipped and when required under this chapter shall be equipped with a center high-mounted stop lamp mounted on the center line of the rear of the vehicle. These stop lamps shall display a red light visible from a distance of not less than three hundred feet to the rear in normal sunlight, and shall be actuated upon application of



a service brake, and may not be incorporated with any other rear lamps. [2006 c 306 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 17; 1963 c 154 § 15; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.200. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 20; prior: 1953 c 248 § 2, part; 1947 c 267 § 4, part; 1937 c 189 § 23, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-23, part; RCW 46.40.090, part; 1929 c 178 § 1, part; 1927 c 309 § 15, part; RRS § 6362-15.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.210 Additional lighting equipment.** (1) Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps which shall emit an amber or white light without glare.

(2) Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one running-board courtesy lamp on each side thereof which shall emit a white or amber light without glare.

(3) Any motor vehicle may be equipped with one or more back-up lamps either separately or in combination with other lamps, but any such back-up lamp or lamps shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion.

(4) Any vehicle may be equipped with one or more side marker lamps, and any such lamp may be flashed in conjunction with turn or vehicular hazard warning signals. Side marker lamps located toward the front of a vehicle shall be amber, and side marker lamps located toward the rear shall be red.

(5) Any vehicle eighty inches or more in over-all width, if not otherwise required by RCW 46.37.090, may be equipped with not more than three identification lamps showing to the front which shall emit an amber light without glare and not more than three identification lamps showing to the rear which shall emit a red light without glare. Such lamps shall be mounted as specified in RCW 46.37.090(7).

(6)(a) Every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, truck tractor, and pole trailer used in the state of Washington may be equipped with an auxiliary lighting system consisting of:

(i) One green light to be activated when the accelerator of the motor vehicle is depressed;

(ii) Not more than two amber lights to be activated when the motor vehicle is moving forward, or standing and idling, but is not under the power of the engine.

(b) Such auxiliary system shall not interfere with the operation of vehicle stop lamps or turn signals, as required by RCW 46.37.070. Such system, however, may operate in conjunction with such stop lamps or turn signals.

(c) Only one color of the system may be illuminated at any one time, and at all times either the green light, or amber light or lights shall be illuminated when the stop lamps of the vehicle are not illuminated.

(d) The green light, and the amber light or lights, when illuminated shall be plainly visible at a distance of one thousand feet to the rear.

(e) Only one such system may be mounted on a motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, truck tractor, or pole trailer; and such system shall be rear mounted in a horizontal fashion, at a height of not more than seventy-two inches, nor less than twenty inches, as provided by RCW 46.37.050.

(f) On a combination of vehicles, only the lights of the rearward vehicle need actually be seen and distinguished as provided in subparagraph (d) of this subsection.

(g) Each manufacturer's model of such a system as described in this subsection shall be approved by the state patrol as provided for in RCW 46.37.005 and 46.37.320, before it may be sold or offered for sale in the state of Washington. [1987 c 330 § 712; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 18; 1975 1st ex.s. c 242 § 1; 1963 c 154 § 16; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.210. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 21; prior: 1937 c 189 § 24; RRS § 6360-24; RCW 46.40.100.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.215 Hazard warning lamps.** (1) Any vehicle may be equipped with lamps for the purpose of warning other operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking, or passing.

(2) After June 1, 1978, every motor home, bus, truck, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer eighty inches or more in overall width or thirty feet or more in overall length shall be equipped with lamps meeting the requirements of this section.

(3) Vehicular hazard warning signal lamps used to display such warning to the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall display simultaneously flashing amber light: PROVIDED, That on any vehicle manufactured prior to January 1, 1969, the lamps showing to the front may display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. The lamps used to display such warning to the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red. These warning lights shall be visible from a distance of not less than five hundred feet in normal sunlight. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 19.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.220 Multiple-beam road-lighting equipment.** Except as hereinafter provided, the head lamps or the auxiliary driving lamp or the auxiliary passing lamp or combination thereof on motor vehicles shall be so arranged that the driver may select at will between distributions of light projected to different elevations, and such lamps may be so arranged that such selection can be made automatically subject to the following limitations:

(1) There shall be an uppermost distribution of light, or composite beam, so aimed and of such intensity as to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of four hundred fifty feet ahead for all conditions of loading;

(2) There shall be a lowermost distribution of light, or composite beam, so aimed and of sufficient intensity to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of one hundred fifty feet ahead; and on a straight level road under any conditions of loading none of the high intensity portion of the beam shall be directed to strike the eyes of an approaching driver;

(3) Every new motor vehicle registered in this state after January 1, 1948, which has multiple-beam road-lighting equipment shall be equipped with a beam indicator, which shall be lighted whenever the uppermost distribution of light from the head lamps is in use, and shall not otherwise be lighted. Said indicator shall be so designed and located that when lighted it will be readily visible without glare to the

driver of the vehicle so equipped. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 20; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.220. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 22; prior: 1947 c 267 § 5, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-25a, part; RCW 46.40.140, part; 1933 c 156 § 3, part; 1929 c 178 § 5, part; 1927 c 309 § 22, part; RRS § 6362-22, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.230 Use of multiple-beam road-lighting equipment.** (1) Whenever a motor vehicle is being operated on a roadway or shoulder adjacent thereto during the times specified in RCW 46.37.020, the driver shall use a distribution of light, or composite beam, directed high enough and of sufficient intensity to reveal persons and vehicles at a safe distance in advance of the vehicle, subject to the following requirements and limitations:

(2) Whenever a driver of a vehicle approaches an oncoming vehicle within five hundred feet, such driver shall use a distribution of light, or composite beam, so aimed that the glaring rays are not projected into the eyes of the oncoming driver. The lowermost distribution of light, or composite beam, specified in RCW 46.37.220(2) shall be deemed to avoid glare at all times, regardless of road contour and loading.

(3) Whenever the driver of a vehicle approaches another vehicle from the rear within three hundred feet such driver shall use a distribution of light permissible under this chapter other than the uppermost distribution of light specified in RCW 46.37.220(1). [1963 c 154 § 17; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.230. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 23; prior: 1947 c 267 § 5, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-25a, part; RCW 46.40.140, part; 1933 c 156 § 3, part; 1929 c 178 § 5, part; 1927 c 309 § 22, part; RRS § 6362-22, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.240 Single-beam road-lighting equipment.** Head lamp systems which provide only a single distribution of light shall be permitted on all farm tractors regardless of date of manufacture, and on all other motor vehicles manufactured and sold prior to one year after March 18, 1955, in lieu of multiple-beam road-lighting equipment herein specified if the single distribution of light complies with the following requirements and limitations:

(1) The head lamps shall be so aimed that when the vehicle is not loaded none of the high intensity portion of the light shall at a distance of twenty-five feet ahead project higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes, and in no case higher than forty-two inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of seventy-five feet ahead;

(2) The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least two hundred feet. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 21; 1963 c 154 § 18; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.240. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 24; prior: 1947 c 267 § 5, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-25a, part; RCW 46.40.140, part; 1933 c 156 § 3, part; 1929 c 178 § 5, part; 1927 c 309 § 22, part; RRS § 6362-22, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.260 Alternate road lighting equipment.** Any motor vehicle may be operated under the conditions specified in RCW 46.37.020 when equipped with two lighted lamps

upon the front thereof capable of revealing persons and objects one hundred feet ahead in lieu of lamps required in RCW 46.37.220 or 46.37.240: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That at no time shall it be operated at a speed in excess of twenty miles per hour. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 22; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.260. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 26; prior: 1937 c 189 § 27; RRS § 6360-27; RCW 46.40.150.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.270 Number of lamps required—Number of additional lamps permitted.** (1) At all times specified in RCW 46.37.020, at least two lighted lamps shall be displayed, one on each side at the front of every motor vehicle, except when such vehicle is parked subject to the regulations governing lights on parked vehicles.

(2) Whenever a motor vehicle equipped with head lamps as herein required is also equipped with any auxiliary lamps or a spot lamp or any other lamp on the front thereof projecting a beam of intensity greater than three hundred candlepower, not more than a total of two of any such additional lamps on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 23; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.270. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 27; prior: 1937 c 189 § 28; RRS § 6360-28; RCW 46.40.160; 1929 c 178 § 2; 1927 c 309 § 19; 1921 c 96 § 22, part; 1919 c 59 § 10, part; 1917 c 155 § 15, part; 1915 c 142 § 21, part; RRS § 6362-19.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.280 Special restrictions on lamps.** (1) During the times specified in RCW 46.37.020, any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle, other than head lamps, spot lamps, auxiliary lamps, flashing turn signals, emergency vehicle warning lamps, warning lamps authorized by the state patrol and school bus warning lamps, which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than three hundred candlepower shall be so directed that no part of the high intensity portion of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than seventy-five feet from the vehicle.

(2) Except as required in RCW 46.37.190 no person shall drive or move any vehicle or equipment upon any highway with any lamp or device thereon displaying a red light visible from directly in front of the center thereof.

(3) Flashing lights are prohibited except as required in RCW 46.37.190, 46.37.200, 46.37.210, 46.37.215, and 46.37.300, warning lamps authorized by the state patrol, and light-emitting diode flashing taillights on bicycles. [1998 c 165 § 16; 1987 c 330 § 713; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 24; 1963 c 154 § 19; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.280. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 28; prior: 1949 c 157 § 2; 1947 c 267 § 6; 1947 c 200 § 2; 1937 c 189 § 29; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-29; RCW 46.40.170; 1927 c 309 § 33; RRS § 6362-33.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.290 Special lighting equipment on school buses and private carrier buses.** The chief of the Washington state patrol is authorized to adopt standards and specifications applicable to lighting equipment on and special warning devices to be carried by school buses and private carrier buses consistent with the provisions of this chapter, but supplemental thereto. Such standards and specifications shall

correlate with and, so far as possible, conform to the specifications then current as approved by the society of automotive engineers. [1987 c 330 § 714; 1977 c 45 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 100 § 6; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.290. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 29; prior: 1937 c 189 § 25, part; RRS § 6360-25, part; RCW 46.40.130, part; 1929 c 178 § 3, part; 1927 c 309 § 20, part; RRS § 6362-20, part.]

*School buses—Crossing arms: RCW 46.37.620.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.300 Standards for lights on snow-removal or highway maintenance and service equipment.** (1) The state patrol shall adopt standards and specifications applicable to head lamps, clearance lamps, identification and other lamps on snow-removal and other highway maintenance and service equipment when operated on the highways of this state in lieu of the lamps otherwise required on motor vehicles by this chapter. Such standards and specifications may permit the use of flashing lights for purposes of identification on snow-removal and other highway maintenance and service equipment when in service upon the highways. The standards and specifications for lamps referred to in this section shall correlate with and, so far as possible, conform with those approved by the American association of state highway officials.

(2) It shall be unlawful to operate any snow-removal and other highway maintenance and service equipment on any highway unless the lamps thereon comply with and are lighted when and as required by the standards and specifications adopted as provided in this section. [1987 c 330 § 715; 1963 c 154 § 20; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.300. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 30.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.310 Selling or using lamps or equipment.** (1) No person may have for sale, sell, or offer for sale for use upon or as a part of the equipment of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, or use upon any such vehicle any head lamp, auxiliary or fog lamp, rear lamp, signal lamp, or reflector, which reflector is required under this chapter, or parts of any of the foregoing which tend to change the original design or performance, unless of a type which has been submitted to the state patrol and conforming to rules adopted by it.

(2) No person may have for sale, sell, or offer for sale for use upon or as a part of the equipment of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer any lamp or device mentioned in this section conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol unless such lamp or device bears thereon the trademark or name under which it is approved so as to be legible when installed.

(3) No person may use upon any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer any lamps mentioned in this section unless the lamps are mounted, adjusted, and aimed in accordance with instructions of the state patrol. [1987 c 330 § 716; 1986 c 113 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.310. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 31; prior: 1937 c 189 § 30; RRS § 6360-30; RCW 46.40.180; 1929 c 178 § 12; 1927 c 309 § 35; RRS § 6362-35.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.320 Authority of state patrol regarding lighting devices or other safety equipment.** (1) The chief of the state patrol is hereby authorized to adopt and enforce rules

establishing standards and specifications governing the performance of lighting devices and their installation, adjustment, and aiming, when in use on motor vehicles, and other safety equipment, components, or assemblies of a type for which regulation is required in this chapter or in rules adopted by the state patrol. Such rules shall correlate with and, so far as practicable, conform to federal motor vehicle safety standards adopted pursuant to the national traffic and motor vehicle safety act of 1966 (15 U.S.C. Sec. 1381 et seq.) covering the same aspect of performance, or in the absence of such federal standards, to the then current standards and specifications of the society of automotive engineers applicable to such equipment: PROVIDED, That the sale, installation, and use of any headlamp meeting the standards of either the society of automotive engineers or the United Nations agreement concerning motor vehicle equipment and parts done at Geneva on March 20, 1958, or as amended and adopted by the Canadian standards association (CSA standard D106.2), as amended, shall be lawful in this state.

(2) Every manufacturer who sells or offers for sale lighting devices or other safety equipment subject to requirements established by the state patrol shall, if the lighting device or safety equipment is not in conformance with applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards, provide for submission of such lighting device or safety equipment to any recognized organization or agency such as, but not limited to, the American national standards institute, the society of automotive engineers, or the American association of motor vehicle administrators, as the agent of the state patrol. Issuance of a certificate of compliance for any lighting device or item of safety equipment by that agent is deemed to comply with the standards set forth by the state patrol. Such certificate shall be issued by the agent of the state before sale of the product within the state.

(3) The state patrol may at any time request from the manufacturer a copy of the test data showing proof of compliance of any device with the requirements established by the state patrol and additional evidence that due care was exercised in maintaining compliance during production. If the manufacturer fails to provide such proof of compliance within sixty days of notice from the state patrol, the state patrol may prohibit the sale of the device in this state until acceptable proof of compliance is received by the state patrol.

(4) The state patrol or its agent may purchase any lighting device or other safety equipment, component, or assembly subject to this chapter or rules adopted by the state patrol under this chapter, for purposes of testing or retesting the equipment as to its compliance with applicable standards or specifications. [1987 c 330 § 717; 1986 c 113 § 2. Prior: 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 25; 1977 ex.s. c 20 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.320; prior: 1955 c 269 § 32; prior: 1937 c 189 § 31; RRS § 6360-31; RCW 46.40.190; 1933 c 156 § 4, part; 1929 c 178 § 6, part; 1927 c 309 § 23, part; RRS § 6362-23, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.330 Revocation of certificate of approval on devices—Reapproval, conditions.** (1) When the state patrol has reason to believe that an approved device does not comply with the requirements of this chapter or regulations issued by the state patrol, it may, after giving thirty days' previous notice to the person holding the certificate of approval for

such device in this state, conduct a hearing upon the question of compliance of said approved device. After said hearing the state patrol shall determine whether said approved device meets the requirements of this chapter and regulations issued by the state patrol. If said device does not meet the requirements of this chapter or the state patrol's regulations it shall give notice to the one to whom the certificate of approval has been issued of the state patrol's intention to suspend or revoke the certificate of approval for such device in this state.

(2) If at the expiration of ninety days after such notice the person holding the certificate of approval for such device has failed to satisfy the state patrol that said approved device as thereafter to be sold or offered for sale meets the requirements of this chapter or the state patrol's regulations, the state patrol shall suspend or revoke the approval issued therefor and shall require the withdrawal of all such devices from the market and may require that all said devices sold since the notification be replaced with devices that do comply.

(3) When a certificate of approval has been suspended or revoked pursuant to this chapter or regulations by the state patrol, the device shall not be again approved unless and until it has been submitted for reapproval and it has been demonstrated, in the same manner as in an application for an original approval, that the device fully meets the requirements of this chapter or regulations issued by the state patrol. The state patrol may require that all previously approved items are being effectively recalled and removed from the market as a condition of reapproval. [1987 c 330 § 718; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 26; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.330. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 33; prior: 1937 c 189 § 32; RRS § 6360-32; RCW 46.40.200; 1933 c 156 § 4, part; 1929 c 178 § 6, part; 1927 c 309 § 23, part; RRS § 6362-23, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.340 Braking equipment required.** Every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer, and any combination of such vehicle operating upon a highway within this state shall be equipped with brakes in compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

(1) Service brakes—adequacy. Every such vehicle and combination of vehicles, except special mobile equipment as defined in RCW 46.04.552, shall be equipped with service brakes complying with the performance requirements of RCW 46.37.351 and adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold such vehicle under all conditions of loading, and on any grade incident to its operation.

(2) Parking brakes—adequacy. Every such vehicle and combination of vehicles shall be equipped with parking brakes adequate to hold the vehicle on any grade on which it is operated, under all conditions of loading, on a surface free from snow, ice, or loose material. The parking brakes shall be capable of being applied in conformance with the foregoing requirements by the driver's muscular effort or by spring action or by equivalent means. Their operation may be assisted by the service brakes or other source of power provided that failure of the service brake actuation system or other power assisting mechanism will not prevent the parking brakes from being applied in conformance with the foregoing requirements. The parking brakes shall be so designed that when once applied they shall remain applied with the required effectiveness despite exhaustion of any source of

energy or leakage of any kind. The same brake drums, brake shoes and lining assemblies, brake shoe anchors, and mechanical brake shoe actuation mechanism normally associated with the wheel brake assemblies may be used for both the service brakes and the parking brakes. If the means of applying the parking brakes and the service brakes are connected in any way, they shall be so constructed that failure of any one part shall not leave the vehicle without operative brakes.

(3) Brakes on all wheels. Every vehicle shall be equipped with brakes acting on all wheels except:

(a) Trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers of a gross weight not exceeding three thousand pounds, provided that:

(i) The total weight on and including the wheels of the trailer or trailers shall not exceed forty percent of the gross weight of the towing vehicle when connected to the trailer or trailers; and

(ii) The combination of vehicles consisting of the towing vehicle and its total towed load, is capable of complying with the performance requirements of RCW 46.37.351;

(b) Trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers manufactured and assembled prior to July 1, 1965, shall not be required to be equipped with brakes when the total weight on and including the wheels of the trailer or trailers does not exceed two thousand pounds;

(c) Any vehicle being towed in driveaway or towaway operations, provided the combination of vehicles is capable of complying with the performance requirements of RCW 46.37.351;

(d) Trucks and truck tractors manufactured before July 25, 1980, and having three or more axles need not have brakes on the front wheels, except that when such vehicles are equipped with at least two steerable axles, the wheels of one steerable axle need not have brakes. Trucks and truck tractors manufactured on or after July 25, 1980, and having three or more axles are required to have brakes on the front wheels, except that when such vehicles are equipped with at least two steerable axles, the wheels of one steerable axle need not have brakes. Such trucks and truck tractors may be equipped with an automatic device to reduce the front-wheel braking effort by up to fifty percent of the normal braking force, regardless of whether or not antilock system failure has occurred on any axle, and:

(i) Must not be operable by the driver except upon application of the control that activates the braking system; and

(ii) Must not be operable when the pressure that transmits brake control application force exceeds eighty-five pounds per square inch (psi) on air-mechanical braking systems, or eighty-five percent of the maximum system pressure in vehicles utilizing other than compressed air.

All trucks and truck tractors having three or more axles must be capable of complying with the performance requirements of RCW 46.37.351;

(e) Special mobile equipment as defined in RCW 46.04.552 and all vehicles designed primarily for off-highway use with braking systems which work within the power train rather than directly at each wheel;

(f) Vehicles manufactured prior to January 1, 1930, may have brakes operating on only two wheels.

(g) For a forklift manufactured after January 1, 1970, and being towed, wheels need not have brakes except for those on

the rearmost axle so long as such brakes, together with the brakes on the towing vehicle, shall be adequate to stop the combination within the stopping distance requirements of RCW 46.37.351.

(4) Automatic trailer brake application upon breakaway. Every trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer equipped with air or vacuum actuated brakes and every trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer with a gross weight in excess of three thousand pounds, manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, shall be equipped with brakes acting on all wheels and of such character as to be applied automatically and promptly, and remain applied for at least fifteen minutes, upon breakaway from the towing vehicle.

(5) Tractor brakes protected. Every motor vehicle manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, and used to tow a trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer equipped with brakes, shall be equipped with means for providing that in case of breakaway of the towed vehicle, the towing vehicle will be capable of being stopped by the use of its service brakes.

(6) Trailer air reservoirs safeguarded. Air brake systems installed on trailers manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, shall be so designed that the supply reservoir used to provide air for the brakes shall be safeguarded against backflow of air from the reservoir through the supply line.

(7) Two means of emergency brake operation.

(a) Air brakes. After January 1, 1964, every towing vehicle equipped with air controlled brakes, in other than driveaway or towaway operations, and all other vehicles equipped with air controlled brakes, shall be equipped with two means for emergency application of the brakes. One of these means shall apply the brakes automatically in the event of a reduction of the vehicle's air supply to a fixed pressure which shall be not lower than twenty pounds per square inch nor higher than forty-five pounds per square inch. The other means shall be a manually controlled device for applying and releasing the brakes, readily operable by a person seated in the driving seat, and its emergency position or method of operation shall be clearly indicated. In no instance may the manual means be so arranged as to permit its use to prevent operation of the automatic means. The automatic and the manual means required by this section may be, but are not required to be, separate.

(b) Vacuum brakes. After January 1, 1964, every towing vehicle used to tow other vehicles equipped with vacuum brakes, in operations other than driveaway or towaway operations, shall have, in addition to the single control device required by subsection (8) of this section, a second control device which can be used to operate the brakes on towed vehicles in emergencies. The second control shall be independent of brake air, hydraulic, and other pressure, and independent of other controls, unless the braking system be so arranged that failure of the pressure upon which the second control depends will cause the towed vehicle brakes to be applied automatically. The second control is not required to provide modulated braking.

(8) Single control to operate all brakes. After January 1, 1964, every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer, and every combination of such vehicles, equipped with brakes shall have the braking system so arranged that one control device can be used to operate all service brakes. This requirement does not prohibit vehicles from being

equipped with an additional control device to be used to operate brakes on the towed vehicles. This regulation does not apply to driveaway or towaway operations unless the brakes on the individual vehicles are designed to be operated by a single control in the towing vehicle.

(9) Reservoir capacity and check valve.

(a) Air brakes. Every bus, truck, or truck tractor with air operated brakes shall be equipped with at least one reservoir sufficient to insure that, when fully charged to the maximum pressure as regulated by the air compressor governor cut-out setting, a full service brake application may be made without lowering such reservoir pressure by more than twenty percent. Each reservoir shall be provided with means for readily draining accumulated oil or water.

(b) Vacuum brakes. After January 1, 1964, every truck with three or more axles equipped with vacuum assist type brakes and every truck tractor and truck used for towing a vehicle equipped with vacuum brakes shall be equipped with a reserve capacity or a vacuum reservoir sufficient to insure that, with the reserve capacity or reservoir fully charged and with the engine stopped, a full service brake application may be made without depleting the vacuum supply by more than forty percent.

(c) Reservoir safeguarded. All motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers, when equipped with air or vacuum reservoirs or reserve capacity as required by this section, shall have such reservoirs or reserve capacity so safeguarded by a check valve or equivalent device that in the event of failure or leakage in its connection to the source of compressed air or vacuum, the stored air or vacuum shall not be depleted by the leak or failure.

(10) Warning devices.

(a) Air brakes. Every bus, truck, or truck tractor using compressed air for the operation of its own brakes or the brakes on any towed vehicle, shall be provided with a warning signal, other than a pressure gauge, readily audible or visible to the driver, which will operate at any time the primary supply air reservoir pressure of the vehicle is below fifty percent of the air compressor governor cut-out pressure. In addition, each such vehicle shall be equipped with a pressure gauge visible to the driver, which indicates in pounds per square inch the pressure available for braking.

(b) Vacuum brakes. After January 1, 1964, every truck tractor and truck used for towing a vehicle equipped with vacuum operated brakes and every truck with three or more axles using vacuum in the operation of its brakes, except those in driveaway or towaway operations, shall be equipped with a warning signal, other than a gauge indicating vacuum, readily audible or visible to the driver, which will operate at any time the vacuum in the vehicle's supply reservoir or reserve capacity is less than eight inches of mercury.

(c) Combination of warning devices. When a vehicle required to be equipped with a warning device is equipped with both air and vacuum power for the operation of its own brakes or the brakes on a towed vehicle, the warning devices may be, but are not required to be, combined into a single device which will serve both purposes. A gauge or gauges indicating pressure or vacuum shall not be deemed to be an adequate means of satisfying this requirement. [1989 c 221 § 1; 1979 c 11 § 1. Prior: 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 27; 1977 ex.s. c 148 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 49; 1963 c 154 § 21; 1961 c 12 §

46.37.340; prior: 1955 c 269 § 34; prior: 1937 c 189 § 34, part; RRS § 6360-34, part; RCW 46.36.020, 46.36.030, part; 1929 c 180 § 6; 1927 c 309 § 16; 1923 c 181 § 5; 1921 c 96 § 23; 1915 c 142 § 22; RRS § 6362-16.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.351 Performance ability of brakes.** Every motor vehicle and combination of vehicles, at all times and under all conditions of loading, upon application of the service brakes, shall be capable of:

(1) Developing a braking force that is not less than the percentage of its gross weight tabulated herein for its classification,

(2) Decelerating to a stop from not more than twenty miles per hour at not less than the feet per second per second tabulated herein for its classification, and

(3) Stopping from a speed of twenty miles per hour in not more than the distance tabulated herein for its classification, such distance to be measured from the point at which movement of the service brake pedal or control begins.

Tests for deceleration and stopping distance shall be made on a substantially level (not to exceed plus or minus one percent grade), dry, smooth, hard surface that is free from loose material.

Classification of vehicles	Braking force as a percentage of gross vehicle or combination weight	Deceleration in feet per second per second	Brake system application and braking distance in feet from an initial speed of 20 m.p.h.	
A Passenger vehicles with a seating capacity of 10 people or less including driver, not having a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating . . . . .	52.8%	17	25	
B-1 All motorcycles and motor-driven cycles . .	43.5%	14	30	
B-2 Single unit vehicles with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less . . . . .	43.5%	14	30	
C-1 Single unit vehicles with a manufacturer's gross weight rating of more than 10,000 pounds . . . . .	43.5%	14	40	
C-2 Combinations of a two-axle towing vehicle and a trailer with a gross trailer weight of 3,000 pounds or less . .	43.5%	14	40	

C-3 Buses, regardless of the number of axles, not having a manufacturer's gross weight rating . . .	43.5%	14	40
C-4 All combinations of vehicles in driveaway-towaway operations . .	43.5%	14	40
D All other vehicles and combinations of vehicles . . . . .	43.5%	14	50

[1963 c 154 § 22.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.360 Maintenance of brakes—Brake system failure indicator.** (1) All brakes shall be maintained in good working order and shall be so adjusted as to operate as equally as practicable with respect to the front and back wheels and to wheels on opposite sides of the vehicle.

(2) All passenger cars manufactured on or after January 1, 1968, and other types of vehicles manufactured on or after September 1, 1975, shall be equipped with brake system failure indicator lamps which shall be maintained in good working order and integrity by the application of a force of one hundred twenty-five pounds to the brake pedal for ten seconds without the occurrence of any of the following:

(i) Illumination of the brake system failure indicator lamp;

(ii) A decrease of more than eighty percent of service brake pedal height as measured from its free position to the floorboard or any other object which restricts service brake pedal travel;

(iii) Failure of any hydraulic line or other part.

(3) Brake hoses shall not be mounted so as to contact the vehicle body or chassis. In addition, brake hoses shall not be cracked, chafed, flattened, abraded, or visibly leaking. Protection devices such as "rub rings" shall not be considered part of the hose or tubing.

(4) Disc and drum condition. If the drum is embossed with a maximum safe diameter dimension or the rotor is embossed with a minimum safety thickness dimension, the drum or disc shall be within the appropriate specifications. These dimensions will be found on motor vehicles manufactured since January 1, 1971, and may be found on vehicles manufactured for several years prior to that time. If the drums and discs are not embossed, the drums and discs shall be within the manufacturer's specifications.

(5) Friction materials. On each brake the thickness of the lining or pad shall not be less than one thirty-second of an inch over the rivet heads, or the brake shoe on bonded linings or pads. Brake linings and pads shall not have cracks or breaks that extend to rivet holes except minor cracks that do not impair attachment. Drum brake linings shall be securely attached to brake shoes. Disc brake pads shall be securely attached to shoe plates.

(6) Backing plates and caliper assemblies shall not be deformed or cracked. System parts shall not be broken, misaligned, missing, binding, or show evidence of severe wear. Automatic adjusters and other parts shall be assembled and installed correctly. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 28; 1961 c 12 §

46.37.360. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 36; prior: 1951 c 56 § 2, part; 1937 c 189 § 34, part; RRS § 6360-34, part; RCW 46.36.020, 46.36.030, part; 1929 c 180 § 6; 1927 c 309 § 16; 1923 c 181 § 5; 1921 c 96 § 23; 1915 c 142 § 22; RRS § 6362-16.]

Additional notes found at www.leg.wa.gov

**46.37.365 Hydraulic brake fluid—Defined—Standards and specifications.** (1) The term "hydraulic brake fluid" as used in this section shall mean the liquid medium through which force is transmitted to the brakes in the hydraulic brake system of a vehicle.

(2) Hydraulic brake fluid shall be distributed and serviced with due regard for the safety of the occupants of the vehicle and the public.

(3) The chief of the Washington state patrol shall, in compliance with the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW, the administrative procedure act, which govern the adoption of rules, adopt and enforce regulations for the administration of this section and shall adopt and publish standards and specifications for hydraulic brake fluid which shall correlate with, and so far as practicable conform to, the then current standards and specifications of the society of automotive engineers applicable to such fluid.

(4) No person shall distribute, have for sale, offer for sale, or sell any hydraulic brake fluid unless it complies with the requirements of this section and the standard specifications adopted by the state patrol. No person shall service any vehicle with brake fluid unless it complies with the requirements of this section and the standards and specifications adopted by the state patrol.

(5) Subsections (3) and (4) of this section shall not apply to petroleum base fluids in vehicles with brake systems designed to use them. [1987 c 330 § 719; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 29; 1963 c 154 § 24.]

Additional notes found at www.leg.wa.gov

**46.37.369 Wheels and front suspension.** (1) No vehicle shall be equipped with wheel nuts, hub caps, or wheel discs extending outside the body of the vehicle when viewed from directly above which:

- (a) Incorporate winged projections; or
- (b) Constitute a hazard to pedestrians and cyclists.

For the purposes of this section, a wheel nut is defined as an exposed nut which is mounted at the center or hub of a wheel, and is not one of the ordinary hexagonal nuts which secure a wheel to an axle and are normally covered by a hub cap or wheel disc.

(2) Tire rims and wheel discs shall have no visible cracks, elongated bolt holes, or indications of repair by welding. In addition, the lateral and radial runout of each rim bead area shall not exceed one-eighth of an inch of total indicated runout.

(3) King pins or ball joints shall not be worn to the extent that front wheels tip in or out more than one-quarter of an inch at the lower edge of the tire. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 30.]

Lowering vehicle below legal clearance: RCW 46.61.680.

Additional notes found at www.leg.wa.gov

**46.37.375 Steering and suspension systems.** (1) Construction of steering control system. The steering control system shall be constructed and maintained so that no compo-

nents or attachments, including horn activating mechanism and trim hardware, can catch the driver's clothing or jewelry during normal driving maneuvers.

(2) Maintenance of steering control system. System play, lash, or free play in the steering system shall not exceed the values tabulated herein.

Steering wheel diameter (inches)	Lash (inches)
16 or less .....	2
18 .....	2-1/4
20 .....	2-1/2
22 .....	2-3/4

(3) Linkage play. Free play in the steering linkage shall not exceed one-quarter of an inch.

(4) Other components of the steering system such as the power steering belt, tie rods, or idler arms or Pitman arms shall not be broken, worn out, or show signs of breakage.

(5) Suspension condition. Ball joint seals shall not be cut or cracked. Structural parts shall not be bent or damaged. Stabilizer bars shall be connected. Springs shall not be broken, or extended by spacers. Shock absorber mountings, shackles, and U-bolts shall be securely attached. Rubber bushings shall not be cracked, or extruded out or missing from suspension joints. Radius rods shall not be missing or damaged.

(6) Shock absorber system. Shock absorbers shall not be loose from mountings, leak, or be inoperative.

(7) Alignment. Toe-in and toe-out measurements shall not be greater than one and one-half times the value listed in the vehicle manufacturer's service specification for alignment setting. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 31.]

Lowering vehicle below legal clearance: RCW 46.61.680.

Additional notes found at www.leg.wa.gov

**46.37.380 Horns, warning devices, and theft alarms.**

(1) Every motor vehicle when operated upon a highway shall be equipped with a horn in good working order and capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than two hundred feet, but no horn or other warning device may emit an unreasonably loud or harsh sound or a whistle. The driver of a motor vehicle shall when reasonably necessary to insure safe operation give audible warning with his or her horn but shall not otherwise use such horn when upon a highway.

(2) No vehicle may be equipped with nor may any person use upon a vehicle any siren, whistle, or bell, except as otherwise permitted in this section.

(3) It is permissible for any vehicle to be equipped with a theft alarm signal device so long as it is so arranged that it cannot be used by the driver as an ordinary warning signal. Such a theft alarm signal device may use a whistle, bell, horn, or other audible signal but shall not use a siren.

(4) Any authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with a siren, whistle, or bell capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than five hundred feet and of a type conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol, but the siren shall not be used except when the vehicle is operated in response to an emergency call or in the immediate pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law, in which latter events the driver of the vehicle shall

sound the siren when reasonably necessary to warn pedestrians and other drivers of its approach. [2010 c 8 § 9052; 1987 c 330 § 720; 1986 c 113 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 32; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.380. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 38; prior: 1937 c 189 § 35; RRS § 6360-35; RCW 46.36.040.]

*Motorcycles and motor-driven cycles—Additional requirements and limitations: RCW 46.37.539.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.390 Mufflers required—Smoke and air contaminant standards—Definitions—Penalty, exception.**

(1) Every motor vehicle shall at all times be equipped with a muffler in good working order and in constant operation to prevent excessive or unusual noise, and no person shall use a muffler cut-out, bypass, or similar device upon a motor vehicle on a highway.

(2)(a) No motor vehicle first sold and registered as a new motor vehicle on or after January 1, 1971, shall discharge into the atmosphere at elevations of less than three thousand feet any air contaminant for a period of more than ten seconds which is:

(i) As dark as or darker than the shade designated as No. 1 on the Ringelmann chart, as published by the United States bureau of mines; or

(ii) Of such opacity as to obscure an observer's view to a degree equal to or greater than does smoke described in subsection (a)(i) above.

(b) No motor vehicle first sold and registered prior to January 1, 1971, shall discharge into the atmosphere at elevations of less than three thousand feet any air contaminant for a period of more than ten seconds which is:

(i) As dark as or darker than the shade designated as No. 2 on the Ringelmann chart, as published by the United States bureau of mines; or

(ii) Of such opacity as to obscure an observer's view to a degree equal to or greater than does smoke described in subsection (b)(i) above.

(c) For the purposes of this subsection the following definitions shall apply:

(i) "Opacity" means the degree to which an emission reduces the transmission of light and obscures the view of an object in the background;

(ii) "Ringelmann chart" means the Ringelmann smoke chart with instructions for use as published by the United States bureau of mines in May 1967 and as thereafter amended, information circular 7718.

(3) No person shall modify the exhaust system of a motor vehicle in a manner which will amplify or increase the noise emitted by the engine of such vehicle above that emitted by the muffler originally installed on the vehicle, and it shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motor vehicle not equipped as required by this subsection, or which has been amplified as prohibited by this subsection. A court may dismiss an infraction notice for a violation of this subsection if there is reasonable grounds to believe that the vehicle was not operated in violation of this subsection.

This subsection (3) does not apply to vehicles twenty-five or more years old or to passenger vehicles being operated off the highways in an organized racing or competitive event conducted by a recognized sanctioning body. [2006 c 306 § 4; 2001 c 293 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 33; 1972 ex.s. c 135 § 1;

1967 c 232 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.390. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 39; prior: 1937 c 189 § 36; RRS § 6360-36; RCW 46.36.050; 1927 c 309 § 17; 1921 c 96 § 21; 1915 c 142 § 20; RRS § 6362-17.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

*Motorcycles and motor-driven cycles—Additional requirements and limitations: RCW 46.37.539.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.395 Compression brakes (Jake brakes).** (1)

This section applies to all motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of 4,536 kilograms or more (10,001 pounds or more), registered and domiciled in Washington state, operated on public roads and equipped with engine compression brake devices. An engine compression brake device is any device that uses the engine and transmission to impede the forward motion of the motor vehicle by compression of the engine.

(2) The driver of a motor vehicle equipped with a device that uses the compression of the motor vehicle engine shall not use the device unless: The motor vehicle is equipped with an operational muffler and exhaust system to prevent excess noise. A muffler is part of an engine exhaust system which acts as a noise dissipative device. A turbocharger is not permitted to be used as a muffler or a noise dissipative device.

(3) The monetary penalty for violating subsection (2) of this section is: (a) Two hundred fifty dollars for the first violation; (b) five hundred dollars for the second violation; and (c) seven hundred fifty dollars for each violation thereafter.

(4) All medium and heavy trucks must comply with federal code 205 - transportation equipment noise emission controls, subpart B.

(5) Nothing in this section prohibits a local jurisdiction from implementing an ordinance that is more restrictive than the state law and Washington state patrol rules regarding the use of compression brakes. [2006 c 50 § 3; 2005 c 320 § 1.]

**46.37.400 Mirrors, backup devices.** (1) Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a mirror mounted on the left side of the vehicle and so located to reflect to the driver a view of the highway for a distance of at least two hundred feet to the rear of such vehicle.

(2) Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with an additional mirror mounted either inside the vehicle approximately in the center or outside the vehicle on the right side and so located as to reflect to the driver a view of the highway for a distance of at least two hundred feet to the rear of such vehicle.

(3) Every truck registered or based in Washington that is equipped with a cube-style, walk-in cargo box up to eighteen feet long used in the commercial delivery of goods and services must be equipped with a rear crossview mirror or backup device to alert the driver that a person or object is behind the truck.

(4) All mirrors and backup devices required by this section shall be maintained in good condition. Rear crossview mirrors and backup devices will be of a type approved by the Washington state patrol. [1998 c 2 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 34; 1963 c 154 § 25; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.400. Prior: 1955 c 269 §



40; prior: 1937 c 189 § 37; RRS § 6360-37; RCW 46.36.060.]

*Motorcycles and motor-driven cycles—Additional requirements and limitations: RCW 46.37.539.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.410 Windshields required, exception—Must be unobstructed and equipped with wipers.** (1) All motor vehicles operated on the public highways of this state shall be equipped with a front windshield manufactured of safety glazing materials for use in motor vehicles in accordance with RCW 46.37.430, except, however, on such vehicles not so equipped or where windshields are not in use, the operators of such vehicles shall wear glasses, goggles, or face shields pursuant to RCW 46.37.530(1)(b).

(2) No person shall drive any motor vehicle with any sign, poster, or other nontransparent material upon the front windshield, side wings, or side or rear windows of such vehicle which obstructs the driver's clear view of the highway or any intersecting highway.

(3) The windshield on every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a device for cleaning rain, snow, or other moisture from the windshield, which device shall be so constructed as to be controlled or operated by the driver of the vehicle. After January 1, 1938, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate a new motor vehicle first sold or delivered after that date which is not equipped with such device or devices in good working order capable of cleaning the windshield thereof over two separate arcs, one each on the left and right side of the windshield, each capable of cleaning a surface of not less than one hundred twenty square inches, or other device or devices capable of accomplishing substantially the same result.

(4) Every windshield wiper upon a motor vehicle shall be maintained in good working order. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 35; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.410. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 41; prior: (i) 1937 c 189 § 38; RRS § 6360-38; RCW 46.36.070. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 39; RRS § 6360-39; RCW 46.36.080.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.420 Tires—Restrictions.** (1) It is unlawful to operate a vehicle upon the public highways of this state unless it is completely equipped with pneumatic rubber tires except vehicles equipped with temporary-use spare tires that meet federal standards that are installed and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

(2) No tire on a vehicle moved on a highway may have on its periphery any block, flange, cleat, or spike or any other protuberance of any material other than rubber which projects beyond the tread of the traction surface of the tire, except that it is permissible to use farm machinery equipped with pneumatic tires or solid rubber tracks having protuberances that will not injure the highway, and except also that it is permissible to use tire chains, alternative traction devices, or metal studs imbedded within the tire of reasonable proportions and of a type conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol, upon any vehicle when required for safety because of snow, ice, or other conditions tending to cause a vehicle to skid. It is unlawful to use metal studs imbedded within the tire between April 1st and November 1st, except that a vehicle may be equipped year-round with tires that have retract-

able studs if: (a) The studs retract pneumatically or mechanically to below the wear bar of the tire when not in use; and (b) the retractable studs are engaged only between November 1st and April 1st. Retractable studs may be made of metal or other material and are not subject to the lightweight stud weight requirements under RCW 46.04.272. The state department of transportation may, from time to time, determine additional periods in which the use of tires with metal studs imbedded therein is lawful.

(3) The state department of transportation and local authorities in their respective jurisdictions may issue special permits authorizing the operation upon a highway of traction engines or tractors having movable tracks with transverse corrugations upon the periphery of the movable tracks or farm tractors or other farm machinery, the operation of which upon a highway would otherwise be prohibited under this section.

(4) Tires with metal studs imbedded therein may be used between November 1st and April 1st upon school buses and fire department vehicles, any law or regulation to the contrary notwithstanding. [2012 c 75 § 1; 2007 c 140 § 2; 1999 c 208 § 1; 1990 c 105 § 1; 1987 c 330 § 721; 1986 c 113 § 4; 1984 c 7 § 50; 1971 ex.s. c 32 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 7 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.420. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 42; prior: (i) 1937 c 189 § 41; RRS § 6360-41; RCW 46.36.100. (ii) 1937 c 189 § 42; RRS § 6360-42; RCW 46.36.120; 1929 c 180 § 7; 1927 c 309 § 46; RRS § 6362-46.]

*Dangerous road conditions requiring special tires, chains, metal studs: RCW 47.36.250.*

*Motorcycles and motor-driven cycles—Additional requirements and limitations: RCW 46.37.539.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.4215 Lightweight and retractable studs—Certification by sellers.** Beginning January 1, 2000, a person offering to sell to a tire dealer conducting business in the state of Washington, a metal flange or cleat intended for installation as a stud in a vehicle tire shall certify that the studs are: (1) Lightweight studs as defined in RCW 46.04.272; or (2) retractable studs that are exempt from the requirements of RCW 46.04.272. Certification must be accomplished by clearly marking the boxes or containers used to ship and store studs with the designation "lightweight." This section does not apply to tires or studs in a wholesaler's existing inventory as of January 1, 2000. [2007 c 140 § 3; 1999 c 219 § 2.]

**46.37.4216 Lightweight and retractable studs—Sale of tires containing.** Beginning July 1, 2001, a person may not sell a studded tire or sell a stud for installation in a tire unless the stud qualifies as a: (1) Lightweight stud under RCW 46.04.272; or (2) retractable stud that is exempt from the requirements of RCW 46.04.272. [2007 c 140 § 4; 1999 c 219 § 3.]

**46.37.423 Pneumatic passenger car tires—Standards—Exception for off-highway use—Penalty.** No person, firm, or corporation shall sell or offer for sale for use on the public highways of this state any new pneumatic passenger car tire which does not meet the standards established by federal motor vehicle safety standard No. 109, as promulgated by the United States department of transportation under

authority of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 (80 Stat. 719, 728; 15 U.S.C. 1392, 1407).

The applicable standard shall be the version of standard No. 109 in effect at the time of manufacture of the tire.

It is a traffic infraction for any person, firm, or corporation to sell or offer for sale any new pneumatic passenger car tire which does not meet the standards prescribed in this section unless such tires are sold for off-highway use, as evidenced by a statement signed by the purchaser at the time of sale certifying that he or she is not purchasing such tires for use on the public highways of this state. [2010 c 8 § 9053; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 71; 1971 c 77 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.424 Regrooved tires—Standards—Exception for off-highway use—Penalty.** No person, firm, or corporation shall sell or offer for sale any regrooved tire or shall regroove any tire for use on the public highways of this state which does not meet the standard established by federal motor vehicle standard part 569—regrooved tires, as promulgated by the United States department of transportation under authority of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 (80 Stat. 719, 728; 15 U.S.C. 1392, 1407).

The applicable standard shall be the version of the federal regrooved tire standard in effect at the time of regrooving.

It is a traffic infraction for any person, firm, or corporation to sell or offer for sale any regrooved tire or shall regroove any tire which does not meet the standards prescribed in this section unless such tires are sold or regrooved for off-highway use, as evidenced by a statement signed by the purchaser or regroover at the time of sale or regrooving certifying that he or she is not purchasing or regrooving such tires for use on the public highways of this state. [2010 c 8 § 9054; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 72; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 36; 1971 c 77 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.425 Tires—Unsafe—State patrol's authority—Penalty.** No person shall drive or move or cause to be driven or moved any vehicle, the tires of which have contact with the driving surface of the road, subject to registration in this state, upon the public highways of this state unless such vehicle is equipped with tires in safe operating condition in accordance with requirements established by this section or by the state patrol.

The state patrol shall promulgate rules and regulations setting forth requirements of safe operating condition of tires capable of being employed by a law enforcement officer by visual inspection of tires mounted on vehicles including visual comparison with simple measuring gauges. These rules shall include effects of tread wear and depth of tread.

A tire shall be considered unsafe if it has:

(1) Any ply or cord exposed either to the naked eye or when cuts or abrasions on the tire are probed; or

(2) Any bump, bulge, or knot, affecting the tire structure; or

(3) Any break repaired with a boot; or

(4) A tread depth of less than 2/32 of an inch measured in any two major tread grooves at three locations equally spaced around the circumference of the tire, or for those tires with

tread wear indicators, a tire shall be considered unsafe if it is worn to the point that the tread wear indicators contact the road in any two major tread grooves at three locations equally spaced around the circumference of the tire; or

(5) A legend which indicates the tire is not intended for use on public highways such as, "not for highway use" or "for racing purposes only"; or

(6) Such condition as may be reasonably demonstrated to render it unsafe; or

(7) If not matched in tire size designation, construction, and profile to the other tire and/or tires on the same axle, except for temporary-use spare tires that meet federal standards that are installed and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

No person, firm, or corporation shall sell any vehicle for use on the public highways of this state unless the vehicle is equipped with tires that are in compliance with the provisions of this section. If the tires are found to be in violation of the provisions of this section, the person, firm, or corporation selling the vehicle shall cause such tires to be removed from the vehicle and shall equip the vehicle with tires that are in compliance with the provisions of this section.

It is a traffic infraction for any person to operate a vehicle on the public highways of this state, or to sell a vehicle for use on the public highways of this state, which is equipped with a tire or tires in violation of the provisions of this section or the rules and regulations promulgated by the state patrol hereunder: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That if the violation relates to items (1) to (7) inclusive of this section then the condition or defect must be such that it can be detected by a visual inspection of tires mounted on vehicles, including visual comparison with simple measuring gauges. [1990 c 105 § 2; 1987 c 330 § 722; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 73; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 37; 1971 c 77 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.430 Safety glazing—Sunscreening or coloring.** (1)(a) No person may sell any motor vehicle as specified in this title, nor may any motor vehicle as specified in this title be registered unless such vehicle is equipped with safety glazing material of a type that meets or exceeds federal standards under 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.205.

(b) The foregoing provisions apply to all passenger-type motor vehicles, including passenger buses and school buses, but in respect to trucks, including truck tractors, the requirements as to safety glazing material apply to all glazing material used in doors, windows, and windshields in the drivers' compartments of such vehicles except as provided by subsection (4) of this section.

(c) The safety glazing material that is manufactured and installed in accordance with federal standards shall not be etched or otherwise permanently altered if the safety glazing material is installed in the windshield or any other window located in the motor vehicle passenger compartment, except for the etching of the vehicle identification number if:

(i) The maximum height of the letters or numbers do not exceed one-half inch; and

(ii) The etched vehicle identification number is not located in a position that interferes with the vision of any occupant of the motor vehicle.

(2) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Light transmission" means the ratio of the amount of total visible light, expressed in percentages, that is allowed to pass through the sunscreening or coloring material to the amount of total visible light falling on the motor vehicle window.

(b) "Net film screening" means the total sunscreening or coloring material applied to the window that includes both the material applied by the manufacturer during the safety glazing and any film sunscreening or coloring material applied after the vehicle is manufactured.

(c) "Reflectance" means the ratio of the amount of total light, expressed in percentages, that is reflected outward by the sunscreening or coloring material to the amount of total light falling on the motor vehicle window.

(d) "Safety glazing materials" means glazing materials so constructed, treated, or combined with other materials as to reduce substantially, in comparison with ordinary sheet glass or plate glass, the likelihood of injury to persons by objects from exterior sources or by these safety glazing materials when they may be cracked or broken.

(3) The director of licensing shall not register any motor vehicle which is subject to the provisions of this section unless it is equipped with an approved type of safety glazing material, and he or she shall suspend the registration of any motor vehicle so subject to this section which the director finds is not so equipped until it is made to conform to the requirements of this section.

(4) No person may sell or offer for sale, nor may any person operate a motor vehicle registered in this state which is equipped with, any camper manufactured after May 23, 1969, unless such camper is equipped with safety glazing material of a type conforming to rules adopted under 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.205 wherever glazing materials are used in outside windows and doors.

(5) No film sunscreening or coloring material that reduces light transmittance to any degree may be applied to the surface of the safety glazing material in a motor vehicle unless it meets the following standards for such material:

(a) The maximum level of net film sunscreening to be applied to any window, except the windshield, shall have a total reflectance of thirty-five percent or less, and a light transmission of twenty-four percent or more, where the vehicle is equipped with outside rearview mirrors on both the right and left. Installation of more than a single sheet of film sunscreening material to any window is prohibited.

(b) Hearses, collector vehicles, limousines and passenger buses used to transport persons for compensation, ambulances, rescue squad vehicles, any other emergency medical vehicle licensed under RCW 18.73.130 that is used to transport patients, and any vehicle identified by the manufacturer as a truck, motor home, or multipurpose passenger vehicle as defined in 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.3, may have net film sunscreening applied on any window to the rear of the driver that has less than twenty-four percent light transmittance, if the light reflectance is thirty-five percent or less and the vehicle is equipped with outside rearview mirrors on both the right and left.

(c) A person or business tinting windows for profit who tints windows within restricted areas of the glazing system shall supply a sticker to be affixed to the driver's door post, in the area adjacent to the manufacturer's identification tag.

Installation of this sticker certifies that the glazing application meets this chapter's standards for light transmission, reflectance, and placement requirements. Stickers must be no smaller than three-quarters of an inch by one and one-half inches, and no larger than two inches by two and one-half inches. The stickers must be of sufficient quality to endure exposure to harsh climate conditions. The business name and state tax identification number of the installer must be clearly visible on the sticker.

(d) A greater degree of light reduction is permitted on all windows and the top six inches of windshields of a vehicle operated by or carrying as a passenger a person who possesses a written verification from a licensed physician that the operator or passenger must be protected from exposure to sunlight for physical or medical reasons.

(e) A greater degree of light reduction is permitted along the top edge of the windshield as long as the product is transparent and does not extend into the AS-1 portion of the windshield or extend more than six inches from the top of the windshield. Clear film sunscreening material that reduces or eliminates ultraviolet light may be applied to windshields.

(f) When film sunscreening material is applied to any window except the windshield, outside mirrors on both the left and right sides shall be located so as to reflect to the driver a view of the roadway, through each mirror, a distance of at least two hundred feet to the rear of the vehicle.

(g) The following types of film sunscreening material are not permitted:

- (i) Mirror finish products;
- (ii) Red, gold, yellow, or black material; or
- (iii) Film sunscreening material that is in liquid preapplication form and brushed or sprayed on.

(6) Subsection (5) of this section does not prohibit:

(a) The use of shaded or heat-absorbing safety glazing material in which the shading or heat-absorbing characteristics have been applied at the time of manufacture of the safety glazing material and which meet federal standards for such safety glazing materials.

(b) The use and placement of federal, state, or local certificates or decals on any window as required by applicable laws or regulations. However, any such certificate or decal must be of a size and placed on the motor vehicle so as not to impair the ability of the driver to safely operate the motor vehicle.

(c) Sunscreening devices to be applied to any window behind the driver provided that the devices reduce the driver's area of vision uniformly and by no more than fifty percent, as measured on a horizontal plane. If sunscreening devices are applied to the rear window, the vehicle must be equipped with outside rearview mirrors on both the left and right.

(d) Recreational products, such as toys, cartoon characters, stuffed animals, signs, and any other vision-reducing article or material to be applied to or placed in windows behind the driver provided that they do not interfere, in their size or position, with the driver's ability to see other vehicles, persons, or objects.

(7) It is a traffic infraction for any person to operate a vehicle for use on the public highways of this state, if the vehicle is equipped with film sunscreening or coloring material in violation of this section.

(8) Owners of vehicles with film sunscreening material applied to windows to the rear of the driver, prior to June 7, 1990, must comply with the requirements of this section and RCW 46.37.435 by July 1, 1993.

(9) The side and rear windows of law enforcement vehicles are exempt from the requirements of subsection (5) of this section. However, when law enforcement vehicles are sold to private individuals the film sunscreening or coloring material must comply with the requirements of subsection (5) of this section or documentation must be provided to the buyer stating that the vehicle windows must comply with the requirements of subsection (5) of this section before operation of the vehicle. [2009 c 142 § 1; 2007 c 168 § 1; 1993 c 384 § 1; 1990 c 95 § 1; 1989 c 210 § 1; 1987 c 330 § 723; 1986 c 113 § 5; 1985 c 304 § 1; 1979 c 158 § 157; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 47; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.430. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 43; prior: 1947 c 220 § 1; 1937 c 189 § 40; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-40; RCW 46.36.090.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.435 Sunscreening, unlawful installation, penalty.** From June 7, 1990, a person who installs safety glazing or film sunscreening material in violation of RCW 46.37.430 is guilty of unlawful installation of safety glazing or film sunscreening materials. Unlawful installation is a misdemeanor. [1990 c 95 § 2.]

**46.37.440 Flares or other warning devices required on certain vehicles.** (1) No person may operate any motor truck, passenger bus, truck tractor, motor home, or travel trailer over eighty inches in overall width upon any highway outside the corporate limits of municipalities at any time unless there is carried in such vehicle the following equipment except as provided in subsection (2) of this section:

(a) At least three flares or three red electric lanterns or three portable red emergency reflectors, each of which shall be capable of being seen and distinguished at a distance of not less than six hundred feet under normal atmospheric conditions at nighttime.

No flare, fusee, electric lantern, or cloth warning flag may be used for the purpose of compliance with this section unless such equipment is of a type which has been submitted to the state patrol and conforms to rules adopted by it. No portable reflector unit may be used for the purpose of compliance with the requirements of this section unless it is so designed and constructed as to be capable of reflecting red light clearly visible from all distances within six hundred feet to one hundred feet under normal atmospheric conditions at night when directly in front of lawful upper beams of head lamps, and unless it is of a type which has been submitted to the state patrol and conforms to rules adopted by it;

(b) At least three red-burning fusees unless red electric lanterns or red portable emergency reflectors are carried;

(c) At least two red-cloth flags, not less than twelve inches square, with standards to support such flags.

(2) No person may operate at the time and under conditions stated in subsection (1) of this section any motor vehicle used for the transportation of explosives, any cargo tank truck used for the transportation of flammable liquids or compressed gases or liquefied gases, or any motor vehicle using compressed gas as a fuel unless there is carried in such vehi-

cle three red electric lanterns or three portable red emergency reflectors meeting the requirements of subsection (1) of this section, and there shall not be carried in any said vehicle any flares, fusees, or signal produced by flame. [1987 c 330 § 724; 1986 c 113 § 6; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 38; 1971 ex.s. c 97 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.440. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 44; prior: 1947 c 267 § 7, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-32a, part; RCW 46.40.210, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.450 Disabled vehicle—Display of warning devices.** (1) Whenever any motor truck, passenger bus, truck tractor over eighty inches in overall width, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer is disabled upon the traveled portion of any highway or the shoulder thereof outside any municipality at any time when lighted lamps are required on vehicles, the driver of such vehicle shall display the following warning devices upon the highway during the time the vehicle is so disabled on the highway except as provided in subsection (2) of this section:

(a) A lighted fusee, a lighted red electric lantern, or a portable red emergency reflector shall be immediately placed at the traffic side of the vehicle in the direction of the nearest approaching traffic.

(b) As soon thereafter as possible but in any event within the burning period of the fusee (fifteen minutes), the driver shall place three liquid-burning flares (pot torches), three lighted red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors on the traveled portion of the highway in the following order:

(i) One, approximately one hundred feet from the disabled vehicle in the center of the lane occupied by such vehicle and toward traffic approaching in that lane.

(ii) One, approximately one hundred feet in the opposite direction from the disabled vehicle and in the center of the traffic lane occupied by such vehicle.

(iii) One at the traffic side of the disabled vehicle not less than ten feet rearward or forward thereof in the direction of the nearest approaching traffic. If a lighted red electric lantern or a red portable emergency reflector has been placed at the traffic side of the vehicle in accordance with subdivision (a) of this subsection, it may be used for this purpose.

(2) Whenever any vehicle referred to in this section is disabled within five hundred feet of a curve, hillcrest, or other obstruction to view, the warning signal in that direction shall be so placed as to afford ample warning to other users of the highway, but in no case less than five hundred feet from the disabled vehicle.

(3) Whenever any vehicle of a type referred to in this section is disabled upon any roadway of a divided highway during the time that lights are required, the appropriate warning devices prescribed in subsections (1) and (5) of this section shall be placed as follows:

One at a distance of approximately two hundred feet from the vehicle in the center of the lane occupied by the stopped vehicle and in the direction of traffic approaching in that lane; one at a distance of approximately one hundred feet from the vehicle, in the center of the lane occupied by the vehicle and in the direction of traffic approaching in that lane; and one at the traffic side of the vehicle and approximately

ten feet from the vehicle in the direction of the nearest approaching traffic.

(4) Whenever any vehicle of a type referred to in this section is disabled upon the traveled portion of a highway or the shoulder thereof outside any municipality at any time when the display of fusees, flares, red electric lanterns, or portable red emergency reflectors is not required, the driver of the vehicle shall display two red flags upon the roadway in the lane of traffic occupied by the disabled vehicle, one at a distance of approximately one hundred feet in advance of the vehicle, and one at a distance of approximately one hundred feet to the rear of the vehicle.

(5) Whenever any motor vehicle used in the transportation of explosives or any cargo tank truck used for the transportation of any flammable liquid or compressed flammable gas, or any motor vehicle using compressed gas as a fuel, is disabled upon a highway of this state at any time or place mentioned in subsection (1) of this section, the driver of such vehicle shall immediately display the following warning devices: One red electric lantern or portable red emergency reflector placed on the roadway at the traffic side of the vehicle, and two red electric lanterns or portable red reflectors, one placed approximately one hundred feet to the front and one placed approximately one hundred feet to the rear of this disabled vehicle in the center of the traffic lane occupied by such vehicle. Flares, fusees, or signals produced by flame shall not be used as warning devices for disabled vehicles of the type mentioned in this subsection.

(6) Whenever any vehicle, other than those described in subsection (1) of this section, is disabled upon the traveled portion of any highway or shoulder thereof outside any municipality, the state patrol or the county sheriff shall, upon discovery of the disabled vehicle, place a reflectorized warning device on the vehicle. The warning device and its placement shall be in accordance with rules adopted by the state patrol. Neither the standards for, placement or use of, nor the lack of placement or use of a warning device under this subsection gives rise to any civil liability on the part of the state of Washington, the state patrol, any county, or any law enforcement agency or officer.

(7) The flares, fusees, red electric lanterns, portable red emergency reflectors, and flags to be displayed as required in this section shall conform with the requirements of RCW 46.37.440 applicable thereto. [1987 c 330 § 725; 1987 c 226 § 1; 1984 c 119 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.450. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 45; prior: 1947 c 267 § 7, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-32a, part; RCW 46.40.210, part.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1987 c 226 § 1 and by 1987 c 330 § 725, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.465 Fuel system.** (1) The fuel system shall be manufactured, installed, and maintained with due regard for the safety of the occupants of the vehicle and the public. Fuel tanks shall be equipped with approved caps.

(2) There shall be no signs of leakage from the carburetor or the fuel pump or the fuel hoses in the engine compartment or between the fuel tank and the engine compartment.

(3) No person shall operate any motor vehicle upon the public highways of this state unless the fuel tank is securely attached and so located that another vehicle would not be exposed to direct contact with the fuel tank in the event of a rear end collision. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 39.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.467 Alternative fuel source—Placard required.**

(1) Every automobile, truck, motorcycle, motor home, or off-road vehicle that is fueled by an alternative fuel source shall bear a reflective placard issued by the national fire protection association indicating that the vehicle is so fueled. Violation of this subsection is a traffic infraction.

(2) As used in this section "alternative fuel source" includes propane, compressed natural gas, liquid petroleum gas, or any chemically similar gas but does not include gasoline or diesel fuel.

(3) If a placard for a specific alternative fuel source has not been issued by the national fire protection association, a placard issued by the chief of the Washington state patrol, through the director of fire protection, shall be required. The chief of the Washington state patrol, through the director of fire protection, shall develop rules for the design, size, and placement of the placard which shall remain effective until a specific placard is issued by the national fire protection association. [1995 c 369 § 23; 1986 c 266 § 88; 1984 c 145 § 1; 1983 c 237 § 2.]

**Legislative finding—1983 c 237:** "The legislature finds that vehicles using alternative fuel sources such as propane, compressed natural gas, liquid petroleum gas, or other hydrocarbon gas fuels require firefighters to use a different technique if the vehicles catch fire. A reflective placard on such vehicles would warn firefighters of the danger so they could react properly." [1983 c 237 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.470 Air conditioning equipment.** (1) "Air conditioning equipment," as used or referred to in this section, means mechanical vapor compression refrigeration equipment that is used to cool the driver's or passenger compartment of any motor vehicle.

(2) Air conditioning equipment must be manufactured, installed, and maintained with due regard for the safety of the occupants of the vehicle and the public. Air conditioning equipment may not contain any refrigerant that is toxic to persons or that is flammable, unless the refrigerant is allowed under the department of ecology's motor vehicle emission standards adopted under RCW 70.120A.010.

(3) The state patrol may enforce safety requirements, regulations, and specifications consistent with the requirements of this section applicable to air conditioning equipment which must correlate with and, so far as possible, conform to the current recommended practice or standard applicable to air conditioning equipment approved by the society of automotive engineers.

(4) A person may not sell or equip, for use in this state, a new motor vehicle with any air conditioning equipment unless it complies with the requirements of this section.

(5) A person may not register or license for use on any highway any new motor vehicle equipped with any air conditioning equipment unless the equipment complies with the requirements of this section. [2011 c 224 § 1; 2009 c 256 § 1;

1987 c 330 § 726; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.470. Prior: 1955 c 269 § 47.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.480 Television viewers—Earphones.** (1) No person shall drive any motor vehicle equipped with any television viewer, screen, or other means of visually receiving a television broadcast when the moving images are visible to the driver while operating the motor vehicle on a public road, except for live video of the motor vehicle backing up. This subsection does not apply to law enforcement vehicles communicating with mobile computer networks.

(2) No person shall operate any motor vehicle on a public highway while wearing any headset or earphones connected to any electronic device capable of receiving a radio broadcast or playing a sound recording for the purpose of transmitting a sound to the human auditory senses and which headset or earphones muffle or exclude other sounds. This subsection does not apply to students and instructors participating in a Washington state motorcycle safety program.

(3) This section does not apply to authorized emergency vehicles, motorcyclists wearing a helmet with built-in headsets or earphones as approved by the Washington state patrol, or motorists using hands-free, wireless communications systems, as approved by the equipment section of the Washington state patrol. [2011 c 368 § 1; 1996 c 34 § 1; 1991 c 95 § 1; 1988 c 227 § 6; 1987 c 176 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 40; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.480. Prior: 1949 c 196 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-98d. Formerly RCW 46.36.150.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.490 Safety load chains and devices required.** It shall be unlawful to operate any vehicle upon the public highways of this state without having the load thereon securely fastened and protected by safety chains or other device. The chief of the Washington state patrol is hereby authorized to adopt and enforce reasonable rules and regulations as to what shall constitute adequate and safe chains or other devices for the fastening and protection of loads upon vehicles. [1987 c 330 § 727; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.490. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 43; RRS § 6360-43; 1927 c 309 § 18; RRS § 6362-18. Formerly RCW 46.36.110.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.495 Safety chains for towing.** (1) "Safety chains" means flexible tension members connected from the front portion of the towed vehicle to the rear portion of the towing vehicle for the purpose of retaining connection between towed and towing vehicle in the event of failure of the connection provided by the primary connecting system, as prescribed by rule of the Washington state patrol.

(2) The term "safety chains" includes chains, cables, or wire ropes, or an equivalent flexible member meeting the strength requirements prescribed by rule of the Washington state patrol.

(3) A tow truck towing a vehicle and a vehicle towing a trailer must use safety chains. Failure to comply with this section is a class 1 civil infraction punishable under RCW 7.80.120. [1995 c 360 § 1.]

*Tow trucks: Chapter 46.55 RCW.*

**46.37.500 Fenders or splash aprons.** (1) Except as authorized under subsection (2) of this section, no person may operate any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer that is not equipped with fenders, covers, flaps, or splash aprons adequate for minimizing the spray or splash of water or mud from the roadway to the rear of the vehicle. All such devices shall be as wide as the tires behind which they are mounted and extend downward at least to the center of the axle.

(2) A motor vehicle that is not less than forty years old or a street rod vehicle that is owned and operated primarily as a collector's item need not be equipped with fenders when the vehicle is used and driven during fair weather on well-maintained, hard-surfaced roads. [1999 c 58 § 2; 1988 c 15 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 41; 1961 c 12 § 46.37.500. Prior: 1947 c 200 § 3, part; 1937 c 189 § 44, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-44, part. Formerly RCW 46.36.130 (second paragraph).]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.505 Child passenger restraint systems.** The state patrol shall adopt standards for the performance, design, and installation of passenger restraint systems for children less than five years old and shall approve those systems which meet its standards. [1987 c 330 § 728; 1983 c 215 § 1.]

*Child passenger restraint required: RCW 46.61.687.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.510 Seat belts and shoulder harnesses.** (1) No person may sell any automobile manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964, nor may any owner cause such vehicle to be registered thereafter under the provisions of chapter 46.12 RCW unless such motor car or automobile is equipped with automobile seat belts installed for use on the front seats thereof which are of a type and installed in a manner conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol. Where registration is for transfer from an out-of-state license, the applicant shall be informed of this section by the issuing agent and has thirty days to comply. The state patrol shall adopt and enforce standards as to what constitutes adequate and safe seat belts and for the fastening and installation of them. Such standards shall not be below those specified as minimum requirements by the Society of Automotive Engineers on June 13, 1963.

(2) Every passenger car manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with at least two lap-type safety belt assemblies for use in the front seating positions.

(3) Every passenger car manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1968, shall be equipped with a lap-type safety belt assembly for each permanent passenger seating position. This requirement shall not apply to police vehicles.

(4) Every passenger car manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1968, shall be equipped with at least two shoulder harness-type safety belt assemblies for use in the front seating positions.

(5) The state patrol shall excuse specified types of motor vehicles or seating positions within any motor vehicle from the requirements imposed by subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section when compliance would be impractical.

(6) No person may distribute, have for sale, offer for sale, or sell any safety belt or shoulder harness for use in motor vehicles unless it meets current minimum standards and specifications conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol or the United States department of transportation.

[1987 c 330 § 729; 1986 c 113 § 7; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 42; 1963 c 117 § 1.]

*Safety belts, use required: RCW 46.61.688.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.513 Bumpers.** When any motor vehicle was originally equipped with bumpers or any other collision energy absorption or attenuation system, that system shall be maintained in good operational condition, and no person shall remove or disconnect, and no owner shall cause or knowingly permit the removal or disconnection of, any part of that system except temporarily in order to make repairs, replacements, or adjustments. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 43.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.517 Body and body hardware.** (1) The body, fenders, and bumpers shall be maintained without protrusions which could be hazardous to pedestrians. In addition, the bumpers shall be so attached and maintained so as to not protrude beyond the original bumper line.

(2) The hood, hood latches, hood fastenings, doors, and door latches shall be maintained in a condition sufficient to ensure proper working equal to that at the time of original vehicle manufacture. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 44.]

*Lowering vehicle below legal clearance: RCW 46.61.680.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.518 Street rod, custom, and kit vehicles—Optional and required equipment.** Notwithstanding the requirements of this chapter, hoods and bumpers are optional equipment on street rod vehicles, custom vehicles, and kit vehicles. Street rod vehicles, custom vehicles, and kit vehicles must comply with fender requirements under RCW 46.37.500(2) and the windshield requirement of RCW 46.37.410(1). [2011 c 114 § 9; 1996 c 225 § 12.]

**Effective date—2011 c 114:** See note following RCW 46.04.572.

**Finding—1996 c 225:** See note following RCW 46.04.125.

**46.37.5185 Street rod and custom vehicles—Blue dot taillights.** A street rod or custom vehicle may use blue dot taillights for stop lamps, rear turning indicator lamps, rear hazard lamps, and rear reflectors. For the purposes of this section, "blue dot taillight" means a red lamp installed in the rear of a motor vehicle containing a blue or purple insert that is not more than one inch in diameter. [2011 c 114 § 8.]

**Effective date—2011 c 114:** See note following RCW 46.04.572.

**46.37.519 Kit vehicles.** (1) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Kit vehicle" means a passenger car or light truck assembled from a manufactured kit, and is either (i) a kit consisting of a prefabricated body and chassis used to construct a complete vehicle, or (ii) a kit consisting of a prefabricated body to be mounted on an existing vehicle chassis and drive train, commonly referred to as a donor vehicle. "Kit vehicle" does not include a vehicle that has been assembled by a manufacturer.

(b) "Major component part" includes at least each of the following vehicle parts: (i) Engines and short blocks; (ii) frame; (iii) transmission or transfer case; (iv) cab; (v) door;

(vi) front or rear differential; (vii) front or rear clip; (viii) quarter panel; (ix) truck bed or box; (x) seat; (xi) hood; (xii) bumper; (xiii) fender; and (xiv) airbag.

(2) A kit vehicle must, prior to inspection, contain the following components:

(a) Brakes on all wheels. The service brakes, upon application, must be capable of stopping the vehicle within a twelve-foot lane and (i) developing an average tire to road retardation force of not less than 52.8 percent of the gross vehicle weight, (ii) decelerating the vehicle at a rate of not less than seventeen feet per second, or (iii) stopping the vehicle within a distance of twenty-five feet from a speed of twenty miles per hour. Tests must be made on a level, dry, concrete or asphalt surface free from loose material;

(b) Brake hoses that comply with 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.106;

(c) Brake fluids that comply with 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.119;

(d) A parking brake that must operate on at least two wheels on the same axle, and when applied, must be capable of holding the vehicle on any grade on which the vehicle is operated. The parking brake must be separately actuated so that failure of any part of the service brake actuation system will not diminish the vehicle's parking brake holding capability;

(e) Lighting equipment that complies with 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.108;

(f) Pneumatic tires that comply with 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.109;

(g) Glazing material that complies with 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.205. The driver must be provided with a windshield and side windows or opening that allows an outward horizontal vision capability, ninety degrees each side of a vertical plane passing through the fore and aft centerline of the vehicle. This range of vision must not be interrupted by window framing not exceeding four inches in width at each side location;

(h) Seat belt assemblies that comply with 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.209;

(i) Defroster and defogging devices capable of defogging and defrosting the windshield area, except vehicles or exact replicas of vehicles manufactured prior to January 1938 are exempt from this requirement;

(j) Door latches that firmly and automatically secure the door when pushed closed and that allow each door to be opened both from the inside and outside, if the vehicle is enclosed with side doors leading directly into a compartment that contains one or more seating accommodations;

(k) A floor plan that is capable of supporting the weight of the number of occupants that the vehicle is designed to carry;

(l) If an enclosed kit vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine, a passenger compartment that must be constructed to prevent the entry of exhaust fumes into the passenger compartment;

(m) Fenders that must be installed on all wheels and cover the entire tread width that comes in contact with the road surface. Coverage of the tire tread circumference must be from at least fifteen degrees in front and to at least seventy-five degrees to the rear of the vertical centerline at each wheel measured from the center of the wheel rotation. The tire must not come in contact with the body, fender, chassis,

or suspension of the vehicle. Kit vehicles that are more than forty years old and are owned and operated primarily as collector's vehicles are exempt from this fender requirement if the vehicle is used and driven during fair weather on well-maintained, hard-surfaced roads;

(n) A speedometer that is calibrated to indicate miles per hour, and may also indicate kilometers per hour;

(o) Mirrors as outlined in RCW 46.37.400. Mirror mountings must provide for mirror adjustment by tilting both horizontally and vertically;

(p) An accelerator control system that, in accordance with 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.124, contains a double spring that returns engine throttle to an idle position when the driver removes the actuating force from the accelerator control. The geometry of the throttle linkage must be designed so that the throttle will not lock in an open position. A vehicle equipped with cruise control is exempt when the cruise control is actuated;

(q) A fuel system that, in accordance with 49 C.F.R. Secs. 571.301 and 571.302, is securely fastened to the vehicle so as not to interfere with the vehicle's operation. The components, such as tank, tubing, hoses, and pump, must be of leak proof design and be securely attached with fasteners designed for that purpose. All fuel system vent lines must extend outside of the passenger compartment and be positioned as not to be in contact with the high temperature surfaces or moving components. If the vehicle is fueled using alternative measures, it must be installed in accordance with any applicable standards set by the United States department of transportation;

(r) A steering wheel as outlined in RCW 46.37.375 and WAC 204-10-034;

(s) A suspension as outlined in WAC 204-10-036;

(t) An exhaust system as outlined in WAC 204-10-038; and

(u) A horn that is capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than two hundred feet. The horn or another warning device must not emit an unreasonably loud or harsh sound or whistle. A bell or siren must not be used as a warning device. The device used to actuate the horn must be easily accessible to the driver when operating the vehicle.

(3) A kit vehicle may also be equipped with hoods and bumpers. If this equipment is present, it must meet the following requirements:

(a) Hood latches must be equipped with a primary and secondary latching system to hold the hood in a closed position if the hood is a front opening hood; and

(b) Bumpers must be 4.5 inches in vertical height, centered on the vehicle's centerline, and extend no less than the width of the respective wheel track distances. Bumpers must be horizontal load veering and attach to the frame to effectively transfer energy when impacted. The bumper must be installed in accordance with the bumper heights outlined in WAC 204-10-022. [2009 c 284 § 3.]

**46.37.520 Beach vehicles with soft tires—"Dune buggies"—Inspection and approval required—Fee.** It shall be unlawful for any person to lease for hire or permit the use of any vehicle with soft tires commonly used upon the beach and referred to as a dune buggy unless such vehicle has been

inspected by and approved by the state patrol, which may charge a reasonable fee therefor to go into the motor vehicle fund. [1987 c 330 § 730; 1971 ex.s. c 91 § 4; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 61.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.522 Motorcycles and motor-driven cycles—When head lamps and tail lamps to be lighted.** Every motorcycle and motor-driven cycle shall have its head lamps and tail lamps lighted whenever such vehicle is in motion upon a highway. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 45.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.523 Motorcycles and motor-driven cycles—Head lamps.** (1) Every motorcycle and every motor-driven cycle shall be equipped with at least one lamp which shall comply with the requirements and limitations of this section.

(2) Every head lamp upon every motorcycle and motor-driven cycle shall be located at a height of not more than fifty-four inches nor less than twenty-four inches to be measured as set forth in RCW 46.37.030(2).

(3) Every motorcycle other than a motor-driven cycle shall be equipped with multiple-beam road-lighting equipment.

(4) Such equipment shall:

(a) Reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least three hundred feet ahead when the uppermost distribution of light is selected;

(b) Reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least one hundred fifty feet ahead when the lowermost distribution of light is selected, and on a straight, level road under any condition of loading none of the high intensity portion of the beam shall be directed to strike the eyes of an approaching driver. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 46.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.524 Motor-driven cycles—Head lamps.** The head lamp or head lamps upon every motor-driven cycle may be of the single-beam or multiple-beam type but in either event shall comply with the requirements and limitations as follows:

(1) Every such head lamp or head lamps on a motor-driven cycle shall be of a sufficient intensity to reveal a person or a vehicle at a distance of not less than one hundred feet when the motor-driven cycle is operated at any speed less than twenty-five miles per hour and at a distance of not less than two hundred feet when the motor-driven cycle is operated at a speed of twenty-five or more miles per hour, and at a distance of not less than three hundred feet when the motor-driven cycle is operated at a speed of thirty-five or more miles per hour;

(2) In the event the motor-driven cycle is equipped with a multiple-beam head lamp or head lamps the upper beam shall meet the minimum requirements set forth above and shall not exceed the limitations set forth in RCW 46.37.220(1), and the lowermost beam shall meet the requirements applicable to a lowermost distribution of light as set forth in RCW 46.37.220;



(3) In the event the motor-driven cycle is equipped with a single-beam lamp or lamps, such lamp or lamps shall be so aimed that when the vehicle is loaded none of the high-intensity portion of light, at a distance of twenty-five feet ahead, shall project higher than the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 47.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.525 Motorcycles and motor-driven cycles—Tail lamps, reflectors, and stop lamps.** (1) Every motorcycle and motor-driven cycle shall have at least one tail lamp which shall be located at a height of not more than seventy-two nor less than fifteen inches.

(2) Either a tail lamp or a separate lamp shall be so constructed and placed as to illuminate with a white light the rear registration plate and render it clearly legible from a distance of fifty feet to the rear. Any tail lamp or tail lamps, together with any separate lamp or lamps for illuminating the rear registration plate, shall be so wired as to be lighted whenever the head lamps or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted.

(3) Every motorcycle and motor-driven cycle shall carry on the rear, either as part of the tail lamp or separately, at least one red reflector meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.060.

(4) Every motorcycle and motor-driven cycle shall be equipped with at least one stop lamp meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.070. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 48.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.527 Motorcycles and motor-driven cycles—Brake requirements.** Every motorcycle and motor-driven cycle must comply with the provisions of RCW 46.37.351, except that:

(1) Motorcycles and motor-driven cycles need not be equipped with parking brakes;

(2) The wheel of a sidecar attached to a motorcycle or to a motor-driven cycle, and the front wheel of a motor-driven cycle need not be equipped with brakes, if such motorcycle or motor-driven cycle is otherwise capable of complying with the braking performance requirements of RCW 46.37.528 and 46.37.529;

(3) Motorcycles shall be equipped with brakes operating on both the front and rear wheels unless the vehicle was originally manufactured without both front and rear brakes: PROVIDED, That a front brake shall not be required on any motorcycle over twenty-five years old which was originally manufactured without a front brake and which has been restored to its original condition and is being ridden to or from or otherwise in conjunction with an antique or classic motorcycle contest, show or other such assemblage: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no front brake shall be required on any motorcycle manufactured prior to January 1, 1931. [1982 c 77 § 6; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 49.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.528 Motorcycles and motor-driven cycles—Performance ability of brakes.** Every motorcycle and

motor-driven cycle, at all times and under all conditions of loading, upon application of the service brake, shall be capable of:

(1) Developing a braking force that is not less than forty-three and one-half percent of its gross weight;

(2) Decelerating to a stop from not more than twenty miles per hour at not less than fourteen feet per second per second; and

(3) Stopping from a speed of twenty miles per hour in not more than thirty feet, such distance to be measured from the point at which movement of the service brake pedal or control begins.

Tests for deceleration and stopping distance shall be made on a substantially level (not to exceed plus or minus one percent grade), dry, smooth, hard surface that is free from loose material. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 50.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.529 Motor-driven cycles—Braking system inspection.** (1) The state patrol is authorized to require an inspection of the braking system on any motor-driven cycle and to disapprove any such braking system on a vehicle which it finds will not comply with the performance ability standard set forth in RCW 46.37.351, or which in its opinion is equipped with a braking system that is not so designed or constructed as to ensure reasonable and reliable performance in actual use.

(2) The director of licensing may refuse to register or may suspend or revoke the registration of any vehicle referred to in this section when the state patrol determines that the braking system thereon does not comply with the provisions of this section.

(3) No person shall operate on any highway any vehicle referred to in this section in the event the state patrol has disapproved the braking system upon such vehicle. [1987 c 330 § 731; 1979 c 158 § 158; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 51.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.530 Motorcycles, motor-driven cycles, mopeds, electric-assisted bicycles—Helmets, other equipment—Children—Rules.** (1) It is unlawful:

(a) For any person to operate a motorcycle, moped, or motor-driven cycle not equipped with mirrors on the left and right sides which shall be so located as to give the driver a complete view of the highway for a distance of at least two hundred feet to the rear of the motorcycle, moped, or motor-driven cycle: PROVIDED, That mirrors shall not be required on any motorcycle or motor-driven cycle over twenty-five years old originally manufactured without mirrors and which has been restored to its original condition and which is being ridden to or from or otherwise in conjunction with an antique or classic motorcycle contest, show, or other such assemblage: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no mirror is required on any motorcycle manufactured prior to January 1, 1931;

(b) For any person to operate a motorcycle, moped, or motor-driven cycle which does not have a windshield unless wearing glasses, goggles, or a face shield of a type conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol;

(c) For any person to operate or ride upon a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle, or moped on a state highway, county road, or city street unless wearing upon his or her head a motorcycle helmet except when the vehicle is an antique motor-driven cycle or when the vehicle is equipped with all of the following:

- (i) Steering wheel;
- (ii) Seat belts that conform to standards prescribed under 49 C.F.R. Part 571; and
- (iii) Partially or completely enclosed seating area for the driver and passenger that is certified by the manufacturer as meeting the standards prescribed under 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.216.

The motorcycle helmet neck or chin strap must be fastened securely while the motorcycle, moped, or motor-driven cycle is in motion. Persons operating electric-assisted bicycles and motorized foot scooters shall comply with all laws and regulations related to the use of bicycle helmets;

(d) For any person to transport a child under the age of five on a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle;

(e) For any person to sell or offer for sale a motorcycle helmet that does not meet the requirements established by this section.

(2) The state patrol may adopt and amend rules concerning standards for glasses, goggles, and face shields.

(3) For purposes of this section, "motorcycle helmet" means a protective covering for the head consisting of a hard outer shell, padding adjacent to and inside the outer shell, and a neck or chin strap type retention system, with the manufacturer's certification applied in accordance with 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.218 indicating that the motorcycle helmet meets standards established by the United States department of transportation. [2009 c 275 § 5; 2003 c 197 § 1; 1997 c 328 § 4; 1990 c 270 § 7. Prior: 1987 c 454 § 1; 1987 c 330 § 732; 1986 c 113 § 8; 1982 c 77 § 7; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 55; 1971 ex.s. c 150 § 1; 1969 c 42 § 1; 1967 c 232 § 4.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

*Maximum height for handlebars: RCW 46.61.611.*

*Riding on motorcycles: RCW 46.61.610.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.535 Motorcycles, motor-driven cycles, or mopeds—Helmet requirements when rented.** It is unlawful for any person to rent out motorcycles, motor-driven cycles, or mopeds unless the person also has on hand for rent helmets of a type conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol.

It shall be unlawful for any person to rent a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle, or moped unless the person has in his or her possession a helmet of a type approved by the state patrol, regardless of from whom the helmet is obtained. [1990 c 270 § 8; 1987 c 330 § 733; 1986 c 113 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 355 § 56; 1967 c 232 § 10.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

*License requirement for person renting motorcycle: RCW 46.20.220.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.537 Motorcycles—Exhaust system.** No person shall modify the exhaust system of a motorcycle in a manner which will amplify or increase the noise emitted by the

engine of such vehicle above that emitted by the muffler originally installed on the vehicle, and it shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motorcycle not equipped as required by this section, or which has been amplified as prohibited by this section. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 52.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.539 Motorcycles and motor-driven cycles—Additional requirements and limitations.** Every motorcycle and every motor-driven cycle shall also comply with the requirements and limitations of:

RCW 46.37.380 on horns and warning devices;

RCW 46.37.390 on mufflers and prevention of noise;

RCW 46.37.400 on mirrors; and

RCW 46.37.420 on tires. [1977 ex.s. c 355 § 53.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.540 Odometers—Disconnecting, resetting, or turning back prohibited.** (1) The legislature intends to make it illegal for persons to turn forward the odometer on a new car to avoid compliance with the emissions standards required by chapter 295, Laws of 2005.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any person to disconnect, turn back, turn forward, or reset the odometer of any motor vehicle with the intent to change the number of miles indicated on the odometer gauge. A violation of this subsection is a gross misdemeanor. [2005 c 295 § 8; 1983 c 3 § 119; 1969 c 112 § 2.]

**Findings—2005 c 295:** See note following RCW 70.120A.010.

*Motor vehicle dealers, unlawful acts and practices: RCW 46.70.180.*

**46.37.550 Odometers—Selling motor vehicle knowing odometer turned back unlawful.** It shall be unlawful for any person to sell a motor vehicle in this state if such person has knowledge that the odometer on such motor vehicle has been turned back and if such person fails to notify the buyer, prior to the time of sale, that the odometer has been turned back or that he or she had reason to believe that the odometer has been turned back. [2010 c 8 § 9055; 1969 c 112 § 3.]

**46.37.560 Odometers—Selling motor vehicle knowing odometer replaced unlawful.** It shall be unlawful for any person to sell a motor vehicle in this state if such person has knowledge that the odometer on such motor vehicle has been replaced with another odometer and if such person fails to notify the buyer, prior to the time of sale, that the odometer has been replaced or that he or she believes the odometer to have been replaced. [2010 c 8 § 9056; 1969 c 112 § 4.]

**46.37.570 Odometers—Selling, advertising, using, or installing device registering false mileage.** It shall be unlawful for any person to advertise for sale, to sell, to use, or to install on any part of a motor vehicle or on an odometer in a motor vehicle any device which causes the odometer to register any mileage other than the true mileage driven. For the purposes of this section the true mileage driven is that driven by the car as registered by the odometer within the manufacturer's designed tolerance. [1969 c 112 § 5.]

**46.37.590 Odometers—Purchaser plaintiff to recover costs and attorney's fee, when.** In any suit brought by the purchaser of a motor vehicle against the seller of such vehicle, the purchaser shall be entitled to recover his or her court costs and a reasonable attorney's fee fixed by the court, if: (1) The suit or claim is based substantially upon the purchaser's allegation that the odometer on such vehicle has been tampered with contrary to RCW 46.37.540 and 46.37.550 or replaced contrary to RCW 46.37.560; and (2) it is found in such suit that the seller of such vehicle or any of his or her employees or agents knew or had reason to know that the odometer on such vehicle had been so tampered with or replaced and failed to disclose such knowledge to the purchaser prior to the time of sale. [2010 c 8 § 9057; 1975 c 24 § 1; 1969 c 112 § 7.]

**46.37.600 Liability of operator, owner, lessee for violations.** Whenever an act or omission is declared to be unlawful in chapter 46.37 RCW, if the operator of the vehicle is not the owner or lessee of such vehicle, but is so operating or moving the vehicle with the express or implied permission of the owner or lessee, then the operator and/or owner or lessee are both subject to the provisions of this chapter with the primary responsibility to be that of the owner or lessee.

If the person operating the vehicle at the time of the unlawful act or omission is not the owner or lessee of the vehicle, such person is fully authorized to accept the citation and execute the promise to appear on behalf of the owner or lessee. [1980 c 104 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 69 § 3.]

**46.37.610 Wheelchair conveyance standards.** The state patrol shall adopt rules for wheelchair conveyance safety standards. Operation of a wheelchair conveyance that is in violation of these standards is a traffic infraction. [1987 c 330 § 734; 1983 c 200 § 4.]

*Wheelchair conveyances*

*definition:* RCW 46.04.710.

*operator's license:* RCW 46.20.109.

*registration:* RCW 46.16A.405(3).

*public roadways, operating on:* RCW 46.61.730.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.37.620 School buses—Crossing arms.** Effective September 1, 1992, every school bus shall, in addition to any other equipment required by this chapter, be equipped with a crossing arm mounted to the bus that, when extended, will require students who are crossing in front of the bus to walk more than five feet from the front of the bus. [1991 c 166 § 1.]

**46.37.630 Private school buses.** A private school bus is subject to the requirements set forth in the National Standards for School Buses established by the national safety council in effect at the time of the bus manufacture, as adopted by rule by reference by the chief of the Washington state patrol. A private school bus manufactured before 1980 must meet the minimum standards set forth in the 1980 edition of the National Standards for School Buses. [1995 c 141 § 3.]

**46.37.640 Air bags—Definitions.** (1) "Air bag" means an inflatable restraint system or portion of an inflatable restraint system installed in a motor vehicle.

(2) "Previously deployed air bag" means an inflatable restraint system or portion of the system that has been activated or inflated as a result of a collision or other incident involving the vehicle.

(3) "Nondeployed salvage air bag" means an inflatable restraint system that has not been previously activated or inflated as a result of a collision or other incident involving the vehicle. [2003 c 33 § 1.]

**46.37.650 Air bags—Installation of previously deployed—Penalty.** (1) A person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor if he or she knew or reasonably should have known that an air bag he or she installs or reinstalls in a vehicle for compensation, or distributes as an auto part, is a previously deployed air bag that is part of an inflatable restraint system.

(2) A person found guilty under subsection (1) of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars or by confinement in the county jail for up to three hundred sixty-four days, or both. [2011 c 96 § 33; 2003 c 33 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

**46.37.660 Air bags—Replacement requirements.** Whenever an air bag that is part of a previously deployed inflatable restraint system is replaced by either a new air bag that is part of an inflatable restraint system or a nondeployed salvage air bag that is part of an inflatable restraint system, the air bag must conform to the original equipment manufacturer requirements and the installer must verify that the self-diagnostic system for the inflatable restraint system indicates that the entire inflatable restraint system is operating properly. [2003 c 33 § 3.]

**46.37.670 Signal preemption devices—Prohibited—Exceptions.** (1) Signal preemption devices shall not be installed or used on or with any vehicle other than an emergency vehicle authorized by the state patrol, a publicly owned law enforcement or emergency vehicle, a department of transportation, city, or county maintenance vehicle, or a public transit vehicle.

(2) This section does not apply to any of the following:

(a) A law enforcement agency and law enforcement personnel in the course of providing law enforcement services;

(b) A fire station or a firefighter in the course of providing fire prevention or fire extinguishing services;

(c) An emergency medical service or ambulance in the course of providing emergency medical transportation or ambulance services;

(d) An operator, passenger, or owner of an authorized emergency vehicle in the course of his or her emergency duties;

(e) Department of transportation, city, or county maintenance personnel while performing maintenance;

(f) Public transit personnel in the performance of their duties. However, public transit personnel operating a signal preemption device shall have second degree priority to law enforcement personnel, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, and other authorized emergency vehicle personnel,

when simultaneously approaching the same traffic control signal;

(g) A mail or package delivery service or employee or agent of a mail or package delivery service in the course of shipping or delivering a signal preemption device;

(h) An employee or agent of a signal preemption device manufacturer or retailer in the course of his or her employment in providing, selling, manufacturing, or transporting a signal preemption device to an individual or agency described in this subsection. [2005 c 183 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** 2005 c 183 directed that this section be added to chapter 46.61 RCW, but codification in chapter 46.37 RCW appears more appropriate.

**46.37.671 Signal preemption device—Possession—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful to possess a signal preemption device except as authorized in RCW 46.37.670.

(2) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. [2005 c 183 § 3.]

**Reviser's note:** 2005 c 183 directed that this section be added to chapter 46.61 RCW, but codification in chapter 46.37 RCW appears more appropriate.

**46.37.672 Signal preemption device—Use, sale, purchase—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful to:

(a) Use a signal preemption device except as authorized in RCW 46.37.670;

(b) Sell a signal preemption device to a person other than a person described in RCW 46.37.670; or

(c) Purchase a signal preemption device for use other than a duty as described in RCW 46.37.670.

(2) A person who violates this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2005 c 183 § 4.]

**Reviser's note:** 2005 c 183 directed that this section be added to chapter 46.61 RCW, but codification in chapter 46.37 RCW appears more appropriate.

**46.37.673 Signal preemption device—Accident—Property damage or less than substantial bodily harm—Penalty.** (1) When an accident that results only in injury to property or injury to a person that does not arise to substantial bodily harm as defined in RCW 9A.04.110 occurs as a proximate result of the operation of a signal preemption device which was not authorized in RCW 46.37.670, the driver is guilty of negligently causing an accident by use of a signal preemption device.

(2) Negligently causing an accident by use of a signal preemption device is a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2005 c 183 § 5.]

**Reviser's note:** 2005 c 183 directed that this section be added to chapter 46.61 RCW, but codification in chapter 46.37 RCW appears more appropriate.

**46.37.674 Signal preemption device—Accident—Substantial bodily harm—Penalty.** (1) When an accident that results in injury to a person that arises to substantial bodily harm as defined in RCW 9A.04.110 occurs as a proximate result of the operation of a signal preemption device which was not authorized in RCW 46.37.670, the driver is guilty of negligently causing substantial bodily harm by use of a signal preemption device.

(2) Negligently causing substantial bodily harm by use of a signal preemption device is a class B felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2005 c 183 § 6.]

**Reviser's note:** 2005 c 183 directed that this section be added to chapter 46.61 RCW, but codification in chapter 46.37 RCW appears more appropriate.

**46.37.675 Signal preemption device—Accident—Death—Penalty.** (1) When an accident that results in death to a person occurs as a proximate result of the operation of a signal preemption device which was not authorized in RCW 46.37.670, the driver is guilty of negligently causing death by use of a signal preemption device.

(2) Negligently causing death by use of a signal preemption device is a class B felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2005 c 183 § 7.]

**Reviser's note:** 2005 c 183 directed that this section be added to chapter 46.61 RCW, but codification in chapter 46.37 RCW appears more appropriate.

**46.37.680 Sound system attachment.** (1) All vehicle sound system components, including any supplemental speaker systems or components, must be securely attached to the vehicle regardless of where the components are located, so that the components cannot become dislodged or loose during operation of the vehicle.

(2) Enforcement of this section by law enforcement officers may be accomplished only as a secondary action when a driver of a vehicle has been detained for a suspected violation of this title or an equivalent local ordinance or some other offense.

(3) The Washington state traffic safety commission shall create and implement a statewide educational program regarding the safety risks of unsecured vehicle sound system components, including supplemental speaker systems or components. The educational program shall include information regarding securely attaching sound system components to the vehicle, regardless of where the components are located, so that the components do not become dislodged or loose during the operation of the vehicle. The commission shall create and implement this program within the commission's existing budget. [2005 c 50 § 1.]

**Short title—2005 c 50:** "This act shall be known as the Courtney Amison Act." [2005 c 50 § 2.]

## Chapter 46.44 RCW SIZE, WEIGHT, LOAD

### Sections

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- 46.44.175 Penalties—Hearing.
- 46.44.180 Operation of mobile home pilot vehicle without insurance unlawful—Amounts—Exception—Penalty.
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- 46.44.200 Vehicles or combination of vehicles with weight rating over forty thousand pounds and transporting cattle—Mandatory stops at state patrol-operated ports of entry—Exception—Penalty—Application.

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

*Traffic infractions—Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

*Auto transportation companies: Chapter 81.68 RCW.*

*Permitting escape of load materials: RCW 46.61.655.*

**46.44.010 Outside width limit.** The total outside width of any vehicle or load thereon must not exceed eight and one-half feet; except that an externally mounted rear vision mirror may extend beyond the width limits of the vehicle body to a point that allows the driver a view to the rear of the vehicle along both sides in conformance with Federal National Safety Standard 111 (49 C.F.R. 571.111), and RCW 46.37.400. Excluded from this calculation of width are certain devices that provide added safety, energy conservation, or are otherwise necessary, and are not designed or used to carry cargo. The width-exclusive devices must be identified in rules adopted by the department of transportation under RCW 46.44.101. A width-exclusive device must not extend more than three inches beyond the width limit of the vehicle body. [2005 c 189 § 1; 1997 c 63 § 1; 1983 c 278 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.010. Prior: 1947 c 200 § 4; 1937 c 189 § 47; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-47; 1923 c 181 § 4, part; RRS § 6362-8, part.]

**46.44.013 Appurtenances on recreational vehicles.** Motor homes, travel trailers, and campers may exceed the maximum width established under RCW 46.44.010 if the excess width is attributable to appurtenances that do not extend beyond the body of the vehicle by more than four inches, or if an awning, by more than six inches. As used in this section, "appurtenance" means an appendage that is installed by a factory or a vehicle dealer and is intended as an integral part of the motor home, travel trailer, or camper. "Appurtenance" does not include an item temporarily affixed

or attached to the exterior of a vehicle for the purpose of transporting the item from one location to another. "Appurtenance" does not include an item that obstructs the driver's rearward vision. [2005 c 264 § 1.]

**46.44.020 Maximum height—Impaired clearance signs.** It is unlawful for any vehicle unladen or with load to exceed a height of fourteen feet above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. This height limitation does not apply to authorized emergency vehicles or repair equipment of a public utility engaged in reasonably necessary operation. The provisions of this section do not relieve the owner or operator of a vehicle or combination of vehicles from the exercise of due care in determining that sufficient vertical clearance is provided upon the public highways where the vehicle or combination of vehicles is being operated; and no liability may attach to the state or to any county, city, town, or other political subdivision by reason of any damage or injury to persons or property by reason of the existence of any structure over or across any public highway where the vertical clearance above the roadway is fourteen feet or more; or, where the vertical clearance is less than fourteen feet, if impaired clearance signs of a design approved by the state department of transportation are erected and maintained on the right side of any such public highway in accordance with the manual of uniform traffic control devices for streets and highways as adopted by the state department of transportation under chapter 47.36 RCW. If any structure over or across any public highway is not owned by the state or by a county, city, town, or other political subdivision, it is the duty of the owner thereof when billed therefor to reimburse the state department of transportation or the county, city, town, or other political subdivision having jurisdiction over the highway for the actual cost of erecting and maintaining the impaired clearance signs, but no liability may attach to the owner by reason of any damage or injury to persons or property caused by impaired vertical clearance above the roadway. [1984 c 7 § 52; 1977 c 81 § 1; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 7; 1971 ex.s. c 248 § 1; 1965 c 43 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.020. Prior: 1959 c 319 § 26; 1955 c 384 § 1; 1953 c 125 § 1; 1951 c 269 § 20; 1937 c 189 § 48; RRS § 6360-48.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.030 Maximum lengths.** It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public highways of this state any vehicle having an overall length, with or without load, in excess of forty feet. This restriction does not apply to (1) a municipal transit vehicle, (2) auto stage, private carrier bus, school bus, or motor home with an overall length not to exceed forty-six feet, (3) an articulated auto stage with an overall length not to exceed sixty-one feet, or (4) an auto recycling carrier up to forty-two feet in length manufactured prior to 2005.

It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public highways of this state any combination consisting of a tractor and semitrailer that has a semitrailer length in excess of fifty-three feet or a combination consisting of a tractor and two trailers in which the combined length of the trailers exceeds sixty-one feet, with or without load.

It is unlawful for any person to operate on the highways of this state any combination consisting of a truck and trailer,

or log truck and stinger-steered pole trailer, with an overall length, with or without load, in excess of seventy-five feet. "Stinger-steered," as used in this section, means the coupling device is located behind the tread of the tires of the last axle of the towing vehicle.

These length limitations do not apply to vehicles transporting poles, pipe, machinery, or other objects of a structural nature that cannot be dismembered and operated by a public utility when required for emergency repair of public service facilities or properties, but in respect to night transportation every such vehicle and load thereon shall be equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on both sides and marker lamps upon the extreme ends of any projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load.

Excluded from the calculation of length are certain devices that provide added safety, energy conservation, or are otherwise necessary, and are not designed or used to carry cargo. The length-exclusive devices must be identified in rules adopted by the department of transportation under RCW 46.44.101. [2012 c 79 § 1; 2005 c 189 § 2; 2000 c 102 § 1; 1995 c 26 § 1; 1994 c 59 § 2; 1993 c 301 § 1; 1991 c 113 § 1; 1990 c 28 § 1; 1985 c 351 § 1; 1984 c 104 § 1; 1983 c 278 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 113 § 4; 1977 ex.s. c 64 § 1; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 53 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 76 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 248 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 61; 1963 ex.s. c 3 § 52; 1961 ex.s. c 21 § 36; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.030. Prior: 1959 c 319 § 25; 1957 c 273 § 14; 1951 c 269 § 22; prior: 1949 c 221 § 1, part; 1947 c 200 § 5, part; 1941 c 116 § 1, part; 1937 c 189 § 49, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-49, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.034 Maximum lengths—Front and rear protrusions.** (1) The load, or any portion of any vehicle, operated alone upon the public highway of this state, or the load, or any portion of the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles, shall not extend more than three feet beyond the front wheels of such vehicle, or the front bumper, if equipped with front bumper. This subsection does not apply to a front-loading garbage truck or recycling truck while on route and actually engaged in the collection of solid waste or recyclables at speeds of twenty miles per hour or less.

(2) No vehicle shall be operated upon the public highways with any part of the permanent structure or load extending in excess of fifteen feet beyond the center of the last axle of such vehicle. This subsection does not apply to "specialized equipment" designated under 49 U.S.C. Sec. 2311 that is operated on the interstate highway system, those designated portions of the federal-aid primary system, and routes constituting reasonable access from such highways to terminals and facilities for food, fuel, repairs, and rest. [1997 c 191 § 1; 1991 c 143 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.034. Prior: 1957 c 273 § 15; 1951 c 269 § 24; prior: 1949 c 221 § 1, part; 1947 c 200 § 5, part; 1941 c 116 § 1, part; 1937 c 189 § 49, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-49, part.]

**46.44.036 Combination of units—Limitation.** Except as provided in RCW 46.44.037, it is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public highways of this state any combination of vehicles consisting of more than two vehicles. For the purposes of this section a truck tractor-semitrailer or pole trailer combination will be considered as two vehicles but the

addition of another axle to the tractor of a truck tractor-semi-trailer or pole trailer combination in such a way that it supports a proportional share of the load of the semitrailer or pole trailer shall not be deemed a separate vehicle but shall be considered a part of the truck tractor. For the purposes of this section a converter gear used in converting a semitrailer to a full trailer shall not be deemed a separate vehicle but shall be considered a part of the trailer. [1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 8; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.036. Prior: 1955 c 384 § 2; 1951 c 269 § 23; prior: 1949 c 221 § 1, part; 1947 c 200 § 5, part; 1941 c 116 § 1, part; 1937 c 189 § 49, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-49, part.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.037 Combination of units—Lawful operations.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 46.44.036 and subject to such rules and regulations governing their operation as may be adopted by the state department of transportation, operation of the following combinations is lawful:

(1) A combination consisting of a truck tractor, a semi-trailer, and another semitrailer or a full trailer. In this combination a converter gear used to convert a semitrailer into a full trailer shall be considered to be a part of the full trailer and not a separate vehicle. A converter gear being pulled without load and not used to convert a semitrailer into a full trailer may be substituted in lieu of a full trailer or a semi-trailer in any lawful combination;

(2) A combination consisting of a truck tractor carrying a freight compartment no longer than eight feet, a semitrailer, and another semitrailer or full trailer that meets the legal length requirement for a truck and trailer combination set forth in RCW 46.44.030. [2011 c 230 § 1; 1991 c 143 § 2; 1985 c 351 § 2; 1984 c 7 § 53; 1979 ex.s. c 149 § 3; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 9; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 37; 1963 ex.s. c 3 § 53; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.037. Prior: 1957 c 273 § 16; 1955 c 384 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.041 Maximum gross weights—Wheelbase and axle factors.**

No vehicle or combination of vehicles shall operate upon the public highways of this state with a gross load on any single axle in excess of twenty thousand pounds, or upon any group of axles in excess of that set forth in the following table, except that two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross load of thirty-four thousand pounds each, if the overall distance between the first and last axles of such consecutive sets of tandem axles is thirty-six feet or more.

Distance in feet between the extremes of any group of 2 or more consecutive axles	Maximum load in pounds carried on any group of 2 or more consecutive axles								
	2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles	7 axles	8 axles	9 axles	10 axles
4	34,000								
5	34,000								
6	34,000								
7	34,000								
8 & less	34,000	34,000							
more than 8	38,000	42,000							
9	39,000	42,500							
10	40,000	43,500							

11	44,000						
12	45,000	50,000					
13	45,500	50,500					
14	46,500	51,500					
15	47,000	52,000					
16	48,000	52,500	58,000				
17	48,500	53,500	58,500				
18	49,500	54,000	59,000				
19	50,000	54,500	60,000				
20	51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000			
21	51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500			
22	52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000			
23	53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000			
24	54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500	74,000		
25	54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000	74,500		
26	55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500	75,000		
27	56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000	75,500		
28	57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000	76,500	82,000	
29	57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500	77,000	82,500	
30	58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000	77,500	83,000	
31	59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500	78,000	83,500	
32	60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000	78,500	84,500	90,000
33		64,000	68,500	74,000	79,000	85,000	90,500
34		64,500	69,000	74,500	80,000	85,500	91,000
35		65,500	70,000	75,000	80,500	86,000	91,500
36		66,000	70,500	75,500	81,000	86,500	92,000
37		66,500	71,000	76,000	81,500	87,000	93,000
38		67,500	71,500	77,000	82,000	87,500	93,500
39		68,000	72,500	77,500	82,500	88,500	94,000
40		68,500	73,000	78,000	83,500	89,000	94,500
41		69,500	73,500	78,500	84,000	89,500	95,000
42		70,000	74,000	79,000	84,500	90,000	95,500
43		70,500	75,000	80,000	85,000	90,500	96,000
44		71,500	75,500	80,500	85,500	91,000	96,500
45		72,000	76,000	81,000	86,000	91,500	97,500
46		72,500	76,500	81,500	87,000	92,500	98,000
47		73,500	77,500	82,000	87,500	93,000	98,500
48		74,000	78,000	83,000	88,000	93,500	99,000
49		74,500	78,500	83,500	88,500	94,000	99,500
50		75,500	79,000	84,000	89,000	94,500	100,000
51		76,000	80,000	84,500	89,500	95,000	100,500
52		76,500	80,500	85,000	90,500	95,500	101,000
53		77,500	81,000	86,000	91,000	96,500	102,000
54		78,000	81,500	86,500	91,500	97,000	102,500
55		78,500	82,500	87,000	92,000	97,500	103,000
56		79,500	83,000	87,500	92,500	98,000	103,500
57		80,000	83,500	88,000	93,000	98,500	104,000
58			84,000	89,000	94,000	99,000	104,500
59			85,000	89,500	94,500	99,500	105,500
60			85,500	90,000	95,000	100,500	105,500
61			86,000	90,500	95,500	101,000	105,500
62			86,500	91,000	96,000	101,500	105,500
63			87,500	92,000	96,500	102,000	105,500
64			88,000	92,500	97,500	102,500	105,500
65			88,500	93,000	98,000	103,000	105,500
66			89,000	93,500	98,500	103,500	105,500
67			90,000	94,000	99,000	104,500	105,500
68			90,500	95,000	99,500	105,000	105,500
69			91,000	95,500	100,000	105,500	105,500
70			91,500	96,000	101,000	105,500	105,500
71			92,500	96,500	101,500	105,500	105,500
72			93,000	97,000	102,000	105,500	105,500
73			93,500	98,000	102,500	105,500	105,500
74			94,000	98,500	103,000	105,500	105,500
75			95,000	99,000	103,500	105,500	105,500
76			95,500	99,500	104,500	105,500	105,500
77			96,000	100,000	105,000	105,500	105,500
78			96,500	101,000	105,500	105,500	105,500
79			97,500	101,500	105,500	105,500	105,500
80			98,000	102,000	105,500	105,500	105,500
81			98,500	102,500	105,500	105,500	105,500
82			99,000	103,000	105,500	105,500	105,500
83			100,000	104,000	105,500	105,500	105,500
84				104,500	105,500	105,500	105,500
85				105,000	105,500	105,500	105,500
86 or more				105,500	105,500	105,500	105,500

When inches are involved: Under six inches take lower, six inches or over take higher. The maximum load on any axle in any group of axles shall not exceed the single axle or tandem axle allowance as set forth in the table above.

The maximum axle and gross weights specified in this section are subject to the braking requirements set up for the

service brakes upon any motor vehicle or combination of vehicles as provided by law.

Loads of not more than eighty thousand pounds which may be legally hauled in the state bordering this state which also has a sales tax, are legal in this state when moving to a port district within four miles of the bordering state except on the interstate system. This provision does not allow the operation of a vehicle combination consisting of a truck tractor and three trailers.

Notwithstanding anything contained herein, a vehicle or combination of vehicles in operation on January 4, 1975, may operate upon the public highways of this state, including the interstate system within the meaning of section 127 of Title 23, United States Code, with an overall gross weight upon a group of two consecutive sets of dual axles which was lawful in this state under the laws, regulations, and procedures in effect in this state on January 4, 1975. [1997 c 198 § 1; 1995 c 171 § 1. Prior: 1993 c 246 § 1; 1993 c 102 § 3; prior: 1988 c 229 § 1; 1988 c 6 § 2; 1985 c 351 § 3; 1977 c 81 § 2; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 22.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.042 Maximum gross weights—Axle and tire factors.** Subject to the maximum gross weights specified in RCW 46.44.041, it is unlawful to operate any vehicle upon the public highways with a gross weight, including load, upon any tire concentrated upon the surface of the highway in excess of six hundred pounds per inch width of such tire. An axle manufactured after July 31, 1993, carrying more than ten thousand pounds gross weight must be equipped with four or more tires. An axle carrying more than ten thousand pounds gross weight must have four or more tires, regardless of date of manufacture. Instead of the four or more tires per axle requirements of this section, an axle may be equipped with two tires limited to five hundred pounds per inch width of tire. This section does not apply to vehicles operating under oversize or overweight permits, or both, issued under RCW 46.44.090, while carrying a nonreducible load.

The following equipment may operate at six hundred pounds per inch width of tire: (1) A nonliftable steering axle or axles on the power unit; (2) a tiller axle on firefighting apparatus; (3) a rear booster trailing axle equipped with two tires on a ready-mix concrete transit truck; and (4) a straddle trailer manufactured before January 1, 1996, equipped with single-tire axles or a single axle using a walking beam supported by two in-line single tires and used exclusively for the transport of fruit bins between field, storage, and processing. A straddle trailer manufactured after January 1, 1996, meeting this use criteria may carry five hundred fifteen pounds per inch width of tire on sixteen and one-half inch wide tires.

For the purpose of this section, the width of tire in case of solid rubber or hollow center cushion tires, so long as the use thereof may be permitted by the law, shall be measured between the flanges of the rim. For the purpose of this section, the width of tires in case of pneumatic tires shall be the maximum overall normal inflated width as stipulated by the manufacturer when inflated to the pressure specified and without load thereon.

The department of transportation, by rule with respect to state highways, and a local authority, with respect to a public highway under its jurisdiction, may extend the weight table in

RCW 46.44.041 to one hundred fifteen thousand pounds. However, the extension must be in compliance with federal law, and vehicles operating under the extension must be in full compliance with the 1997 axle and tire requirements under this section. [2006 c 334 § 15; 1996 c 116 § 1; 1993 c 103 § 1; 1985 c 351 § 4; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 10; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.042. Prior: 1959 c 319 § 27; 1951 c 269 § 27; prior: 1949 c 221 § 2, part; 1947 c 200 § 6, part; 1941 c 116 § 2, part; 1937 c 189 § 50, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-50, part; 1929 c 180 § 3, part; 1927 c 309 § 8, part; 1923 c 181 § 4, part; 1921 c 96 § 20, part; RRS § 6362-8, part.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **46.44.043 Cement trucks—Axle loading controls.**

The switch that controls the raising and lowering of the retractable rear booster or tag axle on a ready-mix cement truck may be located within the reach of the driver's compartment as long as the variable control, used to adjust axle loadings by regulating air pressure or by other means, is out of the reach of the driver's compartment. [1994 c 305 § 1.]

#### **46.44.047 Excess weight—Logging trucks—Special permits—County or city permits—Fees—Discretion of arresting officer.**

A three axle truck tractor and a two axle pole trailer combination engaged in the operation of hauling logs may exceed by not more than six thousand eight hundred pounds the legal gross weight of the combination of vehicles when licensed, as permitted by law, for sixty-eight thousand pounds: PROVIDED, That the distance between the first and last axle of the vehicles in combination shall have a total wheelbase of not less than thirty-seven feet, and the weight upon two axles spaced less than seven feet apart shall not exceed thirty-three thousand six hundred pounds.

Such additional allowances shall be permitted by a special permit to be issued by the department of transportation valid only on state primary or secondary highways authorized by the department and under such rules, regulations, terms, and conditions prescribed by the department. The fee for such special permit shall be fifty dollars for a twelve-month period beginning and ending on April 1st of each calendar year. Permits may be issued at any time, but if issued after July 1st of any year the fee shall be thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents. If issued on or after October 1st the fee shall be twenty-five dollars, and if issued on or after January 1st the fee shall be twelve dollars and fifty cents. A copy of such special permit covering the vehicle involved shall be carried in the cab of the vehicle at all times. Upon the third offense within the duration of the permit for violation of the terms and conditions of the special permit, the special permit shall be canceled. The vehicle covered by such canceled special permit shall not be eligible for a new special permit until thirty days after the cancellation of the special permit issued to said vehicle. The fee for such renewal shall be at the same rate as set forth in this section which covers the original issuance of such special permit. Each special permit shall be assigned to a three-axle truck tractor in combination with a two-axle pole trailer. When the department issues a duplicate permit to replace a lost or destroyed permit and where the department transfers a permit, a fee of fourteen dollars shall

be charged for each such duplicate issued or each such transfer.

All fees collected hereinabove shall be deposited with the state treasurer and credited to the motor vehicle fund.

Permits involving city streets or county roads or using city streets or county roads to reach or leave state highways, authorized for permit by the department may be issued by the city or county or counties involved. A fee of five dollars for such city or county permit may be assessed by the city or by the county legislative authority which shall be deposited in the city or county road fund. The special permit provided for herein shall be known as a "log tolerance permit" and shall designate the route or routes to be used, which shall first be approved by the city or county engineer involved. Authorization of additional route or routes may be made at the discretion of the city or county by amending the original permit or by issuing a new permit. Said permits shall be issued on a yearly basis expiring on March 31st of each calendar year. Any person, firm, or corporation who uses any city street or county road for the purpose of transporting logs with weights authorized by state highway log tolerance permits, to reach or leave a state highway route, without first obtaining a city or county permit when required by the city or the county legislative authority shall be subject to the penalties prescribed by RCW 46.44.105. For the purpose of determining gross weight the actual scale weight taken by the officer shall be prima facie evidence of such total gross weight. In the event the gross weight is in excess of the weight permitted by law, the officer may, within his or her discretion, permit the operator to proceed with his or her vehicles in combination.

The chief of the state patrol, with the advice of the department, may make reasonable rules and regulations to aid in the enforcement of the provisions of this section. [2010 c 8 § 9058; 1994 c 172 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 74; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 11; 1973 1st ex.s. c 150 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 249 § 2; 1961 ex.s. c 21 § 35; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.047. Prior: 1955 c 384 § 19; 1953 c 254 § 10; 1951 c 269 § 31.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **46.44.049 Effect of weight on highways—Study authorized.**

The department of transportation may make and enter into agreements with the federal government or any state or group of states or agencies thereof, or any nonprofit association, on a joint or cooperative basis, to study, analyze, or test the effects of weight on highway construction. The studies or tests may be made either by designating existing highways or the construction of test strips including natural resource roads to the end that a proper solution of the many problems connected with the imposition on highways of motor vehicle weights may be determined.

The studies may include the determination of values to be assigned various highway-user groups according to their gross weight or use. [1984 c 7 § 54; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.049. Prior: 1951 c 269 § 47.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.050 Minimum length of wheelbase.** It shall be unlawful to operate any vehicle upon public highways with a wheelbase between any two axles thereof of less than three feet, six inches when weight exceeds that allowed for one axle under RCW 46.44.042 or 46.44.041. It shall be unlawful



to operate any motor vehicle upon the public highways of this state with a wheelbase between the frontmost axle and the rearmost axle of less than three feet, six inches.

For the purposes of this section, wheelbase shall be measured upon a straight line from center to center of the vehicle axles designated. [2009 c 275 § 6; 1979 ex.s. c 213 § 7; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 12; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.050. Prior: 1941 c 116 § 3; 1937 c 189 § 51; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 6360-51; 1929 c 180 § 3, part; 1927 c 309 § 8, part; 1923 c 181 § 4, part; RRS § 6362-8, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### 46.44.060 Outside load limits for passenger vehicles.

No passenger type vehicle shall be operated on any public highway with any load carried thereon extending beyond the line of the fenders on the left side of such vehicle nor extending more than six inches beyond the line of the fenders on the right side thereof. [1961 c 12 § 46.44.060. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 52; RRS § 6360-52; 1929 c 180 § 5, part; 1927 c 309 § 10, part; RRS § 6362-10, part.]

**46.44.070 Drawbar requirements—Trailer whipping or weaving—Towing flag.** The drawbar or other connection between vehicles in combination shall be of sufficient strength to hold the weight of the towed vehicle on any grade where operated. No trailer shall whip, weave or oscillate or fail to follow substantially in the course of the towing vehicle. When a disabled vehicle is being towed by means of bar, chain, rope, cable or similar means and the distance between the towed vehicle and the towing vehicle exceeds fifteen feet there shall be fastened on such connection in approximately the center thereof a white flag or cloth not less than twelve inches square. [1961 c 12 § 46.44.070. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 53; RRS § 6360-53; 1929 c 180 § 5, part; 1927 c 309 § 10, part; RRS § 6362-10, part; 1923 c 181 § 4, part.]

**46.44.080 Local regulations—State highway regulations.** Local authorities with respect to public highways under their jurisdiction may prohibit the operation thereon of motor trucks or other vehicles or may impose limits as to the weight thereof, or any other restrictions as may be deemed necessary, whenever any such public highway by reason of rain, snow, climatic or other conditions, will be seriously damaged or destroyed unless the operation of vehicles thereon be prohibited or restricted or the permissible weights thereof reduced: PROVIDED, That whenever a highway has been closed generally to vehicles or specified classes of vehicles, local authorities shall by general rule or by special permit authorize the operation thereon of school buses, emergency vehicles, and motor trucks transporting perishable commodities or commodities necessary for the health and welfare of local residents under such weight and speed restrictions as the local authorities deem necessary to protect the highway from undue damage: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the governing authorities of incorporated cities and towns shall not prohibit the use of any city street designated a part of the route of any primary state highway through any such incorporated city or town by vehicles or any class of vehicles or impose any restrictions or reductions in permissible weights unless such restriction, limitation, or prohibition,

or reduction in permissible weights be first approved in writing by the department of transportation.

The local authorities imposing any such restrictions or limitations, or prohibiting any use or reducing the permissible weights shall do so by proper ordinance or resolution and shall erect or cause to be erected and maintained signs designating the provisions of the ordinance or resolution in each end of the portion of any public highway affected thereby, and no such ordinance or resolution shall be effective unless and until such signs are erected and maintained.

The department shall have the same authority as hereinabove granted to local authorities to prohibit or restrict the operation of vehicles upon state highways. The department shall give public notice of closure or restriction. The department may issue special permits for the operation of school buses and motor trucks transporting perishable commodities or commodities necessary for the health and welfare of local residents under specified weight and speed restrictions as may be necessary to protect any state highway from undue damage. [2006 c 334 § 16; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 29; 1973 2nd ex.s. c 15 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.080. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 54; RRS § 6360-54.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

*Highway and street closures authorized—Notice: Chapter 47.48 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.090 Special permits for oversize or overweight movements.** The department of transportation, pursuant to its rules with respect to state highways, and local authorities, with respect to public highways under their jurisdiction, may, upon application in writing and good cause being shown therefor, issue a special permit in writing, or electronically, authorizing the applicant to operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles of a size, weight of vehicle, or load exceeding the maximum set forth in RCW 46.44.010, 46.44.020, 46.44.030, 46.44.034, and 46.44.041 upon any public highway under the jurisdiction of the authority granting such permit and for the maintenance of which such authority is responsible. [2006 c 334 § 17; 2001 c 262 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 30; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 13; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.090. Prior: 1951 c 269 § 34; prior: 1949 c 221 § 3, part; 1947 c 200 § 7, part; 1945 c 177 § 1, part; 1937 c 189 § 55, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-55, part.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.091 Special permits—Gross weight limit.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this section, no special permit shall be issued for movement on any state highway or route of a state highway within the limits of any city or town where the gross weight, including load, exceeds the following limits:

(a) Twenty-two thousand pounds on a single axle or on dual axles with a wheelbase between the first and second axles of less than three feet six inches;

(b) Forty-three thousand pounds on dual axles having a wheelbase between the first and second axles of not less than three feet six inches but less than seven feet;

(c) On any group of axles or in the case of a vehicle employing two single axles with a wheel base between the first and last axle of not less than seven feet but less than ten feet, a weight in pounds determined by multiplying six thousand five hundred times the distance in feet between the center of the first axle and the center of the last axle of the group;

(d) On any group of axles with a wheel base between the first and last axle of not less than ten feet but less than thirty feet, a weight in pounds determined by multiplying two thousand two hundred times the sum of twenty and the distance in feet between the center of the first axle and the center of the last axle of the group;

(e) On any group of axles with a wheel base between the first and last axle of thirty feet or greater, a weight in pounds determined by multiplying one thousand six hundred times the sum of forty and the distance in feet between the center of the first axle and the center of the last axle of the group.

(2) The total weight of a vehicle or combination of vehicles allowable by special permit under subsection (1) of this section shall be governed by the lesser of the weights obtained by using the total number of axles as a group or any combination of axles as a group.

(3) The weight limitations pertaining to single axles may be exceeded to permit the movement of equipment operating upon single pneumatic tires having a rim width of twenty inches or more and a rim diameter of twenty-four inches or more or dual pneumatic tires having a rim width of sixteen inches or more and a rim diameter of twenty-four inches or more and specially designed vehicles manufactured and certified for special permits prior to July 1, 1975.

(4) Permits may be issued for weights in excess of the limitations contained in subsection (1) of this section on highways or sections of highways which have been designed and constructed for weights in excess of such limitations, or for any shipment duly certified as necessary by military officials, or by officials of public or private power facilities, or when in the opinion of the department of transportation the movement or action is a necessary movement or action: PROVIDED, That in the judgment of the department of transportation the structures and highway surfaces on the routes involved are capable of sustaining weights in excess of such limitations and it is not reasonable for economic or operational considerations to transport such excess weights by rail or water for any substantial distance of the total mileage applied for.

(5) Application shall be made in writing on special forms provided by the department of transportation and shall be submitted at least thirty-six hours in advance of the proposed movement. An application for a special permit for a gross weight of any combination of vehicles exceeding two hundred thousand pounds shall be submitted in writing to the department of transportation at least thirty days in advance of the proposed movement. [2001 c 262 § 2; 1989 c 52 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 31; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 14; 1975 1st ex.s. c 168 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 30; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.091. Prior: 1959 c 319 § 28; 1953 c 254 § 12; 1951 c 269 § 35; prior: 1949 c 221 § 3, part; 1947 c 200 § 7, part; 1945 c 177 § 1, part; 1937 c 189 § 55, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-55, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.0915 Heavy haul industrial corridors—Overweight sealed containers and vehicles.** (1)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, the department of transportation, with respect to state highways maintained within port district property, may, at the request of a port commission, make and enter into agreements with port districts and adjacent jurisdictions or agencies of the districts, for the purpose of identifying, managing, and maintaining short heavy haul industrial corridors within port district property for the movement of overweight sealed containers used in international trade.

(b) The department of transportation shall designate that portion of state route number 97 from the Canadian border to milepost 331.12 as a heavy haul industrial corridor for the movement of overweight vehicles to and from the Oroville railhead. The department may issue special permits to vehicles operating in the heavy haul industrial corridor to carry weight in excess of weight limits established in RCW 46.44.041, but not to exceed a gross vehicle weight of 139,994 pounds.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (1)(b) of this section, the department may issue special permits to vehicles operating in a heavy haul industrial corridor to carry weight in excess of weight limits established in RCW 46.44.041. However, the excess weight on a single axle, tandem axle, or any axle group must not exceed that allowed by RCW 46.44.091 (1) and (2), weight per tire must not exceed six hundred pounds per inch width of tire, and gross vehicle weight must not exceed one hundred five thousand five hundred pounds.

(3) The entity operating or hiring vehicles under subsection (1)(b) of this section or moving overweight sealed containers used in international trade must pay a fee for each special permit of one hundred dollars per month or one thousand dollars annually, beginning from the date of issue, for all movements under the special permit made on state highways within a heavy haul industrial corridor. Within a port district property, under no circumstances are the for hire carriers or rail customers responsible for the purchase or cost of the permits. All funds collected, except the amount retained by authorized agents of the department under RCW 46.44.096, must be forwarded to the state treasurer and deposited in the motor vehicle fund.

(4) For purposes of this section, an overweight sealed container used in international trade, including its contents, is considered nondivisible when transported within a heavy haul industrial corridor defined by the department.

(5) Any agreement entered into by the department as authorized under this section with a port district adjacent to Puget Sound and located within a county that has a population of more than seven hundred thousand, but less than one million, must limit the applicability of any established heavy haul corridor to that portion of state route no. 509 beginning at milepost 0.25 in the vicinity of East 'D' Street and ending at milepost 3.88 in the vicinity of Taylor Way. For the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium, the limit for any established heavy haul corridor established pursuant to this subsection (5) must be within that portion of state route number 509 beginning at milepost 0.25 in the vicinity of East 'D' Street and ending at milepost 5.7 in the vicinity of Norpoint Way Northeast.

(6) The department of transportation may adopt reasonable rules to implement this section. [2012 c 86 § 804; 2011 c 115 § 1; 2008 c 89 § 1; 2005 c 311 § 1.]

Effective date—2012 c 86: See note following RCW 47.76.360.

**46.44.092 Special permits—Overall width limits, exceptions—Application for permit.** Special permits may not be issued for movements on any state highway outside the limits of any city or town in excess of the following widths:

On two-lane highways, fourteen feet;

On multiple-lane highways where a physical barrier serving as a median divider separates opposing traffic lanes, twenty feet;

On multiple-lane highways without a physical barrier serving as a median divider, thirty-two feet.

These limits apply except under the following conditions:

(1) In the case of buildings, the limitations referred to in this section for movement on any two lane state highway other than the national system of interstate and defense highways may be exceeded under the following conditions: (a) Controlled vehicular traffic shall be maintained in one direction at all times; (b) the maximum distance of movement shall not exceed five miles; additional contiguous permits shall not be issued to exceed the five-mile limit: PROVIDED, That when the department of transportation determines a hardship would result, this limitation may be exceeded upon approval of the department of transportation; (c) prior to issuing a permit a qualified transportation department employee shall make a visual inspection of the building and route involved determining that the conditions listed herein shall be complied with and that structures or overhead obstructions may be cleared or moved in order to maintain a constant and uninterrupted movement of the building; (d) special escort or other precautions may be imposed to assure movement is made under the safest possible conditions, and the Washington state patrol shall be advised when and where the movement is to be made;

(2) Permits may be issued for widths of vehicles in excess of the preceding limitations on highways or sections of highways which have been designed and constructed for width in excess of such limitations;

(3) Permits may be issued for vehicles with a total outside width, including the load, of nine feet or less when the vehicle is equipped with a mechanism designed to cover the load pursuant to RCW 46.61.655;

(4) These limitations may be rescinded when certification is made by military officials, or by officials of public or private power facilities, or when in the opinion of the department of transportation the movement or action is a necessary movement or action: PROVIDED FURTHER, That in the judgment of the department of transportation the structures and highway surfaces on the routes involved are capable of sustaining widths in excess of such limitation;

(5) These limitations shall not apply to movement during daylight hours on any two lane state highway where the gross weight, including load, does not exceed eighty thousand pounds and the overall width of load does not exceed sixteen feet: PROVIDED, That the minimum and maximum speed of such movements, prescribed routes of such movements, the times of such movements, limitation upon frequency of

trips (which limitation shall be not less than one per week), and conditions to assure safety of traffic may be prescribed by the department of transportation or local authority issuing such special permit.

The applicant for any special permit shall specifically describe the vehicle or vehicles and load to be operated or moved and the particular state highways for which permit to operate is requested and whether such permit is requested for a single trip or for continuous operation. [2006 c 334 § 18; 1989 c 398 § 2; 1981 c 63 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 32; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 15; 1970 ex.s. c 9 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 60; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 39; 1963 ex.s. c 3 § 54; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.092. Prior: 1959 c 319 § 29; 1955 c 146 § 2; 1951 c 269 § 36; prior: 1949 c 221 § 3, part; 1947 c 200 § 7, part; 1945 c 177 § 1, part; 1937 c 189 § 55, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-55, part.]

Effective date—2006 c 334: See note following RCW 47.01.051.

Additional notes found at www.leg.wa.gov

**46.44.093 Special permits—Discretion of issuer—Conditions.** The department of transportation or the local authority is authorized to issue or withhold such special permit at its discretion, although where a mobile home is being moved, the verification of a valid license under chapter 46.70 RCW as a mobile home dealer or manufacturer, or under chapter 46.76 RCW as a transporter, shall be done by the department or local government. If the permit is issued, the department or local authority may limit the number of trips, establish seasonal or other time limitations within which the vehicle described may be operated on the public highways indicated, or otherwise limit or prescribe conditions of operation of the vehicle or vehicles when necessary to assure against undue damage to the road foundation, surfaces, or structures or safety of traffic and may require such undertaking or other security as may be deemed necessary to compensate for injury to any roadway or road structure. [1988 c 239 § 3; 1984 c 7 § 55; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.093. Prior: 1951 c 269 § 37; prior: 1949 c 221 § 3, part; 1947 c 200 § 7, part; 1945 c 177 § 1, part; 1937 c 189 § 55, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-55, part.]

Additional notes found at www.leg.wa.gov

**46.44.0941 Special permits—Fees.** The following fees, in addition to the regular license and tonnage fees, shall be paid for all movements under special permit made upon state highways. All funds collected, except the amount retained by authorized agents of the department as provided in RCW 46.44.096, shall be forwarded to the state treasury and shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund:

All overlegal loads, except overweight, single trip . . . . .	\$ 10.00
Continuous operation of overlegal loads having either overwidth or overheight features only, for a period not to exceed thirty days . . . . .	\$ 20.00
Continuous operations of overlegal loads having overlength features only, for a period not to exceed thirty days . . . . .	\$ 10.00
Continuous operation of a combination of vehicles having one trailing unit that	

- exceeds fifty-three feet and is not more than fifty-six feet in length, for a period of one year. . . . . \$ 100.00
- Continuous operation of a combination of vehicles having two trailing units which together exceed sixty-one feet and are not more than sixty-eight feet in length, for a period of one year. . . . . \$ 100.00
- Continuous operation of a three-axle fixed load vehicle having less than 65,000 pounds gross weight, for a period not to exceed thirty days . . . . . \$ 70.00
- Continuous operation of a four-axle fixed load vehicle meeting the requirements of RCW 46.44.091(1) and weighing less than 86,000 pounds gross weight, not to exceed thirty days . . . . . \$ 90.00
- Continuous movement of a mobile home or manufactured home having nonreducible features not to exceed eighty-five feet in total length and fourteen feet in width, for a period of one year. . . . . \$ 150.00
- Continuous operation of a class C tow truck or a class E tow truck with a class C rating while performing emergency and nonemergency tows of oversize or overweight, or both, vehicles and vehicle combinations, under rules adopted by the transportation commission, for a period of one year. . . . . \$ 150.00
- Continuous operation of a class B tow truck or a class E tow truck with a class B rating while performing emergency and nonemergency tows of oversize or overweight, or both, vehicles and vehicle combinations, under rules adopted by the transportation commission, for a period of one year. . . . . \$ 75.00
- Continuous operation of a two or three-axle collection truck, actually engaged in the collection of solid waste or recyclables, or both, under chapter 81.77 or 35.21 RCW or by contract under RCW 36.58.090, for one year with an additional six thousand pounds more than the weight authorized in RCW 46.16A.455 on the rear axle of a two-axle truck or eight thousand pounds for the tandem axles of a three-axle truck. RCW 46.44.041 and 46.44.091 notwithstanding, the tire limits specified in RCW 46.44.042 apply, but none of the excess weight is valid or may be permitted on any part of the federal interstate highway system . . . . . \$ 42.00  
per thousand pounds

The department may issue any of the above-listed permits that involve height, length, or width for an expanded period of consecutive months, not to exceed one year.

Continuous operation of farm implements under a permit issued as authorized by RCW 46.44.140 by:

- (1) Farmers in the course of farming activities, for any three-month period . . . . . \$ 10.00
- (2) Farmers in the course of farming activities,

- for a period not to exceed one year. . . . . \$ 25.00
- (3) Persons engaged in the business of the sale, repair, or maintenance of such farm implements, for any three-month period . . \$ 25.00
- (4) Persons engaged in the business of the sale, repair, or maintenance of such farm implements, for a period not to exceed one year. . . . . \$ 100.00

Overweight Fee Schedule

Excess weight over legal capacity, as provided in RCW 46.44.041.	Cost per mile.
0- 9,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ .07
10,000-14,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ .14
15,000-19,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ .21
20,000-24,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ .28
25,000-29,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ .35
30,000-34,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ .49
35,000-39,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ .63
40,000-44,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ .79
45,000-49,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ .93
50,000-54,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ 1.14
55,000-59,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ 1.35
60,000-64,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ 1.56
65,000-69,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ 1.77
70,000-74,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ 2.12
75,000-79,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ 2.47
80,000-84,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ 2.82
85,000-89,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ 3.17
90,000-94,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ 3.52
95,000-99,999 pounds . . . . .	\$ 3.87
100,000 pounds . . . . .	\$ 4.25

The fee for weights in excess of 100,000 pounds is \$4.25 plus fifty cents for each 5,000 pound increment or portion thereof exceeding 100,000 pounds.

PROVIDED: (a) The minimum fee for any overweight permit shall be \$14.00, (b) the fee for issuance of a duplicate permit shall be \$14.00, (c) when computing overweight fees prescribed in this section or in RCW 46.44.095 that result in an amount less than even dollars the fee shall be carried to the next full dollar if fifty cents or over and shall be reduced to the next full dollar if forty-nine cents or under.

The fees levied in this section and RCW 46.44.095 do not apply to vehicles owned and operated by the state of Washington, a county within the state, a city or town or metropolitan municipal corporation within the state, or the federal government. [2010 c 161 § 1117; 2004 c 109 § 1; 1995 c 171 § 2. Prior: 1994 c 172 § 2; 1994 c 59 § 1; 1993 c 102 § 4; 1990 c 42 § 107; 1989 c 398 § 1; 1985 c 351 § 5; 1983 c 278 § 3; 1979 ex.s. c 113 § 5; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 16; 1975 1st ex.s. c 168 § 2; 1973 1st ex.s. c 1 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 248 § 3; 1967 c 174 § 8; 1965 c 137 § 2.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.095 Temporary additional tonnage permits—Fees.** When a combination of vehicles has been licensed to a total gross weight of 80,000 pounds or when a three or more axle single unit vehicle has been licensed to a total gross weight of 40,000 pounds, a temporary additional tonnage permit to haul loads in excess of these limits may be issued. This permit is valid for periods of not less than five days at two dollars and eighty cents per day for each two thousand pounds or fraction thereof. The fee may not be prorated. The permits shall authorize the movement of loads not exceeding the weight limits set forth in RCW 46.44.041 and 46.44.042. [1993 c 102 § 5; 1990 c 42 § 108; 1989 c 398 § 3; 1988 c 55 § 1; 1983 c 68 § 2; 1979 c 158 § 159; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 33; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 17; 1974 ex.s. c 76 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 150 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 55; 1967 ex.s. c 94 § 15; 1967 c 32 § 51; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 38; 1961 ex.s. c 7 § 15; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.095. Prior: 1959 c 319 § 31; 1957 c 273 § 18; 1955 c 185 § 1; 1953 c 254 § 13; 1951 c 269 § 39; prior: 1949 c 221 § 3, part; 1947 c 200 § 7, part; 1945 c 177 § 1, part; 1937 c 189 § 55, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-55, part.]

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.096 Special permits—Determining fee—To whom paid.** In determining fees according to RCW 46.44.0941, mileage on state primary and secondary highways shall be determined from the planning survey records of the department of transportation, and the gross weight of the vehicle or vehicles, including load, shall be declared by the applicant. Overweight on which fees shall be paid will be gross loadings in excess of loadings authorized by law or axle loadings in excess of loadings authorized by law, whichever is the greater. Loads which are overweight and oversize shall be charged the fee for the overweight permit without additional fees being assessed for the oversize features.

Special permits issued under RCW 46.44.047, 46.44.0941, or 46.44.095, may be obtained from offices of the department of transportation, ports of entry, or other agents appointed by the department.

The department may appoint agents for the purposes of selling special motor vehicle permits, temporary additional tonnage permits, and log tolerance permits. Agents so appointed may retain three dollars and fifty cents for each permit sold to defray expenses incurred in handling and selling the permits. If the fee is collected by the department of transportation, the department shall certify the fee so collected to the state treasurer for deposit to the credit of the motor vehicle fund.

The department may select a third party contractor, by means of competitive bid, to perform the department's permit issuance function, as provided under RCW 46.44.090. Factors the department shall consider, but is not limited to, in the selection of a third party contractor are economic benefit to both the department and the motor carrier industry, and enhancement of the overall level of permit service. For purposes of this section, "third party contractor" means a business entity that is authorized by the department to issue special permits. The department of transportation may adopt rules specifying the criteria that a business entity must meet

in order to qualify as a third party contractor under this section.

Fees established in RCW 46.44.0941 shall be paid to the political body issuing the permit if the entire movement is to be confined to roads, streets, or highways for which that political body is responsible. When a movement involves a combination of state highways, county roads, and/or city streets the fee shall be paid to the department of transportation. When a movement is confined within the city limits of a city or town upon city streets, including routes of state highways on city streets, all fees shall be paid to the city or town involved. A permit will not be required from city or town authorities for a move involving a combination of city or town streets and state highways when the move through a city or town is being confined to the route of the state highway. When a move involves a combination of county roads and city streets the fee shall be paid to the county authorities, but the fee shall not be collected nor the county permit issued until valid permits are presented showing that the city or town authorities approve of the move in question. When the movement involves only county roads the fees collected shall be paid to the county involved. Fees established shall be paid to the political body issuing the permit if the entire use of the vehicle during the period covered by the permit shall be confined to the roads, streets, or highways for which that political body is responsible. [2006 c 334 § 19; 1996 c 92 § 1; 1993 c 102 § 6; 1989 c 398 § 4; 1984 c 7 § 56; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 18; 1971 ex.s. c 248 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 31; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.096. Prior: 1955 c 185 § 2; 1951 c 269 § 40; prior: 1949 c 221 § 3, part; 1947 c 200 § 7, part; 1945 c 177 § 1, part; 1937 c 189 § 55, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-55, part.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.098 Increase in federal limits on sizes and weights—Increases by commission.** If the congress of the United States further amends section 127, Title 23 of the United States Code, authorizing increased sizes and weights, the Washington state department of transportation may authorize the operation of vehicles and combinations of vehicles upon completed portions of the interstate highway system and other designated state highways if determined to be capable of accommodating the increased sizes and weights in excess of those prescribed in RCW 46.44.041, or as provided in RCW 46.44.010 and 46.44.037. The permitted increases shall not in any way exceed the federal limits which would jeopardize the state's allotment of federal funds. [1984 c 7 § 57; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 19; 1965 c 38 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.101 Interstate travel by specialized equipment.** The department of transportation may, within the provisions set forth in this chapter, adopt rules for size and weight criteria relating to vehicles considered to be specialized equipment by the federal highway administration for interstate travel or as determined by the department for intrastate travel. [2005 c 189 § 3.]

**46.44.105 Enforcement procedures—Penalties—Rules.** (1) Violation of any of the provisions of this chapter

is a traffic infraction, and upon the first finding thereof shall be assessed a basic penalty of not less than fifty dollars; and upon a second finding thereof shall be assessed a basic penalty of not less than seventy-five dollars; and upon a third or subsequent finding shall be assessed a basic penalty of not less than one hundred dollars.

(2) In addition to the penalties imposed in subsection (1) of this section, any person violating RCW 46.44.041, 46.44.042, 46.44.047, 46.44.090, 46.44.091, or 46.44.095 shall be assessed a penalty for each pound overweight, as follows:

(a) One pound through four thousand pounds overweight is three cents for each pound;

(b) Four thousand one pounds through ten thousand pounds overweight is one hundred twenty dollars plus twelve cents per pound for each additional pound over four thousand pounds overweight;

(c) Ten thousand one pounds through fifteen thousand pounds overweight is eight hundred forty dollars plus sixteen cents per pound for each additional pound over ten thousand pounds overweight;

(d) Fifteen thousand one pounds through twenty thousand pounds overweight is one thousand six hundred forty dollars plus twenty cents per pound for each additional pound over fifteen thousand pounds overweight;

(e) Twenty thousand one pounds and more is two thousand six hundred forty dollars plus thirty cents per pound for each additional pound over twenty thousand pounds overweight.

Upon a first violation in any calendar year, the court may suspend the penalty for five hundred pounds of excess weight for each axle on any vehicle or combination of vehicles, not to exceed a two thousand pound suspension. In no case may the basic penalty assessed in subsection (1) of this section or the additional penalty assessed in subsection (2) of this section, except as provided for the first violation, be suspended.

(3) Any person found to have violated any posted limitations of a highway or section of highway shall be assessed a monetary penalty of not less than one hundred and fifty dollars, and the court shall in addition thereto upon second violation within a twelve-month period involving the same power unit, suspend the certificate of license registration for not less than thirty days.

(4) It is unlawful for the driver of a vehicle to fail or refuse to stop and submit the vehicle and load to a weighing, or to fail or refuse, when directed by an officer upon a weighing of the vehicle to stop the vehicle and otherwise comply with the provisions of this section. It is unlawful for a driver of a commercial motor vehicle as defined in RCW 46.32.005, other than the driver of a bus as defined in RCW 46.32.005(3) or a vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating of 7,257 kilograms or less (16,000 pounds or less) and not transporting hazardous materials in accordance with RCW 46.32.005(4), to fail or refuse to stop at a weighing station when proper traffic control signs indicate scales are open. However, unladen tow trucks regardless of weight and farm vehicles carrying farm produce with a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating of 11,794 kilograms or less (26,000 pounds or less) may fail or refuse to stop at a weighing station when proper traffic control signs indicate scales are open.

Any police officer is authorized to require the driver of any vehicle or combination of vehicles to stop and submit to a weighing either by means of a portable or stationary scale and may require that the vehicle be driven to the nearest public scale. Whenever a police officer, upon weighing a vehicle and load, determines that the weight is unlawful, the officer may require the driver to stop the vehicle in a suitable location and remain standing until such portion of the load is removed as may be necessary to reduce the gross weight of the vehicle to the limit permitted by law. If the vehicle is loaded with grain or other perishable commodities, the driver shall be permitted to proceed without removing any of the load, unless the gross weight of the vehicle and load exceeds by more than ten percent the limit permitted by this chapter. The owner or operator of the vehicle shall care for all materials unloaded at the risk of the owner or operator.

Any vehicle whose driver or owner represents that the vehicle is disabled or otherwise unable to proceed to a weighing location shall have its load sealed or otherwise marked by any police officer. The owner or driver shall be directed that upon completion of repairs, the vehicle shall submit to weighing with the load and markings and/or seal intact and undisturbed. Failure to report for weighing, appearing for weighing with the seal broken or the markings disturbed, or removal of any cargo prior to weighing is unlawful. Any person so convicted shall be fined one thousand dollars, and in addition the certificate of license registration shall be suspended for not less than thirty days.

(5) Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, district courts having venue have concurrent jurisdiction with the superior courts for the imposition of any penalties authorized under this section.

(6) For the purpose of determining additional penalties as provided by subsection (2) of this section, "overweight" means the poundage in excess of the maximum allowable gross weight or axle/axle grouping weight prescribed by RCW 46.44.041, 46.44.042, 46.44.047, 46.44.091, and 46.44.095.

(7) The penalties provided in subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall be remitted as provided in chapter 3.62 RCW or RCW 10.82.070. For the purpose of computing the basic penalties and additional penalties to be imposed under subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the convictions shall be on the same vehicle or combination of vehicles within a twelve-month period under the same ownership.

(8) Any state patrol officer or any weight control officer who finds any person operating a vehicle or a combination of vehicles in violation of the conditions of a permit issued under RCW 46.44.047, 46.44.090, and 46.44.095 may confiscate the permit and forward it to the state department of transportation which may return it to the permittee or revoke, cancel, or suspend it without refund. The department of transportation shall keep a record of all action taken upon permits so confiscated, and if a permit is returned to the permittee the action taken by the department of transportation shall be endorsed thereon. Any permittee whose permit is suspended or revoked may upon request receive a hearing before the department of transportation or person designated by that department. After the hearing the department of transportation may reinstate any permit or revise its previous action.

Every permit issued as provided for in this chapter shall be carried in the vehicle or combination of vehicles to which it refers and shall be open to inspection by any law enforcement officer or authorized agent of any authority granting such a permit.

Upon the third finding within a calendar year of a violation of the requirements and conditions of a permit issued under RCW 46.44.095, the permit shall be canceled, and the canceled permit shall be immediately transmitted by the court or the arresting officer to the department of transportation. The vehicle covered by the canceled permit is not eligible for a new permit for a period of thirty days.

(9) For the purposes of determining gross weights the actual scale weight taken by the arresting officer is prima facie evidence of the total gross weight.

(10) It is a traffic infraction to direct the loading of a vehicle with knowledge that it violates the requirements in RCW 46.44.041, 46.44.042, 46.44.047, 46.44.090, 46.44.091, or 46.44.095 and that it is to be operated on the public highways of this state.

(11) The chief of the state patrol, with the advice of the department, may adopt reasonable rules to aid in the enforcement of this section. [2007 c 419 § 13. Prior: 2006 c 297 § 1; 2006 c 50 § 4; 2002 c 254 § 1; 1999 c 23 § 1; 1996 c 92 § 2; 1993 c 403 § 4; 1990 c 217 § 1; 1985 c 351 § 6; 1984 c 258 § 327; 1984 c 7 § 58; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 75; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 23.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Findings—Short title—2007 c 419:** See notes following RCW 46.16A.010.

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.34.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.110 Liability for damage to highways, bridges, etc.** Any person operating any vehicle or moving any object or conveyance upon any public highway in this state or upon any bridge or elevated structure that is a part of any such public highway is liable for all damages that the public highway, bridge, elevated structure, or other state property may sustain as a result of any illegal operation of the vehicle or the moving of any such object or conveyance or as a result of the operation or moving of any vehicle, object, or conveyance weighing in excess of the legal weight limits allowed by law. This section applies to any person operating any vehicle or moving any object or contrivance in any illegal or negligent manner or without a special permit as provided by law for vehicles, objects, or contrivances that are overweight, overwidth, overheight, or overlength. Any person operating any vehicle is liable for any damage to any public highway, bridge, elevated structure, or other state property sustained as the result of any negligent operation thereof. When the operator is not the owner of the vehicle, object, or contrivance but is operating or moving it with the express or implied permission of the owner, the owner and the operator are jointly and severally liable for any such damage. Such damage to any state highway, structure, or other state property may be recovered in a civil action instituted in the name of the state of Washington by the department of transportation or other affected state agency. Any measure of damage determined by the department of transportation to its highway, bridge, elevated structure, or other property under this section is

prima facie the amount of damage caused thereby and is presumed to be the amount recoverable in any civil action therefor. The damages available under this section include the incident response costs, including traffic control, incurred by the department of transportation. [2009 c 393 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 59; 1961 c 12 § 46.44.110. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 57; RRS 6360-57.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.120 Liability of owner, others, for violations.**

Whenever an act or omission is declared to be unlawful in chapter 46.44 RCW, the owner or lessee of any motor vehicle involved in such act or omission is responsible therefor. Any person knowingly and intentionally participating in creating an unlawful condition of use, is also subject to the penalties provided in this chapter for such unlawful act or omission.

If the person operating the vehicle at the time of the unlawful act or omission is not the owner or lessee of the vehicle, such person is fully authorized to accept the citation and execute the promise to appear on behalf of the owner or lessee. [1980 c 104 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 148 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 69 § 1.]

**46.44.130 Farm implements—Gross weight and size limitation exception—Penalty.** The limitations of RCW 46.44.010, 46.44.020, 46.44.030, and 46.44.041 shall not apply to the movement of farm implements of less than forty-five thousand pounds gross weight, a total length of seventy feet or less, and a total outside width of fourteen feet or less when being moved while patrolled, flagged, lighted, signed, and at a time of day in accordance with rules hereby authorized to be adopted by the department of transportation and the statutes. Violation of a rule adopted by the department as authorized by this section or a term of this section is a traffic infraction. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 76; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 § 20; 1975 1st ex.s. c 168 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 1 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.140 Farm implements—Special permits—Penalty.** In addition to any other special permits authorized by law, special permits may be issued by the department of transportation for a quarterly or annual period upon such terms and conditions as it finds proper for the movement of (1) farm implements used for the cutting or threshing of mature crops; or (2) other farm implements that may be identified by rule of the department of transportation. Any farm implement moved under this section must comply with RCW 46.44.091, have a gross weight of less than sixty-five thousand pounds, and have a total outside width of less than twenty feet while being moved, and such movement must be patrolled, flagged, lighted, signed, at a time of day, and otherwise in accordance with rules hereby authorized to be adopted by the department of transportation for the control of such movements.

Applications for and permits issued under this section shall provide for a description of the farm implements to be moved, the approximate dates of movement, and the routes of movement so far as they are reasonably known to the applicant at the time of application, but the permit shall not be limited to these circumstances but shall be general in its applica-

tion except as limited by the statutes and rules adopted by the department of transportation.

A copy of the governing permit shall be carried on the farm implement being moved during the period of its movement. The department shall collect a fee as provided in RCW 46.44.0941.

Violation of a term or condition under which a permit was issued, of a rule adopted by the department of transportation as authorized by this section, or of a term of this section is a traffic infraction. [2008 c 76 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 60; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 77; 1973 1st ex.s. c 1 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.150 Highway improvement vehicles—Gross weight limit excesses authorized—Limitations.** The state, county, or city authority having responsibility for the reconstruction or improvement of any public highway may, subject to prescribed conditions and limitations, authorize vehicles employed in such highway reconstruction or improvement to exceed the gross weight limitations contained in RCW 46.44.041 and 46.44.042 without a special permit or additional fees as prescribed by chapter 46.44 RCW, but only while operating within the boundaries of project limits as defined in the public works contract or plans. [1983 c 3 § 121; 1975 1st ex.s. c 63 § 1.]

**46.44.170 Mobile home or park model trailer movement special permit and decal—Responsibility for taxes—License plates—Rules.** (1) Any person moving a mobile home as defined in RCW 46.04.302 or a park model trailer as defined in RCW 46.04.622 upon public highways of the state must obtain:

(a) A special permit from the department of transportation and local authorities pursuant to RCW 46.44.090 and 46.44.093 and shall pay the proper fee as prescribed by RCW 46.44.0941 and 46.44.096; and

(b) For mobile homes constructed before June 15, 1976, and already situated in the state: (i) A certification from the department of labor and industries that the mobile home was inspected for fire safety; or (ii) an affidavit in the form prescribed by the department of commerce signed by the owner at the county treasurer's office at the time of the application for the movement permit stating that the mobile home is being moved by the owner for his or her continued occupation or use; or (iii) a copy of the certificate of title together with an affidavit signed under penalty of perjury by the certified owner stating that the mobile home is being transferred to a wrecking yard or similar facility for disposal. In addition, the destroyed mobile home must be removed from the assessment rolls of the county and any outstanding taxes on the destroyed mobile home must be removed by the county treasurer.

(2) A special permit issued as provided in subsection (1) of this section for the movement of any mobile home or a park model trailer that is assessed for purposes of property taxes shall not be valid until the county treasurer of the county in which the mobile home or park model trailer is located shall endorse or attach his or her certificate that all property taxes which are a lien or which are delinquent, or both, upon the mobile home or park model trailer being moved have been satisfied. Further, any mobile home or park

model trailer required to have a special movement permit under this section shall display an easily recognizable decal. However, endorsement or certification by the county treasurer and the display of the decal is not required:

(a) When a mobile home or park model trailer is to enter the state or is being moved from a manufacturer or distributor to a retail sales outlet or directly to the purchaser's designated location or between retail and sales outlets;

(b) When a signed affidavit of destruction is filed with the county assessor and the mobile home or park model trailer is being moved to a disposal site by a landlord as defined in RCW 59.20.030 after (i) the mobile home or park model trailer has been abandoned as defined in RCW 59.20.030; or (ii) a final judgment for restitution of the premises under RCW 59.18.410 has been executed in favor of the landlord with regard to the mobile home or park model trailer. The mobile home or park model trailer will be removed from the tax rolls and, upon notification by the assessor, any outstanding taxes on the destroyed mobile home or park model trailer will be removed by the county treasurer; or

(c) When a signed affidavit of destruction is filed with the county assessor by any mobile home or park model trailer owner or any property owner with an abandoned mobile home or park model trailer, the same shall be removed from the tax rolls and upon notification by the assessor, any outstanding taxes on the destroyed mobile home or park model trailer shall be removed by the county treasurer.

(3) If the landlord of a mobile home park takes ownership of a mobile home or park model trailer with the intent to resell or rent the same under RCW 59.20.030 after (a) the mobile home or park model trailer has been abandoned as defined in RCW 59.20.030; or (b) a final judgment for restitution of the premises under RCW 59.18.410 has been executed in favor of the landlord with regard to the mobile home or park model trailer, the outstanding taxes become the responsibility of the landlord.

(4) It is the responsibility of the owner of the mobile home or park model trailer subject to property taxes or the agent to obtain the endorsement and decal from the county treasurer before a mobile home or park model trailer is moved.

(5) This section does not prohibit the issuance of vehicle license plates for a mobile home or park model trailer subject to property taxes, but plates shall not be issued unless the mobile home or park model trailer subject to property taxes for which plates are sought has been listed for property tax purposes in the county in which it is principally located and the appropriate fee for the license has been paid.

(6) The department of transportation, the department of labor and industries, and local authorities are authorized to adopt reasonable rules for implementing the provisions of this section. The department of transportation shall adopt rules specifying the design, reflective characteristics, annual coloration, and for the uniform implementation of the decal required by this section. The department of labor and industries shall adopt procedures for notifying destination local jurisdictions concerning the arrival of mobile homes that failed safety inspections. [2010 c 161 § 1118; 2005 c 399 § 1; 2004 c 79 § 4; 2003 c 61 § 1; 2002 c 168 § 6; 1986 c 211 §



4. Prior: 1985 c 395 § 1; 1985 c 22 § 1; 1980 c 152 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 22 § 2.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.173 Notice to treasurer and assessor of county where mobile home or park trailer to be located.** (1) Upon validation of a special permit as provided in RCW 46.44.170, the county treasurer shall forward notice of movement of the mobile home or park model trailer subject to property taxes to the treasurer's own county assessor and to the county assessor of the county in which the mobile home or park model trailer will be located.

(2) When a single trip special permit not requiring tax certification is issued, the department of transportation or the local authority shall notify the assessor of the county in which the mobile home or park model trailer is to be located. When a continuous trip special permit is used to transport a mobile home or park model trailer not requiring tax certification, the transporter shall notify the assessor of the county in which the mobile home or park model trailer is to be located. Notification is not necessary when the destination of a mobile home or park model trailer is a manufacturer, distributor, retailer, or location outside the state.

(3) A notification under this section shall state the specific, residential destination of the mobile home or park model trailer. [2002 c 168 § 7; 1984 c 7 § 61; 1977 ex.s. c 22 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.175 Penalties—Hearing.** (1) Failure of any person or agent acting for a person who causes to be moved or moves a mobile home as defined in RCW 46.04.302 upon public highways of this state and failure to comply with any of the provisions of RCW 46.44.170 and 46.44.173 is a traffic infraction for which a penalty of not less than one hundred dollars or more than five hundred dollars shall be assessed. In addition to the above penalty, the department of transportation or local authority may withhold issuance of a special permit or suspend a continuous special permit as provided by RCW 46.44.090 and 46.44.093 for a period of not less than thirty days.

(2) Any person who shall alter, reuse, transfer, or forge the decal required by RCW 46.44.170, or who shall display a decal knowing it to have been forged, reused, transferred, or altered, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(3) Any person or agent who is denied a special permit or whose special permit is suspended may upon request receive a hearing before the department of transportation or the local authority having jurisdiction. The department or the local authority after such hearing may revise its previous action. [2003 c 53 § 239; 1995 c 38 § 11; 1994 c 301 § 15; 1985 c 22 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 78; 1977 ex.s. c 22 § 4.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.44.180 Operation of mobile home pilot vehicle without insurance unlawful—Amounts—Exception—**

[Title 46 RCW—page 214]

**Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for a person, other than an employee of a dealer or other principal licensed to transport mobile homes within this state acting within the course of employment with the principal, to operate a pilot vehicle accompanying a mobile home, as defined in RCW 46.04.302, being transported on the public highways of this state, without maintaining insurance for the pilot vehicle in the minimum amounts of:

(a) One hundred thousand dollars for bodily injury to or death of one person in any one accident;

(b) Three hundred thousand dollars for bodily injury to or death of two or more persons in any one accident; and

(c) Fifty thousand dollars for damage to or destruction of property of others in any one accident.

(2) Satisfactory evidence of the insurance shall be carried at all times by the operator of the pilot vehicle, which evidence shall be displayed upon demand by a police officer.

(3) Failure to maintain the insurance as required by this section is a gross misdemeanor.

(4) Failure to carry or disclose the evidence of the insurance as required by this section is a misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 240; 1980 c 153 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**46.44.190 Firefighting apparatus.** (1) As used in this section, "firefighting apparatus" means a vehicle or combination of vehicles, owned by a regularly organized fire suppression agency, designed, maintained, and used exclusively for fire suppression and rescue or for fire prevention activities. These vehicles and associated loads or equipment are necessary to protect the public safety and are considered nondivisible loads. A vehicle or combination of vehicles that is not designed primarily for fire suppression including, but not limited to, a hazardous materials response vehicle, bus, mobile kitchen, mobile sanitation facility, and heavy equipment transport vehicle is not a firefighting apparatus for purposes of this section.

(2) Firefighting apparatus must comply with all applicable federal and state vehicle operating and safety criteria, including rules adopted by agencies within each jurisdiction.

(3) All owners and operators of firefighting apparatus shall comply with current information, provided by the department, regarding the applicable load restrictions of state and local bridges within the designated fire service area, including any automatic or mutual aid agreement areas.

(4) Firefighting apparatus operating within a fire district or municipal department boundary of the owner of the apparatus, including any automatic or mutual aid agreement areas, may operate without a permit if:

(a) The weight does not exceed:

(i) 600 pounds per inch width of tire;

(ii) 24,000 pounds on a single axle;

(iii) 43,000 pounds on a tandem axle set;

(iv) 67,000 pounds gross vehicle weight, subject to the gross weight limits of RCW 46.44.091(1) (c), (d), and (e);

(v) The tire manufacturer's tire load rating.

(b) There is no tridem axle set.

(c) The dimensions do not exceed:

(i) 8 feet, 6 inches wide;

(ii) 14 feet high;

- (iii) 50 feet overall length;
- (iv) 15 foot front overhang;
- (v) Rear overhang not exceeding the length of the wheel base.

(5) Operators of firefighting apparatus that exceed the weight limits in subsection (4) of this section must apply for an overweight permit with the department. The maximum weight a firefighting apparatus may weigh is 50,000 pounds on the tandem axle set, and may not exceed 600 pounds per inch width of tire. The maximum weight limit must include the weight of a full water tank, if applicable, all equipment necessary for operation, and the normal number of personnel usually assigned to be on board, or four personnel, whichever is greater. At least four personnel must be physically present at the time the apparatus is weighed.

(6) When applying for a permit, a current weight slip from a certified scale must be attached to the department's application form. Upon receiving an application, the department shall transmit it to the local jurisdictions in which the firefighting apparatus will be operating, so that the local jurisdictions can make a determination on the need for local travel and route restrictions within the operating area. The department shall issue a permit within twenty days of receiving a permit application and shall issue the permit on an annual basis for the apparatus to operate on the state highway system, with reference made to applicable load restrictions and any other limitations stipulated on the permit, including limitations placed by local jurisdictions.

(7) Firefighting apparatus in operation in this state before June 13, 2002, and privately owned industrial firefighting apparatus used for purposes of providing emergency response and mutual aid are each exempt from subsections (4) and (5) of this section. However, operators of the exempt firefighting apparatus must still obtain an annual permit under subsection (6) of this section.

(8) Firefighting apparatus without the proper overweight permits are prohibited from being operated on city, county, or state roadways until the apparatus is within legal weight limits and a current permit has been issued by the department. When the permit is issued, the fire district must notify the Washington state patrol that the apparatus is in compliance with overweight permit regulations.

(9) The Washington state patrol may conduct random spot checks of firefighting apparatus to ensure compliance with overweight permit regulations. If a firefighting apparatus is found to be not in compliance with overweight permit regulations, the state patrol shall issue a violation notice to the fire department stating this fact and prohibiting operation of the apparatus on city, county, and state roadways.

(10) It is a traffic infraction to continue to operate a firefighting apparatus on the roadways after a violation notice has been issued. The following penalties apply:

- (a) For a first offense, the penalty will be no less than fifty dollars but no more than fifty dollars;
- (b) For a second offense, the penalty will be no less than seventy-five dollars;
- (c) For a third or subsequent offense, the penalty will be no less than one hundred dollars.

(11) No individual liability attaches to an employee or volunteer of the penalized fire department. [2002 c 231 § 1; 2001 c 262 § 3.]

**46.44.200 Vehicles or combination of vehicles with weight rating over forty thousand pounds and transporting cattle—Mandatory stops at state patrol-operated ports of entry—Exception—Penalty—Application.** (1)

Upon entering the state, any vehicle or combination of vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than forty thousand pounds and transporting cattle must immediately stop at a port of entry, which is operated by the Washington state patrol.

(2) The requirement of subsection (1) of this section does not apply to the operator of a vehicle in possession of a pasture permit or cattle consigned to a public auction or sales yard. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to authorize a vehicle to bypass an open weigh station or port of entry.

(3) Operation of any vehicle or combination of vehicles in violation of this section is prima facie evidence that the owner of the vehicle or combination of vehicles caused or permitted the vehicle or combination of vehicles to be so operated, and the owner is liable for any penalties imposed under this section.

(4) The penalty for failure to comply with this section is one thousand dollars. All fines collected under this section must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund established under RCW 46.68.070 to be used for road maintenance purposes.

(5) The requirements and penalties in this section apply only in a county located east of the crest of the Cascade mountains with a population of at least four hundred fifty thousand and an adjacent county with a population of at least thirteen thousand but less than fifteen thousand.

(6) The Washington state patrol must provide a one-time written notification of the requirements of this section to affected carriers known to have previously entered the state of Washington in the counties described in subsection (5) of this section. The notification requirement is not a defense for a driver from enforcement action if found in violation of this section. Notification must be provided by August 1, 2011. [2011 c 242 § 1.]

## Chapter 46.48 RCW

### TRANSPORTATION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

#### Sections

46.48.170	State patrol authority—Rules and regulations.
46.48.175	Rules—Penalties—Responsibility for compliance.
46.48.185	Inspections.

*Hazardous materials incident command agency, state patrol as:* RCW 70.136.030.

**46.48.170 State patrol authority—Rules and regulations.** The Washington state patrol acting by and through the chief of the Washington state patrol shall have the authority to adopt and enforce the regulations promulgated by the United States department of transportation, Title 49 C.F.R. parts 100 through 199, transportation of hazardous materials, as these regulations apply to motor carriers. "Motor carrier" means any person engaged in the transportation of passengers or property operating interstate and intrastate upon the public highways of this state, except farmers. The chief of the Washington state patrol shall confer with the emergency management council under RCW 38.52.040 and may make rules and regulations pertaining thereto, sufficient to protect persons

and property from unreasonable risk of harm or damage. The chief of the Washington state patrol shall establish such additional rules not inconsistent with Title 49 C.F.R. parts 100 through 199, transportation of hazardous materials, which for compelling reasons make necessary the reduction of risk associated with the transportation of hazardous materials. No such rules may lessen a standard of care; however, the chief of the Washington state patrol may, after conferring with the emergency management council, establish a rule imposing a more stringent standard of care. The chief of the Washington state patrol shall appoint the necessary qualified personnel to carry out the provisions of RCW 46.48.170 through \*46.48.190. [1988 c 81 § 19; 1980 c 20 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.48.170. Prior: 1951 c 102 § 1; 1949 c 101 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-63a.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 46.48.190 was repealed by 1988 c 81 § 20.

**46.48.175 Rules—Penalties—Responsibility for compliance.** Each violation of any rules and/or regulations made pursuant to RCW 46.48.170 or 81.80.290 pertaining to vehicle equipment on motor carriers transporting hazardous material shall be a misdemeanor.

Bail for such a violation shall be set at a minimum of one hundred dollars. The fine for such a violation shall be not less than two hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars. Compliance with the provisions of this chapter is the primary responsibility of the owner or lessee of the vehicle or any vehicle used in combination that is cited in the violation. [1980 c 104 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.48.175. Prior: 1951 c 102 § 2.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**46.48.185 Inspections.** The chief of the Washington state patrol shall direct the necessary qualified personnel to inspect the cargo of any motor carriers vehicle transporting hazardous material, inspect for proper securing, and inspect for the combined loading of cargo which would be inconsistent with the provisions of Title 49 C.F.R., parts 100 through 199. Authorized personnel inspecting loads of hazardous material shall do so in the presence of a representative of the motor carrier. Seal and locking devices may be removed as necessary to facilitate the inspection. The seals or locking devices removed shall be replaced by the Washington state patrol with a written form approved by the chief to certify seal or locking device removal for inspection of the cargo. [1980 c 20 § 3.]

**Chapter 46.52 RCW**

**ACCIDENTS—REPORTS—ABANDONED VEHICLES**

Sections

- 46.52.010 Duty on striking unattended car or other property—Penalty.
- 46.52.020 Duty in case of personal injury or death or damage to attended vehicle or other property—Penalties.
- 46.52.030 Accident reports.
- 46.52.035 Accident reports—Suspension of license or permit for failure to make report.
- 46.52.040 Accident reports—Report when operator disabled.
- 46.52.050 Coroner's reports to sheriff and state patrol.
- 46.52.060 Tabulation and analysis of reports—Availability for use.
- 46.52.065 Blood samples to state toxicologist—Analysis—Availability, admissibility of reports.

- 46.52.070 Police officer's report.
- 46.52.080 Confidentiality of reports—Information required to be disclosed—Evidence.
- 46.52.083 Confidentiality of reports—Availability of factual data to interested parties.
- 46.52.085 Confidentiality of reports—Fee for written information.
- 46.52.088 Reports—False information.
- 46.52.090 Reports of major repairs, etc.—Violations, penalties—Rules—Exceptions for older vehicles.
- 46.52.101 Records of traffic charges, dispositions.
- 46.52.120 Case record of convictions and infractions—Cross-reference to accident reports.
- 46.52.130 Abstract of driving record—Access—Fee—Violations.

*Abandoned, unauthorized vehicles generally: Chapter 46.55 RCW.*

*Hulk haulers and scrap processors: Chapter 46.79 RCW.*

*Removal of certain vehicles from roadway: RCW 46.55.113, 46.55.115, 46.61.590.*

*Vehicle wreckers: Chapter 46.80 RCW.*

**46.52.010 Duty on striking unattended car or other property—Penalty.** (1) The operator of any vehicle which collided with any other vehicle which is unattended shall immediately stop and shall then and there either locate and notify the operator or owner of such vehicle of the name and address of the operator and owner of the vehicle striking the unattended vehicle or shall leave in a conspicuous place in the vehicle struck a written notice, giving the name and address of the operator and of the owner of the vehicle striking such other vehicle.

(2) The driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting only in damage to property fixed or placed upon or adjacent to any public highway shall take reasonable steps to locate and notify the owner or person in charge of such property of such fact and of the name and address of the operator and owner of the vehicle striking such property, or shall leave in a conspicuous place upon the property struck a written notice, giving the name and address of the operator and of the owner of the vehicle so striking the property, and such person shall further make report of such accident as in the case of other accidents upon the public highways of this state.

(3) Any person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 241; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 79; 1961 c 12 § 46.52.010. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 133; RRS § 6360-133; 1927 c 309 § 50, part; RRS § 6362-50, part.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Arrest of person violating duty on striking unattended vehicle or other property: RCW 10.31.100.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.52.020 Duty in case of personal injury or death or damage to attended vehicle or other property—Penalties.**

(1) A driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting in the injury to or death of any person or involving striking the body of a deceased person shall immediately stop such vehicle at the scene of such accident or as close thereto as possible but shall then forthwith return to, and in every event remain at, the scene of such accident until he or she has fulfilled the requirements of subsection (3) of this section; every such stop shall be made without obstructing traffic more than is necessary.

(2)(a) The driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting only in damage to a vehicle which is driven or

attended by any person or damage to other property must move the vehicle as soon as possible off the roadway or freeway main lanes, shoulders, medians, and adjacent areas to a location on an exit ramp shoulder, the frontage road, the nearest suitable cross street, or other suitable location. The driver shall remain at the suitable location until he or she has fulfilled the requirements of subsection (3) of this section. Moving the vehicle in no way affects fault for an accident.

(b) A law enforcement officer or representative of the department of transportation may cause a motor vehicle, cargo, or debris to be moved from the roadway; and neither the department of transportation representative, nor anyone acting under the direction of the officer or the department of transportation representative is liable for damage to the motor vehicle, cargo, or debris caused by reasonable efforts of removal.

(3) Unless otherwise provided in subsection (7) of this section the driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injury to or death of any person, or involving striking the body of a deceased person, or resulting in damage to any vehicle which is driven or attended by any person or damage to other property shall give his or her name, address, insurance company, insurance policy number, and vehicle license number and shall exhibit his or her vehicle driver's license to any person struck or injured or the driver or any occupant of, or any person attending, any such vehicle collided with and shall render to any person injured in such accident reasonable assistance, including the carrying or the making of arrangements for the carrying of such person to a physician or hospital for medical treatment if it is apparent that such treatment is necessary or if such carrying is requested by the injured person or on his or her behalf. Under no circumstances shall the rendering of assistance or other compliance with the provisions of this subsection be evidence of the liability of any driver for such accident.

(4)(a) Any driver covered by the provisions of subsection (1) of this section failing to stop or comply with any of the requirements of subsection (3) of this section in the case of an accident resulting in death is guilty of a class B felony and, upon conviction, is punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(b) Any driver covered by the provisions of subsection (1) of this section failing to stop or comply with any of the requirements of subsection (3) of this section in the case of an accident resulting in injury is guilty of a class C felony and, upon conviction, is punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(c) Any driver covered by the provisions of subsection (1) of this section failing to stop or comply with any of the requirements of subsection (3) of this section in the case of an accident involving striking the body of a deceased person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(d) This subsection shall not apply to any person injured or incapacitated by such accident to the extent of being physically incapable of complying with this section.

(5) Any driver covered by the provisions of subsection (2) of this section failing to stop or to comply with any of the requirements of subsection (3) of this section under said circumstances shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor: PROVIDED, That this provision shall not apply to any person

injured or incapacitated by such accident to the extent of being physically incapable of complying herewith.

(6) The license or permit to drive or any nonresident privilege to drive of any person convicted under this section or any local ordinance consisting of substantially the same language as this section of failure to stop and give information or render aid following an accident with any vehicle driven or attended by any person shall be revoked by the department.

(7) If none of the persons specified are in condition to receive the information to which they otherwise would be entitled under subsection (3) of this section, and no police officer is present, the driver of any vehicle involved in such accident after fulfilling all other requirements of subsections (1) and (3) of this section insofar as possible on his or her part to be performed, shall forthwith report such accident to the nearest office of the duly authorized police authority and submit thereto the information specified in subsection (3) of this section. [2002 c 194 § 1; 2001 c 145 § 1; 2000 c 66 § 1; 1990 c 210 § 2; 1980 c 97 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 80; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 18 § 1. Prior: 1975 1st ex.s. c 210 § 1; 1975 c 62 § 14; 1967 c 32 § 53; 1961 c 12 § 46.52.020; prior: 1937 c 189 § 134; RRS § 6360-134; 1927 c 309 § 50, part; RRS § 6362-50, part.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

*Arrest of person violating duty in case of injury to or death of person or damage to attended vehicle: RCW 10.31.100.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.52.030 Accident reports.** (1) Unless a report is to be made by a law enforcement officer under subsection (3) of this section, the driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injury to or death of any person or damage to the property of any one person to an apparent extent equal to or greater than the minimum amount established by rule adopted by the chief of the Washington state patrol in accordance with subsection (5) of this section, shall, within four days after such accident, make a written report of such accident to the chief of police of the city or town if such accident occurred within an incorporated city or town or the county sheriff or state patrol if such accident occurred outside incorporated cities and towns. Nothing in this subsection prohibits accident reports from being filed by drivers where damage to property is less than the minimum amount or where a law enforcement officer has submitted a report.

(2) The original of the report shall be immediately forwarded by the authority receiving the report to the chief of the Washington state patrol at Olympia, Washington. The Washington state patrol shall give the department of licensing full access to the report.

(3) Any law enforcement officer who investigates an accident for which a report is required under subsection (1) of this section shall submit an investigator's report as required by RCW 46.52.070.

(4) The chief of the Washington state patrol may require any driver of any vehicle involved in an accident, of which report must be made as provided in this section, to file supplemental reports whenever the original report in the chief's opinion is insufficient, and may likewise require witnesses of any such accident to render reports. For this purpose, the

chief of the Washington state patrol shall prepare and, upon request, supply to any police department, coroner, sheriff, and any other suitable agency or individual, sample forms of accident reports required hereunder, which reports shall be upon a form devised by the chief of the Washington state patrol and shall call for sufficiently detailed information to disclose all material facts with reference to the accident to be reported thereon, including the location, the circumstances, the conditions then existing, the persons and vehicles involved, the insurance information required under RCW 46.30.030, personal injury or death, if any, the amounts of property damage claimed, the total number of vehicles involved, whether the vehicles were legally parked, legally standing, or moving, whether such vehicles were occupied at the time of the accident, and whether any driver involved in the accident was distracted at the time of the accident. Distractions contributing to an accident must be reported on the accident form and include at least the following minimum reporting options: Not distracted; operating a handheld electronic telecommunication device; operating a hands-free wireless telecommunication device; other electronic devices (including, but not limited to, PDA's, laptop computers, navigational devices, etc.); adjusting an audio or entertainment system; smoking; eating or drinking; reading or writing; grooming; interacting with children, passengers, animals, or objects in the vehicle; other inside distractions; outside distractions; and distraction unknown. Every required accident report shall be made on a form prescribed by the chief of the Washington state patrol and each authority charged with the duty of receiving such reports shall provide sufficient report forms in compliance with the form devised. The report forms shall be designated so as to provide that a copy may be retained by the reporting person.

(5) The chief of the Washington state patrol shall adopt rules establishing the accident-reporting threshold for property damage accidents. Beginning October 1, 1987, the accident-reporting threshold for property damage accidents shall be five hundred dollars. The accident-reporting threshold for property damage accidents shall be revised when necessary, but not more frequently than every two years. The revisions shall only be for the purpose of recognizing economic changes as reflected by an inflationary index recommended by the office of financial management. The revisions shall be guided by the change in the index for the time period since the last revision. [2005 c 171 § 1; 1997 c 248 § 1; 1996 c 183 § 1; 1989 c 353 § 5; 1987 c 463 § 2; 1981 c 30 § 1; 1979 c 158 § 160; 1979 c 11 § 2. Prior: 1977 ex.s. c 369 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 68 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 40 § 2; 1967 c 32 § 54; 1965 ex.s. c 119 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.52.030; prior: 1943 c 154 § 1; 1937 c 189 § 135; RRS § 6360-135.]

**Effective date—2005 c 171:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2006." [2005 c 171 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.52.035 Accident reports—Suspension of license or permit for failure to make report.** The director may suspend the license or permit to drive and any nonresident operating privileges of any person failing to report an accident as provided in RCW 46.52.030 until such report has been filed. [1988 c 8 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 119 § 2.]

[Title 46 RCW—page 218]

**46.52.040 Accident reports—Report when operator disabled.** Whenever the driver of the vehicle involved in any accident, concerning which accident report is required, is physically incapable of making the required accident report and there is another occupant other than a passenger for hire therein, in the vehicle at the time of the accident capable of making a report, such occupant shall make or cause to be made such report. Upon recovery such driver shall make such report in the manner required by law. [1967 c 32 § 55; 1961 c 12 § 46.52.040. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 136; RRS § 6360-136.]

**46.52.050 Coroner's reports to sheriff and state patrol.** Every coroner or other official performing like functions shall on or before the tenth day of each month, report in writing to the sheriff of the county in which he or she holds office and to the chief of the Washington state patrol the death of any person within his or her jurisdiction during the preceding calendar month as a result of an accident involving any vehicle, together with the circumstances of such accident. [2010 c 8 § 9059; 1961 c 12 § 46.52.050. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 137; RRS § 6360-137.]

**46.52.060 Tabulation and analysis of reports—Availability for use.** It shall be the duty of the chief of the Washington state patrol to file, tabulate, and analyze all accident reports and to publish annually, immediately following the close of each fiscal year, and monthly during the course of the year, statistical information based thereon showing the number of accidents, the location, the frequency, whether any driver involved in the accident was distracted at the time of the accident and the circumstances thereof, and other statistical information which may prove of assistance in determining the cause of vehicular accidents. Distractions contributing to an accident to be reported must include at least the following: Not distracted; operating a handheld electronic telecommunication device; operating a hands-free wireless telecommunication device; other electronic devices (including, but not limited to, PDA's, laptop computers, navigational devices, etc.); adjusting an audio or entertainment system; smoking; eating or drinking; reading or writing; grooming; interacting with children, passengers, animals, or objects in the vehicle; other inside distractions; outside distractions; and distraction unknown.

Such accident reports and analysis or reports thereof shall be available to the director of licensing, the department of transportation, the utilities and transportation commission, the traffic safety commission, and other public entities authorized by the chief of the Washington state patrol, or their duly authorized representatives, for further tabulation and analysis for pertinent data relating to the regulation of highway traffic, highway construction, vehicle operators and all other purposes, and to publish information so derived as may be deemed of publication value. [2005 c 171 § 2; 1998 c 169 § 1; 1979 c 158 § 161; 1977 c 75 § 67; 1967 c 32 § 56; 1961 c 12 § 46.52.060. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 138; RRS § 6360-138.]

**Effective date—2005 c 171:** See note following RCW 46.52.030.

**46.52.065 Blood samples to state toxicologist—Analysis—Availability, admissibility of reports.** Every coroner or other official performing like functions shall submit to the state toxicologist a blood sample taken from all drivers and

all pedestrians who are killed in any traffic accident where the death occurred within four hours after the accident. Blood samples shall be taken and submitted in the manner prescribed by the state toxicologist. The state toxicologist shall analyze these blood samples to determine the concentration of alcohol and, where feasible, the presence of drugs or other toxic substances. The reports and records of the state toxicologist relating to analyses made pursuant to this section shall be confidential: PROVIDED, That the results of these analyses shall be reported to the state patrol and made available to the prosecuting attorney or law enforcement agency having jurisdiction: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the results of these analyses may be admitted in evidence in any civil or criminal action where relevant and shall be made available to the parties to any such litigation on application to the court. [1977 ex.s. c 50 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 270 § 1.]

**46.52.070 Police officer's report.** (1) Any police officer of the state of Washington or of any county, city, town, or other political subdivision, present at the scene of any accident or in possession of any facts concerning any accident whether by way of official investigation or otherwise shall make report thereof in the same manner as required of the parties to such accident and as fully as the facts in his or her possession concerning such accident will permit.

(2) The police officer shall report to the department, on a form prescribed by the director: (a) When a collision has occurred that results in a fatality; and (b) the identity of the operator of a vehicle involved in the collision when the officer has reasonable grounds to believe the operator caused the collision.

(3) The police officer shall report to the department, on a form prescribed by the director: (a) When a collision has occurred that results in a serious injury; (b) the identity of the operator of a vehicle involved in the collision when the officer has reasonable grounds to believe the operator who caused the serious injury may not be competent to operate a motor vehicle; and (c) the reason or reasons for the officer's belief. [2010 c 8 § 9060; 1999 c 351 § 2; 1998 c 165 § 8; 1967 c 32 § 57; 1961 c 12 § 46.52.070. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 139; RRS § 6360-139.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.52.080 Confidentiality of reports—Information required to be disclosed—Evidence.** All required accident reports and supplemental reports and copies thereof shall be without prejudice to the individual so reporting and shall be for the confidential use of the county prosecuting attorney and chief of police or county sheriff, as the case may be, and the director of licensing and the chief of the Washington state patrol, and other officer or commission as authorized by law, except that any such officer shall disclose the names and addresses of persons reported as involved in an accident or as witnesses thereto, the vehicle license plate numbers and descriptions of vehicles involved, and the date, time and location of an accident, to any person who may have a proper interest therein, including the driver or drivers involved, or the legal guardian thereof, the parent of a minor driver, any person injured therein, the owner of vehicles or property damaged thereby, or any authorized representative of such an interested party, or the attorney or insurer thereof. No such

accident report or copy thereof shall be used as evidence in any trial, civil or criminal, arising out of an accident, except that any officer above named for receiving accident reports shall furnish, upon demand of any person who has, or who claims to have, made such a report, or, upon demand of any court, a certificate showing that a specified accident report has or has not been made to the chief of the Washington state patrol solely to prove a compliance or a failure to comply with the requirement that such a report be made in the manner required by law: PROVIDED, That the reports may be used as evidence when necessary to prosecute charges filed in connection with a violation of RCW 46.52.088. [1979 c 158 § 162; 1975 c 62 § 15; 1967 c 32 § 58; 1965 ex.s. c 119 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.52.080. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 140; RRS § 6360-140.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.52.083 Confidentiality of reports—Availability of factual data to interested parties.** All of the factual data submitted in report form by the officers, together with the signed statements of all witnesses, except the reports signed by the drivers involved in the accident, shall be made available upon request to the interested parties named in RCW 46.52.080. [1965 ex.s. c 119 § 4.]

**46.52.085 Confidentiality of reports—Fee for written information.** Any information authorized for release under RCW 46.52.080 and 46.52.083 may be furnished in written form for a fee sufficient to meet, but not exceed, the costs incurred. All fees received by the Washington state patrol for such copies shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. [1979 c 34 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 91 § 5; 1965 ex.s. c 119 § 5.]

**46.52.088 Reports—False information.** A person shall not give information in oral or written reports as required in chapter 46.52 RCW knowing that such information is false. [1975 c 62 § 16.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.52.090 Reports of major repairs, etc.—Violations, penalties—Rules—Exceptions for older vehicles.** (1) Any person, firm, corporation, or association engaged in the business of repairs of any kind to vehicles or any person, firm, corporation, or association which may at any time engage in any kind of major repair, restoration, or substantial alteration to a vehicle required to be licensed or registered under this title shall maintain verifiable records regarding the source of used major component parts used in such repairs, restoration, or alteration. Satisfactory records include but are not limited to personal identification of the seller if such parts were acquired from other than a vehicle wrecker licensed under chapter 46.80 RCW, signed work orders, and bills of sale signed by the seller whose identity and address has been verified describing parts acquired, and the make, model, and vehicle identification number of a vehicle from which the following parts are removed: (a) Engines and short blocks, (b) frames, (c) transmissions and transfer cases, (d) cabs, (e) doors, (f) front or rear differentials, (g) front or rear clips, (h) quarter panels or fenders, (i) bumpers, (j) truck beds or boxes, (k) seats, and (l) hoods.

(2) The records required under subsection (1) of this section shall be kept for a period of four years and shall be made available for inspection by a law enforcement officer during ordinary business hours.

(3) It is a gross misdemeanor to: (a) Acquire a part without a substantiating bill of sale or invoice from the parts supplier or fail to comply with any rules adopted under this section; (b) fail to obtain the vehicle identification number for those parts requiring that it be obtained; or (c) fail to keep records for four years or to make such records available during normal business hours to a law enforcement officer.

(4) The chief of the Washington state patrol shall adopt rules for the purpose of regulating recordkeeping and parts acquisition by vehicle repairers, restorers, rebuilders, or those who perform substantial vehicle alterations.

(5) The provisions of this section do not apply to major repair, restoration, or alteration of a vehicle thirty years of age or older. [2003 c 53 § 242; 1983 c 142 § 1; 1967 c 32 § 59; 1961 c 12 § 46.52.090. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 141; RRS § 6360-141.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

#### **46.52.101 Records of traffic charges, dispositions.** (1)

Every district court, municipal court, and clerk of a superior court shall keep or cause to be kept a record of every traffic complaint, traffic citation, notice of infraction, or other legal form of traffic charge deposited with or presented to the court or a traffic violations bureau, and shall keep a record of every official action by the court or its traffic violations bureau regarding the charge, including but not limited to a record of every conviction, forfeiture of bail, judgment of acquittal, finding that a traffic infraction has been committed, dismissal of a notice of infraction, and the amount of fine, forfeiture, or penalty resulting from every traffic charge deposited with or presented to the court or traffic violations bureau. In the case of a record of a conviction for a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the court shall maintain the record permanently.

(2) After the conviction, forfeiture of bail, or finding that a traffic infraction was committed for a violation of any provisions of this chapter or other law regulating the operating of vehicles on highways, the clerk of the court in which the conviction was had, bail was forfeited, or the finding of commission was made shall prepare and immediately forward to the director of licensing at Olympia an abstract of the court record covering the case. Report need not be made of a finding involving the illegal parking or standing of a vehicle.

(3) The abstract must be made upon a form or forms furnished by the director and must include the name and address of the party charged, the number, if any, of the party's driver's or chauffeur's license, the registration number of the vehicle involved if required by the director, the nature of the offense, the date of hearing, the plea, the judgment, whether the offense was an alcohol-related offense as defined in RCW 46.01.260(2), whether the incident that gave rise to the offense charged resulted in a fatality, whether bail was forfeited, whether the determination that a traffic infraction was

committed was contested, and the amount of the fine, forfeiture, or penalty, as the case may be.

(4) In courts where the judicial information system or other secure method of electronic transfer of information has been implemented between the court and the department of licensing, the court may electronically provide the information required in subsections (2), (3), and (5) of this section.

(5) The superior court clerk shall also forward a like report to the director upon the conviction of a person of a felony in the commission of which a vehicle was used.

(6) The director shall keep all abstracts received under this section at the director's office in Olympia. The abstracts must be open to public inspection during reasonable business hours.

(7) The officer, prosecuting attorney, or city attorney signing the charge or information in a case involving a charge of driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug shall immediately request from the director an abstract of convictions and forfeitures. The director shall furnish the requested abstract. [2006 c 327 § 6; 1999 c 86 § 4.]

#### **46.52.120 Case record of convictions and infractions—Cross-reference to accident reports.** (1)

The director shall keep a case record on every motor vehicle driver licensed under the laws of this state, together with information on each driver, showing all the convictions and findings of traffic infractions certified by the courts, together with an index cross-reference record of each accident reported relating to such individual with a brief statement of the cause of the accident and whether or not the accident resulted in any fatality. The chief of the Washington state patrol shall furnish the index cross-reference record to the director, with reference to each driver involved in the reported accidents.

(2) The records shall be for the confidential use of the director, the chief of the Washington state patrol, the director of the Washington traffic safety commission, and for such police officers or other cognizant public officials as may be designated by law. Such case records shall not be admitted into evidence in any court, except where relevant to the prosecution or defense of a criminal charge, or in case appeal is taken from the order of the director, suspending, revoking, canceling, or refusing a vehicle driver's license.

(3) The director shall tabulate and analyze vehicle driver's case records and suspend, revoke, cancel, or refuse a vehicle driver's license to a person when it is deemed from facts contained in the case record of such person that it is for the best interest of public safety that such person be denied the privilege of operating a motor vehicle. The director shall also suspend a person's driver's license if the person fails to attend or complete a driver improvement interview or fails to abide by conditions of probation under RCW 46.20.335. Whenever the director orders the vehicle driver's license of any such person suspended, revoked, or canceled, or refuses the issuance of a vehicle driver's license, such suspension, revocation, cancellation, or refusal is final and effective unless appeal from the decision of the director is taken as provided by law. [1998 c 218 § 1; 1998 c 165 § 10; 1993 c 501 § 12; 1992 c 32 § 3; 1989 c 178 § 23; 1988 c 38 § 2; 1984 c 99 § 1; 1982 c 52 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 83; 1977 ex.s. c 356 § 1; 1967 c 32 § 62; 1961 c 12 § 46.52.120. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 144; RRS § 6360-144.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1998 c 165 § 10 and by 1998 c 218 § 1, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.52.130 Abstract of driving record—Access—Fee—Violations.** (*Effective until October 1, 2012.*) Upon a proper request, the department may furnish an abstract of a person's driving record as permitted under this section.

(1) **Contents of abstract of driving record.** An abstract of a person's driving record, whenever possible, must include:

(a) An enumeration of motor vehicle accidents in which the person was driving, including:

- (i) The total number of vehicles involved;
- (ii) Whether the vehicles were legally parked or moving;
- (iii) Whether the vehicles were occupied at the time of the accident; and

(iv) Whether the accident resulted in a fatality;

(b) Any reported convictions, forfeitures of bail, or findings that an infraction was committed based upon a violation of any motor vehicle law;

(c) The status of the person's driving privilege in this state; and

(d) Any reports of failure to appear in response to a traffic citation or failure to respond to a notice of infraction served upon the named individual by an arresting officer.

(2) **Release of abstract of driving record.** An abstract of a person's driving record may be furnished to the following persons or entities:

(a) **Named individuals.** (i) An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department may be furnished to the individual named in the abstract.

(ii) Nothing in this section prevents a court from providing a copy of the driver's abstract to the individual named in the abstract, provided that the named individual has a pending or open infraction or criminal case in that court. A pending case includes criminal cases that have not reached a disposition by plea, stipulation, trial, or amended charge. An open infraction or criminal case includes cases on probation, payment agreement or subject to, or in collections. Courts may charge a reasonable fee for the production and copying of the abstract for the individual.

(b) **Employers or prospective employers.** (i)(A) An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department may be furnished to an employer or prospective employer or an agent acting on behalf of an employer or prospective employer of the named individual for purposes related to driving by the individual as a condition of employment or otherwise at the direction of the employer.

(B) Release of an abstract of the driving record of an employee or prospective employee requires a statement signed by: (I) The employee or prospective employee that authorizes the release of the record; and (II) the employer attesting that the information is necessary for employment purposes related to driving by the individual as a condition of employment or otherwise at the direction of the employer. If the employer or prospective employer authorizes an agent to obtain this information on their behalf, this must be noted in the statement.

(C) Upon request of the person named in the abstract provided under this subsection, and upon that same person furnishing copies of court records ruling that the person was not at fault in a motor vehicle accident, the department must indicate on any abstract provided under this subsection that the person was not at fault in the motor vehicle accident.

(ii) In addition to the methods described in (b)(i) of this subsection, the director may enter into a contractual agreement with an employer or its agent for the purpose of reviewing the driving records of existing employees for changes to the record during specified periods of time. The department shall establish a fee for this service, which must be deposited in the highway safety fund. The fee for this service must be set at a level that will not result in a net revenue loss to the state. Any information provided under this subsection must be treated in the same manner and is subject to the same restrictions as driving record abstracts.

(c) **Volunteer organizations.** (i) An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department may be furnished to a volunteer organization or an agent for a volunteer organization for which the named individual has submitted an application for a position that would require driving by the individual at the direction of the volunteer organization.

(ii) Release of an abstract of the driving record of a prospective volunteer requires a statement signed by: (A) The prospective volunteer that authorizes the release of the record; and (B) the volunteer organization attesting that the information is necessary for purposes related to driving by the individual at the direction of the volunteer organization. If the volunteer organization authorizes an agent to obtain this information on their behalf, this must be noted in the statement.

(d) **Transit authorities.** An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department may be furnished to an employee or agent of a transit authority checking prospective volunteer vanpool drivers for insurance and risk management needs.

(e) **Insurance carriers.** (i) An abstract of the driving record maintained by the department covering the period of not more than the last three years may be furnished to an insurance company or its agent:

(A) That has motor vehicle or life insurance in effect covering the named individual;

(B) To which the named individual has applied; or

(C) That has insurance in effect covering the employer or a prospective employer of the named individual.

(ii) The abstract provided to the insurance company must:

(A) Not contain any information related to actions committed by law enforcement officers or firefighters, as both terms are defined in RCW 41.26.030, or by Washington state patrol officers, while driving official vehicles in the performance of their occupational duty. This does not apply to any situation where the vehicle was used in the commission of a misdemeanor or felony;

(B) Include convictions under RCW 46.61.5249 and 46.61.525, except that the abstract must report the convictions only as negligent driving without reference to whether they are for first or second degree negligent driving; and

(C) Exclude any deferred prosecution under RCW 10.05.060, except that if a person is removed from a deferred



prosecution under RCW 10.05.090, the abstract must show the deferred prosecution as well as the removal.

(iii) Any policy of insurance may not be canceled, non-renewed, denied, or have the rate increased on the basis of information regarding an accident included in the abstract of a driving record, unless the policyholder was determined to be at fault.

(iv) Any insurance company or its agent, for underwriting purposes relating to the operation of commercial motor vehicles, may not use any information contained in the abstract relative to any person's operation of motor vehicles while not engaged in such employment. Any insurance company or its agent, for underwriting purposes relating to the operation of noncommercial motor vehicles, may not use any information contained in the abstract relative to any person's operation of commercial motor vehicles.

(v) The director may enter into a contractual agreement with an insurance company or its agent for the limited purpose of reviewing the driving records of existing policyholders for changes to the record during specified periods of time. The department shall establish a fee for this service, which must be deposited in the highway safety fund. The fee for this service must be set at a level that will not result in a net revenue loss to the state. Any information provided under this subsection must be treated in the same manner and is subject to the same restrictions as driving record abstracts.

(f) **Alcohol/drug assessment or treatment agencies.** An abstract of the driving record maintained by the department covering the period of not more than the last five years may be furnished to an alcohol/drug assessment or treatment agency approved by the department of social and health services to which the named individual has applied or been assigned for evaluation or treatment, for purposes of assisting employees in making a determination as to what level of treatment, if any, is appropriate, except that the abstract must:

(i) Also include records of alcohol-related offenses, as defined in RCW 46.01.260(2), covering a period of not more than the last ten years; and

(ii) Indicate whether an alcohol-related offense was originally charged as a violation of either RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504.

(g) **City attorneys and county prosecuting attorneys.** An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department, including whether a recorded violation is an alcohol-related offense, as defined in RCW 46.01.260(2), that was originally charged as a violation of either RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, may be furnished to city attorneys or county prosecuting attorneys. City attorneys and county prosecuting attorneys may provide the driving record to alcohol/drug assessment or treatment agencies approved by the department of social and health services to which the named individual has applied or been assigned for evaluation or treatment.

(h) **State colleges, universities, or agencies, or units of local government.** An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department may be furnished to (i) state colleges, universities, or agencies for employment and risk management purposes or (ii) units of local government authorized to self-insure under RCW 48.62.031 for employment and risk management purposes.

(i) **Superintendent of public instruction.** An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department may be furnished to the superintendent of public instruction for review of public school bus driver records. The superintendent or superintendent's designee may discuss information on the driving record with an authorized representative of the employing school district for employment and risk management purposes.

(3) **Release to third parties prohibited.** Any person or entity receiving an abstract of a person's driving record under subsection (2)(b) through (i) of this section shall use the abstract exclusively for his, her, or its own purposes or as otherwise expressly permitted under this section, and shall not divulge any information contained in the abstract to a third party.

(4) **Fee.** The director shall collect a ten-dollar fee for each abstract of a person's driving record furnished by the department. Fifty percent of the fee must be deposited in the highway safety fund, and fifty percent of the fee must be deposited according to RCW 46.68.038.

(5) **Violation.** (a) Any negligent violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor.

(b) Any intentional violation of this section is a class C felony. [2012 c 73 § 1; 2010 c 253 § 1; 2009 c 276 § 1; 2008 c 253 § 1; 2007 c 424 § 3; 2004 c 49 § 1; 2003 c 367 § 1. Prior: 2002 c 352 § 20; 2002 c 221 § 1; 2001 c 309 § 1; 1998 c 165 § 11; 1997 c 66 § 12; prior: 1996 c 307 § 4; 1996 c 183 § 2; 1994 c 275 § 16; 1991 c 243 § 1; 1989 c 178 § 24; prior: 1987 1st ex.s. c 9 § 2; 1987 c 397 § 2; 1987 c 181 § 1; 1986 c 74 § 1; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 11; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 84; 1977 ex.s. c 356 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 140 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 37 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 40 § 3; 1967 c 174 § 2; 1967 c 32 § 63; 1963 c 169 § 65; 1961 ex.s. c 21 § 27.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Effective date—2010 c 253:** "This act takes effect October 31, 2010." [2010 c 253 § 3.]

**Effective date—2008 c 253:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2008." [2008 c 253 § 2.]

**Effective date—2007 c 424:** See note following RCW 46.20.293.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**Intent—1987 c 397:** See note following RCW 46.61.410.

*Abstract of driving record to be furnished:* RCW 46.29.050.

*Use of highway safety fund to defray cost of furnishing and maintaining driving records:* RCW 46.68.060.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.52.130 Abstract of driving record—Access—Fee—Violations. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** Upon a proper request, the department may furnish an abstract of a person's driving record as permitted under this section.

(1) **Contents of abstract of driving record.** An abstract of a person's driving record, whenever possible, must include:

(a) An enumeration of motor vehicle accidents in which the person was driving, including:

(i) The total number of vehicles involved;

(ii) Whether the vehicles were legally parked or moving;

(iii) Whether the vehicles were occupied at the time of the accident; and

(iv) Whether the accident resulted in a fatality;

(b) Any reported convictions, forfeitures of bail, or findings that an infraction was committed based upon a violation of any motor vehicle law;

(c) The status of the person's driving privilege in this state; and

(d) Any reports of failure to appear in response to a traffic citation or failure to respond to a notice of infraction served upon the named individual by an arresting officer.

(2) **Release of abstract of driving record.** An abstract of a person's driving record may be furnished to the following persons or entities:

(a) **Named individuals.** (i) An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department may be furnished to the individual named in the abstract.

(ii) Nothing in this section prevents a court from providing a copy of the driver's abstract to the individual named in the abstract, provided that the named individual has a pending or open infraction or criminal case in that court. A pending case includes criminal cases that have not reached a disposition by plea, stipulation, trial, or amended charge. An open infraction or criminal case includes cases on probation, payment agreement or subject to, or in collections. Courts may charge a reasonable fee for the production and copying of the abstract for the individual.

(b) **Employers or prospective employers.** (i)(A) An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department may be furnished to an employer or prospective employer or an agent acting on behalf of an employer or prospective employer of the named individual for purposes related to driving by the individual as a condition of employment or otherwise at the direction of the employer.

(B) Release of an abstract of the driving record of an employee or prospective employee requires a statement signed by: (I) The employee or prospective employee that authorizes the release of the record; and (II) the employer attesting that the information is necessary for employment purposes related to driving by the individual as a condition of employment or otherwise at the direction of the employer. If the employer or prospective employer authorizes an agent to obtain this information on their behalf, this must be noted in the statement.

(C) Upon request of the person named in the abstract provided under this subsection, and upon that same person furnishing copies of court records ruling that the person was not at fault in a motor vehicle accident, the department must indicate on any abstract provided under this subsection that the person was not at fault in the motor vehicle accident.

(ii) In addition to the methods described in (b)(i) of this subsection, the director may enter into a contractual agreement with an employer or its agent for the purpose of reviewing the driving records of existing employees for changes to the record during specified periods of time. The department shall establish a fee for this service, which must be deposited in the highway safety fund. The fee for this service must be set at a level that will not result in a net revenue loss to the state. Any information provided under this subsection must be treated in the same manner and is subject to the same restrictions as driving record abstracts.

(c) **Volunteer organizations.** (i) An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department may be furnished to a volunteer organization or an agent for a volunteer

organization for which the named individual has submitted an application for a position that would require driving by the individual at the direction of the volunteer organization.

(ii) Release of an abstract of the driving record of a prospective volunteer requires a statement signed by: (A) The prospective volunteer that authorizes the release of the record; and (B) the volunteer organization attesting that the information is necessary for purposes related to driving by the individual at the direction of the volunteer organization. If the volunteer organization authorizes an agent to obtain this information on their behalf, this must be noted in the statement.

(d) **Transit authorities.** An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department may be furnished to an employee or agent of a transit authority checking prospective volunteer vanpool drivers for insurance and risk management needs.

(e) **Insurance carriers.** (i) An abstract of the driving record maintained by the department covering the period of not more than the last three years may be furnished to an insurance company or its agent:

(A) That has motor vehicle or life insurance in effect covering the named individual;

(B) To which the named individual has applied; or

(C) That has insurance in effect covering the employer or a prospective employer of the named individual.

(ii) The abstract provided to the insurance company must:

(A) Not contain any information related to actions committed by law enforcement officers or firefighters, as both terms are defined in RCW 41.26.030, or by Washington state patrol officers, while driving official vehicles in the performance of their occupational duty. This does not apply to any situation where the vehicle was used in the commission of a misdemeanor or felony;

(B) Include convictions under RCW 46.61.5249 and 46.61.525, except that the abstract must report the convictions only as negligent driving without reference to whether they are for first or second degree negligent driving; and

(C) Exclude any deferred prosecution under RCW 10.05.060, except that if a person is removed from a deferred prosecution under RCW 10.05.090, the abstract must show the deferred prosecution as well as the removal.

(iii) Any policy of insurance may not be canceled, non-renewed, denied, or have the rate increased on the basis of information regarding an accident included in the abstract of a driving record, unless the policyholder was determined to be at fault.

(iv) Any insurance company or its agent, for underwriting purposes relating to the operation of commercial motor vehicles, may not use any information contained in the abstract relative to any person's operation of motor vehicles while not engaged in such employment. Any insurance company or its agent, for underwriting purposes relating to the operation of noncommercial motor vehicles, may not use any information contained in the abstract relative to any person's operation of commercial motor vehicles.

(v) The director may enter into a contractual agreement with an insurance company or its agent for the limited purpose of reviewing the driving records of existing policyholders for changes to the record during specified periods of time.

The department shall establish a fee for this service, which must be deposited in the highway safety fund. The fee for this service must be set at a level that will not result in a net revenue loss to the state. Any information provided under this subsection must be treated in the same manner and is subject to the same restrictions as driving record abstracts.

(f) **Alcohol/drug assessment or treatment agencies.** An abstract of the driving record maintained by the department covering the period of not more than the last five years may be furnished to an alcohol/drug assessment or treatment agency approved by the department of social and health services to which the named individual has applied or been assigned for evaluation or treatment, for purposes of assisting employees in making a determination as to what level of treatment, if any, is appropriate, except that the abstract must:

(i) Also include records of alcohol-related offenses, as defined in RCW 46.01.260(2), covering a period of not more than the last ten years; and

(ii) Indicate whether an alcohol-related offense was originally charged as a violation of either RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504.

(g) **City attorneys and county prosecuting attorneys.** An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department, including whether a recorded violation is an alcohol-related offense, as defined in RCW 46.01.260(2), that was originally charged as a violation of either RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, may be furnished to city attorneys or county prosecuting attorneys. City attorneys and county prosecuting attorneys may provide the driving record to alcohol/drug assessment or treatment agencies approved by the department of social and health services to which the named individual has applied or been assigned for evaluation or treatment.

(h) **State colleges, universities, or agencies, or units of local government.** An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department may be furnished to (i) state colleges, universities, or agencies for employment and risk management purposes or (ii) units of local government authorized to self-insure under RCW 48.62.031 for employment and risk management purposes.

(i) **Superintendent of public instruction.** An abstract of the full driving record maintained by the department may be furnished to the superintendent of public instruction for review of public school bus driver records. The superintendent or superintendent's designee may discuss information on the driving record with an authorized representative of the employing school district for employment and risk management purposes.

(3) **Release to third parties prohibited.** Any person or entity receiving an abstract of a person's driving record under subsection (2)(b) through (i) of this section shall use the abstract exclusively for his, her, or its own purposes or as otherwise expressly permitted under this section, and shall not divulge any information contained in the abstract to a third party.

(4) **Fee.** The director shall collect a thirteen dollar fee for each abstract of a person's driving record furnished by the department. Fifty percent of the fee must be deposited in the highway safety fund, and fifty percent of the fee must be deposited according to RCW 46.68.038.

(5) **Violation.** (a) Any negligent violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor.

(b) Any intentional violation of this section is a class C felony. [2012 c 74 § 6; 2012 c 73 § 1; 2010 c 253 § 1; 2009 c 276 § 1; 2008 c 253 § 1; 2007 c 424 § 3; 2004 c 49 § 1; 2003 c 367 § 1. Prior: 2002 c 352 § 20; 2002 c 221 § 1; 2001 c 309 § 1; 1998 c 165 § 11; 1997 c 66 § 12; prior: 1996 c 307 § 4; 1996 c 183 § 2; 1994 c 275 § 16; 1991 c 243 § 1; 1989 c 178 § 24; prior: 1987 1st ex.s c 9 § 2; 1987 c 397 § 2; 1987 c 181 § 1; 1986 c 74 § 1; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 11; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 84; 1977 ex.s. c 356 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 140 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 37 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 40 § 3; 1967 c 174 § 2; 1967 c 32 § 63; 1963 c 169 § 65; 1961 ex.s. c 21 § 27.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2012 c 73 § 1 and by 2012 c 74 § 6, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2012 c 74 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.17.100.

**Effective date—2010 c 253:** "This act takes effect October 31, 2010." [2010 c 253 § 3.]

**Effective date—2008 c 253:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2008." [2008 c 253 § 2.]

**Effective date—2007 c 424:** See note following RCW 46.20.293.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**Intent—1987 c 397:** See note following RCW 46.61.410.

*Abstract of driving record to be furnished: RCW 46.29.050.*

*Use of highway safety fund to defray cost of furnishing and maintaining driving records: RCW 46.68.060.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 46.55 RCW TOWING AND IMPOUNDMENT

### Sections

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*Riding in towed vehicles: RCW 46.61.625.*

*Safety chains for towing: RCW 46.37.495.*

**46.55.010 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter:

(1) "Abandoned vehicle" means a vehicle that a registered tow truck operator has impounded and held in the operator's possession for one hundred twenty consecutive hours.

(2) "Immobilize" means the use of a locking wheel boot that, when attached to the wheel of a vehicle, prevents the vehicle from moving without damage to the tire to which the locking wheel boot is attached.

(3) "Abandoned vehicle report" means the document prescribed by the state that the towing operator forwards to the department after a vehicle has become abandoned.

(4) "Impound" means to take and hold a vehicle in legal custody. There are two types of impounds—public and private.

(a) "Public impound" means that the vehicle has been impounded at the direction of a law enforcement officer or by a public official having jurisdiction over the public property upon which the vehicle was located.

(b) "Private impound" means that the vehicle has been impounded at the direction of a person having control or possession of the private property upon which the vehicle was located.

(5) "Junk vehicle" means a vehicle certified under RCW 46.55.230 as meeting at least three of the following requirements:

- (a) Is three years old or older;
- (b) Is extensively damaged, such damage including but not limited to any of the following: A broken window or windshield, or missing wheels, tires, motor, or transmission;
- (c) Is apparently inoperable;
- (d) Has an approximate fair market value equal only to the approximate value of the scrap in it.

(6) "Master log" means the document or an electronic facsimile prescribed by the department and the Washington state patrol in which an operator records transactions involving impounded vehicles.

(7) "Registered tow truck operator" or "operator" means any person who engages in the impounding, transporting, or storage of unauthorized vehicles or the disposal of abandoned vehicles.

(8) "Residential property" means property that has no more than four living units located on it.

(9) "Suspended license impound" means an impound ordered under RCW 46.55.113 because the operator was arrested for a violation of RCW 46.20.342 or 46.20.345.

(10) "Tow truck" means a motor vehicle that is equipped for and used in the business of towing vehicles with equipment as approved by the state patrol.

(11) "Tow truck number" means the number issued by the department to tow trucks used by a registered tow truck operator in the state of Washington.

(12) "Tow truck permit" means the permit issued annually by the department that has the classification of service the tow truck may provide stamped upon it.

(13) "Tow truck service" means the transporting upon the public streets and highways of this state of vehicles, together with personal effects and cargo, by a tow truck of a registered operator.

(14) "Unauthorized vehicle" means a vehicle that is subject to impoundment after being left unattended in one of the following public or private locations for the indicated period of time:

Subject to removal after:

- (a) Public locations:
  - (i) Constituting an accident or a traffic hazard as defined in RCW 46.55.113 . . . . . Immediately
  - (ii) On a highway and tagged as described in RCW 46.55.085 . . . . . 24 hours
  - (iii) In a publicly owned or controlled parking facility, properly posted under RCW 46.55.070 . . . . . Immediately
- (b) Private locations:
  - (i) On residential property . . . . . Immediately
  - (ii) On private, nonresidential property, properly posted under RCW 46.55.070 . . . . . Immediately
  - (iii) On private, nonresidential property, not posted . . . . . 24 hours

[2005 c 88 § 2; 1999 c 398 § 2; 1998 c 203 § 8; 1994 c 176 § 1; 1991 c 292 § 1; 1989 c 111 § 1. Prior: 1987 c 330 § 739; 1987 c 311 § 1; 1985 c 377 § 1.]

**Finding—1998 c 203:** See note following RCW 46.55.105.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### TOW TRUCK OPERATORS—REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

**46.55.020 Registration required—Penalty.** (1) A person shall not engage in or offer to engage in the activities of a registered tow truck operator without a current registration certificate from the department of licensing authorizing him or her to engage in such activities.

(2) Any person engaging in or offering to engage in the activities of a registered tow truck operator without the registration certificate required by this chapter is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(3) A registered operator who engages in a business practice that is prohibited under this chapter may be issued a notice of traffic infraction under chapter 46.63 RCW and is also subject to the civil penalties that may be imposed by the department under this chapter.

(4) A person found to have committed an offense that is a traffic infraction under this chapter is subject to a monetary penalty of at least two hundred fifty dollars.

(5) All traffic infractions issued under this chapter shall be under the jurisdiction of the district court in whose jurisdiction they were issued. [2003 c 53 § 243; 1989 c 111 § 2; 1985 c 377 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**46.55.025 Registration or insurance required—Penalty.** A vehicle engaging in the business of recovery of disabled vehicles for monetary compensation, from or on a public road or highway must either be operated by a registered tow truck operator, or someone who at a minimum has insurance in a like manner and amount as prescribed in RCW 46.55.030(3), and have had their tow trucks inspected in a like manner as prescribed by RCW 46.55.040(1). The department shall adopt rules to enforce this section. Failure to comply with this section is a class 1 civil infraction punishable under RCW 7.80.120. [1995 c 360 § 2.]

**46.55.030 Application—Contents, bond, insurance, fee, certificate.** (1) Application for licensing as a registered tow truck operator shall be made on forms furnished by the department, shall be accompanied by an inspection certification from the Washington state patrol, shall be signed by the applicant or an agent, and shall include the following information:

(a) The name and address of the person, firm, partnership, association, or corporation under whose name the business is to be conducted;

(b) The names and addresses of all persons having an interest in the business, or if the owner is a corporation, the names and addresses of the officers of the corporation;

(c) The names and addresses of all employees who serve as tow truck drivers;

(d) Proof of minimum insurance required by subsection (3) of this section;

(e) The vehicle license and vehicle identification numbers of all tow trucks of which the applicant is the registered owner;

(f) Any other information the department may require; and

(g) A certificate of approval from the Washington state patrol certifying that:

(i) The applicant has an established place of business and that mail is received at the address shown on the application;

(ii) The address of any storage locations where vehicles may be stored is correctly stated on the application;

(iii) The place of business has an office area that is accessible to the public without entering the storage area; and

(iv) The place of business has adequate and secure storage facilities, as defined in this chapter and the rules of the department, where vehicles and their contents can be properly stored and protected.

(2) Before issuing a registration certificate to an applicant the department shall require the applicant to file with the department a surety bond in the amount of five thousand dollars running to the state and executed by a surety company authorized to do business in this state. The bond shall be approved as to form by the attorney general and conditioned that the operator shall conduct his or her business in conformity with the provisions of this chapter pertaining to abandoned or unauthorized vehicles, and to compensate any person, company, or the state for failure to comply with this chapter or the rules adopted hereunder, or for fraud, negligence, or misrepresentation in the handling of these vehicles. Any person injured by the tow truck operator's failure to fully perform duties imposed by this chapter and the rules adopted hereunder, or an ordinance or resolution adopted by a city, town, or county is entitled to recover actual damages, including reasonable attorney's fees against the surety and the tow truck operator. Successive recoveries against the bond shall be permitted, but the aggregate liability of the surety to all persons shall not exceed the amount of the bond. As a condition of authority to do business, the operator shall keep the bond in full force and effect. Failure to maintain the penalty value of the bond or cancellation of the bond by the surety automatically cancels the operator's registration.

(3) Before the department may issue a registration certificate to an applicant, the applicant shall provide proof of minimum insurance requirements of:

(a) One hundred thousand dollars for liability for bodily injury or property damage per occurrence; and

(b) Fifty thousand dollars of legal liability per occurrence, to protect against vehicle damage, including but not limited to fire and theft, from the time a vehicle comes into the custody of an operator until it is redeemed or sold.

Cancellation of or failure to maintain the insurance required by (a) and (b) of this subsection automatically cancels the operator's registration.

(4) The fee for each original registration and annual renewal is one hundred dollars per company, plus fifty dollars per truck. The department shall forward the registration fee to the state treasurer for deposit in the motor vehicle fund.

(5) The applicant must submit an inspection certificate from the state patrol before the department may issue or renew an operator's registration certificate or tow truck permits.

(6) Upon approval of the application, the department shall issue a registration certificate to the registered operator to be displayed prominently at the operator's place of business. [2010 c 8 § 9061; 1989 c 111 § 3; 1987 c 311 § 2; 1985 c 377 § 3.]

**46.55.035 Prohibited acts—Penalty.** (1) No registered tow truck operator may:

(a) Except as authorized under RCW 46.55.037, ask for or receive any compensation, gratuity, reward, or promise thereof from a person having control or possession of private property or from an agent of the person authorized to sign an impound authorization, for or on account of the impounding of a vehicle;

(b) Be beneficially interested in a contract, agreement, or understanding that may be made by or between a person having control or possession of private property and an agent of the person authorized to sign an impound authorization;

(c) Have a financial, equitable, or ownership interest in a firm, partnership, association, or corporation whose functions include acting as an agent or a representative of a property owner for the purpose of signing impound authorizations;

(d) Enter into any contract or agreement or offer any program that provides an incentive to a person authorized to order a private impound under RCW 46.55.080 that is related to the authorization of an impound or a number of impounds.

(i) The incentives prohibited by this section may be either monetary or nonmonetary things of value, such as gifts or prizes which are contingent on, or as a reward for the authorization of impounds.

(ii) Gifts of de minimis value that are given in the ordinary course of business and are not tied to any specific decision to authorize an impound or impounds are not prohibited. Permitted gifts would include promotional items such as pens, calendars, cups, and other items labeled with the registered tow truck operator's business information, holiday gifts such as cookies or candy, flowers for occasions such as illness or death, or the cost of a single meal for one person when discussing business.

(iii) The provision of the actual physical signs required by this chapter to be posted on private property and the labor and materials for placing them is not a violation of this section.

(2) This section does not prohibit the registered tow truck operator from collecting the costs of towing, storage, tolls or ferry fares paid, or other services rendered during the course of towing, removing, impounding, or storing of an impounded vehicle as provided by RCW 46.55.120.

(3) A violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor. [2012 c 18 § 1; 2010 c 56 § 1; 1992 c 18 § 1; 1989 c 111 § 4.]

*Riding in towed vehicles: RCW 46.61.625.*

*Safety chains for towing: RCW 46.37.495.*

**46.55.037 Compensation for private impounds.** A registered tow truck operator may receive compensation from a private property owner or agent for a private impound of an unauthorized vehicle that has an approximate fair market value equal only to the approximate value of the scrap in it. The private property owner or an agent must authorize the impound under RCW 46.55.080. The registered tow truck operator shall process the vehicle in accordance with this

chapter and shall deduct any compensation received from the private property owner or agent from the amount of the lien on the vehicle in accordance with this chapter. [1992 c 18 § 2.]

**46.55.040 Permit required—Inspections of equipment and facilities.** (1) A registered operator shall apply for and keep current a tow truck permit for each tow truck of which the operator is the registered owner. Application for a tow truck permit shall be accompanied by a report from the Washington state patrol covering a physical inspection of each tow truck capable of being used by the applicant.

(2) Upon receipt of the fee provided in RCW 46.55.030(4) and a satisfactory inspection report from the state patrol, the department shall issue each tow truck an annual tow truck permit or decal. The class of the tow truck, determined according to RCW 46.55.050, shall be stamped on the permit or decal. The permit or decal shall be displayed on the passenger side of the truck's front windshield.

(3) A tow truck number from the department shall be affixed in a permanent manner to each tow truck.

(4) The Washington state patrol shall conduct annual inspections of tow truck operators' equipment and facilities during the operators' normal business hours. Unscheduled inspections may be conducted without notice at the operator's place of business by an inspector to determine the fitness of a tow truck or facilities. At the time of the inspection, the operator shall provide a paper copy of the master log referred to in RCW 46.55.080.

(5) If at the time of the annual or subsequent inspections the equipment does not meet the requirements of this chapter, and the deficiency is a safety related deficiency, or the equipment is necessary to the truck's performance, the inspector shall cause the registered tow truck operator to remove that equipment from service as a tow truck until such time as the equipment has been satisfactorily repaired. A red tag shall be placed on the windshield of a tow truck taken out of service, and the tow truck shall not provide tow truck service until the Washington state patrol recertifies the truck and removes the tag. [1989 c 111 § 5; 1985 c 377 § 4.]

**46.55.050 Classification of trucks—Marking requirements—Time and place of inspection—Penalty.**

(1) Tow trucks shall be classified by towing capabilities, and shall meet or exceed all equipment standards set by the state patrol for the type of tow trucks to be used by an operator.

(2) All tow trucks shall display the firm's name, city of address, and telephone number. This information shall be painted on or permanently affixed to both sides of the vehicle in accordance with rules adopted by the department.

(3) Before a tow truck is put into tow truck service, or when the reinspection of a tow truck is necessary, the district commander of the state patrol shall designate a location and time for the inspection to be conducted. When practicable, the inspection or reinspection shall be made within three business days following the request by the operator.

(4) Failure to comply with any requirement of this section or rules adopted under it is a traffic infraction. [1987 c 330 § 740; 1985 c 377 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.55.060 Business location—Requirements.** (1) The address that the tow truck operator lists on his or her application shall be the business location of the firm where its files are kept. Each separate business location requires a separate registration under this chapter. The application shall also list all locations of secure areas for vehicle storage and redemption.

(2) Before an additional lot may be used for vehicle storage, it must be inspected and approved by the state patrol. The lot must also be inspected and approved on an annual basis for continued use.

(3) Each business location must have a sign displaying the firm's name that is readable from the street.

(4) At the business locations listed where vehicles may be redeemed, the registered operator shall post in a conspicuous and accessible location:

(a) All pertinent licenses and permits to operate as a registered tow truck operator;

(b) The current towing and storage charges itemized on a form approved by the department;

(c) The vehicle redemption procedure and rights;

(d) Information supplied by the department as to where complaints regarding either equipment or service are to be directed;

(e) Information concerning the acceptance of commercially reasonable tender as defined in \*RCW 46.55.120(1)(b).

(5) The department shall adopt rules concerning fencing and security requirements of storage areas, which may provide for modifications or exemptions where needed to achieve compliance with local zoning laws.

(6) On any day when the registered tow truck operator holds the towing services open for business, the business office shall remain open with personnel present who are able to release impounded vehicles in accordance with this chapter and the rules adopted under it. The normal business hours of a towing service shall be from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

(7) A registered tow truck operator shall maintain personnel who can be contacted twenty-four hours a day to release impounded vehicles within a reasonable time.

(8) A registered operator shall provide access to a telephone for any person redeeming a vehicle, at the time of redemption. [1989 c 111 § 6; 1987 c 311 § 3; 1985 c 377 § 6.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 46.55.120 was amended by 1999 c 398 § 7, changing subsection (1)(b) to subsection (1)(e).

**46.55.063 Fees, schedules, contracts, invoices.** (1) An operator shall file a fee schedule with the department. All filed fees must be adequate to cover the costs of service provided. No fees may exceed those filed with the department. At least ten days before the effective date of any change in an operator's fee schedule, the registered tow truck operator shall file the revised fee schedule with the department.

(2) Towing contracts with private property owners shall be in written form and state the hours of authorization to impound, the persons empowered to authorize the impounds, and the present charge of a private impound for the classes of tow trucks to be used in the impound, and must be retained in the files of the registered tow truck operator for three years.

(3) A fee that is charged for tow truck service must be calculated on an hourly basis, and after the first hour must be charged to the nearest quarter hour.

(4) Fees that are charged for the storage of a vehicle, or for other items of personal property registered or titled with the department, must be calculated on a twenty-four hour basis and must be charged to the nearest half day from the time the vehicle arrived at the secure storage area. However, items of personal property registered or titled with the department that are wholly contained within an impounded vehicle are not subject to additional storage fees; they are, however, subject to satisfying the underlying lien for towing and storage of the vehicle in which they are contained.

(5) All billing invoices that are provided to the redeemer of the vehicle, or other items of personal property registered or titled with the department, must be itemized so that the individual fees are clearly discernable. [1995 c 360 § 3; 1989 c 111 § 7.]

#### IMPOUNDING UNAUTHORIZED VEHICLES

**46.55.070 Posting requirements—Exception.** (1) No person may impound, tow, or otherwise disturb any unauthorized vehicle standing on nonresidential private property or in a public parking facility for less than twenty-four hours unless a sign is posted near each entrance and on the property in a clearly conspicuous and visible location to all who park on such property that clearly indicates:

(a) The times a vehicle may be impounded as an unauthorized vehicle; and

(b) The name, telephone number, and address of the towing firm where the vehicle may be redeemed.

(2) The requirements of subsection (1) of this section do not apply to residential property. Any person having charge of such property may have an unauthorized vehicle impounded immediately upon giving written authorization.

(3) The department shall adopt rules relating to the size of the sign required by subsection (1) of this section, its lettering, placement, and the number required.

(4) This section applies to all new signs erected after July 1, 1986. All other signs must meet these requirements by July 1, 1989. [1987 c 311 § 4; 1985 c 377 § 7.]

*Vehicle immobilization unlawful: RCW 46.55.300.*

**46.55.075 Law enforcement impound—Required form, procedures.** (1) The Washington state patrol shall provide by rule for a uniform impound authorization and inventory form. All law enforcement agencies must use this form for all vehicle impounds after June 30, 2001.

(2) By January 1, 2003, the Washington state patrol shall develop uniform impound procedures, which must include but are not limited to defining an impound and a visual inspection. Local law enforcement agencies shall adopt the procedures by July 1, 2003. [2002 c 279 § 5; 1999 c 398 § 3.]

**46.55.080 Law enforcement impound, private impound—Master log—Certain associations restricted.** (1) If a vehicle is in violation of the time restrictions of \*RCW 46.55.010(13), it may be impounded by a registered tow truck operator at the direction of a law enforcement officer or other public official with jurisdiction if the vehicle is

on public property, or at the direction of the property owner or an agent if it is on private property. A law enforcement officer may also direct the impoundment of a vehicle pursuant to a writ or court order.

(2) The person requesting a private impound or a law enforcement officer or public official requesting a public impound shall provide a signed authorization for the impound at the time and place of the impound to the registered tow truck operator before the operator may proceed with the impound. A registered tow truck operator, employee, or his or her agent may not serve as an agent of a property owner for the purposes of signing an impound authorization or, independent of the property owner, identify a vehicle for impound.

(3) In the case of a private impound, the impound authorization shall include the following statement: "A person authorizing this impound, if the impound is found in violation of chapter 46.55 RCW, may be held liable for the costs incurred by the vehicle owner."

(4) A registered tow truck operator shall record and keep in the operator's files the date and time that a vehicle is put in the operator's custody and released. The operator shall make an entry into a master log regarding transactions relating to impounded vehicles. The operator shall make this master log available, upon request, to representatives of the department or the state patrol.

(5) A person who engages in or offers to engage in the activities of a registered tow truck operator may not be associated in any way with a person or business whose main activity is authorizing the impounding of vehicles. [1999 c 398 § 4; 1989 c 111 § 8; 1987 c 311 § 5; 1985 c 377 § 8.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 46.55.010 was amended by 2005 c 88 § 2, changing subsection (13) to subsection (14).

**46.55.085 Law enforcement impound—Unauthorized vehicle in right-of-way.** (1) A law enforcement officer discovering an unauthorized vehicle left within a highway right-of-way shall attach to the vehicle a readily visible notification sticker. The sticker shall contain the following information:

- (a) The date and time the sticker was attached;
- (b) The identity of the officer;
- (c) A statement that if the vehicle is not removed within twenty-four hours from the time the sticker is attached, the vehicle may be taken into custody and stored at the owner's expense;
- (d) A statement that if the vehicle is not redeemed as provided in RCW 46.55.120, the registered owner will have committed the traffic infraction of littering—abandoned vehicle; and

(e) The address and telephone number where additional information may be obtained.

(2) If the vehicle has current Washington registration plates, the officer shall check the records to learn the identity of the last owner of record. The officer or his or her department shall make a reasonable effort to contact the owner by telephone in order to give the owner the information on the notification sticker.

(3) If the vehicle is not removed within twenty-four hours from the time the notification sticker is attached, the law enforcement officer may take custody of the vehicle and

provide for the vehicle's removal to a place of safety. A vehicle that does not pose a safety hazard may remain on the roadside for more than twenty-four hours if the owner or operator is unable to remove it from the place where it is located and so notifies law enforcement officials and requests assistance.

(4) For the purposes of this section a place of safety includes the business location of a registered tow truck operator. [2010 c 8 § 9062; 2002 c 279 § 6; 1993 c 121 § 1; 1987 c 311 § 6. Formerly RCW 46.52.170 and 46.52.180.]

**46.55.090 Storage, return requirements—Personal property—Combination endorsement for tow truck drivers—Viewing impounded vehicle.** (1) All vehicles impounded shall be taken to the nearest storage location that has been inspected and is listed on the application filed with the department.

(2) All vehicles shall be handled and returned in substantially the same condition as they existed before being towed.

(3) All personal belongings and contents in the vehicle, with the exception of those items of personal property that are registered or titled with the department, shall be kept intact, and shall be returned to the vehicle's owner or agent during normal business hours upon request and presentation of a driver's license or other sufficient identification. Personal belongings, with the exception of those items of personal property that are registered or titled with the department, shall not be sold at auction to fulfill a lien against the vehicle.

(4) All personal belongings, with the exception of those items of personal property that are registered or titled with the department, not claimed before the auction shall be turned over to the local law enforcement agency to which the initial notification of impoundment was given. Such personal belongings shall be disposed of pursuant to chapter 63.32 or 63.40 RCW.

(5) Tow truck drivers shall have a Washington state driver's license endorsed for the appropriate classification under chapter 46.25 RCW or the equivalent issued by another state.

(6) Any person who shows proof of ownership or written authorization from the impounded vehicle's registered or legal owner or the vehicle's insurer may view the vehicle without charge during normal business hours. [1995 c 360 § 4; 1989 c 178 § 25; 1987 c 311 § 7; 1985 c 377 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.55.100 Impound notice—Abandoned vehicle report—Owner information, liability—Disposition report.** (1) At the time of impoundment the registered tow truck operator providing the towing service shall give immediate notification, by telephone or radio, to a law enforcement agency having jurisdiction who shall maintain a log of such reports. A law enforcement agency, or a private communication center acting on behalf of a law enforcement agency, shall within six to twelve hours of the impoundment, provide to a requesting operator the name and address of the legal and registered owners of the vehicle, and the registered owner of any personal property registered or titled with the department that is attached to or contained in or on the impounded vehicle, the vehicle identification number, and any other necessary, pertinent information. The initial notice of impoundment shall be followed by a written or electronic facsimile



notice within twenty-four hours. In the case of a vehicle from another state, time requirements of this subsection do not apply until the requesting law enforcement agency in this state receives the information.

(2) The operator shall immediately send an abandoned vehicle report to the department for any vehicle, and for any items of personal property registered or titled with the department, that are in the operator's possession after the one hundred twenty hour abandonment period. Such report need not be sent when the impoundment is pursuant to a writ, court order, or police hold that is not a suspended license impound. The owner notification and abandonment process shall be initiated by the registered tow truck operator immediately following notification by a court or law enforcement officer that the writ, court order, or police hold that is not a suspended license impound is no longer in effect.

(3) Following the submittal of an abandoned vehicle report, the department shall provide the registered tow truck operator with owner information within seventy-two hours.

(4) Within fourteen days of the sale of an abandoned vehicle at public auction, the towing operator shall send a copy of the abandoned vehicle report showing the disposition of the abandoned vehicle and any other items of personal property registered or titled with the department to the department. The vehicle buyer information sent to the department on the abandoned vehicle report relieves the previous owner of the vehicle from any civil or criminal liability for the operation of the vehicle from the date of sale thereafter and transfers full liability for the vehicle to the buyer. By January 1, 2003, the department shall create a system enabling tow truck operators the option of sending the portion of the abandoned vehicle report that contains the vehicle's buyer information to the department electronically.

(5) If the operator sends an abandoned vehicle report to the department and the department finds no owner information, an operator may proceed with an inspection of the vehicle and any other items of personal property registered or titled with the department to determine whether owner identification is within the vehicle.

(6) If the operator finds no owner identification, the operator shall immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency, which shall search the vehicle and any other items of personal property registered or titled with the department for the vehicle identification number or other appropriate identification numbers and check the necessary records to determine the vehicle's or other property's owners. [2002 c 279 § 9; 1999 c 398 § 5; 1998 c 203 § 9; 1995 c 360 § 5; 1991 c 20 § 1; 1989 c 111 § 9; 1987 c 311 § 8; 1985 c 377 § 10.]

**Finding—1998 c 203:** See note following RCW 46.55.105.

**46.55.105 Responsibility of registered owner.** (1) The abandonment of any vehicle creates a prima facie presumption that the last registered owner of record is responsible for the abandonment and is liable for costs incurred in removing, storing, and disposing of the abandoned vehicle, less amounts realized at auction.

(2) If an unauthorized vehicle is found abandoned under subsection (1) of this section and removed at the direction of law enforcement, the last registered owner of record is guilty of the traffic infraction of "littering—abandoned vehicle,"

unless the vehicle is redeemed as provided in RCW 46.55.120. In addition to any other monetary penalty payable under chapter 46.63 RCW, the court shall not consider all monetary penalties as having been paid until the court is satisfied that the person found to have committed the infraction has made restitution in the amount of the deficiency remaining after disposal of the vehicle under RCW 46.55.140.

(3) A vehicle theft report filed with a law enforcement agency relieves the last registered owner of liability under subsection (2) of this section for failure to redeem the vehicle. However, the last registered owner remains liable for the costs incurred in removing, storing, and disposing of the abandoned vehicle under subsection (1) of this section. Nothing in this section limits in any way the registered owner's rights in a civil action or as restitution in a criminal action against a person responsible for the theft of the vehicle.

(4) Properly filing a report of sale or transfer regarding the vehicle involved in accordance with RCW 46.12.650 (1) through (3) relieves the last registered owner of liability under subsections (1) and (2) of this section. If the date of sale as indicated on the report of sale is on or before the date of impoundment, the buyer identified on the latest properly filed report of sale with the department is assumed liable for the costs incurred in removing, storing, and disposing of the abandoned vehicle, less amounts realized at auction. If the date of sale is after the date of impoundment, the previous registered owner is assumed to be liable for such costs. A licensed vehicle dealer is not liable under subsections (1) and (2) of this section if the dealer, as transferee or assignee of the last registered owner of the vehicle involved, has complied with the requirements of RCW 46.70.122 upon selling or otherwise disposing of the vehicle, or if the dealer has timely filed a transitional ownership record or report of sale under RCW 46.12.660. In that case the person to whom the licensed vehicle dealer has sold or transferred the vehicle is assumed liable for the costs incurred in removing, storing, and disposing of the abandoned vehicle, less amounts realized at auction.

(5) For the purposes of reporting notices of traffic infraction to the department under RCW 46.20.270 and 46.52.101, and for purposes of reporting notices of failure to appear, respond, or comply regarding a notice of traffic infraction to the department under RCW 46.63.070(6), a traffic infraction under subsection (2) of this section is not considered to be a standing, stopping, or parking violation.

(6) A notice of infraction for a violation of this section may be filed with a court of limited jurisdiction organized under Title 3, 35, or 35A RCW, or with a violations bureau subject to the court's jurisdiction. [2010 c 161 § 1119; 2002 c 279 § 10; 1999 c 86 § 5; 1998 c 203 § 2; 1995 c 219 § 4; 1993 c 314 § 1.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Finding—1998 c 203:** "The legislature finds that the license to drive a motor vehicle on the public highways is suspended or revoked in order to protect public safety following a driver's failure to comply with the laws of this state. Over six hundred persons are killed in traffic accidents in Washington annually, and more than eighty-four thousand persons are injured. It is estimated that of the three million four hundred thousand drivers' licenses issued to citizens of Washington, more than two hundred sixty thousand are

suspended or revoked at any given time. Suspended drivers are more likely to be involved in causing traffic accidents, including fatal accidents, than properly licensed drivers, and pose a serious threat to the lives and property of Washington residents. Statistics show that suspended drivers are three times more likely to kill or seriously injure others in the commission of traffic felony offenses than are validly licensed drivers. In addition to not having a driver's license, most such drivers also lack required liability insurance, increasing the financial burden upon other citizens through uninsured losses and higher insurance costs for validly licensed drivers. Because of the threat posed by suspended drivers, all registered owners of motor vehicles in Washington have a duty to not allow their vehicles to be driven by a suspended driver.

Despite the existence of criminal penalties for driving with a suspended or revoked license, an estimated seventy-five percent of these drivers continue to drive anyway. Existing sanctions are not sufficient to deter or prevent persons with a suspended or revoked license from driving. It is common for suspended drivers to resume driving immediately after being stopped, cited, and released by a police officer and to continue to drive while a criminal prosecution for suspended driving is pending. More than half of all suspended drivers charged with the crime of driving while suspended or revoked fail to appear for court hearings. Vehicle impoundment will provide an immediate consequence which will increase deterrence and reduce unlawful driving by preventing a suspended driver access to that vehicle. Vehicle impoundment will also provide an appropriate measure of accountability for registered owners who permit suspended drivers to drive their vehicles. Impoundment of vehicles driven by suspended drivers has been shown to reduce future driving while suspended or revoked offenses for up to two years afterwards, and the recidivism rate for drivers whose cars were not impounded was one hundred percent higher than for drivers whose cars were impounded. In order to adequately protect public safety and to enforce the state's driver licensing laws, it is necessary to authorize the impoundment of any vehicle when it is found to be operated by a driver with a suspended or revoked license in violation of RCW 46.20.342 and 46.20.420. The impoundment of a vehicle operated in violation of RCW 46.20.342 or 46.20.420 is intended to be a civil in rem action against the vehicle in order to remove it from the public highways and reduce the risk posed to traffic safety by a vehicle accessible to a driver who is reasonably believed to have violated these laws." [1998 c 203 § 1.]

*Suspension of driver's license for failure to respond to notice of traffic infraction: RCW 46.20.289.*

#### **46.55.110 Notice to legal and registered owners. (1)**

When an unauthorized vehicle is impounded, the impounding towing operator shall notify the legal and registered owners of the impoundment of the unauthorized vehicle and the owners of any other items of personal property registered or titled with the department. The notification shall be sent by first-class mail within twenty-four hours after the impoundment to the last known registered and legal owners of the vehicle, and the owners of any other items of personal property registered or titled with the department, as provided by the law enforcement agency, and shall inform the owners of the identity of the person or agency authorizing the impound. The notification shall include the name of the impounding tow firm, its address, and telephone number. The notice shall also include the location, time of the impound, and by whose authority the vehicle was impounded. The notice shall also include the written notice of the right of redemption and opportunity for a hearing to contest the validity of the impoundment pursuant to RCW 46.55.120.

(2) In addition, if a suspended license impound has been ordered, the notice must state the length of the impound, the requirement of the posting of a security deposit to ensure payment of the costs of removal, towing, and storage, notification that if the security deposit is not posted the vehicle will immediately be processed and sold at auction as an abandoned vehicle, and the requirements set out in RCW 46.55.120(1)(b) regarding the payment of the costs of

removal, towing, and storage as well as providing proof of satisfaction of any penalties, fines, or forfeitures before redemption. The notice must also state that the registered owner is ineligible to purchase the vehicle at the abandoned vehicle auction, if held.

(3) In the case of an abandoned vehicle, or other item of personal property registered or titled with the department, within twenty-four hours after receiving information on the owners from the department through the abandoned vehicle report, the tow truck operator shall send by certified mail, with return receipt requested, a notice of custody and sale to the legal and registered owners and of the penalties for the traffic infraction littering—abandoned vehicle.

(4) If the date on which a notice required by subsection (3) of this section is to be mailed falls upon a Saturday, Sunday, or a postal holiday, the notice may be mailed on the next day that is neither a Saturday, Sunday, nor a postal holiday.

(5) No notices need be sent to the legal or registered owners of an impounded vehicle or other item of personal property registered or titled with the department, if the vehicle or personal property has been redeemed. [2002 c 279 § 11; 1999 c 398 § 6; 1998 c 203 § 3; 1995 c 360 § 6; 1989 c 111 § 10; 1987 c 311 § 9; 1985 c 377 § 11.]

**Finding—1998 c 203:** See note following RCW 46.55.105.

#### **46.55.113 Removal by police officer—Definition. (1)**

Whenever the driver of a vehicle is arrested for a violation of RCW 46.20.342 or 46.20.345, the vehicle is subject to summary impoundment, pursuant to the terms and conditions of an applicable local ordinance or state agency rule at the direction of a law enforcement officer.

(2) In addition, a police officer may take custody of a vehicle, at his or her discretion, and provide for its prompt removal to a place of safety under any of the following circumstances:

(a) Whenever a police officer finds a vehicle standing upon the roadway in violation of any of the provisions of RCW 46.61.560, the officer may provide for the removal of the vehicle or require the driver or other person in charge of the vehicle to move the vehicle to a position off the roadway;

(b) Whenever a police officer finds a vehicle unattended upon a highway where the vehicle constitutes an obstruction to traffic or jeopardizes public safety;

(c) Whenever a police officer finds an unattended vehicle at the scene of an accident or when the driver of a vehicle involved in an accident is physically or mentally incapable of deciding upon steps to be taken to protect his or her property;

(d) Whenever the driver of a vehicle is arrested and taken into custody by a police officer;

(e) Whenever a police officer discovers a vehicle that the officer determines to be a stolen vehicle;

(f) Whenever a vehicle without a special license plate, placard, or decal indicating that the vehicle is being used to transport a person with disabilities under RCW 46.19.010 is parked in a stall or space clearly and conspicuously marked under RCW 46.61.581 which space is provided on private property without charge or on public property;

(g) Upon determining that a person is operating a motor vehicle without a valid and, if required, a specially endorsed driver's license or with a license that has been expired for ninety days or more;

(h) When a vehicle is illegally occupying a truck, commercial loading zone, restricted parking zone, bus, loading, hooded-meter, taxi, street construction or maintenance, or other similar zone where, by order of the director of transportation or chiefs of police or fire or their designees, parking is limited to designated classes of vehicles or is prohibited during certain hours, on designated days or at all times, if the zone has been established with signage for at least twenty-four hours and where the vehicle is interfering with the proper and intended use of the zone. Signage must give notice to the public that a vehicle will be removed if illegally parked in the zone;

(i) When a vehicle with an expired registration of more than forty-five days is parked on a public street.

(3) When an arrest is made for a violation of RCW 46.20.342, if the vehicle is a commercial vehicle or farm transport vehicle and the driver of the vehicle is not the owner of the vehicle, before the summary impoundment directed under subsection (1) of this section, the police officer shall attempt in a reasonable and timely manner to contact the owner of the vehicle and may release the vehicle to the owner if the owner is reasonably available, as long as the owner was not in the vehicle at the time of the stop and arrest and the owner has not received a prior release under this subsection or RCW 46.55.120(1)(a)(ii).

(4) Nothing in this section may derogate from the powers of police officers under the common law. For the purposes of this section, a place of safety may include the business location of a registered tow truck operator.

(5) For purposes of this section "farm transport vehicle" means a motor vehicle owned by a farmer and that is being actively used in the transportation of the farmer's or another farmer's farm, orchard, aquatic farm, or dairy products, including livestock and plant or animal wastes, from point of production to market or disposal, or supplies or commodities to be used on the farm, orchard, aquatic farm, or dairy, and that has a gross vehicle weight rating of 7,258 kilograms (16,001 pounds) or more. [2011 c 167 § 6; (2011 c 167 § 5 expired July 1, 2011); 2010 c 161 § 1120. Prior: 2007 c 242 § 1; 2007 c 86 § 1; 2005 c 390 § 5; prior: 2003 c 178 § 1; 2003 c 177 § 1; 1998 c 203 § 4; 1997 c 66 § 7; 1996 c 89 § 1; 1994 c 275 § 32; 1987 c 311 § 10. Formerly RCW 46.61.565.]

**Effective date—2011 c 167 § 6:** "Section 6 of this act takes effect July 1, 2011." [2011 c 167 § 8.]

**Effective date—2011 c 167 § 5:** "Section 5 of this act expires July 1, 2011." [2011 c 167 § 9.]

**Short title—2011 c 167:** See note following RCW 46.55.350.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Finding—1998 c 203:** See note following RCW 46.55.105.

**Intent—1984 c 154:** "The legislature intends to extend special parking privileges to persons with disabilities that substantially impair mobility." [1984 c 154 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.55.115 State patrol—Appointment of towing operators—Lien for costs—Appeal.** The Washington state patrol, under its authority to remove vehicles from the highway, may remove the vehicles directly, through towing oper-

ators appointed by the state patrol and called on a rotational or other basis, through contracts with towing operators, or by a combination of these methods. When removal is to be accomplished through a towing operator on a noncontractual basis, the state patrol may appoint any towing operator for this purpose upon the application of the operator. Each appointment shall be contingent upon the submission of an application to the state patrol and the making of subsequent reports in such form and frequency and compliance with such standards of equipment, performance, pricing, and practices as may be required by rule of the state patrol.

An appointment may be rescinded by the state patrol upon evidence that the appointed towing operator is not complying with the laws or rules relating to the removal and storage of vehicles from the highway. The state patrol may not rescind an appointment merely because a registered tow truck operator negotiates a different rate for voluntary, owner-requested towing than for involuntary towing under this chapter. The costs of removal and storage of vehicles under this section shall be paid by the owner or driver of the vehicle and shall be a lien upon the vehicle until paid, unless the removal is determined to be invalid.

Rules promulgated under this section shall be binding only upon those towing operators appointed by the state patrol for the purpose of performing towing services at the request of the Washington state patrol. Any person aggrieved by a decision of the state patrol made under this section may appeal the decision under chapter 34.05 RCW. [1993 c 121 § 2; 1987 c 330 § 744; 1979 ex.s. c 178 § 22; 1977 ex.s. c 167 § 5. Formerly RCW 46.61.567.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.55.117 Impounds under RCW 64.44.050.** An impound under RCW 64.44.050 shall not be considered an impound under this chapter. A tow operator who contracts with a law enforcement agency for transporting a vehicle impounded under RCW 64.44.050 shall only remove the vehicle to a secure public facility, and is not required to store or dispose of the vehicle. The vehicle shall remain in the care, custody, and control of the law enforcement agency to be demolished, disposed of, or decontaminated as provided under RCW 64.44.050. The law enforcement agency shall pay for all costs incurred as a result of the towing if the vehicle owner does not pay within thirty days. The law enforcement agency may seek reimbursement from the owner. [2008 c 201 § 3.]

## REDEMPTION RIGHTS AND HEARING PROCEDURES

**46.55.120 Redemption of vehicles—Sale of unredemmed property—Improper impoundment.** (1) Vehicles or other items of personal property registered or titled with the department that are impounded by registered tow truck operators pursuant to RCW 46.55.080, 46.55.085, 46.55.113, or 9A.88.140 may be redeemed only under the following circumstances:

(a) Only the legal owner, the registered owner, a person authorized in writing by the registered owner or the vehicle's insurer, a person who is determined and verified by the operator to have the permission of the registered owner of the vehicle or other item of personal property registered or titled

with the department, or one who has purchased a vehicle or item of personal property registered or titled with the department from the registered owner who produces proof of ownership or written authorization and signs a receipt therefor, may redeem an impounded vehicle or items of personal property registered or titled with the department. In addition, a vehicle impounded because the operator is in violation of RCW 46.20.342(1)(c) shall not be released until a person eligible to redeem it under this subsection (1)(a) satisfies the requirements of (e) of this subsection, including paying all towing, removal, and storage fees, notwithstanding the fact that the hold was ordered by a government agency. If the department's records show that the operator has been convicted of a violation of RCW 46.20.342 or a similar local ordinance within the past five years, the vehicle may be held for up to thirty days at the written direction of the agency ordering the vehicle impounded. A vehicle impounded because the operator is arrested for a violation of RCW 46.20.342 may be released only pursuant to a written order from the agency that ordered the vehicle impounded or from the court having jurisdiction. An agency shall issue a written order to release pursuant to a provision of an applicable state agency rule or local ordinance authorizing release on the basis of the following:

(i) Economic or personal hardship to the spouse of the operator, taking into consideration public safety factors, including the operator's criminal history and driving record; or

(ii) The owner of the vehicle was not the driver, the owner did not know that the driver's license was suspended or revoked, and the owner has not received a prior release under this subsection or RCW 46.55.113(3).

In order to avoid discriminatory application, other than for the reasons for release set forth in (a)(i) and (ii) of this subsection, an agency shall, under a provision of an applicable state agency rule or local ordinance, deny release in all other circumstances without discretion.

If a vehicle is impounded because the operator is in violation of RCW 46.20.342(1) (a) or (b), the vehicle may be held for up to thirty days at the written direction of the agency ordering the vehicle impounded. However, if the department's records show that the operator has been convicted of a violation of RCW 46.20.342(1) (a) or (b) or a similar local ordinance within the past five years, the vehicle may be held at the written direction of the agency ordering the vehicle impounded for up to sixty days, and for up to ninety days if the operator has two or more such prior offenses. If a vehicle is impounded because the operator is arrested for a violation of RCW 46.20.342, the vehicle may not be released until a person eligible to redeem it under this subsection (1)(a) satisfies the requirements of (e) of this subsection, including paying all towing, removal, and storage fees, notwithstanding the fact that the hold was ordered by a government agency.

(b) If the vehicle is directed to be held for a suspended license impound, a person who desires to redeem the vehicle at the end of the period of impound shall within five days of the impound at the request of the tow truck operator pay a security deposit to the tow truck operator of not more than one-half of the applicable impound storage rate for each day of the proposed suspended license impound. The tow truck operator shall credit this amount against the final bill for

removal, towing, and storage upon redemption. The tow truck operator may accept other sufficient security in lieu of the security deposit. If the person desiring to redeem the vehicle does not pay the security deposit or provide other security acceptable to the tow truck operator, the tow truck operator may process and sell at auction the vehicle as an abandoned vehicle within the normal time limits set out in RCW 46.55.130(1). The security deposit required by this section may be paid and must be accepted at any time up to twenty-four hours before the beginning of the auction to sell the vehicle as abandoned. The registered owner is not eligible to purchase the vehicle at the auction, and the tow truck operator shall sell the vehicle to the highest bidder who is not the registered owner.

(c) Notwithstanding (b) of this subsection, a rental car business may immediately redeem a rental vehicle it owns by payment of the costs of removal, towing, and storage, whereupon the vehicle will not be held for a suspended license impound.

(d) Notwithstanding (b) of this subsection, a motor vehicle dealer or lender with a perfected security interest in the vehicle may redeem or lawfully repossess a vehicle immediately by payment of the costs of removal, towing, and storage, whereupon the vehicle will not be held for a suspended license impound. A motor vehicle dealer or lender with a perfected security interest in the vehicle may not knowingly and intentionally engage in collusion with a registered owner to repossess and then return or resell a vehicle to the registered owner in an attempt to avoid a suspended license impound. However, this provision does not preclude a vehicle dealer or a lender with a perfected security interest in the vehicle from repossessing the vehicle and then selling, leasing, or otherwise disposing of it in accordance with chapter 62A.9A RCW, including providing redemption rights to the debtor under RCW 62A.9A-623. If the debtor is the registered owner of the vehicle, the debtor's right to redeem the vehicle under chapter 62A.9A RCW is conditioned upon the debtor obtaining and providing proof from the impounding authority or court having jurisdiction that any fines, penalties, and forfeitures owed by the registered owner, as a result of the suspended license impound, have been paid, and proof of the payment must be tendered to the vehicle dealer or lender at the time the debtor tenders all other obligations required to redeem the vehicle. Vehicle dealers or lenders are not liable for damages if they rely in good faith on an order from the impounding agency or a court in releasing a vehicle held under a suspended license impound.

(e) The vehicle or other item of personal property registered or titled with the department shall be released upon the presentation to any person having custody of the vehicle of commercially reasonable tender sufficient to cover the costs of towing, storage, or other services rendered during the course of towing, removing, impounding, or storing any such vehicle, with credit being given for the amount of any security deposit paid under (b) of this subsection. In addition, if a vehicle is impounded because the operator was arrested for a violation of RCW 46.20.342 or 46.20.345 and was being operated by the registered owner when it was impounded under local ordinance or agency rule, it must not be released to any person until the registered owner establishes with the agency that ordered the vehicle impounded or the court hav-

ing jurisdiction that any penalties, fines, or forfeitures owed by him or her have been satisfied. Registered tow truck operators are not liable for damages if they rely in good faith on an order from the impounding agency or a court in releasing a vehicle held under a suspended license impound. Commercially reasonable tender shall include, without limitation, cash, major bank credit cards issued by financial institutions, or personal checks drawn on Washington state branches of financial institutions if accompanied by two pieces of valid identification, one of which may be required by the operator to have a photograph. If the towing firm cannot determine through the customer's bank or a check verification service that the presented check would be paid by the bank or guaranteed by the service, the towing firm may refuse to accept the check. Any person who stops payment on a personal check or credit card, or does not make restitution within ten days from the date a check becomes insufficient due to lack of funds, to a towing firm that has provided a service pursuant to this section or in any other manner defrauds the towing firm in connection with services rendered pursuant to this section shall be liable for damages in the amount of twice the towing and storage fees, plus costs and reasonable attorney's fees.

(2)(a) The registered tow truck operator shall give to each person who seeks to redeem an impounded vehicle, or item of personal property registered or titled with the department, written notice of the right of redemption and opportunity for a hearing, which notice shall be accompanied by a form to be used for requesting a hearing, the name of the person or agency authorizing the impound, and a copy of the towing and storage invoice. The registered tow truck operator shall maintain a record evidenced by the redeeming person's signature that such notification was provided.

(b) Any person seeking to redeem an impounded vehicle under this section has a right to a hearing in the district or municipal court for the jurisdiction in which the vehicle was impounded to contest the validity of the impoundment or the amount of towing and storage charges. The district court has jurisdiction to determine the issues involving all impoundments including those authorized by the state or its agents. The municipal court has jurisdiction to determine the issues involving impoundments authorized by agents of the municipality. Any request for a hearing shall be made in writing on the form provided for that purpose and must be received by the appropriate court within ten days of the date the opportunity was provided for in subsection (2)(a) of this section and more than five days before the date of the auction. At the time of the filing of the hearing request, the petitioner shall pay to the court clerk a filing fee in the same amount required for the filing of a suit in district court. If the hearing request is not received by the court within the ten-day period, the right to a hearing is waived and the registered owner is liable for any towing, storage, or other impoundment charges permitted under this chapter. Upon receipt of a timely hearing request, the court shall proceed to hear and determine the validity of the impoundment.

(3)(a) The court, within five days after the request for a hearing, shall notify the registered tow truck operator, the person requesting the hearing if not the owner, the registered and legal owners of the vehicle or other item of personal property registered or titled with the department, and the per-

son or agency authorizing the impound in writing of the hearing date and time.

(b) At the hearing, the person or persons requesting the hearing may produce any relevant evidence to show that the impoundment, towing, or storage fees charged were not proper. The court may consider a written report made under oath by the officer who authorized the impoundment in lieu of the officer's personal appearance at the hearing.

(c) At the conclusion of the hearing, the court shall determine whether the impoundment was proper, whether the towing or storage fees charged were in compliance with the posted rates, and who is responsible for payment of the fees. The court may not adjust fees or charges that are in compliance with the posted or contracted rates.

(d) If the impoundment is found proper, the impoundment, towing, and storage fees as permitted under this chapter together with court costs shall be assessed against the person or persons requesting the hearing, unless the operator did not have a signed and valid impoundment authorization from a private property owner or an authorized agent.

(e) If the impoundment is determined to be in violation of this chapter, then the registered and legal owners of the vehicle or other item of personal property registered or titled with the department shall bear no impoundment, towing, or storage fees, and any security shall be returned or discharged as appropriate, and the person or agency who authorized the impoundment shall be liable for any towing, storage, or other impoundment fees permitted under this chapter. The court shall enter judgment in favor of the registered tow truck operator against the person or agency authorizing the impound for the impoundment, towing, and storage fees paid. In addition, the court shall enter judgment in favor of the registered and legal owners of the vehicle, or other item of personal property registered or titled with the department, for the amount of the filing fee required by law for the impound hearing petition as well as reasonable damages for loss of the use of the vehicle during the time the same was impounded against the person or agency authorizing the impound. However, if an impoundment arising from an alleged violation of RCW 46.20.342 or 46.20.345 is determined to be in violation of this chapter, then the law enforcement officer directing the impoundment and the government employing the officer are not liable for damages if the officer relied in good faith and without gross negligence on the records of the department in ascertaining that the operator of the vehicle had a suspended or revoked driver's license. If any judgment entered is not paid within fifteen days of notice in writing of its entry, the court shall award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs against the defendant in any action to enforce the judgment. Notice of entry of judgment may be made by registered or certified mail, and proof of mailing may be made by affidavit of the party mailing the notice. Notice of the entry of the judgment shall read essentially as follows:

TO: . . . . .  
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED JUDGMENT was entered against you in the . . . . . Court located at . . . . . in the sum of \$. . . . ., in an action entitled . . . . ., Case No. . . . . YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that attorneys fees and costs will be

awarded against you under RCW . . . if the judgment is not paid within 15 days of the date of this notice.

DATED this . . . day of . . . , (year) . . .

Signature . . . . .

Typed name and address

of party mailing notice

(4) Any impounded abandoned vehicle or item of personal property registered or titled with the department that is not redeemed within fifteen days of mailing of the notice of custody and sale as required by RCW 46.55.110(3) shall be sold at public auction in accordance with all the provisions and subject to all the conditions of RCW 46.55.130. A vehicle or item of personal property registered or titled with the department may be redeemed at any time before the start of the auction upon payment of the applicable towing and storage fees. [2009 c 387 § 3; 2004 c 250 § 1; 2003 c 177 § 2; 2000 c 193 § 1. Prior: 1999 c 398 § 7; 1999 c 327 § 5; 1998 c 203 § 5; 1996 c 89 § 2; 1995 c 360 § 7; 1993 c 121 § 3; 1989 c 111 § 11; 1987 c 311 § 12; 1985 c 377 § 12.]

**Findings—Intent—1999 c 327:** See note following RCW 9A.88.130.

**Finding—1998 c 203:** See note following RCW 46.55.105.

**46.55.130 Notice requirements—Public auction—Accumulation of storage charges.**

(1) If, after the expiration of fifteen days from the date of mailing of notice of custody and sale required in RCW 46.55.110(3) to the registered and legal owners, the vehicle remains unclaimed and has not been listed as a stolen vehicle, or a suspended license impound has been directed, but no security paid under RCW 46.55.120, then the registered tow truck operator having custody of the vehicle shall conduct a sale of the vehicle at public auction after having first published a notice of the date, place, and time of the auction, and a method to contact the tow truck operator conducting the auction such as a telephone number, electronic mail address, or web site, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the vehicle is located not less than three days and no more than ten days before the date of the auction. For the purposes of this section, a newspaper of general circulation may be a commercial, widely circulated, free, classified advertisement circular not affiliated with the registered tow truck operator and the notice may be listed in a classification delineating "auctions" or similar language designed to attract potential bidders to the auction. The notice shall contain a notification that a public viewing period will be available before the auction and the length of the viewing period. The auction shall be held during daylight hours of a normal business day. The viewing period must be one hour if twenty-five or fewer vehicles are to be auctioned, two hours if more than twenty-five and fewer than fifty vehicles are to be auctioned, and three hours if fifty or more vehicles are to be auctioned.

(2) The following procedures are required in any public auction of such abandoned vehicles:

(a) The auction shall be held in such a manner that all persons present are given an equal time and opportunity to bid;

(b) All bidders must be present at the time of auction unless they have submitted to the registered tow truck operator, who may or may not choose to use the preauction bid method, a written bid on a specific vehicle. Written bids may

be submitted up to five days before the auction and shall clearly state which vehicle is being bid upon, the amount of the bid, and who is submitting the bid;

(c) The open bid process, including all written bids, shall be used so that everyone knows the dollar value that must be exceeded;

(d) The highest two bids received shall be recorded in written form and shall include the name, address, and telephone number of each such bidder;

(e) In case the high bidder defaults, the next bidder has the right to purchase the vehicle for the amount of his or her bid;

(f) The successful bidder shall apply for title within fifteen days;

(g) The registered tow truck operator shall post a copy of the auction procedure at the bidding site. If the bidding site is different from the licensed office location, the operator shall post a clearly visible sign at the office location that describes in detail where the auction will be held. At the bidding site a copy of the newspaper advertisement that lists the vehicles for sale shall be posted;

(h) All surplus moneys derived from the auction after satisfaction of the registered tow truck operator's lien shall be remitted within thirty days to the department for deposit in the state motor vehicle fund. A report identifying the vehicles resulting in any surplus shall accompany the remitted funds. If the director subsequently receives a valid claim from the registered vehicle owner of record as determined by the department within one year from the date of the auction, the surplus moneys shall be remitted to such owner;

(i) If an operator receives no bid, or if the operator is the successful bidder at auction, the operator shall, within forty-five days, sell the vehicle to a licensed vehicle wrecker, hulk hauler, or scrap processor by use of the abandoned vehicle report-affidavit of sale, or the operator shall apply for title to the vehicle.

(3) A tow truck operator may refuse to accept a bid at an abandoned vehicle auction under this section for any reason in the operator's posted operating procedures and for any of the following reasons: (a) The bidder is currently indebted to the operator; (b) the operator has knowledge that the bidder has previously abandoned vehicles purchased at auction; or (c) the bidder has purchased, at auction, more than four vehicles in the last calendar year without obtaining title to any or all of the vehicles. In no case may an operator hold a vehicle for longer than ninety days without holding an auction on the vehicle, except for vehicles that are under a police or judicial hold.

(4)(a) The accumulation of storage charges applied to the lien at auction under RCW 46.55.140 may not exceed fifteen additional days from the date of receipt of the information by the operator from the department as provided by RCW 46.55.110(3) plus the storage charges accumulated prior to the receipt of the information. However, vehicles redeemed pursuant to RCW 46.55.120 prior to their sale at auction are subject to payment of all accumulated storage charges from the time of impoundment up to the time of redemption.

(b) The failure of the registered tow truck operator to comply with the time limits provided in this chapter limits the accumulation of storage charges to five days except where delay is unavoidable. Providing incorrect or incomplete

identifying information to the department in the abandoned vehicle report shall be considered a failure to comply with these time limits if correct information is available. However, storage charges begin to accrue again on the date the correct and complete information is provided to the department by the registered tow truck operator. [2011 c 65 § 1; 2006 c 28 § 1; 2002 c 279 § 12; 2000 c 193 § 2; 1998 c 203 § 6; 1989 c 111 § 12; 1987 c 311 § 13; 1985 c 377 § 13.]

**Finding—1998 c 203:** See note following RCW 46.55.105.

#### **46.55.140 Operator's lien, deficiency claim, liability.**

(1) A registered tow truck operator who has a valid and signed impoundment authorization has a lien upon the impounded vehicle for services provided in the towing and storage of the vehicle, unless the impoundment is determined to have been invalid. The lien does not apply to personal property in or upon the vehicle that is not permanently attached to or is not an integral part of the vehicle except for items of personal property registered or titled with the department. The registered tow truck operator also has a deficiency claim against the registered owner of the vehicle for services provided in the towing and storage of the vehicle not to exceed the sum of five hundred dollars after deduction of the amount bid at auction, and for vehicles of over ten thousand pounds gross vehicle weight, the operator has a deficiency claim of one thousand dollars after deduction of the amount bid at auction, unless the impound is determined to be invalid. The limitation on towing and storage deficiency claims does not apply to an impound directed by a law enforcement officer. In no case may the cost of the auction or a buyer's fee be added to the amount charged for the vehicle at the auction, the vehicle's lien, or the overage due. A registered owner who has completed and filed with the department the report of sale as provided for in RCW 46.12.650 and has timely and properly filed the report of sale is relieved of liability under this section. The person named as the new owner of the vehicle on the timely and properly filed report of sale shall assume liability under this section.

(2) Any person who tows, removes, or otherwise disturbs any vehicle parked, stalled, or otherwise left on privately owned or controlled property, and any person owning or controlling the private property, or either of them, are liable to the owner or operator of a vehicle, or each of them, for consequential and incidental damages arising from any interference with the ownership or use of the vehicle which does not comply with the requirements of this chapter. [2010 c 161 § 1121; 1995 c 360 § 8; 1992 c 200 § 1; 1991 c 20 § 2; 1989 c 111 § 13; 1987 c 311 § 14; 1985 c 377 § 14.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

### RECORDS, INSPECTIONS, AND ENFORCEMENT

**46.55.150 Vehicle transaction file.** The registered tow truck operator shall keep a transaction file on each vehicle. The transaction file shall contain as a minimum those of the following items that are required at the time the vehicle is redeemed or becomes abandoned and is sold at a public auction:

(1) A signed impoundment authorization as required by RCW 46.55.080;

(2) A record of the twenty-four hour written impound notice to a law enforcement agency;

(3) A copy of the impoundment notification to registered and legal owners, sent within twenty-four hours of impoundment, that advises the owners of the address of the impounding firm, a twenty-four hour telephone number, and the name of the person or agency under whose authority the vehicle was impounded;

(4) A copy of the abandoned vehicle report that was sent to and returned by the department;

(5) A copy and proof of mailing of the notice of custody and sale sent by the registered tow truck operator to the owners advising them they have fifteen days to redeem the vehicle before it is sold at public auction;

(6) A copy of the published notice of public auction;

(7) A copy of the affidavit of sale showing the sales date, purchaser, amount of the lien, and sale price;

(8) A record of the two highest bid offers on the vehicle, with the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the two bidders;

(9) A copy of the notice of opportunity for hearing given to those who redeem vehicles;

(10) An itemized invoice of charges against the vehicle.

The transaction file shall be kept for a minimum of three years. [1989 c 111 § 14; 1987 c 311 § 15; 1985 c 377 § 15.]

**46.55.160 Availability of records, equipment, and facilities for audit and inspection.** Records, equipment, and facilities of a registered tow truck operator shall be available during normal business hours for audit or inspection by the department of licensing, the Washington state patrol, or any law enforcement agency having jurisdiction. [1985 c 377 § 16.]

**46.55.170 Complaints, where forwarded.** (1) All law enforcement agencies or local licensing agencies that receive complaints involving registered tow truck operators shall forward the complaints, along with any supporting documents including all results from local investigations, to the department.

(2) Complaints involving deficiencies of equipment shall be forwarded by the department to the state patrol. [1987 c 330 § 741; 1985 c 377 § 17.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.55.180 Presiding officer at licensing hearing.** The director or the chief of the state patrol may use a hearing officer or administrative law judge for presiding over a hearing regarding licensing provisions under this chapter or rules adopted under it. [1989 c 111 § 15; 1987 c 330 § 742; 1985 c 377 § 18.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.55.190 Rules.** The director, in cooperation with the chief of the Washington state patrol, shall adopt rules that carry out the provisions and intent of this chapter. [1985 c 377 § 19.]

**46.55.200 Penalties for certain acts or omissions.** A registered tow truck operator's license may be denied, suspended, or revoked, or the licensee may be ordered to pay a monetary penalty of a civil nature, not to exceed one thousand dollars per violation, or the licensee may be subjected to any combination of license and monetary penalty, whenever the director has reason to believe the licensee has committed, or is at the time committing, a violation of this chapter or rules adopted under it or any other statute or rule relating to the title or disposition of vehicles or vehicle hulks, including but not limited to:

(1) Towing any abandoned vehicle without first obtaining and having in the operator's possession at all times while transporting it, appropriate evidence of ownership or an impound authorization properly executed by the private person or public official having control over the property on which the unauthorized vehicle was found;

(2) Forging the signature of the registered or legal owner on a certificate of title, or forging the signature of any authorized person on documents pertaining to unauthorized or abandoned vehicles or automobile hulks;

(3) Failing to comply with the statutes and rules relating to the processing and sale of abandoned vehicles;

(4) Failing to accept bids on any abandoned vehicle offered at public sale;

(5) Failing to transmit to the state surplus funds derived from the sale of an abandoned vehicle;

(6) Selling, disposing of, or having in his or her possession, without notifying law enforcement officials, a vehicle that he or she knows or has reason to know has been stolen or illegally appropriated without the consent of the owner;

(7) Failing to comply with the statutes and rules relating to the transfer of ownership of vehicles or other procedures after public sale; or

(8) Failing to pay any civil monetary penalty assessed by the director pursuant to this section within ten days after the assessment becomes final.

All orders by the director made under this chapter are subject to the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW. [2010 c 8 § 9063; 1989 c 111 § 16; 1985 c 377 § 20.]

**46.55.210 Cease and desist order.** Whenever it appears to the director that any registered tow truck operator or a person offering towing services has engaged in or is about to engage in any act or practice constituting a violation of any provision of this chapter or any rule adopted hereunder, the director may issue an order directing the operator or person to cease and desist from continuing the act or practice. Reasonable notice of and opportunity for a hearing shall be given. The director may issue a temporary order pending a hearing. The temporary order shall remain in effect until ten days after the hearing is held and shall become final if the person to whom notice is addressed does not request a hearing within fifteen days after the receipt of notice. [1987 c 311 § 17; 1985 c 377 § 21.]

**46.55.220 Refusal to issue license, grounds for.** If an application for a license to conduct business as a registered tow truck operator is filed by any person whose license has previously been canceled for cause by the department, or if the department is of the opinion that the application is not

filed in good faith or that the application is filed by some person as a subterfuge for the real person in interest whose license has previously been canceled for cause, the department, after a hearing, of which the applicant has been given twenty days' notice in writing and at which the applicant may appear in person or by counsel and present testimony, may refuse to issue such a person a license to conduct business as a registered tow truck operator. [1987 c 311 § 18; 1985 c 377 § 22.]

#### JUNK VEHICLE DISPOSITION

**46.55.230 Junk vehicles—Removal, disposal, sale—Penalties—Cleanup restitution payment.** (1)(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any law enforcement officer having jurisdiction, or any employee or officer of a jurisdictional health department acting pursuant to RCW 70.95.240, or any person authorized by the director shall inspect and may authorize the disposal of an abandoned junk vehicle. The person making the inspection shall record the make and vehicle identification number or license number of the vehicle if available, and shall also verify that the approximate value of the junk vehicle is equivalent only to the approximate value of the parts.

(b) A tow truck operator may authorize the disposal of an abandoned junk vehicle if the vehicle has been abandoned two or more times, the registered ownership information has not changed since the first abandonment, and the registered owner is also the legal owner.

(2) The law enforcement officer or department representative shall provide information on the vehicle's registered and legal owner to the landowner.

(3) Upon receiving information on the vehicle's registered and legal owner, the landowner shall mail a notice to the registered and legal owners shown on the records of the department. The notification shall describe the redemption procedure and the right to arrange for the removal of the vehicle.

(4) If the vehicle remains unclaimed more than fifteen days after the landowner has mailed notification to the registered and legal owner, the landowner may dispose of the vehicle or sign an affidavit of sale to be used as a title document.

(5) If no information on the vehicle's registered and legal owner is found in the records of the department, the landowner may immediately dispose of the vehicle or sign an affidavit of sale to be used as a title document.

(6) It is a gross misdemeanor for a person to abandon a junk vehicle on property. If a junk vehicle is abandoned, the vehicle's registered owner shall also pay a cleanup restitution payment equal to twice the costs incurred in the removal of the junk vehicle. The court shall distribute one-half of the restitution payment to the landowner of the property upon which the junk vehicle is located, and one-half of the restitution payment to the law enforcement agency or jurisdictional health department investigating the incident.

(7) For the purposes of this section, the term "landowner" includes a legal owner of private property, a person with possession or control of private property, or a public official having jurisdiction over public property.



(8) A person complying in good faith with the requirements of this section is immune from any liability arising out of an action taken or omission made in the compliance. [2002 c 279 § 13; 2001 c 139 § 3; 2000 c 154 § 4; 1991 c 292 § 2; 1987 c 311 § 19; 1985 c 377 § 23.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### LOCAL REGULATION

**46.55.240 Local ordinances—Requirements.** (1) A city, town, or county that adopts an ordinance or resolution concerning unauthorized, abandoned, or impounded vehicles shall include the applicable provisions of this chapter.

(a) A city, town, or county may, by ordinance, authorize other impound situations that may arise locally upon the public right-of-way or other publicly owned or controlled property.

(b) A city, town, or county ordinance shall contain language that establishes a written form of authorization to impound, which may include a law enforcement notice of infraction or citation, clearly denoting the agency's authorization to impound.

(c) A city, town, or county may, by ordinance, provide for release of an impounded vehicle by means of a promissory note in lieu of immediate payment, if at the time of redemption the legal or registered owner requests a hearing on the validity of the impoundment. If the municipal ordinance directs the release of an impounded vehicle before the payment of the impoundment charges, the municipality is responsible for the payment of those charges to the registered tow truck operator within thirty days of the hearing date.

(d) The hearing specified in RCW 46.55.120(2) and in this section may be conducted by an administrative hearing officer instead of in the district court. A decision made by an administrative hearing officer may be appealed to the district court for final judgment.

(2) A city, town, or county may adopt an ordinance establishing procedures for the abatement and removal as public nuisances of junk vehicles or parts thereof from private property. Costs of removal may be assessed against the registered owner of the vehicle if the identity of the owner can be determined, unless the owner in the transfer of ownership of the vehicle has complied with RCW 46.12.650, or the costs may be assessed against the owner of the property on which the vehicle is stored. A city, town, or county may also provide for the payment to the tow truck operator or wrecker as a part of a neighborhood revitalization program.

(3) Ordinances pertaining to public nuisances shall contain:

(a) A provision requiring notice to the last registered owner of record and the property owner of record that a hearing may be requested and that if no hearing is requested, the vehicle will be removed;

(b) A provision requiring that if a request for a hearing is received, a notice giving the time, location, and date of the hearing on the question of abatement and removal of the vehicle or part thereof as a public nuisance shall be mailed, by certified mail, with a five-day return receipt requested, to the owner of the land as shown on the last equalized assessment roll and to the last registered and legal owner of record

unless the vehicle is in such condition that identification numbers are not available to determine ownership;

(c) A provision that the ordinance shall not apply to (i) a vehicle or part thereof that is completely enclosed within a building in a lawful manner where it is not visible from the street or other public or private property or (ii) a vehicle or part thereof that is stored or parked in a lawful manner on private property in connection with the business of a licensed dismantler or licensed vehicle dealer and is fenced according to RCW 46.80.130;

(d) A provision that the owner of the land on which the vehicle is located may appear in person at the hearing or present a written statement in time for consideration at the hearing, and deny responsibility for the presence of the vehicle on the land, with his or her reasons for the denial. If it is determined at the hearing that the vehicle was placed on the land without the consent of the landowner and that he or she has not subsequently acquiesced in its presence, then the local agency shall not assess costs of administration or removal of the vehicle against the property upon which the vehicle is located or otherwise attempt to collect the cost from the owner;

(e) A provision that after notice has been given of the intent of the city, town, or county to dispose of the vehicle and after a hearing, if requested, has been held, the vehicle or part thereof shall be removed at the request of a law enforcement officer with notice to the Washington state patrol and the department of licensing that the vehicle has been wrecked. The city, town, or county may operate such a disposal site when its governing body determines that commercial channels of disposition are not available or are inadequate, and it may make final disposition of such vehicles or parts, or may transfer such vehicle or parts to another governmental body provided such disposal shall be only as scrap.

(4) A registered disposer under contract to a city or county for the impounding of vehicles shall comply with any administrative regulations adopted by the city or county on the handling and disposing of vehicles. [2010 c 161 § 1122; 2010 c 8 § 9064; 1994 c 176 § 2; 1991 c 292 § 3; 1989 c 111 § 17; 1987 c 311 § 20; 1985 c 377 § 24.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2010 c 8 § 9064 and by 2010 c 161 § 1122, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

#### VEHICLE IMMOBILIZATION

**46.55.300 Vehicle immobilization.** (1) A property owner shall not immobilize any vehicle owned by a person other than the property owner.

(2) This section does not apply to property owned by the state or any unit of local government.

(3) A violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor. [2005 c 88 § 1.]

IMPOUNDMENT AFTER ARREST FOR DRIVING  
UNDER THE INFLUENCE

**46.55.350 Findings—Intent.** (1) The legislature finds that:

(a) Despite every effort, the problem of driving or controlling a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs remains a great threat to the lives and safety of citizens. Over five hundred people are killed by traffic accidents in Washington each year and impaired vehicle drivers account for almost forty-five percent, or over two hundred deaths per year. That is, impairment is the leading cause of traffic deaths in this state;

(b) Over thirty-nine thousand people are arrested each year in Washington for driving or controlling a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Persons arrested for driving or controlling a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs may still be impaired after they are cited and released and could return to drive or control a vehicle. If the vehicle was impounded, there is nothing to stop the impaired person from going to the tow truck operator's storage facility and redeeming the vehicle while still impaired;

(c) More can be done to deter those arrested for driving or controlling a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Approximately one-third of those arrested for operating a vehicle under the influence are repeat offenders. Vehicle impoundment effectively increases deterrence and prevents an impaired driver from accessing the vehicle for a specified time. In addition, vehicle impoundment provides an appropriate measure of accountability for registered owners who allow impaired drivers to drive or control their vehicles, but it also allows the registered owners to redeem their vehicles once impounded. Any inconvenience on a registered owner is outweighed by the need to protect the public;

(d) In order to protect public safety and to enforce the state's laws, it is reasonable and necessary to mandatorily impound the vehicle operated by a person who has been arrested for driving or controlling a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

(2) The legislature intends by chapter 167, Laws of 2011:

(a) To change the primary reason for impounding the vehicle operated by a person arrested for driving or controlling a vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The purpose of impoundment under chapter 167, Laws of 2011 is to protect the public from a person operating a vehicle while still impaired, rather than to prevent a potential traffic obstruction; and

(b) To require that officers have no discretion as to whether or not to order an impound after they have arrested a vehicle driver with reasonable grounds to believe the driver of the vehicle was driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or was in physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. [2011 c 167 § 2.]

**Short title—2011 c 167:** "This act shall be known and cited as Hailey's Law." [2011 c 167 § 1.]

**46.55.360 Impoundment, when required—Law enforcement powers, duties, and liability immunity—Redemption, when, by whom—Operator liability immunity—Definition.** (1)(a) When a driver of a vehicle is arrested for a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, the

vehicle is subject to summary impoundment and except for a commercial vehicle or farm transport vehicle under subsection (3)(c) of this section, the vehicle must be impounded. With the exception of the twelve-hour hold mandated under this section, the procedures for notice, redemption, storage, auction, and sale shall remain the same as for other impounded vehicles under this chapter.

(b) If the police officer directing that a vehicle be impounded under this section has:

(i) Waited thirty minutes after the police officer contacted the police dispatcher requesting a registered tow truck operator and the tow truck responding has not arrived, or

(ii) If the police officer is presented with exigent circumstances such as being called to another incident or due to limited available resources being required to return to patrol, the police officer may place the completed impound order and inventory inside the vehicle and secure the vehicle by closing the windows and locking the doors before leaving.

(c) If a police officer directing that a vehicle be impounded under this section has secured the vehicle and left it pursuant to (b) of this subsection, the police officer and the government or agency employing the police officer shall not be liable for any damages to or theft of the vehicle or its contents that occur between the time the officer leaves and the time that the registered tow truck operator takes custody of the vehicle, or for the actions of any person who takes or removes the vehicle before the registered tow truck operator arrives.

(2)(a) When a driver of a vehicle is arrested for a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 and the driver is a registered owner of the vehicle, the impounded vehicle may not be redeemed within a twelve-hour period following the time the impounded vehicle arrives at the registered tow truck operator's storage facility as noted in the registered tow truck operator's master log, unless there are two or more registered owners of the vehicle or there is a legal owner of the vehicle that is not the driver of the vehicle. A registered owner who is not the driver of the vehicle or a legal owner who is not the driver of the vehicle may redeem the impounded vehicle after it arrives at the registered tow truck operator's storage facility as noted in the registered tow truck operator's master log.

(b) When a driver of a vehicle is arrested for a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 and the driver is a registered owner of the vehicle, the police officer directing the impound shall notify the driver that the impounded vehicle may not be redeemed within a twelve-hour period following the time the impounded vehicle arrives at the registered tow truck operator's storage facility as noted in the registered tow truck operator's master log, unless there are two or more registered owners or there is a legal owner who is not the driver of the vehicle. The police officer directing the impound shall notify the driver that the impounded vehicle may be redeemed by either a registered owner or legal owner, who is not the driver of the vehicle, after the impounded vehicle arrives at the registered tow truck operator's storage facility as noted in the registered tow truck operator's master log.

(3)(a) When a driver of a vehicle is arrested for a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 and the driver is not a registered owner of the vehicle, the impounded vehicle may be redeemed by a registered owner or legal owner, who is not the driver of the vehicle, after the impounded vehicle arrives

at the registered tow truck operator’s storage facility as noted in the registered tow truck operator’s master log.

(b) When a driver of a vehicle is arrested for a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 and the driver is not a registered owner of the vehicle, the police officer directing the impound shall notify the driver that the impounded vehicle may be redeemed by a registered owner or legal owner, who is not the driver of the vehicle, after the impounded vehicle arrives at the registered tow truck operator’s storage facility as noted in the registered tow truck operator’s master log.

(c) If the vehicle is a commercial vehicle or farm transport vehicle and the driver of the vehicle is not the owner of the vehicle, before the summary impoundment directed under subsection (1) of this section, the police officer shall attempt in a reasonable and timely manner to contact the owner of the vehicle and may release the vehicle to the owner if the owner is reasonably available, as long as the owner was not in the vehicle at the time of the stop and arrest.

(d) The registered tow truck operator shall notify the agency that ordered that the vehicle be impounded when the vehicle arrives at the registered tow truck operator’s storage facility and has been entered into the master log starting the twelve-hour period.

(4) A registered tow truck operator that releases an impounded vehicle pursuant to the requirements stated in this section is not liable for injuries or damages sustained by the operator of the vehicle or sustained by third parties that may result from the vehicle driver’s intoxicated state.

(5) For purposes of this section "farm transport vehicle" means a motor vehicle owned by a farmer and that is being actively used in the transportation of the farmer’s or another farmer’s farm, orchard, aquatic farm, or dairy products, including livestock and plant or animal wastes, from point of production to market or disposal, or supplies or commodities to be used on the farm, orchard, aquatic farm, or dairy, and that has a gross vehicle weight rating of 7,258 kilograms (16,001 pounds) or more. [2011 c 167 § 3.]

Short title—2011 c 167: See note following RCW 46.55.350.

**46.55.370 Law enforcement liability immunity—Reasonable suspicion.** If an impoundment arising from an alleged violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 is determined to be in violation of this chapter, then the police officer directing the impoundment and the government employing the officer are not liable for damages for loss of use of the vehicle if the officer had reasonable suspicion to believe that the driver of the vehicle was driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or was in physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug. [2011 c 167 § 4.]

Short title—2011 c 167: See note following RCW 46.55.350.

MISCELLANEOUS

**46.55.900 Severability—1985 c 377.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1985 c 377 § 26.]

**46.55.901 Headings not part of law—1985 c 377.** Headings and captions used in this act are not any part of the law. [1985 c 377 § 27.]

**46.55.902 Effective date—1985 c 377.** This act shall take effect on January 1, 1986. [1985 c 377 § 31.]

**46.55.910 Chapter not applicable to certain activities of department of transportation.** This chapter does not apply to the state department of transportation to the extent that it may remove vehicles that are traffic hazards from bridges and the mountain passes without prior authorization. If such a vehicle is removed, the department shall immediately notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency, and the vehicle shall be processed in accordance with RCW 46.55.110. [1989 c 111 § 18.]

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## OBEDIENCE TO AND EFFECT OF TRAFFIC LAWS

**46.61.005 Chapter refers to vehicles upon highways—Exceptions.** The provisions of this chapter relating to the operation of vehicles refer exclusively to the operation of vehicles upon highways except:

(1) Where a different place is specifically referred to in a given section.

(2) The provisions of RCW 46.52.010 through 46.52.090, 46.61.500 through 46.61.525, and 46.61.5249 shall apply upon highways and elsewhere throughout the state. [1997 c 66 § 13; 1990 c 291 § 4; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 1.]

**46.61.015 Obedience to police officers, flaggers, or firefighters—Penalty.** (1) No person shall willfully fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order or direction of any duly authorized flagger or any police officer or firefighter invested by law with authority to direct, control, or regulate traffic.

(2) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 244; 2000 c 239 § 4; 1995 c 50 § 1; 1975 c 62 § 17; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 3.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.020 Refusal to give information to or cooperate with officer—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for any person while operating or in charge of any vehicle to refuse when requested by a police officer to give his or her name and address and the name and address of the owner of such vehicle, or for such person to give a false name and address, and it is likewise unlawful for any such person to refuse or neglect to stop when signaled to stop by any police officer or to refuse upon demand of such police officer to produce his or her certificate of license registration of such vehicle, his or her insurance identification card, or his or her vehicle driver's license or to refuse to permit such officer to take any such license, card, or certificate for the purpose of examination thereof or to refuse to permit the examination of any equipment of such vehicle or the weighing of such vehicle or to refuse or neglect to produce the certificate of license registration of such vehicle, insurance card, or his or her vehicle driver's license when requested by any court. Any police officer shall on request produce evidence of his or her authorization as such.

(2) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 245; 1995 c 50 § 2; 1989 c 353 § 6; 1967 c 32 § 65; 1961 c 12 § 46.56.190. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 126; RRS § 6360-126; 1927 c 309 § 38; RRS § 6362-38. Formerly RCW 46.56.190.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.021 Duty to obey law enforcement officer—Authority of officer.** (1) Any person requested or signaled to stop by a law enforcement officer for a traffic infraction has a duty to stop.

(2) Whenever any person is stopped for a traffic infraction, the officer may detain that person for a reasonable period of time necessary to identify the person, check for outstanding warrants, check the status of the person's license, insurance identification card, and the vehicle's registration, and complete and issue a notice of traffic infraction.

(3) Any person requested to identify himself or herself to a law enforcement officer pursuant to an investigation of a traffic infraction has a duty to identify himself or herself and give his or her current address. [2006 c 270 § 1; 1997 1st sp.s. c 1 § 1; 1989 c 353 § 7; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.022 Failure to obey officer—Penalty.** Any person who willfully fails to stop when requested or signaled to do so by a person reasonably identifiable as a law enforcement officer or to comply with RCW 46.61.021(3), is guilty of a misdemeanor. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 5.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.024 Attempting to elude police vehicle—Defense—License revocation.** (1) Any driver of a motor vehicle who willfully fails or refuses to immediately bring his or her vehicle to a stop and who drives his or her vehicle in a

reckless manner while attempting to elude a pursuing police vehicle, after being given a visual or audible signal to bring the vehicle to a stop, shall be guilty of a class C felony. The signal given by the police officer may be by hand, voice, emergency light, or siren. The officer giving such a signal shall be in uniform and the vehicle shall be equipped with lights and sirens.

(2) It is an affirmative defense to this section which must be established by a preponderance of the evidence that: (a) A reasonable person would not believe that the signal to stop was given by a police officer; and (b) driving after the signal to stop was reasonable under the circumstances.

(3) The license or permit to drive or any nonresident driving privilege of a person convicted of a violation of this section shall be revoked by the department of licensing. [2010 c 8 § 9065; 2003 c 101 § 1; 1983 c 80 § 1; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 25; 1979 ex.s. c 75 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.025 Persons riding animals or driving animal-drawn vehicles.** Every person riding an animal or driving any animal-drawn vehicle upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by this chapter except those provisions of this chapter which by their very nature can have no application. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 4.]

**46.61.030 Persons working on highway right-of-way—Exceptions.** Unless specifically made applicable, the provisions of this chapter except those contained in RCW 46.61.500 through 46.61.520 shall not apply to persons, motor vehicles and other equipment while engaged in work within the right-of-way of any highway but shall apply to such persons and vehicles when traveling to or from such work. [1969 c 76 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 5.]

**46.61.035 Authorized emergency vehicles.** (1) The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle, when responding to an emergency call or when in the pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law or when responding to but not upon returning from a fire alarm, may exercise the privileges set forth in this section, but subject to the conditions herein stated.

(2) The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle may:

(a) Park or stand, irrespective of the provisions of this chapter;

(b) Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation;

(c) Exceed the maximum speed limits so long as he or she does not endanger life or property;

(d) Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions.

(3) The exemptions herein granted to an authorized emergency vehicle shall apply only when such vehicle is making use of visual signals meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.190, except that: (a) An authorized emergency vehicle operated as a police vehicle need not be equipped with or display a red light visible from in front of the vehicle; (b) authorized emergency vehicles shall use audible signals when necessary to warn others of the emergency nature of the

situation but in no case shall they be required to use audible signals while parked or standing.

(4) The foregoing provisions shall not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons, nor shall such provisions protect the driver from the consequences of his or her reckless disregard for the safety of others. [2010 c 8 § 9066; 1969 c 23 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 6.]

#### TRAFFIC SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND MARKINGS

**46.61.050 Obedience to and required traffic control devices.** (1) The driver of any vehicle, every bicyclist, and every pedestrian shall obey the instructions of any official traffic control device applicable thereto placed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, unless otherwise directed by a traffic or police officer, subject to the exception granted the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle in this chapter.

(2) No provision of this chapter for which official traffic control devices are required shall be enforced against an alleged violator if at the time and place of the alleged violation an official device is not in proper position and sufficiently legible or visible to be seen by an ordinarily observant person. Whenever a particular section does not state that official traffic control devices are required, such section shall be effective even though no devices are erected or in place.

(3) Whenever official traffic control devices are placed in position approximately conforming to the requirements of this chapter, such devices shall be presumed to have been so placed by the official act or direction of lawful authority, unless the contrary shall be established by competent evidence.

(4) Any official traffic control device placed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and purporting to conform to the lawful requirements pertaining to such devices shall be presumed to comply with the requirements of this chapter, unless the contrary shall be established by competent evidence. [1975 c 62 § 18; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 7.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

*Bicycle awareness program: RCW 43.43.390.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.055 Traffic control signal legend.** Whenever traffic is controlled by traffic control signals exhibiting different colored lights, or colored lighted arrows, successively one at a time or in combination, only the colors green, red and yellow shall be used, except for special pedestrian signals carrying a word or legend, and said lights shall indicate and apply to drivers of vehicles and pedestrians as follows:

(1) Green indication

(a) Vehicle operators facing a circular green signal may proceed straight through or turn right or left unless a sign at such place prohibits either such turn. Vehicle operators turning right or left shall stop to allow other vehicles lawfully within the intersection control area to complete their movements. Vehicle operators turning right or left shall also stop for pedestrians who are lawfully within the intersection control area as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).

(b) Vehicle operators facing a green arrow signal, shown alone or in combination with another indication, may enter the intersection control area only to make the movement indi-

cated by such arrow, or such other movement as is permitted by other indications shown at the same time. Vehicle operators shall stop to allow other vehicles lawfully within the intersection control area to complete their movements. Vehicle operators shall also stop for pedestrians who are lawfully within the intersection control area as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).

(c) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal, as provided in RCW 46.61.060 as now or hereafter amended, pedestrians facing any green signal, except when the sole green signal is a turn arrow, may proceed across the roadway within any marked or unmarked crosswalk.

(2) Steady yellow indication

(a) Vehicle operators facing a steady circular yellow or yellow arrow signal are thereby warned that the related green movement is being terminated or that a red indication will be exhibited immediately thereafter when vehicular traffic shall not enter the intersection. Vehicle operators shall stop for pedestrians who are lawfully within the intersection control area as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).

(b) Pedestrians facing a steady circular yellow or yellow arrow signal, unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in RCW 46.61.060 shall not enter the roadway.

(3) Steady red indication

(a) Vehicle operators facing a steady circular red signal alone shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if none, then before entering the intersection control area and shall remain standing until an indication to proceed is shown. However, the vehicle operators facing a steady circular red signal may, after stopping proceed to make a right turn from a one-way or two-way street into a two-way street or into a one-way street carrying traffic in the direction of the right turn; or a left turn from a one-way or two-way street into a one-way street carrying traffic in the direction of the left turn; unless a sign posted by competent authority prohibits such movement. Vehicle operators planning to make such turns shall remain stopped to allow other vehicles lawfully within or approaching the intersection control area to complete their movements. Vehicle operators planning to make such turns shall also remain stopped for pedestrians who are lawfully within the intersection control area as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).

(b) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in RCW 46.61.060 as now or hereafter amended, pedestrians facing a steady circular red signal alone shall not enter the roadway.

(c) Vehicle operators facing a steady red arrow indication may not enter the intersection control area to make the movement indicated by such arrow, and unless entering the intersection control area to make such other movement as is permitted by other indications shown at the same time, shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering a crosswalk on the near side of the intersection control area, or if none, then before entering the intersection control area and shall remain standing until an indication to make the movement indicated by such arrow is shown. However, the vehicle operators facing a steady red arrow indication may, after stopping proceed to make a right turn from a one-way or two-way street into a two-way street or into a one-way street

carrying traffic in the direction of the right turn; or a left turn from a one-way street or two-way street into a one-way street carrying traffic in the direction of the left turn; unless a sign posted by competent authority prohibits such movement. Vehicle operators planning to make such turns shall remain stopped to allow other vehicles lawfully within or approaching the intersection control area to complete their movements. Vehicle operators planning to make such turns shall also remain stopped for pedestrians who are lawfully within the intersection control area as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).

(d) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian signal, pedestrians facing a steady red arrow signal indication shall not enter the roadway.

(4) If an official traffic control signal is erected and maintained at a place other than an intersection, the provisions of this section shall be applicable except as to those provisions which by their nature can have no application. Any stop required shall be made at a sign or marking on the pavement indicating where the stop shall be made, but in the absence of any such sign or marking the stop shall be made at the signal. [1993 c 153 § 2; 1990 c 241 § 2; 1975 c 62 § 19; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 8.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.060 Pedestrian control signals.** Whenever pedestrian control signals exhibiting the words "Walk" or the walking person symbol or "Don't Walk" or the hand symbol are operating, the signals shall indicate as follows:

(1) WALK or walking person symbol—Pedestrians facing such signal may cross the roadway in the direction of the signal. Vehicle operators shall stop for pedestrians who are lawfully moving within the intersection control area on such signal as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).

(2) Steady or flashing DON'T WALK or hand symbol—Pedestrians facing such signal shall not enter the roadway. Vehicle operators shall stop for pedestrians who have begun to cross the roadway before the display of either signal as required by RCW 46.61.235(1).

(3) Pedestrian control signals having the "Wait" legend in use on August 6, 1965, shall be deemed authorized signals and shall indicate the same as the "Don't Walk" legend. Whenever such pedestrian control signals are replaced the legend "Wait" shall be replaced by the legend "Don't Walk" or the hand symbol. [1993 c 153 § 3; 1990 c 241 § 3; 1975 c 62 § 20; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.065 Flashing signals.** (1) Whenever an illuminated flashing red or yellow signal is used in a traffic sign or signal it shall require obedience by vehicular traffic as follows:

(a) FLASHING RED (STOP SIGNAL). When a red lens is illuminated with rapid intermittent flashes, drivers of vehicles shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering a marked crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or, if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering the intersection, and the right to proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable after making a stop at a stop sign.

(b) **FLASHING YELLOW (CAUTION SIGNAL).** When a yellow lens is illuminated with rapid intermittent flashes, drivers of vehicles may proceed through the intersection or past such signal only with caution.

(2) This section shall not apply at railroad grade crossings. Conduct of drivers of vehicles approaching railroad grade crossings shall be governed by the rules as set forth in RCW 46.61.340. [1975 c 62 § 21; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 10.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.070 Lane-direction-control signals.** When lane-direction-control signals are placed over the individual lanes of a street or highway, vehicular traffic may travel in any lane over which a green signal is shown, but shall not enter or travel in any lane over which a red signal is shown. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 11.]

**46.61.072 Special traffic control signals—Legend.** Whenever special traffic control signals exhibit a downward green arrow, a yellow X, or a red X indication, such signal indication shall have the following meaning:

(1) A steady downward green arrow means that a driver is permitted to drive in the lane over which the arrow signal is located.

(2) A steady yellow X or flashing red X means that a driver should prepare to vacate, in a safe manner, the lane over which the signal is located because a lane control change is being made, and to avoid occupying that lane when a steady red X is displayed.

(3) A flashing yellow X means that a driver is permitted to use a lane over which the signal is located for a left turn, using proper caution.

(4) A steady red X means that a driver shall not drive in the lane over which the signal is located, and that this indication shall modify accordingly the meaning of all other traffic controls present. The driver shall obey all other traffic controls and follow normal safe driving practices. [1975 c 62 § 49.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.075 Display of unauthorized signs, signals, or markings.** (1) No person shall place, maintain or display upon or in view of any highway any unauthorized sign, signal, marking or device which purports to be or is an imitation of or resembles an official traffic-control device or railroad sign or signal, or which attempts to direct the movement of traffic, or which hides from view or interferes with the effectiveness of an official traffic-control device or any railroad sign or signal.

(2) No person shall place or maintain nor shall any public authority permit upon any highway any traffic sign or signal bearing thereon any commercial advertising.

(3) This section shall not be deemed to prohibit the erection upon private property adjacent to highways of signs giving useful directional information and of a type that cannot be mistaken for official signs.

(4) Every such prohibited sign, signal or marking is hereby declared to be a public nuisance and the authority having jurisdiction over the highway is hereby empowered to remove the same or cause it to be removed without notice. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 12.]

**46.61.080 Interference with official traffic-control devices or railroad signs or signals.** No person shall, without lawful authority, attempt to or in fact alter, deface, injure, knock down or remove any official traffic-control device or any railroad sign or signal or any inscription, shield or insignia thereon, or any other part thereof. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 13.]

*Interference with traffic-control signals or railroad signs or signals: RCW 47.36.130.*

**46.61.085 Traffic control signals or devices upon city streets forming part of state highways—Approval by department of transportation.** No traffic control signal or device may be erected or maintained upon any city street designated as forming a part of the route of a primary state highway or secondary state highway unless first approved by the state department of transportation. [1984 c 7 § 62; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 14.]

*Local authorities to provide stop signs at intersections with increased speed highways: RCW 46.61.435.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### DRIVING ON RIGHT SIDE OF ROADWAY—OVERTAKING AND PASSING—USE OF ROADWAY

**46.61.100 Keep right except when passing, etc.** (1) Upon all roadways of sufficient width a vehicle shall be driven upon the right half of the roadway, except as follows:

(a) When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction under the rules governing such movement;

(b) When an obstruction exists making it necessary to drive to the left of the center of the highway; provided, any person so doing shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles traveling in the proper direction upon the unobstructed portion of the highway within such distance as to constitute an immediate hazard;

(c) Upon a roadway divided into three marked lanes and providing for two-way movement traffic under the rules applicable thereon;

(d) Upon a street or highway restricted to one-way traffic; or

(e) Upon a highway having three lanes or less, when approaching a stationary authorized emergency vehicle, tow truck or other vehicle providing roadside assistance while operating warning lights with three hundred sixty degree visibility, or police vehicle as described under \*RCW 46.61.212(2).

(2) Upon all roadways having two or more lanes for traffic moving in the same direction, all vehicles shall be driven in the right-hand lane then available for traffic, except (a) when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction, (b) when traveling at a speed greater than the traffic flow, (c) when moving left to allow traffic to merge, or (d) when preparing for a left turn at an intersection, exit, or into a private road or driveway when such left turn is legally permitted. On any such roadway, a vehicle or combination over ten thousand pounds shall be driven only in the right-hand lane except under the conditions enumerated in (a) through (d) of this subsection.



(3) No vehicle towing a trailer or no vehicle or combination over ten thousand pounds may be driven in the left-hand lane of a limited access roadway having three or more lanes for traffic moving in one direction except when preparing for a left turn at an intersection, exit, or into a private road or driveway when a left turn is legally permitted. This subsection does not apply to a vehicle using a high occupancy vehicle lane. A high occupancy vehicle lane is not considered the left-hand lane of a roadway. The department of transportation, in consultation with the Washington state patrol, shall adopt rules specifying (a) those circumstances where it is permissible for other vehicles to use the left lane in case of emergency or to facilitate the orderly flow of traffic, and (b) those segments of limited access roadway to be exempt from this subsection due to the operational characteristics of the roadway.

(4) It is a traffic infraction to drive continuously in the left lane of a multilane roadway when it impedes the flow of other traffic.

(5) Upon any roadway having four or more lanes for moving traffic and providing for two-way movement of traffic, a vehicle shall not be driven to the left of the center line of the roadway except when authorized by official traffic control devices designating certain lanes to the left side of the center of the roadway for use by traffic not otherwise permitted to use such lanes, or except as permitted under subsection (1)(b) of this section. However, this subsection shall not be construed as prohibiting the crossing of the center line in making a left turn into or from an alley, private road or driveway. [2007 c 83 § 2; 1997 c 253 § 1; 1986 c 93 § 2; 1972 ex.s. c 33 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 46; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 58; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 15.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 46.61.212 was amended by 2010 c 252 § 1, changing subsection (2) to subsection (1)(d)(ii), effective January 1, 2011.

**Legislative intent—1986 c 93:** "It is the intent of the legislature, in this 1985 [1986] amendment of RCW 46.61.100, that the left-hand lane on any state highway with two or more lanes in the same direction be used primarily as a passing lane." [1986 c 93 § 1.]

*Information on proper use of left-hand lane: RCW 28A.220.050, 46.20.095, 46.82.430, 47.36.260.*

**46.61.105 Passing vehicles proceeding in opposite directions.** Drivers of vehicles proceeding in opposite directions shall pass each other to the right, and upon roadways having width for not more than one line of traffic in each direction each driver shall give to the other at least one-half of the main-traveled portion of the roadway as nearly as possible. [1975 c 62 § 22; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 16.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.110 Overtaking on the left.** The following rules shall govern the overtaking and passing of vehicles proceeding in the same direction, subject to those limitations, exceptions and special rules hereinafter stated:

(1) The driver of a vehicle overtaking other traffic proceeding in the same direction shall pass to the left thereof at a safe distance and shall not again drive to the right side of the roadway until safely clear of the overtaken traffic.

(2) The driver of a vehicle approaching a pedestrian or bicycle that is on the roadway or on the right-hand shoulder

or bicycle lane of the roadway shall pass to the left at a safe distance to clearly avoid coming into contact with the pedestrian or bicyclist, and shall not again drive to the right side of the roadway until safely clear of the overtaken pedestrian or bicyclist.

(3) Except when overtaking and passing on the right is permitted, overtaken traffic shall give way to the right in favor of an overtaking vehicle on audible signal and shall not increase speed until completely passed by the overtaking vehicle. [2005 c 396 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 17.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.115 When overtaking on the right is permitted.**

(1) The driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass upon the right of another vehicle only under the following conditions:

(a) When the vehicle overtaken is making or about to make a left turn;

(b) Upon a roadway with unobstructed pavement of sufficient width for two or more lines of vehicles moving lawfully in the direction being traveled by the overtaking vehicle.

(2) The driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass another vehicle upon the right only under conditions permitting such movement in safety. Such movement shall not be made by driving off the roadway. [1975 c 62 § 23; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 18.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.120 Limitations on overtaking on the left.** No vehicle shall be driven to the left side of the center of the roadway in overtaking and passing other traffic proceeding in the same direction unless authorized by the provisions of RCW 46.61.100 through 46.61.160 and 46.61.212 and unless such left side is clearly visible and is free of oncoming traffic for a sufficient distance ahead to permit such overtaking and passing to be completely made without interfering with the operation of any traffic approaching from the opposite direction or any traffic overtaken. In every event the overtaking vehicle must return to an authorized lane of travel as soon as practicable and in the event the passing movement involves the use of a lane authorized for vehicles approaching from the opposite direction, before coming within two hundred feet of any approaching traffic. [2007 c 83 § 3; 2005 c 396 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 19.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.125 Further limitations on driving to left of center of roadway.** (1) No vehicle shall be driven on the left side of the roadway under the following conditions:

(a) When approaching or upon the crest of a grade or a curve in the highway where the driver's view is obstructed within such distance as to create a hazard in the event other traffic might approach from the opposite direction;

(b) When approaching within one hundred feet of or traversing any intersection or railroad grade crossing;

(c) When the view is obstructed upon approaching within one hundred feet of any bridge, viaduct or tunnel;

(d) When a bicycle or pedestrian is within view of the driver and is approaching from the opposite direction, or is present, in the roadway, shoulder, or bicycle lane within a

distance unsafe to the bicyclist or pedestrian due to the width or condition of the roadway, shoulder, or bicycle lane.

(2) The foregoing limitations shall not apply upon a one-way roadway, nor under the conditions described in RCW 46.61.100(1)(b), nor to the driver of a vehicle turning left into or from an alley, private road or driveway. [2005 c 396 § 3; 1972 ex.s. c 33 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 20.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

#### **46.61.126 Pedestrians and bicyclists—Legal duties.**

Nothing in RCW 46.61.110, 46.61.120, or 46.61.125 relieves pedestrians and bicyclists of their legal duties while traveling on public highways. [2005 c 396 § 4.]

**46.61.130 No-passing zones.** (1) The state department of transportation and the local authorities are authorized to determine those portions of any highway under their respective jurisdictions where overtaking and passing or driving to the left of the roadway would be especially hazardous and may by appropriate signs or markings on the roadway indicate the beginning and end of such zones. When such signs or markings are in place and clearly visible to an ordinarily observant person every driver of a vehicle shall obey the directions thereof.

(2) Where signs or markings are in place to define a no-passing zone as set forth in subsection (1) of this section, no driver may at any time drive on the left side of the roadway within the no-passing zone or on the left side of any pavement striping designed to mark the no-passing zone throughout its length.

(3) This section does not apply under the conditions described in RCW 46.61.100(1)(b), nor to the driver of a vehicle turning left into or from an alley, private road, or driveway. [1984 c 7 § 63; 1972 ex.s. c 33 § 3; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 21.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.135 One-way roadways and rotary traffic islands.** (1) The state department of transportation and the local authorities with respect to highways under their respective jurisdictions may designate any highway, roadway, part of a roadway, or specific lanes upon which vehicular traffic shall proceed in one direction at all or such times as shall be indicated by official traffic control devices.

(2) Upon a roadway so designated for one-way traffic, a vehicle shall be driven only in the direction designated at all or such times as shall be indicated by official traffic control devices.

(3) A vehicle passing around a rotary traffic island shall be driven only to the right of such island. [1984 c 7 § 64; 1975 c 62 § 24; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 22.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **46.61.140 Driving on roadways laned for traffic.**

Whenever any roadway has been divided into two or more clearly marked lanes for traffic the following rules in addition to all others consistent herewith shall apply:

(1) A vehicle shall be driven as nearly as practicable entirely within a single lane and shall not be moved from

such lane until the driver has first ascertained that such movement can be made with safety.

(2) Upon a roadway which is divided into three lanes and provides for two-way movement of traffic, a vehicle shall not be driven in the center lane except when overtaking and passing another vehicle traveling in the same direction when such center lane is clear of traffic within a safe distance, or in preparation for making a left turn or where such center lane is at the time allocated exclusively to traffic moving in the same direction that the vehicle is proceeding and such allocation is designated by official traffic-control devices.

(3) Official traffic-control devices may be erected directing slow moving or other specified traffic to use a designated lane or designating those lanes to be used by traffic moving in a particular direction regardless of the center of the roadway and drivers of vehicles shall obey the directions of every such device.

(4) Official traffic-control devices may be installed prohibiting the changing of lanes on sections of roadway and drivers of vehicles shall obey the directions of every such device. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 23.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.145 Following too closely.** (1) The driver of a motor vehicle shall not follow another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent, having due regard for the speed of such vehicles and the traffic upon and the condition of the highway.

(2) The driver of any motor truck or motor vehicle drawing another vehicle when traveling upon a roadway outside of a business or residence district and which is following another motor truck or motor vehicle drawing another vehicle shall, whenever conditions permit, leave sufficient space so that an overtaking vehicle may enter and occupy such space without danger, except that this shall not prevent a motor truck or motor vehicle drawing another vehicle from overtaking and passing any like vehicle or other vehicle.

(3) Motor vehicles being driven upon any roadway outside of a business or residence district in a caravan or motorcade whether or not towing other vehicles shall be so operated as to allow sufficient space between each such vehicle or combination of vehicles so as to enable any other vehicle to enter and occupy such space without danger. This provision shall not apply to funeral processions. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 24.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.150 Driving on divided highways.** Whenever any highway has been divided into two or more roadways by leaving an intervening space or by a physical barrier or clearly indicated dividing section or by a median island not less than eighteen inches wide formed either by solid yellow pavement markings or by a yellow crosshatching between two solid yellow lines so installed as to control vehicular traffic, every vehicle shall be driven only upon the right-hand roadway unless directed or permitted to use another roadway by official traffic-control devices or police officers. No vehicle shall be driven over, across or within any such dividing space, barrier or section, or median island, except through an opening in such physical barrier or dividing section or space or median island, or at a crossover or intersection established

by public authority. [1972 ex.s. c 33 § 4; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 25.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.155 Restricted access.** No person shall drive a vehicle onto or from any limited access roadway except at such entrances and exits as are established by public authority. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 26.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.160 Restrictions on limited-access highway—Use by bicyclists.** The department of transportation may by order, and local authorities may by ordinance or resolution, with respect to any limited access highway under their respective jurisdictions prohibit the use of any such highway by funeral processions, or by parades, pedestrians, bicycles or other nonmotorized traffic, or by any person operating a motor-driven cycle. Bicyclists may use the right shoulder of limited-access highways except where prohibited. The department of transportation may by order, and local authorities may by ordinance or resolution, with respect to any limited-access highway under their respective jurisdictions prohibit the use of the shoulders of any such highway by bicycles within urban areas or upon other sections of the highway where such use is deemed to be unsafe.

The department of transportation or the local authority adopting any such prohibitory regulation shall erect and maintain official traffic control devices on the limited access roadway on which such regulations are applicable, and when so erected no person may disobey the restrictions stated on such devices. [1982 c 55 § 5; 1975 c 62 § 25; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 27.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.165 High occupancy vehicle lanes—Definition.**

(1) The state department of transportation and the local authorities are authorized to reserve all or any portion of any highway under their respective jurisdictions, including any designated lane or ramp, for the exclusive or preferential use of one or more of the following: (a) Public transportation vehicles; (b) private motor vehicles carrying no fewer than a specified number of passengers; or (c) the following private transportation provider vehicles if the vehicle has the capacity to carry eight or more passengers, regardless of the number of passengers in the vehicle, and if such use does not interfere with the efficiency, reliability, and safety of public transportation operations: (i) Auto transportation company vehicles regulated under chapter 81.68 RCW; (ii) passenger charter carrier vehicles regulated under chapter 81.70 RCW, except marked or unmarked stretch limousines and stretch sport utility vehicles as defined under department of licensing rules; (iii) private nonprofit transportation provider vehicles regulated under chapter 81.66 RCW; and (iv) private employer transportation service vehicles, when such limitation will increase the efficient utilization of the highway or will aid in the conservation of energy resources.

(2) Any transit-only lanes that allow other vehicles to access abutting businesses that are authorized pursuant to subsection (1) of this section may not be authorized for the use of private transportation provider vehicles as described under subsection (1) of this section.

(3) The state department of transportation and the local authorities authorized to reserve all or any portion of any highway under their respective jurisdictions, for exclusive or preferential use, may prohibit the use of a high occupancy vehicle lane by the following private transportation provider vehicles: (a) Auto transportation company vehicles regulated under chapter 81.68 RCW; (b) passenger charter carrier vehicles regulated under chapter 81.70 RCW, and marked or unmarked limousines and stretch sport utility vehicles as defined under department of licensing rules; (c) private nonprofit transportation provider vehicles regulated under chapter 81.66 RCW; and (d) private employer transportation service vehicles, when the average transit speed in the high occupancy vehicle lane fails to meet department of transportation standards and falls below forty-five miles per hour at least ninety percent of the time during the peak hours, as determined by the department of transportation or the local authority, whichever operates the facility.

(4) Regulations authorizing such exclusive or preferential use of a highway facility may be declared to be effective at all times or at specified times of day or on specified days. Violation of a restriction of highway usage prescribed by the appropriate authority under this section is a traffic infraction.

(5) Local authorities are encouraged to establish a process for private transportation providers, as described under subsections (1) and (3) of this section, to apply for the use of public transportation facilities reserved for the exclusive or preferential use of public transportation vehicles. The application and review processes should be uniform and should provide for an expeditious response by the local authority. Whenever practicable, local authorities should enter into agreements with such private transportation providers to allow for the reasonable use of these facilities.

(6) For the purposes of this section, "private employer transportation service" means regularly scheduled, fixed-route transportation service that is similarly marked or identified to display the business name or logo on the driver and passenger sides of the vehicle, meets the annual certification requirements of the department of transportation, and is offered by an employer for the benefit of its employees. [2011 c 379 § 1; 1999 c 206 § 1; 1998 c 245 § 90; 1991 sp.s. c 15 § 67; 1984 c 7 § 65; 1974 ex.s. c 133 § 2.]

**Conflict with state and federal environmental mitigation requirements—2011 c 379:** "If any part of this act is found to be in conflict with mitigation requirements under the state environmental policy act (chapter 43.21C RCW) or the national environmental policy act (42 U.S.C. Secs. 4321 through 4347) or in any other way conflicts with federal requirements that are a condition or part of the allocation of federal funds to the state or local facilities, the conflicting part of this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict and with respect to the agencies directly affected, and this finding does not affect the operation of the remainder of this act in its application to the agencies concerned. Rules adopted under this act must meet federal requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt of federal funds by the state or local authorities." [2011 c 379 § 5.]

*Limited access facilities: RCW 47.52.025.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

RIGHT-OF-WAY

**46.61.180 Vehicle approaching intersection.** (1) When two vehicles approach or enter an intersection from different highways at approximately the same time, the driver

of the vehicle on the left shall yield the right-of-way to the vehicle on the right.

(2) The right-of-way rule declared in subsection (1) of this section is modified at arterial highways and otherwise as stated in this chapter. [1975 c 62 § 26; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 28.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.183 Nonfunctioning signal lights.** Except when directed to proceed by a flagger, police officer, or firefighter, the driver of a vehicle approaching an intersection controlled by a traffic control signal that is temporarily without power on all approaches or is not displaying any green, red, or yellow indication to the approach the vehicle is on, shall consider the intersection to be an all-way stop. After stopping, the driver shall yield the right-of-way in accordance with RCW 46.61.180(1) and 46.61.185. [1999 c 200 § 1.]

**46.61.185 Vehicle turning left.** The driver of a vehicle intending to turn to the left within an intersection or into an alley, private road, or driveway shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction which is within the intersection or so close thereto as to constitute an immediate hazard. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 29.]

**46.61.190 Vehicle entering stop or yield intersection.**

(1) Preferential right-of-way may be indicated by stop signs or yield signs as authorized in RCW 47.36.110.

(2) Except when directed to proceed by a duly authorized flagger, or a police officer, or a firefighter vested by law with authority to direct, control, or regulate traffic, every driver of a vehicle approaching a stop sign shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering a marked crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering the roadway, and after having stopped shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching on another roadway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time when such driver is moving across or within the intersection or junction of roadways.

(3) The driver of a vehicle approaching a yield sign shall in obedience to such sign slow down to a speed reasonable for the existing conditions and if required for safety to stop, shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering a marked crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering the roadway, and then after slowing or stopping, the driver shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching on another roadway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time such driver is moving across or within the intersection or junction of roadways: PROVIDED, That if such a driver is involved in a collision with a vehicle in the intersection or junction of roadways, after driving past a yield sign without stopping, such collision shall be deemed prima facie evidence of the driver's failure to yield right-of-way. [2000 c 239 § 5; 1975 c 62 § 27; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 30.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

*Stop signs, "Yield" signs—Duties of persons using highway: RCW 47.36.110.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.195 Arterial highways designated—Stopping on entering.** All state highways are hereby declared to be arterial highways as respects all other public highways or private ways, except that the state department of transportation has the authority to designate any county road or city street as an arterial having preference over the traffic on the state highway if traffic conditions will be improved by such action.

Those city streets designated by the state department of transportation as forming a part of the routes of state highways through incorporated cities and towns are declared to be arterial highways as respects all other city streets or private ways.

The governing authorities of incorporated cities and towns may designate any street as an arterial having preference over the traffic on a state highway if the change is first approved in writing by the state department of transportation. The local authorities making such a change in arterial designation shall do so by proper ordinance or resolution and shall erect or cause to be erected and maintained standard stop signs, or "Yield" signs, to accomplish this change in arterial designation.

The operator of any vehicle entering upon any arterial highway from any other public highway or private way shall come to a complete stop before entering the arterial highway when stop signs are erected as provided by law. [1984 c 7 § 66; 1963 ex.s. c 3 § 48; 1961 c 12 § 46.60.330. Prior: 1955 c 146 § 5; 1947 c 200 § 14; 1937 c 189 § 105; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-105. Formerly RCW 46.60.330.]

*City streets subject to increased speed, designation as arterials: RCW 46.61.435.*

*Stop signs, "Yield" signs—Duties of persons using highway: RCW 47.36.110.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.200 Stop intersections other than arterial may be designated.** In addition to the points of intersection of any public highway with any arterial public highway that is constituted by law or by any proper authorities of this state or any city or town of this state, the state department of transportation with respect to state highways, and the proper authorities with respect to any other public highways, have the power to determine and designate any particular intersection, or any particular highways, roads, or streets or portions thereof, at any intersection with which vehicles shall be required to stop before entering such intersection. Upon the determination and designation of such points at which vehicles will be required to come to a stop before entering the intersection, the proper authorities so determining and designating shall cause to be posted and maintained proper signs of the standard design adopted by the state department of transportation indicating that the intersection has been so determined and designated and that vehicles entering it are required to stop. It is unlawful for any person operating any vehicle when entering any intersection determined, designated, and bearing the required sign to fail and neglect to bring the vehicle to a complete stop before entering the intersection. [1984 c 7 § 67; 1961 c 12 § 46.60.340. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 106; RRS § 6360-

106; 1927 c 284 § 1; RRS § 6362-41a. Formerly RCW 46.60.340.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.202 Stopping when traffic obstructed.** No driver shall enter an intersection or a marked crosswalk or drive onto any railroad grade crossing unless there is sufficient space on the other side of the intersection, crosswalk, or railroad grade crossing to accommodate the vehicle he or she is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles, pedestrians, or railroad trains notwithstanding any traffic control signal indications to proceed. [2010 c 8 § 9067; 1975 c 62 § 48.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.205 Vehicle entering highway from private road or driveway.** The driver of a vehicle about to enter or cross a highway from a private road or driveway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles lawfully approaching on said highway. [1990 c 250 § 88; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 31.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.210 Operation of vehicles on approach of emergency vehicles.** (1) Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle making use of audible and visual signals meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.190, or of a police vehicle properly and lawfully making use of an audible signal only the driver of every other vehicle shall yield the right-of-way and shall immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to, the right-hand edge or curb of the roadway clear of any intersection and shall stop and remain in such position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.

(2) This section shall not operate to relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 32.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.212 Approaching emergency zones—Penalty—Violation.** (1) The driver of any motor vehicle, upon approaching an emergency zone, which is defined as the adjacent lanes of the roadway two hundred feet before and after (a) a stationary authorized emergency vehicle that is making use of audible and/or visual signals meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.190, (b) a tow truck that is making use of visual red lights meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.196, (c) other vehicles providing roadside assistance that are making use of warning lights with three hundred sixty degree visibility, or (d) a police vehicle properly and lawfully displaying a flashing, blinking, or alternating emergency light or lights, shall:

(i) On a highway having four or more lanes, at least two of which are intended for traffic proceeding in the same direction as the approaching vehicle, proceed with caution and, if reasonable, with due regard for safety and traffic conditions, yield the right-of-way by making a lane change or moving away from the lane or shoulder occupied by the stationary authorized emergency vehicle or police vehicle;

(ii) On a highway having less than four lanes, proceed with caution, reduce the speed of the vehicle, and, if reasonable, with due regard for safety and traffic conditions, and under the rules of this chapter, yield the right-of-way by passing to the left at a safe distance and simultaneously yield the right-of-way to all vehicles traveling in the proper direction upon the highway; or

(iii) If changing lanes or moving away would be unreasonable or unsafe, proceed with due caution and reduce the speed of the vehicle.

(2) A person may not drive a vehicle in an emergency zone at a speed greater than the posted speed limit.

(3) A person found to be in violation of this section, or any infraction relating to speed restrictions in an emergency zone, must be assessed a monetary penalty equal to twice the penalty assessed under RCW 46.63.110. This penalty may not be waived, reduced, or suspended.

(4) A person who drives a vehicle in an emergency zone in such a manner as to endanger or be likely to endanger any emergency zone worker or property is guilty of reckless endangerment of emergency zone workers. A violation of this subsection is a gross misdemeanor punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(5) The department shall suspend for sixty days the driver's license, permit to drive, or nonresident driving privilege of a person convicted of reckless endangerment of emergency zone workers. [2010 c 252 § 1; 2007 c 83 § 1; 2005 c 413 § 1.]

**Effective date—2010 c 252:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2011." [2010 c 252 § 6.]

#### **46.61.215 Highway construction and maintenance.**

(1) The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to any authorized vehicle or pedestrian actually engaged in work upon a highway within any highway construction or maintenance area indicated by official traffic control devices.

(2) The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to any authorized vehicle obviously and actually engaged in work upon a highway whenever such vehicle displays flashing lights meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.300. [1975 c 62 § 40.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.220 Transit vehicles.** (1) The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to a transit vehicle traveling in the same direction that has signalled and is reentering the traffic flow.

(2) Nothing in this section shall operate to relieve the driver of a transit vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the roadway. [1993 c 401 § 1.]

### PEDESTRIANS' RIGHTS AND DUTIES

**46.61.230 Pedestrians subject to traffic regulations.** Pedestrians shall be subject to traffic-control signals at intersections as provided in RCW 46.61.060, and at all other places pedestrians shall be accorded the privileges and shall be subject to the restrictions stated in this chapter. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 33.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.235 Crosswalks.** (1) The operator of an approaching vehicle shall stop and remain stopped to allow a pedestrian or bicycle to cross the roadway within an unmarked or marked crosswalk when the pedestrian or bicycle is upon or within one lane of the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling or onto which it is turning. For purposes of this section "half of the roadway" means all traffic lanes carrying traffic in one direction of travel, and includes the entire width of a one-way roadway.

(2) No pedestrian or bicycle shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk, run, or otherwise move into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to stop.

(3) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply under the conditions stated in RCW 46.61.240(2).

(4) Whenever any vehicle is stopped at a marked crosswalk or at any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection to permit a pedestrian or bicycle to cross the roadway, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass such stopped vehicle.

(5)(a) If a person is found to have committed an infraction under this section within a school, playground, or crosswalk speed zone created under RCW 46.61.440, the person must be assessed a monetary penalty equal to twice the penalty assessed under RCW 46.63.110. The penalty may not be waived, reduced, or suspended.

(b) Fifty percent of the moneys collected under this subsection must be deposited into the school zone safety account. [2010 c 242 § 1; 2000 c 85 § 1; 1993 c 153 § 1; 1990 c 241 § 4; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 34.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Effective date—2010 c 242:** See note following RCW 46.61.275.

**46.61.240 Crossing at other than crosswalks.** (1) Every pedestrian crossing a roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk or within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

(2) Where curb ramps exist at or adjacent to intersections or at marked crosswalks in other locations, disabled persons may enter the roadway from the curb ramps and cross the roadway within or as closely as practicable to the crosswalk. All other pedestrian rights and duties as defined elsewhere in this chapter remain applicable.

(3) Any pedestrian crossing a roadway at a point where a pedestrian tunnel or overhead pedestrian crossing has been provided shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

(4) Between adjacent intersections at which traffic-control signals are in operation pedestrians shall not cross at any place except in a marked crosswalk.

(5) No pedestrian shall cross a roadway intersection diagonally unless authorized by official traffic-control devices; and, when authorized to cross diagonally, pedestrians shall cross only in accordance with the official traffic-control devices pertaining to such crossing movements.

(6) No pedestrian shall cross a roadway at an unmarked crosswalk where an official sign prohibits such crossing. [1990 c 241 § 5; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 35.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.245 Drivers to exercise care.** (1) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this chapter every driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian upon any roadway and shall give warning by sounding the horn when necessary and shall exercise proper precaution upon observing any child or any obviously confused or incapacitated person upon a roadway.

(2)(a) If a person is found to have committed an infraction under this section within a school, playground, or crosswalk speed zone created under RCW 46.61.440, the person must be assessed a monetary penalty equal to twice the penalty assessed under RCW 46.63.110. The penalty may not be waived, reduced, or suspended.

(b) Fifty percent of the moneys collected under this subsection must be deposited into the school zone safety account. [2010 c 242 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 36.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Effective date—2010 c 242:** See note following RCW 46.61.275.

*Blind pedestrians: Chapter 70.84 RCW.*

**46.61.250 Pedestrians on roadways.** (1) Where sidewalks are provided it is unlawful for any pedestrian to walk or otherwise move along and upon an adjacent roadway. Where sidewalks are provided but wheelchair access is not available, disabled persons who require such access may walk or otherwise move along and upon an adjacent roadway until they reach an access point in the sidewalk.

(2) Where sidewalks are not provided any pedestrian walking or otherwise moving along and upon a highway shall, when practicable, walk or move only on the left side of the roadway or its shoulder facing traffic which may approach from the opposite direction and upon meeting an oncoming vehicle shall move clear of the roadway. [1990 c 241 § 6; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 37.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

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

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

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

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

(5) No person shall stand on or in proximity to a street or highway for the purpose of soliciting the watching or guard-

ing of any vehicle while parked or about to be parked on a street or highway.

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

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

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

#### 46.61.260 Driving through safety zone prohibited.

No vehicle shall at any time be driven through or within a safety zone. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 39.]

**46.61.261 Sidewalks, crosswalks—Pedestrians, bicycles.** (1) The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian or bicycle on a sidewalk. The rider of a bicycle shall yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian on a sidewalk or crosswalk.

(2)(a) If a person is found to have committed an infraction under this section within a school, playground, or crosswalk speed zone created under RCW 46.61.440, the person must be assessed a monetary penalty equal to twice the penalty assessed under RCW 46.63.110. The penalty may not be waived, reduced, or suspended.

(b) Fifty percent of the moneys collected under this subsection must be deposited into the school zone safety account. [2010 c 242 § 3; 2000 c 85 § 2; 1975 c 62 § 41.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Effective date—2010 c 242:** See note following RCW 46.61.275.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### 46.61.264 Pedestrians yield to emergency vehicles.

(1) Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle making use of an audible signal meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.380 subsection (4) and visual signals meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.190, or of a police vehicle meeting the requirements of RCW 46.61.035 subsection (3), every pedestrian shall yield the right-of-way to the authorized emergency vehicle.

(2) This section shall not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway nor from the duty to exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian. [1975 c 62 § 42.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.266 Pedestrians under the influence of alcohol or drugs.** A law enforcement officer may offer to transport a pedestrian who appears to be under the influence of alcohol or any drug and who is walking or moving along or within the right-of-way of a public roadway, unless the pedestrian is to be taken into protective custody under RCW 70.96A.120.

The law enforcement officer offering to transport an intoxicated pedestrian under this section shall:

- (1) Transport the intoxicated pedestrian to a safe place; or
- (2) Release the intoxicated pedestrian to a competent person.

The law enforcement officer shall take no action if the pedestrian refuses this assistance. No suit or action may be commenced or prosecuted against the law enforcement officer, law enforcement agency, the state of Washington, or any political subdivision of the state for any act resulting from the refusal of the pedestrian to accept this assistance. [1990 c 241 § 7; 1987 c 11 § 1; 1975 c 62 § 43.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### 46.61.269 Passing beyond bridge or grade crossing barrier prohibited.

(1) No pedestrian shall enter or remain upon any bridge or approach thereto beyond a bridge signal gate, or barrier indicating a bridge is closed to through traffic, after a bridge operation signal indication has been given.

(2) No pedestrian shall pass through, around, over, or under any crossing gate or barrier at a railroad grade crossing or bridge while such gate or barrier is closed or is being opened or closed. [1975 c 62 § 44.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### 46.61.275 Reporting of certain speed zone violations—Subsequent law enforcement investigation.

(1) A crossing guard who is eighteen years of age or older and observes a violation of RCW 46.61.235(5), 46.61.245(2), or 46.61.261(2) may prepare a written report on a form provided by the state patrol or another law enforcement agency indicating that a violation has occurred. A crossing guard or school official may deliver the report to a law enforcement officer of the state, county, or municipality in which the violation occurred, but not more than seventy-two hours after the violation occurred. The crossing guard must include in the report the time and location at which the violation occurred, the vehicle license plate number, and a description of the vehicle involved in the violation.

(2) The law enforcement officer may initiate an investigation of the reported violation after receiving the report described in subsection (1) of this section by contacting the owner of the motor vehicle involved in the reported violation and requesting the owner to supply information identifying the driver. If, after an investigation, the law enforcement officer is able to identify the driver and has reasonable cause to believe a violation of RCW 46.61.235(5), 46.61.245(2), or 46.61.261(2) has occurred, the law enforcement officer shall prepare a notice of traffic infraction and have it served upon the driver of the vehicle. [2010 c 242 § 5.]

**Effective date—2010 c 242:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2010." [2010 c 242 § 6.]

#### TURNING AND STARTING AND SIGNALS ON STOPPING AND TURNING

**46.61.290 Required position and method of turning at intersections.** The driver of a vehicle intending to turn shall do so as follows:

(1) Right turns. Both the approach for a right turn and a right turn shall be made as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway.

(2) Left turns. The driver of a vehicle intending to turn left shall approach the turn in the extreme left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic moving in the direction of travel of the vehicle. Whenever practicable the left turn shall be made to the left of the center of the intersection and so as to leave the intersection or other location in the extreme left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic moving in the same direction as the vehicle on the roadway being entered.

(3) Two-way left turn lanes.

(a) The department of transportation and local authorities in their respective jurisdictions may designate a two-way left turn lane on a roadway. A two-way left turn lane is near the center of the roadway set aside for use by vehicles making left turns in either direction from or into the roadway.

(b) Two-way left turn lanes shall be designated by distinctive uniform roadway markings. The department of transportation shall determine and prescribe standards and specifications governing type, length, width, and positioning of the distinctive permanent markings. The standards and specifications developed shall be filed with the code reviser in accordance with the procedures set forth in the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW. On and after July 1, 1971, permanent markings designating a two-way left turn lane shall conform to such standards and specifications.

(c) Upon a roadway where a center lane has been provided by distinctive pavement markings for the use of vehicles turning left from either direction, no vehicles may turn left from any other lane. A vehicle shall not be driven in this center lane for the purpose of overtaking or passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction. No vehicle may travel further than three hundred feet within the lane. A signal, either electric or manual, for indicating a left turn movement, shall be made at least one hundred feet before the actual left turn movement is made.

(4) The department of transportation and local authorities in their respective jurisdictions may cause official traffic-control devices to be placed and thereby require and direct that a different course from that specified in this section be traveled by turning vehicles, and when the devices are so placed no driver of a vehicle may turn a vehicle other than as directed and required by the devices. [1997 c 202 § 1. Prior: 1984 c 12 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 68; 1975 c 62 § 28; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 61; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 40.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.295 "U" turns.** (1) The driver of any vehicle shall not turn such vehicle so as to proceed in the opposite direction unless such movement can be made in safety and without interfering with other traffic.

(2) No vehicle shall be turned so as to proceed in the opposite direction upon any curve, or upon the approach to or near the crest of a grade, where such vehicle cannot be seen by the driver of any other vehicle approaching from either direction within five hundred feet. [1975 c 62 § 29; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 41.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

*Limited access highways: RCW 47.52.120.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.300 Starting parked vehicle.** No person shall start a vehicle which is stopped, standing or parked unless and until such movement can be made with reasonable safety. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 42.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.305 When signals required—Improper use prohibited.** (1) No person shall turn a vehicle or move right or left upon a roadway unless and until such movement can be made with reasonable safety nor without giving an appropriate signal in the manner hereinafter provided.

(2) A signal of intention to turn or move right or left when required shall be given continuously during not less than the last one hundred feet traveled by the vehicle before turning.

(3) No person shall stop or suddenly decrease the speed of a vehicle without first giving an appropriate signal in the manner provided herein to the driver of any vehicle immediately to the rear when there is opportunity to give such signal.

(4) The signals provided for in RCW 46.61.310 subsection (2), shall not be flashed on one side only on a disabled vehicle, flashed as a courtesy or "do pass" signal to operators of other vehicles approaching from the rear, nor be flashed on one side only of a parked vehicle except as may be necessary for compliance with this section. [1975 c 62 § 30; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 43.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.310 Signals by hand and arm or signal lamps.** (1) Any stop or turn signal when required herein shall be given either by means of the hand and arm or by signal lamps, except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) hereof.

(2) Any motor vehicle in use on a highway shall be equipped with, and required signal shall be given by, signal lamps when the distance from the center of the top of the steering post to the left outside limit of the body, cab or load of such motor vehicle exceeds twenty-four inches, or when the distance from the center of the top of the steering post to the rear limit of the body or load thereof exceeds fourteen feet. The latter measurements shall apply to any single vehicle, also to any combination of vehicles. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 44.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.315 Method of giving hand and arm signals.** All signals herein required given by hand and arm shall be given from the left side of the vehicle in the following manner and such signals shall indicate as follows:

- (1) Left turn. Hand and arm extended horizontally.
- (2) Right turn. Hand and arm extended upward.
- (3) Stop or decrease speed. Hand and arm extended downward. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 45.]

#### SPECIAL STOPS REQUIRED

**46.61.340 Approaching train signal.** (1) Whenever any person driving a vehicle approaches a railroad grade



crossing under any of the circumstances stated in this section, the driver of such vehicle shall stop within fifty feet but not less than fifteen feet from the nearest rail of such railroad, and shall not proceed until the crossing can be made safely. The foregoing requirements shall apply when:

(a) A clearly visible electric or mechanical signal device gives warning of the immediate approach of a railroad train;

(b) A crossing gate is lowered or when a human flagger gives or continues to give a signal of the approach or passage of a railroad train;

(c) An approaching railroad train is plainly visible and is in hazardous proximity to such crossing.

(2) No person shall drive any vehicle through, around or under any crossing gate or barrier at a railroad crossing while such gate or barrier is closed or is being opened or closed. [2000 c 239 § 6; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 46.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.345 All vehicles must stop at certain railroad grade crossings.** The state department of transportation and local authorities within their respective jurisdictions are authorized to designate particularly dangerous highway grade crossings of railroads and to erect stop signs at those crossings. When such stop signs are erected the driver of any vehicle shall stop within fifty feet but not less than fifteen feet from the nearest rail of the railroad and shall proceed only upon exercising due care. [1984 c 7 § 69; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 47.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.350 Certain vehicles must stop at all railroad grade crossings—Exceptions—Definition.** (1)(a) The driver of any of the following vehicles must stop before the stop line, if present, and otherwise within fifty feet but not less than fifteen feet from the nearest rail at a railroad grade crossing unless exempt under subsection (3) of this section:

(i) A school bus or private carrier bus carrying any school child or other passenger;

(ii) A commercial motor vehicle transporting passengers;

(iii) A cargo tank, whether loaded or empty, used for transporting any hazardous material as defined in the hazardous materials regulations of the United States department of transportation in 49 C.F.R. Parts 107 through 180 as it existed on June 10, 2010, or such subsequent date as may be provided by the state patrol by rule, consistent with the purposes of this section. For the purposes of this section, a cargo tank is any commercial motor vehicle designed to transport any liquid or gaseous materials within a tank that is either permanently or temporarily attached to the vehicle or the chassis;

(iv) A cargo tank, whether loaded or empty, transporting a commodity under exemption in accordance with 49 C.F.R. Part 107, Subpart B as it existed on June 10, 2010, or such subsequent date as may be provided by the state patrol by rule, consistent with the purposes of this section;

(v) A cargo tank transporting a commodity that at the time of loading has a temperature above its flashpoint as determined by the United States department of transportation in 49 C.F.R. Sec. 173.120 as it existed on June 10, 2010, or such subsequent date as may be provided by the state patrol by rule, consistent with the purposes of this section; or

(vi) A commercial motor vehicle that is required to be marked or placarded with any one of the following classifications by the United States department of transportation in 49 C.F.R. Part 172 as it existed on June 10, 2010, or such subsequent date as may be provided by the state patrol by rule, consistent with the purposes of this section:

(A) Division 1.1, Division 1.2, Division 1.3, or Division 1.4;

(B) Division 2.1, Division 2.2, Division 2.2 oxygen, Division 2.3 poison gas, or Division 2.3 chlorine;

(C) Division 4.1 or Division 4.3;

(D) Division 5.1 or Division 5.2;

(E) Division 6.1 poison;

(F) Class 3 combustible liquid or Class 3 flammable;

(G) Class 7;

(H) Class 8.

(b) While stopped, the driver must listen and look in both directions along the track for any approaching train and for signals indicating the approach of a train. The driver may not proceed until he or she can do so safely.

(2) After stopping at a railroad grade crossing and upon proceeding when it is safe to do so, the driver must cross only in a gear that permits the vehicle to traverse the crossing without changing gears. The driver may not shift gears while crossing the track or tracks.

(3) This section does not apply at any railroad grade crossing where:

(a) Traffic is controlled by a police officer or flagger.

(b) A functioning traffic control signal is transmitting a green light.

(c) The tracks are used exclusively for a streetcar or industrial switching purposes.

(d) The utilities and transportation commission has approved the installation of an "exempt" sign in accordance with the procedures and standards under RCW 81.53.060.

(e) The crossing is abandoned and is marked with a sign indicating it is out-of-service.

(f) The state patrol has, by rule, identified a crossing where stopping is not required.

(g) The superintendent of public instruction has, by rule, identified a circumstance under which a school bus or private carrier bus carrying any school child or other passenger is not required to stop.

(4) For the purpose of this section, "commercial motor vehicle" means: Any vehicle with a manufacturer's seating capacity for eight or more passengers, including the driver, that transports passengers for hire; any private carrier bus; any vehicle used to transport property that has a gross vehicle weight rating, gross combination weight rating, gross vehicle weight, or gross combination weight of 4,536 kg (10,001 pounds) or more; and any vehicle used in the transportation of hazardous materials as defined in RCW 46.25.010. [2011 c 151 § 6. Prior: 2010 c 15 § 1; 2010 c 8 § 9069; 1977 c 78 § 1; 1975 c 62 § 31; 1970 ex.s. c 100 § 7; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 48.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.355 Moving heavy equipment at railroad grade crossings—Notice of intended crossing.** (1) No person shall operate or move any crawler-type tractor, steam shovel, derrick, roller, or any equipment or structure having a normal

operating speed of ten or less miles per hour or a vertical body or load clearance of less than one-half inch per foot of the distance between any two adjacent axles or in any event of less than nine inches, measured above the level surface of a roadway, upon or across any tracks at a railroad grade crossing without first complying with this section.

(2) Notice of any such intended crossing shall be given to the station agent of such railroad located nearest the intended crossing sufficiently in advance to allow such railroad a reasonable time to prescribe proper protection for such crossing.

(3) Before making any such crossing the person operating or moving any such vehicle or equipment shall first stop the same not less than fifteen feet nor more than fifty feet from the nearest rail of such railroad and while so stopped shall listen and look in both directions along such track for any approaching train and for signals indicating the approach of a train, and shall not proceed until the crossing can be made safely.

(4) No such crossing shall be made when warning is given by automatic signal or crossing gates or a flagger or otherwise of the immediate approach of a railroad train or car. If a flagger is provided by the railroad, movement over the crossing shall be under the flagger's direction. [2000 c 239 § 7; 1975 c 62 § 32; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 49.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.365 Emerging from alley, driveway, or building.** The driver of a vehicle within a business or residence district emerging from an alley, driveway or building shall stop such vehicle immediately prior to driving onto a sidewalk or onto the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway or driveway, and shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian as may be necessary to avoid collision, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 51.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.370 Overtaking or meeting school bus, exceptions—Duties of bus driver—Penalty—Safety cameras.**

(1) The driver of a vehicle upon overtaking or meeting from either direction any school bus which has stopped on the roadway for the purpose of receiving or discharging any school children shall stop the vehicle before reaching such school bus when there is in operation on said school bus a visual signal as specified in RCW 46.37.190 and said driver shall not proceed until such school bus resumes motion or the visual signals are no longer activated.

(2) The driver of a vehicle upon a highway divided into separate roadways as provided in RCW 46.61.150 need not stop upon meeting a school bus which is proceeding in the opposite direction and is stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging school children.

(3) The driver of a vehicle upon a highway with three or more marked traffic lanes need not stop upon meeting a school bus which is proceeding in the opposite direction and is stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging school children.

(4) The driver of a school bus shall actuate the visual signals required by RCW 46.37.190 only when such bus is

stopped on the roadway for the purpose of receiving or discharging school children.

(5) The driver of a school bus may stop completely off the roadway for the purpose of receiving or discharging school children only when the school children do not have to cross the roadway. The school bus driver shall actuate the hazard warning lamps as defined in RCW 46.37.215 before loading or unloading school children at such stops.

(6) Except as provided in subsection (7) of this section, a person found to have committed an infraction of subsection (1) of this section shall be assessed a monetary penalty equal to twice the total penalty assessed under RCW 46.63.110. This penalty may not be waived, reduced, or suspended. Fifty percent of the money so collected shall be deposited into the school zone safety account in the custody of the state treasurer and disbursed in accordance with RCW 46.61.440(5).

(7) An infraction of subsection (1) of this section detected through the use of an automated school bus safety camera under RCW 46.63.180 is not a part of the registered owner's driving record under RCW 46.52.101 and 46.52.120, and must be processed in the same manner as parking infractions, including for the purposes of RCW 3.50.100, 35.20.220, 46.16A.120, and 46.20.270(3). However, the amount of the fine issued for a violation of this section detected through the use of an automated school bus safety camera shall not exceed twice the monetary penalty for a violation of this section as provided under RCW 46.63.110. [2011 c 375 § 3; 1997 c 80 § 1; 1990 c 241 § 8; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 52.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Intent—2011 c 375:** See note following RCW 46.63.180.

*Bus routes:* RCW 28A.160.115.

**46.61.371 School bus stop sign violators—Identification by vehicle owner.** If a law enforcement officer investigating a violation of RCW 46.61.370 has reasonable cause to believe that a violation has occurred, the officer may request the owner of the motor vehicle to supply information identifying the driver of the vehicle at the time the violation occurred. When requested, the owner of the motor vehicle shall identify the driver to the best of the owner's ability. The owner of the vehicle is not required to supply identification information to the law enforcement officer if the owner believes the information is self-incriminating. [1992 c 39 § 1.]

**46.61.372 School bus stop sign violators—Report by bus driver—Law enforcement investigation.** (1) The driver of a school bus who observes a violation of RCW 46.61.370 may prepare a written report on a form provided by the state patrol or another law enforcement agency indicating that a violation has occurred. The driver of the school bus or a school official may deliver the report to a law enforcement officer of the state, county, or municipality in which the violation occurred but not more than seventy-two hours after the violation occurred. The driver shall include in the report the time and location at which the violation occurred, the vehicle license plate number, and a description of the vehicle involved in the violation.

(2) The law enforcement officer shall initiate an investigation of the reported violation within ten working days after receiving the report described in subsection (1) of this section by contacting the owner of the motor vehicle involved in the reported violation and requesting the owner to supply information identifying the driver. Failure to investigate within the ten working day period does not prohibit further investigation or prosecution. If, after an investigation, the law enforcement officer is able to identify the driver and has reasonable cause to believe a violation of RCW 46.61.370 has occurred, the law enforcement officer shall prepare a notice of traffic infraction and have it served upon the driver of the vehicle. [1992 c 39 § 2.]

**46.61.375 Overtaking or meeting private carrier bus—Duties of bus driver.** (1) The driver of a vehicle upon overtaking or meeting from either direction any private carrier bus which has stopped on the roadway for the purpose of receiving or discharging any passenger shall stop the vehicle before reaching such private carrier bus when there is in operation on said bus a visual signal as specified in RCW 46.37.190 and said driver shall not proceed until such bus resumes motion or the visual signals are no longer activated.

(2) The driver of a vehicle upon a highway divided into separate roadways as provided in RCW 46.61.150 need not stop upon meeting a private carrier bus which is proceeding in the opposite direction and is stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers.

(3) The driver of a vehicle upon a highway with three or more lanes need not stop upon meeting a private carrier bus which is proceeding in the opposite direction and is stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers.

(4) The driver of a private carrier bus shall actuate the visual signals required by RCW 46.37.190 only when such bus is stopped on the roadway for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers.

(5) The driver of a private carrier bus may stop a private carrier bus completely off the roadway for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers only when the passengers do not have to cross the roadway. The private carrier bus driver shall actuate the hazard warning lamps as defined in RCW 46.37.215 before loading or unloading passengers at such stops. [1990 c 241 § 9; 1970 ex.s. c 100 § 8.]

**46.61.380 Rules for design, marking, and mode of operating school buses.** (1) The state superintendent of public instruction shall adopt and enforce rules not inconsistent with the law of this state to govern the design, marking, and mode of operation of all school buses owned and operated by any school district or privately owned and operated under contract or otherwise with any school district in this state for the transportation of school children.

(2) School districts shall not be prohibited from placing or displaying a flag of the United States on a school bus when it does not interfere with the vehicle's safe operation. The state superintendent of public instruction shall adopt and enforce rules not inconsistent with the law of this state to govern the size, placement, and display of the flag of the United States on all school buses referenced in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) Rules shall by reference be made a part of any such contract or other agreement with the school district. Every school district, its officers and employees, and every person employed under contract or otherwise by a school district is subject to such rules. It is unlawful for any officer or employee of any school district or for any person operating any school bus under contract with any school district to violate any of the provisions of such rules. [2002 c 29 § 1; 1995 c 269 § 2501; 1984 c 7 § 70; 1961 c 12 § 46.48.150. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 131; RRS § 6360-131. Formerly RCW 46.48.150.]

*School buses*

*generally: Chapter 28A.160 RCW.*

*signs: RCW 46.37.193.*

*stop signal and lamps: RCW 46.37.190.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.385 School patrol—Appointment—Authority—Finance—Insurance.** The superintendent of public instruction, through the superintendent of schools of any school district, or other officer or board performing like functions with respect to the schools of any other educational administrative district, may cause to be appointed voluntary adult recruits as supervisors and, from the student body of any public or private school or institution of learning, students, who shall be known as members of the "school patrol" and who shall serve without compensation and at the pleasure of the authority making the appointment.

The members of such school patrol shall wear an appropriate designation or insignia identifying them as members of the school patrol when in performance of their duties, and they may display "stop" or other proper traffic directional signs or signals at school crossings or other points where school children are crossing or about to cross a public highway, but members of the school patrol and their supervisors shall be subordinate to and obey the orders of any peace officer present and having jurisdiction.

School districts, at their discretion, may hire sufficient numbers of adults to serve as supervisors. Such adults shall be subordinate to and obey the orders of any peace officer present and having jurisdiction.

Any school district having a school patrol may purchase uniforms and other appropriate insignia, traffic signs and other appropriate materials, all to be used by members of such school patrol while in performance of their duties, and may pay for the same out of the general fund of the district.

It shall be unlawful for the operator of any vehicle to fail to stop his or her vehicle when directed to do so by a school patrol sign or signal displayed by a member of the school patrol engaged in the performance of his or her duty and wearing or displaying appropriate insignia, and it shall further be unlawful for the operator of a vehicle to disregard any other reasonable directions of a member of the school patrol when acting in performance of his or her duties as such.

School districts may expend funds from the general fund of the district to pay premiums for life and accident policies covering the members of the school patrol in their district while engaged in the performance of their school patrol duties.

Members of the school patrol shall be considered as employees for the purposes of RCW 28A.400.370. [2010 c 8

§ 9070; 1990 c 33 § 585; 1974 ex.s. c 47 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.48.160. Prior: 1953 c 278 § 1; 1937 c 189 § 130; RRS § 6360-130; 1927 c 309 § 42; RRS § 6362-42. Formerly RCW 46.48.160.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Purpose—Statutory references—Severability—1990 c 33:** See RCW 28A.900.100 through 28A.900.102.

### SPEED RESTRICTIONS

**46.61.400 Basic rule and maximum limits.** (1) No person shall drive a vehicle on a highway at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions and having regard to the actual and potential hazards then existing. In every event speed shall be so controlled as may be necessary to avoid colliding with any person, vehicle or other conveyance on or entering the highway in compliance with legal requirements and the duty of all persons to use due care.

(2) Except when a special hazard exists that requires lower speed for compliance with subsection (1) of this section, the limits specified in this section or established as hereinafter authorized shall be maximum lawful speeds, and no person shall drive a vehicle on a highway at a speed in excess of such maximum limits.

- (a) Twenty-five miles per hour on city and town streets;
- (b) Fifty miles per hour on county roads;
- (c) Sixty miles per hour on state highways.

The maximum speed limits set forth in this section may be altered as authorized in RCW 46.61.405, 46.61.410, and 46.61.415.

(3) The driver of every vehicle shall, consistent with the requirements of subsection (1) of this section, drive at an appropriate reduced speed when approaching and crossing an intersection or railway grade crossing, when approaching and going around a curve, when approaching a hill crest, when traveling upon any narrow or winding roadway, and when special hazard exists with respect to pedestrians or other traffic or by reason of weather or highway conditions. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 54; 1963 c 16 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.48.011.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.405 Decreases by secretary of transportation.** Whenever the secretary of transportation shall determine upon the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation that any maximum speed hereinbefore set forth is greater than is reasonable or safe with respect to a state highway under the conditions found to exist at any intersection or upon any other part of the state highway system or at state ferry terminals, or that a general reduction of any maximum speed set forth in RCW 46.61.400 is necessary in order to comply with a national maximum speed limit, the secretary may determine and declare a reasonable and safe lower maximum limit or a lower maximum limit which will comply with a national maximum speed limit, for any state highway, the entire state highway system, or any portion thereof, which shall be effective when appropriate signs giving notice thereof are erected. The secretary may also fix and regulate the speed of vehicles on any state highway within the maximum speed limit allowed by this chapter for special occasions including, but not limited to, local parades and other special events. Any

such maximum speed limit may be declared to be effective at all times or at such times as are indicated upon the said signs; and differing limits may be established for different times of day, different types of vehicles, varying weather conditions, and other factors bearing on safe speeds, which shall be effective (a) [(1)] when posted upon appropriate fixed or variable signs or (b) [(2)] if a maximum limit is established for auto stages which is lower than the limit for automobiles, the auto stage speed limit shall become effective thirty days after written notice thereof is mailed in the manner provided in subsection (4) of RCW 46.61.410, as now or hereafter amended. [1987 c 397 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 34; 1974 ex.s. c 103 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 100 § 2; 1967 c 25 § 1; 1963 c 16 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.48.012.]

**Intent—1987 c 397:** See note following RCW 46.61.410.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.410 Increases by secretary of transportation—Maximum speed limit for trucks—Auto stages—Signs and notices.** (1)(a) Subject to subsection (2) of this section the secretary may increase the maximum speed limit on any highway or portion thereof to not more than seventy miles per hour in accordance with the design speed thereof (taking into account all safety elements included therein), or whenever the secretary determines upon the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation that such greater speed is reasonable and safe under the circumstances existing on such part of the highway.

(b) The greater maximum limit established under (a) of this subsection shall be effective when appropriate signs giving notice thereof are erected, or if a maximum limit is established for auto stages which is lower than the limit for automobiles, the auto stage speed limit shall become effective thirty days after written notice thereof is mailed in the manner provided in subsection (4) of this section.

(c) Such maximum speed limit may be declared to be effective at all times or at such times as are indicated upon said signs or in the case of auto stages, as indicated in said written notice; and differing limits may be established for different times of day, different types of vehicles, varying weather conditions, and other factors bearing on safe speeds, which shall be effective when posted upon appropriate fixed or variable signs or if a maximum limit is established for auto stages which is lower than the limit for automobiles, the auto stage speed limit shall become effective thirty days after written notice thereof is mailed in the manner provided in subsection (4) of this section.

(2) The maximum speed limit for vehicles over ten thousand pounds gross weight and vehicles in combination except auto stages shall not exceed sixty miles per hour and may be established at a lower limit by the secretary as provided in RCW 46.61.405.

(3) The word "trucks" used by the department on signs giving notice of maximum speed limits means vehicles over ten thousand pounds gross weight and all vehicles in combination except auto stages.

(4) Whenever the secretary establishes maximum speed limits for auto stages lower than the maximum limits for automobiles, the secretary shall cause to be mailed notice thereof to each auto transportation company holding a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued by the

Washington utilities and transportation commission. The notice shall be mailed to the chief place of business within the state of Washington of each auto transportation company or if none then its chief place of business without the state of Washington. [1996 c 52 § 1; 1987 c 397 § 4; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 35; 1974 ex.s. c 103 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 100 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 12 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 55; 1963 c 16 § 3. Formerly RCW 46.48.013.]

**Intent—1987 c 397:** "It is the intent of the legislature to increase the speed limit to sixty-five miles per hour on those portions of the rural interstate highway system where the increase would be safe and reasonable and is allowed by federal law. It is also the intent of the legislature that the sixty-five miles per hour speed limit be strictly enforced." [1987 c 397 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.415 When local authorities may alter maximum limits.** (1) Whenever local authorities in their respective jurisdictions determine on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation that the maximum speed permitted under RCW 46.61.400 or 46.61.440 is greater or less than is reasonable and safe under the conditions found to exist upon a highway or part of a highway, the local authority may determine and declare a reasonable and safe maximum limit thereon which

- (a) Decreases the limit at intersections; or
- (b) Increases the limit but not to more than sixty miles per hour; or
- (c) Decreases the limit but not to less than twenty miles per hour.

(2) Local authorities in their respective jurisdictions shall determine by an engineering and traffic investigation the proper maximum speed for all arterial streets and shall declare a reasonable and safe maximum limit thereon which may be greater or less than the maximum speed permitted under RCW 46.61.400(2) but shall not exceed sixty miles per hour.

(3) The secretary of transportation is authorized to establish speed limits on county roads and city and town streets as shall be necessary to conform with any federal requirements which are a prescribed condition for the allocation of federal funds to the state.

(4) Any altered limit established as hereinbefore authorized shall be effective when appropriate signs giving notice thereof are erected. Such maximum speed limit may be declared to be effective at all times or at such times as are indicated upon such signs; and differing limits may be established for different times of day, different types of vehicles, varying weather conditions, and other factors bearing on safe speeds, which shall be effective when posted upon appropriate fixed or variable signs.

(5) Any alteration of maximum limits on state highways within incorporated cities or towns by local authorities shall not be effective until such alteration has been approved by the secretary of transportation. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 36; 1974 ex.s. c 103 § 3; 1963 c 16 § 4. Formerly RCW 46.48.014.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.419 Private roads—Speed enforcement.** State, local, or county law enforcement personnel may enforce speeding violations under RCW 46.61.400 on private roads within a community organized under chapter 64.38 RCW if:

(1) A majority of the homeowner's association's board of directors votes to authorize the issuance of speeding infractions on its private roads, and declares a speed limit not lower than twenty miles per hour;

(2) A written agreement regarding the speeding enforcement is signed by the homeowner's association president and the chief law enforcement official of the city or county within whose jurisdiction the private road is located;

(3) The homeowner's association has provided written notice to all of the homeowners describing the new authority to issue speeding infractions; and

(4) Signs have been posted declaring the speed limit at all vehicle entrances to the community. [2003 c 193 § 1.]

**46.61.425 Minimum speed regulation—Passing slow moving vehicle.** (1) No person shall drive a motor vehicle at such a slow speed as to impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic except when reduced speed is necessary for safe operation or in compliance with law: PROVIDED, That a person following a vehicle driving at less than the legal maximum speed and desiring to pass such vehicle may exceed the speed limit, subject to the provisions of RCW 46.61.120 on highways having only one lane of traffic in each direction, at only such a speed and for only such a distance as is necessary to complete the pass with a reasonable margin of safety.

(2) Whenever the secretary of transportation or local authorities within their respective jurisdictions determine on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation that slow speeds on any part of a highway unreasonably impede the normal movement of traffic, the secretary or such local authority may determine and declare a minimum speed limit thereat which shall be effective when appropriate signs giving notice thereof are erected. No person shall drive a vehicle slower than such minimum speed limit except when necessary for safe operation or in compliance with law. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 37; 1969 c 135 § 1; 1967 c 25 § 2; 1963 c 16 § 6. Formerly RCW 46.48.015.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.427 Slow-moving vehicle to pull off roadway.** On a two-lane highway where passing is unsafe because of traffic in the opposite direction or other conditions, a slow moving vehicle, behind which five or more vehicles are formed in a line, shall turn off the roadway wherever sufficient area for a safe turn-out exists, in order to permit the vehicles following to proceed. As used in this section a slow moving vehicle is one which is proceeding at a rate of speed less than the normal flow of traffic at the particular time and place. [1973 c 88 § 1.]

**46.61.428 Slow-moving vehicle driving on shoulders, when.** (1) The state department of transportation and local authorities are authorized to determine those portions of any two-lane highways under their respective jurisdictions on which drivers of slow-moving vehicles may safely drive onto improved shoulders for the purpose of allowing overtaking vehicles to pass and may by appropriate signs indicate the beginning and end of such zones.

(2) Where signs are in place to define a driving-on-shoulder zone as set forth in subsection (1) of this section, the driver of a slow-moving vehicle may drive onto and along the shoulder within the zone but only for the purpose of allowing overtaking vehicles to pass and then shall return to the roadway.

(3) Signs erected to define a driving-on-shoulder zone take precedence over pavement markings for the purpose of allowing the movements described in subsection (2) of this section. [1984 c 7 § 71; 1977 ex.s. c 39 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.430 Authority of secretary of transportation to fix speed limits on limited access facilities exclusive—Local regulations.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary or inconsistent herewith, the secretary of transportation shall have the power and the duty to fix and regulate the speed of vehicles within the maximum speed limit allowed by law for state highways, designated as limited access facilities, regardless of whether a portion of said highway is within the corporate limits of a city or town. No governing body or authority of such city or town or other political subdivision may have the power to pass or enforce any ordinance, rule, or regulation requiring a different rate of speed, and all such ordinances, rules, and regulations contrary to or inconsistent therewith now in force are void and of no effect. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 38; 1974 ex.s. c 103 § 4; 1961 c 12 § 46.48.041. Prior: 1955 c 177 § 5. Formerly RCW 46.48.041.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.435 Local authorities to provide "stop" or "yield" signs at intersections with increased speed highways—Designated as arterials.** The governing body or authority of any such city or town or political subdivision shall place and maintain upon each and every highway intersecting a highway where an increased speed is permitted, as provided in this chapter, appropriate stop or yield signs, sufficient to be read at any time by any person upon approaching and entering the highway upon which such increased speed is permitted and such city street or such portion thereof as is subject to the increased speed shall be an arterial highway. [1975 c 62 § 33; 1961 c 12 § 46.48.046. Prior: 1951 c 28 § 4; prior: 1937 c 189 § 66, part; RRS § 6360-66, part; 1927 c 309 § 5, part; 1921 c 96 § 41, part; 1919 c 59 § 13, part; 1917 c 155 § 20, part; 1915 c 142 § 34, part; RRS § 6362-5, part. Formerly RCW 46.48.046.]

*Designation of city streets as arterials, stopping on entering:* RCW 46.61.195.

*Traffic control signals or devices upon city streets forming part of state highways:* RCW 46.61.085.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.440 Maximum speed limit when passing school or playground crosswalks—Penalty, disposition of proceeds.** (1) Subject to RCW 46.61.400(1), and except in those instances where a lower maximum lawful speed is provided by this chapter or otherwise, it shall be unlawful for the operator of any vehicle to operate the same at a speed in excess of twenty miles per hour when operating any vehicle upon a highway either inside or outside an incorporated city or town when passing any marked school or playground crosswalk

when such marked crosswalk is fully posted with standard school speed limit signs or standard playground speed limit signs. The speed zone at the crosswalk shall extend three hundred feet in either direction from the marked crosswalk.

(2) A county or incorporated city or town may create a school or playground speed zone on a highway bordering a marked school or playground, in which zone it is unlawful for a person to operate a vehicle at a speed in excess of twenty miles per hour. The school or playground speed zone may extend three hundred feet from the border of the school or playground property; however, the speed zone may only include area consistent with active school or playground use.

(3) A person found to have committed any infraction relating to speed restrictions within a school or playground speed zone shall be assessed a monetary penalty equal to twice the penalty assessed under RCW 46.63.110. This penalty may not be waived, reduced, or suspended.

(4) School districts may erect signs that comply with the uniform state standards adopted and designated by the department of transportation under RCW 47.36.030, informing motorists of the increased monetary penalties assessed for violations of RCW 46.61.235, 46.61.245, or 46.61.261 within a school, playground, or crosswalk speed zone created under subsection (1) or (2) of this section.

(5) The school zone safety account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. Fifty percent of the moneys collected under subsection (3) of this section and the moneys collected under RCW 46.61.235(5), 46.61.245(2), or 46.61.261(2) shall be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may be used only by the Washington traffic safety commission solely to fund projects in local communities to improve school zone safety, pupil transportation safety, and student safety in school bus loading and unloading areas. Only the director of the traffic safety commission or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for expenditures until July 1, 1999, after which date moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. [2010 c 242 § 4; 2003 c 192 § 1; 1997 c 80 § 2; 1996 c 114 § 1; 1975 c 62 § 34; 1963 c 16 § 5; 1961 c 12 § 46.48.023. Prior: 1951 c 28 § 9; 1949 c 196 § 6, part; 1947 c 200 § 8, part; 1937 c 189 § 64, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-64, part; 1927 c 309 § 3, part; 1923 c 181 § 6, part; 1921 c 96 § 27, part; 1917 c 155 § 16, part; 1915 c 142 § 24, part; RRS § 6362-3, part; 1909 c 249 § 279, part; Rem. & Bal. § 2531, part. Formerly RCW 46.48.023.]

**Effective date—2010 c 242:** See note following RCW 46.61.275.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.445 Due care required.** Compliance with speed requirements of this chapter under the circumstances hereinabove set forth shall not relieve the operator of any vehicle from the further exercise of due care and caution as further circumstances shall require. [1961 c 12 § 46.48.025. Prior: 1951 c 28 § 11; 1949 c 196 § 6, part; 1947 c 200 § 8, part; 1937 c 189 § 64, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-64, part; 1927 c 309 § 3, part; 1923 c 181 § 6, part; 1921 c 96 § 27, part; 1917 c 155 § 16, part; 1915 c 142 § 24, part; RRS § 6362-3, part; 1909 c 249 § 279, part; Rem. & Bal. 2531, part. Formerly RCW 46.48.025.]

*Duty to use due care: RCW 46.61.400(1).*

**46.61.450 Maximum speed, weight, or size in traversing bridges, elevated structures, tunnels, underpasses—Posting limits.** It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a vehicle or any combination of vehicles over any bridge or other elevated structure or through any tunnel or underpass constituting a part of any public highway at a rate of speed or with a gross weight or of a size which is greater at any time than the maximum speed or maximum weight or size which can be maintained or carried with safety over any such bridge or structure or through any such tunnel or underpass when such bridge, structure, tunnel, or underpass is sign posted as hereinafter provided. The secretary of transportation, if it be a bridge, structure, tunnel, or underpass upon a state highway, or the governing body or authorities of any county, city, or town, if it be upon roads or streets under their jurisdiction, may restrict the speed which may be maintained or the gross weight or size which may be operated upon or over any such bridge or elevated structure or through any such tunnel or underpass with safety thereto. The secretary or the governing body or authorities of any county, city, or town having jurisdiction shall determine and declare the maximum speed or maximum gross weight or size which such bridge, elevated structure, tunnel, or underpass can withstand or accommodate and shall cause suitable signs stating such maximum speed or maximum gross weight, or size, or either, to be erected and maintained on the right hand side of such highway, road, or street and at a distance of not less than one hundred feet from each end of such bridge, structure, tunnel, or underpass and on the approach thereto: PROVIDED, That in the event that any such bridge, elevated structure, tunnel, or underpass is upon a city street designated by the department of transportation as forming a part of the route of any state highway through any such incorporated city or town the determination of any maximum speed or maximum gross weight or size which such bridge, elevated structure, tunnel, or underpass can withstand or accommodate shall not be enforceable at any speed, weight, or size less than the maximum allowed by law, unless with the approval in writing of the secretary. Upon the trial of any person charged with a violation of this section, proof of either violation of maximum speed or maximum weight, or size, or either, and the distance and location of such signs as are required, shall constitute conclusive evidence of the maximum speed or maximum weight, or size, or either, which can be maintained or carried with safety over such bridge or elevated structure or through such tunnel or underpass. [2006 c 334 § 20; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 39; 1961 c 12 § 46.48.080. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 70; RRS § 6360-70. Formerly RCW 46.48.080.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.455 Vehicles with solid or hollow cushion tires.** Except for vehicles equipped with temporary-use spare tires that meet federal standards, it shall be unlawful to operate any vehicle equipped or partly equipped with solid rubber tires or hollow center cushion tires, or to operate any combination of vehicles any part of which is equipped or partly equipped with solid rubber tires or hollow center cushion tires, so long as solid rubber tires or hollow center cushion

tires may be used under the provisions of this title, upon any public highway of this state at a greater rate of speed than ten miles per hour: PROVIDED, That the temporary-use spare tires are installed and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. [1990 c 105 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.48.110. Prior: 1947 c 200 § 11; 1937 c 189 § 73; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-73. Formerly RCW 46.48.110.]

**46.61.460 Special speed limitation on motor-driven cycle.** No person shall operate any motor-driven cycle at any time mentioned in RCW 46.37.020 at a speed greater than thirty-five miles per hour unless such motor-driven cycle is equipped with a head lamp or lamps which are adequate to reveal a person or vehicle at a distance of three hundred feet ahead. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 57.]

**46.61.465 Exceeding speed limit evidence of reckless driving.** The unlawful operation of a vehicle in excess of the maximum lawful speeds provided in this chapter at the point of operation and under the circumstances described shall be prima facie evidence of the operation of a motor vehicle in a reckless manner by the operator thereof. [1961 c 12 § 46.48.026. Prior: 1951 c 28 § 12; 1949 c 196 § 6, part; 1947 c 200 § 8, part; 1937 c 189 § 64, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-64, part; 1927 c 309 § 3, part; 1923 c 181 § 6, part; 1921 c 96 § 27, part; 1917 c 155 § 16, part; 1915 c 142 § 24, part; RRS § 6362-3, part; 1909 c 249 § 279, part; Rem. & Bal. § 2531, part. Formerly RCW 46.48.026.]

**46.61.470 Speed traps defined, certain types permitted—Measured courses, speed measuring devices, timing from aircraft.** (1) No evidence as to the speed of any vehicle operated upon a public highway by any person arrested for violation of any of the laws of this state regarding speed or of any orders, rules, or regulations of any city or town or other political subdivision relating thereto shall be admitted in evidence in any court at a subsequent trial of such person in case such evidence relates to or is based upon the maintenance or use of a speed trap except as provided in subsection (2) of this section. A "speed trap," within the meaning of this section, is a particular section of or distance on any public highway, the length of which has been or is measured off or otherwise designated or determined, and the limits of which are within the vision of any officer or officers who calculate the speed of a vehicle passing through such speed trap by using the lapsed time during which such vehicle travels between the entrance and exit of such speed trap.

(2) Evidence shall be admissible against any person arrested or issued a notice of a traffic infraction for violation of any of the laws of this state or of any orders, rules, or regulations of any city or town or other political subdivision regarding speed if the same is determined by a particular section of or distance on a public highway, the length of which has been accurately measured off or otherwise designated or determined and either: (a) The limits of which are controlled by a mechanical, electrical, or other device capable of measuring or recording the speed of a vehicle passing within such limits; or (b) a timing device is operated from an aircraft, which timing device when used to measure the elapsed time of a vehicle passing over such a particular section of or distance upon a public highway indicates the speed of a vehicle.

(3) The exceptions of subsection (2) of this section are limited to devices or observations with a maximum error of not to exceed five percent using the lapsed time during which such vehicle travels between such limits, and such limits shall not be closer than one-fourth mile. [1981 c 105 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.48.120. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 74; RRS § 6360-74; 1927 c 309 § 7; RRS § 6362-7. Formerly RCW 46.48.120.]

**46.61.480 Determination of maximum speed on non-limited access state highways within tribal reservation boundaries.**

(1) Tribal authorities, within their reservation boundaries, may determine based on an engineering and traffic investigation that the maximum speed permitted under RCW 46.61.400 or 46.61.405 is greater or less than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found to exist upon a non-limited access state highway or part of a nonlimited access state highway. Then, the tribal authority may determine and declare a reasonable and safe maximum limit thereon which:

- (a) Decreases the limit at intersections;
- (b) Increases the limit, not exceeding sixty miles per hour; or
- (c) Decreases the limit, not lower than twenty miles per hour.

(2) Any alteration by tribal authorities of maximum limits on a nonlimited access state highway is not effective until the alteration has been approved by the secretary of transportation and appropriate signs giving notice of the alteration have been posted. In the case of an alteration by tribal authorities of maximum limits on a nonlimited access state highway that is also part of a city or town street or county road within tribal reservation boundaries, the alteration is not effective until that alteration has also been approved by the applicable local authority. [2009 c 383 § 1.]

**RECKLESS DRIVING, DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE, VEHICULAR HOMICIDE AND ASSAULT**

**46.61.500 Reckless driving—Penalty.** (1) Any person who drives any vehicle in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property is guilty of reckless driving. Violation of the provisions of this section is a gross misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for up to three hundred sixty-four days and by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars.

(2)(a) Subject to (b) of this subsection, the license or permit to drive or any nonresident privilege of any person convicted of reckless driving shall be suspended by the department for not less than thirty days.

(b) When a reckless driving conviction is a result of a charge that was originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, or an equivalent local ordinance, the department shall grant credit on a day-for-day basis for any portion of a suspension, revocation, or denial already served under an administrative action arising out of the same incident. During any period of suspension, revocation, or denial due to a conviction for reckless driving as the result of a charge originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, any person who has obtained an ignition interlock driver's license under RCW 46.20.385 may continue to drive a motor vehicle pursuant to the provision of the ignition inter-

lock driver's license without obtaining a separate temporary restricted driver's license under RCW 46.20.391.

(3)(a) Except as provided under (b) of this subsection, a person convicted of reckless driving who has one or more prior offenses as defined in RCW 46.61.5055(14) within seven years shall be required, under RCW 46.20.720, to install an ignition interlock device on all vehicles operated by the person if the conviction is the result of a charge that was originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.502, 46.61.504, or an equivalent local ordinance.

(b) A person convicted of reckless driving shall be required, under RCW 46.20.720, to install an ignition interlock device on all vehicles operated by the person if the conviction is the result of a charge that was originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.520 committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug or RCW 46.61.522 committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug. [2012 c 183 § 11. Prior: 2011 c 293 § 4; 2011 c 96 § 34; 1990 c 291 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 85; 1967 c 32 § 67; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 59.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Effective date—2012 c 183:** See note following RCW 2.28.175.

**Effective date—2011 c 293 §§ 1-9:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

*Arrest of person involved in reckless driving:* RCW 10.31.100.

*Criminal history and driving record:* RCW 46.61.513.

*Embracing another while driving as reckless driving:* RCW 46.61.665.

*Excess speed as prima facie evidence of reckless driving:* RCW 46.61.465.

*Racing of vehicles on public highways, reckless driving:* RCW 46.61.530.

*Revocation of license, reckless driving:* RCW 46.20.285.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.502 Driving under the influence.** (1) A person is guilty of driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug if the person drives a vehicle within this state:

(a) And the person has, within two hours after driving, an alcohol concentration of 0.08 or higher as shown by analysis of the person's breath or blood made under RCW 46.61.506; or

(b) While the person is under the influence of or affected by intoxicating liquor or any drug; or

(c) While the person is under the combined influence of or affected by intoxicating liquor and any drug.

(2) The fact that a person charged with a violation of this section is or has been entitled to use a drug under the laws of this state shall not constitute a defense against a charge of violating this section.

(3) It is an affirmative defense to a violation of subsection (1)(a) of this section which the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant consumed a sufficient quantity of alcohol after the time of driving and before the administration of an analysis of the person's breath or blood to cause the defendant's alcohol concentration to be 0.08 or more within two hours after driving. The court shall not admit evidence of this defense unless the defendant notifies the prosecution prior to the omnibus or pretrial hearing in



the case of the defendant's intent to assert the affirmative defense.

(4) Analyses of blood or breath samples obtained more than two hours after the alleged driving may be used as evidence that within two hours of the alleged driving, a person had an alcohol concentration of 0.08 or more in violation of subsection (1)(a) of this section, and in any case in which the analysis shows an alcohol concentration above 0.00 may be used as evidence that a person was under the influence of or affected by intoxicating liquor or any drug in violation of subsection (1)(b) or (c) of this section.

(5) Except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, a violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor.

(6) It is a class C felony punishable under chapter 9.94A RCW, or chapter 13.40 RCW if the person is a juvenile, if:

(a) The person has four or more prior offenses within ten years as defined in RCW 46.61.5055; or

(b) The person has ever previously been convicted of:

(i) Vehicular homicide while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, RCW 46.61.520(1)(a);

(ii) Vehicular assault while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, RCW 46.61.522(1)(b);

(iii) An out-of-state offense comparable to the offense specified in (b)(i) or (ii) of this subsection; or

(iv) A violation of this subsection (6) or RCW 46.61.504(6). [2011 c 293 § 2; 2008 c 282 § 20; 2006 c 73 § 1; 1998 c 213 § 3; 1994 c 275 § 2; 1993 c 328 § 1; 1987 c 373 § 2; 1986 c 153 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 176 § 1.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Effective date—2011 c 293 §§ 1-9:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2007." [2006 c 73 § 19.]

**Legislative finding, purpose—1987 c 373:** "The legislature finds the existing statutes that establish the criteria for determining when a person is guilty of driving a motor vehicle under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs are constitutional and do not require any additional criteria to ensure their legality. The purpose of this act is to provide an additional method of defining the crime of driving while intoxicated. This act is not an acknowledgment that the existing breath alcohol standard is legally improper or invalid." [1987 c 373 § 1.]

*Business operation of vessel or vehicle while intoxicated: RCW 9.91.020.*

*Criminal history and driving record: RCW 46.61.513.*

*Operating aircraft recklessly or under influence of intoxicants or drugs: RCW 47.68.220.*

*Use of vessel in reckless manner or while under influence of alcohol or drugs prohibited: RCW 79A.60.040.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.503 Driver under twenty-one consuming alcohol—Penalties.** (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a person is guilty of driving or being in physical control of a motor vehicle after consuming alcohol if the person operates or is in physical control of a motor vehicle within this state and the person:

(a) Is under the age of twenty-one;

(b) Has, within two hours after operating or being in physical control of the motor vehicle, an alcohol concentration of at least 0.02 but less than the concentration specified in RCW 46.61.502, as shown by analysis of the person's breath or blood made under RCW 46.61.506.

(2) It is an affirmative defense to a violation of subsection (1) of this section which the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant consumed a sufficient quantity of alcohol after the time of driving or being in physical control and before the administration of an analysis of the person's breath or blood to cause the defendant's alcohol concentration to be in violation of subsection (1) of this section within two hours after driving or being in physical control. The court shall not admit evidence of this defense unless the defendant notifies the prosecution prior to the earlier of: (a) Seven days prior to trial; or (b) the omnibus or pretrial hearing in the case of the defendant's intent to assert the affirmative defense.

(3) Analyses of blood or breath samples obtained more than two hours after the alleged driving or being in physical control may be used as evidence that within two hours of the alleged driving or being in physical control, a person had an alcohol concentration in violation of subsection (1) of this section.

(4) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor. [1998 c 213 § 4; 1998 c 207 § 5; 1998 c 41 § 8; 1995 c 332 § 2; 1994 c 275 § 10. Formerly RCW 46.20.309.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1998 c 41 § 8, 1998 c 207 § 5, and by 1998 c 213 § 4, each without reference to the other. All amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—1998 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.265.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.504 Physical control of vehicle under the influence.** (1) A person is guilty of being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug if the person has actual physical control of a vehicle within this state:

(a) And the person has, within two hours after being in actual physical control of the vehicle, an alcohol concentration of 0.08 or higher as shown by analysis of the person's breath or blood made under RCW 46.61.506; or

(b) While the person is under the influence of or affected by intoxicating liquor or any drug; or

(c) While the person is under the combined influence of or affected by intoxicating liquor and any drug.

(2) The fact that a person charged with a violation of this section is or has been entitled to use a drug under the laws of this state does not constitute a defense against any charge of violating this section. No person may be convicted under this section if, prior to being pursued by a law enforcement officer, the person has moved the vehicle safely off the roadway.

(3) It is an affirmative defense to a violation of subsection (1)(a) of this section which the defendant must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant consumed a sufficient quantity of alcohol after the time of being in actual physical control of the vehicle and before the administration of an analysis of the person's breath or blood to cause the defendant's alcohol concentration to be 0.08 or more within two hours after being in such control. The court shall not admit evidence of this defense unless the defendant notifies the prosecution prior to the omnibus or pretrial hearing in the case of the defendant's intent to assert the affirmative defense.

(4) Analyses of blood or breath samples obtained more than two hours after the alleged being in actual physical control of a vehicle may be used as evidence that within two hours of the alleged being in such control, a person had an alcohol concentration of 0.08 or more in violation of subsection (1)(a) of this section, and in any case in which the analysis shows an alcohol concentration above 0.00 may be used as evidence that a person was under the influence of or affected by intoxicating liquor or any drug in violation of subsection (1)(b) or (c) of this section.

(5) Except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, a violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor.

(6) It is a class C felony punishable under chapter 9.94A RCW, or chapter 13.40 RCW if the person is a juvenile, if:

(a) The person has four or more prior offenses within ten years as defined in RCW 46.61.5055; or

(b) The person has ever previously been convicted of:

(i) Vehicular homicide while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, RCW 46.61.520(1)(a);

(ii) Vehicular assault while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, RCW 46.61.522(1)(b);

(iii) An out-of-state offense comparable to the offense specified in (b)(i) or (ii) of this subsection; or

(iv) A violation of this subsection (6) or RCW 46.61.502(6). [2011 c 293 § 3; 2008 c 282 § 21; 2006 c 73 § 2; 1998 c 213 § 5; 1994 c 275 § 3; 1993 c 328 § 2; 1987 c 373 § 3; 1986 c 153 § 3; 1979 ex.s. c 176 § 2.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Effective date—2011 c 293 §§ 1-9:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Legislative finding, purpose—Severability—1987 c 373:** See notes following RCW 46.61.502.

*Criminal history and driving record:* RCW 46.61.513.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.5054 Alcohol violators—Additional fee—Distribution.** (1)(a) In addition to penalties set forth in \*RCW 46.61.5051 through 46.61.5053 until September 1, 1995, and RCW 46.61.5055 thereafter, a two hundred dollar fee shall be assessed to a person who is either convicted, sentenced to a lesser charge, or given deferred prosecution, as a result of an arrest for violating RCW 46.61.502, 46.61.504, 46.61.520, or 46.61.522. This fee is for the purpose of funding the Washington state toxicology laboratory and the Washington state patrol for grants and activities to increase the conviction rate and decrease the incidence of persons driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

(b) Upon a verified petition by the person assessed the fee, the court may suspend payment of all or part of the fee if it finds that the person does not have the ability to pay.

(c) When a minor has been adjudicated a juvenile offender for an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a violation of RCW 46.61.502, 46.61.504, 46.61.520, or 46.61.522, the court shall assess the two hundred dollar fee under (a) of this subsection. Upon a verified petition by a minor assessed the fee, the court may suspend payment of all or part of the fee if it finds that the minor does not have the ability to pay the fee.

(2) The fee assessed under subsection (1) of this section shall be collected by the clerk of the court and, subject to subsection (4) of this section, one hundred seventy-five dollars of the fee must be distributed as follows:

(a) Forty percent shall be subject to distribution under RCW \*\*3.46.120, 3.50.100, 35.20.220, 3.62.020, 3.62.040, or 10.82.070.

(b) The remainder of the fee shall be forwarded to the state treasurer who shall, through June 30, 1997, deposit: Fifty percent in the death investigations' account to be used solely for funding the state toxicology laboratory blood or breath testing programs; and fifty percent in the state patrol highway account to be used solely for funding activities to increase the conviction rate and decrease the incidence of persons driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Effective July 1, 1997, the remainder of the fee shall be forwarded to the state treasurer who shall deposit: Fifteen percent in the death investigations' account to be used solely for funding the state toxicology laboratory blood or breath testing programs; and eighty-five percent in the state patrol highway account to be used solely for funding activities to increase the conviction rate and decrease the incidence of persons driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

(3) Twenty-five dollars of the fee assessed under subsection (1) of this section must be distributed to the highway safety account [fund] to be used solely for funding Washington traffic safety commission grants to reduce statewide collisions caused by persons driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Grants awarded under this subsection may be for projects that encourage collaboration with other community, governmental, and private organizations, and that utilize innovative approaches based on best practices or proven strategies supported by research or rigorous evaluation. Grants recipients may include, for example:

(a) DUI courts; and

(b) Jurisdictions implementing the victim impact panel registries under RCW 46.61.5152 and 10.01.230.

(4) If the court has suspended payment of part of the fee pursuant to subsection (1)(b) or (c) of this section, amounts collected shall be distributed proportionately.

(5) This section applies to any offense committed on or after July 1, 1993. [2011 c 293 § 12. Prior: 1995 c 398 § 15; 1995 c 332 § 13; 1994 c 275 § 7.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 46.61.5051, 46.61.5052, and 46.61.5053 were repealed by 1995 c 332 § 21, effective September 1, 1995.

\*\* (2) RCW 3.46.120 was repealed by 2008 c 227 § 12, effective July 1, 2008.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.5055 Alcohol and drug violators—Penalty schedule.** (1) Except as provided in RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), a person who is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 and who has no prior offense within seven years shall be punished as follows:

(a) In the case of a person whose alcohol concentration was less than 0.15, or for whom for reasons other than the person's refusal to take a test offered pursuant to RCW 46.20.308 there is no test result indicating the person's alcohol concentration:

(i) By imprisonment for not less than one day nor more than three hundred sixty-four days. Twenty-four consecutive

hours of the imprisonment may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds that the imposition of this mandatory minimum sentence would impose a substantial risk to the offender's physical or mental well-being. Whenever the mandatory minimum sentence is suspended or deferred, the court shall state in writing the reason for granting the suspension or deferral and the facts upon which the suspension or deferral is based. In lieu of the mandatory minimum term of imprisonment required under this subsection (1)(a)(i), the court may order not less than fifteen days of electronic home monitoring. The offender shall pay the cost of electronic home monitoring. The county or municipality in which the penalty is being imposed shall determine the cost. The court may also require the offender's electronic home monitoring device to include an alcohol detection breathalyzer, and the court may restrict the amount of alcohol the offender may consume during the time the offender is on electronic home monitoring; and

(ii) By a fine of not less than three hundred fifty dollars nor more than five thousand dollars. Three hundred fifty dollars of the fine may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds the offender to be indigent; or

(b) In the case of a person whose alcohol concentration was at least 0.15, or for whom by reason of the person's refusal to take a test offered pursuant to RCW 46.20.308 there is no test result indicating the person's alcohol concentration:

(i) By imprisonment for not less than two days nor more than three hundred sixty-four days. Two consecutive days of the imprisonment may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds that the imposition of this mandatory minimum sentence would impose a substantial risk to the offender's physical or mental well-being. Whenever the mandatory minimum sentence is suspended or deferred, the court shall state in writing the reason for granting the suspension or deferral and the facts upon which the suspension or deferral is based. In lieu of the mandatory minimum term of imprisonment required under this subsection (1)(b)(i), the court may order not less than thirty days of electronic home monitoring. The offender shall pay the cost of electronic home monitoring. The county or municipality in which the penalty is being imposed shall determine the cost. The court may also require the offender's electronic home monitoring device to include an alcohol detection breathalyzer, and the court may restrict the amount of alcohol the offender may consume during the time the offender is on electronic home monitoring; and

(ii) By a fine of not less than five hundred dollars nor more than five thousand dollars. Five hundred dollars of the fine may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds the offender to be indigent.

(2) Except as provided in RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), a person who is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 and who has one prior offense within seven years shall be punished as follows:

(a) In the case of a person whose alcohol concentration was less than 0.15, or for whom for reasons other than the person's refusal to take a test offered pursuant to RCW 46.20.308 there is no test result indicating the person's alcohol concentration:

(i) By imprisonment for not less than thirty days nor more than three hundred sixty-four days and sixty days of electronic home monitoring. In lieu of the mandatory minimum term of sixty days electronic home monitoring, the court may order at least an additional four days in jail. The offender shall pay for the cost of the electronic monitoring. The county or municipality where the penalty is being imposed shall determine the cost. The court may also require the offender's electronic home monitoring device include an alcohol detection breathalyzer, and may restrict the amount of alcohol the offender may consume during the time the offender is on electronic home monitoring. Thirty days of imprisonment and sixty days of electronic home monitoring may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds that the imposition of this mandatory minimum sentence would impose a substantial risk to the offender's physical or mental well-being. Whenever the mandatory minimum sentence is suspended or deferred, the court shall state in writing the reason for granting the suspension or deferral and the facts upon which the suspension or deferral is based; and

(ii) By a fine of not less than five hundred dollars nor more than five thousand dollars. Five hundred dollars of the fine may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds the offender to be indigent; or

(b) In the case of a person whose alcohol concentration was at least 0.15, or for whom by reason of the person's refusal to take a test offered pursuant to RCW 46.20.308 there is no test result indicating the person's alcohol concentration:

(i) By imprisonment for not less than forty-five days nor more than three hundred sixty-four days and ninety days of electronic home monitoring. In lieu of the mandatory minimum term of ninety days electronic home monitoring, the court may order at least an additional six days in jail. The offender shall pay for the cost of the electronic monitoring. The county or municipality where the penalty is being imposed shall determine the cost. The court may also require the offender's electronic home monitoring device include an alcohol detection breathalyzer, and may restrict the amount of alcohol the offender may consume during the time the offender is on electronic home monitoring. Forty-five days of imprisonment and ninety days of electronic home monitoring may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds that the imposition of this mandatory minimum sentence would impose a substantial risk to the offender's physical or mental well-being. Whenever the mandatory minimum sentence is suspended or deferred, the court shall state in writing the reason for granting the suspension or deferral and the facts upon which the suspension or deferral is based; and

(ii) By a fine of not less than seven hundred fifty dollars nor more than five thousand dollars. Seven hundred fifty dollars of the fine may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds the offender to be indigent.

(3) Except as provided in RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), a person who is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 and who has two or three prior offenses within seven years shall be punished as follows:

(a) In the case of a person whose alcohol concentration was less than 0.15, or for whom for reasons other than the person's refusal to take a test offered pursuant to RCW

46.20.308 there is no test result indicating the person's alcohol concentration:

(i) By imprisonment for not less than ninety days nor more than three hundred sixty-four days and one hundred twenty days of electronic home monitoring. In lieu of the mandatory minimum term of one hundred twenty days of electronic home monitoring, the court may order at least an additional eight days in jail. The offender shall pay for the cost of the electronic monitoring. The county or municipality where the penalty is being imposed shall determine the cost. The court may also require the offender's electronic home monitoring device include an alcohol detection breathalyzer, and may restrict the amount of alcohol the offender may consume during the time the offender is on electronic home monitoring. Ninety days of imprisonment and one hundred twenty days of electronic home monitoring may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds that the imposition of this mandatory minimum sentence would impose a substantial risk to the offender's physical or mental well-being. Whenever the mandatory minimum sentence is suspended or deferred, the court shall state in writing the reason for granting the suspension or deferral and the facts upon which the suspension or deferral is based; and

(ii) By a fine of not less than one thousand dollars nor more than five thousand dollars. One thousand dollars of the fine may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds the offender to be indigent; or

(b) In the case of a person whose alcohol concentration was at least 0.15, or for whom by reason of the person's refusal to take a test offered pursuant to RCW 46.20.308 there is no test result indicating the person's alcohol concentration:

(i) By imprisonment for not less than one hundred twenty days nor more than three hundred sixty-four days and one hundred fifty days of electronic home monitoring. In lieu of the mandatory minimum term of one hundred fifty days of electronic home monitoring, the court may order at least an additional ten days in jail. The offender shall pay for the cost of the electronic monitoring. The county or municipality where the penalty is being imposed shall determine the cost. The court may also require the offender's electronic home monitoring device include an alcohol detection breathalyzer, and may restrict the amount of alcohol the offender may consume during the time the offender is on electronic home monitoring. One hundred twenty days of imprisonment and one hundred fifty days of electronic home monitoring may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds that the imposition of this mandatory minimum sentence would impose a substantial risk to the offender's physical or mental well-being. Whenever the mandatory minimum sentence is suspended or deferred, the court shall state in writing the reason for granting the suspension or deferral and the facts upon which the suspension or deferral is based; and

(ii) By a fine of not less than one thousand five hundred dollars nor more than five thousand dollars. One thousand five hundred dollars of the fine may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds the offender to be indigent.

(4) A person who is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 shall be punished under chapter 9.94A RCW if:

(a) The person has four or more prior offenses within ten years; or

(b) The person has ever previously been convicted of:

(i) A violation of RCW 46.61.520 committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug;

(ii) A violation of RCW 46.61.522 committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug;

(iii) An out-of-state offense comparable to the offense specified in (b)(i) or (ii) of this subsection; or

(iv) A violation of RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6).

(5)(a) The court shall require any person convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 or an equivalent local ordinance to comply with the rules and requirements of the department regarding the installation and use of a functioning ignition interlock device installed on all motor vehicles operated by the person.

(b) If the court orders that a person refrain from consuming any alcohol, the court may order the person to submit to alcohol monitoring through an alcohol detection breathalyzer device, transdermal sensor device, or other technology designed to detect alcohol in a person's system. The person shall pay for the cost of the monitoring, unless the court specifies that the cost of monitoring will be paid with funds that are available from an alternative source identified by the court. The county or municipality where the penalty is being imposed shall determine the cost.

(6) If a person who is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 committed the offense while a passenger under the age of sixteen was in the vehicle, the court shall:

(a) Order the use of an ignition interlock or other device for an additional six months;

(b) In any case in which the person has no prior offenses within seven years, and except as provided in RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), order a penalty by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars and not more than five thousand dollars. One thousand dollars of the fine may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds the offender to be indigent;

(c) In any case in which the person has one prior offense within seven years, and except as provided in RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), order a penalty by a fine of not less than two thousand dollars and not more than five thousand dollars. One thousand dollars of the fine may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds the offender to be indigent;

(d) In any case in which the person has two or three prior offenses within seven years, and except as provided in RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), order a penalty by a fine of not less than three thousand dollars and not more than ten thousand dollars. One thousand dollars of the fine may not be suspended or deferred unless the court finds the offender to be indigent.

(7) In exercising its discretion in setting penalties within the limits allowed by this section, the court shall particularly consider the following:

(a) Whether the person's driving at the time of the offense was responsible for injury or damage to another or another's property; and

(b) Whether at the time of the offense the person was driving or in physical control of a vehicle with one or more passengers.

(8) An offender punishable under this section is subject to the alcohol assessment and treatment provisions of RCW 46.61.5056.

(9) The license, permit, or nonresident privilege of a person convicted of driving or being in physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs must:

(a) If the person's alcohol concentration was less than 0.15, or if for reasons other than the person's refusal to take a test offered under RCW 46.20.308 there is no test result indicating the person's alcohol concentration:

(i) Where there has been no prior offense within seven years, be suspended or denied by the department for ninety days;

(ii) Where there has been one prior offense within seven years, be revoked or denied by the department for two years; or

(iii) Where there have been two or more prior offenses within seven years, be revoked or denied by the department for three years;

(b) If the person's alcohol concentration was at least 0.15:

(i) Where there has been no prior offense within seven years, be revoked or denied by the department for one year;

(ii) Where there has been one prior offense within seven years, be revoked or denied by the department for nine hundred days; or

(iii) Where there have been two or more prior offenses within seven years, be revoked or denied by the department for four years; or

(c) If by reason of the person's refusal to take a test offered under RCW 46.20.308, there is no test result indicating the person's alcohol concentration:

(i) Where there have been no prior offenses within seven years, be revoked or denied by the department for two years;

(ii) Where there has been one prior offense within seven years, be revoked or denied by the department for three years; or

(iii) Where there have been two or more previous offenses within seven years, be revoked or denied by the department for four years.

The department shall grant credit on a day-for-day basis for any portion of a suspension, revocation, or denial already served under this subsection for a suspension, revocation, or denial imposed under RCW 46.20.3101 arising out of the same incident.

Upon its own motion or upon motion by a person, a court may find, on the record, that notice to the department under RCW 46.20.270 has been delayed for three years or more as a result of a clerical or court error. If so, the court may order that the person's license, permit, or nonresident privilege shall not be revoked, suspended, or denied for that offense. The court shall send notice of the finding and order to the department and to the person. Upon receipt of the notice from the court, the department shall not revoke, suspend, or deny the license, permit, or nonresident privilege of the person for that offense.

For purposes of this subsection (9), the department shall refer to the driver's record maintained under RCW 46.52.120 when determining the existence of prior offenses.

(10) After expiration of any period of suspension, revocation, or denial of the offender's license, permit, or privilege to drive required by this section, the department shall place the offender's driving privilege in probationary status pursuant to RCW 46.20.355.

(11)(a) In addition to any nonsuspendable and nondeferable jail sentence required by this section, whenever the court imposes up to three hundred sixty-four days in jail, the court shall also suspend but shall not defer a period of confinement for a period not exceeding five years. The court shall impose conditions of probation that include: (i) Not driving a motor vehicle within this state without a valid license to drive and proof of financial responsibility for the future; (ii) not driving a motor vehicle within this state while having an alcohol concentration of 0.08 or more within two hours after driving; and (iii) not refusing to submit to a test of his or her breath or blood to determine alcohol concentration upon request of a law enforcement officer who has reasonable grounds to believe the person was driving or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle within this state while under the influence of intoxicating liquor. The court may impose conditions of probation that include nonrepetition, installation of an ignition interlock device on the probationer's motor vehicle, alcohol or drug treatment, supervised probation, or other conditions that may be appropriate. The sentence may be imposed in whole or in part upon violation of a condition of probation during the suspension period.

(b) For each violation of mandatory conditions of probation under (a)(i), (ii), or (iii) of this subsection, the court shall order the convicted person to be confined for thirty days, which shall not be suspended or deferred.

(c) For each incident involving a violation of a mandatory condition of probation imposed under this subsection, the license, permit, or privilege to drive of the person shall be suspended by the court for thirty days or, if such license, permit, or privilege to drive already is suspended, revoked, or denied at the time the finding of probation violation is made, the suspension, revocation, or denial then in effect shall be extended by thirty days. The court shall notify the department of any suspension, revocation, or denial or any extension of a suspension, revocation, or denial imposed under this subsection.

(12) A court may waive the electronic home monitoring requirements of this chapter when:

(a) The offender does not have a dwelling, telephone service, or any other necessity to operate an electronic home monitoring system;

(b) The offender does not reside in the state of Washington; or

(c) The court determines that there is reason to believe that the offender would violate the conditions of the electronic home monitoring penalty.

Whenever the mandatory minimum term of electronic home monitoring is waived, the court shall state in writing the reason for granting the waiver and the facts upon which the waiver is based, and shall impose an alternative sentence with similar punitive consequences. The alternative sentence

may include, but is not limited to, additional jail time, work crew, or work camp.

Whenever the combination of jail time and electronic home monitoring or alternative sentence would exceed three hundred sixty-four days, the offender shall serve the jail portion of the sentence first, and the electronic home monitoring or alternative portion of the sentence shall be reduced so that the combination does not exceed three hundred sixty-four days.

(13) An offender serving a sentence under this section, whether or not a mandatory minimum term has expired, may be granted an extraordinary medical placement by the jail administrator subject to the standards and limitations set forth in RCW 9.94A.728(3).

(14) For purposes of this section and RCW 46.61.502 and 46.61.504:

(a) A "prior offense" means any of the following:

(i) A conviction for a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or an equivalent local ordinance;

(ii) A conviction for a violation of RCW 46.61.504 or an equivalent local ordinance;

(iii) A conviction for a violation of RCW 46.61.520 committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or a conviction for a violation of RCW 46.61.520 committed in a reckless manner or with the disregard for the safety of others if the conviction is the result of a charge that was originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.520 committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug;

(iv) A conviction for a violation of RCW 46.61.522 committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or a conviction for a violation of RCW 46.61.522 committed in a reckless manner or with the disregard for the safety of others if the conviction is the result of a charge that was originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.522 committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug;

(v) A conviction for a violation of RCW 46.61.5249, 46.61.500, or 9A.36.050 or an equivalent local ordinance, if the conviction is the result of a charge that was originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, or an equivalent local ordinance, or of RCW 46.61.520 or 46.61.522;

(vi) An out-of-state conviction for a violation that would have been a violation of (a)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), or (v) of this subsection if committed in this state;

(vii) A deferred prosecution under chapter 10.05 RCW granted in a prosecution for a violation of RCW 46.61.502, 46.61.504, or an equivalent local ordinance;

(viii) A deferred prosecution under chapter 10.05 RCW granted in a prosecution for a violation of RCW 46.61.5249, or an equivalent local ordinance, if the charge under which the deferred prosecution was granted was originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, or an equivalent local ordinance, or of RCW 46.61.520 or 46.61.522; or

(ix) A deferred prosecution granted in another state for a violation of driving or having physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug if the out-of-state deferred prosecution is equivalent to the deferred prosecution under chapter 10.05 RCW, including a

requirement that the defendant participate in a chemical dependency treatment program;

If a deferred prosecution is revoked based on a subsequent conviction for an offense listed in this subsection (14)(a), the subsequent conviction shall not be treated as a prior offense of the revoked deferred prosecution for the purposes of sentencing;

(b) "Within seven years" means that the arrest for a prior offense occurred within seven years before or after the arrest for the current offense; and

(c) "Within ten years" means that the arrest for a prior offense occurred within ten years before or after the arrest for the current offense. [2012 c 183 § 12; 2012 c 42 § 2; 2012 c 28 § 1. Prior: 2011 c 293 § 7; 2011 c 96 § 35; 2010 c 269 § 4; 2008 c 282 § 14; 2007 c 474 § 1; 2006 c 73 § 3; 2004 c 95 § 13; 2003 c 103 § 1. Prior: 1999 c 324 § 5; 1999 c 274 § 6; 1999 c 5 § 1; prior: 1998 c 215 § 1; 1998 c 214 § 1; 1998 c 211 § 1; 1998 c 210 § 4; 1998 c 207 § 1; 1998 c 206 § 1; prior: 1997 c 229 § 11; 1997 c 66 § 14; 1996 c 307 § 3; 1995 1st sp.s. c 17 § 2; 1995 c 332 § 5.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2012 c 28 § 1, 2012 c 42 § 2, and by 2012 c 183 § 12, each without reference to the other. All amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2012 c 183:** See note following RCW 2.28.175.

**Effective date—2011 c 293 §§ 1-9:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

**Effective date—2010 c 269:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

**Effective date—2008 c 282:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

**Effective date—2007 c 474:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2007." [2007 c 474 § 2.]

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Short title—Finding—Intent—Effective date—1998 c 210:** See notes following RCW 46.20.720.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.5056 Alcohol violators—Information school—Evaluation and treatment.** (1) A person subject to alcohol assessment and treatment under RCW 46.61.5055 shall be required by the court to complete a course in an alcohol information school approved by the department of social and health services or to complete more intensive treatment in a program approved by the department of social and health services, as determined by the court. The court shall notify the department of licensing whenever it orders a person to complete a course or treatment program under this section.

(2) A diagnostic evaluation and treatment recommendation shall be prepared under the direction of the court by an alcoholism agency approved by the department of social and health services or a qualified probation department approved by the department of social and health services. A copy of the report shall be forwarded to the court and the department of licensing. Based on the diagnostic evaluation, the court shall determine whether the person shall be required to complete a course in an alcohol information school approved by the department of social and health services or more intensive treatment in a program approved by the department of social and health services.

(3) Standards for approval for alcohol treatment programs shall be prescribed by the department of social and health services. The department of social and health services shall periodically review the costs of alcohol information schools and treatment programs.

(4) Any agency that provides treatment ordered under RCW 46.61.5055, shall immediately report to the appropriate probation department where applicable, otherwise to the court, and to the department of licensing any noncompliance by a person with the conditions of his or her ordered treatment. The court shall notify the department of licensing and the department of social and health services of any failure by an agency to so report noncompliance. Any agency with knowledge of noncompliance that fails to so report shall be fined two hundred fifty dollars by the department of social and health services. Upon three such failures by an agency within one year, the department of social and health services shall revoke the agency's approval under this section.

(5) The department of licensing and the department of social and health services may adopt such rules as are necessary to carry out this section. [2011 c 293 § 13; 1995 c 332 § 14; 1994 c 275 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.50571 Alcohol violators—Mandatory appearances.** (1) A defendant who is charged with an offense involving driving while under the influence as defined in RCW 46.61.502, driving under age twenty-one after consuming alcohol as defined in RCW 46.61.503, or being in physical control of a vehicle while under the influence as defined in RCW 46.61.504, shall be required to appear in person before a judicial officer within one judicial day after the arrest if the defendant is served with a citation or complaint at the time of the arrest. A court may by local court rule waive the requirement for appearance within one judicial day if it provides for the appearance at the earliest practicable day following arrest and establishes the method for identifying that day in the rule.

(2) A defendant who is charged with an offense involving driving while under the influence as defined in RCW 46.61.502, driving under age twenty-one after consuming alcohol as defined in RCW 46.61.503, or being in physical control of a vehicle while under the influence as defined in RCW 46.61.504, and who is not served with a citation or complaint at the time of the incident, shall appear in court for arraignment in person as soon as practicable, but in no event later than fourteen days after the next day on which court is in session following the issuance of the citation or the filing of the complaint or information.

(3) At the time of an appearance required by this section, the court shall determine the necessity of imposing conditions of pretrial release according to the procedures established by court rule for a preliminary appearance or an arraignment.

(4) Appearances required by this section are mandatory and may not be waived. [2000 c 52 § 1; 1999 c 114 § 1; 1998 c 214 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.5058 Alcohol violators—Vehicle seizure and forfeiture.** (1) Upon the arrest of a person or upon the filing

of a complaint, citation, or information in a court of competent jurisdiction, based upon probable cause to believe that a person has violated RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 or any similar municipal ordinance, if such person has a prior offense within seven years as defined in RCW 46.61.5055, and where the person has been provided written notice that any transfer, sale, or encumbrance of such person's interest in the vehicle over which that person was actually driving or had physical control when the violation occurred, is unlawful pending either acquittal, dismissal, sixty days after conviction, or other termination of the charge, such person shall be prohibited from encumbering, selling, or transferring his or her interest in such vehicle, except as otherwise provided in (a), (b), and (c) of this subsection, until either acquittal, dismissal, sixty days after conviction, or other termination of the charge. The prohibition against transfer of title shall not be stayed pending the determination of an appeal from the conviction.

(a) A vehicle encumbered by a bona fide security interest may be transferred to the secured party or to a person designated by the secured party;

(b) A leased or rented vehicle may be transferred to the lessor, rental agency, or to a person designated by the lessor or rental agency; and

(c) A vehicle may be transferred to a third party or a vehicle dealer who is a bona fide purchaser or may be subject to a bona fide security interest in the vehicle unless it is established that (i) in the case of a purchase by a third party or vehicle dealer, such party or dealer had actual notice that the vehicle was subject to the prohibition prior to the purchase, or (ii) in the case of a security interest, the holder of the security interest had actual notice that the vehicle was subject to the prohibition prior to the encumbrance of title.

(2) On conviction for a violation of either RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 or any similar municipal ordinance where the person convicted has a prior offense within seven years as defined in RCW 46.61.5055, the motor vehicle the person was driving or over which the person had actual physical control at the time of the offense, if the person has a financial interest in the vehicle, is subject to seizure and forfeiture pursuant to this section.

(3) A vehicle subject to forfeiture under this chapter may be seized by a law enforcement officer of this state upon process issued by a court of competent jurisdiction. Seizure of a vehicle may be made without process if the vehicle subject to seizure has been the subject of a prior judgment in favor of the state in a forfeiture proceeding based upon this section.

(4) Seizure under subsection (3) of this section automatically commences proceedings for forfeiture. The law enforcement agency under whose authority the seizure was made shall cause notice of the seizure and intended forfeiture of the seized vehicle to be served within fifteen days after the seizure on the owner of the vehicle seized, on the person in charge of the vehicle, and on any person having a known right or interest in the vehicle, including a community property interest. The notice of seizure may be served by any method authorized by law or court rule, including but not limited to service by certified mail with return receipt requested. Service by mail is complete upon mailing within the fifteen-day period after the seizure. Notice of seizure in the case of property subject to a security interest that has been

perfected on a certificate of title shall be made by service upon the secured party or the secured party's assignee at the address shown on the financing statement or the certificate of title.

(5) If no person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of the seized vehicle within forty-five days of the seizure, the vehicle is deemed forfeited.

(6) If a person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of the seized vehicle within forty-five days of the seizure, the law enforcement agency shall give the person or persons a reasonable opportunity to be heard as to the claim or right. The hearing shall be before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency or the chief law enforcement officer's designee, except where the seizing agency is a state agency as defined in RCW 34.12.020, the hearing shall be before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency or an administrative law judge appointed under chapter 34.12 RCW, except that any person asserting a claim or right may remove the matter to a court of competent jurisdiction. Removal may only be accomplished according to the rules of civil procedure. The person seeking removal of the matter must serve process against the state, county, political subdivision, or municipality that operates the seizing agency, and any other party of interest, in accordance with RCW 4.28.080 or 4.92.020, within forty-five days after the person seeking removal has notified the seizing law enforcement agency of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession. The court to which the matter is to be removed shall be the district court when the aggregate value of the vehicle is within the jurisdictional limit set forth in RCW 3.66.020. A hearing before the seizing agency and any appeal therefrom shall be under Title 34 RCW. In a court hearing between two or more claimants to the vehicle involved, the prevailing party shall be entitled to a judgment for costs and reasonable attorneys' fees. The burden of producing evidence shall be upon the person claiming to be the legal owner or the person claiming to have the lawful right to possession of the vehicle. The seizing law enforcement agency shall promptly return the vehicle to the claimant upon a determination by the administrative law judge or court that the claimant is the present legal owner under Title 46 RCW or is lawfully entitled to possession of the vehicle.

(7) When a vehicle is forfeited under this chapter the seizing law enforcement agency may sell the vehicle, retain it for official use, or upon application by a law enforcement agency of this state release the vehicle to that agency for the exclusive use of enforcing this title; provided, however, that the agency shall first satisfy any bona fide security interest to which the vehicle is subject under subsection (1)(a) or (c) of this section.

(8) When a vehicle is forfeited, the seizing agency shall keep a record indicating the identity of the prior owner, if known, a description of the vehicle, the disposition of the vehicle, the value of the vehicle at the time of seizure, and the amount of proceeds realized from disposition of the vehicle.

(9) Each seizing agency shall retain records of forfeited vehicles for at least seven years.

(10) Each seizing agency shall file a report including a copy of the records of forfeited vehicles with the state treasurer each calendar quarter.

(11) The quarterly report need not include a record of a forfeited vehicle that is still being held for use as evidence during the investigation or prosecution of a case or during the appeal from a conviction.

(12) By January 31st of each year, each seizing agency shall remit to the state treasurer an amount equal to ten percent of the net proceeds of vehicles forfeited during the preceding calendar year. Money remitted shall be deposited in the state general fund.

(13) The net proceeds of a forfeited vehicle is the value of the forfeitable interest in the vehicle after deducting the cost of satisfying a bona fide security interest to which the vehicle is subject at the time of seizure; and in the case of a sold vehicle, after deducting the cost of sale, including reasonable fees or commissions paid to independent selling agents.

(14) The value of a sold forfeited vehicle is the sale price. The value of a retained forfeited vehicle is the fair market value of the vehicle at the time of seizure, determined when possible by reference to an applicable commonly used index, such as the index used by the department of licensing. A seizing agency may, but need not, use an independent qualified appraiser to determine the value of retained vehicles. If an appraiser is used, the value of the vehicle appraised is net of the cost of the appraisal. [2009 c 479 § 38; 1998 c 207 § 2; 1995 c 332 § 6; 1994 c 139 § 1.]

**Effective date—2009 c 479:** See note following RCW 2.56.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.506 Persons under influence of intoxicating liquor or drug—Evidence—Tests—Information concerning tests.**

(1) Upon the trial of any civil or criminal action or proceeding arising out of acts alleged to have been committed by any person while driving or in actual physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, if the person's alcohol concentration is less than 0.08, it is evidence that may be considered with other competent evidence in determining whether the person was under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug.

(2) The breath analysis shall be based upon grams of alcohol per two hundred ten liters of breath. The foregoing provisions of this section shall not be construed as limiting the introduction of any other competent evidence bearing upon the question whether the person was under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug.

(3) Analysis of the person's blood or breath to be considered valid under the provisions of this section or RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 shall have been performed according to methods approved by the state toxicologist and by an individual possessing a valid permit issued by the state toxicologist for this purpose. The state toxicologist is directed to approve satisfactory techniques or methods, to supervise the examination of individuals to ascertain their qualifications and competence to conduct such analyses, and to issue permits which shall be subject to termination or revocation at the discretion of the state toxicologist.

(4)(a) A breath test performed by any instrument approved by the state toxicologist shall be admissible at trial



or in an administrative proceeding if the prosecution or department produces prima facie evidence of the following:

(i) The person who performed the test was authorized to perform such test by the state toxicologist;

(ii) The person being tested did not vomit or have anything to eat, drink, or smoke for at least fifteen minutes prior to administration of the test;

(iii) The person being tested did not have any foreign substances, not to include dental work, fixed or removable, in his or her mouth at the beginning of the fifteen-minute observation period;

(iv) Prior to the start of the test, the temperature of any liquid simulator solution utilized as an external standard, as measured by a thermometer approved of by the state toxicologist was thirty-four degrees centigrade plus or minus 0.3 degrees centigrade;

(v) The internal standard test resulted in the message "verified";

(vi) The two breath samples agree to within plus or minus ten percent of their mean to be determined by the method approved by the state toxicologist;

(vii) The result of the test of the liquid simulator solution external standard or dry gas external standard result did lie between .072 to .088 inclusive; and

(viii) All blank tests gave results of .000.

(b) For purposes of this section, "prima facie evidence" is evidence of sufficient circumstances that would support a logical and reasonable inference of the facts sought to be proved. In assessing whether there is sufficient evidence of the foundational facts, the court or administrative tribunal is to assume the truth of the prosecution's or department's evidence and all reasonable inferences from it in a light most favorable to the prosecution or department.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prevent the subject of the test from challenging the reliability or accuracy of the test, the reliability or functioning of the instrument, or any maintenance procedures. Such challenges, however, shall not preclude the admissibility of the test once the prosecution or department has made a prima facie showing of the requirements contained in (a) of this subsection. Instead, such challenges may be considered by the trier of fact in determining what weight to give to the test result.

(5) When a blood test is administered under the provisions of RCW 46.20.308, the withdrawal of blood for the purpose of determining its alcoholic or drug content may be performed only by a physician, a registered nurse, a licensed practical nurse, a nursing assistant as defined in chapter 18.88A RCW, a physician assistant as defined in chapter 18.71A RCW, a first responder as defined in chapter 18.73 RCW, an emergency medical technician as defined in chapter 18.73 RCW, a health care assistant as defined in chapter 18.135 RCW, or any technician trained in withdrawing blood. This limitation shall not apply to the taking of breath specimens.

(6) The person tested may have a physician, or a qualified technician, chemist, registered nurse, or other qualified person of his or her own choosing administer one or more tests in addition to any administered at the direction of a law enforcement officer. The test will be admissible if the person establishes the general acceptability of the testing technique or method. The failure or inability to obtain an additional test

by a person shall not preclude the admission of evidence relating to the test or tests taken at the direction of a law enforcement officer.

(7) Upon the request of the person who shall submit to a test or tests at the request of a law enforcement officer, full information concerning the test or tests shall be made available to him or her or his or her attorney. [2010 c 53 § 1; 2004 c 68 § 4; 1998 c 213 § 6; 1995 c 332 § 18; 1994 c 275 § 26; 1987 c 373 § 4; 1986 c 153 § 4; 1979 ex.s. c 176 § 5; 1975 1st ex.s. c 287 § 1; 1969 c 1 § 3 (Initiative Measure No. 242, approved November 5, 1968).]

**Rules of court:** *Evidence of Breathalyzer, BAC Verifier, simulator solution tests—CrRLJ 6.13.*

**Finding—Intent—2004 c 68:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

**Legislative finding, purpose—Severability—1987 c 373:** See notes following RCW 46.61.502.

*Arrest of driver under influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs: RCW 10.31.100.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.507 Arrest upon driving under the influence or being in physical control of vehicle under the influence, notation required if child is present—Arrest upon drug or alcohol-related driving offense, child protective services notified if child is present and operator is child's parent, guardian, or custodian.** (1) In every case where a person is arrested for a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, the law enforcement officer shall make a clear notation if a child under the age of sixteen was present in the vehicle.

(2) A law enforcement officer shall promptly notify child protective services whenever a child is present in a vehicle being driven by his or her parent, guardian, legal custodian, or sibling or half-sibling and that person is being arrested for a drug or alcohol-related driving offense. This section does not require law enforcement to take custody of the child unless there is no other responsible person, or an agency having the right to physical custody of the child that can be contacted, or the officer has reasonable grounds to believe the child should be taken into custody pursuant to RCW 13.34.050 or 26.44.050.

(3) For purposes of this section, "child" means any person under sixteen years of age. [2012 c 42 § 1; 2010 c 214 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** The same language introduced by 2010 c 214 § 1 was codified under RCW 26.44.250 pursuant to 2010 c 214 § 2. However, the amendments made to this section pursuant to 2012 c 42 § 1 were not duplicated in RCW 26.44.250.

**46.61.508 Liability of medical personnel withdrawing blood.** No physician, registered nurse, qualified technician, or hospital, or duly licensed clinical laboratory employing or utilizing services of such physician, registered nurse, or qualified technician, shall incur any civil or criminal liability as a result of the act of withdrawing blood from any person when directed by a law enforcement officer to do so for the purpose of a blood test under the provisions of RCW 46.20.308, as now or hereafter amended: PROVIDED, That nothing in this section shall relieve any physician, registered nurse, qualified technician, or hospital or duly licensed clinical laboratory from civil liability arising from the use of

improper procedures or failing to exercise the required standard of care. [1977 ex.s. c 143 § 1.]

**46.61.513 Criminal history and driving record.** (1) Immediately before the court defers prosecution under RCW 10.05.020, dismisses a charge, or orders a sentence for any offense listed in subsection (2) of this section, the court and prosecutor shall verify the defendant's criminal history and driving record. The order shall include specific findings as to the criminal history and driving record. For purposes of this section, the criminal history shall include all previous convictions and orders of deferred prosecution, as reported through the judicial information system or otherwise available to the court or prosecutor, current to within the period specified in subsection (3) of this section before the date of the order. For purposes of this section, the driving record shall include all information reported to the court by the department of licensing.

(2) The offenses to which this section applies are violations of: (a) RCW 46.61.502 or an equivalent local ordinance; (b) RCW 46.61.504 or an equivalent local ordinance; (c) RCW 46.61.520 committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug; (d) RCW 46.61.522 committed while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug; and (e) RCW 46.61.5249, 46.61.500, or 9A.36.050, or an equivalent local ordinance, if the conviction is the result of a charge that was originally filed as a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 or an equivalent local ordinance, or of RCW 46.61.520 or 46.61.522.

(3) The periods applicable to previous convictions and orders of deferred prosecution are: (a) One working day, in the case of previous actions of courts that fully participate in the state judicial information system; and (b) seven calendar days, in the case of previous actions of courts that do not fully participate in the judicial information system. For purposes of this subsection, "fully participate" means regularly providing records to and receiving records from the system by electronic means on a daily basis. [1998 c 211 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.5151 Sentences—Intermittent fulfillment—Restrictions.** A sentencing court may allow a person convicted of a nonfelony violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 to fulfill the terms of the sentence provided in RCW 46.61.5055 in nonconsecutive or intermittent time periods. However, any mandatory minimum sentence under RCW 46.61.5055 shall be served consecutively unless suspended or deferred as otherwise provided by law. [2006 c 73 § 18; 1995 c 332 § 15; 1994 c 275 § 39; 1983 c 165 § 33.]

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.5152 Attendance at program focusing on victims.** In addition to penalties that may be imposed under RCW 46.61.5055, the court may require a person who is convicted of a nonfelony violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504 or who enters a deferred prosecution program under RCW 10.05.020 based on a nonfelony violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, to attend an educational pro-

gram, such as a victim impact panel, focusing on the emotional, physical, and financial suffering of victims who were injured by persons convicted of driving while under the influence of intoxicants. The victim impact panel program must meet the minimum standards established under RCW 10.01.230. [2011 c 293 § 14; 2006 c 73 § 17; 1998 c 41 § 9; 1994 c 275 § 40; 1992 c 64 § 1.]

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—1998 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.265.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.516 Qualified probation department defined.**

A qualified probation department means a probation department for a district or municipal court that has a sufficient number of qualified alcohol assessment officers who meet the requirements of a qualified alcoholism counselor as provided by rule of the department of social and health services, except that the required hours of supervised work experience in an alcoholism agency may be satisfied by completing an equivalent number of hours of supervised work doing alcohol assessments within a probation department. [1983 c 150 § 2.]

**46.61.517 Refusal of test—Admissibility as evidence.**

The refusal of a person to submit to a test of the alcohol or drug concentration in the person's blood or breath under RCW 46.20.308 is admissible into evidence at a subsequent criminal trial. [2001 c 142 § 1; 1987 c 373 § 5; 1986 c 64 § 2; 1985 c 352 § 21; 1983 c 165 § 27.]

**Legislative finding, purpose—Severability—1987 c 373:** See notes following RCW 46.61.502.

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.519 Alcoholic beverages—Drinking or open container in vehicle on highway—Exceptions.** (1) It is a traffic infraction to drink any alcoholic beverage in a motor vehicle when the vehicle is upon a highway.

(2) It is a traffic infraction for a person to have in his or her possession while in a motor vehicle upon a highway, a bottle, can, or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage if the container has been opened or a seal broken or the contents partially removed.

(3) It is a traffic infraction for the registered owner of a motor vehicle, or the driver if the registered owner is not then present in the vehicle, to keep in a motor vehicle when the vehicle is upon a highway, a bottle, can, or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage which has been opened or a seal broken or the contents partially removed, unless the container is kept in the trunk of the vehicle or in some other area of the vehicle not normally occupied by the driver or passengers if the vehicle does not have a trunk. A utility compartment or glove compartment is deemed to be within the area occupied by the driver and passengers.

(4) This section does not apply to a public conveyance that has been commercially chartered for group use or to the living quarters of a motor home or camper or, except as otherwise provided by RCW 66.44.250 or local law, to any passenger for compensation in a for-hire vehicle licensed under city, county, or state law, or to a privately owned vehicle

operated by a person possessing a valid operator's license endorsed for the appropriate classification under chapter 46.25 RCW in the course of his or her usual employment transporting passengers at the employer's direction: PROVIDED, That nothing in this subsection shall be construed to authorize possession or consumption of an alcoholic beverage by the operator of any vehicle while upon a highway. [2010 c 8 § 9071; 1989 c 178 § 26; 1984 c 274 § 1; 1983 c 165 § 28.]

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

*Ignition interlocks, biological, technical devices:* RCW 46.20.710 through 46.20.750.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.5191 Local ordinances not prohibited.** Nothing in RCW 46.61.519 or RCW 46.61.5191 prohibits any city or town from enacting a local ordinance that proscribes the acts proscribed by those sections and that provides penalties equal to or greater than the penalties provided in those sections. [1984 c 274 § 2.]

**46.61.5195 Disguising alcoholic beverage container.**

(1) It is a traffic infraction to incorrectly label the original container of an alcoholic beverage and to then violate RCW 46.61.519.

(2) It is a traffic infraction to place an alcoholic beverage in a container specifically labeled by the manufacturer of the container as containing a nonalcoholic beverage and to then violate RCW 46.61.519. [1984 c 274 § 3.]

*Ignition interlocks, biological, technical devices:* RCW 46.20.710 through 46.20.750.

**46.61.520 Vehicular homicide—Penalty.** (1) When the death of any person ensues within three years as a proximate result of injury proximately caused by the driving of any vehicle by any person, the driver is guilty of vehicular homicide if the driver was operating a motor vehicle:

(a) While under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, as defined by RCW 46.61.502; or

(b) In a reckless manner; or

(c) With disregard for the safety of others.

(2) Vehicular homicide is a class A felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW, except that, for a conviction under subsection (1)(a) of this section, an additional two years shall be added to the sentence for each prior offense as defined in RCW 46.61.5055. [1998 c 211 § 2; 1996 c 199 § 7; 1991 c 348 § 1; 1983 c 164 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 287 § 3; 1973 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 49 § 5; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 63; 1961 c 12 § 46.56.040. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 120; RRS § 6360-120. Formerly RCW 46.56.040.]

*Criminal history and driving record:* RCW 46.61.513.

*Ignition interlocks, biological, technical devices:* RCW 46.20.710 through 46.20.750.

*Suspension or revocation of license upon conviction of vehicular homicide or assault:* RCW 46.20.285, 46.20.291.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.522 Vehicular assault—Penalty.** (1) A person is guilty of vehicular assault if he or she operates or drives any vehicle:

(a) In a reckless manner and causes substantial bodily harm to another; or

(b) While under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, as defined by RCW 46.61.502, and causes substantial bodily harm to another; or

(c) With disregard for the safety of others and causes substantial bodily harm to another.

(2) Vehicular assault is a class B felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(3) As used in this section, "substantial bodily harm" has the same meaning as in RCW 9A.04.110. [2001 c 300 § 1; 1996 c 199 § 8; 1983 c 164 § 2.]

*Criminal history and driving record:* RCW 46.61.513.

*Ignition interlocks, biological, technical devices:* RCW 46.20.710 through 46.20.750.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.524 Vehicular homicide, assault—Revocation of driving privilege—Eligibility for reinstatement.**

As provided for under RCW 46.20.285, the department shall revoke the license, permit to drive, or a nonresident privilege of a person convicted of vehicular homicide under RCW 46.61.520 or vehicular assault under RCW 46.61.522. The department shall determine the eligibility of a person convicted of vehicular homicide under RCW 46.61.520(1)(a) or vehicular assault under RCW 46.61.522(1)(b) to receive a license based upon the report provided by the designated alcoholism treatment facility or probation department designated pursuant to RCW 9.94A.703(4)(b), and shall deny reinstatement until satisfactory progress in an approved program has been established and the person is otherwise qualified. [2008 c 231 § 46; 2006 c 73 § 16; 2001 c 64 § 7; 2000 c 28 § 40; 1991 c 348 § 2.]

**Intent—Application—Application of repealers—Effective date—2008 c 231:** See notes following RCW 9.94A.701.

**Severability—2008 c 231:** See note following RCW 9.94A.500.

**Effective date—2006 c 73:** See note following RCW 46.61.502.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.5249 Negligent driving—First degree.** (1)(a) A person is guilty of negligent driving in the first degree if he or she operates a motor vehicle in a manner that is both negligent and endangers or is likely to endanger any person or property, and exhibits the effects of having consumed liquor or an illegal drug or exhibits the effects of having inhaled or ingested any chemical, whether or not a legal substance, for its intoxicating or hallucinatory effects.

(b) It is an affirmative defense to negligent driving in the first degree by means of exhibiting the effects of having consumed an illegal drug that must be proved by the defendant by a preponderance of the evidence, that the driver has a valid prescription for the drug consumed, and has been consuming it according to the prescription directions and warnings.

(c) Negligent driving in the first degree is a misdemeanor.

(2) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Negligent" means the failure to exercise ordinary care, and is the doing of some act that a reasonably careful person would not do under the same or similar circumstances or the failure to do something that a reasonably careful person would do under the same or similar circumstances.

(b) "Exhibiting the effects of having consumed liquor" means that a person has the odor of liquor on his or her breath, or that by speech, manner, appearance, behavior, lack of coordination, or otherwise exhibits that he or she has consumed liquor, and either:

(i) Is in possession of or in close proximity to a container that has or recently had liquor in it; or

(ii) Is shown by other evidence to have recently consumed liquor.

(c) "Exhibiting the effects of having consumed an illegal drug" means that a person by speech, manner, appearance, behavior, lack of coordination, or otherwise exhibits that he or she has consumed an illegal drug and either:

(i) Is in possession of an illegal drug; or

(ii) Is shown by other evidence to have recently consumed an illegal drug.

(d) "Exhibiting the effects of having inhaled or ingested any chemical, whether or not a legal substance, for its intoxicating or hallucinatory effects" means that a person by speech, manner, appearance, behavior, or lack of coordination or otherwise exhibits that he or she has inhaled or ingested a chemical and either:

(i) Is in possession of the canister or container from which the chemical came; or

(ii) Is shown by other evidence to have recently inhaled or ingested a chemical for its intoxicating or hallucinatory effects.

(e) "Illegal drug" means a controlled substance under chapter 69.50 RCW for which the driver does not have a valid prescription or that is not being consumed in accordance with the prescription directions and warnings, or a legend drug under chapter 69.41 RCW for which the driver does not have a valid prescription or that is not being consumed in accordance with the prescription directions and warnings.

(3) Any act prohibited by this section that also constitutes a crime under any other law of this state may be the basis of prosecution under such other law notwithstanding that it may also be the basis for prosecution under this section.

(4) A person convicted of negligent driving in the first degree who has one or more prior offenses as defined in RCW 46.61.5055(14) within seven years shall be required, under RCW 46.20.720, to install an ignition interlock device on all vehicles operated by the person. [2012 c 183 § 13; 2011 c 293 § 5; 1997 c 66 § 4.]

**Effective date—2012 c 183:** See note following RCW 2.28.175.

**Effective date—2011 c 293 §§ 1-9:** See note following RCW 46.20.385.

*Criminal history and driving record:* RCW 46.61.513.

**46.61.525 Negligent driving—Second degree.** (1)(a) A person is guilty of negligent driving in the second degree if, under circumstances not constituting negligent driving in the first degree, he or she operates a motor vehicle in a manner that is both negligent and endangers or is likely to endanger any person or property.

(b) It is an affirmative defense to negligent driving in the second degree that must be proved by the defendant by a preponderance of the evidence, that the driver was operating the motor vehicle on private property with the consent of the owner in a manner consistent with the owner's consent.

(c) Negligent driving in the second degree is a traffic infraction and is subject to a penalty of two hundred fifty dollars.

(2) For the purposes of this section, "negligent" means the failure to exercise ordinary care, and is the doing of some act that a reasonably careful person would not do under the same or similar circumstances or the failure to do something that a reasonably careful person would do under the same or similar circumstances.

(3) Any act prohibited by this section that also constitutes a crime under any other law of this state may be the basis of prosecution under such other law notwithstanding that it may also be the basis for prosecution under this section. [1997 c 66 § 5; 1996 c 307 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 86; 1967 c 32 § 69; 1961 c 12 § 46.56.030. Prior: 1939 c 154 § 1; RRS § 6360-118 1/2. Formerly RCW 46.56.030.]

**Rules of court:** *Negligent driving cases—CrRLJ 3.2.*

*Arrest of person involved in negligent driving:* RCW 10.31.100.

*Use of vessel in reckless manner or while under influence of alcohol or drugs prohibited:* RCW 79A.60.040.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.526 Negligent driving—Second degree—Vulnerable user victim—Penalties—Definitions.** (1) A person commits negligent driving in the second degree with a vulnerable user victim if, under circumstances not constituting negligent driving in the first degree, he or she operates a vehicle, as defined in RCW 46.04.670, in a manner that is both negligent and endangers or is likely to endanger any person or property, and he or she proximately causes the death, great bodily harm, or substantial bodily harm of a vulnerable user of a public way.

(2) The law enforcement officer or prosecuting authority issuing the notice of infraction for an offense under this section shall state on the notice of infraction that the offense was a proximate cause of death, great bodily harm, or substantial bodily harm, as defined in RCW 9A.04.110, of a vulnerable user of a public way.

(3) Persons under the age of sixteen who commit an infraction under this section are subject to the provisions of RCW 13.40.250.

(4) A person found to have committed negligent driving in the second degree with a vulnerable user victim shall be required to:

(a) Pay a monetary penalty of five thousand dollars, which may not be reduced to an amount less than one thousand dollars; and

(b) Have his or her driving privileges suspended for ninety days.

(5) In lieu of the penalties imposed under subsection (4) of this section, a person found to have committed negligent driving in the second degree with a vulnerable user victim who requests and personally appears for a hearing pursuant to RCW 46.63.070 (1) or (2) may elect to:

(a) Pay a penalty of two hundred fifty dollars;

(b) Attend traffic school for a number of days to be determined by the court pursuant to chapter 46.83 RCW;

(c) Perform community service for a number of hours to be determined by the court, which may not exceed one hundred hours, and which must include activities related to driver

improvement and providing public education on traffic safety; and

(d) Submit certification to the court establishing that the requirements of this subsection have been met within one year of the hearing.

(6) If a person found to have committed a violation of this section elects the penalties imposed under subsection (5) of this section, the court may impose the penalties under subsection (5) of this section and the court may assess costs as the court deems appropriate for administrative processing.

(7) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, if a person found to have committed a violation of this section elects the penalties under subsection (5) of this section but does not complete all requirements of subsection (5) of this section within one year of the hearing:

(a)(i) The court shall impose a monetary penalty in the amount of five thousand dollars, which may not be reduced to an amount less than one thousand dollars; and

(ii) The person's driving privileges shall be suspended for ninety days.

(b) For good cause shown, the court may extend the period of time in which the person must complete the requirements of subsection (5) of this section before any of the penalties provided in this subsection are imposed.

(8) An offense under this section is a traffic infraction. To the extent not inconsistent with this section, the provisions of chapter 46.63 RCW shall apply to infractions under this section. Procedures for the conduct of all hearings provided for in this section may be established by rule of the supreme court.

(9) If a person is penalized under subsection (4) of this section, then the court shall notify the department, and the department shall suspend the person's driving privileges. If a person fails to meet the requirements of subsection (5) of this section, the court shall notify the department that the person has failed to meet the requirements of subsection (5) of this section and the department shall suspend the person's driving privileges. Notice provided by the court under this subsection must be in a form specified by the department.

(10) Any act prohibited by this section that also constitutes a crime under any other law of this state may be the basis of prosecution under such other law notwithstanding that it may also be the basis for prosecution under this section.

(11) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Great bodily harm" and "substantial bodily harm" have the same meaning as provided in RCW 9A.04.110.

(b) "Negligent" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 46.61.525(2).

(c) "Vulnerable user of a public way" means:

(i) A pedestrian;

(ii) A person riding an animal; or

(iii) A person operating any of the following on a public way:

(A) A farm tractor or implement of husbandry, without an enclosed shell;

(B) A bicycle;

(C) An electric-assisted bicycle;

(D) An electric personal assistive mobility device;

(E) A moped;

(F) A motor-driven cycle;

(G) A motorized foot scooter; or

(H) A motorcycle. [2011 c 372 § 1.]

**Application—2011 c 372:** "This act applies to infractions committed on or after July 1, 2012." [2011 c 372 § 4.]

**Effective date—2011 c 372:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2012." [2011 c 372 § 5.]

**46.61.527 Roadway construction zones.** (1) The secretary of transportation shall adopt standards and specifications for the use of traffic control devices in roadway construction zones on state highways. A roadway construction zone is an area where construction, repair, or maintenance work is being conducted by public employees or private contractors, on or adjacent to any public roadway. For the purpose of the pilot program referenced in section 218(2), chapter 470, Laws of 2009, during the 2009-2011 fiscal biennium, a roadway construction zone includes areas where public employees or private contractors are not present but where a driving condition exists that would make it unsafe to drive at higher speeds, such as, when the department is redirecting or realigning lanes on or adjacent to any public roadway pursuant to ongoing construction.

(2) No person may drive a vehicle in a roadway construction zone at a speed greater than that allowed by traffic control devices.

(3) A person found to have committed any infraction relating to speed restrictions in a roadway construction zone shall be assessed a monetary penalty equal to twice the penalty assessed under RCW 46.63.110. This penalty may not be waived, reduced, or suspended.

(4) A person who drives a vehicle in a roadway construction zone in such a manner as to endanger or be likely to endanger any persons or property, or who removes, evades, or intentionally strikes a traffic safety or control device is guilty of reckless endangerment of roadway workers. A violation of this subsection is a gross misdemeanor punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(5) The department shall suspend for sixty days the license or permit to drive or a nonresident driving privilege of a person convicted of reckless endangerment of roadway workers. [2009 c 470 § 713; 1994 c 141 § 1.]

**Effective date—2009 c 470:** See note following RCW 46.68.170.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.530 Racing of vehicles on highways—Reckless driving—Exception.** No person or persons may race any motor vehicle or motor vehicles upon any public highway of this state. Any person or persons who wilfully compare or contest relative speeds by operation of one or more motor vehicles shall be guilty of racing, which shall constitute reckless driving under RCW 46.61.500, whether or not such speed is in excess of the maximum speed prescribed by law: PROVIDED HOWEVER, That any comparison or contest of the accuracy with which motor vehicles may be operated in terms of relative speeds not in excess of the posted maximum speed does not constitute racing. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 87; 1961 c 12 § 46.48.050. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 67; RRS § 6360-67; 1921 c 96 § 32; 1915 c 142 § 25; RRS § 6344. Formerly RCW 46.48.050.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

*Arrest of person involved in racing of vehicles: RCW 10.31.100.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.535 Advertising of unlawful speed—Reckless driving.** It shall be unlawful for any manufacturer, dealer, distributor, or any person, firm, or corporation to publish or advertise or offer for publication or advertisement, or to consent or cause to be published or advertised, the time consumed or speed attained by a vehicle between given points or over given or designated distances upon any public highways of this state when such published or advertised time consumed or speed attained shall indicate an average rate of speed between given points or over a given or designated distance in excess of the maximum rate of speed allowed between such points or at a rate of speed which would constitute reckless driving between such points. Violation of any of the provisions of this section shall be prima facie evidence of reckless driving and shall subject such person, firm, or corporation to the penalties in such cases provided. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 88; 1961 c 12 § 46.48.060. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 68; RRS § 6360-68. Formerly RCW 46.48.060.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.540 "Drugs," what included.** The word "drugs," as used in RCW 46.61.500 through 46.61.535, shall include but not be limited to those drugs and substances regulated by chapters 69.41 and 69.50 RCW and any chemical inhaled or ingested for its intoxicating or hallucinatory effects. [2012 c 183 § 14; 1975 1st ex.s. c 287 § 5.]

**Effective date—2012 c 183:** See note following RCW 2.28.175.

#### STOPPING, STANDING, AND PARKING

**46.61.560 Stopping, standing, or parking outside business or residence districts.** (1) Outside of incorporated cities and towns no person may stop, park, or leave standing any vehicle, whether attended or unattended, upon the roadway.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section and RCW 46.61.570 and 46.61.575 do not apply to the driver of any vehicle that is disabled in such manner and to such extent that it is impossible to avoid stopping and temporarily leaving the vehicle in such position. The driver shall nonetheless arrange for the prompt removal of the vehicle as required by RCW 46.61.590.

(3) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to the driver of a public transit vehicle who temporarily stops the vehicle upon the roadway for the purpose of and while actually engaged in receiving or discharging passengers at a marked transit vehicle stop zone approved by the state department of transportation or a county upon highways under their respective jurisdictions. However, public transportation service providers, including private, nonprofit transportation providers regulated under chapter 81.66 RCW, may allow the driver of a transit vehicle to stop upon the roadway momentarily to receive or discharge passengers at an unmarked stop zone only under the following circumstances: (a) The driver stops the vehicle in a safe and practicable position; (b) the driver activates four-way flashing lights; and (c) the driver stops at a portion of the highway

with an unobstructed view, for an adequate distance so as to not create a hazard, for other drivers.

(4) Subsection (1) of this section and RCW 46.61.570 and 46.61.575 do not apply to the driver of a solid waste collection company or recycling company vehicle who temporarily stops the vehicle as close as practical to the right edge of the right-hand shoulder of the roadway or right edge of the roadway if no shoulder exists for the purpose of and while actually engaged in the collection of solid waste or recyclables, or both, under chapters 81.77, 35.21, and 35A.21 RCW or by contract under RCW 36.58.040. [2009 c 274 § 1; 1991 c 319 § 408; 1984 c 7 § 72; 1979 ex.s. c 178 § 20; 1977 c 24 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 64.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

*Limited access highways: RCW 47.52.120.*

*Unattended motor vehicles: RCW 46.61.600.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.570 Stopping, standing, or parking prohibited in specified places—Reserving portion of highway prohibited.** (1) Except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic, or in compliance with law or the directions of a police officer or official traffic control device, no person shall:

- (a) Stop, stand, or park a vehicle:
  - (i) On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street;
  - (ii) On a sidewalk or street planting strip;
  - (iii) Within an intersection;
  - (iv) On a crosswalk;
  - (v) Between a safety zone and the adjacent curb or within thirty feet of points on the curb immediately opposite the ends of a safety zone, unless official signs or markings indicate a different no-parking area opposite the ends of a safety zone;
  - (vi) Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when stopping, standing, or parking would obstruct traffic;
  - (vii) Upon any bridge or other elevated structure upon a highway or within a highway tunnel;
  - (viii) On any railroad tracks;
  - (ix) In the area between roadways of a divided highway including crossovers; or
  - (x) At any place where official signs prohibit stopping.
- (b) Stand or park a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except momentarily to pick up or discharge a passenger or passengers:
  - (i) In front of a public or private driveway or within five feet of the end of the curb radius leading thereto;
  - (ii) Within fifteen feet of a fire hydrant;
  - (iii) Within twenty feet of a crosswalk;
  - (iv) Within thirty feet upon the approach to any flashing signal, stop sign, yield sign, or traffic control signal located at the side of a roadway;
  - (v) Within twenty feet of the driveway entrance to any fire station and on the side of a street opposite the entrance to any fire station within seventy-five feet of said entrance when properly signposted; or
  - (vi) At any place where official signs prohibit standing.

(c) Park a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading property or passengers:

(i) Within fifty feet of the nearest rail of a railroad crossing; or

(ii) At any place where official signs prohibit parking.

(2) Parking or standing shall be permitted in the manner provided by law at all other places except a time limit may be imposed or parking restricted at other places but such limitation and restriction shall be by city ordinance or county resolution or order of the secretary of transportation upon highways under their respective jurisdictions.

(3) No person shall move a vehicle not lawfully under his or her control into any such prohibited area or away from a curb such a distance as is unlawful.

(4) It shall be unlawful for any person to reserve or attempt to reserve any portion of a highway for the purpose of stopping, standing, or parking to the exclusion of any other like person, nor shall any person be granted such right. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 40; 1975 c 62 § 35; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 66.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

*Limited access highways: RCW 47.52.120.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.575 Additional parking regulations.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, every vehicle stopped or parked upon a two-way roadway shall be so stopped or parked with the right-hand wheels parallel to and within twelve inches of the right-hand curb or as close as practicable to the right edge of the right-hand shoulder.

(2) Except when otherwise provided by local ordinance, every vehicle stopped or parked upon a one-way roadway shall be so stopped or parked parallel to the curb or edge of the roadway, in the direction of authorized traffic movement, with its right-hand wheels within twelve inches of the right-hand curb or as close as practicable to the right edge of the right-hand shoulder, or with its left-hand wheels within twelve inches of the left-hand curb or as close as practicable to the left edge of the left-hand shoulder.

(3) Local authorities may by ordinance or resolution permit angle parking on any roadway, except that angle parking shall not be permitted on any federal-aid or state highway unless the secretary of transportation has determined by order that the roadway is of sufficient width to permit angle parking without interfering with the free movement of traffic.

(4) The secretary with respect to highways under his or her jurisdiction may place official traffic control devices prohibiting, limiting, or restricting the stopping, standing, or parking of vehicles on any highway where the secretary has determined by order, such stopping, standing, or parking is dangerous to those using the highway or where the stopping, standing, or parking of vehicles would unduly interfere with the free movement of traffic thereon. No person shall stop, stand, or park any vehicle in violation of the restrictions indicated by such devices. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 41; 1975 c 62 § 36; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 67.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.577 Regulations governing parking facilities.**

The secretary of transportation may adopt regulations governing the use and control of park and ride lots and other parking facilities operated by the department of transportation, including time limits for the parking of vehicles. [1981 c 185 § 1.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.581 Parking spaces for persons with disabilities—Indication, access—Failure, penalty.** A parking space or stall for a person with a disability shall be indicated by a vertical sign with the international symbol of access, whose colors are white on a blue background, described under RCW 70.92.120. The sign may include additional language such as, but not limited to, an indication of the amount of the monetary penalty defined in RCW 46.19.050 for parking in the space without a valid permit.

Failure of the person owning or controlling the property where required parking spaces are located to erect and maintain the sign is a class 2 civil infraction under chapter 7.80 RCW for each parking space that should be so designated. The person owning or controlling the property where the required parking spaces are located shall ensure that the parking spaces are not blocked or made inaccessible, and failure to do so is a class 2 civil infraction. [2010 c 161 § 1123; 2005 c 390 § 1; 1998 c 294 § 2; 1988 c 74 § 1; 1984 c 154 § 4.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Intent—Application—Severability—1984 c 154:** See notes following RCW 46.55.113.

*Accessible parking spaces required: RCW 70.92.140.*

*Special parking for persons with disabilities—Unauthorized use: RCW 46.19.050.*

**46.61.582 Free parking for persons with disabilities.**

Any person who meets the criteria for special parking privileges under RCW 46.19.010 shall be allowed free of charge to park a vehicle being used to transport that person for unlimited periods of time in parking zones or areas including zones or areas with parking meters which are otherwise restricted as to the length of time parking is permitted. This section does not apply to those zones or areas in which the stopping, parking, or standing of all vehicles is prohibited or which are reserved for special types of vehicles. The person shall obtain and display a special placard or license plate under RCW 46.19.010 and 46.19.030 to be eligible for the privileges under this section. [2011 c 171 § 80; 2010 c 161 § 1124; 1991 c 339 § 25; 1984 c 154 § 5.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Intent—Application—Severability—1984 c 154:** See notes following RCW 46.55.113.

**46.61.583 Special plate or card issued by another jurisdiction.** A special license plate or card issued by another state or country that indicates an occupant of the vehicle is disabled, entitles the vehicle on or in which it is displayed and being used to transport the disabled person to the

same overtime parking privileges granted under this chapter to a vehicle with a similar special license plate or card issued by this state. [1991 c 339 § 26; 1984 c 51 § 2.]

**46.61.585 Winter recreational parking areas—Special permit required.** Except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic, or in compliance with law or the directions of a police officer or official traffic control device, no person shall park a vehicle in an area designated by an official sign that it is a winter recreational parking area unless such vehicle displays, in accordance with regulations adopted by the parks and recreation commission, a special winter recreational area parking permit or permits. [1990 c 49 § 4; 1975 1st ex.s. c 209 § 5.]

*Winter recreational parking areas: RCW 79A.05.225 through 79A.05.255.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.587 Winter recreational parking areas—Penalty.** Any violation of RCW 79A.05.240 or 46.61.585 or any rule adopted by the parks and recreation commission to enforce the provisions thereof is a civil infraction as provided in chapter 7.84 RCW. [1999 c 249 § 501; 1984 c 258 § 329; 1977 c 57 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 209 § 6.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.34.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.590 Unattended motor vehicle—Removal from highway.** It is unlawful for the operator of a vehicle to leave the vehicle unattended within the limits of any highway unless the operator of the vehicle arranges for the prompt removal of the vehicle. [1979 ex.s. c 178 § 1.]

*Towing and impoundment: Chapter 46.55 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## MISCELLANEOUS RULES

**46.61.600 Unattended motor vehicle.** (1) No person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle shall permit it to stand unattended without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition, removing the key and effectively setting the brake thereon and, when standing upon any perceptible grade, turning the front wheels to the curb or side of the highway.

(2) The most recent driver of a motor vehicle which the driver has left standing unattended, who learns that the vehicle has become set in motion and has struck another vehicle or property, or has caused injury to any person, shall comply with the requirements of:

(a) RCW 46.52.010 if his or her vehicle strikes an unattended vehicle or property adjacent to a public highway; or

(b) RCW 46.52.020 if his or her vehicle causes damage to an attended vehicle or other property or injury to any person.

(3) Any person failing to comply with subsection (2)(b) of this section shall be subject to the sanctions set forth in RCW 46.52.020. [2010 c 8 § 9072; 1980 c 97 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 68.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.605 Limitations on backing.** (1) The driver of a vehicle shall not back the same unless such movement can be made with safety and without interfering with other traffic.

(2) The driver of a vehicle shall not back the same upon any shoulder or roadway of any limited access highway. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 69.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.606 Driving on sidewalk prohibited—Exception.** No person shall drive any vehicle upon a sidewalk or sidewalk area except upon a permanent or duly authorized temporary driveway. [1975 c 62 § 45.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.608 Operating motorcycles on roadways laned for traffic.** (1) All motorcycles are entitled to full use of a lane and no motor vehicle shall be driven in such a manner as to deprive any motorcycle of the full use of a lane. This subsection shall not apply to motorcycles operated two abreast in a single lane.

(2) The operator of a motorcycle shall not overtake and pass in the same lane occupied by the vehicle being overtaken.

(3) No person shall operate a motorcycle between lanes of traffic or between adjacent lines or rows of vehicles.

(4) Motorcycles shall not be operated more than two abreast in a single lane.

(5) Subsections (2) and (3) of this section shall not apply to police officers in the performance of their official duties. [1975 c 62 § 46.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.610 Riding on motorcycles.** A person operating a motorcycle shall ride only upon the permanent and regular seat attached thereto, and such operator shall not carry any other person nor shall any other person ride on a motorcycle unless such motorcycle is designed to carry more than one person, in which event a passenger may ride upon the permanent and regular seat if designed for two persons, or upon another seat firmly attached to the motorcycle at the rear or side of the operator. However, the motorcycle must contain foot pegs or be equipped with an additional bucket seat and seat belt meeting standards prescribed under 49 C.F.R. Part 571 for each person such motorcycle is designed to carry. [2009 c 275 § 7; 1975 c 62 § 37; 1967 c 232 § 5; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 70.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

*Equipment regulations for motorcycles, motor-driven cycles, mopeds, or electric-assisted bicycles: RCW 46.37.530, 46.37.535.*

*Mopeds: RCW 46.16A.405, 46.61.710, 46.61.720.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.611 Motorcycles—Maximum height for handlebars.** No person shall operate on a public highway a motorcycle in which the handlebars or grips are more than thirty inches higher than the seat or saddle for the operator. [1999 c 275 § 1; 1967 c 232 § 6.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*



**46.61.612 Riding on motorcycles—Position of feet.**

No person shall ride a motorcycle in a position where both feet are placed on the same side of the motorcycle. [1967 c 232 § 7.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.613 Motorcycles—Temporary suspension of restrictions for parades or public demonstrations.** The provisions of RCW 46.37.530 and 46.61.610 through 46.61.612 are temporarily suspended with respect to the operation of motorcycles on a closed road during a parade or public demonstration that has been permitted by a local jurisdiction. [2011 c 332 § 1; 2010 c 8 § 9073; 1967 c 232 § 8.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.614 Riding on motorcycles—Clinging to other vehicles.** No person riding upon a motorcycle shall attach himself or herself or the motorcycle to any other vehicle on a roadway. [2010 c 8 § 9074; 1975 c 62 § 47.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.615 Obstructions to driver's view or driving mechanism.** (1) No person shall drive a vehicle when it is so loaded, or when there are in the front seat such a number of persons, exceeding three, as to obstruct the view of the driver to the front or sides of the vehicle or as to interfere with the driver's control over the driving mechanism of the vehicle.

(2) No passenger in a vehicle shall ride in such position as to interfere with the driver's view ahead or to the sides, or to interfere with his or her control over the driving mechanism of the vehicle. [2010 c 8 § 9075; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 71.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.620 Opening and closing vehicle doors.** No person shall open the door of a motor vehicle on the side adjacent to moving traffic unless and until it is reasonably safe to do so, and can be done without interfering with the movement of other traffic, nor shall any person leave a door open on the side of a vehicle adjacent to moving traffic for a period of time longer than necessary to load or unload passengers. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 72.]

**46.61.625 Riding in trailers or towed vehicles.** (1) No person or persons shall occupy any trailer while it is being moved upon a public highway, except a person occupying a proper position for steering a trailer designed to be steered from a rear-end position.

(2) No person or persons may occupy a vehicle while it is being towed by a tow truck as defined in RCW 46.55.010. [1999 c 398 § 9; 1995 c 360 § 10; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 73.]

**46.61.630 Coasting prohibited.** (1) The driver of any motor vehicle when traveling upon a down grade shall not coast with the gears of such vehicle in neutral.

(2) The driver of a commercial motor vehicle when traveling upon a down grade shall not coast with the clutch disengaged. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 74.]

**46.61.635 Following fire apparatus prohibited.** The driver of any vehicle other than one on official business shall

not follow any fire apparatus traveling in response to a fire alarm closer than five hundred feet or stop such vehicle within five hundred feet of any fire apparatus stopped in answer to a fire alarm. [1975 c 62 § 38; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 75.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.640 Crossing fire hose.** No vehicle shall be driven over any unprotected hose of a fire department when laid down on any street, or private driveway, to be used at any fire or alarm of fire, without the consent of the fire department official in command. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 76.]

**46.61.645 Throwing materials on highway prohibited—Removal.** (1) Any person who drops, or permits to be dropped or thrown, upon any highway any material shall immediately remove the same or cause it to be removed.

(2) Any person removing a wrecked or damaged vehicle from a highway shall remove any glass or other injurious substance dropped upon the highway from such vehicle. [2003 c 337 § 5; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 77.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Findings—2003 c 337:** See note following RCW 70.93.060.

*Lighted material, disposal of:* RCW 76.04.455.

*Littering:* Chapter 70.93 RCW.

**46.61.655 Dropping load, other materials—Covering.** (1) No vehicle shall be driven or moved on any public highway unless such vehicle is so constructed or loaded as to prevent any of its load from dropping, sifting, leaking, or otherwise escaping therefrom, except that sand may be dropped for the purpose of securing traction.

(2) No person may operate on any public highway any vehicle with any load unless the load and such covering as required thereon by subsection (3) of this section is securely fastened to prevent the covering or load from becoming loose, detached, or in any manner a hazard to other users of the highway.

(3) Any vehicle operating on a paved public highway with a load of dirt, sand, or gravel susceptible to being dropped, spilled, leaked, or otherwise escaping therefrom shall be covered so as to prevent spillage. Covering of such loads is not required if six inches of freeboard is maintained within the bed.

(4)(a) Any person operating a vehicle from which any glass or objects have fallen or escaped, which would constitute an obstruction or injure a vehicle or otherwise endanger travel upon such public highway shall immediately cause the public highway to be cleaned of all such glass or objects and shall pay any costs therefor.

(b) Any vehicle with deposits of mud, rocks, or other debris on the vehicle's body, fenders, frame, undercarriage, wheels, or tires shall be cleaned of such material before the operation of the vehicle on a paved public highway.

(5) The state patrol may make necessary rules to carry into effect the provisions of this section, applying such provisions to specific conditions and loads and prescribing means, methods, and practices to effectuate such provisions.

(6) Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit a public maintenance vehicle from dropping sand on a highway to enhance traction, or sprinkling water or other substances to clean or maintain a highway.

(7)(a)(i) A person is guilty of failure to secure a load in the first degree if he or she, with criminal negligence, fails to secure a load or part of a load to his or her vehicle in compliance with subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section and causes substantial bodily harm to another.

(ii) Failure to secure a load in the first degree is a gross misdemeanor.

(b)(i) A person is guilty of failure to secure a load in the second degree if he or she, with criminal negligence, fails to secure a load or part of a load to his or her vehicle in compliance with subsection (1) or (2) of this section and causes damage to property of another.

(ii) Failure to secure a load in the second degree is a misdemeanor.

(c) A person who fails to secure a load or part of a load to his or her vehicle in compliance with subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section is guilty of an infraction if such failure does not amount to a violation of (a) or (b) of this subsection. [2005 c 431 § 1; 1990 c 250 § 56; 1986 c 89 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 307 § 22; 1965 ex.s. c 52 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.56.135. Prior: 1947 c 200 § 3, part; 1937 c 189 § 44, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6360-44, part. Formerly RCW 46.56.135.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

*Littering: Chapter 70.93 RCW.*

*Transporting waste to landfills: RCW 70.93.097.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.660 Carrying persons or animals on outside part of vehicle.** It shall be unlawful for any person to transport any living animal on the running board, fenders, hood, or other outside part of any vehicle unless suitable harness, cage or enclosure be provided and so attached as to protect such animal from falling or being thrown therefrom. It shall be unlawful for any person to transport any persons upon the running board, fenders, hood or other outside part of any vehicle, except that this provision shall not apply to authorized emergency vehicles or to solid waste collection vehicles that are engaged in collecting solid waste or recyclables on route at speeds of twenty miles per hour or less. [1997 c 190 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.56.070. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 115; RRS § 6360-115. Formerly RCW 46.56.070.]

**46.61.665 Embracing another while driving.** It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motor vehicle upon the highways of this state when such person has in his or her embrace another person which prevents the free and unhampered operation of such vehicle. Operation of a motor vehicle in violation of this section is prima facie evidence of reckless driving. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 89; 1961 c 12 § 46.56.100. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 117; RRS § 6360-117; 1927 c 309 § 49; RRS § 6362-49. Formerly RCW 46.56.100.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.667 Using a wireless communications device while driving.** (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (3) of this section, a person operating a moving motor vehicle

while holding a wireless communications device to his or her ear is guilty of a traffic infraction.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to a person operating:

(a) An authorized emergency vehicle, or a tow truck responding to a disabled vehicle;

(b) A moving motor vehicle using a wireless communications device in hands-free mode;

(c) A moving motor vehicle using a hand-held wireless communications device to:

(i) Report illegal activity;

(ii) Summon medical or other emergency help;

(iii) Prevent injury to a person or property; or

(iv) Relay information that is time sensitive between a transit or for-hire operator and that operator's dispatcher, in which the device is permanently affixed to the vehicle;

(d) A moving motor vehicle while using a hearing aid.

(3) Subsection (1) of this section does not restrict the operation of an amateur radio station by a person who holds a valid amateur radio operator license issued by the federal communications commission.

(4) For purposes of this section, "hands-free mode" means the use of a wireless communications device with a speaker phone, headset, or earpiece.

(5) The state preempts the field of regulating the use of wireless communications devices in motor vehicles, and this section supersedes any local laws, ordinances, orders, rules, or regulations enacted by a political subdivision or municipality to regulate the use of wireless communications devices by the operator of a motor vehicle.

(6) Infractions that result from the use of a wireless communications device while operating a motor vehicle under this section shall not become part of the driver's record under RCW 46.52.101 and 46.52.120. Additionally, a finding that a person has committed a traffic infraction under this section shall not be made available to insurance companies or employers. [2010 c 223 § 3; 2007 c 417 § 2.]

**Intent—2007 c 417:** "The use of wireless communications devices by motorists has increased in recent years. While wireless communications devices have assisted with quick reporting of road emergencies, their use has also contributed to accidents and other mishaps on Washington state roadways. When motorists hold a wireless communications device in one hand and drive with the other, their chances of becoming involved in a traffic mishap increase. It is the legislature's intent to phase out the use of hand-held wireless communications devices by motorists while operating a vehicle." [2007 c 417 § 1.]

**Effective date—2007 c 417:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2008." [2007 c 417 § 3.]

**46.61.668 Sending, reading, or writing a text message while driving.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a person operating a moving motor vehicle who, by means of an electronic wireless communications device, sends, reads, or writes a text message, is guilty of a traffic infraction. A person does not send, read, or write a text message when he or she reads, selects, or enters a phone number or name in a wireless communications device for the purpose of making a phone call.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to a person operating:

(a) An authorized emergency vehicle;

(b) A voice-operated global positioning or navigation system that is affixed to the vehicle and that allows the user to send or receive messages without diverting visual attention from the road or engaging the use of either hand; or

(c) A moving motor vehicle while using an electronic wireless communications device to:

- (i) Report illegal activity;
- (ii) Summon medical or other emergency help;
- (iii) Prevent injury to a person or property; or
- (iv) Relay information that is time sensitive between a transit or for-hire operator and that operator's dispatcher, in which the device is permanently affixed to the vehicle.

(3) Infractions under this section shall not become part of the driver's record under RCW 46.52.101 and 46.52.120. Additionally, a finding that a person has committed a traffic infraction under this section shall not be made available to insurance companies or employers. [2010 c 223 § 4; 2007 c 416 § 1.]

**Effective date—2007 c 416:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2008." [2007 c 416 § 2.]

**46.61.670 Driving with wheels off roadway.** It shall be unlawful to operate or drive any vehicle or combination of vehicles over or along any pavement or gravel or crushed rock surface on a public highway with one wheel or all of the wheels off the roadway thereof, except as permitted by RCW 46.61.428 or for the purpose of stopping off such roadway, or having stopped thereat, for proceeding back onto the pavement, gravel or crushed rock surface thereof. [1977 ex.s. c 39 § 2; 1961 c 12 § 46.56.130. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 96; RRS § 6360-96. Formerly RCW 46.56.130.]

**46.61.675 Causing or permitting vehicle to be unlawfully operated.** It shall be unlawful for the owner, or any other person, in employing or otherwise directing the operator of any vehicle to require or knowingly to permit the operation of such vehicle upon any public highway in any manner contrary to the law. [1961 c 12 § 46.56.200. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 148; RRS § 6360-148. Formerly RCW 46.56.200.]

**46.61.680 Lowering passenger vehicle below legal clearance—Penalty.** It is unlawful to operate any passenger motor vehicle which has been modified from the original design so that any portion of such passenger vehicle other than the wheels has less clearance from the surface of a level roadway than the clearance between the roadway and the lowermost portion of any rim of any wheel the tire on which is in contact with such roadway.

Violation of the provisions of this section is a traffic infraction. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 90; 1961 c 151 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.56.220.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.685 Leaving children unattended in standing vehicle with motor running—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for any person, while operating or in charge of a vehicle, to park or willfully allow such vehicle to stand upon a public highway or in a public place with its motor running, leaving a minor child or children under the age of sixteen years unattended in the vehicle.

(2) Any person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. Upon a second or subsequent conviction for a violation of this section, the department shall revoke the operator's license of such person. [2003 c 53 § 246; 1990 c 250 § 57; 1961 c 151 § 2. Formerly RCW 46.56.230.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Leaving children unattended in parked automobile while entering tavern, etc.: RCW 9.91.060.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.687 Child passenger restraint required—Conditions—Exceptions—Penalty for violation—Dismissal—Noncompliance not negligence—Immunity.** (1) Whenever a child who is less than sixteen years of age is being transported in a motor vehicle that is in operation and that is required by RCW 46.37.510 to be equipped with a safety belt system in a passenger seating position, or is being transported in a neighborhood electric vehicle or medium-speed electric vehicle that is in operation, the driver of the vehicle shall keep the child properly restrained as follows:

(a) A child must be restrained in a child restraint system, if the passenger seating position equipped with a safety belt system allows sufficient space for installation, until the child is eight years old, unless the child is four feet nine inches or taller. The child restraint system must comply with standards of the United States department of transportation and must be secured in the vehicle in accordance with instructions of the vehicle manufacturer and the child restraint system manufacturer.

(b) A child who is eight years of age or older or four feet nine inches or taller shall be properly restrained with the motor vehicle's safety belt properly adjusted and fastened around the child's body or an appropriately fitting child restraint system.

(c) The driver of a vehicle transporting a child who is under thirteen years old shall transport the child in the back seat positions in the vehicle where it is practical to do so.

(2) Enforcement of subsection (1) of this section is subject to a visual inspection by law enforcement to determine if the child restraint system in use is appropriate for the child's individual height, weight, and age. The visual inspection for usage of a child restraint system must ensure that the child restraint system is being used in accordance with the instruction of the vehicle and the child restraint system manufacturers. The driver of a vehicle transporting a child who is under thirteen years old shall transport the child in the back seat positions in the vehicle where it is practical to do so.

(3) A person violating subsection (1) of this section may be issued a notice of traffic infraction under chapter 46.63 RCW. If the person to whom the notice was issued presents proof of acquisition of an approved child passenger restraint system or a child booster seat, as appropriate, within seven days to the jurisdiction issuing the notice and the person has not previously had a violation of this section dismissed, the jurisdiction shall dismiss the notice of traffic infraction.

(4) Failure to comply with the requirements of this section shall not constitute negligence by a parent or legal guard-

ian. Failure to use a child restraint system shall not be admissible as evidence of negligence in any civil action.

(5) This section does not apply to: (a) For hire vehicles, (b) vehicles designed to transport sixteen or less passengers, including the driver, operated by auto transportation companies, as defined in RCW 81.68.010, (c) vehicles providing customer shuttle service between parking, convention, and hotel facilities, and airport terminals, and (d) school buses.

(6) As used in this section, "child restraint system" means a child passenger restraint system that meets the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards set forth in 49 C.F.R. 571.213.

(7) The requirements of subsection (1) of this section do not apply in any seating position where there is only a lap belt available and the child weighs more than forty pounds.

(8)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, a person who has a current national certification as a child passenger safety technician and who in good faith provides inspection, adjustment, or educational services regarding child passenger restraint systems is not liable for civil damages resulting from any act or omission in providing the services, other than acts or omissions constituting gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

(b) The immunity provided in this subsection does not apply to a certified child passenger safety technician who is employed by a retailer of child passenger restraint systems and who, during his or her hours of employment and while being compensated, provides inspection, adjustment, or educational services regarding child passenger restraint systems. [2007 c 510 § 4. Prior: 2005 c 415 § 1; 2005 c 132 § 1; 2003 c 353 § 5; 2000 c 190 § 2; 1994 c 100 § 1; 1993 c 274 § 1; 1987 c 330 § 745; 1983 c 215 § 2.]

**Effective date—2007 c 510:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**Effective date—2005 c 132 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act takes effect June 1, 2007." [2005 c 132 § 3.]

**Effective date—2003 c 353:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**Intent—2000 c 190:** "The legislature recognizes that fewer than five percent of all drivers use child booster seats for children over the age of four years. The legislature also recognizes that seventy-one percent of deaths resulting from car accidents could be eliminated if every child under the age of sixteen used an appropriate child safety seat, booster seat, or seat belt. The legislature further recognizes the National Transportation Safety Board's recommendations that promote the use of booster seats to increase the safety of children under eight years of age. Therefore, it is the legislature's intent to decrease deaths and injuries to children by promoting safety education and injury prevention measures, as well as increasing public awareness on ways to maximize the protection of children in vehicles." [2000 c 190 § 1.]

*Standards for child passenger restraint systems: RCW 46.37.505.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.6871 Child passenger safety technician—Immunity.** A person who has a current national certification as a child passenger safety technician and who in good faith provides inspection, adjustment, or educational services regarding child passenger restraint systems is not liable for civil damages resulting from any act or omission in providing the services, other than acts or omissions constituting gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct. [2005 c 132 § 2.]

**46.61.688 Safety belts, use required—Penalties—Exemptions.** (1) For the purposes of this section, "motor vehicle" includes:

(a) "Buses," meaning motor vehicles with motive power, except trailers, designed to carry more than ten passengers;

(b) "Medium-speed electric vehicle" meaning a self-propelled, electrically powered four-wheeled motor vehicle, equipped with a roll cage or crush-proof body design, whose speed attainable in one mile is more than thirty miles per hour but not more than thirty-five miles per hour and otherwise meets or exceeds the federal regulations set forth in 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.500;

(c) "Motorcycle," meaning a three-wheeled motor vehicle that is designed (i) so that the driver rides on a seat in a partially or completely enclosed seating area that is equipped with safety belts and (ii) to be steered with a steering wheel;

(d) "Multipurpose passenger vehicles," meaning motor vehicles with motive power, except trailers, designed to carry ten persons or less that are constructed either on a truck chassis or with special features for occasional off-road operation;

(e) "Neighborhood electric vehicle," meaning a self-propelled, electrically powered four-wheeled motor vehicle whose speed attainable in one mile is more than twenty miles per hour and not more than twenty-five miles per hour and conforms to federal regulations under 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.500;

(f) "Passenger cars," meaning motor vehicles with motive power, except multipurpose passenger vehicles, motorcycles, or trailers, designed for carrying ten passengers or less; and

(g) "Trucks," meaning motor vehicles with motive power, except trailers, designed primarily for the transportation of property.

(2)(a) This section only applies to:

(i) Motor vehicles that meet the manual seat belt safety standards as set forth in 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.208;

(ii) Motorcycles, when equipped with safety belts that meet the standards set forth in 49 C.F.R. Part 571; and

(iii) Neighborhood electric vehicles and medium-speed electric vehicles that meet the seat belt standards as set forth in 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.500.

(b) This section does not apply to a vehicle occupant for whom no safety belt is available when all designated seating positions as required under 49 C.F.R. Part 571 are occupied.

(3) Every person sixteen years of age or older operating or riding in a motor vehicle shall wear the safety belt assembly in a properly adjusted and securely fastened manner.

(4) No person may operate a motor vehicle unless all child passengers under the age of sixteen years are either: (a) Wearing a safety belt assembly or (b) are securely fastened into an approved child restraint device.

(5) A person violating this section shall be issued a notice of traffic infraction under chapter 46.63 RCW. A finding that a person has committed a traffic infraction under this section shall be contained in the driver's abstract but shall not be available to insurance companies or employers.

(6) Failure to comply with the requirements of this section does not constitute negligence, nor may failure to wear a safety belt assembly be admissible as evidence of negligence in any civil action.

(7) This section does not apply to an operator or passenger who possesses written verification from a licensed physician that the operator or passenger is unable to wear a safety belt for physical or medical reasons.

(8) The state patrol may adopt rules exempting operators or occupants of farm vehicles, construction equipment, and vehicles that are required to make frequent stops from the requirement of wearing safety belts. [2009 c 275 § 8; 2007 c 510 § 5; 2003 c 353 § 4; 2002 c 328 § 2; (2002 c 328 § 1 expired July 1, 2002); 2000 c 190 § 3; 1990 c 250 § 58; 1986 c 152 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Effective date—2007 c 510:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**Effective date—2003 c 353:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**Expiration date—2002 c 328 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act expires July 1, 2002." [2002 c 328 § 3.]

**Effective date—2002 c 328 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act takes effect July 1, 2002." [2002 c 328 § 4.]

**Intent—Short title—Effective date—2000 c 190:** See notes following RCW 46.61.687.

*Physicians—Immunity from liability regarding safety belts: RCW 4.24.235.*

*Seat belts and shoulder harnesses, required equipment: RCW 46.37.510.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.6885 Child restraints, seatbelts—Educational campaign.** The traffic safety commission shall conduct an educational campaign using all available methods to raise public awareness of the importance of properly restraining child passengers and the value of seatbelts to adult motorists. The traffic safety commission shall report to the transportation committees of the legislature on the campaign and results observed on the highways. The first report is due December 1, 2000, and annually thereafter. [2000 c 190 § 4.]

**Intent—Short title—Effective date—2000 c 190:** See notes following RCW 46.61.687.

**46.61.690 Violations relating to toll facilities—Exception.** (1) Any person who uses a toll bridge, toll tunnel, toll road, or toll ferry, and the approaches thereto, operated by the state of Washington, the department of transportation, a political subdivision or municipal corporation empowered to operate toll facilities, or an entity operating a toll facility under a contract with the department of transportation, a political subdivision, or municipal corporation, at the entrance to which appropriate signs have been erected to notify both pedestrian and vehicular traffic that it is entering a toll facility or its approaches and is subject to the payment of tolls at the designated station for collecting tolls, commits a traffic infraction if:

(a) The person does not pay, refuses to pay, evades, or attempts to evade the payment of such tolls, or uses or attempts to use any spurious, counterfeit, or stolen ticket, coupon, token, or electronic device for payment of any such tolls;

(b) The person turns, or attempts to turn, the vehicle around in the bridge, tunnel, loading terminal, approach, or toll plaza where signs have been erected forbidding such turns;

(c) The person refuses to move a vehicle through the toll facility after having come within the area where signs have been erected notifying traffic that it is entering the area where toll is collectible or where vehicles may not turn around and where vehicles are required to pass through the toll facility for the purpose of collecting tolls; or

(d) The driver of the vehicle displays any vehicle license number plate or plates that have been, in any manner, changed, altered, obscured, or disfigured, or have become illegible.

(2) Subsection (1)(a) of this section does not apply to toll nonpayment detected through the use of photo toll systems under RCW 46.63.160. [2010 c 249 § 9; 2004 c 231 § 1; 1983 c 247 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 91; 1961 c 259 § 1. Formerly RCW 46.56.240.]

**Contingent effective date—2010 c 249:** See note following RCW 47.56.795.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.700 Parent or guardian shall not authorize or permit violation by a child or ward.** The parent of any child and the guardian of any ward shall not authorize or knowingly permit any such child or ward to violate any of the provisions of this chapter. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 78.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was enacted just before sections about the operation of bicycles and play vehicles and was accordingly so codified in 1965. Other sections enacted later have been codified under the numbers remaining between RCW 46.61.700 and 46.61.750. The section appears in the Uniform Vehicle Code (1962) as part of the first section of Article XII—Operation of Bicycles and Play Vehicles.

*Captions used herein, not part of the law: RCW 46.61.990.*

*Unlawful to allow unauthorized child or ward to drive: RCW 46.20.024.*

**46.61.705 Off-road motorcycles.** (1) A person may operate an off-road motorcycle upon a public road, street, or highway of this state if the person:

(a) Files a motorcycle highway use declaration, as provided under RCW 46.16A.435, with the department certifying conformance with all applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards and state standards;

(b) Obtains and has in full force and effect a current and proper ORV registration or temporary ORV use permit under chapter 46.09 RCW; and

(c) Obtains a valid driver's license and motorcycle endorsement issued to Washington residents in compliance with chapter 46.20 RCW for a motorcycle.

(2) Any off-road motorcycle operated under this section must have:

(a) A head lamp meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.523 and 46.37.524, and used in accordance with RCW 46.37.522;

(b) A tail lamp meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.525;

(c) A stop lamp meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.525;

(d) Reflectors meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.525;

(e) Brakes meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.527, 46.37.528, and 46.37.529;

(f) A mirror on both the left and right handlebar meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.530;

(g) A windshield meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.530, unless the driver wears glasses, goggles, or a face shield while operating the motorcycle, of a type conforming to rules adopted by the state patrol;

(h) A horn or warning device meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.380;

(i) Tires meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.420 and 46.37.425;

(j) Turn signals meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.200; and

(k) Fenders adequate for minimizing the spray or splash of water, rocks, or mud from the roadway. Fenders must be as wide as the tires behind which they are mounted and extend downward at least half way to the center of the axle.

(3) Every person operating an off-road motorcycle under this section is granted all rights and is subject to all duties applicable to the driver of a motorcycle under RCW 46.37.530 and chapter 46.61 RCW.

(4) Any person who violates this section commits a traffic infraction.

(5) Accidents must be recorded and tracked in compliance with chapter 46.52 RCW. An accident report must indicate and be tracked separately when any of the vehicles involved are an off-road motorcycle. [2011 c 121 § 2.]

**Effective date—2011 c 121:** See note following RCW 46.04.363.

**46.61.710 Mopeds, EPAMDs, electric-assisted bicycles, motorized foot scooters—General requirements and operation.** (1) No person shall operate a moped upon the highways of this state unless the moped has been assigned a moped registration number and displays a moped permit in accordance with RCW 46.16A.405(2).

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a moped may not be operated on a bicycle path or trail, bikeway, equestrian trail, or hiking or recreational trail.

(3) Operation of a moped, electric personal assistive mobility device, motorized foot scooter, or an electric-assisted bicycle on a fully controlled limited access highway is unlawful. Operation of a moped, motorized foot scooter, or an electric-assisted bicycle on a sidewalk is unlawful.

(4) Removal of any muffling device or pollution control device from a moped is unlawful.

(5) Subsections (1), (2), and (4) of this section do not apply to electric-assisted bicycles. Electric-assisted bicycles and motorized foot scooters may have access to highways, other than limited access highways, of the state to the same extent as bicycles. Subject to subsection (6) of this section, electric-assisted bicycles and motorized foot scooters may be operated on a multipurpose trail or bicycle lane, but local jurisdictions may restrict or otherwise limit the access of electric-assisted bicycles and motorized foot scooters, and state agencies may regulate the use of motorized foot scooters on facilities and properties under their jurisdiction and control.

(6) Subsections (1) and (4) of this section do not apply to motorized foot scooters. Subsection (2) of this section applies to motorized foot scooters when the bicycle path, trail, bikeway, equestrian trail, or hiking or recreational trail was built or is maintained with federal highway transportation funds. Additionally, any new trail or bicycle path or readily identifiable existing trail or bicycle path not built or maintained with federal highway transportation funds may be used by persons operating motorized foot scooters only when appropriately signed.

(7) A person operating an electric personal assistive mobility device (EPAMD) shall obey all speed limits and

shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and human-powered devices at all times. An operator must also give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian. Except for the limitations of this subsection, persons operating an EPAMD have all the rights and duties of a pedestrian.

(8) The use of an EPAMD may be regulated in the following circumstances:

(a) A municipality and the department of transportation may prohibit the operation of an EPAMD on public highways within their respective jurisdictions where the speed limit is greater than twenty-five miles per hour;

(b) A municipality may restrict the speed of an EPAMD in locations with congested pedestrian or nonmotorized traffic and where there is significant speed differential between pedestrians or nonmotorized traffic and EPAMD operators. The areas in this subsection must be designated by the city engineer or designee of the municipality. Municipalities shall not restrict the speed of an EPAMD in the entire community or in areas in which there is infrequent pedestrian traffic;

(c) A state agency or local government may regulate the operation of an EPAMD within the boundaries of any area used for recreation, open space, habitat, trails, or conservation purposes. [2011 c 171 § 81; 2009 c 275 § 9; 2003 c 353 § 10; 2002 c 247 § 7; 1997 c 328 § 5; 1979 ex.s. c 213 § 8.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—2003 c 353:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**Legislative review—2002 c 247:** See note following RCW 46.04.1695.

**46.61.720 Mopeds—Safety standards.** Mopeds shall comply with those federal motor vehicle safety standards established under the national traffic vehicle safety act of 1966 (15 U.S.C. Sec. 1381, et seq.) which are applicable to a motor-driven cycle, as that term is defined in such federal standards. [1979 ex.s. c 213 § 9.]

*Mopeds*

*drivers' licenses, motorcycle endorsement, moped exemption: RCW 46.20.500.*

*registration: RCW 46.16A.405(2).*

**46.61.723 Medium-speed electric vehicles.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, a person may operate a medium-speed electric vehicle upon a highway of this state having a speed limit of thirty-five miles per hour or less, or forty-five miles per hour or less as provided in subsection (4) of this section, if:

(a) The person does not operate a medium-speed electric vehicle upon state highways that are listed in chapter 47.17 RCW;

(b) The person does not operate a medium-speed electric vehicle upon a highway of this state without first having obtained and having in full force and effect a current and proper vehicle license and display vehicle license number plates in compliance with chapter 46.16A RCW. The department must track medium-speed electric vehicles in a separate registration category for reporting purposes;

(c) The person does not operate a medium-speed electric vehicle upon a highway of this state without first obtaining a valid driver's license issued to Washington residents in compliance with chapter 46.20 RCW;

(d) The person does not operate a medium-speed electric vehicle subject to registration under chapter 46.16A RCW on a highway of this state unless the person is insured under a motor vehicle liability policy in compliance with chapter 46.30 RCW; and

(e) The person operating a medium-speed electric vehicle does not cross a roadway with a speed limit in excess of thirty-five miles per hour, or forty-five miles per hour as provided in subsection (4) of this section, unless the crossing begins and ends on a roadway with a speed limit of thirty-five miles per hour or less, or forty-five miles per hour or less as provided in subsection (4) of this section, and occurs at an intersection of approximately ninety degrees, except that the operator of a medium-speed electric vehicle must not cross an uncontrolled intersection of streets and highways that are part of the state highway system subject to Title 47 RCW unless that intersection has been authorized by local authorities under subsection (3) of this section.

(2) Any person who violates this section commits a traffic infraction.

(3) This section does not prevent local authorities, with respect to streets and highways under their jurisdiction and within the reasonable exercise of their police power, from regulating the operation of medium-speed electric vehicles on streets and highways under their jurisdiction by resolution or ordinance of the governing body, if the regulation is consistent with this title, except that:

(a) Local authorities may not authorize the operation of medium-speed electric vehicles on streets and highways that are part of the state highway system subject to Title 47 RCW;

(b) Local authorities may not prohibit the operation of medium-speed electric vehicles upon highways of this state having a speed limit of thirty-five miles per hour or less; and

(c) Local authorities may not establish requirements for the registration and licensing of medium-speed electric vehicles.

(4) In counties consisting of islands whose only connection to the mainland are ferry routes, a person may operate a medium-speed electric vehicle upon a highway of this state having a speed limit of forty-five miles per hour or less. A person operating a medium-speed electric vehicle as authorized under this subsection must not cross a roadway with a speed limit in excess of forty-five miles per hour, unless the crossing begins and ends on a roadway with a speed limit of forty-five miles per hour or less and occurs at an intersection of approximately ninety degrees, except that the operator of a medium-speed electric vehicle must not cross an uncontrolled intersection of streets and highways that are part of the state highway system subject to Title 47 RCW unless that intersection has been authorized by local authorities under subsection (3) of this section.

(5) Accidents must be recorded and tracked in compliance with chapter 46.52 RCW. An accident report must indicate and be tracked separately when any of the vehicles involved are a medium-speed electric vehicle. [2011 c 171 § 82; 2010 c 144 § 2; 2007 c 510 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—2007 c 510:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**46.61.725 Neighborhood electric vehicles.** (1) Absent prohibition by local authorities authorized under this section and except as prohibited elsewhere in this section, a person may operate a neighborhood electric vehicle upon a highway of this state having a speed limit of thirty-five miles per hour or less, or forty-five miles per hour or less as provided in subsection (4) of this section, if:

(a) The person does not operate a neighborhood electric vehicle upon state highways that are listed in chapter 47.17 RCW;

(b) The person does not operate a neighborhood electric vehicle upon a highway of this state without first having obtained and having in full force and effect a current and proper vehicle license and display vehicle license number plates in compliance with chapter 46.16A RCW. The department must track neighborhood electric vehicles in a separate registration category for reporting purposes;

(c) The person does not operate a neighborhood electric vehicle upon a highway of this state without first obtaining a valid driver's license issued to Washington residents in compliance with chapter 46.20 RCW;

(d) The person does not operate a neighborhood electric vehicle subject to registration under chapter 46.16A RCW on a highway of this state unless the person is insured under a motor vehicle liability policy in compliance with chapter 46.30 RCW; and

(e) The person operating a neighborhood electric vehicle does not cross a roadway with a speed limit in excess of thirty-five miles per hour, or forty-five miles per hour as provided in subsection (4) of this section, unless the crossing begins and ends on a roadway with a speed limit of thirty-five miles per hour or less, or forty-five miles per hour or less as provided in subsection (4) of this section, and occurs at an intersection of approximately ninety degrees, except that the operator of a neighborhood electric vehicle must not cross an uncontrolled intersection of streets and highways that are part of the state highway system subject to Title 47 RCW unless that intersection has been authorized by local authorities provided elsewhere in this section.

(2) Any person who violates this section commits a traffic infraction.

(3) This section does not prevent local authorities, with respect to streets and highways under their jurisdiction and within the reasonable exercise of their police power, from regulating the operation of neighborhood electric vehicles on streets and highways under their jurisdiction by resolution or ordinance of the governing body, if the regulation is consistent with the provisions of this title, except that:

(a) Local authorities may not authorize the operation of neighborhood electric vehicles on streets and highways that are part of the state highway system subject to the provisions of Title 47 RCW;

(b) Local authorities may not prohibit the operation of neighborhood electric vehicles upon highways of this state having a speed limit of twenty-five miles per hour or less; and

(c) Local authorities are prohibited from establishing any requirements for the registration and licensing of neighborhood electric vehicles.

(4) In counties consisting of islands whose only connection to the mainland are ferry routes, a person may operate a neighborhood electric vehicle upon a highway of this state

having a speed limit of forty-five miles per hour or less. A person operating a neighborhood electric vehicle as authorized under this subsection must not cross a roadway with a speed limit in excess of forty-five miles per hour, unless the crossing begins and ends on a roadway with a speed limit of forty-five miles per hour or less and occurs at an intersection of approximately ninety degrees, except that the operator of a neighborhood electric vehicle must not cross an uncontrolled intersection of streets and highways that are part of the state highway system subject to Title 47 RCW unless that intersection has been authorized by local authorities under subsection (3) of this section.

(5) Accidents must be recorded and tracked in compliance with chapter 46.52 RCW. An accident report must indicate and be tracked separately when any of the vehicles involved are a neighborhood electric vehicle. [2011 c 171 § 83; 2010 c 144 § 3; 2003 c 353 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—2003 c 353:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**46.61.730 Wheelchair conveyances.** (1) No person may operate a wheelchair conveyance on any public roadway with a posted speed limit in excess of thirty-five miles per hour.

(2) No person other than a wheelchair-bound person may operate a wheelchair conveyance on a public roadway.

(3) Every wheelchair-bound person operating a wheelchair conveyance upon a roadway is granted all the rights and is subject to all the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by this chapter, except those provisions that by their nature can have no application.

(4) A violation of this section is a traffic infraction. [1983 c 200 § 5.]

*Wheelchair conveyances*

*definitions:* RCW 46.04.710.

*operator's license:* RCW 46.20.109.

*registration:* RCW 46.16A.405(3).

*safety standards:* RCW 46.37.610.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.735 Ferry queues—Violations—Exemptions.** (1) It is a traffic infraction for a driver of a motor vehicle intending to board a Washington state ferry, to: (a) Block a residential driveway while waiting to board the ferry; or (b) move in front of another vehicle in a queue already waiting to board the ferry, without the authorization of a state ferry system employee. Vehicles qualifying for preferential loading privileges under rules adopted by the department of transportation are exempt from this section. In addition to any other penalty imposed for a violation of this section, the driver will be directed to immediately move the motor vehicle to the end of the queue of vehicles waiting to board the ferry. Violations of this section are not part of the vehicle driver's driving record under RCW 46.52.101 and 46.52.120.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to a driver of a motor vehicle intending to board the Keller Ferry on state route No. 21. [2007 c 423 § 1.]

**46.61.740 Theft of motor vehicle fuel.** (1) Any person who refuses to pay or evades payment for motor vehicle fuel that is pumped into a motor vehicle is guilty of theft of motor

vehicle fuel. A violation of this subsection is a gross misdemeanor punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(2) The court shall order the department to suspend the person's license, permit, or nonresident privilege to drive for a period specified by the court of up to six months. [2001 c 325 § 1.]

#### OPERATION OF NONMOTORIZED VEHICLES

**46.61.750 Effect of regulations—Penalty.** (1) It is a traffic infraction for any person to do any act forbidden or fail to perform any act required in RCW 46.61.750 through 46.61.780.

(2) These regulations applicable to bicycles apply whenever a bicycle is operated upon any highway or upon any bicycle path, subject to those exceptions stated herein. [1982 c 55 § 6; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 92; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 79.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

*Bicycle awareness program:* RCW 43.43.390.

*"Bicycle" defined:* RCW 46.04.071.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.755 Traffic laws apply to persons riding bicycles.** (1) Every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by this chapter, except as to special regulations in RCW 46.61.750 through 46.61.780 and except as to those provisions of this chapter which by their nature can have no application.

(2) Every person riding a bicycle upon a sidewalk or crosswalk must be granted all of the rights and is subject to all of the duties applicable to a pedestrian by this chapter. [2000 c 85 § 3; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 80.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.758 Hand signals.** All hand signals required of persons operating bicycles shall be given in the following manner:

(1) Left turn. Left hand and arm extended horizontally beyond the side of the bicycle;

(2) Right turn. Left hand and arm extended upward beyond the side of the bicycle, or right hand and arm extended horizontally to the right side of the bicycle;

(3) Stop or decrease speed. Left hand and arm extended downward beyond the side of the bicycle.

The hand signals required by this section shall be given before initiation of a turn. [1982 c 55 § 8.]

**46.61.760 Riding on bicycles.** (1) A person propelling a bicycle shall not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto.

(2) No bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 81.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.765 Clinging to vehicles.** No person riding upon any bicycle, coaster, roller skates, sled, or toy vehicle shall attach the same or himself or herself to any vehicle upon a roadway. [2010 c 8 § 9076; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 82.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*



**46.61.770 Riding on roadways and bicycle paths.** (1) Every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway at a rate of speed less than the normal flow of traffic at the particular time and place shall ride as near to the right side of the right through lane as is safe except as may be appropriate while preparing to make or while making turning movements, or while overtaking and passing another bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction. A person operating a bicycle upon a roadway or highway other than a limited-access highway, which roadway or highway carries traffic in one direction only and has two or more marked traffic lanes, may ride as near to the left side of the left through lane as is safe. A person operating a bicycle upon a roadway may use the shoulder of the roadway or any specially designated bicycle lane if such exists.

(2) Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles. [1982 c 55 § 7; 1974 ex.s. c 141 § 14; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 83.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

*Use of bicycles on limited-access highways: RCW 46.61.160.*

**46.61.775 Carrying articles.** No person operating a bicycle shall carry any package, bundle or article which prevents the driver from keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 84.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.61.780 Lamps and other equipment on bicycles.** (1) Every bicycle when in use during the hours of darkness as defined in RCW 46.37.020 shall be equipped with a lamp on the front which shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet to the front and with a red reflector on the rear of a type approved by the state patrol which shall be visible from all distances up to six hundred feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful lower beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of five hundred feet to the rear may be used in addition to the red reflector. A light-emitting diode flashing taillight visible from a distance of five hundred feet to the rear may also be used in addition to the red reflector.

(2) Every bicycle shall be equipped with a brake which will enable the operator to make the braked wheels skid on dry, level, clean pavement. [1998 c 165 § 17; 1987 c 330 § 746; 1975 c 62 § 39; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 85.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.61.790 Intoxicated bicyclists.** (1) A law enforcement officer may offer to transport a bicycle rider who appears to be under the influence of alcohol or any drug and who is walking or moving along or within the right-of-way of a public roadway, unless the bicycle rider is to be taken into protective custody under RCW 70.96A.120. The law enforcement officer offering to transport an intoxicated bicyclist under this section shall:

- (a) Transport the intoxicated bicyclist to a safe place; or
- (b) Release the intoxicated bicyclist to a competent person.

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(2) The law enforcement officer shall not provide the assistance offered if the bicycle rider refuses to accept it. No suit or action may be commenced or prosecuted against the law enforcement officer, law enforcement agency, the state of Washington, or any political subdivision of the state for any act resulting from the refusal of the bicycle rider to accept this assistance.

(3) The law enforcement officer may impound the bicycle operated by an intoxicated bicyclist if the officer determines that impoundment is necessary to reduce a threat to public safety, and there are no reasonable alternatives to impoundment. The bicyclist will be given a written notice of when and where the impounded bicycle may be reclaimed. The bicycle may be reclaimed by the bicyclist when the bicyclist no longer appears to be intoxicated, or by an individual who can establish ownership of the bicycle. The bicycle must be returned without payment of a fee. If the bicycle is not reclaimed within thirty days, it will be subject to sale or disposal consistent with agency procedures. [2000 c 85 § 4.]

**46.61.990 Recodification of sections—Organization of chapter—Construction.** Sections 1 through 52 and 54 through 86 of chapter 155, Laws of 1965 ex. sess. are added to chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and shall constitute a new chapter in Title 46 of the Revised Code of Washington and sections 54, 55, and 63 as herein amended and RCW 46.48.012, 46.48.014, 46.48.015, 46.48.016, 46.48.023, 46.48.025, 46.48.026, 46.48.041, 46.48.046, 46.48.050, 46.48.060, 46.48.080, 46.48.110, 46.48.120, 46.48.150, 46.48.160, 46.48.340, 46.56.030, 46.56.070, 46.56.100, 46.56.130, 46.56.135, 46.56.190, 46.56.200, 46.56.210, 46.56.220, 46.56.230, 46.56.240, 46.60.260, 46.60.270, 46.60.330, and 46.60.340 shall be recodified as and be a part of said chapter. The sections of the new chapter shall be organized under the following captions: "OBEDIENCE TO AND EFFECT OF TRAFFIC LAWS", "TRAFFIC SIGNS, SIGNALS AND MARKINGS", "DRIVING ON RIGHT SIDE OF ROADWAY—OVERTAKING AND PASSING—USE OF ROADWAY", "RIGHT-OF-WAY", "PEDESTRIANS' RIGHTS AND DUTIES", "TURNING AND STARTING AND SIGNALS ON STOPPING AND TURNING", "SPECIAL STOPS REQUIRED", "SPEED RESTRICTIONS", "RECKLESS DRIVING, DRIVING WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR OR ANY DRUG, AND NEGLIGENT HOMICIDE BY VEHICLE", "STOPPING, STANDING AND PARKING", "MISCELLANEOUS RULES", and "OPERATION OF NONMOTORIZED VEHICLES". Such captions shall not constitute any part of the law. [1991 c 290 § 5; 1991 c 214 § 3; 1965 ex.s. c 155 § 92.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1991 c 214 § 3 and by 1991 c 290 § 5, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**46.61.991 Severability—1965 ex.s. c 155.** If any provision of this amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1965 ex.s. c 155 § 93.]

## Chapter 46.63 RCW

## DISPOSITION OF TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS

## Sections

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*Additional statutory assessments: RCW 3.62.090, 46.64.055.*

*Traffic and civil infraction cases involving juveniles under age sixteen: RCW 13.40.250.*

**46.63.010 Legislative intent.** It is the legislative intent in the adoption of this chapter in decriminalizing certain traffic offenses to promote the public safety and welfare on public highways and to facilitate the implementation of a uniform and expeditious system for the disposition of traffic infractions. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.020 Violations as traffic infractions—Exceptions.** Failure to perform any act required or the performance of any act prohibited by this title or an equivalent administrative regulation or local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution relating to traffic including parking, standing, stopping, and pedestrian offenses, is designated as a traffic infraction and may not be classified as a criminal offense, except for an offense contained in the following provisions of this title or a violation of an equivalent administrative regulation or local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution:

(1) RCW 46.09.470(2) relating to the operation of a non-highway vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a controlled substance;

(2) RCW 46.09.480 relating to operation of nonhighway vehicles;

(3) RCW 46.10.490(2) relating to the operation of a snowmobile while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics or habit-forming drugs or in a manner endangering the person of another;

(4) RCW 46.10.495 relating to the operation of snowmobiles;

(5) Chapter 46.12 RCW relating to certificates of title, registration certificates, and markings indicating that a vehicle has been destroyed or declared a total loss;

(6) RCW 46.16A.030 and 46.16A.050(3) relating to the nonpayment of taxes and fees by failure to register a vehicle and falsifying residency when registering a motor vehicle;

(7) RCW 46.16A.520 relating to permitting unauthorized persons to drive;

(8) RCW 46.16A.320 relating to vehicle trip permits;

(9) RCW 46.19.050 relating to knowingly providing false information in conjunction with an application for a special placard or license plate for disabled persons' parking;

(10) RCW 46.20.005 relating to driving without a valid driver's license;

(11) RCW 46.20.091 relating to false statements regarding a driver's license or instruction permit;

(12) RCW 46.20.0921 relating to the unlawful possession and use of a driver's license;

(13) RCW 46.20.342 relating to driving with a suspended or revoked license or status;

(14) RCW 46.20.345 relating to the operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended or revoked license;

(15) RCW 46.20.410 relating to the violation of restrictions of an occupational driver's license, temporary restricted driver's license, or ignition interlock driver's license;

(16) RCW 46.20.740 relating to operation of a motor vehicle without an ignition interlock device in violation of a license notation that the device is required;

(17) RCW 46.20.750 relating to circumventing an ignition interlock device;

(18) RCW 46.25.170 relating to commercial driver's licenses;

(19) Chapter 46.29 RCW relating to financial responsibility;

(20) RCW 46.30.040 relating to providing false evidence of financial responsibility;

(21) RCW 46.35.030 relating to recording device information;

(22) RCW 46.37.435 relating to wrongful installation of sunscreening material;

(23) RCW 46.37.650 relating to the sale, resale, distribution, or installation of a previously deployed air bag;

(24) RCW 46.37.671 through 46.37.675 relating to signal preemption devices;

(25) RCW 46.44.180 relating to operation of mobile home pilot vehicles;

(26) RCW 46.48.175 relating to the transportation of dangerous articles;

(27) RCW 46.52.010 relating to duty on striking an unattended car or other property;

(28) RCW 46.52.020 relating to duty in case of injury to or death of a person or damage to an attended vehicle;

(29) RCW 46.52.090 relating to reports by repairers, storage persons, and appraisers;

(30) RCW 46.52.130 relating to confidentiality of the driving record to be furnished to an insurance company, an employer, and an alcohol/drug assessment or treatment agency;

(31) RCW 46.55.020 relating to engaging in the activities of a registered tow truck operator without a registration certificate;

(32) RCW 46.55.035 relating to prohibited practices by tow truck operators;

(33) RCW 46.55.300 relating to vehicle immobilization;

- (34) RCW 46.61.015 relating to obedience to police officers, flaggers, or firefighters;
- (35) RCW 46.61.020 relating to refusal to give information to or cooperate with an officer;
- (36) RCW 46.61.022 relating to failure to stop and give identification to an officer;
- (37) RCW 46.61.024 relating to attempting to elude pursuing police vehicles;
- (38) RCW 46.61.212(4) relating to reckless endangerment of emergency zone workers;
- (39) RCW 46.61.500 relating to reckless driving;
- (40) RCW 46.61.502 and 46.61.504 relating to persons under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs;
- (41) RCW 46.61.503 relating to a person under age twenty-one driving a motor vehicle after consuming alcohol;
- (42) RCW 46.61.520 relating to vehicular homicide by motor vehicle;
- (43) RCW 46.61.522 relating to vehicular assault;
- (44) RCW 46.61.5249 relating to first degree negligent driving;
- (45) RCW 46.61.527(4) relating to reckless endangerment of roadway workers;
- (46) RCW 46.61.530 relating to racing of vehicles on highways;
- (47) RCW 46.61.655(7) (a) and (b) relating to failure to secure a load;
- (48) RCW 46.61.685 relating to leaving children in an unattended vehicle with the motor running;
- (49) RCW 46.61.740 relating to theft of motor vehicle fuel;
- (50) RCW 46.64.010 relating to unlawful cancellation of or attempt to cancel a traffic citation;
- (51) RCW 46.64.048 relating to attempting, aiding, abetting, coercing, and committing crimes;
- (52) Chapter 46.65 RCW relating to habitual traffic offenders;
- (53) RCW 46.68.010 relating to false statements made to obtain a refund;
- (54) Chapter 46.70 RCW relating to unfair motor vehicle business practices, except where that chapter provides for the assessment of monetary penalties of a civil nature;
- (55) Chapter 46.72 RCW relating to the transportation of passengers in for hire vehicles;
- (56) RCW 46.72A.060 relating to limousine carrier insurance;
- (57) RCW 46.72A.070 relating to operation of a limousine without a vehicle certificate;
- (58) RCW 46.72A.080 relating to false advertising by a limousine carrier;
- (59) Chapter 46.80 RCW relating to motor vehicle wreckers;
- (60) Chapter 46.82 RCW relating to driver's training schools;
- (61) RCW 46.87.260 relating to alteration or forgery of a cab card, letter of authority, or other temporary authority issued under chapter 46.87 RCW;
- (62) RCW 46.87.290 relating to operation of an unregistered or unlicensed vehicle under chapter 46.87 RCW. [2010 c 252 § 3; 2010 c 161 § 1125; 2010 c 8 § 9077; 2009 c 485 § 6; 2008 c 282 § 11. Prior: 2005 c 431 § 2; 2005 c 323 § 3; 2005 c 183 § 10; 2004 c 95 § 14; 2003 c 33 § 4; 2001 c 325 §

4; 1999 c 86 § 6; 1998 c 294 § 3; prior: 1997 c 229 § 13; 1997 c 66 § 8; prior: 1996 c 307 § 6; 1996 c 287 § 7; 1996 c 93 § 3; 1996 c 87 § 21; 1996 c 31 § 3; prior: 1995 1st sp.s. c 16 § 1; 1995 c 332 § 16; 1995 c 256 § 25; prior: 1994 c 275 § 33; 1994 c 141 § 2; 1993 c 501 § 8; 1992 c 32 § 4; 1991 c 339 § 27; prior: 1990 c 250 § 59; 1990 c 95 § 3; prior: 1989 c 353 § 8; 1989 c 178 § 27; 1989 c 111 § 20; prior: 1987 c 388 § 11; 1987 c 247 § 6; 1987 c 244 § 55; 1987 c 181 § 2; 1986 c 186 § 3; prior: 1985 c 377 § 28; 1985 c 353 § 2; 1985 c 302 § 7; 1983 c 164 § 6; 1982 c 10 § 12; prior: 1981 c 318 § 2; 1981 c 19 § 1; 1980 c 148 § 7; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2010 c 252 § 3, 2010 c 161 § 1125, and by 2010 c 8 § 9077, each without reference to the other. All amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2010 c 252:** See note following RCW 46.61.212.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2010 c 8 § 9077:** "Section 9077 of this act takes effect July 1, 2010." [2010 c 8 § 20001.]

**Effective date—2009 c 485:** See note following RCW 46.35.010.

**Effective date—2008 c 282:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

**Declaration and intent—Effective date—Application—2005 c 323:** See notes following RCW 46.16A.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.030 Notice of traffic infraction—Issuance—Abandoned vehicles.** (1) A law enforcement officer has the authority to issue a notice of traffic infraction:

(a) When the infraction is committed in the officer's presence;

(b) When the officer is acting upon the request of a law enforcement officer in whose presence the traffic infraction was committed;

(c) If an officer investigating at the scene of a motor vehicle accident has reasonable cause to believe that the driver of a motor vehicle involved in the accident has committed a traffic infraction;

(d) When the infraction is detected through the use of an automated traffic safety camera under RCW 46.63.170; or

(e) When the infraction is detected through the use of an automated school bus safety camera under RCW 46.63.180.

(2) A court may issue a notice of traffic infraction upon receipt of a written statement of the officer that there is reasonable cause to believe that an infraction was committed.

(3) If any motor vehicle without a driver is found parked, standing, or stopped in violation of this title or an equivalent administrative regulation or local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution, the officer finding the vehicle shall take its registration number and may take any other information displayed on the vehicle which may identify its user, and shall conspicuously affix to the vehicle a notice of traffic infraction.

(4) In the case of failure to redeem an abandoned vehicle under RCW 46.55.120, upon receiving a complaint by a registered tow truck operator that has incurred costs in removing, storing, and disposing of an abandoned vehicle, an officer of the law enforcement agency responsible for directing the removal of the vehicle shall send a notice of infraction by certified mail to the last known address of the person responsible under RCW 46.55.105. The notice must be entitled

"Littering—Abandoned Vehicle" and give notice of the monetary penalty. The officer shall append to the notice of infraction, on a form prescribed by the department of licensing, a notice indicating the amount of costs incurred as a result of removing, storing, and disposing of the abandoned vehicle, less any amount realized at auction, and a statement that monetary penalties for the infraction will not be considered as having been paid until the monetary penalty payable under this chapter has been paid and the court is satisfied that the person has made restitution in the amount of the deficiency remaining after disposal of the vehicle. [2011 c 375 § 5; 2011 c 375 § 4; 2010 c 249 § 5; 2007 c 101 § 1; 2005 c 167 § 2; 2004 c 231 § 2; 2002 c 279 § 14; 1995 c 219 § 5; 1994 c 176 § 3; 1987 c 66 § 2; 1980 c 128 § 10; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 3.]

**Contingent effective date—2011 c 375 §§ 5, 7, and 9:** "Sections 5, 7, and 9 of this act take effect upon certification by the secretary of transportation that the new statewide tolling operations center and photo toll system are fully operational. A notice of certification must be filed with the code reviser for publication in the state register. If a certificate is not issued by the secretary of transportation by December 1, 2012, sections 5, 7, and 9 of this act are null and void." [2011 c 375 § 10.] A notice of certification was filed with the code reviser on December 2, 2011, becoming effective December 3, 2011 (see WSR 11-24-042).

**Intent—2011 c 375:** See note following RCW 46.63.180.

**Contingent effective date—2010 c 249:** See note following RCW 47.56.795.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.040 Jurisdiction of courts—Jurisdiction of college and university governing bodies.** (1) All violations of state law, local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution designated as traffic infractions in RCW 46.63.020 may be heard and determined by a district court, except as otherwise provided in this section.

(2) Any municipal court has the authority to hear and determine traffic infractions pursuant to this chapter.

(3) Any city or town with a municipal court may contract with the county to have traffic infractions committed within the city or town adjudicated by a district court.

(4) District court commissioners have the authority to hear and determine traffic infractions pursuant to this chapter.

(5) Any district or municipal court may refer juveniles age sixteen or seventeen who are enrolled in school to a youth court, as defined in RCW 3.72.005 or 13.40.020, for traffic infractions.

(6) The boards of regents of the state universities, and the boards of trustees of the regional universities and of The Evergreen State College have the authority to hear and determine traffic infractions under RCW 28B.10.560. [2002 c 237 § 20; 1984 c 258 § 137; 1983 c 221 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.050 Training of judicial officers.** All judges and court commissioners adjudicating traffic infractions shall complete such training requirements as are promulgated by the supreme court. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 7.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.060 Notice of traffic infraction—Determination final unless contested—Form.** (1) A notice of traffic infraction represents a determination that an infraction has

been committed. The determination will be final unless contested as provided in this chapter.

(2) The form for the notice of traffic infraction shall be prescribed by rule of the supreme court and shall include the following:

(a) A statement that the notice represents a determination that a traffic infraction has been committed by the person named in the notice and that the determination shall be final unless contested as provided in this chapter;

(b) A statement that a traffic infraction is a noncriminal offense for which imprisonment may not be imposed as a sanction; that the penalty for a traffic infraction may include sanctions against the person's driver's license including suspension, revocation, or denial; that the penalty for a traffic infraction related to standing, stopping, or parking may include nonrenewal of the vehicle license;

(c) A statement of the specific traffic infraction for which the notice was issued;

(d) A statement of the monetary penalty established for the traffic infraction;

(e) A statement of the options provided in this chapter for responding to the notice and the procedures necessary to exercise these options;

(f) A statement that at any hearing to contest the determination the state has the burden of proving, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the infraction was committed; and that the person may subpoena witnesses including the officer who issued the notice of infraction;

(g) A statement that at any hearing requested for the purpose of explaining mitigating circumstances surrounding the commission of the infraction the person will be deemed to have committed the infraction and may not subpoena witnesses;

(h) A statement that the person must respond to the notice as provided in this chapter within fifteen days or the person's driver's license or driving privilege will be suspended by the department until any penalties imposed pursuant to this chapter have been satisfied; and

(i) A statement that failure to appear at a hearing requested for the purpose of contesting the determination or for the purpose of explaining mitigating circumstances will result in the suspension of the person's driver's license or driving privilege, or in the case of a standing, stopping, or parking violation, refusal of the department to renew the vehicle license, until any penalties imposed pursuant to this chapter have been satisfied.

(3) A form for a notice of traffic infraction printed after July 22, 2011, must include a statement that the person may be able to enter into a payment plan with the court under RCW 46.63.110. [2011 c 233 § 1; 2006 c 270 § 2; 1993 c 501 § 9; 1984 c 224 § 2; 1982 1st ex.s. c 14 § 2; 1980 c 128 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 8.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.070 Response to notice—Contesting determination—Hearing—Failure to respond or appear.** (1) Any person who receives a notice of traffic infraction shall respond to such notice as provided in this section within fifteen days of the date of the notice.

(2) If the person determined to have committed the infraction does not contest the determination the person shall

respond by completing the appropriate portion of the notice of infraction and submitting it, either by mail or in person, to the court specified on the notice. A check or money order in the amount of the penalty prescribed for the infraction must be submitted with the response. When a response which does not contest the determination is received, an appropriate order shall be entered in the court's records, and a record of the response and order shall be furnished to the department in accordance with RCW 46.20.270.

(3) If the person determined to have committed the infraction wishes to contest the determination the person shall respond by completing the portion of the notice of infraction requesting a hearing and submitting it, either by mail or in person, to the court specified on the notice. The court shall notify the person in writing of the time, place, and date of the hearing, and that date shall not be sooner than seven days from the date of the notice, except by agreement.

(4) If the person determined to have committed the infraction does not contest the determination but wishes to explain mitigating circumstances surrounding the infraction the person shall respond by completing the portion of the notice of infraction requesting a hearing for that purpose and submitting it, either by mail or in person, to the court specified on the notice. The court shall notify the person in writing of the time, place, and date of the hearing.

(5)(a) Except as provided in (b), (c), and (d) of this subsection, in hearings conducted pursuant to subsections (3) and (4) of this section, the court may defer findings, or in a hearing to explain mitigating circumstances may defer entry of its order, for up to one year and impose conditions upon the defendant the court deems appropriate. Upon deferring findings, the court may assess costs as the court deems appropriate for administrative processing. If at the end of the deferral period the defendant has met all conditions and has not been determined to have committed another traffic infraction, the court may dismiss the infraction.

(b) A person may not receive more than one deferral within a seven-year period for traffic infractions for moving violations and more than one deferral within a seven-year period for traffic infractions for nonmoving violations.

(c) A person who is the holder of a commercial driver's license or who was operating a commercial motor vehicle at the time of the violation may not receive a deferral under this section.

(d) A person who commits negligent driving in the second degree with a vulnerable user victim may not receive a deferral for this infraction under this section.

(6) If any person issued a notice of traffic infraction:

(a) Fails to respond to the notice of traffic infraction as provided in subsection (2) of this section; or

(b) Fails to appear at a hearing requested pursuant to subsection (3) or (4) of this section;

the court shall enter an appropriate order assessing the monetary penalty prescribed for the traffic infraction and any other penalty authorized by this chapter and shall notify the department in accordance with RCW 46.20.270, of the failure to respond to the notice of infraction or to appear at a requested hearing. [2011 c 372 § 3; 2006 c 327 § 7; 2004 c 187 § 10; 2000 c 110 § 1; 1993 c 501 § 10; 1984 c 224 § 3; 1982 1st ex.s. c 14 § 3; 1980 c 128 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 9.]

**Application—Effective date—2011 c 372:** See notes following RCW 46.61.526.

**Effective date—2004 c 187 §§ 1, 5, 7, 8, and 10:** See note following RCW 46.20.308.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.073 Rental vehicles.** (1) In the event a traffic infraction is based on a vehicle's identification, and the registered owner of the vehicle is a rental car business, the law enforcement agency shall, before a notice of infraction may be issued, provide a written notice to the rental car business that a notice of infraction may be issued to the rental car business if the rental car business does not, within thirty days of receiving the written notice, provide to the issuing agency by return mail:

(a) A statement under oath stating the name and known mailing address of the individual driving or renting the vehicle when the infraction occurred; or

(b) A statement under oath that the business is unable to determine who was driving or renting the vehicle at the time the infraction occurred because the vehicle was stolen at the time of the infraction. A statement provided under this subsection must be accompanied by a copy of a filed police report regarding the vehicle theft.

Timely mailing of this statement to the issuing law enforcement agency relieves a rental car business of any liability under this chapter for the notice of infraction. In lieu of identifying the vehicle operator, the rental car business may pay the applicable penalty. For the purpose of this subsection, a "traffic infraction based on a vehicle's identification" includes, but is not limited to, parking infractions, high occupancy toll lane violations, and violations recorded by automated traffic safety cameras.

(2) In the event a parking infraction is issued by a private parking facility and is based on a vehicle's identification, and the registered owner of the vehicle is a rental car business, the parking facility shall, before a notice of infraction may be issued, provide a written notice to the rental car business that a notice of infraction may be issued to the rental car business if the rental car business does not, within thirty days of receiving the written notice, provide to the parking facility by return mail:

(a) A statement under oath stating the name and known mailing address of the individual driving or renting the vehicle when the infraction occurred; or

(b) A statement under oath that the business is unable to determine who was driving or renting the vehicle at the time the infraction occurred because the vehicle was stolen at the time of the infraction. A statement provided under this subsection must be accompanied by a copy of a filed police report regarding the vehicle theft.

Timely mailing of this statement to the parking facility relieves a rental car business of any liability under this chapter for the notice of infraction. In lieu of identifying the vehicle operator, the rental car business may pay the applicable penalty. For the purpose of this subsection, a "parking infraction based on a vehicle's identification" is limited to parking infractions occurring on a private parking facility's premises. [2007 c 372 § 1; 2005 c 331 § 2.]

**46.63.075 Safety camera infractions—Presumption.**

(1) In a traffic infraction case involving an infraction detected through the use of an automated traffic safety camera under RCW 46.63.170 or detected through the use of an automated school bus safety camera under RCW 46.63.180, proof that the particular vehicle described in the notice of traffic infraction was in violation of any such provision of RCW 46.63.170 and 46.63.180, together with proof that the person named in the notice of traffic infraction was at the time of the violation the registered owner of the vehicle, constitutes in evidence a prima facie presumption that the registered owner of the vehicle was the person in control of the vehicle at the point where, and for the time during which, the violation occurred.

(2) This presumption may be overcome only if the registered owner states, under oath, in a written statement to the court or in testimony before the court that the vehicle involved was, at the time, stolen or in the care, custody, or control of some person other than the registered owner. [2012 c 83 § 6; 2011 c 375 § 7; 2011 c 375 § 6; 2010 c 249 § 7; 2005 c 167 § 3; 2004 c 231 § 3.]

**Contingent effective date—2011 c 375 §§ 5, 7, and 9:** See note following RCW 46.63.030.

**Intent—2011 c 375:** See note following RCW 46.63.180.

**Contingent effective date—2010 c 249:** See note following RCW 47.56.795.

**46.63.080 Hearings—Rules of procedure—Counsel.**

(1) Procedures for the conduct of all hearings provided for in this chapter may be established by rule of the supreme court.

(2) Any person subject to proceedings under this chapter may be represented by counsel.

(3) The attorney representing the state, county, city, or town may appear in any proceedings under this chapter but need not appear, notwithstanding any statute or rule of court to the contrary. [1981 c 19 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 10.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.090 Hearings—Contesting determination that infraction committed—Appeal.** (1) A hearing held for the purpose of contesting the determination that an infraction has been committed shall be without a jury.

(2) The court may consider the notice of traffic infraction and any other written report made under oath submitted by the officer who issued the notice or whose written statement was the basis for the issuance of the notice in lieu of the officer's personal appearance at the hearing. The person named in the notice may subpoena witnesses, including the officer, and has the right to present evidence and examine witnesses present in court.

(3) The burden of proof is upon the state to establish the commission of the infraction by a preponderance of the evidence.

(4) After consideration of the evidence and argument the court shall determine whether the infraction was committed. Where it has not been established that the infraction was committed an order dismissing the notice shall be entered in the court's records. Where it has been established that the infraction was committed an appropriate order shall be entered in the court's records. A record of the court's determination and order shall be furnished to the department in

accordance with RCW 46.20.270 as now or hereafter amended.

(5) An appeal from the court's determination or order shall be to the superior court. The decision of the superior court is subject only to discretionary review pursuant to Rule 2.3 of the Rules of Appellate Procedure. [1980 c 128 § 3; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.100 Hearings—Explanation of mitigating circumstances.** (1) A hearing held for the purpose of allowing a person to explain mitigating circumstances surrounding the commission of an infraction shall be an informal proceeding. The person may not subpoena witnesses. The determination that an infraction has been committed may not be contested at a hearing held for the purpose of explaining mitigating circumstances.

(2) After the court has heard the explanation of the circumstances surrounding the commission of the infraction an appropriate order shall be entered in the court's records. A record of the court's determination and order shall be furnished to the department in accordance with RCW 46.20.270 as now or hereafter amended.

(3) There may be no appeal from the court's determination or order. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 12.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.105 City attorney, county prosecutor, or other prosecuting authority—Filing an infraction—Contribution, donation, payment.** A city attorney, county prosecutor, or other prosecuting authority may not dismiss, amend, or agree not to file an infraction in exchange for a contribution, donation, or payment to any person, corporation, or organization. This does not prohibit:

(1) Contribution, donation, or payment to any specific fund authorized by state statute;

(2) The collection of costs associated with actual supervision, treatment, or collection of restitution under agreements to defer or divert; or

(3) Dismissal following payment that is authorized by any other statute. [2007 c 367 § 2.]

**46.63.110 Monetary penalties. (Effective until June 1, 2013.)** (1) A person found to have committed a traffic infraction shall be assessed a monetary penalty. No penalty may exceed two hundred and fifty dollars for each offense unless authorized by this chapter or title.

(2) The monetary penalty for a violation of (a) RCW 46.55.105(2) is two hundred fifty dollars for each offense; (b) RCW 46.61.210(1) is five hundred dollars for each offense. No penalty assessed under this subsection (2) may be reduced.

(3) The supreme court shall prescribe by rule a schedule of monetary penalties for designated traffic infractions. This rule shall also specify the conditions under which local courts may exercise discretion in assessing fines and penalties for traffic infractions. The legislature respectfully requests the supreme court to adjust this schedule every two years for inflation.

(4) There shall be a penalty of twenty-five dollars for failure to respond to a notice of traffic infraction except

where the infraction relates to parking as defined by local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution or failure to pay a monetary penalty imposed pursuant to this chapter. A local legislative body may set a monetary penalty not to exceed twenty-five dollars for failure to respond to a notice of traffic infraction relating to parking as defined by local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution. The local court, whether a municipal, police, or district court, shall impose the monetary penalty set by the local legislative body.

(5) Monetary penalties provided for in chapter 46.70 RCW which are civil in nature and penalties which may be assessed for violations of chapter 46.44 RCW relating to size, weight, and load of motor vehicles are not subject to the limitation on the amount of monetary penalties which may be imposed pursuant to this chapter.

(6) Whenever a monetary penalty, fee, cost, assessment, or other monetary obligation is imposed by a court under this chapter it is immediately payable. If the court determines, in its discretion, that a person is not able to pay a monetary obligation in full, and not more than one year has passed since the later of July 1, 2005, or the date the monetary obligation initially became due and payable, the court shall enter into a payment plan with the person, unless the person has previously been granted a payment plan with respect to the same monetary obligation, or unless the person is in noncompliance of any existing or prior payment plan, in which case the court may, at its discretion, implement a payment plan. If the court has notified the department that the person has failed to pay or comply and the person has subsequently entered into a payment plan and made an initial payment, the court shall notify the department that the infraction has been adjudicated, and the department shall rescind any suspension of the person's driver's license or driver's privilege based on failure to respond to that infraction. "Payment plan," as used in this section, means a plan that requires reasonable payments based on the financial ability of the person to pay. The person may voluntarily pay an amount at any time in addition to the payments required under the payment plan.

(a) If a payment required to be made under the payment plan is delinquent or the person fails to complete a community restitution program on or before the time established under the payment plan, unless the court determines good cause therefor and adjusts the payment plan or the community restitution plan accordingly, the court shall notify the department of the person's failure to meet the conditions of the plan, and the department shall suspend the person's driver's license or driving privilege until all monetary obligations, including those imposed under subsections (3) and (4) of this section, have been paid, and court authorized community restitution has been completed, or until the department has been notified that the court has entered into a new time payment or community restitution agreement with the person.

(b) If a person has not entered into a payment plan with the court and has not paid the monetary obligation in full on or before the time established for payment, the court shall notify the department of the delinquency. The department shall suspend the person's driver's license or driving privilege until all monetary obligations have been paid, including those imposed under subsections (3) and (4) of this section,

or until the person has entered into a payment plan under this section.

(c) If the payment plan is to be administered by the court, the court may assess the person a reasonable administrative fee to be wholly retained by the city or county with jurisdiction. The administrative fee shall not exceed ten dollars per infraction or twenty-five dollars per payment plan, whichever is less.

(d) Nothing in this section precludes a court from contracting with outside entities to administer its payment plan system. When outside entities are used for the administration of a payment plan, the court may assess the person a reasonable fee for such administrative services, which fee may be calculated on a periodic, percentage, or other basis.

(e) If a court authorized community restitution program for offenders is available in the jurisdiction, the court may allow conversion of all or part of the monetary obligations due under this section to court authorized community restitution in lieu of time payments if the person is unable to make reasonable time payments.

(7) In addition to any other penalties imposed under this section and not subject to the limitation of subsection (1) of this section, a person found to have committed a traffic infraction shall be assessed:

(a) A fee of five dollars per infraction. Under no circumstances shall this fee be reduced or waived. Revenue from this fee shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit in the emergency medical services and trauma care system trust account under RCW 70.168.040;

(b) A fee of ten dollars per infraction. Under no circumstances shall this fee be reduced or waived. Revenue from this fee shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit in the Washington auto theft prevention authority account; and

(c) A fee of two dollars per infraction. Revenue from this fee shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit in the traumatic brain injury account established in RCW 74.31.060.

(8)(a) In addition to any other penalties imposed under this section and not subject to the limitation of subsection (1) of this section, a person found to have committed a traffic infraction other than of RCW 46.61.527 or 46.61.212 shall be assessed an additional penalty of twenty dollars. The court may not reduce, waive, or suspend the additional penalty unless the court finds the offender to be indigent. If a court authorized community restitution program for offenders is available in the jurisdiction, the court shall allow offenders to offset all or a part of the penalty due under this subsection (8) by participation in the court authorized community restitution program.

(b) Eight dollars and fifty cents of the additional penalty under (a) of this subsection shall be remitted to the state treasurer. The remaining revenue from the additional penalty must be remitted under chapters 2.08, 3.46, 3.50, 3.62, 10.82, and 35.20 RCW. Money remitted under this subsection to the state treasurer must be deposited in the state general fund. The balance of the revenue received by the county or city treasurer under this subsection must be deposited into the county or city current expense fund. Moneys retained by the city or county under this subsection shall constitute reimbursement for any liabilities under RCW 43.135.060.

(9) If a legal proceeding, such as garnishment, has commenced to collect any delinquent amount owed by the person for any penalty imposed by the court under this section, the court may, at its discretion, enter into a payment plan.

(10) The monetary penalty for violating RCW 46.37.395 is: (a) Two hundred fifty dollars for the first violation; (b) five hundred dollars for the second violation; and (c) seven hundred fifty dollars for each violation thereafter. [2010 c 252 § 5; 2009 c 479 § 39. Prior: 2007 c 356 § 8; 2007 c 199 § 28; prior: 2005 c 413 § 2; 2005 c 320 § 2; 2005 c 288 § 8; 2003 c 380 § 2. Prior: 2002 c 279 § 15; 2002 c 175 § 36; 2001 c 289 § 2; 1997 c 331 § 3; 1993 c 501 § 11; 1986 c 213 § 2; 1984 c 258 § 330; prior: 1982 1st ex.s. c 14 § 4; 1982 1st ex.s. c 12 § 1; 1982 c 10 § 13; prior: 1981 c 330 § 7; 1981 c 19 § 6; 1980 c 128 § 4; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 13.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Effective date—2010 c 252:** See note following RCW 46.61.212.

**Effective date—2009 c 479:** See note following RCW 2.56.030.

**Short title—2007 c 356:** See note following RCW 74.31.005.

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Effective date—2005 c 288:** See note following RCW 46.20.245.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.34.130.

*Additional statutory assessments: RCW 3.62.090, 46.64.055.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.110 Monetary penalties. (Effective June 1, 2013.)** (1) A person found to have committed a traffic infraction shall be assessed a monetary penalty. No penalty may exceed two hundred and fifty dollars for each offense unless authorized by this chapter or title.

(2) The monetary penalty for a violation of (a) RCW 46.55.105(2) is two hundred fifty dollars for each offense; (b) RCW 46.61.210(1) is five hundred dollars for each offense. No penalty assessed under this subsection (2) may be reduced.

(3) The supreme court shall prescribe by rule a schedule of monetary penalties for designated traffic infractions. This rule shall also specify the conditions under which local courts may exercise discretion in assessing fines and penalties for traffic infractions. The legislature respectfully requests the supreme court to adjust this schedule every two years for inflation.

(4) There shall be a penalty of twenty-five dollars for failure to respond to a notice of traffic infraction except where the infraction relates to parking as defined by local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution or failure to pay a monetary penalty imposed pursuant to this chapter. A local legislative body may set a monetary penalty not to exceed twenty-five dollars for failure to respond to a notice of traffic infraction relating to parking as defined by local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution. The local court, whether a municipal, police, or district court, shall impose the monetary penalty set by the local legislative body.

(5) Monetary penalties provided for in chapter 46.70 RCW which are civil in nature and penalties which may be assessed for violations of chapter 46.44 RCW relating to size, weight, and load of motor vehicles are not subject to the lim-

itation on the amount of monetary penalties which may be imposed pursuant to this chapter.

(6) Whenever a monetary penalty, fee, cost, assessment, or other monetary obligation is imposed by a court under this chapter, it is immediately payable and is enforceable as a civil judgment under Title 6 RCW. If the court determines, in its discretion, that a person is not able to pay a monetary obligation in full, and not more than one year has passed since the later of July 1, 2005, or the date the monetary obligation initially became due and payable, the court shall enter into a payment plan with the person, unless the person has previously been granted a payment plan with respect to the same monetary obligation, or unless the person is in noncompliance of any existing or prior payment plan, in which case the court may, at its discretion, implement a payment plan. If the court has notified the department that the person has failed to pay or comply and the person has subsequently entered into a payment plan and made an initial payment, the court shall notify the department that the infraction has been adjudicated, and the department shall rescind any suspension of the person's driver's license or driver's privilege based on failure to respond to that infraction. "Payment plan," as used in this section, means a plan that requires reasonable payments based on the financial ability of the person to pay. The person may voluntarily pay an amount at any time in addition to the payments required under the payment plan.

(a) If a payment required to be made under the payment plan is delinquent or the person fails to complete a community restitution program on or before the time established under the payment plan, unless the court determines good cause therefor and adjusts the payment plan or the community restitution plan accordingly, the court may refer the unpaid monetary penalty, fee, cost, assessment, or other monetary obligation for civil enforcement until all monetary obligations, including those imposed under subsections (3) and (4) of this section, have been paid, and court authorized community restitution has been completed, or until the court has entered into a new time payment or community restitution agreement with the person. For those infractions subject to suspension under RCW 46.20.289, the court shall notify the department of the person's failure to meet the conditions of the plan, and the department shall suspend the person's driver's license or driving privileges.

(b) If a person has not entered into a payment plan with the court and has not paid the monetary obligation in full on or before the time established for payment, the court may refer the unpaid monetary penalty, fee, cost, assessment, or other monetary obligation to a collections agency until all monetary obligations have been paid, including those imposed under subsections (3) and (4) of this section, or until the person has entered into a payment plan under this section. For those infractions subject to suspension under RCW 46.20.289, the court shall notify the department of the person's delinquency, and the department shall suspend the person's driver's license or driving privileges.

(c) If the payment plan is to be administered by the court, the court may assess the person a reasonable administrative fee to be wholly retained by the city or county with jurisdiction. The administrative fee shall not exceed ten dollars per infraction or twenty-five dollars per payment plan, whichever is less.



(d) Nothing in this section precludes a court from contracting with outside entities to administer its payment plan system. When outside entities are used for the administration of a payment plan, the court may assess the person a reasonable fee for such administrative services, which fee may be calculated on a periodic, percentage, or other basis.

(e) If a court authorized community restitution program for offenders is available in the jurisdiction, the court may allow conversion of all or part of the monetary obligations due under this section to court authorized community restitution in lieu of time payments if the person is unable to make reasonable time payments.

(7) In addition to any other penalties imposed under this section and not subject to the limitation of subsection (1) of this section, a person found to have committed a traffic infraction shall be assessed:

(a) A fee of five dollars per infraction. Under no circumstances shall this fee be reduced or waived. Revenue from this fee shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit in the emergency medical services and trauma care system trust account under RCW 70.168.040;

(b) A fee of ten dollars per infraction. Under no circumstances shall this fee be reduced or waived. Revenue from this fee shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit in the Washington auto theft prevention authority account; and

(c) A fee of two dollars per infraction. Revenue from this fee shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit in the traumatic brain injury account established in RCW 74.31.060.

(8)(a) In addition to any other penalties imposed under this section and not subject to the limitation of subsection (1) of this section, a person found to have committed a traffic infraction other than of RCW 46.61.527 or 46.61.212 shall be assessed an additional penalty of twenty dollars. The court may not reduce, waive, or suspend the additional penalty unless the court finds the offender to be indigent. If a court authorized community restitution program for offenders is available in the jurisdiction, the court shall allow offenders to offset all or a part of the penalty due under this subsection (8) by participation in the court authorized community restitution program.

(b) Eight dollars and fifty cents of the additional penalty under (a) of this subsection shall be remitted to the state treasurer. The remaining revenue from the additional penalty must be remitted under chapters 2.08, 3.46, 3.50, 3.62, 10.82, and 35.20 RCW. Money remitted under this subsection to the state treasurer must be deposited in the state general fund. The balance of the revenue received by the county or city treasurer under this subsection must be deposited into the county or city current expense fund. Moneys retained by the city or county under this subsection shall constitute reimbursement for any liabilities under RCW 43.135.060.

(9) If a legal proceeding, such as garnishment, has commenced to collect any delinquent amount owed by the person for any penalty imposed by the court under this section, the court may, at its discretion, enter into a payment plan.

(10) The monetary penalty for violating RCW 46.37.395 is: (a) Two hundred fifty dollars for the first violation; (b) five hundred dollars for the second violation; and (c) seven hundred fifty dollars for each violation thereafter. [2012 c 82 § 1; 2010 c 252 § 5; 2009 c 479 § 39. Prior: 2007 c 356 § 8;

2007 c 199 § 28; prior: 2005 c 413 § 2; 2005 c 320 § 2; 2005 c 288 § 8; 2003 c 380 § 2. Prior: 2002 c 279 § 15; 2002 c 175 § 36; 2001 c 289 § 2; 1997 c 331 § 3; 1993 c 501 § 11; 1986 c 213 § 2; 1984 c 258 § 330; prior: 1982 1st ex.s. c 14 § 4; 1982 1st ex.s. c 12 § 1; 1982 c 10 § 13; prior: 1981 c 330 § 7; 1981 c 19 § 6; 1980 c 128 § 4; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 13.]

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**Effective date—Contingency—2012 c 82:** "Except for section 4 of this act, this act takes effect June 1, 2013. If specific funding for the purposes of this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by June 30, 2012, in the transportation appropriations act, this act is null and void." Funding was provided in the transportation appropriations act (section 208(15), chapter 86, Laws of 2012). [2012 c 82 § 6.]

**Effective date—2010 c 252:** See note following RCW 46.61.212.

**Effective date—2009 c 479:** See note following RCW 2.56.030.

**Short title—2007 c 356:** See note following RCW 74.31.005.

**Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199:** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Effective date—2005 c 288:** See note following RCW 46.20.245.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.34.130.

*Additional statutory assessments: RCW 3.62.090, 46.64.055.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.120 Order of court—Civil nature—Waiver, reduction, suspension of penalty—Community restitution.** (1) An order entered after the receipt of a response which does not contest the determination, or after it has been established at a hearing that the infraction was committed, or after a hearing for the purpose of explaining mitigating circumstances is civil in nature.

(2) The court may include in the order the imposition of any penalty authorized by the provisions of this chapter for the commission of an infraction. The court may, in its discretion, waive, reduce, or suspend the monetary penalty prescribed for the infraction. At the person's request the court may order performance of a number of hours of community restitution in lieu of a monetary penalty, at the rate of the then state minimum wage per hour. [2002 c 175 § 37; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 14.]

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.130 Issue of process by court of limited jurisdiction.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of law governing service of process in civil cases, a court of limited jurisdiction having jurisdiction over an alleged traffic infraction may issue process anywhere within the state. [1980 c 128 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.140 Presumption regarding stopped, standing, or parked vehicles.** (1) In any traffic infraction case involving a violation of this title or equivalent administrative regulation or local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution relating to the stopping, standing, or parking of a vehicle, proof that the particular vehicle described in the notice of traffic infraction was stopping, standing, or parking in violation of any such provision of this title or an equivalent administrative regulation or local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution, together with proof that the person named in the notice

of traffic infraction was at the time of the violation the registered owner of the vehicle, shall constitute in evidence a prima facie presumption that the registered owner of the vehicle was the person who parked or placed the vehicle at the point where, and for the time during which, the violation occurred.

(2) The foregoing stated presumption shall apply only when the procedure prescribed in RCW 46.63.030(3) has been followed. [1980 c 128 § 11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.151 Costs and attorney fees.** Each party to a traffic infraction case is responsible for costs incurred by that party. No costs or attorney fees may be awarded to either party in a traffic infraction case, except as provided for in RCW 46.30.020(2). [1991 sp.s. c 25 § 3; 1981 c 19 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.63.160 Photo toll systems—Civil penalties for nonpayment of tolls—System requirements—Rules.** (1) This section applies only to civil penalties for nonpayment of tolls detected through use of photo toll systems.

(2) Nothing in this section prohibits a law enforcement officer from issuing a notice of traffic infraction to a person in control of a vehicle at the time a violation occurs under RCW 46.63.030(1) (a), (b), or (c).

(3) A notice of civil penalty may be issued by the department of transportation when a toll is assessed through use of a photo toll system and the toll is not paid by the toll payment due date, which is eighty days from the date the vehicle uses the toll facility and incurs the toll charge.

(4) Any registered owner or renter of a vehicle traveling upon a toll facility operated under chapter 47.56 or 47.46 RCW is subject to a civil penalty governed by the administrative procedures set forth in this section when the vehicle incurs a toll charge and the toll is not paid by the toll payment due date, which is eighty days from the date the vehicle uses the toll facility and incurs the toll charge.

(5) Consistent with chapter 34.05 RCW, the department of transportation shall develop an administrative adjudication process to review appeals of civil penalties issued by the department of transportation for toll nonpayment detected through the use of a photo toll system under this section.

(6) The use of a photo toll system is subject to the following requirements:

(a) Photo toll systems may take photographs, digital photographs, microphotographs, videotapes, or other recorded images of the vehicle and vehicle license plate only.

(b) A notice of civil penalty must include with it a certificate or facsimile thereof, based upon inspection of photographs, microphotographs, videotape, or other recorded images produced by a photo toll system, stating the facts supporting the notice of civil penalty. This certificate or facsimile is prima facie evidence of the facts contained in it and is admissible in a proceeding established under subsection (5) of this section. The photographs, digital photographs, microphotographs, videotape, or other recorded images evidencing the toll nonpayment civil penalty must be available for inspection and admission into evidence in a proceeding to adjudicate the liability for the civil penalty.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all photographs, digital photographs, microphotographs, videotape, other recorded images, or other records identifying a specific instance of travel prepared under this chapter are for the exclusive use of the tolling agency for toll collection and enforcement purposes and are not open to the public and may not be used in a court in a pending action or proceeding unless the action or proceeding relates to a civil penalty under this chapter. No photograph, digital photograph, microphotograph, videotape, other recorded image, or other record identifying a specific instance of travel may be used for any purpose other than toll collection or enforcement of civil penalties under this section. Records identifying a specific instance of travel by a specific person or vehicle must be retained only as required to ensure payment and enforcement of tolls and to comply with state records retention policies.

(d) All locations where a photo toll system is used must be clearly marked by placing signs in locations that clearly indicate to a driver that he or she is entering a zone where tolls are assessed and enforced by a photo toll system.

(e) Within existing resources, the department of transportation shall conduct education and outreach efforts at least six months prior to activating an all-electronic photo toll system. Methods of outreach shall include a department presence at community meetings in the vicinity of a toll facility, signage, and information published in local media. Information provided shall include notice of when all electronic photo tolling shall begin and methods of payment. Additionally, the department shall provide quarterly reporting on education and outreach efforts and other data related to the issuance of civil penalties.

(7) Civil penalties for toll nonpayment detected through the use of photo toll systems must be issued to the registered owner of the vehicle identified by the photo toll system, but are not part of the registered owner's driving record under RCW 46.52.101 and 46.52.120.

(8) The civil penalty for toll nonpayment detected through the use of a photo toll system is forty dollars plus the photo toll and associated fees.

(9) Except as provided otherwise in this subsection, all civil penalties, including the photo toll and associated fees, collected under this section must be deposited into the toll facility account of the facility on which the toll was assessed. However, through June 30, 2013, civil penalties deposited into the Tacoma Narrows toll bridge account created under RCW 47.56.165 that are in excess of amounts necessary to support the toll adjudication process applicable to toll collection on the Tacoma Narrows bridge must first be allocated toward repayment of operating loans and reserve payments provided to the account from the motor vehicle account under section 1005(15), chapter 518, Laws of 2007. Additionally, all civil penalties, resulting from nonpayment of tolls on the state route number 520 corridor, shall be deposited into the state route number 520 civil penalties account created under section 4, chapter 248, Laws of 2010 but only if chapter 248, Laws of 2010 is enacted by June 30, 2010.

(10) If the registered owner of the vehicle is a rental car business, the department of transportation shall, before a toll bill is issued, provide a written notice to the rental car business that a toll bill may be issued to the rental car business if the rental car business does not, within thirty days of the

mailing of the written notice, provide to the issuing agency by return mail:

(a) A statement under oath stating the name and known mailing address of the individual driving or renting the vehicle when the toll was assessed; or

(b) A statement under oath that the business is unable to determine who was driving or renting the vehicle at the time the toll was assessed because the vehicle was stolen at the time the toll was assessed. A statement provided under this subsection must be accompanied by a copy of a filed police report regarding the vehicle theft; or

(c) In lieu of identifying the vehicle operator, the rental car business may pay the applicable toll and fee.

Timely mailing of this statement to the issuing agency relieves a rental car business of any liability under this section for the payment of the toll.

(11) Consistent with chapter 34.05 RCW, the department of transportation shall develop rules to implement this section.

(12) For the purposes of this section, "photo toll system" means the system defined in RCW 47.56.010 and 47.46.020. [2011 c 367 § 705; 2010 c 249 § 6; (2010 c 161 § 1126 repealed by 2012 c 83 § 8); 2009 c 272 § 1. Prior: 2007 c 372 § 2; 2007 c 101 § 2; 2004 c 231 § 6.]

**Contingent effective date—2011 c 367 §§ 705 and 722:** "Sections 705 and 722 of this act take effect upon certification by the secretary of transportation that the new statewide tolling operations center and photo toll system are fully operational. A notice of certification must be filed with the code reviser for publication in the state register. If a certificate is not issued by the secretary of transportation by December 1, 2012, sections 705 and 722 of this act are null and void." [2011 c 367 § 1104.] A notice of certification was filed with the code reviser on December 2, 2011, becoming effective December 3, 2011 (see WSR 11-24-042).

**Contingent effective date—2010 c 249:** See note following RCW 47.56.795.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Report to legislature—2009 c 272:** "The department shall report to the transportation committees of the legislature by December 1, 2009, with recommendations regarding implementing a time period for the payment of tolls after crossing the Tacoma Narrows bridge in which individuals without a transponder could pay the toll due prior to the issuance of an infraction." [2009 c 272 § 2.]

**46.63.170 Automated traffic safety cameras—Definition.** (1) The use of automated traffic safety cameras for issuance of notices of infraction is subject to the following requirements:

(a) The appropriate local legislative authority must prepare an analysis of the locations within the jurisdiction where automated traffic safety cameras are proposed to be located: (i) Before enacting an ordinance allowing for the initial use of automated traffic safety cameras; and (ii) before adding additional cameras or relocating any existing camera to a new location within the jurisdiction. Automated traffic safety cameras may be used to detect one or more of the following: Stoplight, railroad crossing, or school speed zone violations. At a minimum, the local ordinance must contain the restrictions described in this section and provisions for public notice and signage. Cities and counties using automated traffic safety cameras before July 24, 2005, are subject to the restrictions described in this section, but are not required to enact an authorizing ordinance. Beginning one year after

June 7, 2012, cities and counties using automated traffic safety cameras must post an annual report of the number of traffic accidents that occurred at each location where an automated traffic safety camera is located as well as the number of notices of infraction issued for each camera and any other relevant information about the automated traffic safety cameras that the city or county deems appropriate on the city's or county's web site.

(b) Use of automated traffic safety cameras is restricted to the following locations only: (i) Intersections of two arterials with traffic control signals that have yellow change interval durations in accordance with RCW 47.36.022, which interval durations may not be reduced after placement of the camera; (ii) railroad crossings; and (iii) school speed zones.

(c) During the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium, automated traffic safety cameras may be used to detect speed violations for the purposes of section 201(2), chapter 367, Laws of 2011 if the local legislative authority first enacts an ordinance authorizing the use of cameras to detect speed violations.

(d) Automated traffic safety cameras may only take pictures of the vehicle and vehicle license plate and only while an infraction is occurring. The picture must not reveal the face of the driver or of passengers in the vehicle. The primary purpose of camera placement is to take pictures of the vehicle and vehicle license plate when an infraction is occurring. Cities and counties shall consider installing cameras in a manner that minimizes the impact of camera flash on drivers.

(e) A notice of infraction must be mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle within fourteen days of the violation, or to the renter of a vehicle within fourteen days of establishing the renter's name and address under subsection (3)(a) of this section. The law enforcement officer issuing the notice of infraction shall include with it a certificate or facsimile thereof, based upon inspection of photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images produced by an automated traffic safety camera, stating the facts supporting the notice of infraction. This certificate or facsimile is prima facie evidence of the facts contained in it and is admissible in a proceeding charging a violation under this chapter. The photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images evidencing the violation must be available for inspection and admission into evidence in a proceeding to adjudicate the liability for the infraction. A person receiving a notice of infraction based on evidence detected by an automated traffic safety camera may respond to the notice by mail.

(f) The registered owner of a vehicle is responsible for an infraction under RCW 46.63.030(1)(d) unless the registered owner overcomes the presumption in RCW 46.63.075, or, in the case of a rental car business, satisfies the conditions under subsection (3) of this section. If appropriate under the circumstances, a renter identified under subsection (3)(a) of this section is responsible for an infraction.

(g) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images prepared under this section are for the exclusive use of law enforcement in the discharge of duties under this section and are not open to the public and may not be used in a court in a pending action or proceeding unless the action or proceeding relates to a violation under this section. No photograph, microphotograph, or electronic image may be used for any purpose

other than enforcement of violations under this section nor retained longer than necessary to enforce this section.

(h) All locations where an automated traffic safety camera is used must be clearly marked at least thirty days prior to activation of the camera by placing signs in locations that clearly indicate to a driver that he or she is entering a zone where traffic laws are enforced by an automated traffic safety camera. Signs placed in automated traffic safety camera locations after June 7, 2012, must follow the specifications and guidelines under the manual of uniform traffic control devices for streets and highways as adopted by the department of transportation under chapter 47.36 RCW.

(i) If a county or city has established an authorized automated traffic safety camera program under this section, the compensation paid to the manufacturer or vendor of the equipment used must be based only upon the value of the equipment and services provided or rendered in support of the system, and may not be based upon a portion of the fine or civil penalty imposed or the revenue generated by the equipment.

(2) Infractions detected through the use of automated traffic safety cameras are not part of the registered owner's driving record under RCW 46.52.101 and 46.52.120. Additionally, infractions generated by the use of automated traffic safety cameras under this section shall be processed in the same manner as parking infractions, including for the purposes of RCW 3.50.100, 35.20.220, 46.16A.120, and 46.20.270(3). The amount of the fine issued for an infraction generated through the use of an automated traffic safety camera shall not exceed the amount of a fine issued for other parking infractions within the jurisdiction. However, the amount of the fine issued for a traffic control signal violation detected through the use of an automated traffic safety camera shall not exceed the monetary penalty for a violation of RCW 46.61.050 as provided under RCW 46.63.110, including all applicable statutory assessments.

(3) If the registered owner of the vehicle is a rental car business, the law enforcement agency shall, before a notice of infraction being issued under this section, provide a written notice to the rental car business that a notice of infraction may be issued to the rental car business if the rental car business does not, within eighteen days of receiving the written notice, provide to the issuing agency by return mail:

(a) A statement under oath stating the name and known mailing address of the individual driving or renting the vehicle when the infraction occurred; or

(b) A statement under oath that the business is unable to determine who was driving or renting the vehicle at the time the infraction occurred because the vehicle was stolen at the time of the infraction. A statement provided under this subsection must be accompanied by a copy of a filed police report regarding the vehicle theft; or

(c) In lieu of identifying the vehicle operator, the rental car business may pay the applicable penalty.

Timely mailing of this statement to the issuing law enforcement agency relieves a rental car business of any liability under this chapter for the notice of infraction.

(4) Nothing in this section prohibits a law enforcement officer from issuing a notice of traffic infraction to a person in control of a vehicle at the time a violation occurs under RCW 46.63.030(1) (a), (b), or (c).

(5) For the purposes of this section, "automated traffic safety camera" means a device that uses a vehicle sensor installed to work in conjunction with an intersection traffic control system, a railroad grade crossing control system, or a speed measuring device, and a camera synchronized to automatically record one or more sequenced photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images of the rear of a motor vehicle at the time the vehicle fails to stop when facing a steady red traffic control signal or an activated railroad grade crossing control signal, or exceeds a speed limit in a school speed zone as detected by a speed measuring device. During the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium, an automated traffic safety camera includes a camera used to detect speed violations for the purposes of section 201(2), chapter 367, Laws of 2011.

(6) During the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium, this section does not apply to automated traffic safety cameras for the purposes of section 216(5), chapter 367, Laws of 2011. [2012 c 85 § 3; 2012 c 83 § 7; 2011 c 367 § 704; 2010 c 161 § 1127; 2009 c 470 § 714; 2007 c 372 § 3; 2005 c 167 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2012 c 83 § 7 and by 2012 c 85 § 3, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Findings—Intent—2012 c 85:** "The legislature finds that it is in the interests of the driving public to continue to provide for a uniform system of traffic control signals, including provisions relative to yellow light durations, fine amounts for certain traffic control signal violations, and signage and reporting requirements at certain traffic control signal locations. The legislature further finds that a uniform system of traffic control signals greatly enhances the public's confidence in a safe and equitable highway network. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to harmonize and make uniform certain legal provisions relating to traffic control signals." [2012 c 85 § 1.]

**Effective date—2011 c 367 §§ 703, 704, 716, and 719:** See note following RCW 46.18.060.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2009 c 470:** See note following RCW 46.68.170.

#### **46.63.180 Automated school bus safety cameras—**

**Definition.** (1) School districts may install and operate automated school bus safety cameras on school buses to be used for the detection of violations of RCW 46.61.370(1) if the use of the cameras is approved by a vote of the school district board of directors. School districts are not required to take school buses out of service if the buses are not equipped with automated school bus safety cameras or functional automated safety cameras. Further, school districts shall be held harmless from and not liable for any criminal or civil liability arising under the provisions of this section.

(a) Automated school bus safety cameras may only take pictures of the vehicle and vehicle license plate and only while an infraction is occurring. The picture must not reveal the face of the driver or of passengers in the vehicle.

(b) A notice of infraction must be mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle within fourteen days of the violation, or to the renter of a vehicle within fourteen days of establishing the renter's name and address under subsection (2)(a)(i) of this section. The law enforcement officer issuing the notice of infraction shall include a certificate or facsimile of the notice, based upon inspection of photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images produced by an automated school bus safety camera, stating the facts supporting the

notice of infraction. This certificate or facsimile is prima facie evidence of the facts contained in it and is admissible in a proceeding charging a violation under this chapter. The photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images evidencing the violation must be available for inspection and admission into evidence in a proceeding to adjudicate the liability for the infraction. A person receiving a notice of infraction based on evidence detected by an automated school bus safety camera may respond to the notice by mail.

(c) The registered owner of a vehicle is responsible for an infraction under RCW 46.63.030(1)(e) unless the registered owner overcomes the presumption in RCW 46.63.075, or, in the case of a rental car business, satisfies the conditions under subsection (2) of this section. If appropriate under the circumstances, a renter identified under subsection (2)(a)(i) of this section is responsible for an infraction.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images prepared under this section are for the exclusive use of law enforcement in the discharge of duties under this section and are not open to the public and may not be used in a court in a pending action or proceeding unless the action or proceeding relates to a violation under this section. No photograph, microphotograph, or electronic image may be used for any purpose other than enforcement of violations under this section nor retained longer than necessary to enforce this section.

(e) If a school district installs and operates an automated school bus safety camera under this section, the compensation paid to the manufacturer or vendor of the equipment used must be based only upon the value of the equipment and services provided or rendered in support of the system, and may not be based upon a portion of the fine or civil penalty imposed or the revenue generated by the equipment. Further, any repair, replacement, or administrative work costs related to installing or repairing automated school bus safety cameras must be solely paid for by the manufacturer or vendor of the cameras. Before entering into a contract with the manufacturer or vendor of the equipment used under this subsection (1)(e), the school district must follow the competitive bid process as outlined in RCW 28A.335.190(1).

(f) Any revenue collected from infractions detected through the use of automated school bus safety cameras, less the administration and operating costs of the cameras, must be remitted to school districts for school zone safety projects as determined by the school district using the automated school bus safety cameras. The administration and operating costs of the cameras includes infraction enforcement and processing costs that are incurred by local law enforcement or local courts.

(2)(a) If the registered owner of the vehicle is a rental car business, the law enforcement agency shall, before a notice of infraction is issued under this section, provide a written notice to the rental car business that a notice of infraction may be issued to the rental car business if the rental car business does not, within eighteen days of receiving the written notice, provide to the issuing agency by return mail:

(i) A statement under oath stating the name and known mailing address of the individual driving or renting the vehicle when the infraction occurred;

(ii) A statement under oath that the business is unable to determine who was driving or renting the vehicle at the time

the infraction occurred because the vehicle was stolen at the time of the infraction. A statement provided under this subsection (2)(a)(ii) must be accompanied by a copy of a filed police report regarding the vehicle theft; or

(iii) In lieu of identifying the vehicle operator, the rental car business may pay the applicable penalty.

(b) Timely mailing of a statement under this subsection to the issuing law enforcement agency relieves a rental car business of any liability under this chapter for the notice of infraction.

(3) For purposes of this section, "automated school bus safety camera" means a device that is affixed to a school bus that is synchronized to automatically record one or more sequenced photographs, microphotographs, or electronic images of the rear of a vehicle at the time the vehicle is detected for an infraction identified in RCW 46.61.370(1). [2011 c 375 § 2.]

**Intent—2011 c 375:** "The legislature recognizes that the safe transportation of children to and from school is a shared responsibility of the school district and the driving public. In order to increase public awareness of their responsibility, it is the intent of the legislature that the state superintendent of public instruction coordinate with school districts and any other relevant agencies who voluntarily choose to participate in a national stop arm violation day annually between March 1st and May 15th." [2011 c 375 § 1.]

## Chapter 46.64 RCW ENFORCEMENT

### Sections

46.64.010	Traffic citations—Record of—Cancellation prohibited—Penalty—Citation audit.
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46.64.050	General penalty.
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46.64.070	Stopping motor vehicles for driver's license check, vehicle inspection and test—Authorized—Powers additional.

*Arrest without warrant for certain traffic offenses: RCW 10.31.100.*

**46.64.010 Traffic citations—Record of—Cancellation prohibited—Penalty—Citation audit.** (1) Every traffic enforcement agency in this state shall provide in appropriate form traffic citations containing notices to appear which shall be issued in books with citations in quadruplicate and meeting the requirements of this section, or issued by an electronic device capable of producing a printed copy and electronic copies of the citations. The chief administrative officer of every such traffic enforcement agency shall be responsible for the issuance of such books or electronic devices and shall maintain a record of every such book and each citation contained therein and every such electronic device issued to individual members of the traffic enforcement agency and shall require and retain a receipt for every book and electronic device so issued.

(2) Every traffic enforcement officer upon issuing a traffic citation to an alleged violator of any provision of the motor vehicle laws of this state or of any traffic ordinance of

any city or town shall deposit the original or a printed or electronic copy of such traffic citation with a court having competent jurisdiction over the alleged offense or with its traffic violations bureau. Upon the deposit of the original or a copy of such traffic citation with a court having competent jurisdiction over the alleged offense or with its traffic violations bureau as aforesaid, the original or copy of such traffic citation may be disposed of only by trial in the court or other official action by a judge of the court, including forfeiture of the bail or by the deposit of sufficient bail with or payment of a fine to the traffic violations bureau by the person to whom such traffic citation has been issued by the traffic enforcement officer.

(3) It shall be unlawful and official misconduct for any traffic enforcement officer or other officer or public employee to dispose of a traffic citation or copies thereof or of the record of the issuance of the same in a manner other than as required in this section.

(4) The chief administrative officer of every traffic enforcement agency shall require the return to him or her of a printed or electronic copy of every traffic citation issued by an officer under his or her supervision to an alleged violator of any traffic law or ordinance and of all copies of every traffic citation which has been spoiled or upon which any entry has been made and not issued to an alleged violator. Such chief administrative officer shall also maintain or cause to be maintained in connection with every traffic citation issued by an officer under his or her supervision a record of the disposition of the charge by the court or its traffic violations bureau in which the original or copy of the traffic citation was deposited.

(5) Any person who cancels or solicits the cancellation of any traffic citation, in any manner other than as provided in this section, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(6) Every record of traffic citations required in this section shall be audited monthly by the appropriate fiscal officer of the government agency to which the traffic enforcement agency is responsible. [2004 c 43 § 4; 2003 c 53 § 247; 1961 c 12 § 46.64.010. Prior: 1949 c 196 § 16; 1937 c 189 § 145; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6360-145.]

**Effective date—2004 c 43:** See note following RCW 7.80.150.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**46.64.015 Citation and notice to appear in court—Issuance—Contents—Arrest—Detention.** Whenever any person is arrested for any violation of the traffic laws or regulations which is punishable as a misdemeanor or by imposition of a fine, the arresting officer may serve upon him or her a traffic citation and notice to appear in court. Such citation and notice shall conform to the requirements of RCW 46.64.010, and in addition, shall include spaces for the name and address of the person arrested, the license number of the vehicle involved, the driver's license number of such person, if any, the offense or violation charged, and the time and place where such person shall appear in court. Such spaces shall be filled with the appropriate information by the arresting officer. An officer may not serve or issue any traffic citation or notice for any offense or violation except either when the offense or violation is committed in his or her presence or when a person may be arrested pursuant to RCW 10.31.100,

as now or hereafter amended. The detention arising from an arrest under this section may not be for a period of time longer than is reasonably necessary to issue and serve a citation and notice, except that the time limitation does not apply under any of the following circumstances:

(1) Where the arresting officer has probable cause to believe that the arrested person has committed any of the offenses enumerated in RCW 10.31.100(3);

(2) When the arrested person is a nonresident and is being detained for a hearing under RCW 46.64.035. [2006 c 270 § 3; 2004 c 43 § 5; 1987 c 345 § 2; 1985 c 303 § 11; 1979 ex.s. c 28 § 2; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 95 § 2; 1975 c 56 § 1; 1967 c 32 § 70; 1961 c 12 § 46.64.015. Prior: 1951 c 175 § 1.]

**Effective date—2004 c 43:** See note following RCW 7.80.150.

**46.64.025 Failure to appear—Notice to department.** (*Effective until June 1, 2013.*) Whenever any person served with a traffic citation willfully fails to appear for a scheduled court hearing, the court in which the defendant failed to appear shall promptly give notice of such fact to the department of licensing. Whenever thereafter the case in which the defendant failed to appear is adjudicated, the court hearing the case shall promptly file with the department a certificate showing that the case has been adjudicated. [2006 c 270 § 4; 1999 c 86 § 7; 1979 c 158 § 175; 1967 c 32 § 71; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 23.]

**Purpose—Construction—1965 ex.s. c 121:** See note following RCW 46.20.021.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.64.025 Failure to appear—Notice to department.** (*Effective June 1, 2013.*) Whenever any person served with a traffic citation willfully fails to appear at a requested hearing for a moving violation or fails to comply with the terms of a notice of traffic citation for a moving violation, the court in which the defendant failed to appear shall promptly give notice of such fact to the department of licensing. Whenever thereafter the case in which the defendant failed to appear is adjudicated, the court hearing the case shall promptly file with the department a certificate showing that the case has been adjudicated. For the purposes of this section, "moving violation" is defined by rule pursuant to RCW 46.20.2891. [2012 c 82 § 5; 2006 c 270 § 4; 1999 c 86 § 7; 1979 c 158 § 175; 1967 c 32 § 71; 1965 ex.s. c 121 § 23.]

**Effective date—Contingency—2012 c 82:** See note following RCW 46.63.110.

**Purpose—Construction—1965 ex.s. c 121:** See note following RCW 46.20.021.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.64.030 Procedure governing arrest and prosecution.** The provisions of this title with regard to the apprehension and arrest of persons violating this title shall govern all police officers in making arrests without a warrant for violations of this title for offenses either committed in their presence or believed to have been committed based on probable cause pursuant to RCW 10.31.100, but the procedure prescribed herein shall not otherwise be exclusive of any other method prescribed by law for the arrest and prosecution of a person for other like offenses. [1979 ex.s. c 28 § 3; 1975 c 56

§ 2; 1967 c 32 § 72; 1961 c 12 § 46.64.030. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 147; RRS § 6360-147.]

**46.64.035 Posting of security or bail by nonresident—Penalty.** Any nonresident of the state of Washington who is issued a notice of infraction or a citation for a traffic offense may be required to post either a bond or cash security in the amount of the infraction penalty or to post bail. The court shall by January 1, 1990, accept, in lieu of bond or cash security, valid major credit cards issued by a bank or other financial institution or automobile club card guaranteed by an insurance company licensed to conduct business in the state. If payment is made by credit card the court is authorized to impose, in addition to any penalty or fine, an amount equal to the charge to the court for accepting such cards. If the person cannot post the bond, cash security, or bail, he or she shall be taken to a magistrate or judge for a hearing at the first possible working time of the court. If the person refuses to comply with this section, he or she shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. This section does not apply to residents of states that have entered into a reciprocal agreement as outlined in RCW 46.23.020. [1987 c 345 § 3.]

**46.64.040 Nonresident's use of highways—Resident leaving state—Secretary of state as attorney-in-fact.** The acceptance by a nonresident of the rights and privileges conferred by law in the use of the public highways of this state, as evidenced by his or her operation of a vehicle thereon, or the operation thereon of his or her vehicle with his or her consent, express or implied, shall be deemed equivalent to and construed to be an appointment by such nonresident of the secretary of state of the state of Washington to be his or her true and lawful attorney upon whom may be served all lawful summons and processes against him or her growing out of any accident, collision, or liability in which such nonresident may be involved while operating a vehicle upon the public highways, or while his or her vehicle is being operated thereon with his or her consent, express or implied, and such operation and acceptance shall be a signification of the nonresident's agreement that any summons or process against him or her which is so served shall be of the same legal force and validity as if served on the nonresident personally within the state of Washington. Likewise each resident of this state who, while operating a motor vehicle on the public highways of this state, is involved in any accident, collision, or liability and thereafter at any time within the following three years cannot, after a due and diligent search, be found in this state appoints the secretary of state of the state of Washington as his or her lawful attorney for service of summons as provided in this section for nonresidents. Service of such summons or process shall be made by leaving two copies thereof with a fee established by the secretary of state by rule with the secretary of state of the state of Washington, or at the secretary of state's office, and such service shall be sufficient and valid personal service upon said resident or nonresident: PROVIDED, That notice of such service and a copy of the summons or process is forthwith sent by registered mail with return receipt requested, by plaintiff to the defendant at the last known address of the said defendant, and the plaintiff's affidavit of compliance herewith are appended to the process, together with the affidavit of the plaintiff's attorney that the

attorney has with due diligence attempted to serve personal process upon the defendant at all addresses known to him or her of defendant and further listing in his or her affidavit the addresses at which he or she attempted to have process served. However, if process is forwarded by registered mail and defendant's endorsed receipt is received and entered as a part of the return of process then the foregoing affidavit of plaintiff's attorney need only show that the defendant received personal delivery by mail: PROVIDED FURTHER, That personal service outside of this state in accordance with the provisions of law relating to personal service of summons outside of this state shall relieve the plaintiff from mailing a copy of the summons or process by registered mail as hereinbefore provided. The secretary of state shall forthwith send one of such copies by mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the defendant at the defendant's address, if known to the secretary of state. The court in which the action is brought may order such continuances as may be necessary to afford the defendant reasonable opportunity to defend the action. The fee paid by the plaintiff to the secretary of state shall be taxed as part of his or her costs if he or she prevails in the action. The secretary of state shall keep a record of all such summons and processes, which shall show the day of service. [2003 c 223 § 1; 1993 c 269 § 16; 1982 c 35 § 197; 1973 c 91 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 69 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.64.040. Prior: 1959 c 121 § 1; 1957 c 75 § 1; 1937 c 189 § 129; RRS § 6360-129.]

**Rules of court:** Cf. CR 12(a).

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—Application—1982 c 35:** See notes following RCW 43.07.160.

*Deposit of fees in secretary of state's revolving fund:* RCW 43.07.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.64.048 Attempting, aiding, abetting, coercing, committing violations, punishable.** Every person who commits, attempts to commit, conspires to commit, or aids or abets in the commission of any act declared by this title to be a traffic infraction or a crime, whether individually or in connection with one or more other persons or as principal, agent, or accessory, shall be guilty of such offense, and every person who falsely, fraudulently, forcefully, or willfully induces, causes, coerces, requires, permits or directs others to violate any provisions of this title is likewise guilty of such offense. [1990 c 250 § 60; 1961 c 12 § 46.56.210. Prior: 1937 c 189 § 149; RRS § 6360-149. Formerly RCW 46.61.695.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.64.050 General penalty.** It is a traffic infraction for any person to violate any of the provisions of this title unless violation is by this title or other law of this state declared to be a felony, a gross misdemeanor, or a misdemeanor.

Unless another penalty is in this title provided, every person convicted of a misdemeanor for violation of any provisions of this title shall be punished accordingly. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 93; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 95 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.64.050. Prior: (i) 1937 c 189 § 150; RRS § 6360-150; 1927 c 309 § 53; RRS § 6362-53. (ii) 1937 c 188 § 82; RRS § 6312-82; 1921 c 108 § 16; RRS § 6378.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.64.055 Additional monetary penalty.** (1) In addition to any other penalties imposed for conviction of a violation of this title that is a misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor, or felony, the court shall impose an additional penalty of fifty dollars. The court may not reduce, waive, or suspend the additional penalty unless the court finds the offender to be indigent. If a community restitution program for offenders is available in the jurisdiction, the court shall allow offenders to offset all or a part of the penalty due under this section by participation in the community restitution program.

(2) Revenue from the additional penalty must be remitted under chapters 2.08, 3.46, 3.50, 3.62, 10.82, and 35.20 RCW. Money remitted under this section to the state treasurer must be deposited in the state general fund. The balance of the revenue received by the county or city treasurer under this section must be deposited into the county or city current expense fund. Moneys retained by the city or county under this subsection shall constitute reimbursement for any liabilities under RCW 43.135.060. [2009 c 479 § 40; 2002 c 175 § 38; 2001 c 289 § 3.]

**Effective date—2009 c 479:** See note following RCW 2.56.030.

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

*Additional statutory assessments: RCW 3.62.090.*

**46.64.060 Stopping motor vehicles for driver's license check, vehicle inspection and test—Purpose.** The purpose of RCW 46.64.060 and 46.64.070 is to provide for the exercise of the police power of this state to protect the health and safety of its citizens by assuring that only qualified drivers and vehicles which meet minimum equipment standards shall operate upon the highways of this state. [1967 c 144 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.64.070 Stopping motor vehicles for driver's license check, vehicle inspection and test—Authorized—Powers additional.** To carry out the purpose of RCW 46.64.060 and 46.64.070, officers of the Washington state patrol are hereby empowered during daylight hours and while using plainly marked state patrol vehicles to require the driver of any motor vehicle being operated on any highway of this state to stop and display his or her driver's license and/or to submit the motor vehicle being driven by such person to an inspection and test to ascertain whether such vehicle complies with the minimum equipment requirements prescribed by chapter 46.37 RCW, as now or hereafter amended. No criminal citation shall be issued for a period of ten days after giving a warning ticket pointing out the defect.

The powers conferred by RCW 46.64.060 and 46.64.070 are in addition to all other powers conferred by law upon such officers, including but not limited to powers conferred upon them as police officers pursuant to RCW 46.20.349 and powers conferred by chapter 46.32 RCW. [1999 c 6 § 26; 1973 2nd ex.s. c 22 § 1; 1967 c 144 § 2.]

**Intent—1999 c 6:** See note following RCW 46.04.168.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 46.65 RCW

### WASHINGTON HABITUAL TRAFFIC OFFENDERS ACT

#### Sections

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46.65.080	Four-year petition for license restoration—Reinstatement of driving privilege.
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**46.65.010 State policy enunciated.** It is hereby declared to be the policy of the state of Washington:

(1) To provide maximum safety for all persons who travel or otherwise use the public highways of this state; and

(2) To deny the privilege of operating motor vehicles on such highways to persons who by their conduct and record have demonstrated their indifference for the safety and welfare of others and their disrespect for the laws of the state, the orders of her courts and the statutorily required acts of her administrative agencies; and

(3) To discourage repetition of criminal acts by individuals against the peace and dignity of the state and her political subdivisions and to impose increased and added deprivation of the privilege to operate motor vehicles upon habitual offenders who have been convicted repeatedly of violations of traffic laws. [1971 ex.s. c 284 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.65.020 Habitual offender defined.** As used in this chapter, unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context, an habitual offender means any person, resident or nonresident, who has accumulated convictions or findings that the person committed a traffic infraction as defined in RCW 46.20.270, or, if a minor, has violations recorded with the department of licensing, for separate and distinct offenses as described in either subsection (1) or (2) below committed within a five-year period, as evidenced by the records maintained in the department of licensing: PROVIDED, That where more than one described offense is committed within a six-hour period such multiple offenses shall, on the first such occasion, be treated as one offense for the purposes of this chapter:

(1) Three or more convictions, singularly or in combination, of the following offenses:

(a) Vehicular homicide as defined in RCW 46.61.520;

(b) Vehicular assault as defined in RCW 46.61.522;

(c) Driving or operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicants or drugs;

(d) Driving a motor vehicle while his or her license, permit, or privilege to drive has been suspended or revoked as defined in RCW 46.20.342(1)(b);

(e) Failure of the driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting in the injury or death of any person or damage to any vehicle which is driven or attended by any person



to immediately stop such vehicle at the scene of such accident or as close thereto as possible and to forthwith return to and in every event remain at, the scene of such accident until he or she has fulfilled the requirements of RCW 46.52.020;

(f) Reckless driving as defined in RCW 46.61.500;

(g) Being in physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug as defined in RCW 46.61.504; or

(h) Attempting to elude a pursuing police vehicle as defined in RCW 46.61.024;

(2) Twenty or more convictions or findings that the person committed a traffic infraction for separate and distinct offenses, singularly or in combination, in the operation of a motor vehicle that are required to be reported to the department of licensing other than the offenses of driving with an expired driver's license and not having a driver's license in the operator's immediate possession. Such convictions or findings shall include those for offenses enumerated in subsection (1) of this section when taken with and added to those offenses described herein but shall not include convictions or findings for any nonmoving violation. No person may be considered an habitual offender under this subsection unless at least three convictions have occurred within the three hundred sixty-five days immediately preceding the last conviction.

The offenses included in subsections (1) and (2) of this section are deemed to include offenses under any valid town, city, or county ordinance substantially conforming to the provisions cited in subsections (1) and (2) [of this section] or amendments thereto, and any federal law, or any law of another state, including subdivisions thereof, substantially conforming to the aforesaid state statutory provisions. [2010 c 8 § 9078; 1991 c 293 § 7; 1983 c 164 § 7; 1981 c 188 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 94; 1979 c 62 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 284 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.65.030 Transcript or abstract of conviction record certified—As prima facie evidence.** The director of the department of licensing shall certify a transcript or abstract of the record of convictions and findings of traffic infractions as maintained by the department of licensing of any person whose record brings him or her within the definition of an habitual offender, as defined in RCW 46.65.020, to the hearing officer appointed in the event a hearing is requested. Such transcript or abstract may be admitted as evidence in any hearing or court proceeding and shall be prima facie evidence that the person named therein was duly convicted by the court wherein such conviction or holding was made of each offense shown by such transcript or abstract; and if such person denies any of the facts as stated therein, he or she shall have the burden of proving that such fact is untrue. [1983 c 209 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 95; 1979 c 62 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 284 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.65.060 Department findings—Revocation of license—Stay by department.** If the department finds that such person is not an habitual offender under this chapter, the proceeding shall be dismissed, but if the department finds that such person is an habitual offender, the department shall revoke the operator's license for a period of seven years: PROVIDED, That the department may stay the date of the

revocation if it finds that the traffic offenses upon which it is based were caused by or are the result of alcoholism and/or drug addiction as evaluated by a program approved by the department of social and health services, and that since his or her last offense he or she has undertaken and followed a course of treatment for alcoholism and/or drug treatment in a program approved by the department of social and health services; such stay shall be subject to terms and conditions as are deemed reasonable by the department. Said stay shall continue as long as there is no further conviction for any of the offenses listed in RCW 46.65.020(1). Upon a subsequent conviction for any offense listed in RCW 46.65.020(1) or violation of any of the terms or conditions of the original stay order, the stay shall be removed and the department shall revoke the operator's license for a period of seven years. [1999 c 274 § 7; 1985 c 101 § 2; 1981 c 188 § 2; 1979 c 62 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 83 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 284 § 8.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.65.065 Revocation of habitual offender's license—Request for hearing, scope—Right to appeal.** (1) Whenever a person's driving record, as maintained by the department, brings him or her within the definition of an habitual traffic offender, as defined in RCW 46.65.020, the department shall forthwith notify the person of the revocation in writing by certified mail at his or her address of record as maintained by the department. If the person is a nonresident of this state, notice shall be sent to the person's last known address. Notices of revocation shall inform the recipient thereof of his or her right to a formal hearing and specify the steps which must be taken in order to obtain a hearing. Within fifteen days after the notice has been given, the person may, in writing, request a formal hearing. If such a request is not made within the prescribed time the right to a hearing is waived. A request for a hearing stays the effectiveness of the revocation.

(2) Upon receipt of a request for a hearing, the department shall schedule a hearing in the county in which the person making the request resides, and if [the] person is a nonresident of this state, the hearing shall be held in Thurston county. The department shall give at least ten days notice of the hearing to the person.

(3) The scope of the hearings provided by this section is limited to the issues of whether the certified transcripts or abstracts of the convictions, as maintained by the department, show that the requisite number of violations have been accumulated within the prescribed period of time as set forth in RCW 46.65.020 and whether the terms and conditions for granting stays, as provided in RCW 46.65.060, have been met.

(4) Upon receipt of the hearing officer's decision, an aggrieved party may appeal to the superior court of the county in which he or she resides, or, in the case of a nonresident of this state, in the superior court of Thurston county, for review of the revocation. Notice of appeal must be filed within thirty days after receipt of the hearing officer's decision or the right to appeal is waived. Review by the court shall be de novo and without a jury.

(5) The filing of a notice of appeal does not stay the effective date of the revocation. [1989 c 337 § 10; 1979 c 62 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.65.070 Period during which habitual offender not to be issued license.** No license to operate motor vehicles in Washington shall be issued to an habitual offender (1) for a period of seven years from the date of the license revocation except as provided in RCW 46.65.080, and (2) until the privilege of such person to operate a motor vehicle in this state has been restored by the department of licensing as provided in this chapter. [1998 c 214 § 2; 1990 c 250 § 62; 1979 c 62 § 4; 1971 ex.s. c 284 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.65.080 Four-year petition for license restoration—Reinstatement of driving privilege.** At the end of four years, the habitual offender may petition the department of licensing for the return of his or her operator's license and upon good and sufficient showing, the department of licensing may, wholly or conditionally, reinstate the privilege of such person to operate a motor vehicle in this state. [2010 c 8 § 9079; 1998 c 214 § 3; 1979 c 158 § 181; 1971 ex.s. c 284 § 10.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.65.100 Seven-year petition for license restoration—Reinstatement of driving privilege.** At the expiration of seven years from the date of any final order finding a person to be an habitual offender and directing him or her not to operate a motor vehicle in this state, such person may petition the department of licensing for restoration of his or her privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this state. Upon receipt of such petition, and for good cause shown, the department of licensing shall restore to such person the privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this state upon such terms and conditions as the department of licensing may prescribe, subject to the provisions of chapter 46.29 RCW and such other provisions of law relating to the issuance or revocation of operators' licenses. [2010 c 8 § 9080; 1998 c 214 § 4; 1979 c 158 § 182; 1971 ex.s. c 284 § 12.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.65.900 Construction—Chapter supplemental.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as amending, modifying, or repealing any existing law of Washington or any existing ordinance of any political subdivision relating to the operation or licensing of motor vehicles, the licensing of persons to operate motor vehicles or providing penalties for the violation thereof or shall be construed so as to preclude the exercise of regulatory powers of any division, agency, department, or political subdivision of the state having the statutory power to regulate such operation and licensing. [1971 ex.s. c 284 § 14.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.65.910 Short title.** This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Washington Habitual Traffic Offenders Act." [1971 ex.s. c 284 § 18.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 46.66 RCW WASHINGTON AUTO THEFT PREVENTION AUTHORITY

### Sections

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**46.66.010 Authority established—Members.** (1) The Washington auto theft prevention authority is established. The authority shall consist of the following members, appointed by the governor:

(a) The executive director of the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs, or the executive director's designee;

(b) The chief of the Washington state patrol, or the chief's designee;

(c) Two police chiefs;

(d) Two sheriffs;

(e) One prosecuting attorney;

(f) A representative from the insurance industry who is responsible for writing property and casualty liability insurance in the state of Washington;

(g) A representative from the automobile industry; and

(h) One member of the general public.

(2) In addition, the authority may, where feasible, consult with other governmental entities or individuals from the public and private sector in carrying out its duties under this section. [2007 c 199 § 20.]

**46.66.020 Meetings—Officers—Terms.** (1) The Washington auto theft prevention authority shall initially convene at the call of the executive director of the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs, or the executive director's designee, no later than the third Monday in January 2008. Subsequent meetings of the authority shall be at the call of the chair or seven members.

(2) The authority shall annually elect a chairperson and other such officers as it deems appropriate from its membership.

(3) Members of the authority shall serve terms of four years each on a staggered schedule to be established by the first authority. For purposes of initiating a staggered schedule of terms, some members of the first authority may initially serve two years and some members may initially serve four years. [2007 c 199 § 21.]

**46.66.030 Powers, duties.** (1) The Washington auto theft prevention authority may obtain or contract for staff services, including an executive director, and any facilities and equipment as the authority requires to carry out its duties.

(2) The director may enter into contracts with any public or private organization to carry out the purposes of this section and RCW 46.66.010, 46.66.020, and 46.66.040 through 46.66.080.

(3) The authority shall review and make recommendations to the legislature and the governor regarding motor

vehicle theft in Washington state. In preparing the recommendations, the authority shall, at a minimum, review the following issues:

(a) Determine the scope of the problem of motor vehicle theft, including:

(i) Particular areas of the state where the problem is the greatest;

(ii) Annual data reported by local law enforcement regarding the number of reported thefts, investigations, recovered vehicles, arrests, and convictions; and

(iii) An assessment of estimated funds needed to hire sufficient investigators to respond to all reported thefts.

(b) Analyze the various methods of combating the problem of motor vehicle theft;

(c) Develop and implement a plan of operation; and

(d) Develop and implement a financial plan.

(4) The authority is not a law enforcement agency and may not gather, collect, or disseminate intelligence information for the purpose of investigating specific crimes or pursuing or capturing specific perpetrators. Members of the authority may not exercise general authority peace officer powers while acting in their capacity as members of the authority, unless the exercise of peace officer powers is necessary to prevent an imminent threat to persons or property.

(5) The authority shall annually report its activities, findings, and recommendations during the preceding year to the legislature by December 31st. [2007 c 199 § 22.]

**46.66.040 Gifts, grants, conveyances.** The Washington auto theft prevention authority may solicit and accept gifts, grants, bequests, devises, or other funds from public and private sources to support its activities. [2007 c 199 § 23.]

**46.66.050 Removal of member—Grounds—Replacement.** The governor may remove any member of the Washington auto theft prevention authority for cause including but not limited to neglect of duty, misconduct, malfeasance or misfeasance in office, or upon written request of two-thirds of the members of the authority under this chapter. Upon the death, resignation, or removal of a member, the governor shall appoint a replacement to fill the remainder of the unexpired term. [2007 c 199 § 24.]

**46.66.060 Members—Compensation and travel expenses.** Members of the Washington auto theft prevention authority who are not public employees shall be compensated in accordance with RCW 43.03.250 and shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred in carrying out the duties of the authority in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. [2007 c 199 § 25.]

**46.66.070 Members—Immunity.** Any member serving in their official capacity on the Washington auto theft prevention authority, or either their employer or employers, or other entity that selected the members to serve, are immune from a civil action based upon an act performed in good faith. [2007 c 199 § 26.]

**46.66.080 Washington auto theft prevention authority account.** (1) The Washington auto theft prevention

authority account is created in the state treasury, subject to appropriation. All revenues from the traffic infraction surcharge in RCW 46.63.110(7)(b) and all receipts from gifts, grants, bequests, devises, or other funds from public and private sources to support the activities of the auto theft prevention authority must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may be used only for activities relating to motor vehicle theft, including education, prevention, law enforcement, investigation, prosecution, and confinement. During the 2009-2011 and 2011-2013 fiscal biennia, the legislature may appropriate moneys from the Washington auto theft prevention authority account for criminal justice purposes and community building and may transfer funds to the state general fund such amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the account.

(2) The authority shall allocate moneys appropriated from the account to public agencies for the purpose of establishing, maintaining, and supporting programs that are designed to prevent motor vehicle theft, including:

(a) Financial support to prosecution agencies to increase the effectiveness of motor vehicle theft prosecution;

(b) Financial support to a unit of local government or a team consisting of units of local governments to increase the effectiveness of motor vehicle theft enforcement;

(c) Financial support for the procurement of equipment and technologies for use by law enforcement agencies for the purpose of enforcing motor vehicle theft laws; and

(d) Financial support for programs that are designed to educate and assist the public in the prevention of motor vehicle theft.

(3) The costs of administration shall not exceed ten percent of the moneys in the account in any one year so that the greatest possible portion of the moneys available to the authority is expended on combating motor vehicle theft.

(4) Prior to awarding any moneys from the Washington auto theft prevention authority account for motor vehicle theft enforcement, the auto theft prevention authority must verify that the financial award includes sufficient funding to cover proposed activities, which include, but are not limited to: (a) State, municipal, and county offender and juvenile confinement costs; (b) administration costs; (c) law enforcement costs; (d) prosecutor costs; and (e) court costs, with a priority being given to ensuring that sufficient funding is available to cover state, municipal, and county offender and juvenile confinement costs.

(5) Moneys expended from the Washington auto theft prevention authority account under subsection (2) of this section shall be used to supplement, not supplant, other moneys that are available for motor vehicle theft prevention.

(6) Grants provided under subsection (2) of this section constitute reimbursement for purposes of RCW 43.135.060(1). [2011 1st sp.s. c 50 § 958; 2011 c 5 § 915; 2009 c 564 § 945; 2007 c 199 § 27.]

**Effective dates—2011 1st sp.s. c 50:** See note following RCW 15.76.115.

**Effective date—2011 c 5:** See note following RCW 43.79.487.

**Effective date—2009 c 564:** See note following RCW 2.68.020.

**46.66.900 Findings—Intent—Short title—2007 c 199.** See notes following RCW 9A.56.065.

**Chapter 46.68 RCW**  
**DISPOSITION OF REVENUE**

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46.68.430	Special license plate fees by plate type—Baseball stadium license plates, collegiate license plates—Disposition.
46.68.435	Personalized license plate fees—Disposition.
46.68.440	Emergency medical services fee—Distribution.
46.68.445	Parking ticket surcharge—Distribution.
46.68.450	Department temporary permit fee—Distribution.
46.68.455	Vehicle trip permit fee—Distribution.
46.68.460	Special fuel trip permit fee—Distribution.
46.68.470	Congestion reduction charges—Contracts.

*Amount of snowmobile fuel tax paid as motor vehicle fuel tax: RCW 46.10.530.*

*Highway funds, use, constitutional limitations: State Constitution Art. 2 § 40 (Amendment 18).*

*Motor vehicle fuel tax: Chapter 82.36 RCW.  
special fuel tax: Chapter 82.38 RCW.  
use tax: Chapter 82.12 RCW.*

*Motor vehicle fund income from United States securities—Exemption from reserve fund requirement: RCW 43.84.095.*

*Off-road vehicle fuel tax—Refunds from motor vehicle fund: RCW 46.09.520.*

*Snowmobile fuel tax—Refund to general fund: RCW 46.10.510.*

*State patrol: Chapter 43.43 RCW.*

**46.68.010 Refunds, overpayments, and underpayments—Penalty for false statements.** (1) A person who has paid all or part of a vehicle license fee under this title is entitled to a refund if the amount was paid in error or if the vehicle:

(a) Was destroyed before the new registration period began;

(b) Was permanently removed from Washington state before the new registration period began;

(c) Registration was purchased after the owner sold the vehicle;

(d) Was registered in another jurisdiction after the Washington state registration had been purchased. Any full months of Washington vehicle license fees remaining after application for out-of-state registration was made are refundable; or

(e) Registration was purchased before the vehicle was sold and before the new registration period began. The person who paid the fees must return the unused, never-affixed license tabs to the department before the new registration period begins.

(2) The department shall refund overpayments of vehicle license fees and motor vehicle excise taxes under Title 82 RCW that are ten dollars or more. A request for a refund is not required.

(3) The department shall certify refunds to the state treasurer as correct and being claimed in the time required by law. The state treasurer shall mail or deliver the amount of each refund to the person who is entitled to the refund. The department shall not authorize refunds of fees paid in error unless the request is made within three years after the fees were paid.

(4) If due to error the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director has failed to collect the full amount of the vehicle license fee and excise tax due and the underpayment is in the amount of ten dollars or more, the department shall charge and collect the additional amount to constitute full payment of the tax and fees.

(5) Any person who makes a false statement under which he or she obtains a refund that he or she is not entitled to under this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2010 c 161 § 801; 2003 c 53 § 248; 1997 c 22 § 1; 1996 c 31 § 1; 1993 c 307 § 2; 1989 c 68 § 1; 1979 c 120 § 1; 1967 c 32 § 73; 1961 c 12 § 46.68.010. Prior: 1937 c 188 § 76; RRS § 6312-76.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**46.68.020 Disposition of certificates of title fees.** The director shall forward all fees for certificates of title or other moneys accruing under chapters 46.12 and 46.17 RCW to the state treasurer, together with a proper identifying detailed report. The state treasurer shall credit these moneys as follows:

FEE	REQUIRED IN	ESTABLISHED IN	DISTRIBUTION
ORV certificate of title fee	RCW 46.09.320	RCW 46.17.100	RCW 47.66.070
Original certificate of title	RCW 46.12.530	RCW 46.17.100	RCW 47.66.070
Penalty for late transfer	RCW 46.12.650	RCW 46.17.140	RCW 47.66.070
Motor change	RCW 46.12.590	RCW 46.17.100	RCW 46.68.280
Transfer certificate of title	RCW 46.12.650	RCW 46.17.100	RCW 46.68.280
Security interest changes	RCW 46.12.675	RCW 46.17.100	RCW 46.68.280
Duplicate certificate of title	RCW 46.12.580	RCW 46.17.100	RCW 46.68.280
Stolen vehicle check	RCW 46.12.570	RCW 46.17.120	RCW 46.68.070
Vehicle identification number assignment	RCW 46.12.560	RCW 46.17.135	RCW 46.68.070

[2011 c 171 § 84; 2010 c 161 § 802; 2004 c 200 § 3; 2003 c 264 § 8; 2002 c 352 § 21; 1961 c 12 § 46.68.020. Prior: 1955 c 259 § 3; 1947 c 164 § 7; 1937 c 188 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-11.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2004 c 200:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2004." [2004 c 200 § 4.]

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**46.68.025 Distribution of quick title service fees.** (1) The quick title service fee imposed under RCW 46.17.160 must be distributed as follows:

(a) If the fee is paid to the director, the fee must be deposited to the motor vehicle fund established under RCW 46.68.070.

(b) If the fee is paid to the participating county auditor or other agent or subagent appointed by the director, twenty-five dollars must be deposited to the motor vehicle fund established under RCW 46.68.070. The remainder must be retained by the county treasurer in the same manner as other fees collected by the county auditor.

(2) For the purposes of this section, "quick title" has the same meaning as in RCW 46.12.555. [2011 c 326 § 3.]

**Application—Effective date—2011 c 326:** See notes following RCW 46.12.555.

**46.68.030 Disposition of vehicle registration and license fees.** (1) The director shall forward all fees for vehicle registrations under chapters 46.16A and 46.17 RCW, unless otherwise specified by law, to the state treasurer with a proper identifying detailed report. The state treasurer shall credit these moneys to the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070.

(2) Proceeds from vehicle license fees and renewal vehicle license fees must be deposited by the state treasurer as follows:

(a) \$20.35 of each initial or renewal vehicle license fee must be deposited in the state patrol highway account in the motor vehicle fund, hereby created. Vehicle license fees, renewal vehicle license fees, and all other funds in the state patrol highway account must be for the sole use of the Washington state patrol for highway activities of the Washington

state patrol, subject to proper appropriations and reappropriations.

(b) \$2.02 of each initial vehicle license fee and \$0.93 of each renewal vehicle license fee must be deposited each biennium in the Puget Sound ferry operations account.

(c) Any remaining amounts of vehicle license fees and renewal vehicle license fees that are not distributed otherwise under this section must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. [2011 c 171 § 85; 2010 c 161 § 803; 2002 c 352 § 22; 1990 c 42 § 109; 1985 c 380 § 20. Prior: 1983 c 15 § 23; 1983 c 3 § 122; 1981 c 342 § 9; 1973 c 103 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 231 § 11; 1971 ex.s. c 91 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 25; 1969 c 99 § 8; 1965 c 25 § 2; 1961 ex.s. c 7 § 17; 1961 c 12 § 46.68.030; prior: 1957 c 105 § 2; 1955 c 259 § 4; 1947 c 164 § 15; 1937 c 188 § 40; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-40.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**Refund of mobile home identification tag fees:** "The department of motor vehicles shall refund all moneys collected in 1973 for mobile home identification tags. Such refunds shall be made to those persons who have purchased such tags. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 34.04 RCW to comply with the provisions of this section." [1973 c 103 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.68.035 Disposition of combined vehicle license fees.** The director shall forward all proceeds from vehicle license fees received by the director for vehicles registered under RCW 46.17.350(1) (c) and (k), 46.17.355, and 46.17.400(1)(c) to the state treasurer to be distributed into accounts according to the following method:

(1) 22.36 percent must be deposited into the state patrol highway account of the motor vehicle fund;

(2) 1.375 percent must be deposited into the Puget Sound ferry operations account of the motor vehicle fund;

(3) 5.237 percent must be deposited into the transportation 2003 account (nickel account);

(4) 11.533 percent must be deposited into the transportation partnership account created in RCW 46.68.290; and

(5) The remaining proceeds must be deposited into the motor vehicle fund. [2010 c 161 § 804; 2006 c 337 § 1; 2005 c 314 § 205; 2003 c 361 § 202; 2000 2nd sp.s. c 4 § 8; 1993 c 102 § 7; 1990 c 42 § 106; 1989 c 156 § 4; 1985 c 380 § 21.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Application—2006 c 337 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act applies to license fees due on or after July 1, 2006." [2006 c 337 § 15.]

**Effective dates—2005 c 314 §§ 110 and 201-206:** "(1) Section 110 of this act takes effect July 1, 2006.

(2) Sections 201 through 206 of this act take effect January 1, 2006." [2005 c 314 § 403.]

**Application—2005 c 314 §§ 201-206, 301, and 302:** "Sections 201 through 206, 301, and 302 of this act apply to vehicle registrations that are due or become due on or after January 1, 2006." [2005 c 314 § 402.]

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** "Part headings used in this act are not part of the law." [2005 c 314 § 407.]

**Findings—Part headings not law—Severability—2003 c 361:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**Effective dates—2003 c 361:** See note following RCW 82.08.020.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **46.68.038 Disposition of driving record abstract fees.**

The funding allocated under RCW 46.20.293, 46.29.050, and 46.52.130 shall be deposited into the state patrol highway account created in RCW 46.68.030, for the purposes enumerated therein, which may include the provision of enhanced resources to address locations with higher than average collision rates. [2007 c 424 § 4.]

**Effective date—2007 c 424:** See note following RCW 46.20.293.

#### **46.68.041 Disposition of driver's license fees.**

(1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the department shall forward all funds accruing under the provisions of chapter 46.20 RCW together with a proper identifying, detailed report to the state treasurer who shall deposit such moneys to the credit of the highway safety fund.

(2) Sixty-three percent of each fee collected by the department under RCW 46.20.311 (1)(e)(ii), (2)(b)(ii), and (3)(b) shall be deposited in the impaired driving safety account. [2004 c 95 § 15; 1998 c 212 § 3; 1995 2nd sp.s. c 3 § 1; 1985 ex.s. c 1 § 12; 1981 c 245 § 3; 1979 c 63 § 3; 1977 c 27 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 293 § 20; 1971 ex.s. c 91 § 2; 1969 c 99 § 9; 1967 c 174 § 3; 1965 c 25 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **46.68.045 Disposition of off-road vehicle moneys.**

The moneys collected by the department for ORV registrations, temporary ORV use permits, decals, and tabs under this chapter and chapter 46.17 RCW must be distributed from time to time, but at least once a year, in the following manner:

(1) The department shall retain enough money to cover expenses incurred in the administration of this chapter. The amount kept by the department must never exceed eighteen percent of fees collected.

(2) The remaining moneys must be distributed for off-road vehicle recreation facilities by the board in accordance with RCW 46.09.520(2)(d)(ii)(A). [2010 c 161 § 822; 2007 c 241 § 14; 2004 c 105 § 2; 1986 c 206 § 6; 1985 c 57 § 60; 1977 ex.s. c 220 § 9; 1972 ex.s. c 153 § 11; 1971 ex.s. c 47 § 16. Formerly RCW 46.09.110.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Intent—Effective date—2007 c 241:** See notes following RCW 79A.25.005.

**Purpose—1972 ex.s. c 153:** See RCW 79A.35.070.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.68.060 Highway safety fund.** There is hereby created in the state treasury a fund to be known as the highway safety fund to the credit of which must be deposited all moneys directed by law to be deposited therein. This fund must be used for carrying out the provisions of law relating to driver licensing, driver improvement, financial responsibility, cost of furnishing abstracts of driving records and maintaining such case records, and to carry out the purposes set forth in RCW 43.59.010, and chapters 46.72 and 46.72A RCW. During the 2009-2011 and 2011-2013 fiscal biennia, the legislature may transfer from the highway safety fund to the motor vehicle fund and the multimodal transportation account such amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the highway safety fund. [2011 c 367 § 718; 2011 c 298 § 26; 2009 c 470 § 711; 2007 c 518 § 714; 1969 c 99 § 11; 1967 c 174 § 4; 1965 c 25 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.68.060. Prior: 1957 c 104 § 1; 1937 c 188 § 81; RRS § 6312-81; 1921 c 108 § 13; RRS § 6375.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2011 c 298 § 26 and by 2011 c 367 § 718, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2011 c 367:** See note following RCW 47.29.170.

**Purpose—Intent—Agency transfer—Contracting—Effective date—2011 c 289:** See notes following RCW 19.02.020.

**Effective date—2009 c 470:** See note following RCW 46.68.170.

**Severability—Effective date—2007 c 518:** See notes following RCW 46.68.170.

*Deposits into account: RCW 46.20.505, 46.20.510, 46.81A.030.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **46.68.065 Motorcycle safety education account.**

There is hereby created the motorcycle safety education account in the highway safety fund of the state treasury, to the credit of which shall be deposited all moneys directed by law to be credited thereto. All expenses incurred by the director of the department of licensing in administering RCW 46.20.505 through 46.20.520 shall be borne by appropriations from this account, and moneys deposited into this account shall be used only for the purposes authorized in RCW 46.20.505 through 46.20.520. During the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, the legislature may transfer from the motorcycle safety education account such amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the account. [2009 c 8 § 502; 2001 c 285 § 1; 1982 c 77 § 8.]

**Effective date—2009 c 8:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 5, 2009]." [2009 c 8 § 509.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **46.68.070 Motor vehicle fund created—Use limited.**

There is created in the state treasury a permanent fund to be known as the motor vehicle fund to the credit of which shall be deposited all moneys directed by law to be deposited therein. This fund shall be for the use of the state, and through state agencies, for the use of counties, cities, and towns for

proper road, street, and highway purposes, including the purposes of RCW 47.30.030. [1972 ex.s. c 103 § 6; 1961 c 12 § 46.68.070. Prior: (i) 1935 c 111 § 1, part; 1933 c 41 § 4, part; RRS § 6600, part; 1929 c 163 § 1; 1925 ex.s. c 185 § 1; 1923 c 181 § 3; 1921 c 96 § 18; 1919 c 46 § 3; 1917 c 155 § 13; 1915 c 142 § 18; RRS § 6330. (ii) 1939 c 181 § 1; RRS § 6600-1; 1937 c 208 §§ 1, 2, part.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.68.080 Refund of vehicle license fees and fuel taxes to island counties—Deposit of fuel taxes into Puget Sound ferry operations account.** (1) Vehicle license fees collected under RCW 46.17.350 and 46.17.355 and fuel taxes collected under RCW 82.36.025(1) and 82.38.030(1) and directly or indirectly paid by the residents of those counties composed entirely of islands and which have neither a fixed physical connection with the mainland nor any state highways on any of the islands of which they are composed, shall be paid into the motor vehicle fund of the state of Washington and shall monthly, as they accrue, and after deducting therefrom the expenses of issuing such licenses and the cost of collecting such vehicle fuel tax, be paid to the county treasurer of each such county to be by him or her disbursed as herein-after provided.

(2) One-half of the vehicle license fees collected under RCW 46.17.350 and 46.17.355 and one-half of the fuel taxes collected under RCW 82.36.025(1) and 82.38.030(1) and directly or indirectly paid by the residents of those counties composed entirely of islands and which have either a fixed physical connection with the mainland or state highways on any of the islands of which they are composed, shall be paid into the motor vehicle fund of the state of Washington and shall monthly, as they accrue, and after deducting therefrom the expenses of issuing such licenses and the cost of collecting such motor vehicle fuel tax, be paid to the county treasurer of each such county to be by him or her disbursed as hereinafter provided.

(3) All funds paid to the county treasurer of the counties of either class referred to in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, shall be by such county treasurer distributed and credited to the several road districts of each such county and paid to the city treasurer of each incorporated city and town within each such county, in the direct proportion that the assessed valuation of each such road district and incorporated city and town shall bear to the total assessed valuation of each such county.

(4) The amount of motor vehicle fuel tax paid by the residents of those counties composed entirely of islands shall, for the purposes of this section, be that percentage of the total amount of motor vehicle fuel tax collected in the state that the vehicle license fees paid by the residents of counties composed entirely of islands bears to the total vehicle license fees paid by the residents of the state.

(5)(a) An amount of fuel taxes shall be deposited into the Puget Sound ferry operations account. This amount shall equal the difference between the total amount of fuel taxes collected in the state under RCW 82.36.020 and 82.38.030 less the total amount of fuel taxes collected in the state under RCW 82.36.020(1) and 82.38.030(1) and be multiplied by a fraction. The fraction shall equal the amount of vehicle license fees collected under RCW 46.17.350 and 46.17.355

from counties described in subsection (1) of this section divided by the total amount of vehicle license fees collected in the state under RCW 46.17.350 and 46.17.355.

(b) An additional amount of fuel taxes shall be deposited into the Puget Sound ferry operations account. This amount shall equal the difference between the total amount of fuel taxes collected in the state under RCW 82.36.020 and 82.38.030 less the total amount of fuel taxes collected in the state under RCW 82.36.020(1) and 82.38.030(1) and be multiplied by a fraction. The fraction shall equal the amount of vehicle license fees collected under RCW 46.17.350 and 46.17.355 from counties described in subsection (2) of this section divided by the total amount of vehicle license fees collected in the state under RCW 46.17.350 and 46.17.355, and this shall be multiplied by one-half. [2010 c 161 § 1128; 2010 c 8 § 9081; 2006 c 337 § 12; 1961 c 12 § 46.68.080. Prior: 1939 c 181 § 9; RRS § 6450-54a.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.090 Distribution of statewide fuel taxes.** (1) All moneys that have accrued or may accrue to the motor vehicle fund from the motor vehicle fuel tax and special fuel tax shall be first expended for purposes enumerated in (a) and (b) of this subsection. The remaining net tax amount shall be distributed monthly by the state treasurer in accordance with subsections (2) through (7) of this section.

(a) For payment of refunds of motor vehicle fuel tax and special fuel tax that has been paid and is refundable as provided by law;

(b) For payment of amounts to be expended pursuant to appropriations for the administrative expenses of the offices of state treasurer, state auditor, and the department of licensing of the state of Washington in the administration of the motor vehicle fuel tax and the special fuel tax, which sums shall be distributed monthly.

(2) All of the remaining net tax amount collected under RCW 82.36.025(1) and 82.38.030(1) shall be distributed as set forth in (a) through (j) of this section.

(a) For distribution to the motor vehicle fund an amount equal to 44.387 percent to be expended for highway purposes of the state as defined in RCW 46.68.130;

(b) For distribution to the special category C account, hereby created in the motor vehicle fund, an amount equal to 3.2609 percent to be expended for special category C projects. Special category C projects are category C projects that, due to high cost only, will require bond financing to complete construction.

The following criteria, listed in order of priority, shall be used in determining which special category C projects have the highest priority:

- (i) Accident experience;
- (ii) Fatal accident experience;
- (iii) Capacity to move people and goods safely and at reasonable speeds without undue congestion; and
- (iv) Continuity of development of the highway transportation network.

Moneys deposited in the special category C account in the motor vehicle fund may be used for payment of debt ser-

vice on bonds the proceeds of which are used to finance special category C projects under this subsection (2)(b);

(c) For distribution to the Puget Sound ferry operations account in the motor vehicle fund an amount equal to 2.3283 percent;

(d) For distribution to the Puget Sound capital construction account in the motor vehicle fund an amount equal to 2.3726 percent;

(e) For distribution to the transportation improvement account in the motor vehicle fund an amount equal to 7.5597 percent;

(f) For distribution to the transportation improvement account in the motor vehicle fund an amount equal to 5.6739 percent and expended in accordance with RCW 47.26.086;

(g) For distribution to the cities and towns from the motor vehicle fund an amount equal to 10.6961 percent in accordance with RCW 46.68.110;

(h) For distribution to the counties from the motor vehicle fund an amount equal to 19.2287 percent: (i) Out of which there shall be distributed from time to time, as directed by the department of transportation, those sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of RCW 47.56.725; and (ii) less any amounts appropriated to the county road administration board to implement the provisions of RCW 47.56.725(4), with the balance of such county share to be distributed monthly as the same accrues for distribution in accordance with RCW 46.68.120;

(i) For distribution to the county arterial preservation account, hereby created in the motor vehicle fund an amount equal to 1.9565 percent. These funds shall be distributed by the county road administration board to counties in proportions corresponding to the number of paved arterial lane miles in the unincorporated area of each county and shall be used for improvements to sustain the structural, safety, and operational integrity of county arterials. The county road administration board shall adopt reasonable rules and develop policies to implement this program and to assure that a pavement management system is used;

(j) For distribution to the rural arterial trust account in the motor vehicle fund an amount equal to 2.5363 percent and expended in accordance with RCW 36.79.020.

(3) The remaining net tax amount collected under RCW 82.36.025(2) and 82.38.030(2) shall be distributed to the transportation 2003 account (nickel account).

(4) The remaining net tax amount collected under RCW 82.36.025(3) and 82.38.030(3) shall be distributed as follows:

(a) 8.3333 percent shall be distributed to the incorporated cities and towns of the state in accordance with RCW 46.68.110;

(b) 8.3333 percent shall be distributed to counties of the state in accordance with RCW 46.68.120; and

(c) The remainder shall be distributed to the transportation partnership account created in RCW 46.68.290.

(5) The remaining net tax amount collected under RCW 82.36.025(4) and 82.38.030(4) shall be distributed as follows:

(a) 8.3333 percent shall be distributed to the incorporated cities and towns of the state in accordance with RCW 46.68.110;

(b) 8.3333 percent shall be distributed to counties of the state in accordance with RCW 46.68.120; and

(c) The remainder shall be distributed to the transportation partnership account created in RCW 46.68.290.

(6) The remaining net tax amount collected under RCW 82.36.025 (5) and (6) and 82.38.030 (5) and (6) shall be distributed to the transportation partnership account created in RCW 46.68.290.

(7) Nothing in this section or in RCW 46.68.130 may be construed so as to violate any terms or conditions contained in any highway construction bond issues now or hereafter authorized by statute and whose payment is by such statute pledged to be paid from any excise taxes on motor vehicle fuel and special fuels. [2011 c 120 § 4; 2005 c 314 § 103; 2003 c 361 § 403. Prior: 1999 c 269 § 2; 1999 c 94 § 6; prior: 1994 c 225 § 2; 1994 c 179 § 3; 1991 c 342 § 56; 1990 c 42 § 102; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 21; 1979 c 158 § 184; 1977 ex.s. c 317 § 8; 1967 c 32 § 74; 1961 ex.s. c 7 § 5; 1961 c 12 § 46.68.090; prior: 1943 c 115 § 3; 1939 c 181 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6600-1d; 1937 c 208 §§ 2, part, 3, part.]

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Findings—Part headings not law—Severability—2003 c 361:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**Effective dates—2003 c 361:** See note following RCW 82.08.020.

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

*Rural arterial trust account: RCW 36.79.020.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.68.110 Distribution of amount allocated to cities and towns.** Funds credited to the incorporated cities and towns of the state as set forth in RCW 46.68.090 shall be subject to deduction and distribution as follows:

(1) One and one-half percent of such sums distributed under RCW 46.68.090 shall be deducted monthly as such sums are credited and set aside for the use of the department of transportation for the supervision of work and expenditures of such incorporated cities and towns on the city and town streets thereof, including the supervision and administration of federal-aid programs for which the department of transportation has responsibility: PROVIDED, That any moneys so retained and not expended shall be credited in the succeeding biennium to the incorporated cities and towns in proportion to deductions herein made;

(2) Thirty-three one-hundredths of one percent of such funds distributed under RCW 46.68.090 shall be deducted monthly, as such funds accrue, and set aside for the use of the department of transportation for the purpose of funding the cities' share of the costs of highway jurisdiction studies and other studies. Any funds so retained and not expended shall be credited in the succeeding biennium to the cities in proportion to the deductions made;

(3) One percent of such funds distributed under RCW 46.68.090 shall be deducted monthly, as such funds accrue, to be deposited in the small city pavement and sidewalk account, to implement the city hardship assistance program,



as provided in RCW 47.26.164. However, any moneys so retained and not required to carry out the program under this subsection as of July 1st of each odd-numbered year thereafter, shall be retained in the account and used for maintenance, repair, and resurfacing of city and town streets for cities and towns with a population of less than five thousand;

(4) After making the deductions under subsections (1) through (3) of this section and RCW 35.76.050, the balance remaining to the credit of incorporated cities and towns shall be apportioned monthly as such funds accrue among the several cities and towns within the state ratably on the basis of the population last determined by the office of financial management. [2011 c 120 § 5; 2008 c 121 § 601; 2007 c 148 § 1. Prior: 2005 c 314 § 106; 2005 c 89 § 1; 2003 c 361 § 404; prior: 1999 c 269 § 3; 1999 c 94 § 9; 1996 c 94 § 1; prior: 1991 sp.s. c 15 § 46; 1991 c 342 § 59; 1989 1st ex.s. c 6 § 41; 1987 1st ex.s. c 10 § 37; 1985 c 460 § 32; 1979 c 151 § 161; 1975 1st ex.s. c 100 § 1; 1961 ex.s. c 7 § 7; 1961 c 12 § 46.68.110; prior: 1957 c 175 § 11; 1949 c 143 § 1; 1943 c 83 § 2; 1941 c 232 § 1; 1939 c 181 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6600-3a; 1937 c 208 §§ 2, part, 3, part.]

**Severability—2008 c 121:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2008 c 121 § 606.]

**Effective date—2008 c 121:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 25, 2008]." [2008 c 121 § 607.]

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**Findings—Part headings not law—Severability—2003 c 361:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**Effective dates—2003 c 361:** See note following RCW 82.08.020.

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

*Expense of cost-audit examination of city and town street records payable from funds withheld under RCW 46.68.110(1): RCW 35.76.050.*

*Population determination, office of financial management: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.68.113 Preservation rating.** During the 2013-2015 biennium, cities and towns shall provide to the transportation commission, or its successor entity, preservation rating information on at least seventy percent of the total city and town arterial network. Thereafter, the preservation rating information requirement shall increase in five percent increments in subsequent biennia, but in no case shall it exceed eighty percent. The rating system used by cities and towns must be based upon the Washington state pavement rating method or an equivalent standard approved by the department of transportation. Beginning January 1, 2007, the preservation rating information shall be submitted to the department. [2011 c 353 § 7; 2006 c 334 § 21; 2003 c 363 § 305.]

**Intent—2011 c 353:** See note following RCW 36.70A.130.

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Finding—Intent—2003 c 363:** See note following RCW 35.84.060.

**Part headings not law—Severability—2003 c 363:** See notes following RCW 47.28.241.

[Title 46 RCW—page 310]

**46.68.120 Distribution of amount allocated to counties—Generally.** Funds to be paid to the counties of the state shall be subject to deduction and distribution as follows:

(1) One and one-half percent of such funds shall be deducted monthly as such funds accrue and set aside for the use of the department of transportation and the county road administration board for the supervision of work and expenditures of such counties on the county roads thereof, including the supervision and administration of federal-aid programs for which the department of transportation has responsibility: PROVIDED, That any funds so retained and not expended shall be credited in the succeeding biennium to the counties in proportion to deductions herein made;

(2) All sums required to be repaid to counties composed entirely of islands shall be deducted;

(3) Thirty-three one-hundredths of one percent of such funds shall be deducted monthly, as such funds accrue, and set aside for the use of the department of transportation for the purpose of funding the counties' share of the costs of highway jurisdiction studies and other studies. Any funds so retained and not expended shall be credited in the succeeding biennium to the counties in proportion to the deductions made;

(4) The balance of such funds remaining to the credit of counties after such deductions shall be paid to the several counties monthly, as such funds accrue, in accordance with RCW 46.68.122 and 46.68.124. [1991 sp.s. c 15 § 47; 1991 c 342 § 64; 1989 1st ex.s. c 6 § 42; 1987 1st ex.s. c 10 § 38; 1985 c 460 § 33; 1985 c 120 § 1; 1982 c 33 § 1; 1980 c 87 § 44; 1979 c 158 § 185; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 42; 1975 1st ex.s. c 100 § 2; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 47; 1972 ex.s. c 103 § 1; 1967 c 32 § 75; 1965 ex.s. c 120 § 12; 1961 c 12 § 46.68.120. Prior: 1957 c 109 § 1; 1955 c 243 § 1; 1949 c 143 § 2; 1945 c 260 § 1; 1943 c 83 § 3; 1939 c 181 § 5; Rem. Supp. 149 § 6600-2a.]

*County road administration board—Expenses to be paid from motor vehicle fund—Disbursement procedure: RCW 36.78.110.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.68.122 Distribution of amount to counties—Factors of distribution formula.** Funds to be paid to the several counties pursuant to RCW 46.68.120(4) shall be allocated among them upon the basis of a distribution formula consisting of the following four factors:

(1) An equal distribution factor of ten percent of such funds shall be paid to each county;

(2) A population factor of thirty percent of such funds shall be paid to each county in direct proportion that the county's total equivalent population, as computed pursuant to RCW 46.68.124(1), is to the total equivalent population of all counties;

(3) A road cost factor of thirty percent of such funds shall be paid to each county in direct proportion that the county's total annual road cost, as computed pursuant to RCW 46.68.124(2), is to the total annual road costs of all counties;

(4) A money need factor of thirty percent of such funds shall be paid to each county in direct proportion that the county's money need factor, as computed pursuant to RCW 46.68.124(3), is to the total of money need factors of all counties. [1982 c 33 § 2.]

**46.68.124 Distribution of amount to counties—Population, road cost, money need, computed—Allocation percentage adjustment.** (1) The equivalent population for each county shall be computed as the sum of the population residing in the county's unincorporated area plus twenty-five percent of the population residing in the county's incorporated area. Population figures required for the computations in this subsection shall be certified by the director of the office of financial management on or before July 1st of each odd-numbered year.

(2) The total annual road cost for each county shall be computed as the sum of one twenty-fifth of the total estimated county road replacement cost, plus the total estimated annual maintenance cost. Appropriate costs for bridges and ferries shall be included. The county road administration board shall be responsible for establishing a uniform system of roadway categories for both maintenance and construction and also for establishing a single statewide cost per mile rate for each roadway category. The total annual cost for each county will be based on the established statewide cost per mile and associated mileage for each category. The mileage to be used for these computations shall be as shown in the county road log as maintained by the county road administration board as of July 1, 1985, and each two years thereafter. Each county shall be responsible for submitting changes, corrections, and deletions as regards the county road log to the county road administration board. Such changes, corrections, and deletions shall be subject to verification and approval by the county road administration board prior to inclusion in the county road log.

(3) The money need factor for each county shall be the county's total annual road cost less the following four amounts:

(a) One-half the sum of the actual county road tax levied upon the valuation of all taxable property within the county road districts pursuant to RCW 36.82.040, including any amount of such tax diverted under chapter 39.89 RCW, for the two calendar years next preceding the year of computation of the allocation amounts as certified by the department of revenue;

(b) One-half the sum of all funds received by the county road fund from the federal forest reserve fund pursuant to RCW 28A.520.010 and 28A.520.020 during the two calendar years next preceding the year of computation of the allocation amounts as certified by the state treasurer;

(c) One-half the sum of timber excise taxes received by the county road fund pursuant to chapter 84.33 RCW in the two calendar years next preceding the year of computation of the allocation amounts as certified by the state treasurer;

(d) One-half the sum of motor vehicle license fees and motor vehicle and special fuel taxes refunded to the county, pursuant to RCW 46.68.080 during the two calendar years next preceding the year of computation of the allocation amounts as certified by the state treasurer.

(4) The state treasurer and the department of revenue shall furnish to the county road administration board the information required by subsection (3) of this section on or before July 1st of each odd-numbered year.

(5) The county road administration board, shall compute and provide to the counties the allocation factors of the several counties on or before September 1st of each year based

solely upon the sources of information herein before required: PROVIDED, That the allocation factor shall be held to a level not more than five percent above or five percent below the allocation factor in use during the previous calendar year. Upon computation of the actual allocation factors of the several counties, the county road administration board shall provide such factors to the state treasurer to be used in the computation of the counties' fuel tax allocation for the succeeding calendar year. The state treasurer shall adjust the fuel tax allocation of each county on January 1st of every year based solely upon the information provided by the county road administration board. [2001 c 212 § 28; 1990 c 33 § 586. Prior: 1985 c 120 § 2; 1985 c 7 § 113; 1982 c 33 § 3.]

**Purpose—Statutory references—Severability—1990 c 33:** See RCW 28A.900.100 through 28A.900.102.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.68.130 Expenditure of balance of motor vehicle fund.** The tax amount distributed to the state in the manner provided by RCW 46.68.090, and all moneys accruing to the motor vehicle fund from any other source, less such sums as are properly appropriated and reappropriated for expenditure for costs of collection and administration thereof, shall be expended, subject to proper appropriation and reappropriation, solely for highway purposes of the state, including the purposes of RCW 47.30.030. For the purposes of this section, the term "highway purposes of the state" does not include those expenditures of the Washington state patrol heretofore appropriated or reappropriated from the motor vehicle fund. Nothing in this section or in RCW 46.68.090 may be construed so as to violate terms or conditions contained in highway construction bond issues authorized by statute as of July 1, 1999, or thereafter and whose payment is, by the statute, pledged to be paid from excise taxes on motor vehicle fuel and special fuels. [1999 c 269 § 4; 1981 c 342 § 11; 1974 ex.s. c 9 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 103 § 7; 1971 ex.s. c 91 § 6; 1963 c 83 § 1; 1961 ex.s. c 7 § 9; 1961 c 12 § 46.68.130. Prior: 1957 c 271 § 4; 1957 c 105 § 3; 1941 c 246 § 1; 1939 c 181 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 6600-26.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.68.135 Multimodal account, transportation infrastructure account—Annual transfers.** By July 1, 2006, and each year thereafter, the state treasurer shall transfer two and one-half million dollars from the multimodal account to the transportation infrastructure account created under RCW 82.44.190. The funds must be distributed for rail capital improvements only. [2006 c 337 § 4; 2005 c 314 § 111.]

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**46.68.170 RV account.** There is hereby created in the motor vehicle fund the RV account. All moneys hereafter deposited in said account shall be used by the department of transportation for the construction, maintenance, and operation of recreational vehicle sanitary disposal systems at safety rest areas in accordance with the department's highway system plan as prescribed in chapter 47.06 RCW. During the 2009-2011 and 2011-2013 fiscal biennia, the legislature may transfer from the RV account to the motor vehicle fund such

amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the RV account to accomplish the purposes identified in this section. [2011 c 367 § 715; 2009 c 470 § 701; 2007 c 518 § 701; 1996 c 237 § 2; 1980 c 60 § 3.]

**Effective date—2011 c 367:** See note following RCW 47.29.170.

**Effective date—2009 c 470:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 13, 2009]." [2009 c 470 § 802.]

**Severability—2007 c 518:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2007 c 518 § 1101.]

**Effective date—2007 c 518:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 15, 2007]." [2007 c 518 § 1102.]

*Additional license fees for recreational vehicles: RCW 46.17.375 and 47.01.460.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.68.210 Puyallup tribal settlement account.** (1) The Puyallup tribal settlement account is hereby created in the motor vehicle fund. All moneys designated by the "Agreement between the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, local governments in Pierce county, the state of Washington, the United States of America, and certain private property owners," dated August 27, 1988, (the "agreement") for use by the department of transportation on the Blair project as described in the agreement shall be deposited into the account, including but not limited to federal appropriations for the Blair project, and appropriations contained in section 34, chapter 6, Laws of 1989 1st ex. sess. and section 709, chapter 19, Laws of 1989 1st ex. sess.

(2) All moneys deposited into the account shall be expended by the department of transportation pursuant to appropriation solely for the Blair project as described in the agreement. [1991 sp.s. c 13 § 104; 1990 c 42 § 411.]

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.68.220 Department of licensing services account.** The department of licensing services account is created in the motor vehicle fund. All receipts from service fees received under RCW 46.17.025 must be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for:

(1) Information and service delivery systems for the department;

(2) Reimbursement of county licensing activities; and

(3) County auditor or other agent and subagent support including, but not limited to, the replacement of department-owned equipment in the possession of county auditors or other agents and subagents appointed by the director. During the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium, the legislature may transfer from the department of licensing services account such amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the account. [2011 c 367 § 719; 2010 c 161 § 807; 2009 c 470 § 712; 2009 c 8 § 503; 1992 c 216 § 5.]

**Effective date—2011 c 367 §§ 703, 704, 716, and 719:** See note following RCW 46.18.060.

[Title 46 RCW—page 312]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2009 c 470:** See note following RCW 46.68.170.

**Effective date—2009 c 8:** See note following RCW 46.68.065.

**46.68.230 Transfer of funds under government service agreement.** Funds that are distributed to counties, cities, or towns pursuant to this chapter may be transferred by the recipient county, city, or town to another unit of local government pursuant to a government service agreement as provided in RCW 36.115.040 and 36.115.050. [1994 c 266 § 9.]

**46.68.240 Highway infrastructure account.** The highway infrastructure account is hereby created in the motor vehicle fund. Public and private entities may deposit moneys in the highway infrastructure account from federal, state, local, or private sources. Proceeds from bonds or other financial instruments sold to finance surface transportation projects from the highway infrastructure account shall be deposited into the account. Principal and interest payments made on loans from the highway infrastructure account shall be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account shall be available for purposes specified in RCW 82.44.195. Expenditures from the highway infrastructure account shall be subject to appropriation by the legislature. To the extent required by federal law or regulations promulgated by the United States secretary of transportation, the state treasurer is authorized to create separate subaccounts within the highway infrastructure account. [1996 c 262 § 3.]

**Transportation infrastructure account—Highway infrastructure account—Finding—Intent—Purpose—1996 c 262:** See RCW 82.44.195.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.68.250 Vehicle licensing fraud account.** The vehicle licensing fraud account is created in the state treasury. From penalties and fines imposed under RCW 46.16A.030, 47.68.255, and 88.02.400, an amount equal to the taxes and fees owed shall be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for vehicle license fraud enforcement and collections by the Washington state patrol and the department of revenue. [2010 c 161 § 1129; 1996 c 184 § 6.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.68.260 Impaired driving safety account.** The impaired driving safety account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from fees collected under RCW 46.20.311 (1)(e)(ii), (2)(b)(ii), and (3)(b) shall be deposited according to RCW 46.68.041. Expenditures from this account may be used only to fund projects to reduce impaired driving and to provide funding to local governments for costs associated with enforcing laws relating to driving and boating while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW. Moneys in the account may be

spent only after appropriation. [2004 c 95 § 16; 1998 c 212 § 2.]

**46.68.280 Transportation 2003 account (nickel account).** (1) The transportation 2003 account (nickel account) is hereby created in the motor vehicle fund. Money in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account must be used only for projects or improvements identified as transportation 2003 projects or improvements in the omnibus transportation budget and to pay the principal and interest on the bonds authorized for transportation 2003 projects or improvements. Upon completion of the projects or improvements identified as transportation 2003 projects or improvements, moneys deposited in this account must only be used to pay the principal and interest on the bonds authorized for transportation 2003 projects or improvements, and any funds in the account in excess of the amount necessary to make the principal and interest payments may be used for maintenance on the completed projects or improvements.

(2) The "nickel account" means the transportation 2003 account. [2003 c 361 § 601.]

**Findings—Part headings not law—Severability—2003 c 361:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**Effective dates—2003 c 361:** See note following RCW 82.08.020.

**46.68.290 Transportation partnership account—Definitions—Performance audits.** (1) The transportation partnership account is hereby created in the state treasury. All distributions to the account from RCW 46.68.090 must be deposited into the account. Money in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account must be used only for projects or improvements identified as 2005 transportation partnership projects or improvements in the omnibus transportation appropriations act, including any principal and interest on bonds authorized for the projects or improvements.

(2) The legislature finds that:

(a) Citizens demand and deserve accountability of transportation-related programs and expenditures. Transportation-related programs must continuously improve in quality, efficiency, and effectiveness in order to increase public trust;

(b) Transportation-related agencies that receive tax dollars must continuously improve the way they operate and deliver services so citizens receive maximum value for their tax dollars; and

(c) Fair, independent, comprehensive performance audits of transportation-related agencies overseen by the elected state auditor are essential to improving the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of the state's transportation system.

(3) For purposes of chapter 314, Laws of 2005:

(a) "Performance audit" means an objective and systematic assessment of a state agency or agencies or any of their programs, functions, or activities by the state auditor or designee in order to help improve agency efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability. Performance audits include economy and efficiency audits and program audits.

(b) "Transportation-related agency" means any state agency, board, or commission that receives funding primarily for transportation-related purposes. At a minimum, the

department of transportation, the transportation improvement board or its successor entity, the county road administration board or its successor entity, and the traffic safety commission are considered transportation-related agencies. The Washington state patrol and the department of licensing shall not be considered transportation-related agencies under chapter 314, Laws of 2005.

(4) Within the authorities and duties under chapter 43.09 RCW, the state auditor shall establish criteria and protocols for performance audits. Transportation-related agencies shall be audited using criteria that include generally accepted government auditing standards as well as legislative mandates and performance objectives established by state agencies. Mandates include, but are not limited to, agency strategies, timelines, program objectives, and mission and goals as required in RCW 43.88.090.

(5) Within the authorities and duties under chapter 43.09 RCW, the state auditor may conduct performance audits for transportation-related agencies. The state auditor shall contract with private firms to conduct the performance audits.

(6) The audits may include:

(a) Identification of programs and services that can be eliminated, reduced, consolidated, or enhanced;

(b) Identification of funding sources to the transportation-related agency, to programs, and to services that can be eliminated, reduced, consolidated, or enhanced;

(c) Analysis of gaps and overlaps in programs and services and recommendations for improving, dropping, blending, or separating functions to correct gaps or overlaps;

(d) Analysis and recommendations for pooling information technology systems used within the transportation-related agency, and evaluation of information processing and telecommunications policy, organization, and management;

(e) Analysis of the roles and functions of the transportation-related agency, its programs, and its services and their compliance with statutory authority and recommendations for eliminating or changing those roles and functions and ensuring compliance with statutory authority;

(f) Recommendations for eliminating or changing statutes, rules, and policy directives as may be necessary to ensure that the transportation-related agency carry out reasonably and properly those functions vested in the agency by statute;

(g) Verification of the reliability and validity of transportation-related agency performance data, self-assessments, and performance measurement systems as required under RCW 43.88.090;

(h) Identification of potential cost savings in the transportation-related agency, its programs, and its services;

(i) Identification and recognition of best practices;

(j) Evaluation of planning, budgeting, and program evaluation policies and practices;

(k) Evaluation of personnel systems operation and management;

(l) Evaluation of purchasing operations and management policies and practices;

(m) Evaluation of organizational structure and staffing levels, particularly in terms of the ratio of managers and supervisors to nonmanagement personnel; and

(n) Evaluation of transportation-related project costs, including but not limited to environmental mitigation, com-

petitive bidding practices, permitting processes, and capital project management.

(7) Within the authorities and duties under chapter 43.09 RCW, the state auditor must provide the preliminary performance audit reports to the audited state agency for comment. The auditor also may seek input on the preliminary report from other appropriate officials. Comments must be received within thirty days after receipt of the preliminary performance audit report unless a different time period is approved by the state auditor. The final performance audit report shall include the objectives, scope, and methodology; the audit results, including findings and recommendations; the agency's response and conclusions; and identification of best practices.

(8) The state auditor shall provide final performance audit reports to the citizens of Washington, the governor, the joint legislative audit and review committee, the appropriate legislative committees, and other appropriate officials. Final performance audit reports shall be posted on the internet.

(9) The audited transportation-related agency is responsible for follow-up and corrective action on all performance audit findings and recommendations. The audited agency's plan for addressing each audit finding and recommendation shall be included in the final audit report. The plan shall provide the name of the contact person responsible for each action, the action planned, and the anticipated completion date. If the audited agency does not agree with the audit findings and recommendations or believes action is not required, then the action plan shall include an explanation and specific reasons.

The office of financial management shall require periodic progress reports from the audited agency until all resolution has occurred. The office of financial management is responsible for achieving audit resolution. The office of financial management shall annually report by December 31st the status of performance audit resolution to the appropriate legislative committees and the state auditor. The legislature shall consider the performance audit results in connection with the state budget process.

The auditor may request status reports on specific audits or findings.

(10) For the period from July 1, 2005, until June 30, 2007, the amount of \$4,000,000 is appropriated from the transportation partnership account to the state auditors office for the purposes of subsections (2) through (9) of this section. [2006 c 337 § 5; 2005 c 314 § 104.]

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** "Sections 101 through 107, 109, 303 through 310 [309], and 401 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect July 1, 2005." [2005 c 314 § 405.]

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**46.68.294 Transportation partnership account—Legislative transfer.** During the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, the legislature may transfer from the transportation partnership account to the transportation 2003 account (nickel account) such amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the transportation partnership account. [2009 c 8 § 505.]

**Effective date—2009 c 8:** See note following RCW 46.68.065.

**46.68.295 Transportation partnership account—Transfers.** (1) On July 1, 2006, and by each July 1st thereafter, the state treasurer shall transfer from the transportation partnership account created in RCW 46.68.290:

(a) One million dollars to the small city pavement and sidewalk account created in RCW 47.26.340;

(b) Two and one-half million dollars to the transportation improvement account created in RCW 47.26.084; and

(c) One and one-half million dollars to the county arterial preservation account created in RCW 46.68.090(2)(i).

(2) On July 1, 2006, the state treasurer shall transfer six million dollars from the transportation partnership account created in RCW 46.68.290 into the freight mobility investment account created in RCW 46.68.300 and by July 1, 2007, and by every July 1st thereafter, three million dollars shall be deposited into the freight mobility investment account. [2006 c 337 § 6.]

**46.68.300 Freight mobility investment account.** The freight mobility investment account is hereby created in the state treasury. Money in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for freight mobility projects identified in the omnibus transportation appropriations act, including any principal and interest on bonds authorized for the projects or improvements. [2005 c 314 § 105.]

**Effective date—2005 c 314 §§ 101-107, 109, 303-309, and 401:** See note following RCW 46.68.290.

**Part headings not law—2005 c 314:** See note following RCW 46.68.035.

**46.68.310 Freight mobility multimodal account.** The freight mobility multimodal account is created in the state treasury. Money in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for freight mobility projects identified in the omnibus transportation appropriations act, including any principal and interest on bonds authorized for the projects or improvements. [2006 c 337 § 7.]

**Effective date—2006 c 337 § 7:** "Section 7 of this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect March 24, 2006." [2006 c 337 § 16.]

**46.68.320 Regional mobility grant program account.** (1) The regional mobility grant program account is hereby created in the state treasury. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for the grants provided under RCW 47.66.030.

(2) Beginning with September 2007, by the last day of September, December, March, and June of each year, the state treasurer shall transfer from the multimodal transportation account to the regional mobility grant program account five million dollars.

(3) Beginning with September 2015, by the last day of September, December, March, and June of each year, the state treasurer shall transfer from the multimodal transportation account to the regional mobility grant program account six million two hundred fifty thousand dollars.

(4) During the 2009-2011 fiscal biennium, the legislature may transfer from the regional mobility grant program

account to the multimodal transportation account such amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the regional mobility grant program account. [2010 c 247 § 702; 2006 c 337 § 8.]

**Effective date—2010 c 247:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**46.68.325 Rural mobility grant program account.** (1) The rural mobility grant program account is created in the state treasury. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for the grants provided under RCW 47.66.100.

(2) Beginning September 2011, by the last day of September, December, March, and June of each year, the state treasurer shall transfer from the multimodal transportation account to the rural mobility grant program account two million five hundred thousand dollars.

(3) During the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium, the legislature may transfer from the rural mobility grant program account to the multimodal transportation account such amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the rural mobility grant program account. [2011 c 367 § 721; 2011 c 272 § 1.]

**Effective date—2011 c 367:** See note following RCW 47.29.170.

**46.68.330 Freight congestion relief account.** The freight congestion relief account is created in the state treasury. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may only be used to provide congestion relief through the improvement of freight rail systems and state highways that function as freight corridors. [2007 c 514 § 2.]

**46.68.340 Ignition interlock device revolving account.** The ignition interlock device revolving account is created in the state treasury. All receipts from the fee assessed under RCW 46.20.385(6) must be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for administering and operating the ignition interlock device revolving account program. [2008 c 282 § 3.]

**46.68.350 Snowmobile account—Disposition of snowmobile moneys.** (1) The snowmobile account is created within the state treasury. Snowmobile registration fees, monetary civil penalties from snowmobile dealers, and snowmobile fuel tax moneys collected under this chapter and chapter 46.17 RCW and in excess of the amounts fixed for the administration of the registration and fuel tax provisions of this chapter must be deposited into the account and must be appropriated only to the state parks and recreation commission for the administration and coordination of this chapter.

(2) The moneys collected by the department as snowmobile registration fees, monetary civil penalties from snowmobile dealers, and fuel tax moneys placed into the account must be distributed in the following manner:

(a) Actual expenses not to exceed three percent for each year must be retained by the department to cover expenses incurred in the administration of the registration and fuel tax provisions of this chapter; and

(b) The remainder of funds each year must be remitted to the state treasurer to be deposited into the snowmobile

account of the general fund and must be appropriated only to the commission to be expended for snowmobile purposes. Purposes may include, but not necessarily be limited to, the administration, acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of snowmobile facilities and development and implementation of snowmobile safety, enforcement, and education programs.

(3) This section is not intended to discourage any public agency in this state from developing and implementing snowmobile programs. The commission may award grants to public agencies and contract with any public or private agency or person for the purpose of developing and implementing snowmobile programs, as long as the programs are not inconsistent with the rules adopted by the commission. [2010 c 161 § 823; 1991 sp.s. c 13 § 9; 1985 c 57 § 61; 1982 c 17 § 6; 1979 ex.s. c 182 § 7. Formerly RCW 46.10.075.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.68.360 Organ and tissue donation awareness account—Distribution.** At least quarterly, the department shall transmit donations made to the organ and tissue donation awareness account under RCW 46.16A.090(2) to the foundation established for organ and tissue donation awareness purposes by the Washington state organ procurement organizations. All Washington state organ procurement organizations have proportional access to these funds to conduct public education in their service areas. [2010 c 161 § 805.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.370 License plate technology account.** The license plate technology account is created in the state treasury. All receipts collected under RCW 46.17.015 must be deposited into this account. Expenditures from this account must support current and future license plate technology and systems integration upgrades for both the department and correctional industries. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Additionally, the moneys in this account may be used to reimburse the motor vehicle account for any appropriation made to implement the digital license plate system. During the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium, the legislature may transfer from the license plate technology account to the highway safety account [fund] such amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the license plate technology account. [2011 c 367 § 716; 2010 c 161 § 818; 2009 c 470 § 704; 2007 c 518 § 704; 2003 c 370 § 4. Formerly RCW 46.16.685.]

**Effective date—2011 c 367 §§ 703, 704, 716, and 719:** See note following RCW 46.18.060.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2009 c 470:** See note following RCW 46.68.170.

**Severability—Effective date—2007 c 518:** See notes following RCW 46.68.170.

**46.68.380 Special license plate applicant trust account.** The special license plate applicant trust account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from special license plate applicants must be deposited into the account. Only the director or the director's designee may authorize disbursements from the account. The account is not subject to the allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, and an appropriation is not required for disbursements. [2011 c 171 § 86; 2010 c 161 § 808.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.390 Public transportation grant program account.** (*Effective October 1, 2012, until July 1, 2015.*) The public transportation grant program account is created in the state treasury. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for grants to aid transit authorities with operations. [2012 c 74 § 9.]

**Expiration date—2012 c 74 § 9:** "Section 9 of this act expires July 1, 2015." [2012 c 74 § 18.]

**Effective date—2012 c 74 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.17.100.

**46.68.400 Vehicle registration filing fees—Distribution.** A filing fee established in RCW 46.17.005 must be distributed as follows:

(1) If paid to the county auditor or other agent or sub-agent appointed by the director, the fee must be distributed to the county treasurer and credited to the county current expense fund.

(2) If the fee is paid to another agent of the director, the fee must be used by the agent to defray his or her expenses in handling the application.

(3) If the fee is collected by the state patrol as agent for the director, the fee must be certified to the state treasurer and deposited to the credit of the state patrol highway account.

(4) If the fee is collected by the department of transportation as agent for the director, the fee must be certified to the state treasurer and deposited to the credit of the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070.

(5) If the fee is collected by the director or branches of the department, the fee must be certified to the state treasurer and deposited to the credit of the highway safety fund, except that two dollars of the fee must be deposited into the multimodal transportation account if the fee is collected in conjunction with RCW 46.17.350(1) (c) or (k) or 46.17.355. [2010 c 161 § 819.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.405 Vehicle registration opt-out donations—Disposition.** All receipts from the voluntary donation received under RCW 46.16A.090(3) must be deposited in the state parks renewal and stewardship account established in RCW 79A.05.215 to be used for the operation and maintenance of state parks. [2010 c 161 § 806.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.410 Vehicle identification number inspection fee—Distribution.** The vehicle identification number inspection fee collected under RCW 46.17.130 must be distributed as follows:

(1) Fifteen dollars to the state patrol highway account created in RCW 46.68.030; and

(2) Fifty dollars to the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070. [2010 c 161 § 812.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.415 Motor vehicle weight fee, motor home vehicle weight fee—Disposition.** (1) The motor vehicle weight fee imposed under RCW 46.17.365(1) must be deposited every July 1st as follows:

(a) Three million dollars to the freight mobility multimodal account created in RCW 46.68.310; and

(b) The remainder to the multimodal transportation account created in RCW 47.66.070.

(2) The motor vehicle weight fee:

(a) Must be used for transportation purposes;

(b) May not be used for the general support of state government; and

(c) Is imposed to provide funds to mitigate the impact of vehicle loads on the state roads and highways and is separate and distinct from other vehicle license fees. Proceeds from the fee may be used for transportation purposes, or for facilities and activities that reduce the number of vehicles or load weights on the state roads and highways.

(3) The motor home vehicle weight fee imposed under RCW 46.17.365(2) must be deposited in the multimodal transportation account created in RCW 47.66.070. [2010 c 161 § 813.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.420 Special license plate fees by account—Disposition.** (*Effective until January 1, 2013.*) (1) The department shall:

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

(b) Deduct an amount not to exceed twelve dollars for initial issue and two dollars for renewal issue for administration and collection expenses incurred by it; and

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

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

ACCOUNT	CONDITIONS FOR USE OF FUNDS
Gonzaga University alumni association	Scholarship funds to needy and qualified students attending or planning to attend Gonzaga University
Helping kids speak	Provide free diagnostic and therapeutic services to families of children who suffer from a delay in language or speech development
Law enforcement memorial	Provide support and assistance to survivors and families of law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line of duty and to organize, finance, fund, construct, utilize, and maintain a memorial on the state capitol grounds to honor those fallen officers
Lighthouse environmental programs	Support selected Washington state lighthouses that are accessible to the public and staffed by volunteers; provide environmental education programs; provide grants for other Washington lighthouses to assist in funding infrastructure preservation and restoration; encourage and support interpretive programs by lighthouse docents
Music matters awareness	Promote music education in schools throughout Washington
Share the road	Promote bicycle safety and awareness education in communities throughout Washington
Ski & ride Washington	Promote winter snowsports, such as skiing and snowboarding, and related programs, such as ski and ride safety programs, underprivileged youth ski and ride programs, and active, healthy lifestyle programs
Volunteer firefighters	Receive and disseminate funds for purposes on behalf of volunteer firefighters, their families, and others deemed in need
Washington state council of firefighters benevolent fund	Receive and disseminate funds for charitable purposes on behalf of members of the Washington state council of firefighters, their families, and others deemed in need
Washington's national park fund	Build awareness of Washington's national parks and support priority park programs and projects in Washington's national parks, such as enhancing visitor experience, promoting volunteerism, engaging communities, and providing educational opportunities related to Washington's national parks
We love our pets	Support and enable the Washington federation of animal welfare and control agencies to promote and perform spay/neuter surgery of Washington state pets in order to reduce pet population

(3) Only the director or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the accounts described in subsection (2) of this section. The accounts are subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

(4) Funds in the special license plate accounts described in subsection (2) of this section must be disbursed subject to the conditions described in subsection (2) of this section and under contract between the department and qualified nonprofit organizations that provide the services described in subsection (2) of this section.

(5) For the purposes of this section, a "qualified nonprofit organization" means a not-for-profit corporation operating in Washington that has received a determination of tax exempt status under 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3). The qualified nonprofit organization must meet all the requirements under RCW 46.18.100(1). [2011 c 229 § 4; 2011 c 225 § 3; 2011 c 171 § 87; 2010 c 161 § 809.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2011 c 171 § 87, 2011 c 225 § 3, and by 2011 c 229 § 4, each without reference to the other. All amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2011 c 229:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**Effective date—2011 c 225:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.420 Special license plate fees by account—Disposition. (Effective January 1, 2013.)** (1) The department shall:

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

(b) Deduct an amount not to exceed twelve dollars for initial issue and two dollars for renewal issue for administration and collection expenses incurred by it; and



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

(2) The state treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the motor vehicle account until the department determines that the state has been reimbursed for the cost of implementing the special license plate. Upon determination by the depart-

#### ACCOUNT

4-H programs

Gonzaga University alumni association

Helping kids speak

Law enforcement memorial

Lighthouse environmental programs

Music matters awareness

Share the road

Ski & ride Washington

State flower

Volunteer firefighters

Washington state council of firefighters benevolent fund

Washington's national park fund

We love our pets

(3) Only the director or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the accounts described in subsection (2) of this section. The accounts are subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

(4) Funds in the special license plate accounts described in subsection (2) of this section must be disbursed subject to

ment that the state has been reimbursed, the state treasurer shall credit the remaining special license plate fee amounts for each special license plate to the following appropriate account as created in this section in the custody of the state treasurer:

#### CONDITIONS FOR USE OF FUNDS

Support Washington 4-H programs

Scholarship funds to needy and qualified students attending or planning to attend Gonzaga University

Provide free diagnostic and therapeutic services to families of children who suffer from a delay in language or speech development

Provide support and assistance to survivors and families of law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line of duty and to organize, finance, fund, construct, utilize, and maintain a memorial on the state capitol grounds to honor those fallen officers

Support selected Washington state lighthouses that are accessible to the public and staffed by volunteers; provide environmental education programs; provide grants for other Washington lighthouses to assist in funding infrastructure preservation and restoration; encourage and support interpretive programs by lighthouse docents

Promote music education in schools throughout Washington

Promote bicycle safety and awareness education in communities throughout Washington

Promote winter snowsports, such as skiing and snowboarding, and related programs, such as ski and ride safety programs, underprivileged youth ski and ride programs, and active, healthy lifestyle programs

Support Meerkerk Rhododendron Gardens and provide for grants to other qualified nonprofit organizations' efforts to preserve rhododendrons

Receive and disseminate funds for purposes on behalf of volunteer firefighters, their families, and others deemed in need

Receive and disseminate funds for charitable purposes on behalf of members of the Washington state council of firefighters, their families, and others deemed in need

Build awareness of Washington's national parks and support priority park programs and projects in Washington's national parks, such as enhancing visitor experience, promoting volunteerism, engaging communities, and providing educational opportunities related to Washington's national parks

Support and enable the Washington federation of animal welfare and control agencies to promote and perform spay/neuter surgery of Washington state pets in order to reduce pet population

the conditions described in subsection (2) of this section and under contract between the department and qualified nonprofit organizations that provide the services described in subsection (2) of this section.

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

RCW 46.18.100(1). [2012 c 65 § 5. Prior: 2011 c 229 § 4; 2011 c 225 § 3; 2011 c 171 § 87; 2010 c 161 § 809.]

**Effective date—2012 c 65:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**Effective date—2011 c 229:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**Effective date—2011 c 225:** See note following RCW 46.18.200.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

#### 46.68.425 Special license plate fees by plate type—

**Disposition.** (1) The department shall:

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

SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE TYPE	ACCOUNT	CONDITIONS FOR USE OF FUNDS
Armed forces	RCW 43.60A.140	N/A
Endangered wildlife	RCW 77.12.170	Must be used only for the department of fish and wildlife's endangered wildlife program activities
Keep kids safe	RCW 43.121.100	As specified in *RCW 43.121.050
Washington state parks	RCW 79A.05.059	Provide public educational opportunities and enhancement of Washington state parks
Washington's wildlife collection	RCW 77.12.170	Only for the department of fish and wildlife's game species management activities
Wild on Washington	RCW 77.12.170	Dedicated to the department of fish and wildlife's watchable wildlife activities, as defined in RCW 77.32.560

[2011 c 171 § 88; 2010 c 161 § 810.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 43.121.050 was repealed by 2011 1st sp.s. c 32 § 12, effective June 30, 2012. RCW 43.121.100 is the appropriate reference.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

#### 46.68.430 Special license plate fees by plate type—

**Baseball stadium license plates, collegiate license plates—**

**Disposition.** (1) The department shall:

SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE TYPE	ACCOUNT	PURPOSE
Baseball stadium	A county	To pay the principal and interest payments on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball stadium, as defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW 82.14.360. After the principal and interest payments on bonds have been made, the state treasurer shall credit the funds to the state general fund.
Collegiate	RCW 28B.10.890	Student scholarships

[2010 c 161 § 811.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 46.17.220 was amended by 2012 c 65 § 4, changing subsection (1)(c) and (e) to subsection (1)(d) and (f), effective January 1, 2013.

(b) Deduct an amount not to exceed twelve dollars for initial issue and two dollars for renewal issue for administration and collection expenses incurred by it; and

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

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

(a) Collect special license plates fees established under \*RCW 46.17.220(1) (c) and (e);

(b) Deduct an amount not to exceed twelve dollars for initial issue and two dollars for renewal issue for administration and collection expenses incurred by it; and

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

(2) The state treasurer shall credit the remaining special license plate fees to the following accounts by special license plate type:

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.435 Personalized license plate fees—Disposition.** (1) All revenue derived from personalized license plate fees provided for in RCW 46.17.210 must be forwarded to the state treasurer and deposited as follows:

(a) Ten dollars to the state wildlife account and used for the management of resources associated with the nonconsumptive use of wildlife;

(b) Two dollars to the wildlife rehabilitation account created under RCW 77.12.471; and

(c) The remainder to the state wildlife account to be used for the preservation, protection, perpetuation, and enhancement of nongame species of wildlife including, but not limited to, song birds, raptors, protected wildlife, rare and endangered wildlife, aquatic life, and specialized-habitat types, both terrestrial and aquatic, as well as all unclassified marine fish, shellfish, and marine invertebrates.

(2) Administrative costs incurred by the department as a direct result of administering the personalized license plate program must be appropriated by the legislature from the state wildlife account from those funds deposited in the account resulting from the sale of personalized license plates. If the actual costs incurred by the department are less than that which has been appropriated by the legislature, the remainder must revert to the state wildlife account. [2010 c 161 § 821.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.440 Emergency medical services fee—Distribution.** The emergency medical services fee imposed under RCW 46.17.110 must be distributed as follows:

(1) If collected by a vehicle dealer, the vehicle dealer must keep two dollars and fifty cents as an administrative fee and the remainder must be deposited in the emergency medical services and trauma care system trust account created in RCW 70.168.040; and

(2) If not collected by a vehicle dealer, the fee must be deposited in the emergency medical services and trauma care system trust account created in RCW 70.168.040. [2010 c 161 § 820.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.445 Parking ticket surcharge—Distribution.** The parking ticket surcharge imposed under RCW 46.17.030 must be distributed as follows:

(1) Ten dollars to the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070 to be used exclusively for the administrative costs of the department; and

(2) Five dollars to be retained by the department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director handling the renewal application to be used for the administration of the parking ticket program. [2010 c 161 § 816.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.450 Department temporary permit fee—Distribution.** The department temporary permit fee imposed under RCW 46.17.400(1)(b) must be distributed as follows:

(1) If collected by the department, the fee must be distributed under RCW 46.68.030; and

(2) If collected by the county auditor or other agent or subagent, the fee must be distributed to the county current expense fund. [2010 c 161 § 814.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.455 Vehicle trip permit fee—Distribution.** The vehicle trip permit fee imposed under RCW 46.17.400(1)(h) must be distributed as follows:

(1) Five dollars to the state patrol highway account for commercial motor vehicle inspections;

(2) Five dollars to the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070 to be distributed as follows:

(a) If paid by motor carriers, to be used for supporting vehicle weigh stations, weigh-in-motion programs, and the commercial vehicle information systems and networks programs; and

(b) If paid by a person other than a motor carrier, to be used for supporting congestion relief programs;

(3) A one dollar excise tax to the state general fund;

(4) The amount of the filing fee imposed under RCW 46.17.005(1) to be credited as required under RCW 46.68.400; and

(5) The remainder to the credit of the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070 as an administrative fee.

The administrative fee must be increased or decreased in an equal amount if the amount of the filing fee imposed under RCW 46.17.005(1) increases or decreases, so that the total trip permit fee is adjusted equally to compensate. [2011 c 171 § 89; 2010 c 161 § 815.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.460 Special fuel trip permit fee—Distribution.** The special fuel trip permit fee imposed under RCW 46.17.400(1)(f) for special fuel trip permits issued under RCW 82.38.100 must be distributed as follows:

(1) One dollar to be retained by the county auditor or businesses appointed by the department to defray expenses incurred in handling and selling special fuel trip permits;

(2) Five dollars to the state patrol highway account to be used for commercial motor vehicle inspections;

(3) Five dollars to the motor vehicle fund to be distributed as follows:

(a) If paid by motor carriers, to be used for supporting vehicle weigh stations, weigh-in-motion programs, and the commercial vehicle information systems and networks program;

(b) If paid by a person other than a motor carrier, to be used for supporting congestion relief programs; and

(4) Nineteen dollars to the credit of the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070. [2010 c 161 § 817.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.68.470 Congestion reduction charges—Contracts.**

Whenever the department enters into a contract with the governing body of a county that has assumed the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation under chapter 36.56 RCW and is operating a public transportation system for the collection of congestion reduction charges authorized under RCW 82.80.055:

(1) The contract must require that the governing body provide any information specified by the department to identify the vehicle owners who owe the congestion reduction charges, and must specify that it is the responsibility of the governing body to ensure that the congestion reduction charges are appropriately applied;

(2) The department is not responsible for the collection of congestion reduction charges until a date agreed to by both parties as specified in the contract;

(3) The department shall deduct a percentage amount as provided in the contract, not to exceed three percent of the charges collected, necessary to reimburse the department for the costs incurred for the collection of the congestion reduction charges; and

(4) The department shall remit remaining proceeds to the custody of the state treasurer. The state treasurer shall distribute the proceeds to the governing body on a monthly basis. [2011 c 373 § 3.]

**Intent—2011 c 373:** See note following RCW 82.80.055.

**Chapter 46.70 RCW****DEALERS AND MANUFACTURERS**

## Sections

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*Automotive repair: Chapter 46.71 RCW.*

*False or deceptive advertising: Chapter 9.04 RCW.*

*Lemon Law—Motor vehicle express warranties: Chapter 19.118 RCW.*

*Manufactured home safety and construction standards, inspections: RCW 43.22.431 through 43.22.434.*

*Retail installment sales of goods: Chapter 63.14 RCW.*

*Unfair business practices—Consumer protection: Chapter 19.86 RCW.*

*Violations relating to mobile/manufactured homes: RCW 18.27.117.*

**46.70.005 Declaration of purpose.** The legislature finds and declares that the distribution, sale, and lease of vehicles in the state of Washington vitally affects the general economy of the state and the public interest and the public welfare, and that in order to promote the public interest and the public welfare, and in the exercise of its police power, it is necessary to regulate and license vehicle manufacturers, distributors, or wholesalers and factory or distributor representatives, and to regulate and license dealers of vehicles doing business in Washington, in order to prevent frauds, impositions, and other abuses upon its citizens and to protect and preserve the investments and properties of the citizens of this state. [2001 c 272 § 1; 1986 c 241 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** Throughout chapter 46.70 RCW the phrases "this act" and "this amendatory act" have been changed to "this chapter." This 1967 act or amendatory act [1967 ex.s. c 74] consisted of RCW 46.70.005 through 46.70.042, 46.70.051, 46.70.061, 46.70.081 through 46.70.083, 46.70.101 through 46.70.111, and 46.70.180 through 46.70.910, the 1967 amendments to RCW 46.70.060 and 46.70.070, and the repeal of RCW 46.70.010 through 46.70.050, 46.70.080, 46.70.100, and 46.70.110.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.011 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

(1) "Auction" means a transaction conducted by means of exchanges between an auctioneer and the members of the audience, constituting a series of oral invitations for offers for the purchase of vehicles made by the auctioneer, offers to purchase by members of the audience, and the acceptance of the highest or most favorable offer to purchase.

(2) "Auction company" means a sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, or other legal or commercial entity licensed under chapter 18.11 RCW that only sells or offers to sell vehicles at auction or only arranges or sponsors auctions.

(3) "Buyer's agent" means any person, firm, partnership, association, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, or corporation retained or employed by a consumer to arrange for or to negotiate, or both, the purchase or lease of a new motor vehicle on behalf of the consumer, and who is paid a fee or receives other compensation from the consumer for its services.

(4) "Department" means the department of licensing, which shall administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter.

(5) "Director" means the director of licensing.

(6) "Established place of business" means a location meeting the requirements of RCW 46.70.023(1) at which a vehicle dealer conducts business in this state.

(7) "Listing dealer" means a used mobile home dealer who makes contracts with sellers who will compensate the dealer for obtaining a willing purchaser for the seller's mobile home.

(8) "Manufacturer" means any person, firm, association, corporation, or trust, resident or nonresident, who manufactures or assembles new and unused vehicles or remanufactures vehicles in whole or in part and further includes the terms:

(a) "Distributor," which means any person, firm, association, corporation, or trust, resident or nonresident, who in whole or in part offers for sale, sells, or distributes any new and unused vehicle to vehicle dealers or who maintains factory representatives.

(b) "Factory branch," which means a branch office maintained by a manufacturer for the purpose of selling or offering for sale, vehicles to a distributor, wholesaler, or vehicle dealer, or for directing or supervising in whole or in part factory or distributor representatives, and further includes any sales promotion organization, whether a person, firm, or corporation, which is engaged in promoting the sale of new and unused vehicles in this state of a particular brand or make to vehicle dealers.

(c) "Factory representative," which means a representative employed by a manufacturer, distributor, or factory branch for the purpose of making or promoting for the sale of their vehicles or for supervising or contracting with their dealers or prospective dealers.

(9) "Motor vehicle" means every vehicle which is self-propelled and every vehicle which is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires, but not operated upon rails, and which is required to be registered and titled under this title.

(10) "New motor vehicle" means any motor vehicle that is self-propelled and is required to be registered and titled under this title, has not been previously titled to a retail purchaser or lessee, and is not a "used vehicle" as defined under RCW 46.04.660.

(11) "Principal place of business" means that dealer firm's business location in the state, which place the dealer designates as their principal place of business.

(12) "Recreational vehicle" means a travel trailer, motor home, truck camper, or camping trailer that is primarily

designed and used as temporary living quarters, is either self-propelled or mounted on or drawn by another vehicle, is transient, is not occupied as a primary residence, and is not immobilized or permanently affixed to a mobile home lot.

(13) "Retail vehicle dealer" means a vehicle dealer who may buy and sell at both wholesale and retail.

(14) "Subagency" means any place of business of a vehicle dealer within the state, which place is physically and geographically separated from the principal place of business of the firm or any place of business of a vehicle dealer within the state, at which place the firm does business using a name other than the principal name of the firm, or both.

(15) "Temporary subagency" means a location other than the principal place of business or subagency within the state where a licensed vehicle dealer may secure a license to conduct the business and is licensed for a period of time not to exceed ten days for a specific purpose such as auto shows, shopping center promotions, tent sales, exhibitions, or similar merchandising ventures. No more than six temporary subagency licenses may be issued to a licensee in any twelve-month period.

(16) "Vehicle" means and includes every device capable of being moved upon a public highway and in, upon, or by which any persons or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a public highway, excepting devices moved by human or animal power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.

(17) "Vehicle dealer" means any person, firm, association, corporation, or trust, not excluded by subsection (18) of this section, engaged in the business of buying, selling, listing, exchanging, offering, brokering, leasing with an option to purchase, auctioning, soliciting, or advertising the sale of new or used vehicles, or arranging or offering or attempting to solicit or negotiate on behalf of others, a sale, purchase, or exchange of an interest in new or used motor vehicles, irrespective of whether the motor vehicles are owned by that person. Vehicle dealers shall be classified as follows:

(a) A "motor vehicle dealer" is a vehicle dealer that deals in new or used motor vehicles, or both;

(b) A "mobile home and travel trailer dealer" is a vehicle dealer that deals in mobile homes, park trailers, or travel trailers, or more than one type of these vehicles;

(c) A "miscellaneous vehicle dealer" is a vehicle dealer that deals in motorcycles or vehicles other than motor vehicles or mobile homes and travel trailers or any combination of such vehicles;

(d) A "recreational vehicle dealer" is a vehicle dealer that deals in travel trailers, motor homes, truck campers, or camping trailers that are primarily designed and used as temporary living quarters, are either self-propelled or mounted on or drawn by another vehicle, are transient, are not occupied as a primary residence, and are not immobilized or permanently affixed to a mobile home lot.

(18) "Vehicle dealer" does not include, nor do the licensing requirements of RCW 46.70.021 apply to, the following persons, firms, associations, or corporations:

(a) Receivers, trustees, administrators, executors, guardians, or other persons appointed by, or acting under a judgment or order of, any court; or

(b) Public officers while performing their official duties; or

(c) Employees of vehicle dealers who are engaged in the specific performance of their duties as such employees; or

(d) Any person engaged in an isolated sale of a vehicle in which that person is the registered or legal owner, or both, thereof; or

(e) Any person, firm, association, corporation, or trust, engaged in the selling of equipment other than vehicles, subject to registration, used for agricultural or industrial purposes; or

(f) A real estate broker licensed under chapter 18.85 RCW, or an affiliated licensee, who, on behalf of another negotiates the purchase, sale, lease, or exchange of a manufactured or mobile home in conjunction with the purchase, sale, exchange, rental, or lease of the land upon which the manufactured or mobile home is, or will be, located; or

(g) Owners who are also operators of special highway construction equipment, as defined in RCW 46.04.551, or of the highway construction equipment for which a vehicle license and display vehicle license number plate is required; or

(h) Any bank, trust company, savings bank, mutual savings bank, savings and loan association, credit union, and any parent, subsidiary, or affiliate thereof, authorized to do business in this state under state or federal law with respect to the sale or other disposition of a motor vehicle owned and used in their business; or with respect to the acquisition and sale or other disposition of a motor vehicle in which the entity has acquired an interest as a lessor, lessee, or secured party; or

(i) Any person who is regularly engaged in the business of acquiring leases or installment contracts by assignment, with respect to the acquisition and sale or other disposition of a motor vehicle in which the person has acquired an interest as a result of the business.

(19) "Vehicle salesperson" means any person who for any form of compensation sells, auctions, leases with an option to purchase, or offers to sell or to so lease vehicles on behalf of a vehicle dealer.

(20) "Wholesale vehicle dealer" means a vehicle dealer who buys and sells other than at retail. [2010 c 161 § 1130; 2006 c 364 § 1; 2001 c 272 § 2; 1998 c 46 § 1; 1996 c 194 § 1; 1993 c 175 § 1. Prior: 1989 c 337 § 11; 1989 c 301 § 1; 1988 c 287 § 1; 1986 c 241 § 2; 1981 c 305 § 2; 1979 c 158 § 186; 1979 c 11 § 3; prior: 1977 ex.s. c 204 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 125 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 63 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 3.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.70.021 License required for dealers or manufacturers—Penalties.** (1) It is unlawful for any person, firm, or association to act as a vehicle dealer or vehicle manufacturer, to engage in business as such, serve in the capacity of such, advertise himself, herself, or themselves as such, solicit sales as such, or distribute or transfer vehicles for resale in this state, without first obtaining and holding a current license as provided in this chapter, unless the title of the vehicle is in the name of the seller.

(2) It is unlawful for any person other than a licensed vehicle dealer to display a vehicle for sale unless the registered owner or legal owner is the displayer or holds a notarized power of attorney.

(3)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, a person or firm engaged in buying and offering for sale, or buying and selling five or more vehicles in a twelve-month period, or in any other way engaged in dealer activity without holding a vehicle dealer license, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor, and upon conviction subject to a fine of up to five thousand dollars for each violation and up to three hundred sixty-four days in jail.

(b) A second offense is a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(4) A violation of this section is also a per se violation of chapter 19.86 RCW and is considered a deceptive practice.

(5) The department of licensing, the Washington state patrol, the attorney general's office, and the department of revenue shall cooperate in the enforcement of this section.

(6) A distributor, factory branch, or factory representative shall not be required to have a vehicle manufacturer license so long as the vehicle manufacturer so represented is properly licensed pursuant to this chapter.

(7) Nothing in this chapter prohibits financial institutions from cooperating with vehicle dealers licensed under this chapter in dealer sales or leases. However, financial institutions shall not broker vehicles and cooperation is limited to organizing, promoting, and financing of such dealer sales or leases. [2011 c 96 § 36; 2003 c 53 § 249; 1993 c 307 § 4; 1988 c 287 § 2; 1986 c 241 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 4.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**46.70.023 Place of business.** (1) An "established place of business" requires a permanent, enclosed commercial building located within the state of Washington easily accessible at all reasonable times. The business of a vehicle dealer must be lawfully carried on at an established place of business in accordance with the terms of all applicable building code, zoning, and other land-use regulatory ordinances. A vehicle dealer may display a vehicle for sale only at its established place of business, licensed subagency, or temporary subagency site, except at auction. The dealer shall keep the building open to the public so that the public may contact the vehicle dealer or the dealer's salespersons at all reasonable times. The books, records, and files necessary to conduct the business shall be kept and maintained at that place. The established place of business shall display an exterior sign with the business name and nature of the business, such as auto sales, permanently affixed to the land or building, with letters clearly visible to the major avenue of traffic. A room or rooms in a hotel, rooming house, or apartment house building or part of a single or multiple-unit dwelling house may not be considered an "established place of business" unless the ground floor of such a dwelling is devoted principally to and occupied for commercial purposes and the dealer offices are located on the ground floor. A mobile office or mobile home may be used as an office if it is connected to utilities and is set up in accordance with state law. A statewide trade

association representing manufactured housing dealers shall be permitted to use a manufactured home as an office if the office complies with all other applicable building code, zoning, and other land-use regulatory ordinances. This subsection does not apply to auction companies that do not own vehicle inventory or sell vehicles from an auction yard.

(2) An auction company shall have office facilities within the state. The books, records, and files necessary to conduct the business shall be maintained at the office facilities. All storage facilities for inventory shall be listed with the department, and shall meet local zoning and land use ordinances. An auction company shall maintain a telecommunications system.

(3) Auction companies shall post their vehicle dealer license at each auction where vehicles are offered, and shall provide the department with the address of the auction at least three days before the auction.

(4) If a dealer maintains a place of business at more than one location or under more than one name in this state, he or she shall designate one location as the principal place of business of the firm, one name as the principal name of the firm, and all other locations or names as subagencies. A subagency license is required for each and every subagency: PROVIDED, That the department may grant an exception to the subagency requirement in the specific instance where a licensed dealer is unable to locate their used vehicle sales facilities adjacent to or at the established place of business. This exception shall be granted and defined under the promulgation of rules consistent with the Administrative Procedure Act.

(5) All vehicle dealers shall maintain ownership or leasehold throughout the license year of the real property from which they do business. The dealer shall provide the department with evidence of ownership or leasehold whenever the ownership changes or the lease is terminated.

(6) A subagency shall comply with all requirements of an established place of business, except that subagency records may be kept at the principal place of business designated by the dealer. Auction companies shall comply with the requirements in subsection (2) of this section.

(7) A temporary subagency shall meet all local zoning and building codes for the type of merchandising being conducted. The dealer license certificate shall be posted at the location. No other requirements of an established place of business apply to a temporary subagency. Auction companies are not required to obtain a temporary subagency license.

(8) A wholesale vehicle dealer shall have office facilities in a commercial building within this state, and all storage facilities for inventory shall be listed with the department, and shall meet local zoning and land use ordinances. A wholesale vehicle dealer shall maintain a telecommunications system. An exterior sign visible from the nearest street shall identify the business name and the nature of business. When two or more vehicle dealer businesses share a location, all records, office facilities, and inventory, if any, must be physically segregated and clearly identified.

(9) A retail vehicle dealer shall be open during normal business hours, maintain office and display facilities in a commercially zoned location or in a location complying with all applicable building and land use ordinances, and maintain a business telephone listing in the local directory. When two

or more vehicle dealer businesses share a location, all records, office facilities, and inventory shall be physically segregated and clearly identified.

(10) A subagency license is not required for a mobile home dealer to display an on-site display model, a consigned mobile home not relocated from its site, or a repossessed mobile home if sales are handled from a principal place of business or subagency. A mobile home dealer shall identify on-site display models, repossessed mobile homes, and those consigned at their sites with a sign that includes the dealer's name and telephone number.

(11) Every vehicle dealer shall advise the department of the location of each and every place of business of the firm and the name or names under which the firm is doing business at such location or locations. If any name or location is changed, the dealer shall notify the department of such change within ten days. The license issued by the department shall reflect the name and location of the firm and shall be posted in a conspicuous place at that location by the dealer.

(12) A vehicle dealer's license shall upon the death or incapacity of an individual vehicle dealer authorize the personal representative of such dealer, subject to payment of license fees, to continue the business for a period of six months from the date of the death or incapacity. [1997 c 432 § 1; 1996 c 282 § 1; 1995 c 7 § 1; 1993 c 307 § 5; 1991 c 339 § 28; 1989 c 301 § 2; 1986 c 241 § 4.]

**46.70.025 Established place of business—Waiver of requirements.** The director may by rule waive any requirements pertaining to a vehicle dealer's established place of business if such waiver both serves the purposes of this chapter and is necessary due to unique circumstances such as a location divided by a public street or a highly specialized type of business. [1986 c 199 § 1.]

**46.70.027 Accountability of dealer for employees—Actions for damages on violation of chapter.** A vehicle dealer is accountable for the dealer's employees, sales personnel, and managerial personnel while in the performance of their official duties. Any violations of this chapter or applicable provisions of chapter 46.12 or 46.16A RCW committed by any of these employees subjects the dealer to license penalties prescribed under RCW 46.70.101. A retail purchaser, consignee who is not a motor vehicle dealer, or a motor vehicle dealer who has purchased from a wholesale dealer, who has suffered a loss or damage by reason of any act by a dealer, salesperson, managerial person, or other employee of a dealership, that constitutes a violation of this chapter or applicable provisions of chapter 46.12 or 46.16A RCW may institute an action for recovery against the dealer and the surety bond as set forth in RCW 46.70.070. However, under this section, motor vehicle dealers who have purchased from wholesale dealers may only institute actions against wholesale dealers and their surety bonds. [2011 c 171 § 90; 1989 c 337 § 12; 1986 c 241 § 5.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.70.028 Consignment.** Dealers who transact dealer business by consignment shall obtain a consignment contract for sale and shall comply with applicable provisions of chap-

ter 46.70 RCW. The dealer shall place all funds received from the sale of the consigned vehicle in a trust account until the sale is completed, except that the dealer shall pay any outstanding liens against the vehicle from these funds. Where title has been delivered to the purchaser, the dealer shall pay the amount due a consignor within ten days after the sale. However, in the case of a consignment from a licensed vehicle dealer from any state, the wholesale auto auction shall pay the consignor within twenty days. [2000 c 131 § 2; 1989 c 337 § 13.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **46.70.029 Listing dealers, transaction of business.**

Listing dealers shall transact dealer business by obtaining a listing agreement for sale, and the buyer's purchase of the mobile home shall be handled as dealer inventory. All funds from the purchaser shall be placed in a trust account until the sale is completed, except that the dealer shall pay any outstanding liens against the mobile home from these funds. Where title has been delivered to the purchaser, the listing dealer shall pay the amount due a seller within ten days after the sale of a listed mobile home. A complete account of all funds received and disbursed shall be given to the seller or consignor after the sale is completed. The sale of listed mobile homes imposes the same duty under RCW 46.70.122 on the listing dealer as any other sale. [2001 c 64 § 8; 1990 c 250 § 63; 1986 c 241 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.031 Application for license—Form.** A vehicle dealer or vehicle manufacturer may apply for a license by filing with the department an application in such form as the department may prescribe. [1986 c 241 § 7; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 4; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 5.]

**46.70.041 Application for license—Contents.** (1) Every application for a vehicle dealer license shall contain the following information to the extent it applies to the applicant:

- (a) Proof as the department may require concerning the applicant's identity, including but not limited to his or her fingerprints, the honesty, truthfulness, and good reputation of the applicant for the license, or of the officers of a corporation making the application;
- (b) The applicant's form and place of organization including if the applicant is a corporation, proof that the corporation is licensed to do business in this state;
- (c) The qualification and business history of the applicant and any partner, officer, or director;
- (d) The applicant's financial condition or history including a bank reference and whether the applicant or any partner, officer, or director has ever been adjudged bankrupt or has any unsatisfied judgment in any federal or state court;
- (e) Whether the applicant has been adjudged guilty of a crime which directly relates to the business for which the license is sought and the time elapsed since the conviction is less than ten years, or has suffered any judgment within the preceding five years in any civil action involving fraud, misrepresentation, or conversion and in the case of a corporation or partnership, all directors, officers, or partners;

(f) A business telephone with a listing in the local directory;

(g) The name or names of new vehicles the vehicle dealer wishes to sell;

(h) The names and addresses of each manufacturer from whom the applicant has received a franchise;

(i) A certificate by a representative of the department, that the applicant's principal place of business and each sub-agency business location in the state of Washington meets the location requirements as required by this chapter. The certificate shall include proof of the applicant's ownership or lease of the real property where the applicant's principal place of business is established;

(j) A copy of a current service agreement with a manufacturer, or distributor for a foreign manufacturer, requiring the applicant, upon demand of any customer receiving a new vehicle warranty to perform or arrange for, within a reasonable distance of his or her established place of business, the service repair and replacement work required of the manufacturer or distributor by such vehicle warranty. This requirement applies only to applicants seeking to sell, to exchange, to offer, to auction, to solicit, to advertise, or to broker new or current-model vehicles with factory or distributor warranties;

(k) The class of vehicles the vehicle dealer will be buying, selling, listing, exchanging, offering, brokering, leasing, auctioning, soliciting, or advertising, and which classification or classifications the dealer wishes to be designated as;

(l) Effective July 1, 2002, a certificate from the provider of each education program or test showing that the applicant has completed the education programs and passed the test required under RCW 46.70.079 if the applicant is a dealer subject to the education and test requirements;

(m) Any other information the department may reasonably require.

(2) If the applicant is a manufacturer the application shall contain the following information to the extent it is applicable to the applicant:

(a) The name and address of the principal place of business of the applicant and, if different, the name and address of the Washington state representative of the applicant;

(b) The name or names under which the applicant will do business in the state of Washington;

(c) Evidence that the applicant is authorized to do business in the state of Washington;

(d) The name or names of the vehicles that the licensee manufactures;

(e) The name or names and address or addresses of each and every distributor, factory branch, and factory representative;

(f) The name or names and address or addresses of resident employees or agents to provide service or repairs to vehicles located in the state of Washington only under the terms of any warranty attached to new or unused vehicles manufactured, unless such manufacturer requires warranty service to be performed by all of its dealers pursuant to a current service agreement on file with the department;

(g) Any other information the department may reasonably require. [2001 c 272 § 3. Prior: 1993 c 307 § 6; 1993 c 175 § 2; 1990 c 250 § 64; 1986 c 241 § 8; 1979 c 158 § 187; 1977 ex.s. c 125 § 2; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 74 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 63 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 6.]



Requirements of "established place of business": RCW 46.70.023.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.042 Application for license—Retention by department—Confidentiality.** Every application for license shall be retained by the department for a period of three years and shall be confidential information for the use of the department, the attorney general or the prosecuting attorney only: PROVIDED, That upon a showing of good cause therefor any court in which an action is pending by or against the applicant or licensee, may order the director to produce and permit the inspection and copying or photographing the application and any accompanying statements. [1967 ex.s. c 74 § 14.]

**46.70.045 Denial of license.** The director may deny a license under this chapter when the application is a subterfuge that conceals the real person in interest whose license has been denied, suspended, or revoked for cause under this chapter and the terms have not been fulfilled or a civil penalty has not been paid, or the director finds that the application was not filed in good faith. This section does not preclude the department from taking an action against a current licensee. [1997 c 432 § 2.]

**46.70.051 Issuance of license—Private party dissemination of vehicle database.** (1) After the application has been filed, the fee paid, and bond posted, if required, the department shall, if no denial order is in effect and no proceeding is pending under RCW 46.70.101, issue the appropriate license, which license, in the case of a vehicle dealer, shall designate the classification of the dealer. Nothing prohibits a vehicle dealer from obtaining licenses for more than one classification, and nothing prevents any vehicle dealer from dealing in other classes of vehicles on an isolated basis.

(2) An auction company licensed under chapter 18.11 RCW may sell at auction all classifications of vehicles under a motor vehicle dealer's license issued under this chapter including motor vehicles, miscellaneous type vehicles, and mobile homes and travel trailers.

(3) At the time the department issues a vehicle dealer license, the department shall provide to the dealer a current, up-to-date vehicle dealer manual that may be provided electronically setting forth the various statutes and rules applicable to vehicle dealers. In addition, at the time any such license is renewed under RCW 46.70.083, the department shall provide the dealer with any updates or current revisions to the vehicle dealer manual. These updates or current revisions may be provided electronically.

(4) The department may contract with responsible private parties to provide them elements of the vehicle database on a regular basis. The private parties may only disseminate this information to licensed vehicle dealers.

(a) Subject to the disclosure agreement provisions of RCW 46.12.635 and the requirements of Executive Order 97-01, the department may provide to the contracted private parties the following information:

(i) All vehicle and title data necessary to accurately disclose known title defects, brands, or flags and odometer discrepancies;

(ii) All registered and legal owner information necessary to determine true ownership of the vehicle and the existence of any recorded liens, including but not limited to liens of the department of social and health services or its successor; and

(iii) Any data in the department's possession necessary to calculate the motor vehicle excise tax, license, and registration fees including information necessary to determine the applicability of regional transit authority excise and use tax surcharges.

(b) The department may provide this information in any form the contracted private party and the department agree upon, but if the data is to be transmitted over the Internet or similar public network from the department to the contracted private party, it must be encrypted.

(c) The department shall give these contracted private parties advance written notice of any change in the information referred to in (a)(i), (ii), or (iii) of this subsection, including information pertaining to the calculation of motor vehicle excise taxes.

(d) The department shall revoke a contract made under this subsection (4) with a private party who disseminates information from the vehicle database to anyone other than a licensed vehicle dealer. A private party who obtains information from the vehicle database under a contract with the department and disseminates any of that information to anyone other than a licensed vehicle dealer is guilty of a gross misdemeanor punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(e) Nothing in this subsection (4) authorizes a vehicle dealer or any other organization or entity not otherwise appointed as a vehicle licensing subagent under RCW 46.01.140 to perform any of the functions of a vehicle licensing subagent so appointed. [2010 c 161 § 1131; 2001 c 272 § 4; 1997 c 432 § 4; 1996 c 282 § 2; 1993 c 307 § 7; 1989 c 301 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 6; 1971 ex.s. c 74 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 7.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.70.061 Fees—Disposition. (Effective until October 1, 2012.)** (1) The annual fees for original licenses issued for twelve consecutive months from the date of issuance under this chapter shall be:

(a) Vehicle dealers, principal place of business for each and every license classification: Seven hundred fifty dollars;

(b) Vehicle dealers, each subagency, and temporary subagency: One hundred dollars;

(c) Vehicle manufacturers: Five hundred dollars.

(2) The annual fee for renewal of any license issued pursuant to this chapter shall be:

(a) Vehicle dealers, principal place of business for each and every license classification: Two hundred fifty dollars;

(b) Vehicle dealer, each and every subagency: Twenty-five dollars;

(c) Vehicle manufacturers: Two hundred fifty dollars.

If any licensee fails or neglects to apply for such renewal within thirty days after the expiration of the license, or assigned renewal date under a staggered licensing system, the license shall be declared canceled by the director, in which case the licensee will be required to apply for an original license and pay the fee required for the original license.

(3) The fee for the transfer to another location of any license classification issued pursuant to this chapter shall be twenty-five dollars.

(4) The fee for vehicle dealer license plates and manufacturer license plates shall be the amount required by law for vehicle license plates exclusive of excise tax and gross weight and tonnage fees.

(5) All fees collected under this chapter shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the motor vehicle fund.

(6) The fees prescribed in this section are in addition to any excise taxes imposed by chapter 82.44 RCW. [2002 c 352 § 23; 1990 c 250 § 65; 1986 c 241 § 10; 1986 c 241 § 9; 1979 ex.s. c 251 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 7; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 13.]

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.061 Fees—Disposition. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** (1) The annual fees for original licenses issued for twelve consecutive months from the date of issuance under this chapter shall be:

(a) Vehicle dealers, principal place of business for each and every license classification: Nine hundred seventy-five dollars;

(b) Vehicle dealers, each subagency, and temporary subagency: One hundred dollars;

(c) Vehicle manufacturers: Five hundred dollars.

(2) The annual fee for renewal of any license issued pursuant to this chapter shall be:

(a) Vehicle dealers, principal place of business for each and every license classification: Three hundred twenty-five dollars;

(b) Vehicle dealer, each and every subagency: Twenty-five dollars;

(c) Vehicle manufacturers: Two hundred fifty dollars.

If any licensee fails or neglects to apply for such renewal within thirty days after the expiration of the license, or assigned renewal date under a staggered licensing system, the license shall be declared canceled by the director, in which case the licensee will be required to apply for an original license and pay the fee required for the original license.

(3) The fee for the transfer to another location of any license classification issued pursuant to this chapter shall be twenty-five dollars.

(4) The fee for vehicle dealer license plates and manufacturer license plates shall be the amount required by law for vehicle license plates exclusive of excise tax and gross weight and tonnage fees.

(5) All fees collected under this chapter shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the motor vehicle fund.

(6) The fees prescribed in this section are in addition to any excise taxes imposed by chapter 82.44 RCW. [2012 c 74 § 7; 2002 c 352 § 23; 1990 c 250 § 65; 1986 c 241 § 10; 1986 c 241 § 9; 1979 ex.s. c 251 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 7; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 13.]

**Effective date—2012 c 74 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.17.100.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.070 Dealers—Bond required, exceptions—Actions—Cancellation of license.** (1) Before issuing a vehicle dealer's license, the department shall require the applicant to file with the department a surety bond in the amount of:

(a) Thirty thousand dollars for motor vehicle dealers;

(b) Thirty thousand dollars for mobile home, park trailer, and travel trailer dealers;

(c) Five thousand dollars for miscellaneous dealers, running to the state, and executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the state. Such bond shall be approved by the attorney general as to form and conditioned that the dealer shall conduct his or her business in conformity with the provisions of this chapter.

Any retail purchaser, consignor who is not a motor vehicle dealer, or a motor vehicle dealer who has purchased from, sold to, or otherwise transacted business with a wholesale dealer, who has suffered any loss or damage by reason of any act by a dealer which constitutes a violation of this chapter shall have the right to institute an action for recovery against such dealer and the surety upon such bond. However, under this section, motor vehicle dealers who have purchased from, sold to, or otherwise transacted business with wholesale dealers may only institute actions against wholesale dealers and their surety bonds. Successive recoveries against said bond shall be permitted, but the aggregate liability of the surety to all persons shall in no event exceed the amount of the bond. Upon exhaustion of the penalty of said bond or cancellation of the bond by the surety the vehicle dealer license shall automatically be deemed canceled.

(2) The bond for any vehicle dealer licensed or to be licensed under more than one classification shall be the highest bond required for any such classification.

(3) Vehicle dealers shall maintain a bond for each business location in this state and bond coverage for all temporary subagencies. [2001 c 272 § 13; 1996 c 194 § 2; 1989 c 337 § 15; 1986 c 241 § 11; 1981 c 152 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 8; 1971 ex.s. c 74 § 4; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 27; 1961 c 239 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.70.070. Prior: 1959 c 166 § 19; 1951 c 150 § 8.]

**46.70.075 Manufacturers—Bond required—**

**Actions—Cancellation of license.** Before issuing a manufacturer license to a manufacturer of mobile homes or travel trailers, the department shall require the applicant to file with the department a surety bond in the amount of forty thousand dollars in the case of a mobile home manufacturer and twenty thousand dollars in the case of a travel trailer manufacturer, running to the state and executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the state. Such bond shall be approved by the attorney general as to form and conditioned that the manufacturer shall conduct his or her business in conformity with the provisions of this chapter and with all standards set by the state of Washington or the federal government pertaining to the construction or safety of such vehicles. Any retail purchaser or vehicle dealer who has suffered any loss or damage by reason of breach of warranty or by any act by a manufacturer which constitutes a violation of this chapter or a violation of any standards set by the state of Washington or the federal government pertaining to construction or safety of such vehicles has the right to institute an action for recovery against such manufacturer and the surety upon such bond. Successive recoveries against the bond shall be permitted, but

the aggregate liability of the surety to all persons shall in no event exceed the amount of the bond. Upon exhaustion of the penalty of the bond or cancellation of the bond by the surety the manufacturer license is automatically deemed canceled. [2010 c 8 § 9082; 1981 c 152 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 9.]

**46.70.079 Education requirements.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the following education requirements apply to an applicant for a vehicle dealer license under RCW 46.70.021:

(a) An applicant for a vehicle dealer license under RCW 46.70.021 must complete a minimum of eight hours of approved education programs described in subsection (3) of this section and pass a test prior to submitting an application for the license; and

(b) An applicant for a renewal of a vehicle dealer license under RCW 46.70.083 must complete a minimum of five hours per year in a licensing period of approved continuing education programs described in subsection (3) of this section prior to submitting an application for the renewal of the vehicle dealer license.

(2) The education and test requirements in subsection (1) of this section do not apply to an applicant for a vehicle dealer license under RCW 46.70.021 if the applicant is:

- (a) A franchised dealer of new recreational vehicles;
  - (b) A nationally franchised or corporate-owned motor vehicle rental company;
  - (c) A dealer of manufactured dwellings;
  - (d) A national auction company that holds a vehicle dealer license and a wrecker license whose primary activity in this state is the sale or disposition of totaled vehicles; or
  - (e) A wholesale auto auction company that holds a vehicle dealer license.
- (3) The education programs and test required in subsection (1) of this section shall be developed by motor vehicle industry organizations including, but not limited to, the state independent auto dealers association and the department of licensing.
- (4) A new motor vehicle dealer, as defined under RCW 46.96.020, is deemed to have met the education and test requirements required for applicants for a vehicle dealer license under this section. [2001 c 272 § 12.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.083 Expiration of license—Renewal—Certification of established place of business.** The license of a vehicle dealer or a vehicle manufacturer expires on the date that is twelve consecutive months from the date of issuance. The license may be renewed by filing with the department prior to the expiration of the license, a renewal application containing such information as the department may require to indicate the number of vehicle sales transacted during the past year, and any material change in the information contained in the original application. Failure by the dealer to comply is grounds for denial of the renewal application or dealer license plate renewal.

The dealer's established place of business shall be certified by a representative of the department at least once every thirty-six months, or more frequently as determined necessary by the department. The certification will verify compliance with the requirements of this chapter for an established

place of business. Failure by the dealer to comply at any time is grounds for license suspension or revocation, denial of the renewal application, or monetary assessment. [1993 c 307 § 8; 1991 c 140 § 2; 1990 c 250 § 66; 1986 c 241 § 12; 1985 c 109 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 12; 1971 ex.s. c 74 § 6; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 10.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.085 Licenses—Staggered renewal.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the director may extend or diminish licensing periods of dealers and manufacturers for the purpose of staggering renewal periods. The extension or diminishment shall be by rule of the department adopted in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW. [1990 c 250 § 67; 1985 c 109 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.090 License plates—Use.** (1) The department shall issue a vehicle dealer license plate which shall be attached to the rear of the vehicle only and which is capable of distinguishing the classification of the dealer, to vehicle dealers properly licensed pursuant to this chapter and shall, upon application, issue manufacturer's license plates to manufacturers properly licensed pursuant to this chapter.

(2) The department shall issue to a vehicle dealer up to three vehicle dealer license plates. After the third dealer plate is issued, the department shall limit the number of dealer plates to six percent of the vehicles sold during the preceding license period. For an original license the vehicle dealer license applicant shall estimate the first year's sales or leases. The director or director's designee may waive these dealer plate issuance restrictions for a vehicle dealer if the waiver both serves the purposes of this chapter and is essential to the continuation of the business. The director shall adopt rules to implement this waiver.

(3) Motor vehicle dealer license plates may be used:

(a) To demonstrate motor vehicles held for sale or lease when operated by an individual holding a valid operator's license, if a dated demonstration permit, valid for no more than seventy-two hours, is carried in the vehicle at all times it is operated by any such individual.

(b) On motor vehicles owned, held for sale or lease, and which are in fact available for sale or lease by the firm when operated by an officer of the corporation, partnership, or proprietorship or by their spouses, or by an employee of the firm, if a card so identifying any such individual is carried in the vehicle at all times it is operated by such individual. Any such vehicle so operated may be used to transport the dealer's own tools, parts, and equipment of a total weight not to exceed five hundred pounds.

(c) On motor vehicles being tested for repair.

(d) On motor vehicles being moved to or from a motor vehicle dealer's place of business for sale.

(e) On motor vehicles being moved to or from motor vehicle service and repair facilities before sale or lease.

(f) On motor vehicles being moved to or from motor vehicle exhibitions within the state of Washington, if any such exhibition does not exceed a period of twenty days.

(4) Mobile home and travel trailer dealer license plates may be used:

(a) On units hauled to or from the place of business of the manufacturer and the place of business of the dealer or to and from places of business of the dealer.

(b) On mobile homes hauled to a customer's location for set-up after sale.

(c) On travel trailers held for sale to demonstrate the towing capability of the vehicle if a dated demonstration permit, valid for not more than seventy-two hours, is carried with the vehicle at all times.

(d) On mobile homes being hauled from a customer's location if the requirements of RCW 46.44.170 and 46.44.175 are met.

(e) On any motor vehicle owned by the dealer which is used only to move vehicles legally bearing mobile home and travel trailer dealer license plates of the dealer so owning any such motor vehicle.

(f) On vehicles being moved to or from vehicle exhibitions within the state of Washington, if any such exhibition does not exceed a period of twenty days.

(5) Miscellaneous vehicle dealer license plates may be used:

(a) To demonstrate any miscellaneous vehicle: PROVIDED, That:

(i) No such vehicle may be demonstrated on a public highway unless the customer has an appropriate endorsement on his or her driver's license, if such endorsement is required to operate such vehicle; and

(ii) A dated demonstration permit, valid for no more than seventy-two hours, is carried with the vehicle at all times it is operated by any such individual.

(b) On vehicles owned, held for sale, and which are in fact available for sale, by the firm when operated by an officer of the corporation, partnership, or proprietorship or by a bona fide full-time employee of the firm, if a card so identifying such individual is carried in the vehicle at all times it is operated by him or her.

(c) On vehicles being tested for repair.

(d) On vehicles being transported to or from the place of business of the manufacturer and the place of business of the dealer or to and from places of business of the dealer.

(e) On vehicles on which any other item sold or to be sold by the dealer is transported from the place of business of the manufacturer to the place of business of the dealer or to and from places of business of the dealer if such vehicle and such item are purchased or sold as one package.

(6) Manufacturers properly licensed pursuant to this chapter may apply for and obtain manufacturer license plates and may be used:

(a) On vehicles being moved to or from the place of business of a manufacturer to a vehicle dealer within this state who is properly licensed pursuant to this chapter.

(b) To test vehicles for repair.

(7) Vehicle dealer license plates and manufacturer license plates shall not be used for any purpose other than set forth in this section and specifically shall not be:

(a) Used on any vehicle not within the class for which the vehicle dealer or manufacturer license plates are issued unless specifically provided for in this section.

(b) Loaned to any person for any reason not specifically provided for in this section.

(c) Used on any vehicles for the transportation of any person, produce, freight, or commodities unless specifically provided for in this section, except there shall be permitted the use of such vehicle dealer license plates on a vehicle transporting commodities in the course of a demonstration over a period not to exceed seventy-two consecutive hours from the commencement of such demonstration, if a representative of the dealer is present and accompanies such vehicle during the course of the demonstration.

(d) Used on any vehicle sold to a resident of another state to transport such vehicle to that other state in lieu of a trip permit or in lieu of vehicle license plates obtained from that other state.

(e) Used on any new vehicle unless the vehicle dealer has provided the department a current service agreement with the manufacturer or distributor of that vehicle as provided in RCW 46.70.041(1)(k).

(8) In addition to or in lieu of any sanction imposed by the director pursuant to RCW 46.70.101 for unauthorized use of vehicle dealer license plates or manufacturer license plates, the director may order that any or all vehicle dealer license plates or manufacturer license plates issued pursuant to this chapter be confiscated for such period as the director deems appropriate. [2001 c 272 § 5; 1994 c 262 § 10; 1992 c 222 § 2; 1991 c 140 § 1; 1983 c 3 § 123; 1981 c 152 § 4; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 13; 1971 ex.s. c 74 § 7; 1969 ex.s. c 63 § 3; 1961 c 12 § 46.70.090. Prior: 1955 c 283 § 1; 1951 c 150 § 10.]

**46.70.101 Denial, suspension, or revocation of licenses—Grounds.** The director may by order deny, suspend, or revoke the license of any vehicle dealer or vehicle manufacturer or, in lieu thereof or in addition thereto, may by order assess monetary penalties of a civil nature not to exceed one thousand dollars per violation, if the director finds that the order is in the public interest and that the applicant or licensee:

(1) In the case of a vehicle dealer:

(a) The applicant or licensee, or any partner, officer, director, owner of ten percent or more of the assets of the firm, or managing employee:

(i) Was the holder of a license issued pursuant to this chapter, which was revoked for cause and never reissued by the department, or which license was suspended for cause and the terms of the suspension have not been fulfilled or which license was assessed a civil penalty and the assessed amount has not been paid;

(ii) Has been adjudged guilty of a crime which directly relates to the business of a vehicle dealer and the time elapsed since the adjudication is less than ten years, or suffering any judgment within the preceding five years in any civil action involving fraud, misrepresentation, or conversion. For the purposes of this section, "adjudged guilty" means in addition to a final conviction in either a state or municipal court, an unvacated forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure a defendant's appearance in court, the payment of a fine, a plea of guilty, or a finding of guilt regardless of whether the sentence is deferred or the penalty is suspended;

(iii) Has knowingly or with reason to know made a false statement of a material fact in his or her application for

license or any data attached thereto, or in any matter under investigation by the department;

(iv) Has knowingly, or with reason to know, provided the department with false information relating to the number of vehicle sales transacted during the past one year in order to obtain a vehicle dealer license plate;

(v) Does not have an established place of business as required in this chapter;

(vi) Refuses to allow representatives or agents of the department to inspect during normal business hours all books, records, and files maintained within this state;

(vii) Sells, exchanges, offers, brokers, auctions, solicits, or advertises a new or current model vehicle to which a factory new vehicle warranty attaches and fails to have a valid, written service agreement as required by this chapter, or having such agreement refuses to honor the terms of such agreement within a reasonable time or repudiates the same, except for sales by wholesale motor vehicle auction dealers to franchise motor vehicle dealers of the same make licensed under this title or franchise motor vehicle dealers of the same make licensed by any other state;

(viii) Is insolvent, either in the sense that their liabilities exceed their assets, or in the sense that they cannot meet their obligations as they mature;

(ix) Fails to pay any civil monetary penalty assessed by the director pursuant to this section within ten days after such assessment becomes final;

(x) Fails to notify the department of bankruptcy proceedings in the manner required by RCW 46.70.183;

(xi) Knowingly, or with reason to know, allows a salesperson employed by the dealer, or acting as their agent, to commit any of the prohibited practices set forth in subsection (1)(a) of this section and RCW 46.70.180;

(xii) Fails to have a current certificate or registration with the department of revenue.

(b) The applicant or licensee, or any partner, officer, director, owner of ten percent of the assets of the firm, or any employee or agent:

(i) Has failed to comply with the applicable provisions of chapter 46.12 or 46.16A RCW or this chapter or any rules and regulations adopted thereunder;

(ii) Has defrauded or attempted to defraud the state, or a political subdivision thereof of any taxes or fees in connection with the sale, lease, or transfer of a vehicle;

(iii) Has forged the signature of the registered or legal owner on a certificate of title;

(iv) Has purchased, sold, disposed of, or has in his or her possession any vehicle which he or she knows or has reason to know has been stolen or appropriated without the consent of the owner;

(v) Has willfully failed to deliver to a purchaser or owner a certificate of title to a vehicle which he or she has sold or leased;

(vi) Has committed any act in violation of RCW 46.70.090 relating to vehicle dealer license plates or manufacturer license plates;

(vii) Has committed any act in violation of RCW 46.70.180 relating to unlawful acts and practices;

(viii) Has engaged in practices inimical to the health or safety of the citizens of the state of Washington including but not limited to failure to comply with standards set by the state

of Washington or the federal government pertaining to the construction or safety of vehicles, except for sales by wholesale motor vehicle auction dealers to motor vehicle dealers and vehicle wreckers licensed under this title or motor vehicle dealers licensed by any other state;

(ix) Has aided or assisted an unlicensed dealer or salesperson in unlawful activity through active or passive participation in sales, allowing use of facilities, dealer license number, or by any other means;

(x) Converts or appropriates, whether temporarily or permanently, property or funds belonging to a customer, dealer, or manufacturer, without the consent of the owner of the property or funds; or

(xi) Has sold any vehicle with actual knowledge that:

(A) It has any of the following brands on the title: "SALVAGE/REBUILT," "JUNK," or "DESTROYED"; or

(B) It has been declared totaled out by an insurance carrier and then rebuilt; or

(C) The vehicle title contains the specific comment that the vehicle is "rebuilt";

without clearly disclosing that brand or comment in writing.

(c) The licensee or any partner, officer, director, or owner of ten percent or more of the assets of the firm holds or has held any such position in any other vehicle dealership licensed pursuant to this chapter which is subject to final proceedings under this section.

(2) In the case of a manufacturer, or any partner, officer, director, or majority shareholder:

(a) Was or is the holder of a license issued pursuant to this chapter which was revoked for cause and never reissued by the department, or which license was suspended for cause and the terms of the suspension have not been fulfilled, or which license was assessed a civil penalty and the assessed amount has not been paid;

(b) Has knowingly or with reason to know, made a false statement of a material fact in his or her application for license, or any data attached thereto, or in any matter under investigation by the department;

(c) Has failed to comply with the applicable provisions of chapter 46.12 or 46.16A RCW or this chapter or any rules and regulations adopted thereunder;

(d) Has defrauded or attempted to defraud the state or a political subdivision thereof, of any taxes or fees in connection with the sale, lease, or transfer of a vehicle;

(e) Has purchased, sold, leased, disposed of, or has in his or her possession, any vehicle which he or she knows or has reason to know has been stolen or appropriated without the consent of the owner;

(f) Has committed any act in violation of RCW 46.70.090 relating to vehicle dealer license plates and manufacturer license plates;

(g) Has committed any act in violation of RCW 46.70.180 relating to unlawful acts and practices;

(h) Sells or distributes in this state or transfers into this state for resale or for lease, any new or unused vehicle to which a warranty attaches or has attached and refuses to honor the terms of such warranty within a reasonable time or repudiates the same;

(i) Fails to maintain one or more resident employees or agents to provide service or repairs to vehicles located within the state of Washington only under the terms of any warranty

attached to new or unused vehicles manufactured and which are or have been sold or distributed in this state or transferred into this state for resale or for lease unless such manufacturer requires warranty service to be performed by all of its dealers pursuant to a current service agreement on file with the department;

(j) Fails to reimburse within a reasonable time any vehicle dealer within the state of Washington who in good faith incurs reasonable obligations in giving effect to warranties that attach or have attached to any new or unused vehicle sold, leased, or distributed in this state or transferred into this state for resale or for lease by any such manufacturer;

(k) Engaged in practices inimical to the health and safety of the citizens of the state of Washington including, but not limited to, failure to comply with standards set by the state of Washington or the federal government pertaining to the construction and safety of vehicles;

(l) Is insolvent either in the sense that his or her liabilities exceed his or her assets or in the sense that he or she cannot meet his or her obligations as they mature;

(m) Fails to notify the department of bankruptcy proceedings in the manner required by RCW 46.70.183. [2011 c 171 § 91; 2010 c 161 § 1132; 2001 c 272 § 6; 1998 c 282 § 7; 1996 c 282 § 3; 1991 c 140 § 3; 1989 c 337 § 16; 1986 c 241 § 13; 1981 c 152 § 5; 1977 ex.s. c 125 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 14; 1969 ex.s. c 63 § 4; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 11.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.70.102 Denial, suspension, or revocation of licenses—Notice, hearing, procedure.** Upon the entry of the order under RCW 46.70.101 the director shall promptly notify the applicant or licensee that the order has been entered and of the reasons therefor and that if requested by the applicant or licensee within fifteen days after the receipt of the director's notification, the matter will be promptly set down for hearing pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW. If no hearing is requested and none is ordered by the director, the order will remain in effect until it is modified or vacated by the director. If a hearing is requested or ordered, the director, or his or her personal representative, after notice of and opportunity for hearing, may modify or vacate the order, or extend it until final determination. No final order may be entered under RCW 46.70.101 denying or revoking a license without appropriate prior notice to the applicant or licensee, opportunity for hearing, and written findings of fact and conclusions of law. [2010 c 8 § 9083; 1986 c 241 § 14; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 12.]

**46.70.111 Investigations or proceedings—Powers of director or designees—Penalty.** For the purpose of any investigation or proceeding under this chapter, the director or any officer designated by him or her may administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any books, papers, correspondence, memoranda, agreements, or other documents or records which the director deems relevant or material to the inquiry.

(1) In case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena issued to, any person, any court of competent jurisdiction, upon application by the director, may issue to that person an order requiring him or her to appear before the director, or the officer designated by him or her, to produce documentary or other evidence touching the matter under investigation or in question. The failure to obey an order of the court may be punishable by contempt. [2010 c 8 § 9084; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 15.]

**46.70.115 Cease and desist orders—Penalty, "curbstoning" defined.** (1) If it appears to the director that a person has engaged or is about to engage in an act or practice constituting a violation of this chapter, or a rule adopted or an order issued under this chapter, the director may issue an order directing the person to cease and desist from continuing the act or practice. Reasonable notice of and opportunity for a hearing shall be given. The director may issue a temporary order pending a hearing. The temporary order shall remain in effect until ten days after the hearing is held and shall become final if the person to whom the notice is addressed does not request a hearing within fifteen days after receipt of the notice.

(2) The director may levy and collect a civil penalty, in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars for each violation, against a person found by the director to be curbstoning, as that term is defined in subsection (3) of this section. A person against whom a civil penalty has been imposed must receive reasonable notice and an opportunity for a hearing on the issue. The civil penalty is due ten days after issuance of a final order.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2) of this section, "curbstoning" means a person or firm engaged in buying and offering for sale, or buying and selling, five or more vehicles that are each less than thirty years old in a twelve-month period without holding a vehicle dealer license. For the purpose of subsections (1) and (2) of this section, "curbstoning" does not include the sale of equipment or vehicles used in farming as defined in RCW 46.04.183 and sold by a farmer as defined in RCW 46.04.182. [2000 c 131 § 1; 1986 c 241 § 15.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.120 Record of transactions.** A dealer shall complete and maintain for a period of at least five years a record of the purchase and sale or lease of all vehicles purchased, sold, or leased by him or her. The records shall consist of:

- (1) The license and title numbers of the state in which the last license was issued;
- (2) A description of the vehicle;
- (3) The name and address of the person from whom purchased;
- (4) The name of the legal owner, if any;
- (5) The name and address of the purchaser or lessee;
- (6) If purchased from a dealer, the name, business address, dealer license number, and resale tax number of the dealer;
- (7) The price paid for the vehicle and the method of payment;

(8) The vehicle odometer disclosure statement given by the seller to the dealer, and the vehicle odometer disclosure statement given by the dealer to the purchaser or lessee;

(9) The written agreement to allow a dealer to sell between the dealer and the consignor, or the listing dealer and the seller;

(10) Trust account records of receipts, deposits, and withdrawals;

(11) All sale documents, which shall show the full name of dealer employees involved in the sale or lease; and

(12) Any additional information the department may require. However, the department may not require a dealer to collect or retain the hardback copy of a temporary license permit after the permanent license plates for a vehicle have been provided to the purchaser or lessee, if the dealer maintains some other copy of the temporary license permit together with a log of the permits issued.

Such records shall be maintained separate from all other business records of the dealer. Records older than two years may be kept at a location other than the dealer's place of business if those records are made available in hard copy for inspection within three calendar days, exclusive of Saturday, Sunday, or a legal holiday, after a request by the director or the director's authorized agent. Records kept at the vehicle dealer's place of business must be available for inspection by the director or the director's authorized agent during normal business hours.

Dealers may maintain their recordkeeping and filing systems in accordance with their own particular business needs and practices. Nothing in this chapter requires dealers to maintain their records in any particular order or manner, as long as the records identified in this section are maintained in the dealership's recordkeeping system. [2001 c 272 § 7; 1996 c 282 § 4; 1990 c 238 § 7; 1986 c 241 § 16; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 15; 1961 c 12 § 46.70.120. Prior: 1951 c 150 § 15.]

*Odometer disclosure statement: RCW 46.12.665.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.122 Duty when purchaser or transferee is a dealer.** (1) If the purchaser or transferee is a dealer he or she shall, on selling, leasing, or otherwise disposing of the vehicle, promptly execute the assignment and warranty of title, in such form as the director shall prescribe.

(2) The assignment and warranty shall show any secured party holding a security interest created or reserved at the time of resale or lease, to which shall be attached the assigned certificate of title and registration certificate received by the dealer. The dealer shall mail or deliver them to the department with the transferee's application for the issuance of new certificate of title and registration certificate. The certificate of title issued for a vehicle possessed by a dealer and subject to a security interest shall be delivered to the secured party who upon request of the dealer's transferee shall, unless the transfer was a breach of the security agreement, either deliver the certificate to the transferee for transmission to the department, or upon receipt from the transferee of the owner's bill of sale or sale document, the transferee's application for a new certificate and the required fee, mail or deliver to the department. Failure of a dealer to deliver the certificate of title to the secured party does not affect perfection of the

security interest. [2010 c 161 § 1133; 2001 c 272 § 8; 1990 c 238 § 5; 1975 c 25 § 11; 1972 ex.s. c 99 § 3; 1967 c 140 § 2; 1961 c 12 § 46.12.120. Prior: 1959 c 166 § 10; prior: 1947 c 164 § 4(c); 1937 c 188 § 6(c); Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-6(c). Formerly RCW 46.12.120.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.124 Evidence of ownership for dealers' used vehicles—Consignments.** A vehicle dealer shall possess a separate certificate of title or other evidence of ownership approved by the department for each used vehicle kept in the dealer's possession. Evidence of ownership shall be either in the name of the dealer or in the name of the dealer's immediate vendor properly assigned. In the case of consigned vehicles, the vehicle dealer may possess a completed consignment contract that includes a guaranteed title from the seller in lieu of the required certificate of title. [2010 c 161 § 1134; 1994 c 262 § 11; 1990 c 250 § 29; 1961 c 12 § 46.12.140. Prior: 1959 c 166 § 12; prior: 1947 c 164 § 4(e); 1937 c 188 § 6(e); Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6312-6(e). Formerly RCW 46.12.140.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.125 Used vehicles—Asking price, posting or disclosure.** A vehicle dealer who sells used vehicles shall either display on the vehicle, or disclose upon request, the written asking price of a specific vehicle offered for sale by the dealer as of that time.

A violation of this section is an unfair business practice under chapter 19.86 RCW, the Consumer Protection Act, and the provisions of chapter 46.70 RCW. [1986 c 165 § 1.]

**46.70.130 Details of charges must be furnished buyer or mortgagor.** (1) Before the execution of a contract or chattel mortgage or the consummation of the sale or lease of any vehicle, the seller must furnish the buyer or lessee an itemization in writing signed by the seller separately disclosing to the buyer or lessee the finance charge, insurance costs, taxes, and other charges which are paid or to be paid by the buyer or lessee.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, an itemization of the various license and title fees paid or to be paid by the buyer or lessee, which itemization must be the same as that disclosed on the registration/application for title document issued by the department, may be required only on the title application at the time the application is submitted for title transfer. A vehicle dealer may not be required to separately or individually itemize the license and title fees on any other document, including but not limited to the purchase order and lease agreement. No fee itemization may be required on the temporary permit. [2001 c 272 § 9; 1996 c 282 § 5; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 16; 1961 c 12 § 46.70.130. Prior: 1951 c 150 § 16.]

**46.70.132 Manufactured home sale—Implied warranty.** (1) In addition to the requirements contained in RCW 46.70.135, each sale of a new manufactured home in this state is made with an implied warranty that the manufactured home conforms in all material aspects to applicable federal and state laws and regulations establishing standards of safety or quality, and with implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose as permanent housing in the climate of the state.

(2) The implied warranties contained in this section may not be waived, limited, or modified. Any provision that attempts to waive, limit, or modify the implied warranties contained in this section is void and unenforceable. [1994 c 284 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.134 Manufactured home installation—Warranty, state installation code.** Any dealer, manufacturer, or contractor who installs a manufactured home warrants that the manufactured home is installed in accordance with the state installation code, chapter 296-150B WAC. The warranty contained in this section may not be waived, limited, or modified. Any provision attempting to waive, limit, or modify the warranty contained in this section is void and unenforceable. This section does not apply when the manufactured home is installed by the purchaser of the home. [1994 c 284 § 10.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.135 Mobile homes—Warranties and inspections—Delivery—Occupancy—Advertising of dimensions.** Mobile home manufacturers and mobile home dealers who sell mobile homes to be assembled on site and used as residences in this state shall conform to the following requirements:

(1) No new manufactured home may be sold unless the purchaser is provided with a manufacturer's written warranty for construction of the home in compliance with the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act (88 Stat. 2183; 15 U.S.C. Sec. 47 et seq.; 15 U.S.C. Sec. 2301 et seq.).

(2) No new manufactured home may be sold unless the purchaser is provided with a dealer's written warranty for all installation services performed by the dealer.

(3) The warranties required by subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall be valid for a minimum of one year measured from the date of delivery and shall not be invalidated by resale by the original purchaser to a subsequent purchaser or by the certificate of title being eliminated or not issued as described in chapter 65.20 RCW. Copies of the warranties shall be given to the purchaser upon signing a purchase agreement and shall include an explanation of remedies available to the purchaser under state and federal law for breach of warranty, the name and address of the federal department of housing and urban development and the state departments of licensing and labor and industries, and a brief description of the duties of these agencies concerning mobile homes.

(4) Warranty service shall be completed within forty-five days after the owner gives written notice of the defect unless there is a bona fide dispute between the parties. Warranty service for a defect affecting health or safety shall be

completed within seventy-two hours of receipt of written notice. Warranty service shall be performed on site and a written work order describing labor performed and parts used shall be completed and signed by the service agent and the owner. If the owner's signature cannot be obtained, the reasons shall be described on the work order. Work orders shall be retained by the dealer or manufacturer for a period of three years.

(5) Before delivery of possession of the home to the purchaser, an inspection shall be performed by the dealer or his or her agent and by the purchaser or his or her agent which shall include a test of all systems of the home to insure proper operation, unless such systems test is delayed pursuant to this subsection. At the time of the inspection, the purchaser shall be given copies of all documents required by state or federal agencies to be supplied by the manufacturer with the home which have not previously been provided as required under subsection (3) of this section, and the dealer shall complete any required purchaser information card and forward the card to the manufacturer. A purchaser is deemed to have taken delivery of the manufactured home when all three of the following events have occurred: (a) The contractual obligations between the purchaser and the seller have been met; (b) the inspection of the home is completed; and (c) the systems test of the home has been completed subsequent to the installation of the home, or fifteen days has elapsed since the transport of the home to the site where it will be installed, whichever is earlier. Occupancy of the manufactured home shall only occur after the systems test has occurred and all required utility connections have been approved after inspection.

(6) Manufacturer and dealer advertising which states the dimensions of a home shall not include the length of the draw bar assembly in a listed dimension, and shall state the square footage of the actual floor area. [2010 c 161 § 1135; 1994 c 284 § 11; 1989 c 343 § 22; 1981 c 304 § 36.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

*Manufactured home installation and warranty service:* RCW 43.22.440, 43.22.442.

*Manufactured home safety and construction standards, inspections, etc.:* RCW 43.22.431 through 43.22.434.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.140 Handling "hot" vehicles—Unreported motor "switches"—Unauthorized use of dealer plates—Penalty.** Any vehicle dealer who knowingly or with reason to know, buys or receives, sells or disposes of, conceals or has in the dealer's possession, any vehicle from which the motor or serial number has been removed, defaced, covered, altered, or destroyed, or any dealer, who removes from or installs in any motor vehicle registered with the department by motor block number, a new or used motor block without immediately notifying the department of such fact upon a form provided by the department, or any vehicle dealer who loans or permits the use of vehicle dealer license plates by any person not entitled to the use thereof, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1993 c 307 § 9; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 17; 1971 ex.s. c 74 § 8; 1967 c 32 § 79; 1961 c 12 § 46.70.140. Prior: 1951 c 150 § 11.]



**46.70.160 Rules and regulations.** The director may make any reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of chapter 46.70 RCW relating to the enforcement and proper operation thereof. [1961 c 12 § 46.70.160. Prior: 1959 c 166 § 21.]

**46.70.170 Penalty for violations.** It is a misdemeanor for any person to violate any of the provisions of this chapter, except where expressly provided otherwise, and the rules adopted as provided under this chapter. [1986 c 241 § 17; 1965 c 68 § 5.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**46.70.180 Unlawful acts and practices. (Effective until October 1, 2012.)** Each of the following acts or practices is unlawful:

(1) To cause or permit to be advertised, printed, displayed, published, distributed, broadcasted, televised, or disseminated in any manner whatsoever, any statement or representation with regard to the sale, lease, or financing of a vehicle which is false, deceptive, or misleading, including but not limited to the following:

(a) That no down payment is required in connection with the sale of a vehicle when a down payment is in fact required, or that a vehicle may be purchased for a smaller down payment than is actually required;

(b) That a certain percentage of the sale price of a vehicle may be financed when such financing is not offered in a single document evidencing the entire security transaction;

(c) That a certain percentage is the amount of the service charge to be charged for financing, without stating whether this percentage charge is a monthly amount or an amount to be charged per year;

(d) That a new vehicle will be sold for a certain amount above or below cost without computing cost as the exact amount of the factory invoice on the specific vehicle to be sold;

(e) That a vehicle will be sold upon a monthly payment of a certain amount, without including in the statement the number of payments of that same amount which are required to liquidate the unpaid purchase price.

(2)(a)(i) To incorporate within the terms of any purchase and sale or lease agreement any statement or representation with regard to the sale, lease, or financing of a vehicle which is false, deceptive, or misleading, including but not limited to terms that include as an added cost to the selling price or capitalized cost of a vehicle an amount for licensing or transfer of title of that vehicle which is not actually due to the state, unless such amount has in fact been paid by the dealer prior to such sale.

(ii) However, an amount not to exceed the applicable amount provided in (iii)(A) and (B) of this subsection (2)(a) per vehicle sale or lease may be charged by a dealer to recover administrative costs for collecting motor vehicle excise taxes, licensing and registration fees and other agency fees, verifying and clearing titles, transferring titles, perfecting, releasing, or satisfying liens or other security interests, and other administrative and documentary services rendered by a dealer in connection with the sale or lease of a vehicle

and in carrying out the requirements of this chapter or any other provisions of state law.

(iii) A dealer may charge under (a)(ii) of this subsection:

(A) As of July 26, 2009, through June 30, 2014, an amount not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars; and

(B) As of July 1, 2014, an amount not to exceed fifty dollars.

(b) A dealer may charge the documentary service fee in (a) of this subsection under the following conditions:

(i) The documentary service fee is disclosed in writing to a prospective purchaser or lessee before the execution of a purchase and sale or lease agreement;

(ii) The dealer discloses to the purchaser or lessee in writing that the documentary service fee is a negotiable fee. The disclosure must be written in a typeface that is at least as large as the typeface used in the standard text of the document that contains the disclosure and that is bold faced, capitalized, underlined, or otherwise set out from the surrounding material so as to be conspicuous. The dealer shall not represent to the purchaser or lessee that the fee or charge is required by the state to be paid by either the dealer or prospective purchaser or lessee;

(iii) The documentary service fee is separately designated from the selling price or capitalized cost of the vehicle and from any other taxes, fees, or charges; and

(iv) Dealers disclose in any advertisement that a documentary service fee in an amount provided in (iv)(A) and (B) of this subsection (2)(b) may be added to the sale price or the capitalized cost:

(A) As of July 26, 2009, through June 30, 2014, an amount up to one hundred fifty dollars; and

(B) As of July 1, 2014, an amount up to fifty dollars.

For the purposes of this subsection (2), the term "documentary service fee" means the optional amount charged by a dealer to provide the services specified in (a) of this subsection.

(3) To set up, promote, or aid in the promotion of a plan by which vehicles are to be sold or leased to a person for a consideration and upon further consideration that the purchaser or lessee agrees to secure one or more persons to participate in the plan by respectively making a similar purchase and in turn agreeing to secure one or more persons likewise to join in said plan, each purchaser or lessee being given the right to secure money, credits, goods, or something of value, depending upon the number of persons joining the plan.

(4) To commit, allow, or ratify any act of "bushing" which is defined as follows: Entering into a written contract, written purchase order or agreement, retail installment sales agreement, note and security agreement, or written lease agreement, hereinafter collectively referred to as contract or lease, signed by the prospective buyer or lessee of a vehicle, which:

(a) Is subject to any conditions or the dealer's or his or her authorized representative's future acceptance, and the dealer fails or refuses within four calendar days, exclusive of Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, and prior to any further negotiations with said buyer or lessee to inform the buyer or lessee either: (i) That the dealer unconditionally accepts the contract or lease, having satisfied, removed, or waived all conditions to acceptance or performance, including, but not limited to, financing, assignment, or lease approval; or (ii)

that the dealer rejects the contract or lease, thereby automatically voiding the contract or lease, as long as such voiding does not negate commercially reasonable contract or lease provisions pertaining to the return of the subject vehicle and any physical damage, excessive mileage after the demand for return of the vehicle, and attorneys' fees authorized by law, and tenders the refund of any initial payment or security made or given by the buyer or lessee, including, but not limited to, any down payment, and tenders return of the trade-in vehicle, key, other trade-in, or certificate of title to a trade-in. Tender may be conditioned on return of the subject vehicle if previously delivered to the buyer or lessee.

The provisions of this subsection (4)(a) do not impair, prejudice, or abrogate the rights of a dealer to assert a claim against the buyer or lessee for misrepresentation or breach of contract and to exercise all remedies available at law or in equity, including those under chapter 62A.9A RCW, if the dealer, bank, or other lender or leasing company discovers that approval of the contract or financing or approval of the lease was based upon material misrepresentations made by the buyer or lessee, including, but not limited to, misrepresentations regarding income, employment, or debt of the buyer or lessee, as long as the dealer, or his or her staff, has not, with knowledge of the material misrepresentation, aided, assisted, encouraged, or participated, directly or indirectly, in the misrepresentation. A dealer shall not be in violation of this subsection (4)(a) if the buyer or lessee made a material misrepresentation to the dealer, as long as the dealer, or his or her staff, has not, with knowledge of the material misrepresentation, aided, assisted, encouraged, or participated, directly or indirectly, in the misrepresentation.

When a dealer informs a buyer or lessee under this subsection (4)(a) regarding the unconditional acceptance or rejection of the contract, lease, or financing by an electronic mail message, the dealer must also transmit the communication by any additional means;

(b) Permits the dealer to renegotiate a dollar amount specified as trade-in allowance on a vehicle delivered or to be delivered by the buyer or lessee as part of the purchase price or lease, for any reason except:

(i) Failure to disclose that the vehicle's certificate of title has been branded for any reason, including, but not limited to, status as a rebuilt vehicle as provided in RCW 46.12.540 and 46.12.560; or

(ii) Substantial physical damage or latent mechanical defect occurring before the dealer took possession of the vehicle and which could not have been reasonably discoverable at the time of the taking of the order, offer, or contract; or

(iii) Excessive additional miles or a discrepancy in the mileage. "Excessive additional miles" means the addition of five hundred miles or more, as reflected on the vehicle's odometer, between the time the vehicle was first valued by the dealer for purposes of determining its trade-in value and the time of actual delivery of the vehicle to the dealer. "A discrepancy in the mileage" means (A) a discrepancy between the mileage reflected on the vehicle's odometer and the stated mileage on the signed odometer statement; or (B) a discrepancy between the mileage stated on the signed odometer statement and the actual mileage on the vehicle; or

(c) Fails to comply with the obligation of any written warranty or guarantee given by the dealer requiring the furnishing of services or repairs within a reasonable time.

(5) To commit any offense relating to odometers, as such offenses are defined in RCW 46.37.540, 46.37.550, 46.37.560, and 46.37.570. A violation of this subsection is a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(6) For any vehicle dealer or vehicle salesperson to refuse to furnish, upon request of a prospective purchaser or lessee, for vehicles previously registered to a business or governmental entity, the name and address of the business or governmental entity.

(7) To commit any other offense under RCW 46.37.423, 46.37.424, or 46.37.425.

(8) To commit any offense relating to a dealer's temporary license permit, including but not limited to failure to properly complete each such permit, or the issuance of more than one such permit on any one vehicle. However, a dealer may issue a second temporary permit on a vehicle if the following conditions are met:

(a) The lienholder fails to deliver the vehicle title to the dealer within the required time period;

(b) The dealer has satisfied the lien; and

(c) The dealer has proof that payment of the lien was made within two calendar days, exclusive of Saturday, Sunday, or a legal holiday, after the sales contract has been executed by all parties and all conditions and contingencies in the sales contract have been met or otherwise satisfied.

(9) For a dealer, salesperson, or mobile home manufacturer, having taken an instrument or cash "on deposit" from a purchaser or lessee prior to the delivery of the bargained-for vehicle, to commingle the "on deposit" funds with assets of the dealer, salesperson, or mobile home manufacturer instead of holding the "on deposit" funds as trustee in a separate trust account until the purchaser or lessee has taken delivery of the bargained-for vehicle. Delivery of a manufactured home shall be deemed to occur in accordance with RCW 46.70.135(5). Failure, immediately upon receipt, to endorse "on deposit" instruments to such a trust account, or to set aside "on deposit" cash for deposit in such trust account, and failure to deposit such instruments or cash in such trust account by the close of banking hours on the day following receipt thereof, shall be evidence of intent to commit this unlawful practice: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That a motor vehicle dealer may keep a separate trust account which equals his or her customary total customer deposits for vehicles for future delivery. For purposes of this section, "on deposit" funds received from a purchaser of a manufactured home means those funds that a seller requires a purchaser to advance before ordering the manufactured home, but does not include any loan proceeds or moneys that might have been paid on an installment contract.

(10) For a dealer or manufacturer to fail to comply with the obligations of any written warranty or guarantee given by the dealer or manufacturer requiring the furnishing of goods and services or repairs within a reasonable period of time, or to fail to furnish to a purchaser or lessee, all parts which attach to the manufactured unit including but not limited to the undercarriage, and all items specified in the terms of a sales or lease agreement signed by the seller and buyer or lessee.

(11) For a vehicle dealer to pay to or receive from any person, firm, partnership, association, or corporation acting, either directly or through a subsidiary, as a buyer's agent for consumers, any compensation, fee, purchase moneys or funds that have been deposited into or withdrawn out of any account controlled or used by any buyer's agent, gratuity, or reward in connection with the purchase, sale, or lease of a new motor vehicle.

(12) For a buyer's agent, acting directly or through a subsidiary, to pay to or to receive from any motor vehicle dealer any compensation, fee, gratuity, or reward in connection with the purchase, sale, or lease of a new motor vehicle. In addition, it is unlawful for any buyer's agent to engage in any of the following acts on behalf of or in the name of the consumer:

(a) Receiving or paying any purchase moneys or funds into or out of any account controlled or used by any buyer's agent;

(b) Signing any vehicle purchase orders, sales contracts, leases, odometer statements, or title documents, or having the name of the buyer's agent appear on the vehicle purchase order, sales contract, lease, or title; or

(c) Signing any other documentation relating to the purchase, sale, lease, or transfer of any new motor vehicle.

It is unlawful for a buyer's agent to use a power of attorney obtained from the consumer to accomplish or effect the purchase, sale, lease, or transfer of ownership documents of any new motor vehicle by any means which would otherwise be prohibited under (a) through (c) of this subsection. However, the buyer's agent may use a power of attorney for physical delivery of motor vehicle license plates to the consumer.

Further, it is unlawful for a buyer's agent to engage in any false, deceptive, or misleading advertising, disseminated in any manner whatsoever, including but not limited to making any claim or statement that the buyer's agent offers, obtains, or guarantees the lowest price on any motor vehicle or words to similar effect.

(13) For a buyer's agent to arrange for or to negotiate the purchase, or both, of a new motor vehicle through an out-of-state dealer without disclosing in writing to the customer that the new vehicle would not be subject to chapter 19.118 RCW. This subsection also applies to leased vehicles. In addition, it is unlawful for any buyer's agent to fail to have a written agreement with the customer that: (a) Sets forth the terms of the parties' agreement; (b) discloses to the customer the total amount of any fees or other compensation being paid by the customer to the buyer's agent for the agent's services; and (c) further discloses whether the fee or any portion of the fee is refundable.

(14) Being a manufacturer, other than a motorcycle manufacturer governed by chapter 46.93 RCW, to:

(a) Coerce or attempt to coerce any vehicle dealer to order or accept delivery of any vehicle or vehicles, parts or accessories, or any other commodities which have not been voluntarily ordered by the vehicle dealer: PROVIDED, That recommendation, endorsement, exposition, persuasion, urging, or argument are not deemed to constitute coercion;

(b) Cancel or fail to renew the franchise or selling agreement of any vehicle dealer doing business in this state without fairly compensating the dealer at a fair going business value for his or her capital investment which shall include but

not be limited to tools, equipment, and parts inventory possessed by the dealer on the day he or she is notified of such cancellation or termination and which are still within the dealer's possession on the day the cancellation or termination is effective, if: (i) The capital investment has been entered into with reasonable and prudent business judgment for the purpose of fulfilling the franchise; and (ii) the cancellation or nonrenewal was not done in good faith. Good faith is defined as the duty of each party to any franchise to act in a fair and equitable manner towards each other, so as to guarantee one party freedom from coercion, intimidation, or threats of coercion or intimidation from the other party: PROVIDED, That recommendation, endorsement, exposition, persuasion, urging, or argument are not deemed to constitute a lack of good faith;

(c) Encourage, aid, abet, or teach a vehicle dealer to sell or lease vehicles through any false, deceptive, or misleading sales or financing practices including but not limited to those practices declared unlawful in this section;

(d) Coerce or attempt to coerce a vehicle dealer to engage in any practice forbidden in this section by either threats of actual cancellation or failure to renew the dealer's franchise agreement;

(e) Refuse to deliver any vehicle publicly advertised for immediate delivery to any duly licensed vehicle dealer having a franchise or contractual agreement for the retail sale or lease of new and unused vehicles sold or distributed by such manufacturer within sixty days after such dealer's order has been received in writing unless caused by inability to deliver because of shortage or curtailment of material, labor, transportation, or utility services, or by any labor or production difficulty, or by any cause beyond the reasonable control of the manufacturer;

(f) To provide under the terms of any warranty that a purchaser or lessee of any new or unused vehicle that has been sold or leased, distributed for sale or lease, or transferred into this state for resale or lease by the vehicle manufacturer may only make any warranty claim on any item included as an integral part of the vehicle against the manufacturer of that item.

Nothing in this section may be construed to impair the obligations of a contract or to prevent a manufacturer, distributor, representative, or any other person, whether or not licensed under this chapter, from requiring performance of a written contract entered into with any licensee hereunder, nor does the requirement of such performance constitute a violation of any of the provisions of this section if any such contract or the terms thereof requiring performance, have been freely entered into and executed between the contracting parties. This paragraph and subsection (14)(b) of this section do not apply to new motor vehicle manufacturers governed by chapter 46.96 RCW.

(15) Unlawful transfer of an ownership interest in a motor vehicle as defined in RCW 19.116.050.

(16) To knowingly and intentionally engage in collusion with a registered owner of a vehicle to repossess and return or resell the vehicle to the registered owner in an attempt to avoid a suspended license impound under chapter 46.55 RCW. However, compliance with chapter 62A.9A RCW in repossessing, selling, leasing, or otherwise disposing of the

vehicle, including providing redemption rights to the debtor, is not a violation of this section.

(17)(a) For a dealer to enter into a new motor vehicle sales contract without disclosing in writing to a buyer of the new motor vehicle, or to a dealer in the case of an unregistered motor vehicle, any known damage and repair to the new motor vehicle if the damage exceeds five percent of the manufacturer's suggested retail price as calculated at the dealer's authorized warranty rate for labor and parts, or one thousand dollars, whichever amount is greater. A manufacturer or new motor vehicle dealer is not required to disclose to a dealer or buyer that glass, tires, bumpers, or cosmetic parts of a new motor vehicle were damaged at any time if the damaged item has been replaced with original or comparable equipment. A replaced part is not part of the cumulative damage required to be disclosed under this subsection.

(b) A manufacturer is required to provide the same disclosure to a dealer of any known damage or repair as required in (a) of this subsection.

(c) If disclosure of any known damage or repair is not required under this section, a buyer may not revoke or rescind a sales contract due to the fact that the new motor vehicle was damaged and repaired before completion of the sale.

(d) As used in this section:

(i) "Cosmetic parts" means parts that are attached by and can be replaced in total through the use of screws, bolts, or other fasteners without the use of welding or thermal cutting, and includes windshields, bumpers, hoods, or trim panels.

(ii) "Manufacturer's suggested retail price" means the retail price of the new motor vehicle suggested by the manufacturer, and includes the retail delivered price suggested by the manufacturer for each accessory or item of optional equipment physically attached to the new motor vehicle at the time of delivery to the new motor vehicle dealer that is not included within the retail price suggested by the manufacturer for the new motor vehicle. [2010 c 161 § 1136. Prior: 2009 c 123 § 1; 2009 c 49 § 1; 2007 c 155 § 2; 2006 c 289 § 1; 2003 c 368 § 1; prior: 2001 c 272 § 10; 2001 c 64 § 9; 1999 c 398 § 10; 1997 c 153 § 1; 1996 c 194 § 3; 1995 c 256 § 26; 1994 c 284 § 13; 1993 c 175 § 3; 1990 c 44 § 14; 1989 c 415 § 20; 1986 c 241 § 18; 1985 c 472 § 13; 1981 c 152 § 6; 1977 ex.s. c 125 § 4; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 18; 1969 c 112 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 16.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2007 c 155:** See note following RCW 46.16A.300.

**Prospective application—2006 c 289:** "This act applies prospectively only and not retroactively. It applies only to causes of action that arise (if change is substantive) or that are commenced (if change is procedural) on or after June 7, 2006." [2006 c 289 § 2.]

*Certificate of title—Failure to transfer within specified time:* RCW 46.12.650.

*Glass—Limited windows—Vehicle sale requirements:* RCW 46.37.430.

*Odometers—Disconnecting, resetting, turning back, replacing without notifying purchaser:* RCW 46.37.540 through 46.37.570.

*Tires—Vehicle sale requirements:* RCW 46.37.425.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.180 Unlawful acts and practices. (Effective October 1, 2012.)** Each of the following acts or practices is unlawful:

(1) To cause or permit to be advertised, printed, displayed, published, distributed, broadcasted, televised, or disseminated in any manner whatsoever, any statement or representation with regard to the sale, lease, or financing of a vehicle which is false, deceptive, or misleading, including but not limited to the following:

(a) That no down payment is required in connection with the sale of a vehicle when a down payment is in fact required, or that a vehicle may be purchased for a smaller down payment than is actually required;

(b) That a certain percentage of the sale price of a vehicle may be financed when such financing is not offered in a single document evidencing the entire security transaction;

(c) That a certain percentage is the amount of the service charge to be charged for financing, without stating whether this percentage charge is a monthly amount or an amount to be charged per year;

(d) That a new vehicle will be sold for a certain amount above or below cost without computing cost as the exact amount of the factory invoice on the specific vehicle to be sold;

(e) That a vehicle will be sold upon a monthly payment of a certain amount, without including in the statement the number of payments of that same amount which are required to liquidate the unpaid purchase price.

(2)(a)(i) To incorporate within the terms of any purchase and sale or lease agreement any statement or representation with regard to the sale, lease, or financing of a vehicle which is false, deceptive, or misleading, including but not limited to terms that include as an added cost to the selling price or capitalized cost of a vehicle an amount for licensing or transfer of title of that vehicle which is not actually due to the state, unless such amount has in fact been paid by the dealer prior to such sale.

(ii) However, an amount not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars per vehicle sale or lease may be charged by a dealer to recover administrative costs for collecting motor vehicle excise taxes, licensing and registration fees and other agency fees, verifying and clearing titles, transferring titles, perfecting, releasing, or satisfying liens or other security interests, and other administrative and documentary services rendered by a dealer in connection with the sale or lease of a vehicle and in carrying out the requirements of this chapter or any other provisions of state law.

(b) A dealer may charge the documentary service fee in (a) of this subsection under the following conditions:

(i) The documentary service fee is disclosed in writing to a prospective purchaser or lessee before the execution of a purchase and sale or lease agreement;

(ii) The dealer discloses to the purchaser or lessee in writing that the documentary service fee is a negotiable fee. The disclosure must be written in a typeface that is at least as large as the typeface used in the standard text of the document that contains the disclosure and that is bold faced, capitalized, underlined, or otherwise set out from the surrounding material so as to be conspicuous. The dealer shall not represent to the purchaser or lessee that the fee or charge is required by the state to be paid by either the dealer or prospective purchaser or lessee;

(iii) The documentary service fee is separately designated from the selling price or capitalized cost of the vehicle and from any other taxes, fees, or charges; and

(iv) Dealers disclose in any advertisement that a documentary service fee in an amount up to one hundred fifty dollars may be added to the sale price or the capitalized cost.

For the purposes of this subsection (2), the term "documentary service fee" means the optional amount charged by a dealer to provide the services specified in (a) of this subsection.

(3) To set up, promote, or aid in the promotion of a plan by which vehicles are to be sold or leased to a person for a consideration and upon further consideration that the purchaser or lessee agrees to secure one or more persons to participate in the plan by respectively making a similar purchase and in turn agreeing to secure one or more persons likewise to join in said plan, each purchaser or lessee being given the right to secure money, credits, goods, or something of value, depending upon the number of persons joining the plan.

(4) To commit, allow, or ratify any act of "bushing" which is defined as follows: Entering into a written contract, written purchase order or agreement, retail installment sales agreement, note and security agreement, or written lease agreement, hereinafter collectively referred to as contract or lease, signed by the prospective buyer or lessee of a vehicle, which:

(a) Is subject to any conditions or the dealer's or his or her authorized representative's future acceptance, and the dealer fails or refuses within four calendar days, exclusive of Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, and prior to any further negotiations with said buyer or lessee to inform the buyer or lessee either: (i) That the dealer unconditionally accepts the contract or lease, having satisfied, removed, or waived all conditions to acceptance or performance, including, but not limited to, financing, assignment, or lease approval; or (ii) that the dealer rejects the contract or lease, thereby automatically voiding the contract or lease, as long as such voiding does not negate commercially reasonable contract or lease provisions pertaining to the return of the subject vehicle and any physical damage, excessive mileage after the demand for return of the vehicle, and attorneys' fees authorized by law, and tenders the refund of any initial payment or security made or given by the buyer or lessee, including, but not limited to, any down payment, and tenders return of the trade-in vehicle, key, other trade-in, or certificate of title to a trade-in. Tender may be conditioned on return of the subject vehicle if previously delivered to the buyer or lessee.

The provisions of this subsection (4)(a) do not impair, prejudice, or abrogate the rights of a dealer to assert a claim against the buyer or lessee for misrepresentation or breach of contract and to exercise all remedies available at law or in equity, including those under chapter 62A.9A RCW, if the dealer, bank, or other lender or leasing company discovers that approval of the contract or financing or approval of the lease was based upon material misrepresentations made by the buyer or lessee, including, but not limited to, misrepresentations regarding income, employment, or debt of the buyer or lessee, as long as the dealer, or his or her staff, has not, with knowledge of the material misrepresentation, aided, assisted, encouraged, or participated, directly or indirectly, in the misrepresentation. A dealer shall not be in violation of

this subsection (4)(a) if the buyer or lessee made a material misrepresentation to the dealer, as long as the dealer, or his or her staff, has not, with knowledge of the material misrepresentation, aided, assisted, encouraged, or participated, directly or indirectly, in the misrepresentation.

When a dealer informs a buyer or lessee under this subsection (4)(a) regarding the unconditional acceptance or rejection of the contract, lease, or financing by an electronic mail message, the dealer must also transmit the communication by any additional means;

(b) Permits the dealer to renegotiate a dollar amount specified as trade-in allowance on a vehicle delivered or to be delivered by the buyer or lessee as part of the purchase price or lease, for any reason except:

(i) Failure to disclose that the vehicle's certificate of title has been branded for any reason, including, but not limited to, status as a rebuilt vehicle as provided in RCW 46.12.540 and 46.12.560; or

(ii) Substantial physical damage or latent mechanical defect occurring before the dealer took possession of the vehicle and which could not have been reasonably discoverable at the time of the taking of the order, offer, or contract; or

(iii) Excessive additional miles or a discrepancy in the mileage. "Excessive additional miles" means the addition of five hundred miles or more, as reflected on the vehicle's odometer, between the time the vehicle was first valued by the dealer for purposes of determining its trade-in value and the time of actual delivery of the vehicle to the dealer. "A discrepancy in the mileage" means (A) a discrepancy between the mileage reflected on the vehicle's odometer and the stated mileage on the signed odometer statement; or (B) a discrepancy between the mileage stated on the signed odometer statement and the actual mileage on the vehicle; or

(c) Fails to comply with the obligation of any written warranty or guarantee given by the dealer requiring the furnishing of services or repairs within a reasonable time.

(5) To commit any offense relating to odometers, as such offenses are defined in RCW 46.37.540, 46.37.550, 46.37.560, and 46.37.570. A violation of this subsection is a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(6) For any vehicle dealer or vehicle salesperson to refuse to furnish, upon request of a prospective purchaser or lessee, for vehicles previously registered to a business or governmental entity, the name and address of the business or governmental entity.

(7) To commit any other offense under RCW 46.37.423, 46.37.424, or 46.37.425.

(8) To commit any offense relating to a dealer's temporary license permit, including but not limited to failure to properly complete each such permit, or the issuance of more than one such permit on any one vehicle. However, a dealer may issue a second temporary permit on a vehicle if the following conditions are met:

(a) The lienholder fails to deliver the vehicle title to the dealer within the required time period;

(b) The dealer has satisfied the lien; and

(c) The dealer has proof that payment of the lien was made within two calendar days, exclusive of Saturday, Sunday, or a legal holiday, after the sales contract has been executed by all parties and all conditions and contingencies in the sales contract have been met or otherwise satisfied.

(9) For a dealer, salesperson, or mobile home manufacturer, having taken an instrument or cash "on deposit" from a purchaser or lessee prior to the delivery of the bargained-for vehicle, to commingle the "on deposit" funds with assets of the dealer, salesperson, or mobile home manufacturer instead of holding the "on deposit" funds as trustee in a separate trust account until the purchaser or lessee has taken delivery of the bargained-for vehicle. Delivery of a manufactured home shall be deemed to occur in accordance with RCW 46.70.135(5). Failure, immediately upon receipt, to endorse "on deposit" instruments to such a trust account, or to set aside "on deposit" cash for deposit in such trust account, and failure to deposit such instruments or cash in such trust account by the close of banking hours on the day following receipt thereof, shall be evidence of intent to commit this unlawful practice: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That a motor vehicle dealer may keep a separate trust account which equals his or her customary total customer deposits for vehicles for future delivery. For purposes of this section, "on deposit" funds received from a purchaser of a manufactured home means those funds that a seller requires a purchaser to advance before ordering the manufactured home, but does not include any loan proceeds or moneys that might have been paid on an installment contract.

(10) For a dealer or manufacturer to fail to comply with the obligations of any written warranty or guarantee given by the dealer or manufacturer requiring the furnishing of goods and services or repairs within a reasonable period of time, or to fail to furnish to a purchaser or lessee, all parts which attach to the manufactured unit including but not limited to the undercarriage, and all items specified in the terms of a sales or lease agreement signed by the seller and buyer or lessee.

(11) For a vehicle dealer to pay to or receive from any person, firm, partnership, association, or corporation acting, either directly or through a subsidiary, as a buyer's agent for consumers, any compensation, fee, purchase moneys or funds that have been deposited into or withdrawn out of any account controlled or used by any buyer's agent, gratuity, or reward in connection with the purchase, sale, or lease of a new motor vehicle.

(12) For a buyer's agent, acting directly or through a subsidiary, to pay to or to receive from any motor vehicle dealer any compensation, fee, gratuity, or reward in connection with the purchase, sale, or lease of a new motor vehicle. In addition, it is unlawful for any buyer's agent to engage in any of the following acts on behalf of or in the name of the consumer:

(a) Receiving or paying any purchase moneys or funds into or out of any account controlled or used by any buyer's agent;

(b) Signing any vehicle purchase orders, sales contracts, leases, odometer statements, or title documents, or having the name of the buyer's agent appear on the vehicle purchase order, sales contract, lease, or title; or

(c) Signing any other documentation relating to the purchase, sale, lease, or transfer of any new motor vehicle.

It is unlawful for a buyer's agent to use a power of attorney obtained from the consumer to accomplish or effect the purchase, sale, lease, or transfer of ownership documents of any new motor vehicle by any means which would otherwise

be prohibited under (a) through (c) of this subsection. However, the buyer's agent may use a power of attorney for physical delivery of motor vehicle license plates to the consumer.

Further, it is unlawful for a buyer's agent to engage in any false, deceptive, or misleading advertising, disseminated in any manner whatsoever, including but not limited to making any claim or statement that the buyer's agent offers, obtains, or guarantees the lowest price on any motor vehicle or words to similar effect.

(13) For a buyer's agent to arrange for or to negotiate the purchase, or both, of a new motor vehicle through an out-of-state dealer without disclosing in writing to the customer that the new vehicle would not be subject to chapter 19.118 RCW. This subsection also applies to leased vehicles. In addition, it is unlawful for any buyer's agent to fail to have a written agreement with the customer that: (a) Sets forth the terms of the parties' agreement; (b) discloses to the customer the total amount of any fees or other compensation being paid by the customer to the buyer's agent for the agent's services; and (c) further discloses whether the fee or any portion of the fee is refundable.

(14) Being a manufacturer, other than a motorcycle manufacturer governed by chapter 46.93 RCW, to:

(a) Coerce or attempt to coerce any vehicle dealer to order or accept delivery of any vehicle or vehicles, parts or accessories, or any other commodities which have not been voluntarily ordered by the vehicle dealer: PROVIDED, That recommendation, endorsement, exposition, persuasion, urging, or argument are not deemed to constitute coercion;

(b) Cancel or fail to renew the franchise or selling agreement of any vehicle dealer doing business in this state without fairly compensating the dealer at a fair going business value for his or her capital investment which shall include but not be limited to tools, equipment, and parts inventory possessed by the dealer on the day he or she is notified of such cancellation or termination and which are still within the dealer's possession on the day the cancellation or termination is effective, if: (i) The capital investment has been entered into with reasonable and prudent business judgment for the purpose of fulfilling the franchise; and (ii) the cancellation or nonrenewal was not done in good faith. Good faith is defined as the duty of each party to any franchise to act in a fair and equitable manner towards each other, so as to guarantee one party freedom from coercion, intimidation, or threats of coercion or intimidation from the other party: PROVIDED, That recommendation, endorsement, exposition, persuasion, urging, or argument are not deemed to constitute a lack of good faith;

(c) Encourage, aid, abet, or teach a vehicle dealer to sell or lease vehicles through any false, deceptive, or misleading sales or financing practices including but not limited to those practices declared unlawful in this section;

(d) Coerce or attempt to coerce a vehicle dealer to engage in any practice forbidden in this section by either threats of actual cancellation or failure to renew the dealer's franchise agreement;

(e) Refuse to deliver any vehicle publicly advertised for immediate delivery to any duly licensed vehicle dealer having a franchise or contractual agreement for the retail sale or lease of new and unused vehicles sold or distributed by such manufacturer within sixty days after such dealer's order has

been received in writing unless caused by inability to deliver because of shortage or curtailment of material, labor, transportation, or utility services, or by any labor or production difficulty, or by any cause beyond the reasonable control of the manufacturer;

(f) To provide under the terms of any warranty that a purchaser or lessee of any new or unused vehicle that has been sold or leased, distributed for sale or lease, or transferred into this state for resale or lease by the vehicle manufacturer may only make any warranty claim on any item included as an integral part of the vehicle against the manufacturer of that item.

Nothing in this section may be construed to impair the obligations of a contract or to prevent a manufacturer, distributor, representative, or any other person, whether or not licensed under this chapter, from requiring performance of a written contract entered into with any licensee hereunder, nor does the requirement of such performance constitute a violation of any of the provisions of this section if any such contract or the terms thereof requiring performance, have been freely entered into and executed between the contracting parties. This paragraph and subsection (14)(b) of this section do not apply to new motor vehicle manufacturers governed by chapter 46.96 RCW.

(15) Unlawful transfer of an ownership interest in a motor vehicle as defined in RCW 19.116.050.

(16) To knowingly and intentionally engage in collusion with a registered owner of a vehicle to repossess and return or resell the vehicle to the registered owner in an attempt to avoid a suspended license impound under chapter 46.55 RCW. However, compliance with chapter 62A.9A RCW in repossessing, selling, leasing, or otherwise disposing of the vehicle, including providing redemption rights to the debtor, is not a violation of this section.

(17)(a) For a dealer to enter into a new motor vehicle sales contract without disclosing in writing to a buyer of the new motor vehicle, or to a dealer in the case of an unregistered motor vehicle, any known damage and repair to the new motor vehicle if the damage exceeds five percent of the manufacturer's suggested retail price as calculated at the dealer's authorized warranty rate for labor and parts, or one thousand dollars, whichever amount is greater. A manufacturer or new motor vehicle dealer is not required to disclose to a dealer or buyer that glass, tires, bumpers, or cosmetic parts of a new motor vehicle were damaged at any time if the damaged item has been replaced with original or comparable equipment. A replaced part is not part of the cumulative damage required to be disclosed under this subsection.

(b) A manufacturer is required to provide the same disclosure to a dealer of any known damage or repair as required in (a) of this subsection.

(c) If disclosure of any known damage or repair is not required under this section, a buyer may not revoke or rescind a sales contract due to the fact that the new motor vehicle was damaged and repaired before completion of the sale.

(d) As used in this section:

(i) "Cosmetic parts" means parts that are attached by and can be replaced in total through the use of screws, bolts, or other fasteners without the use of welding or thermal cutting, and includes windshields, bumpers, hoods, or trim panels.

(ii) "Manufacturer's suggested retail price" means the retail price of the new motor vehicle suggested by the manufacturer, and includes the retail delivered price suggested by the manufacturer for each accessory or item of optional equipment physically attached to the new motor vehicle at the time of delivery to the new motor vehicle dealer that is not included within the retail price suggested by the manufacturer for the new motor vehicle. [2012 c 74 § 8; 2010 c 161 § 1136. Prior: 2009 c 123 § 1; 2009 c 49 § 1; 2007 c 155 § 2; 2006 c 289 § 1; 2003 c 368 § 1; prior: 2001 c 272 § 10; 2001 c 64 § 9; 1999 c 398 § 10; 1997 c 153 § 1; 1996 c 194 § 3; 1995 c 256 § 26; 1994 c 284 § 13; 1993 c 175 § 3; 1990 c 44 § 14; 1989 c 415 § 20; 1986 c 241 § 18; 1985 c 472 § 13; 1981 c 152 § 6; 1977 ex.s. c 125 § 4; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 18; 1969 c 112 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 16.]

**Effective date—2012 c 74 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.17.100.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Effective date—2007 c 155:** See note following RCW 46.16A.300.

**Prospective application—2006 c 289:** "This act applies prospectively only and not retroactively. It applies only to causes of action that arise (if change is substantive) or that are commenced (if change is procedural) on or after June 7, 2006." [2006 c 289 § 2.]

*Certificate of title—Failure to transfer within specified time:* RCW 46.12.650.

*Glass—Limited windows—Vehicle sale requirements:* RCW 46.37.430.

*Odometers—Disconnecting, resetting, turning back, replacing without notifying purchaser:* RCW 46.37.540 through 46.37.570.

*Tires—Vehicle sale requirements:* RCW 46.37.425.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.183 Notice of bankruptcy proceedings.** Any vehicle dealer or manufacturer, by or against whom a petition in bankruptcy has been filed, shall, within ten days of the filing, notify the department of the proceedings in bankruptcy, including the identity and location of the court in which the proceedings are pending. [1981 c 152 § 7.]

**46.70.190 Civil actions for violations—Injunctions—Claims under Federal Automobile Dealer Franchise Act—Time limitation.** Any person who is injured in his or her business or property by a violation of this chapter, or any person so injured because he or she refuses to accede to a proposal for an arrangement which, if consummated, would be in violation of this chapter, may bring a civil action in the superior court to enjoin further violations, to recover the actual damages sustained by him or her together with the costs of the suit, including a reasonable attorney's fee.

If a new motor vehicle dealer recovers a judgment or has a claim dismissed with prejudice against a manufacturer under RCW 46.96.040 or 46.96.050(3) or this section, the new motor vehicle dealer is precluded from pursuing that same claim or recovering judgment for that same claim against the same manufacturer under the federal Automobile Dealer Franchise Act, 15 U.S.C. Sections 1221 through 1225, but only to the extent that the damages recovered by or denied to the new motor vehicle dealer are the same as the damages being sought under the federal Automobile Dealer Franchise Act. Likewise, if a new motor vehicle dealer recovers a judgment or has a claim dismissed with prejudice

against a manufacturer under the federal Automobile Dealer Franchise Act, the dealer is precluded from pursuing that same claim or recovering judgment for that same claim against the same manufacturer under this chapter, but only to the extent that the damages recovered by or denied to the dealer are the same as the damages being sought under this chapter.

A civil action brought in the superior court pursuant to the provisions of this section must be filed no later than one year following the alleged violation of this chapter. [2010 c 8 § 9085; 1989 c 415 § 21; 1986 c 241 § 19; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 19; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 21.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.220 Duties of attorney general and prosecuting attorneys to act on violations—Limitation of civil actions.** The director may refer such evidence as may be available concerning violations of this chapter or of any rule or order hereunder to the attorney general or the proper prosecuting attorney, who may in his or her discretion, with or without such a reference, in addition to any other action they might commence, bring an action in the name of the state against any person to restrain and prevent the doing of any act or practice herein prohibited or declared unlawful: PROVIDED, That this chapter shall be considered in conjunction with chapters 9.04, 19.86, and 63.14 RCW and the powers and duties of the attorney general and the prosecuting attorney as they may appear in the aforementioned chapters, shall apply against all persons subject to this chapter: PROVIDED FURTHER, That any action to enforce a claim for civil damages under chapter 19.86 RCW shall be forever barred unless commenced within six years after the cause of action accrues. [2010 c 8 § 9086; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 19.]

**46.70.230 Duties of attorney general and prosecuting attorneys to act on violations—Assurance of compliance—Filing.** In the enforcement of this chapter, the attorney general and/or any said prosecuting attorney may accept an assurance of compliance with the provisions of this chapter from any person deemed in violation hereof. Any such assurance shall be in writing and be filed with and subject to the approval of the superior court of the county in which the alleged violator resides or has his or her principal place of business, or in Thurston county. [2010 c 8 § 9087; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 20.]

**46.70.240 Penalties—Jurisdiction.** Any person who violates the terms of any court order, or temporary or permanent injunction issued pursuant to this chapter, shall forfeit and pay a civil penalty of not more than twenty-five thousand dollars. For the purpose of this section the superior court issuing any injunction shall retain jurisdiction, and the cause shall be continued, and in such cases the attorney general and/or the prosecuting attorney acting in the name of the state, or any person who pursuant to RCW 46.70.190 has secured the injunction violated, may petition for the recovery of civil penalties. [1967 ex.s. c 74 § 22.]

**46.70.250 Personal service of process outside state.** Personal service of any process in an action under this chapter may be made upon any person outside the state if such

person has engaged in conduct in violation of this chapter which has had the impact in this state which this chapter reprehends. Such person shall be deemed to have thereby submitted himself or herself to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state within the meaning of RCW 4.28.180 and 4.28.185. [2010 c 8 § 9088; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 23.]

**46.70.260 Application of chapter to existing and future franchises and contracts.** The provisions of this chapter shall be applicable to all franchises and contracts existing between vehicle dealers and manufacturers or factory branches and to all future franchises and contracts. [1986 c 241 § 22; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 24.]

**46.70.270 Provisions of chapter cumulative—Violation of RCW 46.70.180 deemed civil.** The provisions of this chapter shall be cumulative to existing laws: PROVIDED, That the violation of RCW 46.70.180 shall be construed as exclusively civil and not penal in nature. [1967 ex.s. c 74 § 25.]

**46.70.290 Mobile homes and persons engaged in distribution and sale.** The provisions of chapter 46.70 RCW shall apply to the distribution and sale of mobile homes and to mobile home dealers, distributors, manufacturers, factory representatives, or other persons engaged in such distribution and sale to the same extent as for motor vehicles. [1993 c 307 § 10; 1971 ex.s. c 231 § 23.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.70.300 Chapter exclusive—Local business and occupation tax not prevented.** (1) The provisions of this chapter relating to the licensing and regulation of vehicle dealers and manufacturers shall be exclusive, and no county, city, or other political subdivision of this state shall enact any laws, rules, or regulations licensing or regulating vehicle dealers or manufacturers.

(2) This section shall not be construed to prevent a political subdivision of this state from levying a business and occupation tax upon vehicle dealers or manufacturers maintaining an office within that political subdivision if a business and occupation tax is levied by such a political subdivision upon other types of businesses within its boundaries. [1993 c 307 § 11; 1981 c 152 § 2.]

**46.70.310 Consumer Protection Act.** Any violation of this chapter is deemed to affect the public interest and constitutes a violation of chapter 19.86 RCW. [1986 c 241 § 23.]

**46.70.320 Buyer's agents.** The regulation of buyers' agents is a matter affecting the public interest for the purpose of applying chapter 19.86 RCW. Activities of buyers' agents prohibited under RCW 46.70.180 (11), (12), or (13) are not reasonable in relation to the development and preservation of business. A violation of RCW 46.70.180 (11), (12), or (13) constitutes an unfair or deceptive act or practice in trade or commerce for the purpose of applying chapter 19.86 RCW. [1993 c 175 § 4.]

**46.70.330 Wholesale motor vehicle auction dealers.** (1) A wholesale motor vehicle auction dealer may:



(a) Sell any classification of motor vehicle;

(b) Sell only to motor vehicle dealers and vehicle wreckers licensed under Title 46 RCW by the state of Washington or licensed by any other state; or

(c) Sell a motor vehicle belonging to the United States government, the state of Washington, or a political subdivision to nonlicensed persons as may be required by the contracting public agency. However, a publicly owned "wrecked vehicle" as defined in RCW 46.80.010 may be sold to motor vehicle dealers and vehicle wreckers licensed under Title 46 RCW by the state of Washington or licensed by any other state.

(2) If the wholesale motor vehicle auction dealer knows that a vehicle is a "wrecked vehicle" as defined by RCW 46.80.010, the dealer must disclose this fact on the bill of sale. [1998 c 282 § 2.]

**46.70.340 Issuance of temporary subagency licenses for recreational vehicle shows.** (1)(a) Before the department may issue a temporary subagency license to a recreational vehicle dealer engaged in offering new or new and used recreational vehicles for sale at a recreational vehicle show, a recreational vehicle dealer of new or new and used recreational vehicles shall submit to the department a manufacturer's written authorization for the sale and specifying the dates of the show, the location of the show, and the identity of the manufacturer's brand or model names of the new or used recreational vehicles.

(b) The department may issue a temporary subagency license if the location of the show is within fifty miles of the recreational vehicle dealer's established place of business or permanent location. The department may issue a temporary subagency license for a show outside fifty miles of the recreational vehicle dealer's established place of business or permanent location only if the product represented is new and is within the factory designated sales territory for each brand of new recreational vehicles to be offered for sale, and only those specific brands of new recreational vehicles may be offered for sale under the terms of the temporary subagency license.

(2) Whenever three or fewer recreational vehicle dealers participate in a show under a temporary subagency license issued under this section, each recreational vehicle dealer shall conspicuously include all of the following information in all advertising and promotional materials designed to attract the public to attend the show:

(a) Each recreational vehicle dealer's business name and the location of the recreational vehicle dealer's established place of business must be printed in a size equivalent to the second largest type used in the advertisement and must be placed at the top of the advertisement; and

(b) The manufacturer's brand or model names of those new recreational vehicles being offered for sale; and

(c) If the recreational vehicles being offered for sale are used, the word "used" must immediately precede the identification of the brand name of the model or be immediately adjacent to the depiction of used vehicles.

(3) Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, no more than two temporary subagency licenses may be issued to a recreational vehicle dealer engaged in offering new or new and used recreational vehicles for sale for events with

three or fewer recreational vehicle dealers participating, and no more than six temporary subagency licenses may be issued to a recreational vehicle dealer in any twelve-month period for events including four or more recreational vehicle dealers.

(4) The legislature finds that the practices covered by this section are matters vitally affecting the public interest for the purpose of applying the consumer protection act, chapter 19.86 RCW. Violations of this section are not reasonable in relation to the development and preservation of business. A violation of this section is an unfair or deceptive act in trade or commerce and an unfair method of competition for the purpose of applying the consumer protection act, chapter 19.86 RCW. [2006 c 364 § 2.]

**46.70.900 Liberal construction.** All provisions of this chapter shall be liberally construed to the end that deceptive practices or commission of fraud or misrepresentation in the sale, lease, barter, or disposition of vehicles in this state may be prohibited and prevented, and irresponsible, unreliable, or dishonest persons may be prevented from engaging in the business of selling, leasing, bartering, or otherwise dealing in vehicles in this state and reliable persons may be encouraged to engage in the business of selling, leasing, bartering and otherwise dealing in vehicles in this state: PROVIDED, That this chapter shall not apply to printers, publishers, or broadcasters who in good faith print, publish or broadcast material without knowledge of its deceptive character. [2001 c 272 § 11; 1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 20; 1967 ex.s. c 74 § 2.]

**46.70.910 Severability—1967 ex.s. c 74.** If any provision of this amendatory act is declared unconstitutional, or the applicability thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the constitutionality of the remainder of the amendatory act and the applicability thereof to persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby. [1967 ex.s. c 74 § 28.]

**46.70.920 Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 132.** If any provision of this 1973 amendatory act is declared unconstitutional, or the applicability thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the constitutionality of the remainder of this 1973 amendatory act and the applicability thereof to persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby. [1973 1st ex.s. c 132 § 21.]

## Chapter 46.71 RCW AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

### Sections

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46.71.080	Notice of chapter to vehicle owners.
46.71.090	Notice of chapter to repair facilities.

*Vehicle warranties (Lemon law): Chapter 19.118 RCW.*

**46.71.005 Legislative recognition.** The automotive repair industry supports good communication between auto repair facilities and their customers. The legislature recognizes that improved communications and accurate representations between automotive repair facilities and the customers will: Increase consumer confidence; reduce the likelihood of disputes arising; clarify repair facility lien interests; and promote fair and nondeceptive practices, thereby enhancing the safety and reliability of motor vehicles serviced by auto repair facilities in the state of Washington. [1993 c 424 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.71.011 Definitions.** For purposes of this chapter:

(1) An "aftermarket body part" or "nonoriginal equipment manufacturer body part" is an exterior body panel or nonstructural body component manufactured by someone other than the original equipment manufacturer and supplied through suppliers other than those in the manufacturer's normal distribution channels.

(2) "Automotive repair" includes but is not limited to:

(a) All repairs to vehicles subject to chapter 46.16A RCW that are commonly performed in a repair facility by a motor vehicle technician including the diagnosis, installation, exchange, or repair of mechanical or electrical parts or units for any vehicle, the performance of any electrical or mechanical adjustment to any vehicle, or the performance of any service work required for routine maintenance or repair of any vehicle. However, commercial fleet repair or maintenance transactions involving two or more vehicles or ongoing service or maintenance contracts involving vehicles used primarily for business purposes are not included;

(b) All work in facilities that perform one or more specialties within the automotive repair service industry including, but not limited to, body collision repair, refinishing, brake, electrical, exhaust repair or installation, frame, uni-body, front-end, radiators, tires, transmission, tune-up, and windshield; and

(c) The removal, replacement, or repair of exterior body panels, the removal, replacement, or repair of structural and nonstructural body components, the removal, replacement, or repair of collision damaged suspension components, and the refinishing of automotive components.

(3) "Automotive repair facility" or "repair facility" means any person, firm, association, or corporation who for compensation engages in the business of automotive repair or diagnosis, or both, of malfunctions of motor vehicles subject to licensure under chapter 46.16A RCW and repair and refinishing auto-body collision damage as well as overall refinishing and cosmetic repairs.

(4) A "rebuilt" part consists of a used assembly that has been dismantled and inspected with only the defective parts being replaced.

(5) A "remanufactured" part consists of a used assembly that has been dismantled with the core parts being remachined and all other parts replaced with new parts so as to provide performance comparable to that found originally. [2011 c 171 § 92; 1993 c 424 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.71.015 Estimates—Invoices—Recordkeeping requirements.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in RCW 46.71.025, all estimates that exceed one hundred dollars shall be in writing and include the following information: The date; the name, address, and telephone number of the repair facility; the name, address, and telephone number, if available, of the customer or the customer's designee; if the vehicle is delivered for repair, the year, make, and model of the vehicle, the vehicle license plate number or last eight digits of the vehicle identification number, and the odometer reading of the vehicle; a description of the problem reported by the customer or the specific repairs requested by the customer; and a choice of alternatives described in RCW 46.71.025.

(2) Whether or not a written estimate is required, parts and labor provided by an automotive repair facility shall be clearly and accurately recorded in writing on an invoice and shall include, in addition to the information listed in subsection (1) of this section, the following information: A description of the repair or maintenance services performed on the vehicle; a list of all parts supplied, identified by name and part number, if available, part kit description or recognized package or shop supplies, if any, and an indication whether the parts supplied are rebuilt, or used, if applicable or where collision repair is involved, aftermarket body parts or non-original equipment manufacturer body parts, if applicable; the price per part charged, if any, and the total amount charged for all parts; the total amount charged for all labor, if any; and the total charge. Parts and labor do not need to be separately disclosed if pricing is expressed as an advertised special by the job, a prediscovered written repair menu item, or a routine service package.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, if the repair work is performed under warranty or without charge to the customer, other than an applicable deductible, the repair facility shall provide either an itemized list of the parts supplied, or describe the service performed on the vehicle, but the repair facility is not required to provide any pricing information for parts or labor.

(4) A copy of the estimate, unless waived, shall be provided to the customer or customer's designee prior to providing parts or labor as required under RCW 46.71.025. A copy of the invoice shall be provided to the customer upon completion of the repairs.

(5) Only material omissions, under this section, are actionable in a court of law or equity. [1993 c 424 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.71.021 Disposition of replaced parts.** Except for parts covered by a manufacturer's or other warranty or parts that must be returned to a distributor, remanufacturer, or rebuilder, the repair facility shall return replaced parts to the customer at the time the work is completed if the customer requested the parts at the time of authorization of the repair. If a customer at the time of authorization of the repair requests the return of a part that must be returned to the manufacturer, remanufacturer, distributor, recycler, or rebuilder, or must be disposed of as required by law, the repair facility

shall offer to show the part to the customer. The repair facility need not show a replaced part if no charge is being made for the replacement part. [1993 c 424 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.71.025 Estimate required—Alternatives—Authorization to exceed.** (*Effective until January 1, 2013.*) (1) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, a repair facility prior to providing parts or labor shall provide the customer or the customer’s designee with a written price estimate of the total cost of the repair, including parts and labor, or where collision repair is involved, aftermarket body parts or nonoriginal equipment manufacturer body parts, if applicable, or offer the following alternatives:

"YOU ARE ENTITLED TO A WRITTEN PRICE ESTIMATE FOR THE REPAIRS YOU HAVE AUTHORIZED. YOU ARE ALSO ENTITLED TO REQUIRE THE REPAIR FACILITY TO OBTAIN YOUR ORAL OR WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION TO EXCEED THE WRITTEN PRICE ESTIMATE. YOUR SIGNATURE OR INITIALS WILL INDICATE YOUR SELECTION.

1. I request an estimate in writing before you begin repairs. Contact me if the price will exceed this estimate by more than ten percent.
2. Proceed with repairs but contact me if the price will exceed \$. . . . .
3. I do not want a written estimate.

..... (Initial or signature)  
Date: ..... Time: ....."

(2) The repair facility may not charge the customer more than one hundred ten percent, exclusive of retail sales tax, of the total shown on the written price estimate. Neither of these limitations apply if, before providing additional parts or labor the repair facility obtains either the oral or written authorization of the customer, or the customer’s designee, to exceed the written price estimate. The repair facility or its representative shall note on the estimate the date and time of obtaining an oral authorization, the additional parts and labor required, the estimated cost of the additional parts and labor, or where collision repair is involved, aftermarket body parts or nonoriginal equipment manufacturer body parts, if applicable, the name or identification number of the employee who obtains the authorization, and the name and telephone number of the person authorizing the additional costs.

(3) A written estimate shall not be required when the customer’s motor vehicle or component has been brought to an automotive repair facility’s regular place of business without face-to-face contact between the customer and the repair facility. Face-to-face contact means actual in-person discussion between the customer or his or her designee and the agent or employee of the automotive repair facility authorized to intake vehicles or components. However, prior to providing parts and labor, the repair facility must obtain either the oral or written authorization of the customer or the customer’s designee. The repair facility or its representative shall note on the estimate or repair order the date and time of obtaining an oral authorization, the total amount authorized,

the name or identification number of the employee who obtains the authorization, and the name of the person authorizing the repairs. [1993 c 424 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.71.025 Written estimate required—Alternatives—Authorization to exceed—Exceptions.** (*Effective January 1, 2013.*) (1) Except as provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this section, a repair facility prior to providing parts or labor shall provide the customer or the customer’s designee with a written price estimate of the total cost of the repair, including parts and labor, or where collision repair is involved, aftermarket body parts or nonoriginal equipment manufacturer body parts, if applicable, or offer the following alternatives:

"YOU ARE ENTITLED TO A WRITTEN PRICE ESTIMATE FOR THE REPAIRS YOU HAVE AUTHORIZED. YOU ARE ALSO ENTITLED TO REQUIRE THE REPAIR FACILITY TO OBTAIN YOUR ORAL OR WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION TO EXCEED THE WRITTEN PRICE ESTIMATE. YOUR SIGNATURE OR INITIALS WILL INDICATE YOUR SELECTION.

1. I request an estimate in writing before you begin repairs. Contact me if the price will exceed this estimate by more than ten percent.
2. Proceed with repairs but contact me if the price will exceed \$. . . . .
3. I do not want a written estimate.

..... (Initial or signature)  
Date: ..... Time: ....."

(2) The repair facility may not charge the customer more than one hundred ten percent, exclusive of retail sales tax, of the total shown on the written price estimate. Neither of these limitations apply if, before providing additional parts or labor the repair facility obtains either the oral or written authorization of the customer, or the customer’s designee, to exceed the written price estimate. The repair facility or its representative shall note on the estimate the date and time of obtaining an oral authorization, the additional parts and labor required, the estimated cost of the additional parts and labor, or where collision repair is involved, aftermarket body parts or nonoriginal equipment manufacturer body parts, if applicable, the name or identification number of the employee who obtains the authorization, and the name and telephone number of the person authorizing the additional costs.

(3) A written estimate shall not be required when the customer’s motor vehicle or component has been brought to an automotive repair facility’s regular place of business without face-to-face contact between the customer and the repair facility. Face-to-face contact means actual in-person discussion between the customer or his or her designee and the agent or employee of the automotive repair facility authorized to intake vehicles or components. However, prior to providing parts and labor, the repair facility must obtain either the oral or written authorization of the customer or the customer’s designee. The repair facility or its representative

shall note on the estimate or repair order the date and time of obtaining an oral authorization, the total amount authorized, the name or identification number of the employee who obtains the authorization, and the name of the person authorizing the repairs.

(4)(a) A written estimate is not required for the repair of any vehicle that:

(i) Qualifies for a horseless carriage license plate as defined in RCW 46.04.199 or a collector vehicle license plate as defined in RCW 46.04.1261;

(ii) Is a street rod vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.572 or a custom vehicle as defined in RCW 46.04.161; or

(iii) Is a parts car, which, for the purposes of this section, means a motor vehicle that is owned by a collector to furnish parts for restoration or maintenance of a vehicle described in RCW 46.18.220(1) or 46.18.255(1), thus enabling a collector to preserve, restore, and maintain such a vehicle.

(b) This subsection does not prohibit a customer seeking repair services for one of the vehicles listed under this subsection from requesting a written estimate, which may be provided at the discretion of the agent or employee of the automotive repair facility, and in which case the repair facility shall provide notification and documentation advising the customer that the requested repairs will be furnished on a time and materials basis, to be billed at least every two weeks. [2012 c 27 § 1; 1993 c 424 § 5.]

**Effective date—2012 c 27:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2013." [2012 c 27 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.71.031 Required signs.** An automotive repair facility shall post in a prominent place on the business premises one or more signs, readily visible to customers, in the following form:

"YOUR CUSTOMER RIGHTS

YOU ARE ENTITLED BY LAW TO:

1. A WRITTEN ESTIMATE FOR REPAIRS WHICH WILL COST MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS, UNLESS WAIVED OR ABSENT FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT (SEE ITEM 4 BELOW);
2. RETURN OR INSPECTION OF ALL REPLACED PARTS, IF REQUESTED AT TIME OF REPAIR AUTHORIZATION;
3. AUTHORIZE ORALLY OR IN WRITING ANY REPAIRS WHICH EXCEED THE ESTIMATED TOTAL PRESALES TAX COST BY MORE THAN TEN PERCENT;
4. AUTHORIZE ANY REPAIRS ORALLY OR IN WRITING IF YOUR VEHICLE IS LEFT WITH THE REPAIR FACILITY WITHOUT FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT BETWEEN YOU AND THE REPAIR FACILITY PERSONNEL.

IF YOU HAVE AUTHORIZED A REPAIR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ABOVE INFORMATION YOU ARE REQUIRED TO PAY FOR THE COSTS OF THE REPAIR PRIOR TO TAKING THE VEHICLE FROM THE PREMISES."

The first line of each sign shall be in letters not less than one and one-half inch in height and the remaining lines shall be in letters not less than one-half inch in height. [1993 c 424 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.71.035 Failure to comply with estimate requirements.** An automotive repair facility that fails to comply with the estimate requirements of RCW 46.71.025 is barred from recovering in an action to recover for automotive repairs any amount in excess of one hundred ten percent of the amount authorized by the customer, or the customer's designee, unless the repair facility proves by a preponderance of the evidence that its conduct was reasonable, necessary, and justified under the circumstances. In an action to recover for automotive repairs the prevailing party may, at the discretion of the court, recover the costs of the action and reasonable attorneys' fees. [1993 c 424 § 7.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.71.041 Liens barred for failure to comply.** A repair facility that fails to comply with RCW 46.71.021, 46.71.025, or 46.71.031 is barred from asserting a possessory or chattel lien for the amount of the unauthorized parts or labor upon the motor vehicle or component. [1993 c 424 § 8.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.71.045 Unlawful acts or practices.** Each of the following acts or practices are unlawful:

(1) Advertising that is false, deceptive, or misleading. A single or isolated media mistake does not constitute a false, deceptive, or misleading statement or misrepresentation under this section;

(2) Materially understating or misstating the estimated price for a specified repair procedure;

(3) Retaining payment from a customer for parts not delivered or installed or a labor operation or repair procedure that has not actually been performed;

(4) Unauthorized operation of a customer's vehicle for purposes not related to repair or diagnosis;

(5) Failing or refusing to provide a customer, upon request, a copy, at no charge, of any document signed by the customer;

(6) Retaining duplicative payment from both the customer and the warranty or extended service contract provider for the same covered component, part, or labor;

(7) Charging a customer for unnecessary repairs. For purposes of this subsection "unnecessary repairs" means those for which there is no reasonable basis for performing the service. A reasonable basis includes, but is not limited to: (a) That the repair service is consistent with specifications established by law or the manufacturer of the motor vehicle, component, or part; (b) that the repair is in accordance with accepted industry standards; or (c) that the repair was performed at the specific request of the customer. [1993 c 424 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.71.051 Copy of warranty.** The repair facility shall make available, upon request, a copy of any express warranty

provided by the repair facility to the customer that covers repairs performed on the vehicle. [1993 c 424 § 10.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### 46.71.060 Retention of price estimates and invoices.

Every automotive repair facility shall retain and make available for inspection, upon request by the customer or the customer's authorized representative, true copies of the written price estimates and invoices required under this chapter for at least one year after the date on which the repairs were performed. [1993 c 424 § 11; 1982 c 62 § 7; 1977 ex.s. c 280 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.71.070 Consumer Protection Act—Defense.** The legislature finds that the practices covered by this chapter are matters vitally affecting the public interest for the purpose of applying the Consumer Protection Act, chapter 19.86 RCW. Violations of this chapter are not reasonable in relation to the development and preservation of business. A violation of this chapter is an unfair or deceptive act in trade or commerce and an unfair method of competition for the purpose of applying the Consumer Protection Act, chapter 19.86 RCW. In an action under chapter 19.86 RCW due to an automotive repair facility's charging a customer an amount in excess of one hundred ten percent of the amount authorized by the customer, a violation shall not be found if the automotive repair facility proves by a preponderance of the evidence that its conduct was reasonable, necessary, and justified under the circumstances.

Notwithstanding RCW 46.64.050, no violation of this chapter shall give rise to criminal liability under that section. [1993 c 424 § 12; 1982 c 62 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 280 § 7.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.71.080 Notice of chapter to vehicle owners.** Whenever a vehicle license renewal form under RCW 46.16A.110 is given to the registered owner of any vehicle, the department of licensing shall give to the owner written notice of the provisions of this chapter in a manner prescribed by the director of licensing. [2011 c 171 § 93; 1982 c 62 § 10.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.71.090 Notice of chapter to repair facilities.** When the department of revenue issues a registration certificate under RCW 82.32.030 to an automotive repair facility, it shall give written notice to the person of the requirements of this chapter in a manner prescribed by the director of revenue. The department of revenue shall thereafter give the notice on an annual basis in conjunction with the business and occupation tax return provided to each person holding a registration certificate as an automotive repair facility. [1993 c 424 § 13; 1982 c 62 § 11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 46.72 RCW

### TRANSPORTATION OF PASSENGERS IN FOR HIRE VEHICLES

#### Sections

46.72.001	Finding and intent.
46.72.010	Definitions.
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46.72.030	Permit fee—Issuance—Display.
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46.72.050	Liability coverage—Right of action saved.
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46.72.070	Certificate—Fee.
46.72.073	Certificate suspension or revocation—Failure to pay industrial insurance premiums—Rules—Cooperative agreements.
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46.72.100	Unprofessional conduct—Bond/insurance policy—Penalty.
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46.72.140	Nonresident taxicabs—Permit required for entry.
46.72.150	Nonresident taxicabs—Reciprocity.
46.72.160	Local regulation.
46.72.170	Joint regulation.
46.72.180	Uniform regulation of business and professions act.

*Age of drivers of for hire vehicles:* RCW 46.20.045.

*Taxicab companies, local regulation:* Chapter 81.72 RCW.

**46.72.001 Finding and intent.** The legislature finds and declares that privately operated for hire transportation service is a vital part of the transportation system within the state. Consequently, the safety, reliability, and stability of privately operated for hire transportation services are matters of statewide importance. The regulation of privately operated for hire transportation services is thus an essential governmental function. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to permit political subdivisions of the state to regulate for hire transportation services without liability under federal anti-trust laws. [1996 c 87 § 17.]

#### 46.72.010 Definitions.

When used in this chapter:

(1) The term "for hire vehicle" includes all vehicles used for the transportation of passengers for compensation, except auto stages, school buses operating exclusively under a contract to a school district, ride-sharing vehicles under chapter 46.74 RCW, limousine carriers licensed under chapter 46.72A RCW, vehicles used by nonprofit transportation providers for elderly or handicapped persons and their attendants under chapter 81.66 RCW, vehicles used by auto transportation companies licensed under chapter 81.68 RCW, vehicles used to provide courtesy transportation at no charge to and from parking lots, hotels, and rental offices, and vehicles used by charter party carriers of passengers and excursion service carriers licensed under chapter 81.70 RCW;

(2) The term "for hire operator" means and includes any person, concern, or entity engaged in the transportation of passengers for compensation in for hire vehicles. [1996 c 87 § 18; 1991 c 99 § 1; 1979 c 111 § 14; 1961 c 12 § 46.72.010. Prior: 1947 c 253 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6386-1. Formerly RCW 81.72.010.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.72.020 Permit required—Form of application.** No for hire operator shall cause operation of a for hire vehicle upon any highway of this state without first obtaining a permit from the director of licensing, except for those for hire operators regulated by cities or counties in accordance with

chapter 81.72 RCW. Application for a permit shall be made on forms provided by the director and shall include (1) the name and address of the owner or owners, and if a corporation, the names and addresses of the principal officers thereof; (2) city, town or locality in which any vehicle will be operated; (3) name and motor number of any vehicle to be operated; (4) the endorsement of a city official authorizing an operator under a law or ordinance requiring a license; and (5) such other information as the director may require. [1992 c 114 § 1; 1979 c 158 § 188; 1967 c 32 § 80; 1961 c 12 § 46.72.020. Prior: 1947 c 253 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6386-2; prior: 1915 c 57 § 1; RRS § 6382. Formerly RCW 81.72.020.]

**46.72.030 Permit fee—Issuance—Display.** Application for a permit shall be forwarded to the director with a fee. Upon receipt of such application and fee, the director shall, if such application be in proper form, issue a permit authorizing the applicant to operate for hire vehicles upon the highways of this state until such owner ceases to do business as such, or until the permit is suspended or revoked. Such permit shall be displayed in a conspicuous place in the principal place of business of the owner. [1992 c 114 § 2; 1967 c 32 § 81; 1961 c 12 § 46.72.030. Prior: 1947 c 253 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6386-3; prior: 1933 c 73 § 1, part; 1915 c 57 § 2, part; RRS § 6383, part. Formerly RCW 81.72.030.]

**46.72.040 Surety bond.** Before a permit is issued every for hire operator shall be required to deposit and thereafter keep on file with the director a surety bond running to the state of Washington covering each and every for hire vehicle as may be owned or leased by him or her and used in the conduct of his or her business as a for hire operator. Such bond shall be in the sum of one hundred thousand dollars for any recovery for death or personal injury by one person, and three hundred thousand dollars for all persons killed or receiving personal injury by reason of one act of negligence, and twenty-five thousand dollars for damage to property of any person other than the assured, with a good and sufficient surety company licensed to do business in this state as surety and to be approved by the director, conditioned for the faithful compliance by the principal of said bond with the provisions of this chapter, and to pay all damages which may be sustained by any person injured by reason of any careless negligence or unlawful act on the part of said principal, his or her agents or employees in the conduct of said business or in the operation of any motor propelled vehicle used in transporting passengers for compensation on any public highway of this state. [2010 c 8 § 9089; 1973 c 15 § 1; 1967 c 32 § 82; 1961 c 12 § 46.72.040. Prior: 1947 c 253 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6386-4; prior: 1933 c 73 § 1, part; 1915 c 57 § 2, part; RRS § 6383, part. Formerly RCW 81.72.040.]

**46.72.050 Liability coverage—Right of action saved.** In lieu of the surety bond as provided in this chapter, there may be deposited and kept on file and in force with the director a public liability insurance policy covering each and every motor vehicle operated or intended to be so operated, executed by an insurance company licensed and authorized to write such insurance policies in the state of Washington, assuring the applicant for a permit against property damage

and personal liability to the public, with the premiums paid and payment noted thereon. Said policy of insurance shall provide a minimum coverage equal and identical to the coverage required by the aforesaid surety bond, specified under the provisions of RCW 46.72.040. No provisions of this chapter shall be construed to limit the right of any injured person to any private right of action against a for hire operator as herein defined. [1973 c 15 § 2; 1967 c 32 § 83; 1961 c 12 § 46.72.050. Prior: 1947 c 253 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6386-5. Formerly RCW 81.72.050.]

**46.72.060 Right of action—Limitation of recovery.** Every person having a cause of action for damages against any person, firm, or corporation receiving a permit under the provisions of this chapter, for injury, damages, or wrongful death caused by any careless, negligent, or unlawful act of any such person, firm, or corporation or his or her or its agents or employees in conducting or carrying on said business or in operating any motor propelled vehicle for the carrying and transporting of passengers on any public street, road, or highway shall have a cause of action against the principal and surety upon the bond or the insurance company and the insured for all damages sustained, and in any such action the full amount of damages sustained may be recovered against the principal, but the recovery against the surety shall be limited to the amount of the bond. [2010 c 161 § 1137; 2010 c 8 § 9090, 1961 c 12 § 46.72.060. Prior: 1947 c 253 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6386-6; prior: 1929 c 27 § 1; 1927 c 161 § 1; 1915 c 57 § 3; RRS § 6384. Formerly RCW 81.72.060.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2010 c 8 § 9090 and by 2010 c 161 § 1137, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**46.72.070 Certificate—Fee.** The director shall approve and file all bonds and policies of insurance. The director shall, upon receipt of fees and after approving the bond or policy, furnish the owner with an appropriate certificate which must be carried in a conspicuous place in the vehicle at all times during for hire operation. A for hire operator shall secure a certificate for each for hire vehicle operated and pay therefor a fee for each vehicle so registered. Such permit or certificate shall expire on June 30th of each year, and may be annually renewed upon payment of a fee. [1992 c 114 § 3; 1967 c 32 § 84; 1961 c 12 § 46.72.070. Prior: 1947 c 253 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6386-7. Formerly RCW 81.72.070.]

**46.72.073 Certificate suspension or revocation—Failure to pay industrial insurance premiums—Rules—Cooperative agreements.** (1) A for hire vehicle certificate issued pursuant to this chapter must be suspended or revoked and may not be renewed in the event of failure to pay the mandatory for hire vehicle operator industrial insurance premium as charged by the department of labor and industries under RCW 51.12.183 and 51.16.240.

(2)(a) A for hire vehicle and its operator must have evidence of payment in good standing with the department of labor and industries of the for hire vehicle operator industrial

insurance premium, whenever the for hire vehicle is operated on public streets and highways for compensation.

(b) Failure to produce evidence of payment of the for hire vehicle insurance premium upon demand by a law enforcement officer or other government agent acting under the authority of this chapter is a civil infraction punishable by a fine of not more than two hundred fifty dollars per infraction separately upon both the for hire vehicle owner and the for hire vehicle operator if they are not one and the same.

(3) For hire vehicle license suspension or revocation and the administration thereof for failure to pay the mandatory industrial insurance premium must be at the direction and expense of the department of labor and industries.

(4) The department of labor and industries and the department of licensing may adopt rules and enter into cooperative agreements to implement this section. [2011 c 190 § 5.]

**Effective date—2011 c 190:** See note following RCW 51.12.180.

#### **46.72.080 Substitution of security—New certificate.**

In the event the owner substitutes a policy or bond after a for hire certificate has been issued, a new certificate shall be issued to the owner. The owner shall submit the substituted bond or policy to the director for approval, together with a fee. If the director approves the substituted policy or bond, a new certificate shall be issued. In the event any certificate has been lost, destroyed or stolen, a duplicate thereof may be obtained by filing an affidavit of loss and paying a fee. [1992 c 114 § 4; 1967 c 32 § 85; 1961 c 12 § 46.72.080. Prior: 1947 c 253 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6386-8. Formerly RCW 81.72.080.]

#### **46.72.100 Unprofessional conduct—Bond/insurance policy—Penalty.**

(1) In addition to the unprofessional conduct specified in RCW 18.235.130, the director may take disciplinary action if he or she has good reason to believe that one of the following is true of the operator or the applicant for a permit or certificate: (a) He or she is guilty of committing two or more offenses for which mandatory revocation of driver's license is provided by law; (b) he or she has been convicted of vehicular homicide or vehicular assault; (c) he or she is intemperate or addicted to the use of narcotics.

(2) Any for hire operator who operates a for hire vehicle without first having filed a bond or insurance policy and having received a for hire permit and a for hire certificate as required by this chapter is guilty of a gross misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by imprisonment in jail for a period not exceeding ninety days or a fine of not exceeding five hundred dollars, or both fine and imprisonment. [2003 c 53 § 250; 2002 c 86 § 293; 1983 c 164 § 8; 1967 c 32 § 86; 1961 c 12 § 46.72.100. Prior: 1947 c 253 § 9; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6386-9; prior: 1915 c 57 § 4; RRS § 6385. Formerly RCW 81.72.100.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Effective dates—2002 c 86:** See note following RCW 18.08.340.

**Part headings not law—Severability—2002 c 86:** See RCW 18.235.902 and 18.235.903.

**46.72.110 Fees to highway safety fund.** All fees received by the director under the provisions of this chapter must be transmitted by him or her, together with a proper identifying report, to the state treasurer to be deposited by the state treasurer in the highway safety fund. Appropriations from the highway safety fund will support expenses incurred in carrying out the licensing and regulatory activities of this chapter. [2011 c 298 § 27; 2010 c 8 § 9091; 1967 c 32 § 87; 1961 c 12 § 46.72.110. Prior: 1947 c 253 § 10; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6386-10. Formerly RCW 81.72.110.]

**Purpose—Intent—Agency transfer—Contracting—Effective date—2011 c 289:** See notes following RCW 19.02.020.

**46.72.120 Rules.** The director is empowered to make and enforce such rules and regulations, including the setting of fees, as may be consistent with and necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter. [1992 c 114 § 5; 1967 c 32 § 88; 1961 c 12 § 46.72.120. Prior: 1947 c 253 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6386-11. Formerly RCW 81.72.120.]

#### **46.72.130 Nonresident taxicabs—Permit—Fee—Compliance.**

No operator of a taxicab licensed or possessing a permit in another state to transport passengers for hire, and principally engaged as a for hire operator in another state, shall cause the operation of a taxicab upon any highway of this state without first obtaining an annual permit from the director upon an application accompanied with an annual fee for each taxicab. The issuance of a permit shall be further conditioned upon compliance with this chapter. [1992 c 114 § 6; 1967 c 32 § 89; 1961 c 12 § 46.72.130. Prior: 1953 c 12 § 1; 1951 c 219 § 1. Formerly RCW 81.72.130.]

#### **46.72.140 Nonresident taxicabs—Permit required for entry.**

All law enforcement officers shall refuse every taxicab entry into this state which does not have a certificate from the director on the vehicle. [1967 c 32 § 90; 1961 c 12 § 46.72.140. Prior: 1951 c 219 § 2. Formerly RCW 81.72.140.]

#### **46.72.150 Nonresident taxicabs—Reciprocity.**

RCW 46.72.130 and 46.72.140 shall be inoperative to operators of taxicabs residing and licensed in any state which allows Washington operators of taxicabs to use such state's highways free from such regulations. [1961 c 12 § 46.72.150. Prior: 1951 c 219 § 3. Formerly RCW 81.72.150.]

**46.72.160 Local regulation.** Cities, counties, and port districts may license, control, and regulate all for hire vehicles operating within their respective jurisdictions. The power to regulate includes:

- (1) Regulating entry into the business of providing for hire vehicle transportation services;
- (2) Requiring a license to be purchased as a condition of operating a for hire vehicle and the right to revoke, cancel, or refuse to reissue a license for failure to comply with regulatory requirements;
- (3) Controlling the rates charged for providing for hire vehicle transportation service and the manner in which rates are calculated and collected;
- (4) Regulating the routes and operations of for hire vehicles, including restricting access to airports;

(5) Establishing safety and equipment requirements; and  
 (6) Any other requirements adopted to ensure safe and reliable for hire vehicle transportation service. [1996 c 87 § 19.]

**46.72.170 Joint regulation.** The department, a city, county, or port district may enter into cooperative agreements with any other city, town, county, or port district for the joint regulation of for hire vehicles. Cooperative agreements may provide for, but are not limited to, the granting, revocation, and suspension of joint for hire vehicle licenses. [1996 c 87 § 20.]

**46.72.180 Uniform regulation of business and professions act.** The uniform regulation of business and professions act, chapter 18.235 RCW, governs unlicensed practice, the issuance and denial of licenses, and the discipline of licensees under this chapter. [2002 c 86 § 294.]

**Effective dates—2002 c 86:** See note following RCW 18.08.340.

**Part headings not law—Severability—2002 c 86:** See RCW 18.235.902 and 18.235.903.

## Chapter 46.72A RCW LIMOUSINES

### Sections

46.72A.010	Finding and intent.
46.72A.020	Engagement of and fares for carrier services—Service records—Carrier information—Penalties—Rules.
46.72A.030	Regulation—Inspection—Fees—Penalties.
46.72A.040	State preemption—Exceptions.
46.72A.050	Registration—Carrier license, vehicle certificates required—Rules—Penalty.
46.72A.053	Certificate suspension or revocation—Failure to pay industrial insurance premiums—Rules—Cooperative agreements.
46.72A.060	Insurance—Amount—Penalty.
46.72A.070	Vehicle certificates—Issuance of new or duplicate certificate—Penalty.
46.72A.080	Advertising—Penalties.
46.72A.090	Chauffeurs—Criteria for, physical exams.
46.72A.100	Unprofessional conduct—Sanctions—Chauffeur.
46.72A.110	Deposit of fees.
46.72A.120	Rules and fees.
46.72A.130	Continued operation of existing limousines.
46.72A.140	Uniform regulation of business and professions act.
46.72A.150	Cooperative agreements with cities with populations of five hundred thousand or more—Enforcement authority, limitations.
46.72A.160	Limousine carriers account.

**46.72A.010 Finding and intent.** The legislature finds and declares that privately operated limousine transportation service is a vital part of the transportation system within the state and provides prearranged transportation services to state residents, tourists, and out-of-state business people. Consequently, the safety, reliability, and stability of privately operated limousine transportation services are matters of statewide importance. The regulation of privately operated limousine transportation services is thus an essential governmental function. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to permit the department and a port district in a county with a population of one million or more to regulate limousine transportation services without liability under federal antitrust laws. It is further the intent of the legislature to authorize a city with a population of five hundred thousand or more to enforce this chapter through a joint agreement with the department, and to direct the department to provide

annual funding from limousine regulation-related fees that provide sufficient funds to such a city to provide delegated enforcement. [2011 c 374 § 1; 1996 c 87 § 4.]

**Effective date—2011 c 374 §§ 1-12:** "Sections 1 through 12 of this act take effect January 1, 2012." [2011 c 374 § 15.]

**Report by internal work group on issuance of chauffeur licenses—2011 c 374:** See note following RCW 46.72A.090.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.72A.020 Engagement of and fares for carrier services—Service records—Carrier information—Penalties—Rules.** (1) Contact by a customer or customer's agent to engage the services of a carrier's limousine must be initiated by a customer or customer's agent at a time and place different from the customer's time and place of departure. The fare for service must be agreed upon prior to departure. Under no circumstances may customers or customers' agents make arrangements to immediately engage the services of a carrier's limousine with the chauffeur, even if the chauffeur is an owner or officer of the company, with the single exception of stand-hail limousines only at a facility owned and operated by a port district in a county with a population of one million or more that are licensed and restricted by the rules and policies set forth by the port district.

(2) At the time of the conduct of the commercial limousine business, the chauffeur of a limousine and the limousine carrier business must possess written or electronic records substantiating the prearrangement of the carrier's services for any customer carried for compensation, except for vehicles meeting the requirements of the exception for stand-hail limousines described in subsection (1) of this section. Limousine carriers and limousine chauffeurs operating as an independent business must list a physical address on their master business license where records substantiating the prearrangement of the carrier's services may be reviewed by an enforcement officer. A limousine carrier must retain these records for a minimum of one calendar year, and failure to do so is a class 3 civil infraction against the carrier for each record that is missing or fails to include all of the information described in rules adopted under subsection (4) of this section.

(3) Limousine carriers and limousine chauffeurs operating as an independent business must list a telephone or pager number that is used to prearrange the carrier's services for any customer carried for compensation.

(4) The department shall adopt rules specifying the content and retention schedule of the records required for compliance with subsection (2) of this section.

(5) The failure of a chauffeur who is operating a limousine to immediately provide, on demand by an enforcement officer, written or electronic records required by the department substantiating the prearrangement of the carrier's services for any customer carried for compensation, except for limousines meeting the requirements of the exception for stand-hail limousines described in subsection (1) of this section, is a class 2 civil infraction and is subject to monetary penalties under RCW 7.80.120. It is a class 1 civil infraction for a repeat offense under this subsection during the same calendar year.

(6) The department shall define by rule conditions under which a chauffeur is considered to be operating a limousine,



including when the limousine is parked in a designated passenger load zone. [2011 c 374 § 2; 1996 c 87 § 5.]

**Effective date—2011 c 374 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.72A.010.

**Report by internal work group on issuance of chauffeur licenses—2011 c 374:** See note following RCW 46.72A.090.

**46.72A.030 Regulation—Inspection—Fees—Penalties.** (1) The department, in conjunction with the Washington state patrol, shall regulate limousine carriers with respect to entry, safety of equipment, chauffeur qualifications, and operations. The department shall adopt rules and require such reports as are necessary to carry out this chapter. The department may develop penalties for failure to comply with this section.

(2) In addition, a port district in a county with a population of one million or more may regulate limousine carriers with respect to entry, safety of equipment, chauffeur qualifications, and operations. The county in which the port district is located may adopt ordinances and rules to assist the port district in enforcement of limousine regulations only at port facilities. In no event may this be construed to grant the county the authority to regulate limousines within its jurisdiction. The port district may not set limousine rates, but the limousine carriers shall file their rates and schedules with the port district if requested.

(3) The department, a port district in a county with a population of at least one million, or a county in which the port district is located may enter into cooperative agreements for the joint regulation of limousines.

(4) The department and a city with a population of five hundred thousand or more may enter into cooperative agreements as provided in RCW 46.72A.150, subject to the limitations set forth in RCW 46.72A.130.

(5) The Washington state patrol shall annually conduct a vehicle inspection of each limousine licensed under this chapter, except when a port district, or a city with a population of five hundred thousand or more, enforces limousine carrier regulations under subsection (2) or (4) of this section, that port district or county in which the port district is located, or a city with a population of five hundred thousand or more, may conduct the annual limousine vehicle inspection and random limousine vehicle inspections in conjunction with limousine regulation enforcement activities, provided that the inspection criteria and fees are substantially the same regardless of the authority conducting the inspection. Random limousine vehicle inspections may not be conducted while the limousine contains customers. The state patrol, the city, or the port district conducting the annual limousine vehicle inspection may impose an annual vehicle inspection fee and reinspection fee. A carrier must pay a reinspection fee if a limousine fails inspection for compliance with vehicle standards and is reinspected. If the limousine passes the first reinspection within thirty days of failing the original inspection, all of the reinspection fee must be refunded to the carrier. However, refunds are not available for subsequent reinspections. While a limousine is licensed by the department for commercial limousine use, failure to comply with vehicle inspection standards, established by the department by rule, is a class 3 civil infraction against the carrier, with monetary penalties against the carrier as specified in RCW 7.80.120,

for each violation of a safety requirement. It is a class 4 civil infraction for each violation of other vehicle standards, with monetary penalties against the carrier as specified in RCW 7.80.120, and the limousine vehicle certificate must be summarily suspended until safety violations of vehicle standards are corrected and the limousine is reinspected. [2011 c 374 § 3; 1996 c 87 § 6.]

**Effective date—2011 c 374 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.72A.010.

**Report by internal work group on issuance of chauffeur licenses—2011 c 374:** See note following RCW 46.72A.090.

**46.72A.040 State preemption—Exceptions.** Except when a port district regulates limousine carriers under RCW 46.72A.030 or a city with a population of five hundred thousand or more is authorized under RCW 46.72A.150 to enforce state laws or rules applicable to limousine carriers, limousines, and chauffeurs, subject to the limitations set forth in RCW 46.72A.150, the state of Washington fully occupies and preempts the entire field of regulation over limousine carriers as regulated by this chapter. Cities, towns, and counties or other municipalities may enact only those laws and ordinances relating to limousine carriers that are consistent with this chapter. [2011 c 374 § 4; 1996 c 87 § 7.]

**Effective date—2011 c 374 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.72A.010.

**Report by internal work group on issuance of chauffeur licenses—2011 c 374:** See note following RCW 46.72A.090.

**46.72A.050 Registration—Carrier license, vehicle certificates required—Rules—Penalty.** (1) No limousine carrier may operate a limousine upon the highways of this state without first being properly registered as a business in Washington and having been issued a unified business identifier.

(2) In addition, a limousine carrier shall obtain from the department a limousine carrier license for the business and a limousine vehicle certificate for each limousine operated by the carrier. The limousine carrier license and limousine vehicle certificates must be renewed through the department annually or as may be required by the department. The department shall establish by rule the procedure for obtaining, and the fees for, the limousine carrier license and limousine vehicle certificate. It is a class 1 civil infraction, with monetary penalties against the carrier as specified in RCW 7.80.120, for each day that a limousine is operated without a valid limousine carrier license or valid limousine vehicle certificate required under this subsection. [2011 c 374 § 5; 1996 c 87 § 8.]

**Effective date—2011 c 374 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.72A.010.

**Report by internal work group on issuance of chauffeur licenses—2011 c 374:** See note following RCW 46.72A.090.

**46.72A.053 Certificate suspension or revocation—Failure to pay industrial insurance premiums—Rules—Cooperative agreements.** (1) A business license and vehicle certificate issued pursuant to RCW 46.72A.050 must be suspended or revoked and must not be renewed in the event of failure to pay the mandatory for hire vehicle operator industrial insurance premium as charged by the department of labor and industries under RCW 51.12.183 and 51.16.240.

(2)(a) A limousine and its chauffeur must have evidence of payment in good standing with the department of labor and industries of the for hire vehicle operator industrial insurance premium, whenever the limousine is operated on public streets and highways for compensation.

(b) Failure to produce evidence of payment of the for hire vehicle insurance premium upon demand by a law enforcement officer or other government agent acting under the authority of this chapter is a civil infraction punishable by a fine of not more than two hundred fifty dollars per infraction separately upon both the limousine vehicle owner and the limousine chauffeur if they are not one and the same.

(3) Business license and vehicle certificate suspension or revocation and the administration thereof for failure to pay the mandatory industrial insurance premium must be at the direction and expense of the department of labor and industries.

(4) The department of labor and industries and the department of licensing may adopt rules and enter into cooperative agreements to implement this section. [2011 c 190 § 6.]

**Effective date—2011 c 190:** See note following RCW 51.12.180.

**46.72A.060 Insurance—Amount—Penalty.** (1) The department shall require limousine carriers to obtain and continue in effect, liability and property damage insurance from a company licensed to sell liability insurance in this state for each limousine used to transport persons for compensation.

(2) The department shall fix by rule coverages and limits, and prohibit provisions that limit coverage, for the insurance policy or policies, giving consideration to the character and amount of traffic, the number of persons affected, and the degree of danger that the proposed operation involves. The limousine carrier must maintain the liability and property damage insurance in force on each limousine while licensed by the department.

(3) Failure to file and maintain in effect the insurance required under this section is a gross misdemeanor and the limousine vehicle certificate must be summarily suspended. It is a class 1 civil infraction, with monetary penalties against the carrier as specified in RCW 7.80.120, for each day that a carrier operates a limousine with a summarily suspended limousine vehicle certificate. [2011 c 374 § 6; 2003 c 53 § 251; 1996 c 87 § 9.]

**Effective date—2011 c 374 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.72A.010.

**Report by internal work group on issuance of chauffeur licenses—2011 c 374:** See note following RCW 46.72A.090.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**46.72A.070 Vehicle certificates—Issuance of new or duplicate certificate—Penalty.** (1) If the limousine carrier substitutes a liability and property damage insurance policy after a vehicle certificate has been issued, a new vehicle certificate is required. The limousine carrier shall submit the substituted policy to the department for approval, together with a fee. If the department approves the substituted policy, the department shall issue a new vehicle certificate.

(2) If a vehicle certificate has been lost, destroyed, or stolen, a duplicate vehicle certificate may be obtained by filing an affidavit of loss and paying a fee.

(3)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, a limousine carrier who operates a vehicle without first having received a vehicle certificate as required by this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) A second or subsequent offense is a gross misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 252; 1996 c 87 § 10.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**46.72A.080 Advertising—Penalties.** (1) No limousine carrier may advertise without listing the carrier's unified business identifier issued by the department in the advertisement and specifying the type of service offered as provided in RCW 46.04.274. No limousine carrier may advertise or hold itself out to the public as providing taxicab transportation services.

(2) All advertising, contracts, correspondence, cards, signs, posters, papers, and documents that show a limousine carrier's name or address shall list the carrier's unified business identifier and the type of service offered. The alphabetized listing of limousine carriers appearing in the advertising sections of telephone books or other directories and all advertising that shows the carrier's name or address must show the carrier's current unified business identifier.

(3) Advertising in the alphabetical listing in a telephone directory need not contain the carrier's certified business identifier.

(4) It is a violation, subject to a fine of up to five thousand dollars per violation, for a person to (a) falsify a unified business identifier or use a false or inaccurate unified business identifier; (b) fail to specify the type of service offered; (c) advertise or otherwise hold itself out to the public as providing taxicab transportation services in connection with a solicitation or identification as an authorized limousine carrier; or (d) conduct commercial limousine business without a valid limousine carrier license or valid limousine vehicle certificate as required under this chapter, unless licensed as a charter party carrier under chapter 81.70 RCW.

(5) If the basis for the violation is advertising, each advertisement reproduced, broadcast, or displayed via a particular medium constitutes a separate violation.

(6) In deciding the amount of penalty to be imposed per violation, the department shall consider the following factors:

(a) The carrier's willingness to comply with the department's rules under this chapter; and

(b) The carrier's history with respect to compliance with this section.

(7) It is a class 1 civil infraction, with monetary penalties against the chauffeur as specified in RCW 7.80.120, for a chauffeur to:

(a) Solicit or assign customers directly or through a third party for immediate, nonprearranged limousine service pick up as described in RCW 46.72A.020(1); or

(b) Offer payment to a third party to solicit customers for limousine service pick up without current copies of a written contract regarding such services on file at the third party's business. Copies of the current written contract must be stored and made available on both the third party's and lim-

ousine carrier's business premises. Limousine vehicles engaged in the services detailed in the contract must carry a certificate verifying existence of a current contract between the parties. The certificate must contain a general description of the agreement, including initial and expiration dates. A written contract may not allow for immediate, nonprearranged limousine service pick up.

(8) It is a class 1 civil infraction, with monetary penalties against the individual as specified in RCW 7.80.120, for an individual to:

(a) Accept payment to solicit or assign customers on the behalf of a chauffeur for immediate, nonprearranged limousine service pick up as described in RCW 46.72A.020(1); or

(b) Accept payment to solicit customers for limousine service pick up without current copies of a written contract regarding such services on file at the third party's business. Copies of the current written contract must be stored and made available on the third party's business premises and in any limousine engaged in the services detailed in the contract. A written contract may not allow for immediate, nonprearranged limousine service pick up. [2011 c 374 § 7; 1997 c 193 § 1; 1996 c 87 § 11.]

**Effective date—2011 c 374 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.72A.010.

**Report by internal work group on issuance of chauffeur licenses—2011 c 374:** See note following RCW 46.72A.090.

**46.72A.090 Chauffeurs—Criteria for, physical exams.** (1) The limousine carrier shall, before a chauffeur operates a limousine, provide proof in a form approved by the department to the appropriate regulating authority that each chauffeur hired to operate a limousine meets the following criteria administered or monitored by the department or an authority approved by the department: (a) Is at least twenty-one years of age; (b) holds a valid Washington state driver's license; (c) has successfully completed a training course approved by the department; (d) has successfully passed a written examination which, to the greatest extent practicable, the department must administer in the applicant's language of preference; (e) has successfully completed a background check performed by the Washington state patrol or a credentialing authority approved by the department that meets standards adopted by rule by the department; (f) has passed an initial test and is participating in a random testing program designed to detect the presence of any controlled substances determined by the department; (g) has a satisfactory driving record that meets moving accident and moving violation conviction standards adopted by rule by the department; and (h) has submitted a medical certificate certifying the individual's fitness as a chauffeur. Upon initial application and every two years thereafter, a chauffeur must file a physician's certification with the limousine carrier validating the individual's fitness to drive a limousine. The department shall determine by rule the scope of the examination and standards for denial based upon the chauffeur's physical examination. The director may require a chauffeur to undergo an additional controlled substance test or physical examination if the chauffeur has failed a controlled substance test or his or her physical fitness has been called into question.

(2) The limousine carrier shall keep on file and make available for inspection all documents required by this section. [2011 c 374 § 8; 1996 c 87 § 12.]

**Report by internal work group on issuance of chauffeur licenses—2011 c 374:** "The department of licensing shall convene an internal work group regarding the issuance of chauffeur licenses. The department shall provide a report on its recommendations on this issue to the transportation committees of the legislature by November 15, 2012." [2011 c 374 § 13.]

**Effective date—2011 c 374 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.72A.010.

**46.72A.100 Unprofessional conduct—Sanctions—Chauffeur.** The director may impose any of the sanctions specified in RCW 18.235.110 for unprofessional conduct as described in RCW 18.235.130 or if one of the following is true of a chauffeur hired to drive a limousine, including where such a chauffeur is also the carrier: (1) The person has been convicted of an offense of such a nature as to indicate that he or she is unfit to qualify as a chauffeur; (2) the person is guilty of committing an offense for which mandatory revocation of a driver's license is provided by law; (3) the person has been convicted of vehicular homicide or vehicular assault; (4) the person is intemperate or addicted to narcotics; or (5) the person, while participating in a random testing program designed to detect the presence of any controlled substances determined by the department under RCW 46.72A.090, is found to have taken one of the controlled substances determined by the department without a valid and current prescription from a licensed physician. [2011 c 374 § 9; 2002 c 86 § 295; 1996 c 87 § 13.]

**Effective date—2011 c 374 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.72A.010.

**Report by internal work group on issuance of chauffeur licenses—2011 c 374:** See note following RCW 46.72A.090.

**Effective dates—2002 c 86:** See note following RCW 18.08.340.

**Part headings not law—Severability—2002 c 86:** See RCW 18.235.902 and 18.235.903.

**46.72A.110 Deposit of fees.** The department must transmit all license and vehicle certificate fees received under this chapter, together with a proper identifying report, to the state treasurer to be deposited by the state treasurer in the highway safety fund. Appropriations from the highway safety fund will support expenses incurred in carrying out the licensing and regulatory activities of this chapter. [2011 c 298 § 28; 1996 c 87 § 14.]

**Purpose—Intent—Agency transfer—Contracting—Effective date—2011 c 289:** See notes following RCW 19.02.020.

**46.72A.120 Rules and fees.** The department may adopt and enforce such rules, including the setting of fees, as may be consistent with and necessary to carry out this chapter. The fees must approximate the cost of administration. Any fee related to limousine vehicle certificates must not exceed seventy-five dollars. Any fee related to a limousine carrier license for a business must not exceed three hundred fifty dollars. Any fee related to limousine vehicle inspections must not exceed twenty-five dollars. [2011 c 374 § 10; 1996 c 87 § 15.]

**Effective date—2011 c 374 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.72A.010.

**Report by internal work group on issuance of chauffeur licenses—2011 c 374:** See note following RCW 46.72A.090.

**46.72A.130 Continued operation of existing limousines.** A vehicle operated as a limousine under \*chapter 81.90 RCW before April 1, 1996, may continue to operate as a limousine even though it may not meet the definition of limousine in RCW 46.04.274 as long as the owner is the same as the registered owner on April 1, 1996, and the vehicle and limousine carrier otherwise comply with this chapter. [1996 c 87 § 16.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Chapter 81.90 RCW was repealed by 1996 c 87 § 23.

**46.72A.140 Uniform regulation of business and professions act.** The uniform regulation of business and professions act, chapter 18.235 RCW, governs unlicensed practice, the issuance and denial of licenses, and the discipline of licensees under this chapter by the department. [2011 c 374 § 11; 2002 c 86 § 296.]

**Effective date—2011 c 374 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.72A.010.

**Report by internal work group on issuance of chauffeur licenses—2011 c 374:** See note following RCW 46.72A.090.

**Effective dates—2002 c 86:** See note following RCW 18.08.340.

**Part headings not law—Severability—2002 c 86:** See RCW 18.235.902 and 18.235.903.

**46.72A.150 Cooperative agreements with cities with populations of five hundred thousand or more—Enforcement authority, limitations.** (1) The department may enter into cooperative agreements with cities with populations of five hundred thousand or more for the purpose of enforcing state laws or rules applicable to limousine carriers and chauffeurs. This power to enforce includes the right to adopt local limousine laws by city ordinance that are consistent with this chapter and the right to impose monetary penalties by civil infraction as provided in this chapter.

(2) In addition, the following specific authority and limitations to city enforcement must be included:

(a) City enforcement officers may conduct street enforcement activity consistent with this chapter;

(b) City enforcement officers may conduct inspections of limousines to verify compliance with limousine standards adopted by rule by the department and, if the carrier requests, conduct annual limousine vehicle inspections in lieu of an inspection conducted by the Washington state patrol. The city may receive all limousine inspection or reinspection fees for inspections conducted by city enforcement officers;

(c) A city may require that any limousine carrier dispatching a limousine to pick up passengers within the incorporated area of the city to maintain on file with the city insurance documents that meet the requirements adopted by rule by the department. The city may issue civil infractions to carriers and summarily suspend limousine vehicle certificates for failure to maintain on file valid insurance documents with the city.

(3) A cooperative agreement with the department for delegated enforcement must specify the schedule and amount of funds derived from limousine carrier license, limousine vehicle certificate, and chauffeur license fee revenue to be provided to the city to allow the city to provide the agreed upon

level of enforcement. In addition, the cooperative agreement must restrict the fee revenue use by a city to the costs of enforcing state laws or rules applicable to limousine carriers and chauffeurs. [2011 c 374 § 12.]

**Effective date—2011 c 374 §§ 1-12:** See note following RCW 46.72A.010.

**Report by internal work group on issuance of chauffeur licenses—2011 c 374:** See note following RCW 46.72A.090.

**46.72A.160 Limousine carriers account.** (1) The limousine carriers account is created in the state treasury. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all receipts from each civil infraction and violation imposed by this chapter must be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account must be spent only after appropriation.

(2) Expenditures from the account may be used only for regulation and enforcement under this chapter, including regulation and enforcement through a cooperative agreement as described in RCW 46.72A.150. [2011 c 374 § 14.]

**Effective date—2011 c 374 § 14:** "Section 14 of this act takes effect July 1, 2012." [2011 c 374 § 16.]

**Report by internal work group on issuance of chauffeur licenses—2011 c 374:** See note following RCW 46.72A.090.

## Chapter 46.73 RCW

### PRIVATE CARRIER DRIVERS

#### Sections

- 46.73.010 Qualifications and hours of service.
- 46.73.020 Federal funds as necessary condition.
- 46.73.030 Penalty.

**Rules of court:** *Monetary penalty schedule—IRLJ 6.2.*

**46.73.010 Qualifications and hours of service.** The Washington state patrol may adopt rules establishing standards for qualifications and hours of service of drivers for private carriers as defined by \*RCW 81.80.010(6). Such standards shall correlate with and, as far as reasonable, conform to the regulations contained in Title 49 C.F.R., Chapter 3, Subchapter B, Parts 391 and 395, on July 28, 1985. [2005 c 319 § 120; 1985 c 333 § 1.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Due to the alphabetization of RCW 81.80.010 pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k), subsection (6) was changed to subsection (9).

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**46.73.020 Federal funds as necessary condition.** The delegation of rule-making authority contained in RCW 46.73.010 is conditioned upon the continued receipt of federal funds or grants for the support of state enforcement of such rules. Within ninety days of finding that federal funds or grants are withdrawn or not renewed, the Washington state patrol and the Washington utilities and transportation commission shall repeal any and all rules adopted under RCW 46.73.010. [1985 c 333 § 2.]

**46.73.030 Penalty.** A violation of any rule adopted by the Washington state patrol under RCW 46.73.010 is a traffic infraction. [1985 c 333 § 3.]

## Chapter 46.74 RCW RIDE SHARING

### Sections

- 46.74.010 Definitions.  
46.74.020 Exclusion from for hire vehicle laws.  
46.74.030 Operators.

*Acquisition and disposal of vehicle for commuter ride sharing by city employees: RCW 35.21.810.*

*Public utility tax exemption: RCW 82.16.047.*

*State-owned vehicles used for commuter ride sharing: RCW 43.41.130.*

**46.74.010 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section shall apply throughout this chapter, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(1) "Commuter ride sharing" means a car pool or van pool arrangement whereby one or more fixed groups not exceeding fifteen persons each including the drivers, and (a) not fewer than five persons including the drivers, or (b) not fewer than four persons including the drivers where at least two of those persons are confined to wheelchairs when riding, are transported in a passenger motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight not exceeding ten thousand pounds, excluding special rider equipment, between their places of abode or termini near such places, and their places of employment or educational or other institutions, each group in a single daily round trip where the drivers are also on the way to or from their places of employment or educational or other institution.

(2) "Flexible commuter ride sharing" means a car pool or van pool arrangement whereby a group of at least two but not exceeding fifteen persons including the driver is transported in a passenger motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight not exceeding ten thousand pounds, excluding special rider equipment, between their places of abode or termini near such places, and their places of employment or educational or other institutions, where the driver is also on the way to or from his or her place of employment or educational or other institution.

(3) "Persons with special transportation needs" means those persons defined in \*RCW 81.66.010(4).

(4) "Ride sharing for persons with special transportation needs" means an arrangement whereby a group of persons with special transportation needs, and their attendants, is transported by a public social service agency or a private, nonprofit transportation provider, as defined in \*RCW 81.66.010(3), serving persons with special needs, in a passenger motor vehicle as defined by the department to include small buses, cutaways, and modified vans not more than twenty-eight feet long: PROVIDED, That the driver need not be a person with special transportation needs.

(5) "Ride-sharing operator" means the person, entity, or concern, not necessarily the driver, responsible for the existence and continuance of commuter ride sharing, flexible commuter ride sharing, or ride sharing for persons with special transportation needs. The term "ride-sharing operator" includes but is not limited to an employer, an employer's agent, an employer-organized association, a state agency, a county, a city, a public transportation benefit area, or any other political subdivision that owns or leases a ride-sharing vehicle.

(6) "Ride-sharing promotional activities" means those activities involved in forming a commuter ride-sharing arrangement or a flexible commuter ride-sharing arrangement, including but not limited to receiving information from existing and prospective ride-sharing participants, sharing that information with other existing and prospective ride-sharing participants, matching those persons with other existing or prospective ride-sharing participants, and making assignments of persons to ride-sharing arrangements. [2009 c 557 § 5. Prior: 1997 c 250 § 8; 1997 c 95 § 1; 1996 c 244 § 2; 1979 c 111 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 81.66.010 was alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k), changing subsections (3) and (4) to subsections (4) and (3), respectively.

(2) The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.74.020 Exclusion from for hire vehicle laws.** Ride-sharing vehicles are not deemed for hire vehicles and do not fall within the provisions of chapter 46.72 RCW or any other provision of Title 46 RCW affecting for hire vehicles, whether or not the ride-sharing operator receives compensation. [1979 c 111 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.74.030 Operators.** The operator and the driver of a commuter ride-sharing vehicle or a flexible commuter ride-sharing vehicle shall be held to a reasonable and ordinary standard of care, and are not subject to ordinances or regulations which relate exclusively to the regulation of drivers or owners of motor vehicles operated for hire, or other common carriers or public transit carriers. No person, entity, or concern may, as a result of engaging in ride-sharing promotional activities, be liable for civil damages arising directly or indirectly (1) from the maintenance and operation of a commuter ride-sharing or flexible commuter ride-sharing vehicle; or (2) from an intentional act of another person who is participating or proposing to participate in a commuter ride-sharing or flexible commuter ride-sharing arrangement, unless the ride-sharing operator or promoter had prior, actual knowledge that the intentional act was likely to occur and had a reasonable ability to prevent the act from occurring. [1997 c 250 § 9; 1996 c 244 § 3; 1979 c 111 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 46.76 RCW MOTOR VEHICLE TRANSPORTERS

### Sections

- 46.76.010 License required—Exceptions—"Driveaway or towaway methods" defined.  
46.76.020 Application for license.  
46.76.030 Issuance of license—Plates.  
46.76.040 License and plate fees.  
46.76.050 Expiration, renewal—Fee.  
46.76.055 Staggering renewal periods.  
46.76.060 Display of plates—Nontransferability.  
46.76.065 Grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation of license.  
46.76.067 Compliance with chapter 81.80 RCW.  
46.76.070 Rules.  
46.76.080 Penalty.

**46.76.010 License required—Exceptions—"Driveaway or towaway methods" defined.** It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, association, or corporation to engage in the business of delivering by the driveaway or towaway methods vehicles not his or her own and of a type required to be registered under the laws of this state, without procuring a transporter's license in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

This shall not apply to motor freight carriers or operations regularly licensed under the provisions of chapter 81.80 RCW to haul such vehicles on trailers or semitrailers.

Driveaway or towaway methods means the delivery service rendered by a motor vehicle transporter wherein motor vehicles are driven singly or in combinations by the towbar, saddlemount or fullmount methods or any lawful combinations thereof, or where a truck or truck tractor draws or tows a semitrailer or trailer. [2010 c 8 § 9092; 1961 c 12 § 46.76.010. Prior: 1957 c 107 § 1; 1953 c 155 § 1; 1947 c 97 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6382-75.]

**46.76.020 Application for license.** Application for a transporter's license shall be made on a form provided for that purpose by the director of licensing and when executed shall be forwarded to the director together with the proper fee. The application shall contain the name and address of the applicant, state whether or not the license will be used to provide towing services for monetary compensation as described in RCW 46.55.025 and, if so, whether or not the applicant is a registered tow truck operator, and contain other information as the director may require. [2008 c 19 § 1; 1979 c 158 § 189; 1967 c 32 § 91; 1961 c 12 § 46.76.020. Prior: 1947 c 97 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6382-76.]

**46.76.030 Issuance of license—Plates.** Upon receiving an application for transporter's license the director, if satisfied that the applicant is entitled thereto, shall issue a proper certificate of license registration and a distinctive set of license plates and shall transmit the fees obtained therefor with a proper identifying report to the state treasurer, who shall deposit such fees in the motor vehicle fund. The certificate of license registration and license plates issued by the director shall authorize the holder of the license to drive or tow any motor vehicle or trailers upon the public highways. [1967 c 32 § 92; 1961 c 12 § 46.76.030. Prior: 1947 c 97 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6382-77.]

**46.76.040 License and plate fees.** The fee for an original transporter's license is twenty-five dollars. Transporter license number plates bearing an appropriate symbol and serial number shall be attached to all vehicles being delivered in the conduct of the business licensed under this chapter. The plates may be obtained for a fee of two dollars for each set. [1990 c 250 § 68; 1961 c 12 § 46.76.040. Prior: 1957 c 107 § 2; 1947 c 97 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6382-78.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.76.050 Expiration, renewal—Fee.** A transporter's license expires on the date assigned by the director, and may be renewed by filing a proper application and paying an annual fee of fifteen dollars. [1985 c 109 § 3; 1961 c 12 §

46.76.050. Prior: 1947 c 97 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6382-79.]

**46.76.055 Staggering renewal periods.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the director may extend or diminish the licensing period of transporters for the purpose of staggering renewal periods. The extension or diminishment shall be by rule of the department adopted in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW. [1985 c 109 § 4.]

**46.76.060 Display of plates—Nontransferability.** Transporter's license plates shall be conspicuously displayed on all vehicles being delivered by the driveaway or towaway methods. These plates shall not be loaned to or used by any person other than the holder of the license or his or her employees. [2010 c 8 § 9093; 1961 c 12 § 46.76.060. Prior: 1957 c 107 § 3; 1947 c 97 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6382-80.]

**46.76.065 Grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation of license.** The following conduct shall be sufficient grounds pursuant to RCW 34.05.422 for the director or a designee to deny, suspend, or revoke the license of a motor vehicle transporter:

- (1) Using transporter plates for driveaway or towaway of any vehicle owned by such transporter;
- (2) Knowingly, as that term is defined in RCW 9A.08.010(1)(b), having possession of a stolen vehicle or a vehicle with a defaced, missing, or obliterated manufacturer's identification serial number;
- (3) Loaning transporter plates;
- (4) Using transporter plates for any purpose other than as provided under RCW 46.76.010; or
- (5) Violation of provisions of this chapter or of rules and regulations adopted relating to enforcement and proper operation of this chapter. [1977 ex.s. c 254 § 1.]

**46.76.067 Compliance with chapter 81.80 RCW.** (1) Any person or organization that transports any mobile home or other vehicle for hire shall comply with this chapter and chapter 81.80 RCW. Persons or organizations that do not have a valid permit or meet other requirements under chapter 81.80 RCW shall not be issued a transporter license or transporter plates to transport mobile homes or other vehicles. RCW 46.76.065(5) applies to persons or organizations that have transporter licenses or plates and do not meet the requirements of chapter 81.80 RCW.

(2) This section does not apply to mobile home manufacturers or dealers that are licensed and delivering the mobile home under chapter 46.70 RCW. [1988 c 239 § 4.]

**46.76.070 Rules.** The director may make any reasonable rules or regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter relating to the enforcement and proper operation of this chapter. [1967 c 32 § 93; 1961 c 12 § 46.76.070. Prior: 1947 c 97 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6382-81.]

**46.76.080 Penalty.** The violation of any provision of this chapter is a traffic infraction. In addition to any other penalty imposed upon a violator of the provisions of this chapter, the director may confiscate any transporter license plates used in connection with such violation. [1979 ex.s. c

136 § 96; 1961 c 12 § 46.76.080. Prior: 1947 c 97 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6382-82.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### Chapter 46.79 RCW

#### HULK HAULERS AND SCRAP PROCESSORS

##### Sections

46.79.010	Definitions.
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46.79.030	Application for license, renewal—Form—Signature—Contents.
46.79.040	Application forwarded with fees—Issuance of license—Disposition of fees—Display of license.
46.79.050	License expiration—Renewal fee—Surrender of license, when.
46.79.055	Staggering renewal periods.
46.79.060	Special license plates—Fee.
46.79.070	Acts subject to penalties.
46.79.080	Rules.
46.79.090	Inspection of premises and records—Certificate of inspection.
46.79.100	Other provisions to comply with chapter.
46.79.110	Chapter not to prohibit individual towing of vehicles to wreckers or processors.
46.79.120	Unlicensed hulk hauling or scrap processing—Penalty.
46.79.130	Wholesale motor vehicle auction dealers.

**46.79.010 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context indicates otherwise.

(1) "Junk vehicle" means a motor vehicle certified under RCW 46.55.230 as meeting all the following requirements:

- Is three years old or older;
- Is extensively damaged, such damage including but not limited to any of the following: A broken window or windshield or missing wheels, tires, motor, or transmission;
- Is apparently inoperable;
- Is without a valid, current registration plate;
- Has a fair market value equal only to the value of the scrap in it.

(2) "Scrap processor" means a licensed establishment that maintains a hydraulic baler and shears, or a shredder for recycling salvage.

(3) "Demolish" means to destroy completely by use of a hydraulic baler and shears, or a shredder.

(4) "Hulk hauler" means any person who deals in vehicles for the sole purpose of transporting and/or selling them to a licensed vehicle wrecker or scrap processor in substantially the same form in which they are obtained. A hulk hauler may not sell secondhand motor vehicle parts to anyone other than a licensed vehicle wrecker or scrap processor, except for those parts specifically enumerated in RCW 46.79.020(2), as now or hereafter amended, which may be sold to a licensed vehicle wrecker or disposed of at a public facility for waste disposal.

(5) "Director" means the director of licensing.

(6) "Major component parts" include engines and short blocks, frames, transmissions or transfer cases, cabs, doors, front or rear differentials, front or rear clips, quarter panels or fenders, bumpers, truck beds or boxes, seats, and hoods. [2001 c 64 § 10; 1990 c 250 § 69; 1983 c 142 § 2; 1979 c 158 § 190; 1971 ex.s. c 110 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.79.020 Transporting junk vehicles to scrap processor—Removal of parts, restrictions.** Any hulk hauler or scrap processor licensed under the provisions of this chapter may:

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, transport any flattened or junk vehicle whether such vehicle is from in state or out of state, to a scrap processor upon obtaining the certificate of title or release of interest from the owner or an affidavit of sale from the landowner who has complied with RCW 46.55.230. The scrap processor shall forward such document(s) to the department, together with a monthly report of all vehicles acquired from other than a licensed automobile wrecker, and no further identification shall be necessary.

(2) Prepare vehicles and vehicle salvage for transportation and delivery to a scrap processor or vehicle wrecker only by removing the following vehicle parts:

- Gas tanks;
- Vehicle seats containing springs;
- Tires;
- Wheels;
- Scrap batteries;
- Scrap radiators.

Such parts may not be removed if they will be accepted by a scrap processor or wrecker. Such parts may be removed only at a properly zoned location, and all preparation activity, vehicles, and vehicle parts shall be obscured from public view. Storage is limited to two vehicles or the parts thereof which are authorized by this subsection, and any such storage may take place only at a properly zoned location. Any vehicle parts removed under the authority of this subsection shall be lawfully disposed of at or through a public facility or service for waste disposal or by sale to a licensed vehicle wrecker. [2001 c 64 § 11; 1990 c 250 § 70; 1987 c 62 § 1; 1983 c 142 § 3; 1979 c 158 § 191; 1971 ex.s. c 110 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.79.030 Application for license, renewal—Form—Signature—Contents.** Application for a hulk hauler's license or a scrap processor's license or renewal of a hulk hauler's license or a scrap processor's license shall be made on a form for this purpose, furnished by the director, and shall be signed by the applicant or his or her authorized agent and shall include the following information:

(1) Name and address of the person, firm, partnership, association, or corporation under which name the business is to be conducted;

(2) Names and residence address of all persons having an interest in the business or, if the owner is a corporation, the names and addresses of the officers thereof;

(3) Certificate of approval of the chief of police of any city or town, wherever located, having a population of over five thousand persons and in all other instances a member of the state patrol certifying that the applicant can be found at the address shown on the application; and

(4) Any other information that the director may require. [2010 c 8 § 9094; 1971 ex.s. c 110 § 3.]

**46.79.040 Application forwarded with fees—Issuance of license—Disposition of fees—Display of license.** Application for a hulk hauler's license, together with a fee of

ten dollars, or application for a scrap processor's license, together with a fee of twenty-five dollars, shall be forwarded to the director. Upon receipt of the application the director shall, if the application be in order, issue the license applied for authorizing him or her to do business as such and forward the fee, together with an itemized and detailed report, to the state treasurer, to be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. Upon receiving the certificate the owner shall cause it to be prominently displayed at the address shown in his or her application, where it may be inspected by an investigating officer at any time. [2010 c 8 § 9095; 1971 ex.s. c 110 § 4.]

**46.79.050 License expiration—Renewal fee—Surrender of license, when.** A license issued pursuant to this chapter expires on the date assigned by the director, and may be renewed by filing a proper application and payment of a fee of ten dollars.

Whenever a hulk hauler or scrap processor ceases to do business or the license has been suspended or revoked, the license shall immediately be surrendered to the director. [1985 c 109 § 5; 1983 c 142 § 4; 1971 ex.s. c 110 § 5.]

**46.79.055 Staggering renewal periods.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the director may extend or diminish the licensing period of hulk haulers and scrap processors for the purpose of staggering renewal periods. The extension or diminishment shall be by rule of the department adopted in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW. [1985 c 109 § 6.]

**46.79.060 Special license plates—Fee.** The hulk hauler or scrap processor shall obtain a special set of license plates in addition to the regular licenses and plates required for the operation of vehicles owned and/or operated by him or her and used in the conduct of his or her business. Such special license shall be displayed on the operational vehicles and shall be in lieu of a trip permit or current license on any vehicle being transported. The fee for these plates shall be five dollars for the original plates and two dollars for each additional set of plates bearing the same license number. [2010 c 8 § 9096; 1971 ex.s. c 110 § 6.]

**46.79.070 Acts subject to penalties.** The director may by order pursuant to the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW, deny, suspend, or revoke the license of any hulk hauler or scrap processor or, in lieu thereof or in addition thereto, may by order assess monetary penalties of a civil nature not to exceed five hundred dollars per violation, whenever the director finds that the applicant or licensee:

(1) Removed a vehicle or vehicle major component part from property without obtaining both the written permission of the property owner and documentation approved by the department for acquiring vehicles, junk vehicles, or major component parts thereof;

(2) Acquired, disposed of, or possessed a vehicle or major component part thereof when he or she knew that such vehicle or part had been stolen or appropriated without the consent of the owner;

(3) Sold, bought, received, concealed, had in his or her possession, or disposed of a vehicle or major component part thereof having a missing, defaced, altered, or covered manu-

facturer's identification number, unless approved by a law enforcement officer;

(4) Committed forgery or made any material misrepresentation on any document relating to the acquisition, disposition, registration, titling, or licensing of a vehicle pursuant to Title 46 RCW;

(5) Committed any dishonest act or omission which has caused loss or serious inconvenience as a result of the acquisition or disposition of a vehicle or any major component part thereof;

(6) Failed to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter or other applicable law relating to registration and certificates of title of vehicles and any other document releasing any interest in a vehicle;

(7) Been authorized to remove a particular vehicle or vehicles and failed to take all remnants and debris from those vehicles from that area unless requested not to do so by the person authorizing the removal;

(8) Removed parts from a vehicle at other than an approved location or removed or sold parts or vehicles beyond the scope authorized by this chapter or any rule adopted hereunder;

(9) Been adjudged guilty of a crime which directly relates to the business of a hulk hauler or scrap processor and the time elapsed since the adjudication is less than five years. For the purposes of this section adjudged guilty means, in addition to a final conviction in either a federal, state, or municipal court, an unvacated forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure a defendant's appearance in court, the payment of a fine, a plea of guilty, or a finding of guilt regardless of whether the imposition of sentence is deferred or the penalty is suspended; or

(10) Been the holder of a license issued pursuant to this chapter which was revoked for cause and never reissued by the department, or which license was suspended for cause and the terms of the suspension have not been fulfilled, or which license was assessed a civil penalty and the assessed amount has not been paid. [1990 c 250 § 71; 1983 c 142 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 110 § 7.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.79.080 Rules.** The director is hereby authorized to promulgate and adopt reasonable rules and regulations not in conflict with provisions hereof for the proper operation and enforcement of this chapter. [1971 ex.s. c 110 § 8.]

**46.79.090 Inspection of premises and records—Certificate of inspection.** It shall be the duty of the chiefs of police, or the Washington state patrol, in cities having a population of over five thousand persons, and in all other cases the Washington state patrol, to make periodic inspection of the hulk hauler's or scrap processor's premises and records provided for in this chapter, and furnish a certificate of inspection to the director in such manner as may be determined by the director: PROVIDED, That the above inspection in any instance can be made by an authorized representative of the department.

The department is hereby authorized to enlist the services and cooperation of any law enforcement officer or state agency of another state to inspect the premises of any hulk hauler or scrap processor whose established place of business



is in that other state but who is licensed to transport automobile hulks within Washington state. [1983 c 142 § 6; 1971 ex.s. c 110 § 9.]

**46.79.100 Other provisions to comply with chapter.**

Any municipality or political subdivision of this state which now has or subsequently makes provision for the regulation of hulk haulers or scrap processors shall comply strictly with the provisions of this chapter. [1971 ex.s. c 110 § 10.]

**46.79.110 Chapter not to prohibit individual towing of vehicles to wreckers or processors.** Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit any individual not engaged in business as a hulk hauler or scrap processor from towing any vehicle owned by him or her to any vehicle wrecker or scrap processor. [2001 c 64 § 12; 1983 c 142 § 7; 1971 ex.s. c 110 § 11.]

**46.79.120 Unlicensed hulk hauling or scrap processing—Penalty.** Any hulk hauler or scrap processor who engages in the business of hulk hauling or scrap processing without holding a current license issued by the department for authorization to do so, or, holding such a license, exceeds the authority granted by that license, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1983 c 142 § 8.]

**46.79.130 Wholesale motor vehicle auction dealers.**

- (1) A wholesale motor vehicle auction dealer may:
- (a) Sell any classification of motor vehicle;
  - (b) Sell only to motor vehicle dealers and vehicle wreckers licensed under Title 46 RCW by the state of Washington or licensed by any other state; or
  - (c) Sell a motor vehicle belonging to the United States government, the state of Washington, or a political subdivision to nonlicensed persons as may be required by the contracting public agency. However, a publicly owned "wrecked vehicle" as defined in RCW 46.80.010 may be sold to motor vehicle dealers and vehicle wreckers licensed under Title 46 RCW by the state of Washington or licensed by any other state.
- (2) If the wholesale motor vehicle auction dealer knows that a vehicle is a "wrecked vehicle" as defined by RCW 46.80.010, the dealer must disclose this fact on the bill of sale. [1998 c 282 § 4.]

**Chapter 46.80 RCW  
VEHICLE WRECKERS**

Sections

46.80.005	Legislative declaration.
46.80.010	Definitions.
46.80.020	License required—Penalty.
46.80.030	Application for license—Contents.
46.80.040	Issuance of license—Fee.
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46.80.070	Bond.
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46.80.090	Reports to department—Evidence of ownership.
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46.80.110	License penalties, civil fines, criminal penalties.
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46.80.200	Wholesale motor vehicle auction dealers.
46.80.900	Liberal construction.

*Hulk haulers and scrap processors: Chapter 46.79 RCW.*

**46.80.005 Legislative declaration.** The legislature finds and declares that the distribution and sale of vehicle parts in the state of Washington vitally affects the general economy of the state and the public interest and the public welfare, and that in order to promote the public interest and the public welfare and in the exercise of its police power, it is necessary to regulate and license vehicle wreckers and dismantlers, the buyers-for-resale, and the sellers of secondhand vehicle components doing business in Washington, in order to prevent the sale of stolen vehicle parts, to prevent frauds, impositions, and other abuses, and to preserve the investments and properties of the citizens of this state. [1995 c 256 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 253 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.80.010 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Core" means a major component part received by a vehicle wrecker in exchange for a like part sold by the vehicle wrecker, is not resold as a major component part except for scrap metal value or for remanufacture, and the vehicle wrecker maintains records for three years from the date of acquisition to identify the name of the person from whom the core was received.

(2) "Established place of business" means a building or enclosure which the vehicle wrecker occupies either continuously or at regular periods and where his or her books and records are kept and business is transacted and which must conform with zoning regulations.

(3) "Interim owner" means the owner of a vehicle who has the original certificate of title for the vehicle, which certificate has been released by the person named on the certificate and assigned to the person offering to sell the vehicle to the wrecker.

(4) "Major component part" includes at least each of the following vehicle parts: (a) Engines and short blocks; (b) frame; (c) transmission and/or transfer case; (d) cab; (e) door; (f) front or rear differential; (g) front or rear clip; (h) quarter panel; (i) truck bed or box; (j) seat; (k) hood; (l) bumper; (m) fender; and (n) airbag. The director may supplement this list by rule.

(5) "Vehicle wrecker" means every person, firm, partnership, association, or corporation engaged in the business of buying, selling, or dealing in vehicles of a type required to be registered under the laws of this state, for the purpose of wrecking, dismantling, disassembling, or substantially changing the form of a vehicle, or who buys or sells integral secondhand parts of component material thereof, in whole or in part, or who deals in secondhand vehicle parts.

(6) "Wrecked vehicle" means a vehicle which is disassembled or dismantled or a vehicle which is acquired with the intent to dismantle or disassemble and never again to operate as a vehicle, or a vehicle which has sustained such damage that its cost to repair exceeds the fair market value of a like

vehicle which has not sustained such damage, or a damaged vehicle whose salvage value plus cost to repair equals or exceeds its fair market value, if repaired, or a vehicle which has sustained such damage or deterioration that it may not lawfully operate upon the highways of this state for which the salvage value plus cost to repair exceeds its fair market value, if repaired; further, it is presumed that a vehicle is a wreck if it has sustained such damage or deterioration that it may not lawfully operate upon the highways of this state. [2010 c 161 § 1138; 2010 c 8 § 9097; 1999 c 278 § 1; 1995 c 256 § 4; 1977 ex.s. c 253 § 2; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.010. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-40.]

**Reviser's note:** (1) The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

(2) This section was amended by 2010 c 8 § 9097 and by 2010 c 161 § 1138, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.80.020 License required—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for a person to engage in the business of wrecking vehicles without having first applied for and received a license.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, a person or firm engaged in the unlawful activity described in this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(b) A second or subsequent offense is a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 253; 1995 c 256 § 5; 1979 c 158 § 192; 1977 ex.s. c 253 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 7 § 1; 1967 c 32 § 94; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.020. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-41.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.80.030 Application for license—Contents.** Application for a vehicle wrecker's license or renewal of a vehicle wrecker's license shall be made on a form for this purpose, furnished by the department of licensing, and shall be signed by the vehicle wrecker or his or her authorized agent and shall include the following information:

(1) Name and address of the person, firm, partnership, association, or corporation under which name the business is to be conducted;

(2) Names and residence address of all persons having an interest in the business or, if the owner is a corporation, the names and addresses of the officers thereof;

(3) Certificate of approval of the chief of police of any city or town having a population of over five thousand persons and in all other instances a member of the Washington state patrol certifying that:

(a) The applicant has an established place of business at the address shown on the application; and

(b) In the case of a renewal of a vehicle wrecker's license, the applicant is in compliance with this chapter and the provisions of Title 46 RCW, relating to registration and certificates of title: PROVIDED, That the above certifications in any instance can be made by an authorized representative of the department of licensing;

(4) Any other information that the department may require. [2010 c 8 § 9098; 2001 c 64 § 13; 1990 c 250 § 72; 1979 c 158 § 193; 1977 ex.s. c 253 § 4; 1971 ex.s. c 7 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 13 § 1; 1967 c 32 § 95; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.030. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-42.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.80.040 Issuance of license—Fee.** The application, together with a fee of twenty-five dollars, and a surety bond as provided in RCW 46.80.070, shall be forwarded to the department. Upon receipt of the application the department shall, if the application is in order, issue a vehicle wrecker's license authorizing the wrecker to do business as such and forward the fee to the state treasurer, to be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. Upon receiving the certificate the owner shall cause it to be prominently displayed in the place of business, where it may be inspected by an investigating officer at any time. [1995 c 256 § 6; 1971 ex.s. c 7 § 3; 1967 c 32 § 96; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.040. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-43.]

**46.80.050 Expiration, renewal—Fee.** A license issued on this application remains in force until suspended or revoked and may be renewed annually upon reapplication according to RCW 46.80.030 and upon payment of a fee of ten dollars. A vehicle wrecker who fails or neglects to renew the license before the assigned expiration date shall pay the fee for an original vehicle wrecker license as provided in this chapter.

Whenever a vehicle wrecker ceases to do business as such or the license has been suspended or revoked, the wrecker shall immediately surrender the license to the department. [1995 c 256 § 7; 1985 c 109 § 7; 1971 ex.s. c 7 § 4; 1967 ex.s. c 13 § 2; 1967 c 32 § 97; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.050. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-44.]

**46.80.060 License plates—Fee—Display.** The vehicle wrecker shall obtain a special set of license plates in addition to the regular licenses and plates required for the operation of such vehicles. The special plates must be displayed on vehicles owned and/or operated by the wrecker and used in the conduct of the business. The fee for these plates shall be five dollars for the original plates and two dollars for each additional set of plates bearing the same license number. A wrecker with more than one licensed location in the state may use special plates bearing the same license number for vehicles operated out of any of the licensed locations. [1995 c 256 § 8; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.060. Prior: 1957 c 273 § 21; 1947 c 262 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-45.]

**46.80.070 Bond.** Before issuing a vehicle wrecker's license, the department shall require the applicant to file with the department a surety bond in the amount of one thousand dollars, running to the state of Washington and executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the state of Washington. The bond shall be approved as to form by the attorney general and conditioned upon the wrecker conducting the business in conformity with the provisions of this chapter. Any person who has suffered any loss or damage by reason of fraud, carelessness, neglect, violation of the terms of this chapter, or misrepresentation on the part of the wreck-

ing company, may institute an action for recovery against the vehicle wrecker and surety upon the bond. However, the aggregate liability of the surety to all persons shall in no event exceed the amount of the bond. [1995 c 256 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 253 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 7 § 5; 1967 c 32 § 98; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.070. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-46.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.80.080 Records—Penalty.** (1) Every vehicle wrecker shall maintain books or files in which the wrecker shall keep a record and a description of:

(a) Every vehicle wrecked, dismantled, disassembled, or substantially altered by the wrecker; and

(b) Every major component part acquired by the wrecker; together with a bill of sale signed by a seller whose identity has been verified and the name and address of the person, firm, or corporation from whom the wrecker purchased the vehicle or part. Major component parts other than cores shall be further identified by the vehicle identification number of the vehicle from which the part came.

(2) The record shall also contain the following data regarding the wrecked or acquired vehicle or vehicle that is the source of a major component part other than a core:

(a) The certificate of title number (if previously titled in this or any other state);

(b) Name of state where last registered;

(c) Number of the last license number plate issued;

(d) Name of vehicle;

(e) Motor or identification number and serial number of the vehicle;

(f) Date purchased;

(g) Disposition of the motor and chassis;

(h) Yard number assigned by the licensee to the vehicle or major component part, which shall also appear on the identified vehicle or part; and

(i) Such other information as the department may require.

(3) The records shall also contain a bill of sale signed by the seller for other minor component parts acquired by the licensee, identifying the seller by name, address, and date of sale.

(4) The records shall be maintained by the licensee at his or her established place of business for a period of three years from the date of acquisition.

(5) The record is subject to inspection at all times during regular business hours by members of the police department, sheriff's office, members of the Washington state patrol, or officers or employees of the department.

(6) A vehicle wrecker shall also maintain a similar record of all disabled vehicles that have been towed or transported to the vehicle wrecker's place of business or to other places designated by the owner of the vehicle or his or her representative. This record shall specify the name and description of the vehicle, name of owner, number of license plate, condition of the vehicle and place to which it was towed or transported.

(7) Failure to comply with this section is a gross misdemeanor. [1999 c 278 § 2; 1995 c 256 § 10; 1977 ex.s. c 253 § 6; 1971 ex.s. c 7 § 6; 1967 c 32 § 99; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.080. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-47.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.80.090 Reports to department—Evidence of ownership.** Within thirty days after acquiring a vehicle, the vehicle wrecker shall furnish a written report to the department. This report shall be in such form as the department shall prescribe and shall be accompanied by evidence of ownership as determined by the department. No vehicle wrecker may acquire a vehicle, including a vehicle from an interim owner, without first obtaining evidence of ownership as determined by the department. For a vehicle from an interim owner, the evidence of ownership may not require that a title be issued in the name of the interim owner as required by RCW 46.12.650. The vehicle wrecker shall furnish a monthly report of all acquired vehicles. This report shall be made on forms prescribed by the department and contain such information as the department may require. This statement shall be signed by the vehicle wrecker or an authorized representative and the facts therein sworn to before a notary public, or before an officer or employee of the department designated by the director to administer oaths or acknowledge signatures, pursuant to RCW 46.01.180. [2010 c 161 § 1139; 1999 c 278 § 3; 1995 c 256 § 11; 1979 c 158 § 194; 1977 ex.s. c 253 § 7; 1971 ex.s. c 7 § 7; 1967 c 32 § 100; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.090. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 9; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-48.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.80.100 Cancellation of bond.** If, after issuing a vehicle wrecker's license, the bond is canceled by the surety in a method provided by law, the department shall immediately notify the principal covered by the bond and afford the principal the opportunity of obtaining another bond before the termination of the original. If the principal fails, neglects, or refuses to obtain a replacement, the director may cancel or suspend the vehicle wrecker's license. Notice of cancellation of the bond may be accomplished by sending a notice by first-class mail using the last known address in department records for the principal covered by the bond and recording the transmittal on an affidavit of first-class mail. [1995 c 256 § 12; 1977 ex.s. c 253 § 8; 1967 c 32 § 101; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.100. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 10; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-49.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.80.110 License penalties, civil fines, criminal penalties.** (1) The director or a designee may, pursuant to the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW, by order deny, suspend, or revoke the license of a vehicle wrecker, or assess a civil fine of up to five hundred dollars for each violation, if the director finds that the applicant or licensee has:

(a) Acquired a vehicle or major component part other than by first obtaining title or other documentation as provided by this chapter;

(b) Willfully misrepresented the physical condition of any motor or integral part of a vehicle;

(c) Sold, had in the wrecker's possession, or disposed of a vehicle or any part thereof when he or she knows that the

vehicle or part has been stolen, or appropriated without the consent of the owner;

(d) Sold, bought, received, concealed, had in the wrecker's possession, or disposed of a vehicle or part thereof having a missing, defaced, altered, or covered manufacturer's identification number, unless approved by a law enforcement officer;

(e) Committed forgery or misstated a material fact on any title, registration, or other document covering a vehicle that has been reassembled from parts obtained from the disassembling of other vehicles;

(f) Committed any dishonest act or omission that the director has reason to believe has caused loss or serious inconvenience as a result of a sale of a vehicle or part thereof;

(g) Failed to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter or with any of the rules adopted under it, or with any of the provisions of Title 46 RCW relating to registration and certificates of title of vehicles;

(h) Procured a license fraudulently or dishonestly;

(i) Been convicted of a crime that directly relates to the business of a vehicle wrecker and the time elapsed since conviction is less than ten years, or suffered any judgment within the preceding five years in any civil action involving fraud, misrepresentation, or conversion. For the purposes of this section, conviction means in addition to a final conviction in either a federal, state, or municipal court, an unvacated forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure a defendant's appearance in court, the payment of a fine, a plea of guilty, or a finding of guilt regardless of whether the sentence is deferred or the penalty is suspended.

(2) In addition to actions by the department under this section, it is a gross misdemeanor to violate subsection (1)(a), (b), or (h) of this section. [1995 c 256 § 13; 1989 c 337 § 17; 1977 ex.s. c 253 § 9; 1971 ex.s. c 7 § 8; 1967 ex.s. c 13 § 3; 1967 c 32 § 102; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.110. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-50.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.80.121 False or unqualified applications.** If a person whose vehicle wrecker license has previously been canceled for cause by the department files an application for a license to conduct business as a vehicle wrecker, or if the department is of the opinion that the application is not filed in good faith or that the application is filed by some person as a subterfuge for the real person in interest whose license has previously been canceled for cause, the department may refuse to issue the person a license to conduct business as a vehicle wrecker. [1995 c 256 § 14.]

**46.80.130 All storage at place of business—Screening required—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for a vehicle wrecker to keep a vehicle or any integral part thereof in any place other than the established place of business, designated in the certificate issued by the department, without permission of the department.

(2) All premises containing vehicles or parts thereof shall be enclosed by a wall or fence of such height as to obscure the nature of the business carried on therein. To the extent reasonably necessary or permitted by the topography of the land, the department may establish specifications or standards for the fence or wall. The wall or fence shall be

painted or stained a neutral shade that blends in with the surrounding premises, and the wall or fence must be kept in good repair. A living hedge of sufficient density to prevent a view of the confined area may be substituted for such a wall or fence. Any dead or dying portion of the hedge shall be replaced.

(3) Violation of subsection (1) of this section is a gross misdemeanor. [1995 c 256 § 15; 1971 ex.s. c 7 § 9; 1967 ex.s. c 13 § 4; 1967 c 32 § 103; 1965 c 117 § 1; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.130. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 13; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-52.]

**46.80.140 Rules.** The director is hereby authorized to promulgate and adopt reasonable rules and regulations not in conflict with provisions hereof for the proper operation and enforcement of this chapter. [1967 c 32 § 104; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.140. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 14; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-53.]

**46.80.150 Inspection of licensed premises and records.** It shall be the duty of the chiefs of police, or the Washington state patrol, in cities having a population of over five thousand persons, and in all other cases the Washington state patrol, to make periodic inspection of the vehicle wrecker's licensed premises and records provided for in this chapter during normal business hours, and furnish a certificate of inspection to the department in such manner as may be determined by the department. In any instance, an authorized representative of the department may make the inspection. [1995 c 256 § 16; 1983 c 142 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 253 § 10; 1971 ex.s. c 7 § 10; 1967 ex.s. c 13 § 5; 1967 c 32 § 105; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.150. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 15; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-54.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.80.160 Municipal compliance.** Any municipality or political subdivision of this state that now has or subsequently makes provision for the regulation of vehicle wreckers shall comply strictly with the provisions of this chapter. [1995 c 256 § 17; 1961 c 12 § 46.80.160. Prior: 1947 c 262 § 16; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8326-55.]

**46.80.170 Violations—Penalties.** Unless otherwise provided by law, it is a misdemeanor for any person to violate any of the provisions of this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter. [1995 c 256 § 18; 1977 ex.s. c 253 § 11.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.80.180 Cease and desist orders—Fines.** (1) If it appears to the director that an unlicensed person has engaged in an act or practice constituting a violation of this chapter, or a rule adopted or an order issued under this chapter, the director may issue an order directing the person to cease and desist from continuing the act or practice. The director shall give the person reasonable notice of and opportunity for a hearing. The director may issue a temporary order pending a hearing. The temporary order remains in effect until ten days after the hearing is held and becomes final if the person to whom the

notice is addressed does not request a hearing within fifteen days after receipt of the notice.

(2) The director may assess a fine of up to one thousand dollars with the final order for each act or practice constituting a violation of this chapter by an unlicensed person. [1995 c 256 § 19.]

**46.80.190 Subpoenas.** (1) The department of licensing or its authorized agent may examine or subpoena any persons, books, papers, records, data, vehicles, or vehicle parts bearing upon the investigation or proceeding under this chapter.

(2) The persons subpoenaed may be required to testify and produce any books, papers, records, data, vehicles, or vehicle parts that the director deems relevant or material to the inquiry.

(3) The director or an authorized agent may administer an oath to the person required to testify, and a person giving false testimony after the administration of the oath is guilty of perjury in the first degree under RCW 9A.72.020.

(4) A court of competent jurisdiction may, upon application by the director, issue to a person who fails to comply, an order to appear before the director or officer designated by the director, to produce documentary or other evidence touching the matter under investigation or in question. [2003 c 53 § 254; 1995 c 256 § 20.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**46.80.200 Wholesale motor vehicle auction dealers.**

(1) A wholesale motor vehicle auction dealer may:

- (a) Sell any classification of motor vehicle;
- (b) Sell only to motor vehicle dealers and vehicle wreckers licensed under Title 46 RCW by the state of Washington or licensed by any other state; or
- (c) Sell a motor vehicle belonging to the United States government, the state of Washington, or a political subdivision to nonlicensed persons as may be required by the contracting public agency. However, a publicly owned "wrecked vehicle" may be sold to motor vehicle dealers and vehicle wreckers licensed under Title 46 RCW by the state of Washington or licensed by any other state.

(2) If the wholesale motor vehicle auction dealer knows that a vehicle is a "wrecked vehicle," the dealer must disclose this fact on the bill of sale. [1998 c 282 § 6.]

**46.80.900 Liberal construction.** The provisions of this chapter shall be liberally construed to the end that traffic in stolen vehicle parts may be prevented, and irresponsible, unreliable, or dishonest persons may be prevented from engaging in the business of wrecking vehicles or selling used vehicle parts in this state and reliable persons may be encouraged to engage in businesses of wrecking or reselling vehicle parts in this state. [1995 c 256 § 21; 1977 ex.s. c 253 § 13.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**Chapter 46.81A RCW**

**MOTORCYCLE SKILLS EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Sections

46.81A.001 Purpose.

[Title 46 RCW—page 362]

46.81A.010 Definitions.  
46.81A.020 Powers and duties of director, department.  
46.81A.030 Deposit of gifts.  
46.81A.900 Severability—1988 c 227.

**46.81A.001 Purpose.** It is the purpose of this chapter to provide the motorcycle riders of the state with an affordable motorcycle skills education program in order to promote motorcycle safety awareness. [1988 c 227 § 1.]

**46.81A.010 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Motorcycle skills education program" means a motorcycle rider skills training program to be administered by the department.

(2) "Department" means the department of licensing.

(3) "Director" means the director of licensing.

(4) "Motorcycle" means a motor vehicle designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, on which the driver rides astride the motor unit or power train and is designed to be steered with a handlebar, but excluding farm tractors, electric personal assistive mobility devices, mopeds, motorized foot scooters, motorized bicycles, and off-road motorcycles. [2003 c 353 § 11; 2003 c 41 § 4; 1988 c 227 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2003 c 41 § 4 and by 2003 c 353 § 11, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2003 c 353:** See note following RCW 46.04.320.

**Short title—Effective date—2003 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.500.

**46.81A.020 Powers and duties of director, department.** (1) The director shall administer and enforce the law pertaining to the motorcycle skills education program as set forth in this chapter.

(2) The director may adopt and enforce reasonable rules that are consistent with this chapter.

(3) The director shall revise the Washington motorcycle safety program to:

(a) Institute separate novice and advanced motorcycle skills education courses for both two-wheeled and three-wheeled motorcycles that are each a minimum of eight hours and no more than sixteen hours at a cost of (i) no more than fifty dollars for Washington state residents under the age of eighteen, and (ii) no more than one hundred twenty-five dollars for Washington state residents who are eighteen years of age or older and military personnel of any age stationed in Washington state;

(b) Encourage the use of loaned or used motorcycles for use in the motorcycle skills education course if the instructor approves them;

(c) Require all instructors for two-wheeled motorcycles to conduct at least three classes in a one-year period, and all instructors for three-wheeled motorcycles to conduct at least one class in a one-year period, to maintain their teaching eligibility.

(4) The department may enter into agreements to review and certify that a private motorcycle skills education course meets educational standards equivalent to those required of courses conducted under the motorcycle skills education pro-

gram. An agreement entered into under this subsection must provide that the department may conduct periodic audits to ensure that educational standards continue to meet those required for courses conducted under the motorcycle skills education program, and that the costs of the review, certification, and audit process will be borne by the party seeking certification.

(5) The department shall obtain and compile information from applicants for a motorcycle endorsement regarding whether they have completed a state approved or certified motorcycle skills education course. [2007 c 97 § 2; 2003 c 41 § 5; 2002 c 197 § 2; 1998 c 245 § 91; 1993 c 115 § 2; 1988 c 227 § 3.]

**Short title—Effective date—2003 c 41:** See notes following RCW 46.20.500.

**46.81A.030 Deposit of gifts.** The director may receive gifts, grants, or endowments from private sources which shall be deposited in the motorcycle safety [education] account within the highway safety fund. [1988 c 227 § 4.]

*Motorcycle safety education account: RCW 46.68.065.*

**46.81A.900 Severability—1988 c 227.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1988 c 227 § 8.]

**Chapter 46.82 RCW  
DRIVER TRAINING SCHOOLS**

Sections

46.82.280	Definitions.
46.82.285	Application of uniform regulation of business and professions act.
46.82.290	Administration of chapter—Adoption of rules.
46.82.300	Driver instructors' advisory committee.
46.82.310	School licenses—Insurance.
46.82.320	Instructor's license.
46.82.325	Background checks for school personnel.
46.82.330	Instructor's license—Application—Requirements.
46.82.340	Duplicate license certificates.
46.82.350	Suspension, revocation, or denial of licenses—Causes enumerated.
46.82.360	Suspension, revocation, or denial of licenses—Failure to comply with specified business practices.
46.82.370	Suspension, revocation, or denial of licenses—Appeal of action—Emergency suspension—Hearing, notice and procedure.
46.82.380	Appeal from action or decision of director.
46.82.390	Penalty.
46.82.400	Chapter not applicable to educational institutions.
46.82.410	Disposition of moneys collected.
46.82.420	Basic minimum required curriculum—Revocation of license for failure to teach.
46.82.430	Instructional material requirements.
46.82.440	Military training or experience.
46.82.441	Spouses of military personnel—Licensure.
46.82.450	Administration of knowledge and driving portions of driver licensing examination—Rules—Department oversight authority.
46.82.900	Severability—1979 ex.s. c 51.

**46.82.280 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Behind-the-wheel instruction" means instruction in an approved driver training school instruction vehicle according to and inclusive of the minimum required curriculum.

Behind-the-wheel instruction is characterized by driving experience.

(2) "Classroom" means a space dedicated to and used exclusively by a driver training instructor for the instruction of students. With prior department approval, a branch office classroom may be located within alternative facilities, such as a public or private library, school, community college, college or university, or a business training facility.

(3) "Classroom instruction" means that portion of a traffic safety education course that is characterized by classroom-based student instruction conducted by or under the direct supervision of a licensed instructor or licensed instructors.

(4) "Director" means the director of the department of licensing of the state of Washington.

(5) "Driver training education course" means a course of instruction in traffic safety education approved and licensed by the department of licensing that consists of classroom and behind-the-wheel instruction as documented by the minimum approved curriculum.

(6) "Driver training school" means a commercial driver training school engaged in the business of giving instruction, for a fee, in the operation of automobiles.

(7) "Enrollment" means the collecting of a fee or the signing of a contract for a driver training education course. "Enrollment" does not include the collecting of names and contact information for enrolling students once a driver training school is licensed to instruct.

(8) "Fraudulent practices" means any conduct or representation on the part of a driver training school owner or instructor including:

(a) Inducing anyone to believe, or to give the impression, that a license to operate a motor vehicle or any other license granted by the director may be obtained by any means other than those prescribed by law, or furnishing or obtaining the same by illegal or improper means, or requesting, accepting, or collecting money for such purposes;

(b) Operating a driver training school without a license, providing instruction without an instructor's license, verifying enrollment prior to being licensed, misleading or false statements on applications for a commercial driver training school license or instructor's license or on any required records or supporting documentation;

(c) Failing to fully document and maintain all required driver training school records of instruction, school operation, and instructor training;

(d) Issuing a driver training course certificate without requiring completion of the necessary behind-the-wheel and classroom instruction.

(9) "Instructor" means any person employed by or otherwise associated with a driver training school to instruct persons in the operation of an automobile.

(10) "Owner" means an individual, partnership, corporation, association, or other person or group that holds a substantial interest in a driver training school.

(11) "Person" means any individual, firm, corporation, partnership, or association.

(12) "Place of business" means a designated location at which the business of a driver training school is transacted or its records are kept.

(13) "Student" means any person enrolled in an approved driver training course.

(14) "Substantial interest holder" means a person who has actual or potential influence over the management or operation of any driver training school. Evidence of substantial interest includes, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:

(a) Directly or indirectly owning, operating, managing, or controlling a driver training school or any part of a driver training school;

(b) Directly or indirectly profiting from or assuming liability for debts of a driver training school;

(c) Is an officer or director of a driver training school;

(d) Owning ten percent or more of any class of stock in a privately or closely held corporate driver training school, or five percent or more of any class of stock in a publicly traded corporate driver training school;

(e) Furnishing ten percent or more of the capital, whether in cash, goods, or services, for the operation of a driver training school during any calendar year; or

(f) Directly or indirectly receiving a salary, commission, royalties, or other form of compensation from the activity in which a driver training school is or seeks to be engaged. [2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 19; 2009 c 101 § 1; 2006 c 219 § 2; 1986 c 80 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 51 § 1.]

**Effective date—2010 1st sp.s. c 26; 2010 1st sp.s. c 7:** See note following RCW 43.03.027.

**Effective date—2006 c 219:** See note following RCW 46.82.285.

**46.82.285 Application of uniform regulation of business and professions act.** The uniform regulation of business and professions act, chapter 18.235 RCW, governs unlicensed practice, the issuance and denial of licenses, and the discipline of licensees under this chapter. [2006 c 219 § 1.]

**Effective date—2006 c 219:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 24, 2006]." [2006 c 219 § 15.]

**46.82.290 Administration of chapter—Adoption of rules.** (1) The director shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of the law pertaining to driver training schools as set forth in this chapter.

(2) The director is authorized to adopt and enforce such reasonable rules as may be consistent with and necessary to carry out this chapter. [1979 ex.s. c 51 § 2.]

**46.82.300 Driver instructors' advisory committee.**

**Reviser's note:** RCW 46.82.300 was amended by 2010 c 8 § 9099 without reference to its repeal by 2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 20. It has been declassified for publication purposes under RCW 1.12.025.

**46.82.310 School licenses—Insurance.** (1) No person shall engage in the business of conducting a driver training school without a license issued by the director for that purpose. The school's license must be displayed before the school may:

(a) Schedule, enroll, or engage any students in a course of instruction;

(b) Issue a verification of enrollment to any student; or

(c) Begin any classroom or behind-the-wheel instruction.

(2) An application for a driver training school license shall be filed with the director, containing such information as prescribed by the director, including a uniform business identifier number, accompanied by an application fee as set by rule of the department, which shall in no event be refunded. Before an application for a driver training school license is approved, the business practices, facilities, records, vehicles, and insurance of the proposed school must be inspected and reviewed by authorized representatives of the director. If an application is approved by the director, the applicant shall be granted a license valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance.

(3) A driver training school may apply for a license to establish a branch office or branch classroom by filing an application with the director, containing such information as prescribed by the director, accompanied by an application fee as set by rule of the department, which shall in no event be refunded. Before an application for a license to establish a branch office or branch classroom is approved, the business practices, facilities, records, vehicles, and insurance of the proposed branch location must be inspected and reviewed by authorized representatives of the director. If an application is approved by the director, the applicant shall be granted a license valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance.

(4) The annual fee for renewal of a school or branch location license shall be set by rule of the department. Subject to the department's inspection of the business, the director shall issue a license certificate to each licensee which shall be conspicuously displayed in the place of business of the licensee. If the director has not received a renewal application postmarked on or before the date a license expires the license will be marked late. If the renewal application and fee are not received within thirty days after expiration of the license, the license will be void requiring a new application as provided for in this chapter, including payment of all fees. Instruction may not be given beyond the thirty days from the expiration of the license.

(5) The person to whom a driver training school license has been issued must notify the director in writing within ten business days after any change is made in the officers, directors, or location of the place of business of the school.

(6) Except as otherwise permitted by rule of the department, a change involving the ownership of a driver training school requires a new license application, including payment of all fees.

(a) The owner relinquishing the business must notify the director in writing within ten business days.

(b) The new owner must submit an application and fee as prescribed by rule of the department for transfer of the school's license to the director within ten business days.

(c) Upon receipt of the required notification and the application and fees for license transfer, the director shall permit continuance of the business for a period not to exceed sixty days from the date of transfer pending approval of the new application for a school license.

(d) The transferred license shall remain subject to suspension, revocation, or denial in accordance with RCW 46.82.350 and 46.82.360.

(7) Evidence of liability insurance coverage for the instruction vehicles and the building premises of the driver

training school must be filed with the director prior to the issuance or renewal of a school license, and shall meet the following standards:

(a) Coverage must be provided by a company authorized to do business in Washington state;

(b) Automobile liability coverage shall be in the amount of not less than one million dollars, and shall include property damage and uninsured motorists coverage;

(c) The required coverage shall be maintained in full force and effect for the term of the school license;

(d) Changes in insurance coverage due to cancellation or expiration require notification of the director and proof of continuing coverage within ten working days following any change; and

(e) Coverage shall be issued in the name of the school and identify the covered locations and vehicles. [2009 c 101 § 3; 2006 c 219 § 4; 2002 c 352 § 24; 1979 ex.s. c 51 § 4.]

**Effective date—2006 c 219:** See note following RCW 46.82.285.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

**46.82.320 Instructor's license.** (1) No person affiliated with a driver training school shall give instruction in the operation of an automobile for a fee without a license issued by the director for that purpose. An application for an original or renewal instructor's license shall be filed with the director, containing such information as prescribed by this chapter and by the director, accompanied by an application fee set by rule of the department, which shall in no event be refunded. An application for a renewal instructor's license must be accompanied by proof of the applicant's continuing professional development that meets the standards adopted by the director. If the applicant satisfactorily meets the application requirements and the examination requirements as prescribed in RCW 46.82.330, the applicant shall be granted a license valid for a period of two years from the date of issuance.

(2) The director shall issue a license certificate to each qualified applicant.

(a) An employing driver training school must conspicuously display an instructor's license at its established place of business and display copies of the instructor's license at any branch office where the instructor provides instruction.

(b) Unless revoked, canceled, or denied by the director, the license shall remain the property of the licensee in the event of termination of employment or employment by another driver training school.

(c) If the director has not received a renewal application on or before the date a license expires, the license will be voided requiring a new application as provided for in this chapter, including examination and payment of all fees.

(d) If revoked, canceled, or denied by the director, the license must be surrendered to the department within ten days following the effective date of such action.

(3) Each licensee shall be provided with a wallet-size identification card by the director at the time the license is issued which shall be in the instructor's immediate possession at all times while engaged in instructing.

(4) The person to whom an instructor's license has been issued shall notify the director in writing within ten days of any change of employment or termination of employment, providing the name and address of the new driver training school by whom the instructor will be employed. [2009 c 101

§ 4; 2006 c 219 § 5; 2002 c 352 § 25; 1989 c 337 § 18; 1986 c 80 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 51 § 5.]

**Effective date—2006 c 219:** See note following RCW 46.82.285.

**Effective dates—2002 c 352:** See note following RCW 46.09.410.

#### **46.82.325 Background checks for school personnel.**

(1) Instructors, owners, and other persons affiliated with a school who have regularly scheduled, unsupervised contact with students are required to have a background check through the Washington state patrol criminal identification system and through the federal bureau of investigation. The background check shall also include a fingerprint check using a fingerprint card. Persons covered by this section must have their background rechecked under this subsection every five years.

(2) In addition to the background check required under subsection (1) of this section, persons covered by this section must have a background check through the Washington criminal identification system at the time of application for any renewal license.

(3) The cost of the background check shall be paid by the person. [2009 c 101 § 5; 2006 c 219 § 6; 2002 c 195 § 4.]

**Effective date—2006 c 219:** See note following RCW 46.82.285.

**46.82.330 Instructor's license—Application—Requirements.** (1) The application for an instructor's license shall document the applicant's fitness, knowledge, skills, and abilities to teach the classroom and behind-the-wheel phases of a driver training education program in a commercial driver training school.

(2) An applicant shall be eligible to apply for an original instructor's certificate if the applicant possesses and meets the following qualifications and conditions:

(a) Has been licensed to drive for five or more years and possesses a current and valid Washington driver's license or is a resident of a jurisdiction immediately adjacent to Washington state and possesses a current and valid license issued by such jurisdiction, and does not have on his or her driving record any of the violations or penalties set forth in (a)(i), (ii), or (iii) of this subsection. The director shall have the right to examine the driving record of the applicant from the department of licensing and from other jurisdictions and from these records determine if the applicant has had:

(i) Not more than one moving traffic violation within the preceding twelve months or more than two moving traffic violations in the preceding twenty-four months;

(ii) No drug or alcohol-related traffic violation or incident within the preceding three years. If there are two or more drug or alcohol-related traffic violations in the applicant's driving history, the applicant is no longer eligible to be a driving instructor; and

(iii) No driver's license suspension, cancellation, revocation, or denial within the preceding two years, or no more than two of these occurrences in the preceding five years;

(b) Is a high school graduate or the equivalent and at least twenty-one years of age;

(c) Has completed an acceptable application on a form prescribed by the director;

(d) Has satisfactorily completed a course of instruction in the training of drivers acceptable to the director that is no less than sixty hours in length and includes instruction in



classroom and behind-the-wheel teaching methods and supervised practice behind-the-wheel teaching of driving techniques; and

(e) Has paid an examination fee as set by rule of the department and has successfully completed an instructor's examination. [2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 21; 2009 c 101 § 6; 2006 c 219 § 7; 1979 ex.s. c 51 § 6.]

**Effective date—2010 1st sp.s. c 26; 2010 1st sp.s. c 7:** See note following RCW 43.03.027.

**Effective date—2006 c 219:** See note following RCW 46.82.285.

**46.82.340 Duplicate license certificates.** In case of the loss, mutilation, or destruction of a driver training school license certificate or an instructor's license certificate, the director shall issue a duplicate thereof upon proof of the facts and payment of a fee as set by rule of the department. [2006 c 219 § 8; 1979 ex.s. c 51 § 7.]

**Effective date—2006 c 219:** See note following RCW 46.82.285.

**46.82.350 Suspension, revocation, or denial of licenses—Causes enumerated.** The director may suspend, revoke, deny, or refuse to renew an instructor's license or a driver training school license, or impose such other disciplinary action authorized under RCW 18.235.110, upon determination that the applicant, licensee, or owner has engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by RCW 18.235.130 or for any of the following causes:

(1) Upon determination that the licensee has made a false statement or concealed any material fact in connection with the application or license renewal;

(2) Upon determination that the applicant, licensee, owner, or any person directly or indirectly interested in the driver training school's business has been convicted of a felony, or any crime involving violence, dishonesty, deceit, indecency, degeneracy, or moral turpitude;

(3) Upon determination that the applicant, licensee, owner, or any person directly or indirectly interested in the driver training school's business previously held a driver training school license which was revoked, suspended, or refused renewal by the director;

(4) Upon determination that the applicant, licensee, or owner does not have an established place of business as required by this chapter;

(5) Upon determination that the applicant or licensee has failed to require all persons with financial interest in the driver training school to be signatories to the application;

(6) Upon determination that the applicant, licensee, or owner has committed fraud, induced another to commit fraud, or engaged in fraudulent practices in relation to the business conducted under the license, or has induced another to resort to fraud in relation to securing for himself, herself, or another a license to drive a motor vehicle;

(7) Upon determination that the applicant, licensee, or owner has engaged in conduct that could endanger the educational welfare or personal safety of students or others;

(8) Upon determination that a licensed instructor no longer possesses and meets the qualifications and conditions set out in RCW 46.82.330(2)(a); or

(9) Upon determination that the applicant, licensee or owner failed to satisfy or fails to satisfy the other conditions stated in this chapter. [2006 c 219 § 9; 1979 ex.s. c 51 § 8.]

**Effective date—2006 c 219:** See note following RCW 46.82.285.

**46.82.360 Suspension, revocation, or denial of licenses—Failure to comply with specified business practices.** The license of any driver training school or instructor may be suspended, revoked, denied, or refused renewal, or such other disciplinary action authorized under RCW 18.235.110 may be imposed, for failure to comply with the business practices specified in this section.

(1) No place of business shall be established nor any business of a driver training school conducted or solicited within one thousand feet of an office or building owned or leased by the department of licensing in which examinations for drivers' licenses are conducted. The distance of one thousand feet shall be measured along the public streets by the nearest route from the place of business to such building.

(2) Any automobile used by a driver training school or an instructor for instruction purposes must be equipped with:

(a) Dual controls for foot brake and clutch, or foot brake only in a vehicle equipped with an automatic transmission;

(b) An instructor's rear view mirror; and

(c) A sign in legible, printed English letters displayed on the back or top, or both, of the vehicle that:

(i) Is not less than twenty inches in horizontal width or less than ten inches in vertical height;

(ii) Has the words "student driver," "instruction car," or "driving school" in letters at least two and one-half inches in height near the top;

(iii) Has the name and telephone number of the school in similarly legible letters not less than one inch in height placed somewhere below the aforementioned words;

(iv) Has lettering and background colors that make it clearly readable at one hundred feet in clear daylight;

(v) Is displayed at all times when instruction is being given.

(3) Instruction may not be given by an instructor to a student who is under the age of fifteen, and behind-the-wheel instruction may not be given by an instructor to a student in an automobile unless the student possesses a current and valid instruction permit issued pursuant to RCW 46.20.055 or a current and valid driver's license.

(4) No driver training school or instructor shall advertise or otherwise indicate that the issuance of a driver's license is guaranteed or assured as a result of the course of instruction offered.

(5) No driver training school or instructor shall utilize any types of advertising without using the full, legal name of the school and identifying itself as a driver training school. Instruction vehicles and equipment, classrooms, driving simulators, training materials and services advertised must be available in a manner as might be expected by the average person reading the advertisement.

(6) A driver training school shall have an established place of business owned, rented, or leased by the school and regularly occupied and used exclusively for the business of giving driver instruction. The established place of business of a driver training school shall be located in a district that is zoned for business or commercial purposes or zoned for conditional use permits for schools, trade schools, or colleges. However, the use of public or private schools does not alleviate the driver training school from securing and maintaining

an established place of business or from using its own classroom on a regular basis as required under this chapter.

(a) The established place of business, branch office, or classroom or advertised address of any such driver training school shall not consist of or include a house trailer, residence, tent, temporary stand, temporary address, bus, telephone answering service if such service is the sole means of contacting the driver training school, a room or rooms in a hotel or rooming house or apartment house, or premises occupied by a single or multiple-unit dwelling house.

(b) A driver training school may lease classroom space within a public or private school that is recognized and regulated by the office of the superintendent of public instruction to conduct student instruction as approved by the director. However, such use of public or private classroom space does not alleviate the driver training school from securing and maintaining an established place of business nor from using its own classroom on a regular basis as required by this chapter.

(c) To classify as a branch office or classroom the facility must be within a thirty-five mile radius of the established place of business. The department may waive or extend the thirty-five mile restriction for driver training schools located in counties below the median population density.

(d) Nothing in this subsection may be construed as limiting the authority of local governments to grant conditional use permits or variances from zoning ordinances.

(7) No driver training school or instructor shall conduct any type of instruction or training on a course used by the department of licensing for testing applicants for a Washington driver's license.

(8) Each driver training school shall maintain its student, instructor, vehicle, insurance, and operating records at its established place of business.

(a) Student records must include the student's name, address, and telephone number, date of enrollment and all dates of instruction, the student's instruction permit or driver's license number, the type of training given, the total number of hours of instruction, and the name and signature of the instructor or instructors.

(b) Vehicle records shall include the original insurance policies and copies of the vehicle registration for all instructional vehicles.

(c) Student and instructor records shall be maintained for three years following the completion of the instruction. Vehicle records shall be maintained for five years following their issuance. All records shall be made available for inspection upon the request of the department.

(d) Upon a transfer or sale of school ownership the school records shall be transferred to and become the property and responsibility of the new owner.

(9) Each driver training school shall, at its established place of business, display, in a place where it can be seen by all clients, a copy of the required minimum curriculum furnished by the department and a copy of the school's own curriculum. Copies of the required minimum curriculum are to be provided to driver training schools and instructors by the director.

(10) Driver training schools and instructors shall submit to periodic inspections of their business practices, facilities, records, and insurance by authorized representatives of the

director of the department of licensing. [2009 c 101 § 7; 2006 c 219 § 10; 1989 c 337 § 19; 1979 ex.s. c 51 § 9.]

**Effective date—2006 c 219:** See note following RCW 46.82.285.

**46.82.370 Suspension, revocation, or denial of licenses—Appeal of action—Emergency suspension—Hearing, notice and procedure.** Upon notification of suspension, revocation, denial, or refusal to renew a license under this chapter, a driver training school or instructor shall have the right to appeal the action being taken. An appeal may be made to the director, who shall cause a hearing to be held in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW. Filing an appeal shall stay the action pending the hearing and the director's decision. Upon conclusion of the hearing, the director shall issue a decision on the appeal.

(1) A license may, however, be temporarily suspended by the director without notice pending any prosecution, investigation, or hearing where such emergency action is warranted. A licensee or applicant entitled to a hearing shall be given due notice thereof.

(2) The sending of a notice of a hearing by registered mail to the last known address of a licensee or applicant in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW shall be deemed due notice.

(3) The director or the director's authorized representative shall preside over the hearing and shall have the power to subpoena witnesses, administer oaths to witnesses, take testimony of any person, and cause depositions to be taken. A subpoena issued under the authority of this section shall be served in the same manner as a subpoena issued by a court of record. Witnesses subpoenaed under this section and persons other than officers or employees of the department of licensing shall be entitled to the same fees and mileage as are allowed in civil actions in courts of law. [2006 c 219 § 11; 1979 ex.s. c 51 § 10.]

**Effective date—2006 c 219:** See note following RCW 46.82.285.

**46.82.380 Appeal from action or decision of director.** Any action or decision of the director may, after a hearing is held as provided in this chapter, be appealed by the party aggrieved to the superior court of the county in which the place of business is located or where the aggrieved person resides. [1979 ex.s. c 51 § 11.]

**46.82.390 Penalty.** A violation of any provision of this chapter shall be a misdemeanor. [1979 ex.s. c 51 § 12.]

**Rules of court:** *Bail in criminal traffic offense cases—Mandatory appearance—CrRLJ 3.2.*

**46.82.400 Chapter not applicable to educational institutions.** This chapter shall not apply to or affect in any manner courses of instruction offered in high schools, vocational-technical schools, colleges, or universities which are now or hereafter established, nor shall it be applicable to instructors in any such high schools, vocational-technical schools, colleges, or universities: PROVIDED, That such course or courses are conducted by such schools in a like manner to their other regular courses. If such course is conducted by any commercial school as herein identified on a contractual basis, such school and instructors must qualify under this chapter. [1979 ex.s. c 51 § 13.]

**46.82.410 Disposition of moneys collected.** All moneys collected from driver training school licenses and instructor licenses shall be deposited in the highway safety fund. [1990 c 250 § 73; 1979 ex.s. c 51 § 14.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.82.420 Basic minimum required curriculum—Revocation of license for failure to teach.** (1) The department shall develop and maintain a basic minimum required curriculum and shall furnish to each qualifying applicant for an instructor's license or a driver training school license a copy of such curriculum.

(2) In addition to information on the safe, lawful, and responsible operation of motor vehicles on the state's highways, the basic minimum required curriculum shall include information on:

(a) Intermediate driver's license issuance, passenger and driving restrictions and sanctions for violating the restrictions, and the effect of traffic violations and collisions on the driving privileges;

(b) The effects of alcohol and drug use on motor vehicle operators, including information on drug and alcohol related traffic injury and mortality rates in the state of Washington and the current penalties for driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol;

(c) Motorcycle awareness, approved by the director, to ensure new operators of motor vehicles have been instructed in the importance of safely sharing the road with motorcyclists;

(d) Bicycle safety, to ensure that operators of motor vehicles have been instructed in the importance of safely sharing the road with bicyclists; and

(e) Pedestrian safety, to ensure that operators of motor vehicles have been instructed in the importance of safely sharing the road with pedestrians.

(3) Should the director be presented with acceptable proof that any licensed instructor or driver training school is not showing proper diligence in teaching such basic minimum curriculum as required, the instructor or school shall be required to appear before the director and show cause why the license of the instructor or school should not be revoked for such negligence. If the director does not accept such reasons as may be offered, the director may revoke the license of the instructor or school, or both. [2010 1st sp.s. c 7 § 22; 2008 c 125 § 3; 2007 c 97 § 3; 2006 c 219 § 12; 2004 c 126 § 2; 1991 c 217 § 3; 1979 ex.s. c 51 § 15.]

**Effective date—2010 1st sp.s. c 26; 2010 1st sp.s. c 7:** See note following RCW 43.03.027.

**Findings—2008 c 125:** "The legislature finds and declares that it is the policy of the state of Washington to encourage the safe and efficient use of the roads by all citizens, regardless of mode of transportation. In furtherance of this policy, the legislature further finds and declares that driver training programs should enhance the driver training curriculum in order to emphasize the importance of safely sharing the road with bicyclists and pedestrians." [2008 c 125 § 1.]

**Short title—2008 c 125:** "This act may be known and cited as the Matsuo Nakata act." [2008 c 125 § 2.]

**Effective date—2006 c 219:** See note following RCW 46.82.285.

**46.82.430 Instructional material requirements.** Instructional material used in driver training schools shall include information on the proper use of the left-hand lane by

motor vehicles on multilane highways and on bicyclists' and pedestrians' rights and responsibilities and suggested riding procedures in common traffic situations. [1998 c 165 § 6; 1986 c 93 § 5.]

*Keep right except when passing, etc.:* RCW 46.61.100.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.82.440 Military training or experience.** An applicant with military training or experience satisfies the training or experience requirements of this chapter unless the director determines that the military training or experience is not substantially equivalent to the standards of this state. [2011 c 351 § 19.]

**46.82.441 Spouses of military personnel—Licensure.** The director shall develop rules consistent with RCW 18.340.020 for the licensure of spouses of military personnel. [2011 2nd sp.s. c 5 § 6.]

**Implementation—2011 1st sp.s. c 5:** See note following RCW 18.340.010.

**46.82.450 Administration of knowledge and driving portions of driver licensing examination—Rules—Department oversight authority.** (1) Driver training schools may administer the portions of the driver licensing examination that test the applicant's knowledge of traffic laws and ability to safely operate a motor vehicle as authorized under RCW 46.20.120(6).

(2) The director shall adopt rules to regulate the administration of the knowledge and driving portions of the driver licensing examination. The rules must include, but are not limited to, the following provisions:

(a) Limitations or requirements that determine which driver training schools may administer the knowledge portion of the examination;

(b) Limitations or requirements that determine which driver training schools may administer the driving portion of the examination;

(c) Requirements for the content and method of conducting the examinations to ensure consistency with industry practices;

(d) Requirements for recordkeeping;

(e) A requirement that all driver training school employees conducting driver licensing examinations meet the same qualifications and education and training standards as department employees who conduct such examinations, to the extent necessary to conduct the written and driving skills portions of the examinations;

(f) Requirements related to whether a driver training school staff member may provide both driver training instruction and the driver licensing examination to any one student;

(g) Requirements for retesting and expiring examination results;

(h) Requirements for the department to monitor outcomes for applicants who take a driver licensing examination through a driver training school and to make the outcomes available to the public;

(i) Requirements for annual auditing, which must include the collection of current information regarding insur-

ance, curriculums, instructors' names and licenses, and a selection of random student files to review for accuracy; and

(j) Sanctions for violations of the rules adopted under this section.

(3) Before a driver training school may provide a portion of the driver licensing examination, it must enter into an agreement with the department that, at a minimum, contains provisions that:

(a) Allow the department to conduct random examinations, inspections, and audits without prior notice;

(b) Allow the department to conduct on-site inspections at least annually;

(c) Allow the department to test, at least annually, a random sample of the drivers approved by the driver training school for licensure and to cancel any driver's license that may have been issued to any driver selected for testing who refuses to be tested; and

(d) Reserve to the department the right to take prompt and appropriate action against a driver training school that fails to comply with state or federal standards for a driver licensing examination or to comply with any terms of the agreement. [2011 c 370 § 6.]

**Inclusion of stakeholder groups in communications to facilitate transition of driver licensing examination administration—2011 c 370:** "In communications facilitating the transition to driver training schools and school districts administering portions of the driver licensing examination, the department of licensing shall include at least one representative from each stakeholder group, including the superintendent of public instruction, driver training schools, the unions representing licensing services representatives, and the Washington state school directors' association." [2011 c 370 § 7.]

**Intent—2011 c 370:** See note following RCW 28A.220.030.

**46.82.900 Severability—1979 ex.s. c 51.** If any provision of this chapter, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1979 ex.s. c 51 § 19.]

## Chapter 46.83 RCW TRAFFIC SCHOOLS

### Sections

46.83.010	City or town and county traffic schools authorized—Procedure to establish.
46.83.020	County commissioners to control and supervise—Assistance of sheriff and police department.
46.83.030	Deposit, control of funds—Support.
46.83.040	Purpose of school.
46.83.050	Court may order attendance.
46.83.060	Duty of person required to attend—Penalty.
46.83.070	Use of fees collected in excess of school costs—Limitations.
46.83.080	Prohibition on school fee in excess of penalty for unscheduled traffic infraction.
46.83.090	Bicycle and pedestrian curriculum requirement.

**46.83.010 City or town and county traffic schools authorized—Procedure to establish.** Any city or town and the county in which it is located are authorized, as may be agreed between the respective governing bodies of the city or town and county, to establish a traffic school for the purposes and under the conditions set forth in this chapter. Such city or town and county traffic school may be effected whenever the governing body of the city or town shall pass an ordinance and the board of commissioners of the county shall pass a res-

olution declaring intention to organize and operate a traffic school in accordance with agreements had between them as to the financing, organization, and operation thereof. [1961 c 12 § 46.83.010. Prior: 1959 c 182 § 1.]

### **46.83.020 County commissioners to control and supervise—Assistance of sheriff and police department.**

A traffic school established under this chapter shall be under the control and supervision of the board of county commissioners, through such agents, assistants, or instructors as the board may designate, and shall be conducted with the assistance of the county sheriff and the police department of the city or town. [1961 c 12 § 46.83.020. Prior: 1959 c 182 § 2.]

### **46.83.030 Deposit, control of funds—Support.**

All funds appropriated by the city or town and county to the operation of the traffic school shall be deposited with the county treasurer and shall be administered by the board of county commissioners. The governing bodies of every city or town and county participating in the operation of traffic schools are authorized to make such appropriations by ordinance or resolution, as the case may be, as they shall determine for the establishment and operation of traffic schools, and they are further authorized to accept and expend gifts, donations, and any other money from any source, private or public, given for the purpose of said schools. [1961 c 12 § 46.83.030. Prior: 1959 c 182 § 3.]

**46.83.040 Purpose of school.** It shall be the purpose of every traffic school which may be established hereunder to instruct, educate, and inform all persons appearing for training in the proper, lawful, and safe operation of motor vehicles, including but not limited to rules of the road and the limitations of persons, vehicles, and bicycles and roads, streets, and highways under varying conditions and circumstances. [1998 c 165 § 7; 1961 c 12 § 46.83.040. Prior: 1959 c 182 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.83.050 Court may order attendance.** Every municipal court, district court, juvenile court, superior court, and every other court handling traffic cases within the limits of a county wherein a traffic school has been established may, as a part of any sentence imposed following a conviction for any traffic law violation, or as a condition on the suspension of sentence or deferral of any imposition of sentence, order any person so convicted, whether that person be a juvenile, a minor, or an adult, to attend the traffic school for a number of days to be determined by the court, but not to exceed the maximum number of days which the violator could be required to serve in the city or county jail as a result of his or her conviction. [1984 c 258 § 138; 1961 c 12 § 46.83.050. Prior: 1959 c 182 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.83.060 Duty of person required to attend—Penalty.** Every person required to attend a traffic school as established under the provisions of this chapter shall maintain attendance in accordance with the sentence or order. Failure so to do, unless for good cause shown by clear and convinc-

ing evidence, is a traffic infraction. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 98; 1961 c 12 § 46.83.060. Prior: 1959 c 182 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.83.070 Use of fees collected in excess of school costs—Limitations.** (1) A traffic school established by a city, town, or county under this chapter that collects fees for the cost of attending the traffic school may use any fees collected that are in excess of the costs of the traffic school for the following activities:

- (a) Safe driver education materials and programs;
- (b) Safe driver education promotions and advertising; or
- (c) Costs associated with the training of law enforcement officers.

(2) This section does not authorize a city, town, or county to increase or impose new fees for traffic schools solely for the uses authorized in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) This section is not intended, and may not be construed, to reduce, increase, or otherwise impact funding for judicial programs, functions, or services. [2011 c 197 § 1.]

**46.83.080 Prohibition on school fee in excess of penalty for unscheduled traffic infraction.** A traffic school established by a city, town, or county under this chapter that collects fees for the cost of attending the traffic school may not charge a fee in excess of the penalty for an unscheduled traffic infraction established by the supreme court pursuant to RCW 46.63.110. For the purposes of this section, the penalty includes the base penalty and all assessments and other costs that are required by statute or rule to be added to the base penalty. [2011 c 197 § 2.]

**46.83.090 Bicycle and pedestrian curriculum requirement.** Any jurisdiction conducting a traffic school or traffic safety course in connection with a condition of a deferral, sentence, or penalty for a traffic infraction or traffic-related criminal offense listed under RCW 46.63.020 shall include, as part of its curriculum, the curriculum for driving safely among bicyclists and pedestrians that has been approved by the department of licensing for driver training schools. This curriculum requirement does not require that more than thirty minutes be devoted to the bicycle and pedestrian curriculum. [2011 c 17 § 2.]

**Finding—2011 c 17:** "The legislature finds that a number of cities and counties in the state of Washington conduct traffic schools or traffic safety courses for persons cited for traffic infractions or traffic-related criminal offenses as a condition of a deferral, sentence, or penalty. The legislature recognizes that since driver education programs have only recently been required to provide information about how to drive safely among bicyclists and pedestrians, many licensed drivers do not have knowledge about such safe driving practices. In order to increase such knowledge and to avoid unnecessary injuries, fatalities, and conflicts, the legislature believes that it is appropriate to include the bicycle and pedestrian curriculum approved by the department of licensing for driver training schools as part of the curriculum of such traffic schools and traffic safety courses. Curriculum materials, which are donated by bicycle organizations to the department of licensing without state expense, are available from the department of licensing and are also available electronically on the department's web site." [2011 c 17 § 1.]

## Chapter 46.85 RCW RECIPROCAL OR PROPORTIONAL REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

### Sections

46.85.010	Declaration of policy.
46.85.020	Definitions.
46.85.030	Departmental entry into multistate proportional registration agreement, International Registration Plan.
46.85.040	Authority for reciprocity agreements—Provisions—Reciprocity standards.
46.85.050	Base state registration reciprocity.
46.85.060	Declarations of extent of reciprocity, when—Exemptions, benefits, and privileges—Rules.
46.85.070	Extension of reciprocal privileges to lessees authorized.
46.85.080	Automatic reciprocity, when.
46.85.090	Suspension of reciprocity benefits.
46.85.100	Agreements to be written, filed, and available for distribution.
46.85.110	Reciprocity agreements in effect at time of act.
46.85.900	Chapter part of and supplemental to motor vehicle registration law.
46.85.910	Constitutionality.
46.85.920	Repeal and saving.
46.85.930	Effective date—1963 c 106.
46.85.940	Section captions not a part of the law.

**46.85.010 Declaration of policy.** It is the policy of this state to promote and encourage the fullest possible use of its highway system by authorizing the making and execution of vehicle reciprocal or proportional registration agreements, arrangements and declarations with other states, provinces, territories, and countries with respect to vehicles registered in this and such other states, provinces, territories, and countries thus contributing to the economic and social development and growth of this state. [1987 c 244 § 8; 1963 c 106 § 1.]

**46.85.020 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Jurisdiction" means and includes a state, territory, or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, a foreign country, and a state or province of a foreign country.

(2) "Owner" means a person, business firm, or corporation who holds the legal title to a vehicle, or in the event a vehicle is the subject of an agreement for the conditional sale thereof with the right of purchase upon performance of the conditions stated in the agreement and with an immediate right of possession vested in the conditional vendee, or in the event a vehicle is subject to a lease, contract, or other legal arrangement vesting right of possession or control, for security or otherwise, or in the event a mortgagor of a vehicle is entitled to possession, then the owner shall be deemed to be such person in whom is vested right of possession or control.

(3) "Properly registered," as applied to place of registration, means:

(a) The jurisdiction where the person registering the vehicle has his or her legal residence; or

(b) In the case of a commercial vehicle, the jurisdiction in which it is registered if the commercial enterprise in which such vehicle is used has a place of business therein, and, if the vehicle is most frequently dispatched, garaged, serviced, maintained, operated, or otherwise controlled in or from such place of business, and, the vehicle has been assigned to such place of business; or

(c) In the case of a commercial vehicle, the jurisdiction where, because of an agreement or arrangement between two

or more jurisdictions, or pursuant to a declaration, the vehicle has been registered as required by said jurisdiction.

In case of doubt or dispute as to the proper place of registration of a vehicle, the department shall make the final determination, but in making such determination, may confer with departments of the other jurisdictions affected. [2010 c 8 § 9100; 1987 c 244 § 9; 1985 c 173 § 2; 1982 c 227 § 18; 1981 c 222 § 1; 1963 c 106 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.85.030 Departmental entry into multistate proportional registration agreement, International Registration Plan.** The department of licensing shall have the authority to execute agreements, arrangements, or declarations to carry out the provisions of chapter 46.87 RCW and this chapter.

If the department enters into a multistate proportional registration agreement which requires this state to perform acts in a quasi agency relationship, the department may collect and forward applicable registration fees and applications to other jurisdictions on behalf of the applicant or on behalf of another jurisdiction and may take such other action as will facilitate the administration of such agreement.

If the department enters into a multistate proportional registration agreement which prescribes procedures applicable to vehicles not specifically described in chapter 46.87 RCW, such as but not limited to "owner-operator" or "rental" vehicles, it shall promulgate rules taking exception to or accomplishing the procedures prescribed in such agreement.

It is the purpose and intent of this subsection to facilitate the membership in the International Registration Plan and at the same time allow the department to continue to participate in such agreements and compacts as may be necessary and desirable in addition to the International Registration Plan. [1987 c 244 § 10; 1982 c 227 § 19; 1981 c 222 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 92 § 1; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 34 § 137; 1967 c 32 § 113; 1963 c 106 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.85.040 Authority for reciprocity agreements—Provisions—Reciprocity standards.** The department may enter into an agreement or arrangement with the duly authorized representatives of another jurisdiction, granting to vehicles or to owners of vehicles which are properly registered or licensed in such jurisdiction and for which evidence of compliance is supplied, benefits, privileges, and exemptions from the payment, wholly or partially, of any taxes, fees, or other charges imposed upon such vehicles or owners with respect to the operation or ownership of such vehicles under the laws of this state. Such an agreement or arrangement shall provide that vehicles properly registered or licensed in this state when operated upon highways of such other jurisdiction shall receive exemptions, benefits, and privileges of a similar kind or to a similar degree as are extended to vehicles properly registered or licensed in such jurisdiction when operated in this state. Each such agreement or arrangement shall, in the judgment of the department, be in the best interest of this state and the citizens thereof and shall be fair and equitable to this state and the citizens thereof, and all of the same shall be determined on the basis and recognition of the benefits which accrue to the economy of this state from the uninterrupted

flow of commerce. [1985 c 173 § 3; 1982 c 227 § 20; 1963 c 106 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.85.050 Base state registration reciprocity.** An agreement or arrangement entered into, or a declaration issued under the authority of chapter 46.87 RCW or this chapter may contain provisions authorizing the registration or licensing in another jurisdiction of vehicles located in or operated from a base in such other jurisdiction which vehicles otherwise would be required to be registered or licensed in this state; and in such event the exemptions, benefits, and privileges extended by such agreement, arrangement, or declaration shall apply to such vehicles, when properly licensed or registered in such base jurisdiction. [1987 c 244 § 11; 1963 c 106 § 5.]

**46.85.060 Declarations of extent of reciprocity, when—Exemptions, benefits, and privileges—Rules.** In the absence of an agreement or arrangement with another jurisdiction, the department may examine the laws and requirements of such jurisdiction and declare the extent and nature of exemptions, benefits and privileges to be extended to vehicles properly registered or licensed in such other jurisdiction, or to the owners of such vehicles, which shall, in the judgment of the department, be in the best interest of this state and the citizens thereof and which shall be fair and equitable to this state and the citizens thereof, and all of the same shall be determined on the basis and recognition of the benefits which accrue to the economy of this state from the uninterrupted flow of commerce. Declarations of exemptions, benefits, and privileges issued by the department shall include at least the following exemptions:

(1) Nonresident persons not employed in this state may operate a vehicle in this state that is currently licensed in another jurisdiction for a period not to exceed six months in any continuous twelve-month period.

(2) Nonresident persons employed in this state may operate vehicles not to exceed twelve thousand pounds registered gross vehicle weight that are currently licensed in another jurisdiction if no permanent, temporary, or part-time residence is maintained in this state for a period greater than six months in any continuous twelve-month period.

(3) A vehicle or a combination of vehicles, not exceeding a registered gross or combined gross vehicle weight of twelve thousand pounds, which is properly base licensed in another jurisdiction and registered to a bona fide business in that jurisdiction is not required to obtain Washington vehicle license registration except when such vehicle is owned or operated by a business or branch office of a business located in Washington.

(4) The department of licensing, after consultation with the department of revenue, shall adopt such rules as it deems necessary for the administration of these exemptions, benefits, and privileges. [1987 c 142 § 4; 1985 c 353 § 3; 1982 c 227 § 21; 1963 c 106 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.85.070 Extension of reciprocal privileges to lessees authorized.** An agreement, or arrangement entered into, or a declaration issued under the authority of this chapter, may

contain provisions under which a leased vehicle properly registered by the lessor thereof may be entitled, subject to terms and conditions stated therein, to the exemptions, benefits and privileges extended by such agreement, arrangement or declaration. [1963 c 106 § 7.]

**46.85.080 Automatic reciprocity, when.** On and after July 1, 1963, if no agreement, arrangement or declaration is in effect with respect to another jurisdiction as authorized by this chapter, any vehicle properly registered or licensed in such other jurisdiction and for which evidence of compliance is supplied shall receive, when operated in this state, the same exemptions, benefits and privileges granted by such other jurisdiction to vehicles properly registered in this state. Reciprocity extended under this section shall apply to commercial vehicles only when engaged exclusively in interstate commerce. [1963 c 106 § 8.]

**46.85.090 Suspension of reciprocity benefits.** Agreements, arrangements or declarations made under the authority of this chapter may include provisions authorizing the department to suspend or cancel the exemptions, benefits, or privileges granted thereunder to an owner who violates any of the conditions or terms of such agreements, arrangements, or declarations or who violates the laws of this state relating to motor vehicles or rules and regulations lawfully promulgated thereunder. [1987 c 244 § 12; 1963 c 106 § 9.]

**46.85.100 Agreements to be written, filed, and available for distribution.** All agreements, arrangements, or declarations or amendments thereto shall be in writing and shall be filed with the department. Upon becoming effective, they shall supersede the provisions of RCW 46.16A.160, chapter 46.87 RCW, or this chapter to the extent that they are inconsistent therewith. The department shall provide copies for public distribution upon request. [2011 c 171 § 94; 1987 c 244 § 13; 1982 c 227 § 22; 1967 c 32 § 114; 1963 c 106 § 10.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.85.110 Reciprocity agreements in effect at time of act.** All reciprocity and proportional registration agreements, arrangements and declarations relating to vehicles in force and effect at the time this chapter becomes effective shall continue in force and effect at the time this chapter becomes effective and until specifically amended or revoked as provided by law or by such agreements or arrangements. [1963 c 106 § 11.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.85.900 Chapter part of and supplemental to motor vehicle registration law.** This chapter shall be, and construed as, a part of and supplemental to the motor vehicle registration law of this state. [1963 c 106 § 30.]

**46.85.910 Constitutionality.** If any phrase, clause, subsection or section of this chapter shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, it shall be conclusively presumed that the legislature would have enacted this chapter without the phrase, clause, subsec-

tion or section so held unconstitutional or invalid and the remainder of the chapter shall not be affected as a result of said part being held unconstitutional or invalid. [1963 c 106 § 31.]

**46.85.920 Repeal and saving.** The following acts or parts of acts and RCW sections are hereby repealed:

(1) Sections 46.84.010, 46.84.030, 46.84.040, 46.84.050, 46.84.060, 46.84.070, 46.84.080, 46.84.090 and 46.84.100, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.84.010, 46.84.030, 46.84.040, 46.84.050, 46.84.060, 46.84.070, 46.84.080, 46.84.090 and 46.84.100;

(2) Section 46.84.020, chapter 12, Laws of 1961 as amended by section 37, chapter 21, Laws of 1961 extraordinary session and RCW 46.84.020;

(3) Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4, chapter 266, Laws of 1961 and RCW 46.84.110, 46.84.120, 46.84.130 and 46.84.140; and

(4) Sections 38, 39, and 40, chapter 21, Laws of 1961 extraordinary session and RCW 46.84.150, 46.84.160 and 46.84.170.

Such repeals shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under the statutes repealed, nor as affecting any proceeding instituted thereunder, nor any rule, regulation or order promulgated thereunder, nor any administrative action taken thereunder, nor the term of office or appointment or employment of any person appointed or employed thereunder. [1963 c 106 § 32.]

**46.85.930 Effective date—1963 c 106.** This chapter shall take effect and be in force on and after July 1, 1963. [1963 c 106 § 33.]

**46.85.940 Section captions not a part of the law.** Section captions as used in this chapter shall not constitute any part of the law. [1963 c 106 § 34.]

## Chapter 46.87 RCW PROPORTIONAL REGISTRATION (Formerly: International Registration Plan)

### Sections

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**46.87.010 Applicability—Implementation.** This chapter applies to proportional registration and reciprocity granted under the provisions of the International Registration Plan (IRP). This chapter shall become effective and be implemented beginning with the 1988 registration year.

(1) Provisions and terms of the IRP prevail unless given a different meaning in chapter 46.04 RCW, this chapter, or in rules adopted under the authority of this chapter.

(2) The director may adopt and enforce rules deemed necessary to implement and administer this chapter.

(3) Owners having a fleet of apportionable vehicles operating in two or more IRP member jurisdictions may elect to proportionally register the vehicles of the fleet under the provisions of the IRP and this chapter in lieu of full or temporary registration as provided for in chapter 46.16A RCW.

(4) If a due date or an expiration date established under authority of this chapter falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a state legal holiday, such period is automatically extended through the end of the next business day. [2011 c 171 § 95; 2010 c 161 § 1140; 2005 c 194 § 1; 1987 c 244 § 15; 1986 c 18 § 22; 1985 c 380 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.020 Definitions.** Terms used in this chapter have the meaning given to them in the International Registration Plan (IRP), in chapter 46.04 RCW, or as otherwise defined in this section. Definitions given to terms by the IRP prevail unless given a different meaning in this chapter or in rules adopted under authority of this chapter.

(1) "Apportionable vehicle" has the meaning given by the IRP, except that it does not include vehicles with a declared gross weight of twelve thousand pounds or less. Apportionable vehicles include trucks, tractors, truck trac-

tors, road tractors, and buses, each as separate and licensable vehicles.

(2) "Cab card" is a certificate of registration issued for a vehicle upon which is disclosed the jurisdictions and registered gross weights in such jurisdictions for which the vehicle is registered.

(3) "Credentials" means cab cards, apportioned plates (for Washington-based fleets), and validation tabs issued for proportionally registered vehicles.

(4) "Declared combined gross weight" means the total unladen weight of any combination of vehicles plus the weight of the maximum load to be carried on the combination of vehicles as set by the registrant in the application pursuant to chapter 46.44 RCW and for which registration fees have been or are to be paid.

(5) "Declared gross weight" means the total unladen weight of any vehicle plus the weight of the maximum load to be carried on the vehicle as set by the registrant in the application pursuant to chapter 46.44 RCW and for which registration fees have been or are to be paid. In the case of a bus, auto stage, or a passenger-carrying for hire vehicle with a seating capacity of more than six, the declared gross weight shall be determined by multiplying the average load factor of one hundred and fifty pounds by the number of seats in the vehicle, including the driver's seat, and add this amount to the unladen weight of the vehicle. If the resultant gross weight is not listed in RCW 46.17.355, it will be increased to the next higher gross weight so listed pursuant to chapter 46.44 RCW.

(6) "Department" means the department of licensing.

(7) "Fleet" means one or more apportionable vehicles in the IRP.

(8) "In-jurisdiction miles" means the total miles accumulated in a jurisdiction during the preceding year by vehicles of the fleet while they were a part of the fleet.

(9) "IRP" means the International Registration Plan.

(10) "Jurisdiction" means and includes a state, territory or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, a foreign country, and a state or province of a foreign country.

(11) "Motor carrier" means an entity engaged in the transportation of goods or persons. The term includes a for-hire motor carrier, private motor carrier, contract motor carrier, or exempt motor carrier. The term includes a registrant licensed under this chapter, a motor vehicle lessor, and a motor vehicle lessee.

(12) "Owner" means a person or business firm who holds the legal title to a vehicle, or if a vehicle is the subject of an agreement for its conditional sale with the right of purchase upon performance of the conditions stated in the agreement and with an immediate right of possession vested in the conditional vendee, or if a vehicle is subject to a lease, contract, or other legal arrangement vesting right of possession or control, for security or otherwise, or if a mortgagor of a vehicle is entitled to possession, then the owner is deemed to be the person or business firm in whom is vested right of possession or control.

(13) "Preceding year" means the period of twelve consecutive months immediately before July 1st of the year immediately before the commencement of the registration or license year for which apportioned registration is sought.



(14) "Prorate percentage" is the factor that is applied to the total proratable fees and taxes to determine the apportionable or prorate fees required for registration in a particular jurisdiction. It is determined by dividing the in-jurisdiction miles for a particular jurisdiction by the total miles. This term is synonymous with the term "mileage percentage."

(15) "Registrant" means a person, business firm, or corporation in whose name or names a vehicle or fleet of vehicles is registered.

(16) "Registration year" means the twelve-month period during which the registration plates issued by the base jurisdiction are valid according to the laws of the base jurisdiction.

(17) "Total miles" means the total number of miles accumulated in all jurisdictions during the preceding year by all vehicles of the fleet while they were a part of the fleet. Mileage accumulated by vehicles of the fleet that did not engage in interstate operations is not included in the fleet miles. [2010 c 161 § 1141; 2005 c 194 § 2; 2003 c 85 § 1; 1997 c 183 § 2; 1994 c 262 § 12; 1993 c 307 § 12; 1991 c 163 § 4; 1990 c 42 § 111; 1987 c 244 § 16; 1985 c 380 § 2.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.022 Rental trailers, converter gears.** Owners of rental trailers and semitrailers over six thousand pounds gross vehicle weight, and converter gears used solely in pool fleets shall fully register a portion of the pool fleet in this state. To determine the percentage of total fleet vehicles that must be registered in this state, divide the gross revenue received in the preceding year for the use of the rental vehicles arising from rental transactions occurring in this state by the total revenue received in the preceding year for the use of the rental vehicles arising from rental transactions in all jurisdictions in which the vehicles are operated. Apply the resulting percentage to the total number of vehicles that shall be registered in this state. Vehicles registered in this state shall be representative of the vehicles in the fleet according to age, size, and value. [1990 c 250 § 74.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.023 Rental car businesses.** (1) Rental car businesses must register with the department of licensing. This registration must be renewed annually by the rental car business.

(2) Rental cars must be titled and registered under the provisions of chapters 46.12 and 46.16A RCW. The vehicle must be identified at the time of application with the rental car company business number issued by the department.

(3) Use of rental cars is restricted to the rental customer unless otherwise provided by rule.

(4) The department may suspend or cancel the exemptions, benefits, or privileges granted under this section to a rental car business that violates the laws of this state relating to the operation or registration of vehicles or rules lawfully adopted thereunder. The department may initiate and con-

duct audits, investigations, and enforcement actions as may be reasonably necessary for administering this section.

(5) The department shall adopt such rules as may be necessary to administer and enforce the provisions of this section. [2011 c 171 § 96; 1994 c 227 § 2; 1992 c 194 § 7.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.025 Vehicles titled in owner's name.** All vehicles being added to an existing Washington-based fleet or those vehicles that make up a new Washington-based fleet shall be titled in the name of the owner at time of registration, or evidence of filing application for title for such vehicles in the name of the owner shall accompany the application for proportional registration. [1990 c 250 § 75; 1987 c 244 § 17.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.030 Part-year registration—Credit for unused fees.** (1) When application to register an apportionable vehicle is made, the Washington prorated fees may be reduced by one-twelfth for each full registration month that has elapsed at the time a temporary authorization permit (TAP) was issued or if no TAP was issued, at such time as an application for registration is received in the department. If a vehicle is being added to a currently registered fleet, the prorate percentage previously established for the fleet for such registration year shall be used in the computation of the proportional fees and taxes due.

(2) If any vehicle is withdrawn from a proportionally registered fleet during the period for which it is registered under this chapter, the registrant of the fleet shall notify the department on appropriate forms prescribed by the department. The department may require the registrant to surrender credentials that were issued to the vehicle. If a motor vehicle is permanently withdrawn from a proportionally registered fleet because it has been destroyed, sold, or otherwise completely removed from the service of the fleet registrant, the unused portion of the license fee paid under RCW 46.17.355 with respect to the vehicle reduced by one-twelfth for each calendar month and fraction thereof elapsing between the first day of the month of the current registration year in which the vehicle was registered and the date the notice of withdrawal, accompanied by such credentials as may be required, is received in the department, shall be credited to the fleet proportional registration account of the registrant. Credit shall be applied against the license fee liability for subsequent additions of motor vehicles to be proportionally registered in the fleet during such registration year or for additional license fees due under RCW 46.17.355 or to be due upon audit under RCW 46.87.310. If any credit is less than fifteen dollars, no credit will be entered. In lieu of credit, the registrant may choose to transfer the unused portion of the license fee for the motor vehicle to the new owner, in which case it shall remain with the motor vehicle for which it was originally paid. In no event may any amount be credited against fees other than those for the registration year from which the credit was obtained nor is any amount subject to refund. [2010 c 161 § 1142; 2005 c 194 § 3; 1997 c 183 § 3; 1993 c 307 § 13; 1987 c 244 § 18; 1986 c 18 § 23; 1985 c 380 § 3.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.040 Purchase of additional gross weight.** Additional gross weight may be purchased for proportionally registered motor vehicles to the limits authorized under chapter 46.44 RCW. Reregistration at the higher gross weight (maximum gross weights under this chapter are fifty-four thousand pounds for a solo three-axle truck or one hundred five thousand five hundred pounds for a combination) for the balance of the registration year, including the full registration month in which the vehicle is initially licensed at the higher gross weight. The apportionable or proportional fee initially paid to the state of Washington, reduced for the number of full registration months the license was in effect, will be deducted from the total fee to be paid to this state for licensing at the higher gross weight for the balance of the registration year. No credit or refund will be given for a reduction of gross weight. [1994 c 262 § 13; 1987 c 244 § 19; 1985 c 380 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.050 Deposit of fees.** Each day the department shall forward to the state treasurer the fees collected under this chapter, and within ten days of the end of each registration quarter, a detailed report identifying the amount to be deposited to each account for which fees are required for the licensing of proportionally registered vehicles. Such fees shall be deposited pursuant to RCW 46.68.035 and \*82.44.170. [2005 c 194 § 4; 1987 c 244 § 20; 1985 c 380 § 5.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 82.44.170 was repealed by 2006 c 318 § 10.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.060 Apportionment of fees, formula.** The apportionment of fees to IRP member jurisdictions shall be in accordance with the provisions of the IRP agreement based on the apportionable fee multiplied by the prorated percentage for each jurisdiction in which the fleet will be registered or is currently registered. [1987 c 244 § 21; 1985 c 380 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.070 Reciprocity for trailers, semitrailers, pole trailers.** Trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers that are properly based in jurisdictions other than Washington, and that display currently registered license plates from such jurisdictions will be granted vehicle license reciprocity in this state without the need of further vehicle license registration. If pole trailers are not required to be licensed separately by a member jurisdiction, such vehicles may be operated in this state without displaying a current base license plate. [2005 c 194 § 5; 1993 c 123 § 1. Prior: 1991 c 339 § 9; 1991 c 163 § 5; 1990 c 42 § 112; 1987 c 244 § 22; 1985 c 380 § 7.]

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.080 Cab cards, validation tabs, special license plates—Design, procedures—Issuance, refusal, revocation.** (1) Upon making satisfactory application and payment

of applicable fees and taxes for proportional registration under this chapter, the department shall issue a cab card and validation tab for each vehicle, and to vehicles of Washington-based fleets, two distinctive apportionable license plates for each motor vehicle. License plates shall be displayed on vehicles as required by RCW 46.16A.200(5). The number and plate shall be of a design, size, and color determined by the department. The plates shall be treated with reflectorized material and clearly marked with the words "WASHINGTON" and "APPORTIONED," both words to appear in full and without abbreviation.

(2) The cab card serves as the certificate of registration for a proportionally registered vehicle. The face of the cab card shall contain the name and address of the registrant as contained in the records of the department, the license plate number assigned to the vehicle by the base jurisdiction, the vehicle identification number, and such other description of the vehicle and data as the department may require. The cab card shall be signed by the registrant, or a designated person if the registrant is a business firm, and shall at all times be carried in or on the vehicle to which it was issued.

(3) The apportioned license plates are not transferrable from vehicle to vehicle unless otherwise determined by rule and shall be used only on the vehicle to which they are assigned by the department for as long as they are legible or until such time as the department requires them to be removed and returned to the department.

(4) Distinctive validation tab(s) of a design, size, and color determined by the department shall be affixed to the apportioned license plate(s) as prescribed by the department to indicate the month, if necessary, and year for which the vehicle is registered.

(5) Renewals shall be effected by the issuance and display of such tab(s) after making satisfactory application and payment of applicable fees and taxes.

(6) Fleet vehicles so registered and identified shall be deemed to be fully licensed and registered in this state for any type of movement or operation. However, in those instances in which a grant of authority is required for interstate or intrastate movement or operation, no such vehicle may be operated in interstate or intrastate commerce in this state unless the owner has been granted interstate operating authority in the case of interstate operations or intrastate operating authority by the Washington utility and transportation commission in the case of intrastate operations and unless the vehicle is being operated in conformity with that authority.

(7) The department may issue temporary authorization permits (TAPs) to qualifying operators for the operation of vehicles pending issuance of license identification. A fee of one dollar plus a one dollar filing fee shall be collected for each permit issued. The permit fee shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund, and the filing fee shall be deposited in the highway safety fund. The department may adopt rules for use and issuance of the permits.

(8) The department may refuse to issue any license or permit authorized by subsection (1) or (7) of this section to any person: (a) Who formerly held any type of license or permit issued by the department pursuant to chapter 46.16A, 46.85, 46.87, 82.36, or 82.38 RCW that has been revoked for cause, which cause has not been removed; or (b) who is a subterfuge for the real party in interest whose license or per-

mit issued by the department pursuant to chapter 46.16A, 46.85, 46.87, 82.36, or 82.38 RCW and has been revoked for cause, which cause has not been removed; or (c) who, as an individual licensee, or officer, director, owner, or managing employee of a nonindividual licensee, has had a license or permit issued by the department pursuant to chapter 46.16A, 46.85, 46.87, 82.36, or 82.38 RCW which has been revoked for cause, which cause has not been removed; or (d) who has an unsatisfied debt to the state assessed under either chapter 46.16A, 46.85, 46.87, 82.36, 82.38, or 82.44 RCW.

(9) The department may revoke the license or permit authorized by subsection (1) or (7) of this section issued to any person for any of the grounds constituting cause for denial of licenses or permits set forth in subsection (8) of this section.

(10) Before such refusal or revocation under subsection (8) or (9) of this section, the department shall grant the applicant a hearing and at least ten days written notice of the time and place of the hearing. [2011 c 171 § 97; 2005 c 194 § 6; 1998 c 115 § 1; 1993 c 307 § 14; 1987 c 244 § 23; 1985 c 380 § 8.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.090 Apportioned vehicle license plates, cab card, validation tabs—Replacement—Fees.** (1) To replace an apportioned vehicle license plate(s), cab card, or validation tab(s) due to loss, defacement, or destruction, the registrant shall apply to the department on forms furnished for that purpose. The application, together with proper payment and other documentation as indicated, shall be filed with the department as follows:

(a) Apportioned plate(s) - a fee of ten dollars shall be charged for vehicles required to display two apportioned plates or five dollars for vehicles required to display one apportioned plate. The cab card of the vehicle for which a plate is requested shall accompany the application. The department shall issue a new apportioned plate(s) with validation tab(s) and a new cab card upon acceptance of the completed application form, old cab card, and the required replacement fee.

(b) Cab card - a fee of two dollars shall be charged for each card. If this is a duplicate cab card, it will be noted thereon.

(c) Validation year tab(s) - a fee of two dollars shall be charged for each vehicle.

(2) All fees collected under this section shall be deposited to the motor vehicle fund. [1994 c 262 § 14; 1987 c 244 § 24; 1986 c 18 § 24; 1985 c 380 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.120 Mileage data for applications.** (1) The initial application for proportional registration of a fleet shall state the mileage data with respect to the fleet for the preceding year in this and other jurisdictions. If no operations were conducted with the fleet during the preceding year, the application shall contain a full statement of the proposed method of operation and estimates of annual mileage in each of the jurisdictions in which operation is contemplated. The registrant shall determine the in-jurisdiction and total miles to be

used in computing the fees and taxes due for the fleet. The department may evaluate and adjust the estimate in the application if it is not satisfied as to its correctness.

(2) When operations of a Washington-based fleet is materially changed through merger, acquisition, or extended authority, the registrant shall notify the department, which shall then require the filing of an amended application setting forth the proposed operation by use of estimated mileage for all jurisdictions. The department may adjust the estimated mileage by audit or otherwise to an actual travel basis to insure proper fee payment. The actual travel basis may be used for determination of fee payments until such time as a normal mileage year is available under the new operation. [2005 c 194 § 7; 1997 c 183 § 4; 1990 c 42 § 113; 1987 c 244 § 25.]

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.130 Transaction fee.** In addition to all other fees prescribed for the proportional registration of vehicles under this chapter, the department shall collect a vehicle transaction fee each time a vehicle is added to a Washington-based fleet, and each time the proportional registration of a Washington-based vehicle is renewed. The exact amount of the vehicle transaction fee shall be fixed by rule but shall not exceed ten dollars. This fee shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. [2005 c 194 § 8; 1987 c 244 § 26.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.140 Application—Filing, contents—Fees and taxes—Assessments, due date.** (1) Any owner engaged in interstate operations of one or more fleets of apportionable vehicles may, in lieu of registration of the vehicles under chapter 46.16A RCW, register and license the vehicles of each fleet under this chapter by filing a proportional registration application for each fleet with the department. The application shall contain the following information and such other information pertinent to vehicle registration as the department may require:

(a) A description and identification of each vehicle of the fleet.

(b) The member jurisdictions in which registration is desired and such other information as member jurisdictions require.

(c) An original or renewal application shall also be accompanied by a mileage schedule for each fleet.

(d) The USDOT number issued to the registrant and the USDOT number of the motor carrier responsible for the safety of the vehicle, if different.

(e) A completed Motor Carrier Identification Report (MCS-150) at the time of fleet renewal or at the time of vehicle registration, if required by the department.

(f) The Taxpayer Identification Number of the registrant and the motor carrier responsible for the safety of the vehicle, if different.

(2) Each application shall, at the time and in the manner required by the department, be supported by payment of a fee computed as follows:

(a) Divide the in-jurisdiction miles by the total miles and carry the answer to the nearest thousandth of a percent (three

places beyond the decimal, e.g. 10.543%). This factor is known as the prorate percentage.

(b) Determine the total proratable fees and taxes required for each vehicle in the fleet for which registration is requested, based on the regular annual fees and taxes or applicable fees and taxes for the unexpired portion of the registration year under the laws of each jurisdiction for which fees or taxes are to be calculated.

Applicable fees and taxes for vehicles of Washington-based fleets are those prescribed under RCW 46.17.350(1)(c), 46.17.355, and 82.38.075, as applicable. If, during the registration period, the lessor of an apportioned vehicle changes and the vehicle remains in the fleet of the registrant, the department shall only charge those fees prescribed for the issuance of new apportioned license plates, validation tabs, and cab card.

(c) Multiply the total, proratable fees or taxes for each motor vehicle by the prorate percentage applicable to the desired jurisdiction and round the results to the nearest cent.

(d) Add the total fees and taxes determined in (c) of this subsection for each vehicle to the nonproratable fees required under the laws of the jurisdiction for which fees are being calculated. Nonproratable fees required for vehicles of Washington-based fleets are the administrative fee required by RCW 82.38.075, if applicable, and the vehicle transaction fee pursuant to the provisions of RCW 46.87.130.

(e) The amount due and payable for the application is the sum of the fees and taxes calculated for each member jurisdiction in which registration of the fleet is desired.

(3) All assessments for proportional registration fees are due and payable in United States funds on the date presented or mailed to the registrant at the address listed in the proportional registration records of the department. The registrant may petition for reassessment of the fees or taxes due under this section within thirty days of the date of original service as provided for in this chapter. [2011 c 171 § 98; 2010 c 161 § 1143; 2005 c 194 § 9; 2003 c 85 § 2; 1997 c 183 § 5; 1991 c 339 § 10; 1990 c 42 § 114; 1987 c 244 § 27.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.150 Overpayment, underpayment—Refund, additional charge.** Whenever a person has been required to pay a fee or tax pursuant to this chapter that amounts to an overpayment of ten dollars or more, the person is entitled to a refund of the entire amount of such overpayment, regardless of whether or not a refund of the overpayment has been requested. Nothing in this subsection precludes anyone from applying for a refund of such overpayment if the overpayment is less than ten dollars. Conversely, if the department or its agents has failed to charge and collect the full amount of fees or taxes pursuant to this chapter, which underpayment is in the amount of ten dollars or more, the department shall charge and collect such additional amount as will constitute

full payment of the fees and taxes due. [1996 c 91 § 1; 1987 c 244 § 28.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.190 Suspension or cancellation of benefits.** The department may suspend or cancel the exemptions, benefits, or privileges granted under chapter 46.85 RCW or this chapter to any person or business firm who violates any of the conditions or terms of the IRP or who violates the laws of this state relating to the operation or registration of vehicles or rules lawfully adopted thereunder. [2005 c 194 § 10; 1987 c 244 § 32.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.200 Refusal of registration—Federal heavy vehicle use tax.** The department may refuse registration of a vehicle if the applicant has failed to furnish proof, acceptable to the department, that the federal heavy vehicle use tax imposed by section 4481 of the internal revenue code of 1954 has been suspended or paid. The department may adopt rules as deemed necessary to administer this section. [1987 c 244 § 33.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.210 Refusal of application from nonreciprocal jurisdiction.** The department may refuse to accept proportional registration applications for the registration of vehicles based in another jurisdiction if the department finds that the other jurisdiction does not grant similar registration privileges to fleet vehicles based in or owned by residents of this state. [1987 c 244 § 34.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.220 Gross weight computation.** The gross weight in the case of a motor truck, tractor, or truck tractor is the scale weight of the motor truck, tractor, or truck tractor, plus the scale weight of any trailer, semitrailer, converter gear, or pole trailer to be towed by it, to which shall be added the weight of the maximum load to be carried on it or towed by it as set forth by the licensee in the application providing it does not exceed the weight limitations prescribed by chapter 46.44 RCW.

The gross weight in the case of a bus, auto stage, or for hire vehicle, except a taxicab, with a seating capacity over six, is the scale weight of the bus, auto stage, or for hire vehicle plus the seating capacity, including the operator's seat, computed at one hundred and fifty pounds per seat.

If the resultant gross weight, according to this section, is not listed in RCW 46.17.355, it will be increased to the next higher gross weight so listed pursuant to chapter 46.44 RCW.

A motor vehicle or combination of vehicles found to be loaded beyond the licensed gross weight of the motor vehicle registered under this chapter shall be cited and handled under RCW 46.16A.540 and 46.16A.545. [2010 c 161 § 1144; 1987 c 244 § 35.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.230 Responsibility for unlawful acts or omissions.** Whenever an act or omission is declared to be unlawful under chapter 46.12, 46.16A, or 46.44 RCW or this chapter, and if the operator of the vehicle is not the owner or lessee of the vehicle but is so operating or moving the vehicle with the express or implied permission of the owner or lessee, then the operator and the owner or lessee are both subject to this chapter, with the primary responsibility to be that of the owner or lessee.

If the person operating the vehicle at the time of the unlawful act or omission is not the owner or the lessee of the vehicle, that person is fully authorized to accept the citation or notice of infraction and execute the promise to appear on behalf of the owner or lessee. [2011 c 171 § 99; 1987 c 244 § 36.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.240 Relationship of department with other jurisdictions.** Under the provisions of the IRP, the department may act in a quasi-agency relationship with other jurisdictions. The department may collect and forward applicable registration fees and taxes and applications to other jurisdictions on behalf of the applicant or another jurisdiction and may take other action that facilitates the administration of the plan. [1987 c 244 § 37.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.250 Authority of chapter.** This chapter constitutes complete authority for the registration of fleet vehicles upon a proportional registration basis without reference to or application of any other statutes of this state except as expressly provided in this chapter. [1987 c 244 § 38.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.260 Alteration or forgery of cab card or letter of authority—Penalty.** Any person who alters or forges or causes to be altered or forged any cab card, letter of authority, or other temporary authority issued by the department under this chapter or holds or uses a cab card, letter of authority, or other temporary authority, knowing the document to have been altered or forged, is guilty of a class B felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 255; 1987 c 244 § 39.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.270 Gross weight on vehicle.** Every Washington-based motor vehicle registered under this chapter shall have the maximum gross weight or maximum combined gross weight for which the vehicle is licensed in this state, painted or stenciled in letters or numbers of contrasting color not less than two inches in height in a conspicuous place on the right and left sides of the vehicle. It is unlawful for the owner or operator of any motor vehicle to display a maximum gross weight or maximum combined gross weight other than that shown on the current cab card of the vehicle. [1990 c 250 § 77; 1987 c 244 § 40.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.280 Effect of other registration.** Nothing contained in this chapter relating to proportional registration of fleet vehicles requires any vehicle to be proportionally registered if it is otherwise registered for operation on the highways of this state. [1987 c 244 § 41.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.290 Refusal, cancellation of application, cab card—Procedures, penalties.** (1) If the department determines at any time that an applicant for proportional registration of a vehicle or a fleet of vehicles is not entitled to a cab card for a vehicle or fleet of vehicles, the department may refuse to issue the cab card(s) or to license the vehicle or fleet of vehicles and may for like reason, after notice, and in the exercise of discretion, cancel the cab card(s) and license plate(s) already issued. The department shall send the notice of cancellation by first-class mail, addressed to the owner of the vehicle in question at the owner's address as it appears in the proportional registration records of the department, and record the transmittal on an affidavit of first-class mail. It is then unlawful for any person to remove, drive, or operate the vehicle(s) until a proper certificate(s) of registration or cab card(s) has been issued.

(2) Any person removing, driving, or operating the vehicle(s) after the refusal of the department to issue a cab card(s), certificate(s) of registration, license plate(s), or the revocation or cancellation of the cab card(s), certificate(s) of registration, or license plate(s) is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(3) At the discretion of the department, a vehicle that has been moved, driven, or operated in violation of this section may be impounded by the Washington state patrol, county sheriff, or city police in a manner directed for such cases by the chief of the Washington state patrol until proper registration and license plate have been issued. [2003 c 53 § 256; 1997 c 183 § 6; 1987 c 244 § 42.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.294 Refusal under federal prohibition, placement of out-of-service order.** The department shall refuse to register a vehicle under this chapter if the registrant or motor carrier responsible for the safety of the vehicle has been prohibited under federal law from operating by the federal motor carrier safety administration. The department shall not register a vehicle if the Washington state patrol has placed an out-of-service order on the vehicle's department of transportation number, as defined in RCW 46.16A.010. [2011 c 171 § 100; 2007 c 419 § 15; 2003 c 85 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Findings—Short title—2007 c 419:** See notes following RCW 46.16A.010.

**46.87.296 Suspension, revocation under federal prohibition—Placement of out-of-service order.** The department shall suspend or revoke the registration of a vehicle registered under this chapter if the registrant or motor carrier responsible for the safety of the vehicle has been prohibited under federal law from operating by the federal motor carrier

safety administration. The department shall not register a vehicle if the Washington state patrol has placed an out-of-service order on the vehicle's department of transportation number, as defined in RCW 46.16A.010. [2011 c 171 § 101; 2007 c 419 § 16; 2003 c 85 § 4.]

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Findings—Short title—2007 c 419:** See notes following RCW 46.16A.010.

**46.87.300 Appeal of suspension, revocation, cancellation, refusal.** The suspension, revocation, cancellation, or refusal by the director, or the director's designee, of a license plate(s), certificate(s) of registration, or cab card(s) provided for in this chapter is conclusive unless the person whose license plate(s), certificate(s) of registration, or cab card(s) is suspended, revoked, canceled, or refused appeals to the superior court of Thurston county, or at the person's option if a resident of Washington, to the superior court of his or her county of residence, for the purpose of having the suspension, revocation, cancellation, or refusal of the license plate(s), certificate(s) of registration, or cab card(s) set aside. Notice of appeal shall be filed within ten calendar days after service of the notice of suspension, revocation, cancellation, or refusal. Upon the filing of the appeal, the court shall issue an order to the director to show cause why the license(s) should not be granted or reinstated. The director shall respond to the order within ten days after the date of service of the order upon the director. Service shall be in the manner prescribed for service of summons and complaint in other civil actions. Upon the hearing on the order to show cause, the court shall hear evidence concerning matters related to the suspension, revocation, cancellation, or refusal of the license plate(s), certificate(s) of registration, or cab card(s) and shall enter judgment either affirming or setting aside the suspension, revocation, cancellation, or refusal. [1987 c 244 § 43.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.310 Application records—Preservation, contents, audit—Additional assessments, penalties, refunds.** Any owner whose application for proportional registration has been accepted shall preserve the records on which the application is based for a period of four years following the preceding year or period upon which the application is based. These records shall be complete and shall include, but not be limited to, the following: Copies of proportional registration applications and supplements for all jurisdictions in which the fleet is prorated; proof of proportional or full registration with other jurisdictions; vehicle license or trip permits; temporary authorization permits; documents establishing the latest purchase year and cost of each fleet vehicle in ready-for-the-road condition; weight certificates indicating the unladen, ready-for-the-road, weight of each vehicle in the fleet; periodic summaries of mileage by fleet and by individual vehicles; individual trip reports, driver's daily logs, or other source documents maintained for each individual trip that provide trip dates, points of origin and destinations, total miles traveled, miles traveled in each jurisdiction, routes traveled, vehicle equipment number, driver's full name, and all other information pertinent to each trip. Upon request of the department, the owner shall make the records available to

the department at its designated office for audit as to accuracy of records, computations, and payments. The department shall assess and collect any unpaid fees and taxes found to be due the state and provide credits or refunds for overpayments of Washington fees and taxes as determined in accordance with formulas and other requirements prescribed in this chapter. If the owner fails to maintain complete records as required by this section, the department shall attempt to reconstruct or reestablish such records. However, if the department is unable to do so and the missing or incomplete records involve mileages accrued by vehicles while they are part of the fleet, the department may assess an amount not to exceed the difference between the Washington proportional fees and taxes paid and one hundred percent of the fees and taxes. Further, if the owner fails to maintain complete records as required by this section, or if the department determines that the owner should have registered more vehicles in this state under this chapter, the department may deny the owner the right of any further benefits provided by this chapter until any final audit or assessment made under this chapter has been satisfied.

The department may audit the records of any owner and may make arrangements with agencies of other jurisdictions administering motor vehicle registration laws for joint audits of any such owner. No assessment for deficiency or claim for credit may be made for any period for which records are no longer required. Any fees, taxes, penalties, or interest found to be due and owing the state upon audit shall bear interest at the rate of one percent per month, or fraction thereof, from the first day of the calendar month after the amount should have been paid until the date of payment. If the audit discloses a deliberate and willful intent to evade the requirements of payment under RCW 46.87.140, a penalty of ten percent shall also be assessed.

If the audit discloses that an overpayment to the state in excess of ten dollars has been made, the department shall certify the overpayment to the state treasurer who shall issue a warrant for the overpayment to the vehicle operator. Overpayments shall bear interest at the rate of eight percent per annum from the date on which the overpayment is incurred until the date of payment. [1996 c 91 § 2; 1993 c 307 § 15; 1987 c 244 § 44.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.320 Departmental audits, investigations—Subpoenas.** The department may initiate and conduct audits and investigations as may be reasonably necessary to establish the existence of any alleged violations of or noncompliance with this chapter or any rules adopted under it.

For the purpose of any audit, investigation, or proceeding under this chapter the director or any designee of the director may administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any books, paper, correspondence, memoranda, agreements, or other documents or records that the department deems relevant or material to the inquiry.

In case of contumacy or refusal to obey a subpoena issued to any person, any court of competent jurisdiction upon application by the department, may issue an order requiring that person to appear before the director or the officer designated by the director to produce testimony or other

evidence touching the matter under audit, investigation, or in question. Failure to obey an order of the court may be punishable by contempt. [1987 c 244 § 45.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.330 Assessments—When due, penalties—Reassessment—Petition, notice, service—Injunctions, writs of mandate restricted.** An owner of proportionally registered vehicles against whom an assessment is made under RCW 46.87.310 may petition for reassessment thereof within thirty days after service of notice of the assessment upon the owner of the proportionally registered vehicles. If the petition is not filed within the thirty-day period, the amount of the assessment becomes final at the expiration of that time period.

If a petition for reassessment is filed within the thirty-day period, the department shall reconsider the assessment and, if the petitioner has so requested in the petition, shall grant the petitioner an oral hearing and give the petitioner ten days notice of the time and place of the hearing. The department may continue the hearing from time to time. The decision of the department upon a petition for reassessment becomes final thirty days after service upon the petitioner of notice of the decision.

Every assessment made under RCW 46.87.310 becomes due and payable at the time it is served on the owner. If the assessment is not paid in full when it becomes final, the department shall add a penalty of ten percent of the amount of the assessment.

Any notice of assessment, reassessment, oral hearing, or decision required by this section shall be served personally or by mail. If served by mail, service is deemed to have been accomplished on the date the notice was deposited in the United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the owner of the proportionally registered vehicles at the owner's address as it appears in the proportional registration records of the department.

No injunction or writ of mandate or other legal or equitable process may be issued in any suit, action, or proceeding in any court against any officer of the state to prevent or enjoin the collection under this chapter of any fee or tax or any amount of fee or tax required to be collected, except as specifically provided for in chapter 34.05 RCW. [1996 c 91 § 3; 1987 c 244 § 46.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.335 Mitigation of assessments.** Except in the case of violations of filing a false or fraudulent application, if the department deems mitigation of penalties, fees, and interest to be reasonable and in the best interests of carrying out the purpose of this chapter, it may mitigate such assessments upon whatever terms the department deems proper, giving consideration to the degree and extent of the lack of records and reporting errors. The department may ascertain the facts regarding recordkeeping and payment penalties in lieu of more elaborate proceedings under this chapter. [1994 c 262 § 15; 1991 c 339 § 5.]

**46.87.340 Assessments—Lien for nonpayment.** If an owner of proportionally registered vehicles liable for the remittance of fees and taxes imposed by this chapter fails to

pay the fees and taxes, the amount thereof, including any interest, penalty, or addition to the fees and taxes together with any additional costs that may accrue, constitutes a lien in favor of the state upon all franchises, property, and rights to property, whether the property is employed by the person for personal or business use or is in the hands of a trustee, receiver, or assignee for the benefit of creditors, from the date the fees and taxes were due and payable until the amount of the lien is paid or the property is sold to pay the lien. The lien has priority over any lien or encumbrance whatsoever, except the lien of other state taxes having priority by law, and except that the lien is not valid as against any bona fide mortgagee, pledgee, judgment creditor, or purchaser whose rights have attached before the time the department has filed and recorded notice of the lien as provided in this chapter.

In order to avail itself of the lien created by this section, the department shall file with any county auditor a statement of claim and lien specifying the amount of delinquent fees and taxes, penalties, and interest claimed by the department. From the time of filing for record, the amount required to be paid constitutes a lien upon all franchises, property, and rights to property, whether real or personal, then belonging to or thereafter acquired by the person in the county. Any lien as provided in this section may also be filed in the office of the secretary of state. Filing in the office of the secretary of state is of no effect, however, until the lien or a copy of it has been filed with the county auditor in the county where the property is located. When a lien is filed in compliance with this section and with the secretary of state, the filing has the same effect as if the lien had been duly filed for record in the office of each county auditor of this state. [1993 c 307 § 16; 1987 c 244 § 47.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.350 Delinquent obligations—Notice—Restriction on credits or property—Default judgments—Lien.** If an owner of proportionally registered vehicles for which an assessment has become final is delinquent in the payment of an obligation imposed under this chapter, the department may give notice of the amount of the delinquency by registered or certified mail to all persons having in their possession or under their control any credits or other personal property belonging to the vehicle owner or owing any debts to the owner, at the time of the receipt by them of the notice. Thereafter, a person so notified shall neither transfer nor make other disposition of those credits, personal property, or debts until the department consents to a transfer or other disposition. A person so notified shall, within twenty days after receipt of the notice, advise the department of any and all such credits, personal property, or debts in their possession, under their control or owing by them, as the case may be, and shall forthwith deliver such credits, personal property, or debts to the department or its duly authorized representative to be applied to the indebtedness involved.

If a person fails to answer the notice within the time prescribed by this section, it is lawful for the court upon application of the department and after the time to answer the notice has expired, to render judgment by default against the person for the full amount claimed by the department in the notice to withhold and deliver, together with costs.

Upon service, the notice and order to withhold and deliver constitutes a continuing lien on property of the taxpayer. The department shall include in the caption of the notice to withhold and deliver "continuing lien." The effective date of a notice to withhold and deliver served under this section is the date of service of the notice. [1994 c 262 § 16; 1987 c 244 § 48.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.360 Delinquent obligations—Collection by department—Seizure of property, notice, sale.** Whenever the owner of proportionally registered vehicles is delinquent in the payment of an obligation imposed under this chapter, and the delinquency continues after notice and demand for payment by the department, the department may proceed to collect the amount due from the owner in the following manner: The department shall seize any property subject to the lien of the fees, taxes, penalties, and interest and sell it at public auction to pay the obligation and any and all costs that may have been incurred because of the seizure and sale. Notice of the intended sale and its time and place shall be given to the delinquent owner and to all persons appearing of record to have an interest in the property. The notice shall be given in writing at least ten days before the date set for the sale by registered or certified mail addressed to the owner as appearing in the proportional registration records of the department and, in the case of any person appearing of record to have an interest in such property, addressed to that person at his or her last known residence or place of business. In addition, the notice shall be published at least ten days before the date set for the sale in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county in which the property seized is to be sold. If there is no newspaper in the county, the notice shall be posted in three public places in the county for a period of ten days. The notice shall contain a description of the property to be sold, a statement of the amount due under this chapter, the name of the owner of the proportionally registered vehicles, and the further statement that unless the amount due is paid on or before the time fixed in the notice the property will be sold in accordance with law.

The department shall then proceed to sell the property in accordance with law and the notice, and shall deliver to the purchaser a bill of sale or deed that vests title in the purchaser. If upon any such sale the moneys received exceed the amount due to the state under this chapter from the delinquent owner, the excess shall be returned to the delinquent owner and his or her receipt obtained for it. The department may withhold payment of the excess to the delinquent owner if a person having an interest in or lien upon the property has filed with the department his or her notice of the lien or interest before the sale, pending determination of the rights of the respective parties thereto by a court of competent jurisdiction. If for any reason the receipt of the delinquent owner is not available, the department shall deposit the excess with the state treasurer as trustee for the delinquent owner. [2010 c 8 § 9101; 1987 c 244 § 49.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.370 Warrant for final assessments—Lien on property.** Whenever any assessment has become final in accordance with this chapter, the department may file with

the clerk of any county within this state a warrant in the amount of fees, taxes, penalties, interest, and a filing fee under RCW 36.18.012(10). The clerk of the county in which the warrant is filed shall immediately designate a superior court cause number for the warrant, and the clerk shall cause to be entered in the judgment docket under the superior court cause number assigned to the warrant the name of the delinquent owner of proportionally registered vehicles mentioned in the warrant, the amount of the fees, taxes, penalties, interest, and filing fee, and the date when the warrant was filed. The aggregate amount of the warrant as docketed constitutes a lien upon the title to, and interest in, all real and personal property of the named person against whom the warrant is issued, the same as a judgment in a civil case duly docketed in the office of the clerk. A warrant so docketed is sufficient to support the issuance of writs of execution and writs of garnishment in favor of the state in the manner provided by law in the case of civil judgment wholly or partially unsatisfied. The clerk of the court is entitled to a filing fee under RCW 36.18.012(10), which shall be added to the amount of the warrant. [2001 c 146 § 6; 1987 c 244 § 50.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.380 Delinquent obligations—Collection by attorney general.** Whenever an owner of proportionally registered vehicles is delinquent in the payment of an obligation under this chapter the department may transmit notices of the delinquency to the attorney general who shall at once proceed to collect by appropriate legal action the amount due the state from the delinquent owner.

In a suit brought to enforce the rights of the state under this chapter, a certificate by the department showing the delinquency is prima facie evidence of the amount of the obligation, of the delinquency thereof, and of compliance by the department with all provisions of this chapter relating to the obligation. [1987 c 244 § 51.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.390 Remedies cumulative.** The remedies of the state in this chapter are cumulative, and no action taken by the department may be construed to be an election on the part of the state or any of its officers to pursue any remedy under this chapter to the exclusion of any other remedy provided for in this chapter. [1987 c 244 § 52.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.400 Civil immunity.** (1) The director, the state of Washington, and its political subdivisions are immune from civil liability arising from the issuance of a vehicle license to a nonroadworthy vehicle.

(2) No suit or action may be commenced or prosecuted against the director or the state of Washington by reason of any act done or omitted to be done in the administration of the duties and responsibilities imposed upon the director under this chapter. [1987 c 244 § 53.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.87.410 Bankruptcy proceedings—Notice.** A proportional registration licensee, who files or against whom is filed a petition in bankruptcy, shall, within ten days of the filing, notify the department of the proceedings in bankruptcy,



including the identity and location of the court in which the proceedings are pending. [1997 c 183 § 1.]

**46.87.900 Severability—1985 c 380.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1985 c 380 § 26.]

**46.87.910 Short title.** This chapter may be known and cited as "Proportional Registration." [1987 c 244 § 54.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### Chapter 46.90 RCW

#### WASHINGTON MODEL TRAFFIC ORDINANCE

##### Sections

46.90.005	Purpose.
46.90.010	Adoption of model traffic ordinance—Amendments.

**46.90.005 Purpose.** The purpose of this chapter is to encourage highway safety and uniform traffic laws by authorizing the department of licensing to adopt a comprehensive compilation of sound, uniform traffic laws to serve as a guide which local authorities may adopt by reference or any part thereof, including all future amendments or additions thereto. Any local authority which adopts that body of rules by reference may at any time exclude any section or sections of those rules that it does not desire to include in its local traffic ordinance. The rules are not intended to deny any local authority its legislative power, but rather to enhance safe and efficient movement of traffic throughout the state by having current, uniform traffic laws available. [1993 c 400 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 54 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.90.010 Adoption of model traffic ordinance—Amendments.** In consultation with the chief of the Washington state patrol and the traffic safety commission, the director shall adopt in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW a model traffic ordinance for use by any city, town, or county. The addition of any new section to, or amendment or repeal of any section in, the model traffic ordinance is deemed to amend any city, town, or county, ordinance which has adopted by reference the model traffic ordinance or any part thereof, and it shall not be necessary for the legislative authority of any city, town, or county to take any action with respect to such addition, amendment, or repeal notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 35.21.180, 35A.12.140, 35A.13.180, and 36.32.120(7). [1993 c 400 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 54 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### Chapter 46.93 RCW

#### MOTORSPORTS VEHICLES—DEALER AND MANUFACTURER FRANCHISES

##### Sections

46.93.010	Findings—Intent.
46.93.020	Definitions.
46.93.030	Termination, cancellation, nonrenewal of franchise restricted.

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46.93.040	Determination of good cause, good faith—Petition, notice, decision, appeal.
46.93.050	Determination of good cause, good faith—Hearing, decision, procedures—Judicial review.
46.93.060	Good cause, what constitutes—Burden of proof.
46.93.070	Notice of termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal.
46.93.080	Payments by manufacturer to dealer for inventory, equipment, etc.
46.93.090	Mitigation of damages.
46.93.100	Warranty work.
46.93.110	Designated successor to franchise ownership.
46.93.120	Relevant market area—New or relocated dealerships, notice of.
46.93.130	Protest of new or relocated dealership—Hearing—Arbitration.
46.93.140	Factors considered by administrative law judge.
46.93.150	Hearing—Procedures, costs, appeal.
46.93.160	Relocation requirements—Exceptions.
46.93.170	Unfair practices.
46.93.180	Sale, transfer, or exchange of franchise.
46.93.190	Petition and hearing filing fees, costs, security.
46.93.200	Department defining additional motorsports vehicles.
46.93.900	Severability.
46.93.901	Captions not law.

**46.93.010 Findings—Intent.** The legislature finds and declares that the distribution and sale of motorsports vehicles in this state vitally affect the general economy of the state and the public interest and public welfare, that provision for warranty service to motorsports vehicles is of substantial concern to the people of this state, that the maintenance of fair competition among dealers and others is in the public interest, and that the maintenance of strong and sound dealerships is essential to provide continuing and necessary reliable services to the consuming public in this state and to provide stable employment to the citizens of this state. The legislature further finds that there is a substantial disparity in bargaining power between motorsports vehicle manufacturers and their dealers, and that in order to promote the public interest and the public welfare, and in the exercise of its police power, it is necessary to regulate the relationship between motorsports vehicle dealers and motorsports vehicle manufacturers, importers, distributors, and their representatives doing business in this state, not only for the protection of dealers but also for the benefit for the public in assuring the continued availability and servicing of motorsports vehicles sold to the public.

The legislature recognizes it is in the best interest for manufacturers and dealers of motorsports vehicles to conduct business with each other in a fair, efficient, and competitive manner. The legislature declares the public interest is best served by dealers being assured of the ability to manage their business enterprises under a contractual obligation with manufacturers where dealers do not experience unreasonable interference and are assured of the ability to transfer ownership of their business without undue constraints. It is the intent of the legislature to impose a regulatory scheme and to regulate competition in the motorsports vehicle industry to the extent necessary to balance fairness and efficiency. These actions will permit motorsports vehicle dealers to better serve consumers and allow dealers to devote their best competitive efforts and resources to the sale and services of the manufacturer's products to consumers. [2003 c 354 § 1.]

**46.93.020 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

- (1) "Department" means the department of licensing.
- (2) "Designated successor" means:

(a) The spouse, biological or adopted child, grandchild, parent, brother, or sister of the owner of a new motorsports vehicle dealership who, in the case of the owner's death, is entitled to inherit the ownership interest in the new motorsports vehicle dealership under the terms of the owner's will or similar document, and if there is no such will or similar document, then under applicable intestate laws;

(b) A qualified person experienced in the business of a new motorsports vehicle dealer who has been nominated by the owner of a new motorsports vehicle dealership as the successor in a written, notarized, and witnessed instrument submitted to the manufacturer; or

(c) In the case of an incapacitated owner of a new motorsports vehicle dealership, the person who has been appointed by a court as the legal representative of the incapacitated owner's property.

(3) "Director" means the director of the department of licensing.

(4) "Franchise" means one or more agreements, whether oral or written, between a manufacturer and a new motorsports vehicle dealer, under which the new motorsports vehicle dealer is authorized to sell, service, and repair new motorsports vehicles, parts, and accessories under a common name, trade name, trademark, or service mark of the manufacturer.

"Franchise" includes an oral or written contract and includes a dealer agreement, either expressed or implied, between a manufacturer and a new motorsports vehicle dealer that purports to fix the legal rights and liabilities between the parties and under which (a) the dealer is granted the right to purchase and resell motorsports vehicles manufactured, distributed, or imported by the manufacturer; (b) the dealer's business is associated with the trademark, trade name, commercial symbol, or advertisement designating the franchisor or the products distributed by the manufacturer; and (c) the dealer's business relies on the manufacturer for a continued supply of motorsports vehicles, parts, and accessories.

(5) "Good faith" means honesty in fact and fair dealing in the trade as defined and interpreted in \*RCW 62A.2-103.

(6) "Manufacturer" means a person, firm, association, corporation, or trust, resident or nonresident, who manufactures or assembles new and unused motorsports vehicles or remanufactures motorsports vehicles in whole or in part and further includes the terms:

(a) "Distributor," which means a person, firm, association, corporation, or trust, resident or nonresident, who in whole or in part offers for sale, sells, or distributes new and unused motorsports vehicles to vehicle dealers or who maintains factory representatives.

(b) "Factory branch," which means a branch office maintained by a manufacturer for the purpose of selling or offering for sale, motorsports vehicles to a distributor, wholesaler, or vehicle dealer, or for directing or supervising in whole or in part factory or distributor representatives, and further includes a sales promotion organization, whether a person, firm, or corporation, that is engaged in promoting the sale of new and unused motorsports vehicles in this state of a particular brand or make to vehicle dealers.

(c) "Factory representative," which means a representative employed by a manufacturer, distributor, or factory branch for the purpose of making or promoting for the sale of

their motorsports vehicles or for supervising or contracting with their dealers or prospective dealers.

(7) "Motorsports vehicle" means a motorcycle as defined in RCW 46.04.330; a moped as defined in RCW 46.04.304; a motor-driven cycle as defined in RCW 46.04.332; a personal watercraft as defined in RCW 79A.60.010; a snowmobile as defined in RCW 46.04.546; a four-wheel, all-terrain vehicle; and any other motorsports vehicle defined under RCW 46.93.200 by the department that is otherwise not subject to chapter 46.96 RCW.

(8) "New motorsports vehicle dealer" or "dealer" means a person engaged in the business of buying, selling, exchanging, or otherwise dealing in new motorsports vehicles or new and used motorsports vehicles at an established place of business under a franchise, sales and service agreement, or any other contract with a manufacturer of any one or more types of new motorsports vehicles. The term does not include a miscellaneous vehicle dealer as defined in RCW 46.70.011.

(9) "Owner" means a person holding an ownership interest in the business entity operating as a new motorsports vehicle dealer and who is the designated dealer in the new motorsports vehicle franchise agreement.

(10) "Person" means a natural person, partnership, stock company, corporation, trust, agency, or any other legal entity, as well as any individual officers, directors, or other persons in active control of the activities of the entity.

(11) "Place of business" means a permanent, enclosed commercial building, situated within this state, and the real property on which it is located, at which the business of a motorsports vehicle dealer, including the display and repair of motorsports vehicles, may be lawfully conducted in accordance with the terms of all applicable laws and at which the public may contact the motorsports vehicle dealer and employees at all reasonable times.

(12) "Relevant market area" is defined as follows:

(a) If the population in the county in which the existing, proposed new, or relocated dealership is located or is to be located is four hundred thousand or more, the relevant market area is the geographic area within the radius of ten miles around the existing, proposed new, or relocated place of business for the dealership;

(b) If the population in the county in which the existing, proposed new, or relocated dealership is to be located is two hundred thousand or more and less than four hundred thousand, the relevant market area is the geographic area within a radius of twelve miles around the existing, proposed new, or relocated place of business for the dealership;

(c) If the population in the county in which the existing, proposed new, or relocated dealership is to be located is less than two hundred thousand, the relevant market area is the geographic area within a radius of twenty miles around the existing, proposed new, or relocated place of business for the dealership;

(d) In determining population for this definition, the most recent census by the United States Bureau of Census or the most recent population update, either from the National Planning Data Corporation or other similar recognized source, will be accumulated for all census tracts either wholly or partially within the relevant market area. [2011 c 171 § 102; 2003 c 354 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 62A.2-103 was amended by 2012 c 214 § 801, deleting the definition of "good faith."

(2) The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**46.93.030 Termination, cancellation, nonrenewal of franchise restricted.** Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise and notwithstanding the terms of a waiver, no manufacturer may terminate, cancel, or fail to renew a franchise with a new motorsports vehicle dealer, unless the manufacturer has complied with the notice requirements of RCW 46.93.070 and an administrative law judge has determined, if requested in writing by the dealer within forty-five days of receiving a notice from a manufacturer, after hearing, that there is good cause for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise and that the manufacturer has acted in good faith regarding the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal. [2003 c 354 § 3.]

**46.93.040 Determination of good cause, good faith—Petition, notice, decision, appeal.** A new motorsports vehicle dealer who has received written notification from the manufacturer of the manufacturer's intent to terminate, cancel, or not renew the franchise, may file a petition with the department for a determination as to the existence of good cause and good faith for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise. The petition must contain a short statement setting forth the reasons for the dealer's objection to the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise. Upon the filing of the petition and the receipt of the filing fee, the department shall promptly notify the manufacturer that a timely petition has been filed and shall request the appointment of an administrative law judge under chapter 34.12 RCW to conduct a hearing. The franchise in question continues in full force and effect pending the administrative law judge's decision. If the decision of the administrative law judge terminating, canceling, or failing to renew a dealer's franchise is appealed by a dealer or manufacturer, the franchise continues in full force and effect until all appeals to a superior court or any appellate court have been completed. Nothing in this section precludes a manufacturer or dealer from petitioning the superior court for a stay or other relief pending judicial review. [2003 c 354 § 4.]

**46.93.050 Determination of good cause, good faith—Hearing, decision, procedures—Judicial review.** (1) The administrative law judge shall conduct the hearing and render a final decision as expeditiously as possible, but in any event not later than one hundred eighty days after a petition is filed. If the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal is under RCW 46.93.070(2), the administrative law judge shall give the proceeding priority consideration and shall render a final decision not later than sixty days after a petition is filed.

(2) The administrative law judge shall conduct the hearing as an adjudicative proceeding in accordance with the procedures provided for in the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW. The administrative law judge shall render the final decision and shall enter a final order. Except as otherwise provided in RCW 34.05.446 and 34.05.449, all

hearing costs must be borne on an equal basis by the parties to the hearing.

(3) A party to a hearing under this chapter may be represented by counsel. A party to a hearing aggrieved by the final order of the administrative law judge concerning the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise may seek judicial review of the order in the superior court or appellate court in the manner provided for in RCW 34.05.510 through 34.05.598. A petitioner for judicial review need not exhaust all administrative appeals or administrative review processes as a prerequisite for seeking judicial review under this section. [2003 c 354 § 5.]

**46.93.060 Good cause, what constitutes—Burden of proof.** (1) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise or the terms of a waiver, and except as otherwise provided in RCW 46.93.070(2) (a) through (d), good cause exists for termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise when there is a failure by the dealer to comply with a provision of the franchise that is both reasonable and of material significance to the franchise relationship, if the dealer was notified of the failure within one hundred eighty days after the manufacturer first acquired knowledge of the failure, and the dealer did not correct the failure after being requested to do so.

If, however, the failure of the dealer relates to the performance of the dealer in sales, service, or level of customer satisfaction, good cause is the failure of the dealer to comply with reasonable performance standards determined by the manufacturer in accordance with uniformly applied criteria, and:

(a) The dealer was advised, in writing, by the manufacturer of the failure;

(b) The notice under this subsection stated that notice was provided of a failure of performance under this section;

(c) The manufacturer provided the dealer with specific, reasonable goals or reasonable performance standards with which the dealer must comply, together with a suggested timetable or program for attaining those goals or standards, and the dealer was given a reasonable opportunity, for a period of not more than ninety days, to comply with the goals or standards; and

(d) The dealer did not substantially comply with the manufacturer's performance standards during that period and the failure to demonstrate substantial compliance was not due to market or economic factors within the dealer's relevant market area that were beyond the control of the dealer.

(2) The manufacturer has the burden of proof of establishing good cause and good faith for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise under this section. [2003 c 354 § 6.]

**46.93.070 Notice of termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal.** Before the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise, the manufacturer shall give written notification to both the department and the dealer. The notice must be by certified mail or personally delivered to the new motorsports vehicle dealer and must state the intention to terminate, cancel, or not renew the franchise, the reasons for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal, and the effective date of the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal. The notice must be given:

(1) Not less than ninety days, which runs concurrently with the ninety-day period provided in RCW 46.93.060(1)(c), before the effective date of the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal;

(2) Not less than fifteen days before the effective date of the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal with respect to any of the following that constitute good cause for termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal:

(a) Insolvency of the dealer or the filing of any petition by or against the dealer under bankruptcy or receivership law;

(b) Failure of the dealer to conduct sales and service operations during customary business hours for seven consecutive business days, except for acts of God or circumstances beyond the direct control of the dealer;

(c) Conviction of the dealer, or principal operator of the dealership, of a felony punishable by imprisonment; or

(d) Suspension or revocation of a license that the dealer is required to have to operate the dealership where the suspension or revocation is for a period in excess of thirty days;

(3) Not less than one hundred eighty days before the effective date of termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal, where the manufacturer intends to discontinue sale and distribution of the new motorsports vehicle line. [2003 c 354 § 7.]

**46.93.080 Payments by manufacturer to dealer for inventory, equipment, etc.** (1) Upon the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise, the manufacturer shall pay the dealer, at a minimum:

(a) Dealer cost, less all allowances paid or credited to the dealer by the manufacturer, of unused, undamaged, and unsold new motorsports vehicles in the dealer's inventory that were acquired from the manufacturer or another dealer of the same line make in the ordinary course of business;

(b) Dealer cost for all unused, undamaged, and unsold supplies, parts, and accessories in original packaging, except that in the case of sheet metal, a comparable substitute for original packaging may be used, if the supply, part, or accessory was acquired from the manufacturer or from another dealer ceasing operations as a part of the dealer's initial inventory, as long as the supplies, parts, and accessories appear in the manufacturer's current parts catalog, list, or current offering;

(c) Dealer cost for all unused, undamaged, and unsold inventory, whether vehicles, parts, or accessories, the purchase of which was required by the manufacturer;

(d) The fair market value of each undamaged sign owned by the dealer that bears a common name, trade name, or trademark of the manufacturer, if acquisition of the sign was recommended or required by the manufacturer and the sign is in good and usable condition less reasonable wear and tear, and has not been depreciated by the dealer more than fifty percent of the value of the sign; and

(e) The fair market value of all special tools owned or leased by the dealer that were acquired from the manufacturer or persons approved by the manufacturer, and that were required by the manufacturer, and are in good and usable condition, less reasonable wear and tear. However, if the tools are leased by the dealer, the manufacturer shall pay the dealer such amounts that are required by the lessor to terminate the lease under the terms of the lease agreement.

(2) To the extent the franchise agreement provides for payment or reimbursement to the dealer in excess of that specified in this section, the provisions of the franchise agreement will control.

(3) The manufacturer shall pay the dealer the sums specified in subsection (1) of this section within ninety days after the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise, if the dealer has clear title to the property or can provide clear title to the property upon payment by the manufacturer and is in a position to convey that title to the manufacturer. [2009 c 232 § 1; 2003 c 354 § 8.]

**46.93.090 Mitigation of damages.** RCW 46.93.030 through 46.93.080 do not relieve a dealer from the obligation to mitigate the dealer's damages upon termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise. [2003 c 354 § 9.]

**46.93.100 Warranty work.** (1) Each manufacturer shall specify in its franchise agreement, or in a separate written agreement, with each of its dealers licensed in this state, the dealer's obligation to perform warranty work or service on the manufacturer's products. Each manufacturer shall provide each of its dealers with a schedule of compensation to be paid to the dealer for any warranty work or service, including parts, labor, and diagnostic work, required of the dealer by the manufacturer in connection with the manufacturer's products, and for work on and preparation of motorsports vehicles received from the manufacturer. The compensation may not be less than the rates reasonably charged by the dealer for like services and parts to retail customers. The compensation may not be reduced by the manufacturer for any reason or made conditional on an activity outside the performance of warranty work.

(2) All claims for warranty work for parts and labor made by dealers under this section must be paid by the manufacturer within thirty days after approval, and must be approved or denied within thirty days of receipt by the manufacturer. Denial of a claim must be in writing with the specific grounds for denial. The manufacturer may audit claims for warranty work and charge the dealer for any unsubstantiated, incorrect, or false claims for a period of one year after payment. However, the manufacturer may audit and charge the dealer for any fraudulent claims during any period for which an action for fraud may be commenced under applicable state law.

(3) All claims submitted by dealers on the forms and in the manner specified by the manufacturer must be either approved or disapproved within thirty days after their receipt. The manufacturer shall notify the dealer in writing of a disapproved claim, and shall set forth the reasons why the claim was not approved. A claim not specifically disapproved in writing within thirty days after receipt is approved, and the manufacturer is required to pay that claim within thirty days of receipt of the claim. [2003 c 354 § 10.]

**46.93.110 Designated successor to franchise ownership.** (1) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise, an owner may appoint a designated successor to succeed to the ownership of the dealer franchise upon the owner's death or incapacity.

(2) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise, a designated successor of a deceased or incapacitated owner of a dealer franchise may succeed to the ownership interest of the owner under the existing franchise, if:

(a) In the case of a designated successor who meets the definition of a designated successor under \*RCW 46.93.020(5), but who is not experienced in the business of a new motorsports vehicle dealer, the person will employ an individual who is qualified and experienced in the business of a new motorsports vehicle dealer to help manage the day-to-day operations of the dealership; or in the case of a designated successor who meets the definition of a designated successor under \*RCW 46.93.020(5) (b) or (c), the person is qualified and experienced in the business of a new motorsports vehicle dealer and meets the normal, reasonable, and uniformly applied standards for grant of an application as a dealer by the manufacturer; and

(b) The designated successor furnishes written notice to the manufacturer of his or her intention to succeed to the ownership of the dealership within sixty days after the owner's death or incapacity; and

(c) The designated successor agrees to be bound by all terms and conditions of the franchise.

(3) The manufacturer may request, and the designated successor shall promptly provide, such personal and financial information as is reasonably necessary to determine whether the succession should be honored.

(4) A manufacturer may refuse to honor the succession to the ownership of a dealer franchise by a designated successor if the manufacturer establishes that good cause exists for its refusal to honor the succession. If the designated successor of a deceased or incapacitated owner of a dealer franchise fails to meet the requirements set forth in subsection (2)(a), (b), and (c) of this section, good cause for refusing to honor the succession is presumed to exist. If a manufacturer believes that good cause exists for refusing to honor the succession to the ownership of a dealer franchise by a designated successor, the manufacturer shall serve written notice on the designated successor and on the department of its refusal to honor the succession no earlier than sixty days from the date the notice is served. The notice must be served not later than sixty days after the manufacturer's receipt of:

(a) Notice of the designated successor's intent to succeed to the ownership interest of the dealer's franchise; or

(b) Any personal or financial information requested by the manufacturer.

(5) The notice in subsection (4) of this section must state the specific grounds for the refusal to honor the succession. If the notice of refusal is not timely and properly served, the designated successor may continue the franchise in full force and effect, subject to termination only as otherwise provided under this chapter.

(6) Within twenty days after receipt of the notice, or within twenty days after the end of any appeal procedure provided by the manufacturer, whichever is greater, the designated successor may file a petition with the department protesting the refusal to honor the succession. The petition must contain a short statement setting forth the reasons for the designated successor's protest. Upon the filing of a protest and the receipt of the filing fee, the department shall promptly notify the manufacturer that a timely protest has been filed

and shall request the appointment of an administrative law judge under chapter 34.12 RCW to conduct a hearing. The manufacturer may not terminate or otherwise discontinue the existing franchise until the administrative law judge has held a hearing and has determined that there is good cause for refusing to honor the succession. If an appeal is taken, the manufacturer may not terminate or discontinue the franchise until all appeals to a superior court or any appellate court have been completed. Nothing in this section precludes a manufacturer or dealer from petitioning the superior court for a stay or other relief pending judicial review.

(7) The manufacturer has the burden of proof to show that good cause exists for the refusal to honor the succession.

(8) The administrative law judge shall conduct the hearing and render a final decision as expeditiously as possible, but in any event not later than one hundred eighty days after a protest is filed.

(9) The administrative law judge shall conduct a hearing concerning the refusal to the succession as provided in RCW 46.93.050(2), and all hearing costs must be borne as provided in that subsection. A party to such a hearing aggrieved by the final order of the administrative law judge may appeal as provided and allowed in RCW 46.93.050(3).

(10) This section does not preclude the owner of a dealer franchise from designating any person as his or her successor by a written, notarized, and witnessed instrument filed with the manufacturer. In the event of a conflict between this section and such a written instrument that has not been revoked by written notice from the owner to the manufacturer, the written instrument governs. [2003 c 354 § 11.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 46.93.020 was alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k), changing subsection (5) to subsection (2).

**46.93.120 Relevant market area—New or relocated dealerships, notice of.** Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise and notwithstanding the terms of a waiver, if a manufacturer intends or proposes to enter into a franchise to establish an additional dealer or to relocate an existing dealer within or into a relevant market area in which the same line make of motorsports vehicle is then represented, the manufacturer shall provide at least ten days advance written notice to the department and to each dealer of the same line make in the relevant market area, of the manufacturer's intention to establish an additional dealer or to relocate an existing dealer within or into the relevant market area. The notice must be sent by certified mail to each such party and include the following information:

(1) The specific location at which the additional or relocated dealer will be established;

(2) The date on or after which the additional or relocated dealer intends to commence business at the proposed location;

(3) The identity of all dealers who are franchised to sell the same line make vehicles as the proposed dealer and who have licensed locations within the relevant market area;

(4) The names and addresses, if available, of the owners of and principal investors in the proposed additional or relocated dealership; and

(5) The specific grounds or reasons for the proposed establishment of an additional dealer or relocation of an existing dealer. [2003 c 354 § 12.]

**46.93.130 Protest of new or relocated dealership—Hearing—Arbitration.** (1) Within thirty days after receipt of the notice under RCW 46.93.120, or within thirty days after the end of an appeal procedure provided by the manufacturer, whichever is greater, a dealer notified or entitled to notice may file a petition with the department protesting the proposed establishment or relocation. The petition must contain a short statement setting forth the reasons for the dealer's objection to the proposed establishment or relocation. Upon the filing of a protest and the receipt of the filing fee, the department shall promptly notify the manufacturer that a timely protest has been filed and shall request the appointment of an administrative law judge under chapter 34.12 RCW to conduct a hearing. The manufacturer may not establish or relocate the dealer until the administrative law judge has held a hearing and administrative proceeding under the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW, and has determined that there is good cause for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation. When more than one protest is filed against the establishment or relocation of the same dealer, the administrative law judge shall consolidate the hearings to expedite disposition of the matter.

(2) If a manufacturer provides in the franchise agreement or by written statement distributed and provided to its dealers for arbitration under the Washington Arbitration Act, \*chapter 7.04 RCW, as a mechanism for resolving disputes relating to the establishment of an additional new motorsports vehicle dealer or the relocation of a new motorsports vehicle dealer, subsection (1) of this section and RCW 46.93.140 will take precedence and the arbitration provision in the franchise agreement or a written statement is void, unless the manufacturer and dealer agree to use arbitration.

(3) If the manufacturer and dealer agree to use arbitration, the dispute must be referred for arbitration to such arbitrator as may be agreed upon by the parties to the dispute. The thirty-day period for filing a protest under subsection (1) of this section still applies except the protesting dealer shall file the protest with the manufacturer. If the parties cannot agree upon a single arbitrator within thirty days from the date the protest is filed, the protesting dealer will select an arbitrator, the manufacturer will select an arbitrator, and the two arbitrators will then select a third arbitrator. If a third arbitrator is not agreed upon within thirty days, any party may apply to the superior court, and the judge of the superior court having jurisdiction will appoint the third arbitrator. The protesting dealer will pay the arbitrator selected by him or her, and the manufacturer will pay the arbitrator it selected. The expense of the third arbitrator and all other expenses of arbitration will be shared equally by the parties. Attorneys' fees and fees paid to expert witnesses are not expenses of arbitration and will be paid by the person incurring them.

(4) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise or written statement of the manufacturer and notwithstanding the terms of a waiver, the arbitration will take place in this state in the county where the protesting dealer has its principal place of business. RCW 46.93.140 applies to a determination made by the arbitrator or arbitrators in determining whether good cause exists for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation of a dealer, and the manufacturer has the burden of proof to establish that good cause exists for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation. After a hearing has

been held, the arbitrator or arbitrators shall render a decision as expeditiously as possible, but in any event not later than one hundred twenty days from the date the arbitrator or arbitrators are selected or appointed. The manufacturer may not establish or relocate the new motorsports vehicle dealer until the arbitration hearing has been held and the arbitrator or arbitrators have determined that there is good cause for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation and any judicial appeals under \*chapter 7.04 RCW have been completed. The written decision of the arbitrator is binding upon the parties unless modified, corrected, or vacated under the Washington Arbitration Act. Any party may appeal the decision of the arbitrator or arbitrators under the Washington Arbitration Act, \*chapter 7.04 RCW. [2003 c 354 § 13.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Chapter 7.04 RCW was repealed in its entirety by 2005 c 433 § 50, effective January 1, 2006. Cf. chapter 7.04A RCW.

**46.93.140 Factors considered by administrative law judge.** In determining whether good cause exists for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation of a dealer of the same line make, the factors that the administrative law judge shall consider must include, but are not limited to the following:

(1) The extent, nature, and permanency of the investment of both the existing dealers of the same line make in the relevant market area and the proposed additional or relocating dealer, including obligations reasonably incurred by the existing dealers to perform their obligations under their respective franchises;

(2) The growth or decline in population and new motorsports vehicle registrations during the past five years in the relevant market area;

(3) The effect on the consuming public;

(4) The effect on the existing dealers in the relevant market area, including any adverse financial impact;

(5) The reasonably expected or anticipated vehicle market for the relevant market area, including demographic factors such as age of population, income, education, size class preference, product popularity, retail lease transactions, or other factors affecting sales to consumers in the relevant market area;

(6) Whether it is injurious or beneficial to the public welfare for an additional dealership to be established;

(7) Whether the dealers of the same line make in the relevant market area are providing adequate competition and convenient customer care for the motorsports vehicles of the same line make in the relevant market area, including the adequacy of motorsports vehicle sales and service facilities, equipment, supply of vehicle parts, and qualified service personnel;

(8) Whether the establishment of an additional dealer would increase competition and be in the public interest;

(9) Whether the manufacturer is motivated principally by good faith to establish an additional or new dealer and not by noneconomic considerations;

(10) Whether the manufacturer has denied its existing dealers of the same line make the opportunity for reasonable growth, market expansion, or relocation;

(11) Whether the protesting dealer or dealers are in substantial compliance with their dealer agreements or franchises; and

(12) Whether the manufacturer has complied with the requirements of RCW 46.93.120 and 46.93.130. [2003 c 354 § 14.]

**46.93.150 Hearing—Procedures, costs, appeal.** (1) The manufacturer has the burden of proof to establish that good cause exists for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation.

(2) The administrative law judge shall conduct any hearing as provided in RCW 46.93.050(2) and all hearing costs will be borne as provided in that subsection. The administrative law judge shall render the final decision as expeditiously as possible, but in any event not later than one hundred twenty days after a protest is filed. If more than one protest is filed, the one hundred twenty days commences to run from the date the last protest is filed. A party to such a hearing aggrieved by the final order of the administrative law judge may appeal as provided and allowed in RCW 46.93.050(3). [2003 c 354 § 15.]

**46.93.160 Relocation requirements—Exceptions.** RCW 46.93.120 through 46.93.150 do not apply:

(1) To the sale or transfer of the ownership or assets of an existing dealer where the transferee proposes to engage in business representing the same line make at the same location or within two miles of that location;

(2) To the relocation of an existing dealer within the dealer's relevant market area, if the relocation is not at a site within eight miles of any dealer of the same line make;

(3) If the proposed dealer is to be established at or within two miles of a location at which a former dealer of the same line make had ceased operating within the previous twenty-four months;

(4) Where the proposed relocation is two miles or less from the existing location of the relocating dealer; or

(5) Where the proposed relocation is to be further away from all other existing dealers of the same line make in the relevant market area. [2003 c 354 § 16.]

**46.93.170 Unfair practices.** (1) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise agreement, a manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative, or an agent, officer, parent company, wholly or partially owned subsidiary, affiliated entity, or other person controlled by or under common control with a manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative, shall not:

(a) Discriminate between dealers by selling or offering to sell a like motorsports vehicle to one dealer at a lower actual price than the actual price offered to another dealer for the same model similarly equipped;

(b) Discriminate between dealers by selling or offering to sell parts or accessories to one dealer at a lower actual price than the actual price offered to another dealer;

(c) Discriminate between dealers by using a promotion plan, marketing plan, or other similar device that results in a lower actual price on vehicles, parts, or accessories being charged to one dealer over another dealer;

(d) Discriminate between dealers by adopting a method, or changing an existing method, for the allocation, scheduling, or delivery of new motorsports vehicles, parts, or accessories to its dealers that is not fair, reasonable, and equitable.

Upon the request of a dealer, a manufacturer shall disclose in writing to the dealer the method by which new motorsports vehicles, parts, and accessories are allocated, scheduled, or delivered to its dealers handling the same line or make of vehicles;

(e) Give preferential treatment to some dealers over others by refusing or failing to deliver, in reasonable quantities and within a reasonable time after receipt of an order, to a dealer holding a franchise for a line or make of motorsports vehicles sold or distributed by the manufacturer, a new vehicle, parts, or accessories, if the vehicle, parts, or accessories are being delivered to other dealers, or require a dealer to purchase unreasonable advertising displays or other materials, or unreasonably require a dealer to remodel or renovate existing facilities as a prerequisite to receiving a model or series of vehicles;

(f) Compete with a dealer by acting in the capacity of a dealer, or by owning, operating, or controlling, whether directly or indirectly, a dealership in this state. It is not, however, a violation of this subsection for:

(i) A manufacturer to own or operate a dealership for a temporary period, not to exceed two years, during the transition from one owner of the dealership to another where the dealership was previously owned by a franchised dealer and is currently for sale to any qualified independent person at a fair and reasonable price. The temporary operation may be extended for one twelve-month period on petition of the temporary operator to the department. The matter will be handled as an adjudicative proceeding under chapter 34.05 RCW. A dealer who is a franchisee of the petitioning manufacturer or distributor may intervene and participate in a proceeding under this subsection (1)(f)(i). The temporary operator has the burden of proof to show justification for the extension and a good faith effort to sell the dealership to an independent person at a fair and reasonable price;

(ii) A manufacturer to own or operate a dealership in conjunction with an independent person in a bona fide business relationship for the purpose of broadening the diversity of its dealer body and enhancing opportunities for qualified persons who are part of a group who have historically been underrepresented in its dealer body, or other qualified persons who lack the resources to purchase a dealership outright, and where the independent person (A) has made a significant, bona fide capital investment in the dealership that is subject to loss; (B) has an ownership interest in the dealership; and (C) operates the dealership under a bona fide written agreement with the manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative under which he or she will acquire all of the ownership interest in the dealership within a reasonable period of time and under reasonable terms and conditions. The manufacturer has the burden of proof of establishing that the acquisition of the dealership by the independent person was made within a reasonable period of time and under reasonable terms and conditions;

(iii) A manufacturer to own or operate a dealership in conjunction with an independent person in a bona fide business relationship where the independent person (A) has made a significant, bona fide capital investment in the dealership that is subject to loss; (B) has an ownership interest in the dealership; and (C) operates the dealership under a bona fide written agreement with the manufacturer under which he or

she will acquire all of the ownership interest in the dealership within a reasonable period of time and under reasonable terms and conditions. The manufacture [manufacturer] has the burden of proof of establishing that the acquisition of the dealership by the independent person was made within a reasonable period of time and under reasonable terms and conditions. The number of dealerships operated under this subsection (1)(f)(iii) may not exceed four percent rounded up to the nearest whole number of a manufacturer's total of dealer franchises in this state;

(iv) A manufacturer to own, operate, or control a dealership trading exclusively in a single line make of the manufacturer if (A) the manufacturer does not own, directly or indirectly, in the aggregate, in excess of forty-five percent of the total ownership interest in the dealership; (B) at the time the manufacturer first acquires ownership or assumes operation or control of any such dealership, the distance between any dealership thus owned, operated, or controlled and the nearest dealership trading in the same line make of vehicle and in which the manufacturer has no ownership or control complies with the applicable provisions in the relevant market area sections of this chapter; (C) all of the manufacturer's franchise agreements confer rights on the dealer of that line make to develop and operate within a defined geographic territory or area, as many dealership facilities as the dealer and the manufacturer agree are appropriate; and (D) the manufacturer had no more than four new motorsports vehicle dealers of that manufacturer's line make in this state, and at least half of those dealers owned and operated two or more dealership facilities in the geographic territory or area covered by their franchise agreements with the manufacturer;

(g) Compete with a dealer by owning, operating, or controlling, whether directly or indirectly, a service facility in this state for the repair or maintenance of motorsports vehicles under the manufacturer's new motorsports vehicle warranty and extended warranty. Nothing in this subsection (1)(g), however, prohibits a manufacturer from owning or operating a service facility for the purpose of providing or performing maintenance, repair, or service work on motorsports vehicles that are owned by the manufacturer;

(h) Use confidential or proprietary information obtained from a dealer to unfairly compete with the dealer without the prior written consent of the dealer. For purposes of this subsection (1)(h), "confidential or proprietary information" means trade secrets as defined in RCW 19.108.010, business plans, marketing plans or strategies, customer lists, contracts, sales data, revenues, or other financial information;

(i) Coerce, threaten, intimidate, or require, either directly or indirectly, a dealer to accept, buy, or order any motorsports vehicle, part, or accessory, or any other commodity or service not voluntarily ordered, or requested, or to buy, order, or pay anything of value for such items in order to obtain a motorsports vehicle, part, accessory, or other commodity that has been voluntarily ordered or requested;

(j) Coerce, threaten, intimidate, or require, either directly or indirectly, a dealer to enter into any agreement that violates this chapter;

(k) Require a change in capital structure or means of financing for the dealership if the dealer at all times meets the reasonable, written, and uniformly applied capital standards determined by the manufacturer;

(l) Prevent or attempt to prevent a dealer from making reasonable changes in the capital structure of a dealership or the means by which the dealership is financed if the dealer meets the reasonable, written, and uniformly applied capital requirements determined by the manufacturer;

(m) Unreasonably require the dealer to change the location or require any substantial alterations to the place of business;

(n) Condition a renewal or extension of the franchise on the dealer's substantial renovation of the existing place of business or on the construction, purchase, acquisition, or release of a new place of business unless written notice is first provided one hundred eighty days before the date of renewal or extension and the manufacturer demonstrates the reasonableness of the requested actions. The manufacturer shall agree to supply the dealer with an adequate quantity of motorsports vehicles, parts, and accessories to meet the sales level necessary to support the overhead resulting from substantial construction, acquisition, or lease of a new place of business;

(o) Coerce, threaten, intimidate, or require, either directly or indirectly, a dealer to order or accept delivery of a motorsports vehicle with special features, accessories, or equipment not included in the list price of the vehicle as advertised by the manufacturer, except items that have been voluntarily requested or ordered by the dealer, and except items required by law;

(p) Fail to hold harmless and indemnify a dealer against losses, including lawsuits and court costs, arising from: (i) The manufacture or performance of a motorsports vehicle, part, or accessory if the lawsuit involves representations by the manufacturer on the manufacture or performance of a motorsports vehicle without negligence on the part of the dealer; (ii) damage to merchandise in transit where the manufacturer specifies the carrier; (iii) the manufacturer's failure to jointly defend product liability suits concerning the motorsports vehicle, part, or accessory provided to the dealer; or (iv) any other act performed by the manufacturer;

(q) Unfairly prevent or attempt to prevent a dealer from receiving reasonable compensation for the value of a motorsports vehicle;

(r) Fail to pay to a dealer, within a reasonable time after receipt of a valid claim, a payment agreed to be made by the manufacturer on grounds that a new motorsports vehicle, or a prior year's model, is in the dealer's inventory at the time of introduction of new model motorsports vehicles;

(s) Deny a dealer the right of free association with any other dealer for any lawful purpose;

(t) Charge increased prices without having given written notice to the dealer at least fifteen days before the effective date of the price increases;

(u) Permit factory authorized warranty service to be performed upon motorsports vehicles or accessories by persons other than their franchised dealers;

(v) Require or coerce a dealer to sell, assign, or transfer a retail sales installment contract, or require the dealer to act as an agent for a manufacturer, in the securing of a promissory note, a security agreement given in connection with the sale of a motorsports vehicle, or securing of a policy of insurance for a motorsports vehicle. The manufacturer may not condition delivery of any motorsports vehicle, parts, or



accessories upon the dealer's assignment, sale, or other transfer of sales installment contracts to specific finance companies;

(w) Require or coerce a dealer to grant a manufacturer a right of first refusal or other preference to purchase the dealer's franchise or place of business, or both.

(2) Subsections (1)(a), (b), and (c) of this section do not apply to sales to a dealer: (a) For resale to a federal, state, or local government agency; (b) where the motorsports vehicles will be sold or donated for use in a program of driver's education; (c) where the sale is made under a manufacturer's bona fide promotional program offering sales incentives or rebates; (d) where the sale of parts or accessories is under a manufacturer's bona fide quantity discount program; or (e) where the sale is made under a manufacturer's bona fide fleet vehicle discount program. For purposes of this subsection, "fleet" means a group of fifteen or more new motorsports vehicles purchased or leased by a dealer at one time under a single purchase or lease agreement for use as part of a fleet, and where the dealer has been assigned a fleet identifier code by the department.

(3) The following definitions apply to this section:

(a) "Actual price" means the price to be paid by the dealer less any incentive paid by the manufacturer, whether paid to the dealer or the ultimate purchaser of the motorsports vehicle.

(b) "Control" or "controlling" means (i) the possession of, title to, or control of ten percent or more of the voting equity interest in a person, whether directly or indirectly through a fiduciary, agent, or other intermediary, or (ii) the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of a person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, through director control, by contract, or otherwise, except as expressly provided under the franchise agreement.

(c) "Operate" means to manage a dealership, whether directly or indirectly.

(d) "Own" or "ownership" means to hold the beneficial ownership of one percent or more of any class of equity interest in a dealership, whether the interest is that of a shareholder, partner, limited liability company member, or otherwise. To hold an ownership interest means to have possession of, title to, or control of the ownership interest, whether directly or indirectly through a fiduciary, agent, or other intermediary.

(4) A violation of this section is deemed to affect the public interest and constitutes an unlawful and unfair practice under chapter 19.86 RCW. A person aggrieved by an alleged violation of this section may petition the department to have the matter handled as an adjudicative proceeding under chapter 34.05 RCW. [2003 c 354 § 17; (2009 c 517 § 1 expired August 1, 2009).]

**Effective date—2009 c 517:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 15, 2009]." [2009 c 517 § 2.]

**Expiration date—2009 c 517:** "This act expires August 1, 2009." [2009 c 517 § 3.]

#### **46.93.180 Sale, transfer, or exchange of franchise.**

(1) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise, a manufacturer

may not unreasonably withhold consent to the sale, transfer, or exchange of a franchise to a qualified buyer who meets the normal, reasonable, and uniformly applied standards established by the manufacturer for the appointment of a dealer or is capable of being approved by the department as a dealer in this state. A manufacturer's failure to respond in writing to a request for consent under this subsection within sixty days after receipt of a written request on the forms, if any, generally used by the manufacturer containing the information and reasonable promises required by a manufacturer, is deemed to be consent to the request. A manufacturer may request, and, if so requested, the applicant for a franchise (a) shall promptly provide such personal and financial information as is reasonably necessary to determine whether the sale, transfer, or exchange should be approved, and (b) shall agree to be bound by all reasonable terms and conditions of the franchise.

(2) If a manufacturer refuses to approve the sale, transfer, or exchange of a franchise, the manufacturer shall serve written notice on the applicant, the transferring, selling, or exchanging dealer, and the department, of its refusal to approve the transfer of the franchise no later than sixty days after the date the manufacturer receives the written request from the dealer. If the manufacturer has requested personal or financial information from the applicant under subsection (1) of this section, the notice must be served not later than sixty days after the receipt of all of such documents. Service of all notices under this section must be made by personal service or by certified mail, return receipt requested.

(3) The notice in subsection (2) of this section must state the specific grounds for the refusal to approve the sale, transfer, or exchange of the franchise.

(4) Within twenty days after receipt of the notice of refusal to approve the sale, transfer, or exchange of the franchise by the transferring dealer, the dealer may file a petition with the department to protest the refusal to approve the sale, transfer, or exchange. The petition must contain a short statement setting forth the reasons for the dealer's protest. Upon the filing of a protest and the receipt of the filing fee, the department shall promptly notify the manufacturer that a timely protest has been filed, and the department shall arrange for a hearing with an administrative law judge as the presiding officer to determine if the manufacturer unreasonably withheld consent to the sale, transfer, or exchange of the franchise.

(5) In determining whether the manufacturer unreasonably withheld its approval to the sale, transfer, or exchange, the manufacturer has the burden of proof that it acted reasonably. A manufacturer's refusal to accept or approve a proposed buyer who otherwise meets the normal, reasonable, and uniformly applied standards established by the manufacturer for the appointment of a new dealer, or who otherwise is capable of operating as a dealer in this state, is presumed to be unreasonable.

(6) The administrative law judge shall conduct a hearing and render a final decision as expeditiously as possible, but in any event not later than one hundred twenty days after a protest is filed. Only the selling, transferring, or exchanging dealer and the manufacturer may be parties to the hearing.

(7) The administrative law judge shall conduct any hearing as provided in RCW 46.93.050(2), and all hearing costs

must be borne as provided in that subsection. Only the manufacturer and the selling, transferring, or exchanging dealer may appeal the final order of the administrative law judge to the superior court or the appellate court as provided in the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW. [2003 c 354 § 18.]

**46.93.190 Petition and hearing filing fees, costs, security.** The department shall determine and establish the amount of the filing fees required in RCW 46.93.040, 46.93.110, 46.93.130, and 46.93.180. The fees must be set in accordance with RCW 43.24.086.

The department may also require the petitioning or protesting party to give security, in such sum as the department deems proper but not to exceed one thousand dollars, for the payment of such costs as may be incurred in conducting the hearing as required under this chapter. The security may be given in the form of a bond or stipulation or other undertaking with one or more sureties.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the department shall assess, in equal shares, each of the parties to the hearing for the cost of conducting the hearing. Upon receipt of payment of the costs, the department shall refund and return to the petitioning party any excess funds initially posted by the party as security for the hearing costs. If the petitioning party provided security in the form of a bond or other undertaking with one or more sureties, the bond or other undertaking will then be exonerated and the surety or sureties under it discharged. [2003 c 354 § 19.]

**46.93.200 Department defining additional motorsports vehicles.** The department shall determine through rule making under the Administrative Procedure Act any motorsports vehicles not already defined in RCW 46.93.020(7) as of July 27, 2003, that are manufactured after July 27, 2003. [2003 c 354 § 20.]

**46.93.900 Severability.** If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [2003 c 354 § 21.]

**46.93.901 Captions not law.** Captions used in this chapter are not part of the law. [2003 c 354 § 22.]

## Chapter 46.96 RCW

### MANUFACTURERS' AND DEALERS' FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS

#### Sections

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**46.96.010 Legislative findings.** The legislature finds and declares that the distribution and sale of motor vehicles in this state vitally affect the general economy of the state and the public interest and public welfare, that provision for warranty service to motor vehicles is of substantial concern to the people of this state, that the maintenance of fair competition among dealers and others is in the public interest, and that the maintenance of strong and sound dealerships is essential to provide continuing and necessary reliable services to the consuming public in this state and to provide stable employment to the citizens of this state. The legislature further finds that there is a substantial disparity in bargaining power between automobile manufacturers and their dealers, and that in order to promote the public interest and the public welfare, and in the exercise of its police power, it is necessary to regulate the relationship between motor vehicle dealers and motor vehicle manufacturers, importers, distributors, and their representatives doing business in this state, not only for the protection of dealers but also for the benefit for the public in assuring the continued availability and servicing of automobiles sold to the public.

The legislature recognizes it is in the best interest for manufacturers and dealers of motor vehicles to conduct business with each other in a fair, efficient, and competitive manner. The legislature declares the public interest is best served by dealers being assured of the ability to manage their business enterprises under a contractual obligation with manufacturers where dealers do not experience unreasonable interference and are assured of the ability to transfer ownership of their business without undue constraints. It is the intent of the legislature to impose a regulatory scheme and to regulate competition in the motor vehicle industry to the extent necessary to balance fairness and efficiency. These actions will permit motor vehicle dealers to better serve consumers and allow dealers to devote their best competitive efforts and resources to the sale and services of the manufacturer's products to consumers. [1989 c 415 § 1.]

**46.96.020 Definitions.** In addition to the definitions contained in RCW 46.70.011, which are incorporated by ref-

erence into this chapter, the definitions set forth in this section apply only for the purposes of this chapter.

(1) A "new motor vehicle" is a vehicle that has not been titled by a state and ownership of which may be transferred on a manufacturer's statement of origin (MSO).

(2) "New motor vehicle dealer" means a motor vehicle dealer engaged in the business of buying, selling, exchanging, or otherwise dealing in new motor vehicles or new and used motor vehicles at an established place of business, under a franchise, sales and service agreement, or contract with the manufacturer of the new motor vehicles. However, the term "new motor vehicle dealer" does not include a miscellaneous vehicle dealer as defined in \*RCW 46.70.011(3)(c) or a motorcycle dealer as defined in \*\*chapter 46.94 RCW.

(3) "Franchise" means one or more agreements, whether oral or written, between a manufacturer and a new motor vehicle dealer, under which the new motor vehicle dealer is authorized to sell, service, and repair new motor vehicles, parts, and accessories under a common name, trade name, trademark, or service mark of the manufacturer.

"Franchise" includes an oral or written contract and includes a dealer agreement, either expressed or implied, between a manufacturer and a new motor vehicle dealer that purports to fix the legal rights and liabilities between the parties and under which (a) the dealer is granted the right to purchase and resell motor vehicles manufactured, distributed, or imported by the manufacturer; (b) the dealer's business is associated with the trademark, trade name, commercial symbol, or advertisement designating the franchisor or the products distributed by the manufacturer; and (c) the dealer's business relies on the manufacturer for a continued supply of motor vehicles, parts, and accessories.

(4) "Good faith" means honesty in fact and fair dealing in the trade as defined and interpreted in \*\*\*RCW 62A.2-103.

(5) "Designated successor" means:

(a) The spouse, biological or adopted child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, brother, or sister of the owner of a new motor vehicle dealership who, in the case of the owner's death, is entitled to inherit the ownership interest in the new motor vehicle dealership under the terms of the owner's will or similar document, and if there is no such will or similar document, then under applicable intestate laws;

(b) A qualified person experienced in the business of a new motor vehicle dealer who has been nominated by the owner of a new motor vehicle dealership as the successor in a written, notarized, and witnessed instrument submitted to the manufacturer; or

(c) In the case of an incapacitated owner of a new motor vehicle dealership, the person who has been appointed by a court as the legal representative of the incapacitated owner's property.

(6) "Owner" means a person holding an ownership interest in the business entity operating as a new motor vehicle dealer and who is the designated dealer in the new motor vehicle franchise agreement.

(7) "Person" means every natural person, partnership, corporation, association, trust, estate, or any other legal entity. [2003 c 21 § 1; 1989 c 415 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 46.70.011 was amended by 2006 c 364 § 1, changing subsection (3) to subsection (4). RCW 46.70.011 was subsequently alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k), changing subsection

(4) to subsection (17), effective July 1, 2011.

\*\* (2) Chapter 46.94 RCW was repealed by 2003 c 354 § 24. Cf. chapter 46.93 RCW.

\*\*\* (3) RCW 62A.2-103 was amended by 2012 c 214 § 801, deleting the definition of "good faith."

**Captions not law—2003 c 21:** "Captions used in this act are not part of the law." [2003 c 21 § 7.]

**46.96.030 Termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of franchise restricted.** Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise and notwithstanding the terms of a waiver, no manufacturer may terminate, cancel, or fail to renew a franchise with a new motor vehicle dealer, unless the manufacturer has complied with the notice requirements of RCW 46.96.070 and an administrative law judge has determined, if requested in writing by the new motor vehicle dealer within the applicable time period specified in RCW 46.96.070 (1), (2), or (3), after hearing, that there is good cause for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise and that the manufacturer has acted in good faith, as defined in this chapter, regarding the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal. Between the time of issuance of the notice required under RCW 46.96.070 and the effective termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise under this chapter, the rights, duties, and obligations of the new motor vehicle dealer and the manufacturer under the franchise and this chapter are unaffected, including those under RCW 46.96.200. [2010 c 178 § 1; 1989 c 415 § 3.]

**46.96.035 Payment of fair market value of dealer goodwill upon request and termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of franchise.** (1) In the event of a termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal under this chapter, except for a termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal under RCW 46.96.070(2), or a voluntary termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal initiated by the dealer, the manufacturer shall, at the request and option of the new motor vehicle dealer, also pay to the new motor vehicle dealer the fair market value of the motor vehicle dealer's goodwill for the make or line as of the date immediately preceding any communication to the public or dealer regarding termination. To the extent the franchise agreement provides for the payment or reimbursement to the new motor vehicle dealer in excess of the value specified in this section, the provisions of the franchise agreement control.

(2) The manufacturer shall pay the new motor vehicle dealer the value specified in subsection (1) of this section within ninety days after the date of termination. [2010 c 178 § 8.]

**46.96.040 Determination of good cause, good faith—Petition, notice, decision, appeal.** A new motor vehicle dealer who has received written notification from the manufacturer of the manufacturer's intent to terminate, cancel, or not renew the franchise may file a petition with the department for a determination as to the existence of good cause and good faith for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise. The petition shall contain a short statement setting forth the reasons for the dealer's objection to the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise. Upon the filing of the petition and the receipt of the filing fee, the department shall promptly notify the manufacturer that a

timely petition has been filed and shall request the appointment of an administrative law judge under chapter 34.12 RCW to conduct a hearing. The franchise in question shall continue in full force and effect pending the administrative law judge's decision. If the decision of the administrative law judge terminating, canceling, or failing to renew a dealer's franchise is appealed by a dealer, the franchise in question shall continue in full force and effect until the appeal to superior court is finally determined or until the expiration of one hundred eighty days from the date of issuance of the administrative law judge's written decision, whichever is less. Nothing in this section precludes a manufacturer or dealer from petitioning the superior court for a stay or other relief pending judicial review. [1989 c 415 § 4.]

**46.96.050 Determination of good cause, good faith—Hearing, decision, procedures—Judicial review.** (1) The administrative law judge shall conduct the hearing and render a final decision as expeditiously as possible, but in any event not later than one hundred eighty days after a petition is filed. If the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal is under RCW 46.96.070(2), the administrative law judge shall give the proceeding priority consideration and shall render a final decision not later than sixty days after a petition is filed.

(2) The administrative law judge shall conduct the hearing as an adjudicative proceeding in accordance with the procedures provided for in the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW. The administrative law judge shall render the final decision and shall enter a final order. Except as otherwise provided in RCW 34.05.446 and 34.05.449, all hearing costs shall be borne on an equal basis by the parties to the hearing.

(3) A party to a hearing under this chapter may be represented by counsel. A party to a hearing aggrieved by the final order of the administrative law judge concerning the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise may seek judicial review of the order in the superior court in the manner provided for in RCW 34.05.510 through 34.05.598. A petitioner for judicial review need not exhaust all administrative appeals or administrative review processes as a prerequisite for seeking judicial review under this section. [1989 c 415 § 5.]

**46.96.060 Good cause, what constitutes—Burden of proof.** (1) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise or the terms of a waiver, and except as otherwise provided in RCW 46.96.070(2) (a) through (d), good cause exists for termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal when there is a failure by the new motor vehicle dealer to comply with a provision of the franchise that is both reasonable and of material significance to the franchise relationship, if the new motor vehicle dealer was notified of the failure within one hundred eighty days after the manufacturer first acquired knowledge of the failure and the new motor vehicle dealer did not correct the failure after being requested to do so.

If, however, the failure of the new motor vehicle dealer relates to the performance of the new motor vehicle dealer in sales, service, or level of customer satisfaction, good cause is the failure of the new motor vehicle dealer to comply with reasonable performance standards determined by the manufacturer in accordance with uniformly applied criteria, and:

(a) The new motor vehicle dealer was advised, in writing, by the manufacturer of the failure;

(b) The notice under this subsection stated that notice was provided of a failure of performance under this section;

(c) The manufacturer provided the new motor vehicle dealer with specific, reasonable goals or reasonable performance standards with which the dealer must comply, together with a suggested timetable or program for attaining those goals or standards, and the new motor vehicle dealer was given a reasonable opportunity, for a period not less than one hundred eighty days, to comply with the goals or standards; and

(d) The new motor vehicle dealer did not substantially comply with the manufacturer's performance standards during that period and the failure to demonstrate substantial compliance was not due to market or economic factors within the new motor vehicle dealer's relevant market area that were beyond the control of the dealer.

(2) The manufacturer has the burden of proof of establishing good cause and good faith for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise under this section. [1989 c 415 § 6.]

**46.96.070 Notice of termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal.** Before the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise, the manufacturer shall give written notification to both the department and the new motor vehicle dealer. For the purposes of this chapter, the discontinuance of the sale and distribution of a new motor vehicle line, or the constructive discontinuance by material reduction in selection offered, such that continuing to retail the line is no longer economically viable for a dealer is, at the option of the dealer, considered a termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise. The notice shall be by certified mail or personally delivered to the new motor vehicle dealer and shall state the intention to terminate, cancel, or not renew the franchise, the reasons for the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal, and the effective date of the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal. The notice shall be given:

(1) Not less than ninety days before the effective date of the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal;

(2) Not less than fifteen days before the effective date of the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal with respect to any of the following that constitute good cause for termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal:

(a) Insolvency of the new motor vehicle dealer or the filing of any petition by or against the new motor vehicle dealer under bankruptcy or receivership law;

(b) Failure of the new motor vehicle dealer to conduct sales and service operations during customary business hours for seven consecutive business days, except for acts of God or circumstances beyond the direct control of the new motor vehicle dealer;

(c) Conviction of the new motor vehicle dealer, or principal operator of the dealership, of a felony punishable by imprisonment; or

(d) Suspension or revocation of a license that the new motor vehicle dealer is required to have to operate the new motor vehicle dealership where the suspension or revocation is for a period in excess of thirty days;

(3) Not less than one hundred eighty days before the effective date of termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal, where the manufacturer intends to discontinue sale and distribution of the new motor vehicle line. [2010 c 178 § 2; 1989 c 415 § 7.]

**46.96.080 Payments by manufacturer to dealer for inventory, equipment, etc.** (1) Upon the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise, the manufacturer shall pay the new motor vehicle dealer, at a minimum:

(a) Dealer cost plus any charges by the manufacturer for distribution, delivery, and taxes, less all allowances paid or credited to the dealer by the manufacturer, of unused, undamaged, and unsold new motor vehicles in the new motor vehicle dealer's inventory that were acquired from the manufacturer or another new motor vehicle dealer of the same line make in the ordinary course of business within the previous twelve months;

(b) Dealer cost for all unused, undamaged, and unsold supplies, parts, and accessories in original packaging, except that in the case of sheet metal, a comparable substitute for original packaging may be used, if the supply, part, or accessory was acquired from the manufacturer or from another new motor vehicle dealer ceasing operations as a part of the new motor vehicle dealer's initial inventory as long as the supplies, parts, and accessories appear in the manufacturer's current parts catalog, list, or current offering;

(c) Dealer cost for all unused, undamaged, and unsold inventory, whether vehicles, parts, or accessories, the purchase of which was required by the manufacturer;

(d) The fair market value of each undamaged sign owned by the new motor vehicle dealer that bears a common name, trade name, or trademark of the manufacturer, if acquisition of the sign was recommended or required by the manufacturer and the sign is in good and usable condition less reasonable wear and tear, and has not been depreciated by the dealer more than fifty percent of the value of the sign;

(e) The fair market value of all equipment, furnishings, and special tools owned or leased by the new motor vehicle dealer that were acquired from the manufacturer or sources approved by the manufacturer and that were recommended or required by the manufacturer and are in good and usable condition, less reasonable wear and tear. However, if the equipment, furnishings, or tools are leased by the new motor vehicle dealer, the manufacturer shall pay the new motor vehicle dealer such amounts that are required by the lessor to terminate the lease under the terms of the lease agreement; and

(f) The cost of transporting, handling, packing, and loading of new motor vehicles, supplies, parts, accessories, signs, special tools, equipment, and furnishings.

To the extent the franchise agreement provides for payment or reimbursement to the new motor vehicle dealer in excess of that specified in this section, the provisions of the franchise agreement shall control.

(2)(a) For the nonrenewal or termination of a franchise that is implemented as a result of the sale of assets or stock of the motor vehicle dealer, the party purchasing the assets or stock of the motor vehicle dealer may negotiate for the purchase or other transfer of some or all unused, undamaged, and unsold new motor vehicles in the selling new motor vehicle dealer's inventory that were acquired from the manufacturer

or another new motor vehicle dealer of the same line make in the ordinary course of business within the previous twelve months.

(b) For the nonrenewal or termination of a franchise that is implemented as a result of the sale of assets or stock of the motor vehicle dealer, this section does not prohibit a manufacturer from negotiating with the purchasing party for the purchase or other transfer of some or all unused, undamaged, and unsold new motor vehicles in the selling new motor vehicle dealer's inventory that were acquired from the manufacturer or another new motor vehicle dealer of the same line make in the ordinary course of business within the previous twelve months.

(c) A manufacturer's obligation under (a) of this subsection extends only to vehicles not purchased or otherwise transferred to the party purchasing the assets or stock of the motor vehicle dealer.

(3) The manufacturer shall pay the new motor vehicle dealer the sums specified in subsection (1) of this section within ninety days after the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise, if the new motor vehicle dealer has clear title to the property or can provide clear title to the property upon payment by the manufacturer and is in a position to convey that title to the manufacturer.

(4) In the case of motor homes, this section applies only to manufacturer-initiated termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise. [2009 c 12 § 1; 1989 c 415 § 8.]

**Effective date—2009 c 12:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 25, 2009]." [2009 c 12 § 2.]

**46.96.090 Payments by manufacturer for dealership facilities.** (1) In the event of a termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal under this chapter, except for termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal under RCW 46.96.070(2) or a voluntary termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal initiated by the dealer, the manufacturer shall, at the request and option of the new motor vehicle dealer, also pay to the new motor vehicle dealer the dealer costs for any relocation, substantial alteration, or remodeling of a dealer's facilities required by a manufacturer for the continuance or renewal of a franchise agreement completed within three years of the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal and:

(a) A sum equivalent to rent for the unexpired term of the lease or one year, whichever is less, or such longer term as provided in the franchise, if the new motor vehicle dealer is leasing the new motor vehicle dealership facilities from a lessor other than the manufacturer; or

(b) A sum equivalent to the reasonable rental value of the new motor vehicle dealership facilities for one year or until the facilities are leased or sold, whichever is less, if the new motor vehicle dealer owns the new motor vehicle dealership facilities.

(2) The rental payment required under subsection (1) of this section is only required to the extent that the facilities were used for activities under the franchise and only to the extent the facilities were not leased for unrelated purposes. If the rental payment under subsection (1) of this section is made, the manufacturer is entitled to possession and use of

the new motor vehicle dealership facilities for the period rent is paid. [2010 c 178 § 3; 1989 c 415 § 9.]

**46.96.100 Mitigation of damages.** RCW 46.96.030 through 46.96.090 do not relieve a new motor vehicle dealer from the obligation to mitigate the dealer's damages upon termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of the franchise. [1989 c 415 § 10.]

**46.96.105 Warranty work.** (1) Each manufacturer shall specify in its franchise agreement, or in a separate written agreement, with each of its dealers licensed in this state, the dealer's obligation to perform warranty work or service on the manufacturer's products. Each manufacturer shall provide each of its dealers with a schedule of compensation to be paid to the dealer for any warranty work or service, including parts, labor, and diagnostic work, required of the dealer by the manufacturer in connection with the manufacturer's products. The schedule of compensation must not be less than the rates charged by the dealer for similar service to retail customers for nonwarranty service and repairs, and must not be less than the schedule of compensation for an existing dealer as of June 10, 2010.

(a) The rates charged by the dealer for nonwarranty service or work for parts means the price paid by the dealer for those parts, including all shipping and other charges, increased by the franchisee's average percentage markup. A dealer must establish and declare the dealer's average percentage markup by submitting to the manufacturer one hundred sequential customer-paid service repair orders or ninety days of customer-paid service repair orders, whichever is less, covering repairs made no more than one hundred eighty days before the submission. A change in a dealer's established average percentage markup takes effect thirty days following the submission. A manufacturer may not require a dealer to establish average percentage markup by another methodology. A manufacturer may not require information that the dealer believes is unduly burdensome or time consuming to provide, including, but not limited to, part-by-part or transaction-by-transaction calculations.

(b) A manufacturer shall compensate a dealer for labor and diagnostic work at the rates charged by the dealer to its retail customers for such work. If a manufacturer can demonstrate that the rates unreasonably exceed those of all other franchised motor vehicle dealers in the same relevant market area offering the same or a competitive motor vehicle line, the manufacturer is not required to honor the rate increase proposed by the dealer. If the manufacturer is not required to honor the rate increase proposed by the dealer, the dealer is entitled to resubmit a new proposed rate for labor and diagnostic work.

(c) A dealer may not be granted an increase in the average percentage markup or labor and diagnostic work rate more than twice in one calendar year.

(2) All claims for warranty work for parts and labor made by dealers under this section shall be submitted to the manufacturer within one year of the date the work was performed. All claims submitted must be paid by the manufacturer within thirty days following receipt, provided the claim has been approved by the manufacturer. The manufacturer has the right to audit claims for warranty work and to charge

the dealer for any unsubstantiated, incorrect, or false claims for a period of one year following payment. However, the manufacturer may audit and charge the dealer for any fraudulent claims during any period for which an action for fraud may be commenced under applicable state law.

(3) All claims submitted by dealers on the forms and in the manner specified by the manufacturer shall be either approved or disapproved within thirty days following their receipt. The manufacturer shall notify the dealer in writing of any disapproved claim, and shall set forth the reasons why the claim was not approved. Any claim not specifically disapproved in writing within thirty days following receipt is approved, and the manufacturer is required to pay that claim within thirty days of receipt of the claim.

(4) A manufacturer may not otherwise recover all or any portion of its costs for compensating its dealers licensed in this state for warranty parts and service either by reduction in the amount due to the dealer or by separate charge, surcharge, or other imposition. [2010 c 178 § 4; 2003 c 21 § 2; 1998 c 298 § 1.]

**Captions not law—2003 c 21:** See note following RCW 46.96.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**46.96.110 Designated successor to franchise ownership.** (1) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise, (a) an owner may appoint a designated successor to succeed to the ownership of the new motor vehicle dealer franchise upon the owner's death or incapacity, or (b) if an owner who has owned the franchise for not less than five consecutive years, the owner may appoint a designated successor to be effective on a date of the owner's choosing that is prior to the owner's death or disability.

(2) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise, a designated successor described under subsection (1) of this section may succeed to the ownership interest of the owner under the existing franchise, if:

(a) In the case of a designated successor who meets the definition of a designated successor under RCW 46.96.020(5)(a), but who is not experienced in the business of a new motor vehicle dealer, the person will employ an individual who is qualified and experienced in the business of a new motor vehicle dealer to help manage the day-to-day operations of the motor vehicle dealership; or in the case of a designated successor who meets the definition of a designated successor under RCW 46.96.020(5) (b) or (c), the person is qualified and experienced in the business of a new motor vehicle dealer and meets the normal, reasonable, and uniformly applied standards for grant of an application as a new motor vehicle dealer by the manufacturer; and

(b) The designated successor furnishes written notice to the manufacturer of his or her intention to succeed to the ownership of the new motor vehicle dealership within sixty days after the owner's death or incapacity, or if the appointment is under subsection (1)(b) of this section, at least thirty days before the designated successor's proposed succession; and

(c) The designated successor agrees to be bound by all terms and conditions of the franchise.

(3) The manufacturer may request, and the designated successor shall promptly provide, such personal and financial

information as is reasonably necessary to determine whether the succession should be honored.

(4) A manufacturer may refuse to honor the succession to the ownership of a new motor vehicle dealer franchise by a designated successor if the manufacturer establishes that good cause exists for its refusal to honor the succession. If the designated successor of a new motor vehicle dealer franchise fails to meet the requirements set forth in subsections (2)(a), (b), and (c) of this section, good cause for refusing to honor the succession is presumed to exist. If a manufacturer believes that good cause exists for refusing to honor the succession to the ownership of a new motor vehicle dealer franchise by a designated successor, the manufacturer shall serve written notice on the designated successor and on the department of its refusal to honor the succession no earlier than sixty days from the date the notice is served. The notice must be served not later than sixty days after the manufacturer's receipt of:

(a) Notice of the designated successor's intent to succeed to the ownership interest of the new motor vehicle dealer's franchise; or

(b) Any personal or financial information requested by the manufacturer.

(5) The notice in subsection (4) of this section shall state the specific grounds for the refusal to honor the succession. If the notice of refusal is not timely and properly served, the designated successor may continue the franchise in full force and effect, subject to termination only as otherwise provided under this chapter.

(6) Within twenty days after receipt of the notice or within twenty days after the end of any appeal procedure provided by the manufacturer, whichever is greater, the designated successor may file a petition with the department protesting the refusal to honor the succession. The petition shall contain a short statement setting forth the reasons for the designated successor's protest. Upon the filing of a protest and the receipt of the filing fee, the department shall promptly notify the manufacturer that a timely protest has been filed and shall request the appointment of an administrative law judge under chapter 34.12 RCW to conduct a hearing. The manufacturer shall not terminate or otherwise discontinue the existing franchise until the administrative law judge has held a hearing and has determined that there is good cause for refusing to honor the succession. If an appeal is taken, the manufacturer shall not terminate or discontinue the franchise until the appeal to superior court is finally determined or until the expiration of one hundred eighty days from the date of issuance of the administrative law judge's written decision, whichever is less. Nothing in this section precludes a manufacturer or dealer from petitioning the superior court for a stay or other relief pending judicial review.

(7) The manufacturer has the burden of proof to show that good cause exists for the refusal to honor the succession.

(8) The administrative law judge shall conduct the hearing and render a final decision as expeditiously as possible, but in any event not later than one hundred eighty days after a protest is filed.

(9) The administrative law judge shall conduct any hearing concerning the refusal to the succession as provided in RCW 46.96.050(2) and all hearing costs shall be borne as provided in that subsection. A party to such a hearing

aggrieved by the final order of the administrative law judge may appeal as provided and allowed in RCW 46.96.050(3).

(10) This section does not preclude the owner of a new motor vehicle dealer franchise from designating any person as his or her successor by a written, notarized, and witnessed instrument filed with the manufacturer. In the event of a conflict between such a written instrument that has not been revoked by written notice from the owner to the manufacturer and this section, the written instrument governs. [2010 c 178 § 5; 1989 c 415 § 11.]

**46.96.140 Relevant market area—Definition—New or relocated dealerships, notice of.** (1) For the purposes of this section, and throughout this chapter, the term "relevant market area" is defined as follows:

(a) If the population in the county in which the proposed new or relocated dealership is to be located is four hundred thousand or more, the relevant market area is the geographic area within a radius of eight miles around the proposed site;

(b) If the population in the county in which the proposed new or relocated dealership is to be located is two hundred thousand or more and less than four hundred thousand, the relevant market area is the geographic area within a radius of twelve miles around the proposed site;

(c) If the population in the county in which the proposed new or relocated dealership is to be located is less than two hundred thousand, the relevant market area is the geographic area within a radius of sixteen miles around the proposed site. In determining population for this definition, the most recent census by the United States Bureau of Census or the most recent population update, either from the National Planning Data Corporation or other similar recognized source, shall be accumulated for all census tracts either wholly or partially within the relevant market area.

(2) For the purpose of RCW 46.96.140 through 46.96.180, the term "motor vehicle dealer" does not include dealerships who exclusively market vehicles 19,000 pounds gross vehicle weight and above.

(3) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise and notwithstanding the terms of a waiver, if a manufacturer intends or proposes to enter into a franchise to establish an additional new motor vehicle dealer or to relocate an existing new motor vehicle dealer within or into a relevant market area in which the same line make of motor vehicle is then represented, the manufacturer shall provide at least sixty days advance written notice to the department and to each new motor vehicle dealer of the same line make in the relevant market area, of the manufacturer's intention to establish an additional new motor vehicle dealer or to relocate an existing new motor vehicle dealer within or into the relevant market area. The notice shall be sent by certified mail to each such party and shall include the following information:

(a) The specific location at which the additional or relocated motor vehicle dealer will be established;

(b) The date on or after which the additional or relocated motor vehicle dealer intends to commence business at the proposed location;

(c) The identity of all motor vehicle dealers who are franchised to sell the same line make vehicles as the proposed dealer and who have licensed locations within the relevant market area;

(d) The names and addresses, if available, of the owners of and principal investors in the proposed additional or relocated motor vehicle dealership; and

(e) The specific grounds or reasons for the proposed establishment of an additional motor vehicle dealer or relocation of an existing dealer. [1994 c 274 § 1.]

**46.96.150 Protest of new or relocated dealership—Hearing—Arbitration.** (1) Within thirty days after receipt of the notice under RCW 46.96.140, or within thirty days after the end of an appeal procedure provided by the manufacturer, whichever is greater, a new motor vehicle dealer so notified or entitled to notice may file a petition with the department protesting the proposed establishment or relocation. The petition shall contain a short statement setting forth the reasons for the dealer's objection to the proposed establishment or relocation. Upon the filing of a protest and the receipt of the filing fee, the department shall promptly notify the manufacturer that a timely protest has been filed and shall request the appointment of an administrative law judge under chapter 34.12 RCW to conduct a hearing. The manufacturer shall not establish or relocate the new motor vehicle dealer until the administrative law judge has held a hearing and has determined that there is good cause for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation. When more than one protest is filed against the establishment or relocation of the same dealer, the administrative law judge shall consolidate the hearings to expedite disposition of the matter.

(2) If a manufacturer provides in the franchise agreement or by written statement distributed and provided to its dealers for arbitration under the Uniform Arbitration Act, chapter 7.04A RCW, as a mechanism for resolving disputes relating to the establishment of an additional new motor vehicle dealer or the relocation of a new motor vehicle dealer, then the provisions of this section and RCW 46.96.170 relating to hearings by an administrative law judge do not apply, and a dispute regarding the establishment of an additional new motor vehicle dealer or the relocation of an existing new motor vehicle dealer shall be determined in an arbitration proceeding conducted in accordance with the Uniform Arbitration Act, chapter 7.04A RCW. The thirty-day period for filing a protest under this section still applies except that the protesting dealer shall file his or her protest with the manufacturer within thirty days after receipt of the notice under RCW 46.96.140.

(3) The dispute shall be referred for arbitration to such arbitrator as may be agreed upon by the parties to the dispute. If the parties cannot agree upon a single arbitrator within thirty days from the date the protest is filed, the protesting dealer will select an arbitrator, the manufacturer will select an arbitrator, and the two arbitrators will then select a third. If a third arbitrator is not agreed upon within thirty days, any party may apply to the superior court, and the judge of the superior court having jurisdiction will appoint the third arbitrator. The protesting dealer will pay the arbitrator selected by him or her, and the manufacturer will pay the arbitrator if selected. The expense of the third arbitrator and all other expenses of arbitration will be shared equally by the parties. Attorneys' fees and fees paid to expert witnesses are not expenses of arbitration and will be paid by the person incurring them.

(4) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise or written statement of the manufacturer and notwithstanding the terms of a waiver, the arbitration will take place in the state of Washington in the county where the protesting dealer has his or her principal place of business. RCW 46.96.160 applies to a determination made by the arbitrator or arbitrators in determining whether good cause exists for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation of a new motor vehicle dealer, and the manufacturer has the burden of proof to establish that good cause exists for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation. After a hearing has been held, the arbitrator or arbitrators shall render a decision as expeditiously as possible, but in any event not later than one hundred twenty days from the date the arbitrator or arbitrators are selected or appointed. The manufacturer shall not establish or relocate the new motor vehicle dealer until the arbitration hearing has been held and the arbitrator or arbitrators have determined that there is good cause for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation. The written decision of the arbitrator is binding upon the parties unless modified, corrected, or vacated under the Washington Arbitration Act. Any party may appeal the decision of the arbitrator under the Uniform Arbitration Act, chapter 7.04A RCW.

(5) If the franchise agreement or the manufacturer's written statement distributed and provided to its dealers does not provide for arbitration under the Uniform Arbitration Act as a mechanism for resolving disputes relating to the establishment of an additional new motor vehicle dealer or the relocation of a new motor vehicle dealer, then the hearing provisions of this section and RCW 46.96.170 apply. Nothing in this section is intended to preclude a new motor vehicle dealer from electing to use any other dispute resolution mechanism offered by a manufacturer. [2010 c 8 § 9102; 2005 c 433 § 43; 1994 c 274 § 2.]

**Application—Captions not law—Savings—Effective date—2005 c 433:** See RCW 7.04A.290 through 7.04A.310 and 7.04A.900.

**46.96.160 Factors considered by administrative law judge.** In determining whether good cause exists for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation of a new motor vehicle dealer of the same line make, the administrative law judge shall take into consideration the existing circumstances, including, but not limited to:

(1) The extent, nature, and permanency of the investment of both the existing motor vehicle dealers of the same line make in the relevant market area and the proposed additional or relocating new motor vehicle dealer, including obligations reasonably incurred by the existing dealers to perform their obligations under their respective franchises;

(2) The growth or decline in population and new motor vehicle registrations during the past five years in the relevant market area;

(3) The effect on the consuming public in the relevant market area;

(4) The effect on the existing new motor vehicle dealers in the relevant market area, including any adverse financial impact;

(5) The reasonably expected or anticipated vehicle market for the relevant market area, including demographic factors such as age of population, income, education, size class preference, product popularity, retail lease transactions, or



other factors affecting sales to consumers in the relevant market area;

(6) Whether it is injurious or beneficial to the public welfare for an additional new motor vehicle dealer to be established;

(7) Whether the new motor vehicle dealers of the same line make in the relevant market area are providing adequate competition and convenient customer care for the motor vehicles of the same line make in the relevant market area, including the adequacy of motor vehicle sales and service facilities, equipment, supply of vehicle parts, and qualified service personnel;

(8) Whether the establishment of an additional new motor vehicle dealer would increase competition and be in the public interest;

(9) Whether the manufacturer is motivated principally by good faith to establish an additional or new motor vehicle dealer and not by noneconomic considerations;

(10) Whether the manufacturer has denied its existing new motor vehicle dealers of the same line make the opportunity for reasonable growth, market expansion, establishment of a subagency, or relocation;

(11) Whether the protesting dealer or dealers are in substantial compliance with their dealer agreements or franchises; and

(12) Whether the manufacturer has complied with the requirements of RCW 46.96.140 and 46.96.150.

In considering the factors set forth in this section, the administrative law judge shall give the factors equal weight, and in making a determination as to whether good cause exists for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation of a new motor vehicle dealer of the same line make, the administrative law judge must find that at least nine of the factors set forth in this section weigh in favor of the manufacturer and in favor of the proposed establishment or relocation of a new motor vehicle dealer. [1994 c 274 § 3.]

**46.96.170 Hearing—Procedures, costs, appeal.** (1) The manufacturer has the burden of proof to establish that good cause exists for permitting the proposed establishment or relocation.

(2) The administrative law judge shall conduct any hearing as provided in RCW 46.96.050(2), and all hearing costs shall be borne as provided in that subsection. The administrative law judge shall render the final decision as expeditiously as possible, but in any event not later than one hundred twenty days after a protest is filed. If more than one protest is filed, the one hundred twenty days commences to run from the date the last protest is filed. A party to such a hearing aggrieved by the final order of the administrative law judge may appeal as provided and allowed in RCW 46.96.050(3). [1994 c 274 § 4.]

**46.96.180 Exceptions.** RCW 46.96.140 through 46.96.170 do not apply:

(1) To the sale or transfer of the ownership or assets of an existing new motor vehicle dealer where the transferee proposes to engage in business representing the same line make at the same location or within two miles of that location;

(2) To the relocation of an existing new motor vehicle dealer within the dealer's relevant market area, if the reloca-

tion is not at a site within eight miles of any new motor vehicle dealer of the same line make;

(3) If the proposed new motor vehicle dealer is to be established at or within two miles of a location at which a former new motor vehicle dealer of the same line make had ceased operating within the previous twenty-four months;

(4) Where the proposed relocation is two miles or less from the existing location of the relocating new motor vehicle dealer; or

(5) Where the proposed relocation is to be further away from all other existing new motor vehicle dealers of the same line make in the relevant market area. [1994 c 274 § 5.]

**46.96.185 Unfair practices—Exemptions—Definitions.** (1) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise agreement, a manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative, or an agent, officer, parent company, wholly or partially owned subsidiary, affiliated entity, or other person controlled by or under common control with a manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative, shall not:

(a) Discriminate between new motor vehicle dealers by selling or offering to sell a like vehicle to one dealer at a lower actual price than the actual price offered to another dealer for the same model similarly equipped;

(b) Discriminate between new motor vehicle dealers by selling or offering to sell parts or accessories to one dealer at a lower actual price than the actual price offered to another dealer;

(c) Discriminate between new motor vehicle dealers by using a promotion plan, marketing plan, or other similar device that results in a lower actual price on vehicles, parts, or accessories being charged to one dealer over another dealer;

(d) Discriminate between new motor vehicle dealers by adopting a method, or changing an existing method, for the allocation, scheduling, or delivery of new motor vehicles, parts, or accessories to its dealers that is not fair, reasonable, and equitable. Upon the request of a dealer, a manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative shall disclose in writing to the dealer the method by which new motor vehicles, parts, and accessories are allocated, scheduled, or delivered to its dealers handling the same line or make of vehicles;

(e) Discriminate against a new motor vehicle dealer by preventing, offsetting, or otherwise impairing the dealer's right to request a documentary service fee on affinity or similar program purchases. This prohibition applies to, but is not limited to, any promotion plan, marketing plan, manufacturer or dealer employee or employee friends or family purchase programs, or similar plans or programs;

(f) Give preferential treatment to some new motor vehicle dealers over others by refusing or failing to deliver, in reasonable quantities and within a reasonable time after receipt of an order, to a dealer holding a franchise for a line or make of motor vehicles sold or distributed by the manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative, a new vehicle, parts, or accessories, if the vehicle, parts, or accessories are being delivered to other dealers, or require a dealer to purchase unreasonable advertising displays or other materials, or unreasonably require a dealer to remodel or renovate

existing facilities as a prerequisite to receiving a model or series of vehicles;

(g) Compete with a new motor vehicle dealer of any make or line by acting in the capacity of a new motor vehicle dealer, or by owning, operating, or controlling, whether directly or indirectly, a motor vehicle dealership in this state. It is not, however, a violation of this subsection for:

(i) A manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative to own or operate a dealership for a temporary period, not to exceed two years, during the transition from one owner of the dealership to another where the dealership was previously owned by a franchised dealer and is currently for sale to any qualified independent person at a fair and reasonable price. The temporary operation may be extended for one twelve-month period on petition of the temporary operator to the department. The matter will be handled as an adjudicative proceeding under chapter 34.05 RCW. A dealer who is a franchisee of the petitioning manufacturer or distributor may intervene and participate in a proceeding under this subsection (1)(g)(i). The temporary operator has the burden of proof to show justification for the extension and a good faith effort to sell the dealership to an independent person at a fair and reasonable price;

(ii) A manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative to own or operate a dealership in conjunction with an independent person in a bona fide business relationship for the purpose of broadening the diversity of its dealer body and enhancing opportunities for qualified persons who are part of a group who have historically been underrepresented in its dealer body, or other qualified persons who lack the resources to purchase a dealership outright, and where the independent person: (A) Has made, or within a period of two years from the date of commencement of operation will have made, a significant, bona fide capital investment in the dealership that is subject to loss; (B) has an ownership interest in the dealership; and (C) operates the dealership under a bona fide written agreement with the manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative under which he or she will acquire all of the ownership interest in the dealership within a reasonable period of time and under reasonable terms and conditions. The manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative has the burden of proof of establishing that the acquisition of the dealership by the independent person was made within a reasonable period of time and under reasonable terms and conditions. Nothing in this subsection (1)(g)(ii) relieves a manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative from complying with (a) through (f) of this subsection;

(iii) A manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative to own or operate a dealership in conjunction with an independent person in a bona fide business relationship where the independent person: (A) Has made, or within a period of two years from the date of commencement of operation will have made, a significant, bona fide capital investment in the dealership that is subject to loss; (B) has an ownership interest in the dealership; and (C) operates the dealership under a bona fide written agreement with the manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative under which he or she will acquire all of the ownership interest in the dealership within a reasonable period of time

and under reasonable terms and conditions. The manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative has the burden of proof of establishing that the acquisition of the dealership by the independent person was made within a reasonable period of time and under reasonable terms and conditions. The number of dealerships operated under this subsection (1)(g)(iii) may not exceed four percent rounded up to the nearest whole number of a manufacturer's total of new motor vehicle dealer franchises in this state. Nothing in this subsection (1)(g)(iii) relieves a manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative from complying with (a) through (f) of this subsection;

(iv) A truck manufacturer to own, operate, or control a new motor vehicle dealership that sells only trucks of that manufacturer's line make with a gross vehicle weight rating of 12,500 pounds or more, and the truck manufacturer has been continuously engaged in the retail sale of the trucks at least since January 1, 1993; or

(v) A manufacturer to own, operate, or control a new motor vehicle dealership trading exclusively in a single line make of the manufacturer if (A) the manufacturer does not own, directly or indirectly, in the aggregate, in excess of forty-five percent of the total ownership interest in the dealership, (B) at the time the manufacturer first acquires ownership or assumes operation or control of any such dealership, the distance between any dealership thus owned, operated, or controlled and the nearest new motor vehicle dealership trading in the same line make of vehicle and in which the manufacturer has no ownership or control is not less than fifteen miles and complies with the applicable provisions in the relevant market area sections of this chapter, (C) all of the manufacturer's franchise agreements confer rights on the dealer of that line make to develop and operate within a defined geographic territory or area, as many dealership facilities as the dealer and the manufacturer agree are appropriate, and (D) as of January 1, 2000, the manufacturer had no more than four new motor vehicle dealers of that manufacturer's line make in this state, and at least half of those dealers owned and operated two or more dealership facilities in the geographic territory or area covered by their franchise agreements with the manufacturer;

(h) Compete with a new motor vehicle dealer by owning, operating, or controlling, whether directly or indirectly, a service facility in this state for the repair or maintenance of motor vehicles under the manufacturer's new car warranty and extended warranty. Nothing in this subsection (1)(h), however, prohibits a manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative from owning or operating a service facility for the purpose of providing or performing maintenance, repair, or service work on motor vehicles that are owned by the manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative;

(i) Use confidential or proprietary information obtained from a new motor vehicle dealer to unfairly compete with the dealer. For purposes of this subsection (1)(i), "confidential or proprietary information" means trade secrets as defined in RCW 19.108.010, business plans, marketing plans or strategies, customer lists, contracts, sales data, revenues, or other financial information;

(j)(i) Terminate, cancel, or fail to renew a franchise with a new motor vehicle dealer based upon any of the following

events, which do not constitute good cause for termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal under RCW 46.96.060: (A) The fact that the new motor vehicle dealer owns, has an investment in, participates in the management of, or holds a franchise agreement for the sale or service of another make or line of new motor vehicles; (B) the fact that the new motor vehicle dealer has established another make or line of new motor vehicles or service in the same dealership facilities as those of the manufacturer or distributor; (C) that the new motor vehicle dealer has or intends to relocate the manufacturer or distributor's make or line of new motor vehicles or service to an existing dealership facility that is within the relevant market area, as defined in RCW 46.96.140, of the make or line to be relocated, except that, in any nonemergency circumstance, the dealer must give the manufacturer or distributor at least sixty days' notice of his or her intent to relocate; or (D) the failure of a franchisee to change the location of the dealership or to make substantial alterations to the use or number of franchises on the dealership premises or facilities.

(ii) Notwithstanding the limitations of this section, a manufacturer may, for separate consideration, enter into a written contract with a dealer to exclusively sell and service a single make or line of new motor vehicles at a specific facility for a defined period of time. The penalty for breach of the contract must not exceed the amount of consideration paid by the manufacturer plus a reasonable rate of interest;

(k) Coerce or attempt to coerce a motor vehicle dealer to refrain from, or prohibit or attempt to prohibit a new motor vehicle dealer from acquiring, owning, having an investment in, participating in the management of, or holding a franchise agreement for the sale or service of another make or line of new motor vehicles or related products, or establishing another make or line of new motor vehicles or service in the same dealership facilities, if the prohibition against acquiring, owning, investing, managing, or holding a franchise for such additional make or line of vehicles or products, or establishing another make or line of new motor vehicles or service in the same dealership facilities, is not supported by reasonable business considerations. The burden of proving that reasonable business considerations support or justify the prohibition against the additional make or line of new motor vehicles or products or nonexclusive facilities is on the manufacturer;

(l) Require, by contract or otherwise, a new motor vehicle dealer to make a material alteration, expansion, or addition to any dealership facility, unless the required alteration, expansion, or addition is uniformly required of other similarly situated new motor vehicle dealers of the same make or line of vehicles and is reasonable in light of all existing circumstances, including economic conditions. In any proceeding in which a required facility alteration, expansion, or addition is an issue, the manufacturer or distributor has the burden of proof;

(m) Prevent or attempt to prevent by contract or otherwise any new motor vehicle dealer from changing the executive management of a new motor vehicle dealer unless the manufacturer or distributor, having the burden of proof, can show that a proposed change of executive management will result in executive management by a person or persons who are not of good moral character or who do not meet reasonable, preexisting, and equitably applied standards of the man-

ufacturer or distributor. If a manufacturer or distributor rejects a proposed change in the executive management, the manufacturer or distributor shall give written notice of its reasons to the dealer within sixty days after receiving written notice from the dealer of the proposed change and all related information reasonably requested by the manufacturer or distributor, or the change in executive management must be considered approved; or

(n) Condition the sale, transfer, relocation, or renewal of a franchise agreement or condition manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative sales, services, or parts incentives upon the manufacturer obtaining site control, including rights to purchase or lease the dealer's facility, or an agreement to make improvements or substantial renovations to a facility. For purposes of this section, a substantial renovation has a gross cost to the dealer in excess of five thousand dollars.

(2) Subsection (1)(a), (b), and (c) of this section do not apply to sales to a motor vehicle dealer: (a) For resale to a federal, state, or local government agency; (b) where the vehicles will be sold or donated for use in a program of driver's education; (c) where the sale is made under a manufacturer's bona fide promotional program offering sales incentives or rebates; (d) where the sale of parts or accessories is under a manufacturer's bona fide quantity discount program; or (e) where the sale is made under a manufacturer's bona fide fleet vehicle discount program. For purposes of this subsection, "fleet" means a group of fifteen or more new motor vehicles purchased or leased by a dealer at one time under a single purchase or lease agreement for use as part of a fleet, and where the dealer has been assigned a fleet identifier code by the department of licensing.

(3) The following definitions apply to this section:

(a) "Actual price" means the price to be paid by the dealer less any incentive paid by the manufacturer, distributor, factory branch, or factory representative, whether paid to the dealer or the ultimate purchaser of the vehicle.

(b) "Control" or "controlling" means (i) the possession of, title to, or control of ten percent or more of the voting equity interest in a person, whether directly or indirectly through a fiduciary, agent, or other intermediary, or (ii) the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of a person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, through director control, by contract, or otherwise, except as expressly provided under the franchise agreement.

(c) "Motor vehicles" does not include trucks that are 14,001 pounds gross vehicle weight and above or recreational vehicles as defined in RCW 43.22.335.

(d) "Operate" means to manage a dealership, whether directly or indirectly.

(e) "Own" or "ownership" means to hold the beneficial ownership of one percent or more of any class of equity interest in a dealership, whether the interest is that of a shareholder, partner, limited liability company member, or otherwise. To hold an ownership interest means to have possession of, title to, or control of the ownership interest, whether directly or indirectly through a fiduciary, agent, or other intermediary.

(4) A violation of this section is deemed to affect the public interest and constitutes an unlawful and unfair practice

under chapter 19.86 RCW. A person aggrieved by an alleged violation of this section may petition the department to have the matter handled as an adjudicative proceeding under chapter 34.05 RCW. [2010 c 178 § 6; 2003 c 21 § 3; 2000 c 203 § 1.]

**Captions not law—2003 c 21:** See note following RCW 46.96.020.

**46.96.190 Prohibited practices by manufacturer.** A manufacturer shall not coerce, threaten, intimidate, or require a new motor vehicle dealer, as a condition to granting or renewing a franchise, to waive, limit, or disclaim a right that the dealer may have to protest the establishment or relocation of another motor vehicle dealer in the relevant market area as provided in RCW 46.96.150. [1994 c 274 § 6.]

**46.96.192 Prohibited practices by manufacturer—Adverse action against dealer if vehicle exported or resold by customer.** A manufacturer may not take or threaten to take any adverse action against a new motor vehicle dealer, including charge backs, reducing vehicle allocations, or terminating or threatening to terminate a franchise, because the dealer sold or leased a vehicle to a customer who exported the vehicle to a foreign country or who resold the vehicle, unless the manufacturer or distributor definitively proves that the dealer knew or reasonably should have known that the customer intended to export or resell the vehicle. A manufacturer or distributor shall, upon demand, indemnify, hold harmless, and defend any existing or former franchisee or franchisee's successors or assigns from any and all claims asserted, or damages sustained and attorneys' fees and other expenses reasonably incurred by the franchisee that result from or relate to any claim made or asserted, by a third party against the franchisee for any policy, program, or other behavior suggested by the manufacturer for sales of vehicles to parties that intend to export a vehicle purchased from the franchisee. [2010 c 178 § 10.]

**46.96.194 Prohibited practices by manufacturer—Dealer waiver of chapter—Exceptions.** A manufacturer or distributor shall not enter into an agreement or understanding with a new motor vehicle dealer that requires the dealer to waive any provisions of this chapter. However, a dealer may, by written contract and for valuable and reasonable separate consideration, waive, limit, or disclaim a manufacturer's obligations or a dealer's rights under RCW 46.96.080, 46.96.090, 46.96.105, 46.96.140, and 46.96.150, if the contract sets forth the specific provisions of this chapter that are waived, limited, or disclaimed. A manufacturer shall not coerce, threaten, intimidate, or require a new motor vehicle dealer, as a condition to granting or renewing a franchise, to enter into such an agreement or understanding. [2010 c 178 § 12.]

**46.96.200 Sale, transfer, or exchange of franchise.**

(1) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise, a manufacturer shall not withhold consent to the sale, transfer, or exchange of a franchise to a qualified buyer who meets the normal, reasonable, and uniformly applied standards established by the manufacturer for the appointment of a new dealer who does not already hold a franchise with the manufacturer or is capable of being licensed as a new motor vehicle dealer in the

state of Washington. A decision or determination made by the administrative law judge as to whether a qualified buyer is capable of being licensed as a new motor vehicle dealer in the state of Washington is not conclusive or determinative of any ultimate determination made by the department of licensing as to the buyer's qualification for a motor vehicle dealer license. A manufacturer's failure to respond in writing to a request for consent under this subsection within sixty days after receipt of a written request on the forms, if any, generally used by the manufacturer containing the information and reasonable promises required by a manufacturer is deemed to be consent to the request. A manufacturer may request, and, if so requested, the applicant for a franchise (a) shall promptly provide such personal and financial information as is reasonably necessary to determine whether the sale, transfer, or exchange should be approved, and (b) shall agree to be bound by all reasonable terms and conditions of the franchise.

(2) If a manufacturer refuses to approve the sale, transfer, or exchange of a franchise, the manufacturer shall serve written notice on the applicant, the transferring, selling, or exchanging new motor vehicle dealer, and the department of its refusal to approve the transfer of the franchise no later than sixty days after the date the manufacturer receives the written request from the new motor vehicle dealer. If the manufacturer has requested personal or financial information from the applicant under subsection (1) of this section, the notice shall be served not later than sixty days after the receipt of all of such documents. Service of all notices under this section shall be made by personal service or by certified mail, return receipt requested.

(3) The notice in subsection (2) of this section shall state the specific grounds for the refusal to approve the sale, transfer, or exchange of the franchise.

(4) Within twenty days after receipt of the notice of refusal to approve the sale, transfer, or exchange of the franchise by the transferring new motor vehicle dealer, the new motor vehicle dealer may file a petition with the department to protest the refusal to approve the sale, transfer, or exchange. The petition shall contain a short statement setting forth the reasons for the dealer's protest. Upon the filing of a protest and the receipt of the filing fee, the department shall promptly notify the manufacturer that a timely protest has been filed, and the department shall arrange for a hearing with an administrative law judge as the presiding officer to determine if the manufacturer unreasonably withheld consent to the sale, transfer, or exchange of the franchise.

(5) The administrative law judge shall conduct a hearing and render a final decision as expeditiously as possible, but in any event not later than one hundred twenty days after a protest is filed. Only the selling, transferring, or exchanging new motor vehicle dealer and the manufacturer may be parties to the hearing.

(6) The administrative law judge shall conduct any hearing as provided in RCW 46.96.050(2), and all hearing costs shall be borne as provided in that subsection. Only the manufacturer and the selling, transferring, or exchanging new motor vehicle dealer may appeal the final order of the administrative law judge as provided in RCW 46.96.050(3).

(7) This section and RCW 46.96.030 through 46.96.110 apply to all franchises and contracts existing on July 23,

1989, between manufacturers and new motor vehicle dealers as well as to all future franchises and contracts between manufacturers and new motor vehicle dealers.

(8) RCW 46.96.140 through 46.96.190 apply to all franchises and contracts existing on October 1, 1994, between manufacturers and new motor vehicle dealers as well as to all future franchises and contracts between manufacturers and new motor vehicle dealers. [2010 c 178 § 7; 1994 c 274 § 7; 1989 c 415 § 18. Formerly RCW 46.96.120.]

**46.96.210 Petition and hearing—Filing fee, costs, security.** The department shall determine and establish the amount of the filing fee required in RCW 46.96.040, 46.96.110, 46.96.150, and 46.96.200. The fees shall be set in accordance with RCW 43.24.086.

The department may also require the petitioning or protesting party to give security, in such sum as the department deems proper but not in any event to exceed one thousand dollars, for the payment of such costs as may be incurred in conducting the hearing as required under this chapter. The security may be given in the form of a bond or stipulation or other undertaking with one or more sureties.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the department shall assess, in equal shares, each of the parties to the hearing for the cost of conducting the hearing. Upon receipt of payment of the costs, the department shall refund and return to the petitioning party such excess funds, if any, initially posted by the party as security for the hearing costs. If the petitioning party provided security in the form of a bond or other undertaking with one or more sureties, the bond or other undertaking shall then be exonerated and the surety or sureties under it discharged. [1994 c 274 § 8; 1989 c 415 § 19. Formerly RCW 46.96.130.]

**46.96.220 Right of first refusal.** (1) In the event of a proposed sale or transfer of a new motor vehicle dealership involving the transfer or sale of more than fifty percent of the ownership interest in, or more than fifty percent of the assets of, the dealership at the time of the transfer or sale, where the franchise agreement for the dealership contains a right of first refusal in favor of the manufacturer or distributor, then notwithstanding the terms of the franchise agreement, the manufacturer or distributor must be permitted to exercise a right of first refusal to acquire the dealership only if all of the following requirements are met:

(a) The manufacturer or distributor sends by certified mail, return receipt requested, or delivers by personal service, notice of its intent to exercise its right of first refusal within the lesser of (i) forty-five days of receipt of the completed proposal for the proposed sale or transfer, or (ii) the time period specified in the dealership's franchise agreement; and

(b) The exercise of the right of first refusal will result in the motor vehicle dealer receiving consideration, terms, and conditions that are equal to or better than that for which the dealer has contracted in connection with the proposed transaction.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, the manufacturer's or distributor's right of first refusal does not apply to transfer of a dealership under RCW 46.96.110, and does not apply to a proposed transaction involving any of the following purchasers or transferees:

(a) A purchaser or transferee who has been preapproved by the manufacturer or distributor with respect to the transaction;

(b) A family member or members, including the spouse, biological or adopted child, stepchild, grandchild, spouse of a child or grandchild, brother, sister, or parent of the dealer-operator, or one or more of the dealership's owners;

(c) A manager continuously employed by the motor vehicle dealer in the dealership during the previous three years who is otherwise qualified as a dealer-operator by meeting the reasonable and uniformly applied standards for approval of an application as a new motor vehicle dealer-operator by the manufacturer;

(d) A partnership, corporation, limited liability company, or other entity controlled by any of the family members, identified in (b) of this subsection, of the dealer-operator; or

(e) A trust established or to be established for the purpose of allowing the new motor vehicle dealer to continue to qualify as such under the manufacturer's or distributor's standards, or provides for the succession of the franchise agreement to designated family members identified in (b) of this subsection, or qualified management identified in (c) of this subsection, in the event of the death or incapacity of the dealer-operator or its principal owner or owners.

(3) As a condition to the manufacturer or distributor exercising its right of first refusal, the manufacturer or distributor shall pay the reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred by the dealer's proposed purchaser or transferee in negotiating, and undertaking any action to consummate, the contract for the proposed sale of the dealership up to the time of the manufacturer's or distributor's exercise of that right. In addition, the manufacturer or distributor shall pay any fees and expenses of the motor vehicle dealer arising on and after the date the manufacturer or distributor gives notice of the exercise of its right of first refusal, and incurred by the motor vehicle dealer as a result of alterations to documents, or additional appraisals, valuations, or financial analyses caused or required of the dealer by the manufacturer or distributor to consummate the contract for the sale of the dealership to the manufacturer's or distributor's proposed transferee, that would not have been incurred but for the manufacturer's or distributor's exercise of its right of first refusal. These expenses and fees must be paid by the manufacturer or distributor to the dealer and to the dealer's proposed purchaser or transferee on or before the closing date of the sale of the dealership to the manufacturer or distributor if the party entitled to reimbursement has submitted or caused to be submitted to the manufacturer or distributor, an accounting of these expenses and fees within thirty days after receipt of the manufacturer's or distributor's written request for the accounting. A manufacturer or distributor may request the accounting before exercising its right of first refusal.

(4) As a further condition to the exercise of its right of first refusal, a manufacturer or distributor shall assume and guarantee the lease or shall acquire the real property on which the motor vehicle franchise is conducted. Unless otherwise agreed to by the dealer and manufacturer or distributor, the lease terms or the real property acquisition terms must be the same as those on which the lease or property was to be trans-

ferred or sold to the dealer's proposed purchaser or transferee.

(5) If the selling dealer has disclosed to the proposed purchaser or transferee, in writing, the existence of the manufacturer's or distributor's right of first refusal, then the selling dealer has no liability to the proposed purchaser or transferee for a claim for damages resulting from the manufacturer or distributor exercising its right of first refusal. If the existence of the manufacturer's or distributor's right of first refusal was disclosed by the selling dealer to the proposed purchaser or transferee, in writing, before or at the time of execution of the purchase and sale or transfer agreement, the manufacturer or distributor shall indemnify, hold harmless, and defend the selling dealer from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, actions, or causes of action asserted by the dealer's proposed purchaser or transferee against the selling dealer arising from the manufacturer's or distributor's exercise of its right of first refusal, and has the right, under this section, to file a motion on behalf of the dealer to dismiss the actions or causes of action asserted by the dealer's proposed purchaser or transferee. [2003 c 21 § 4.]

**Captions not law—2003 c 21:** See note following RCW 46.96.020.

**46.96.230 Manufacturer incentive programs.** (1) A manufacturer or distributor shall pay a motor vehicle dealer's claim for payment or other compensation due under a manufacturer incentive program within thirty days after approval of the claim. A claim that is not disapproved or disallowed within thirty days after the manufacturer or distributor receives the claim is deemed automatically approved. If the motor vehicle dealer's claim is not approved, the manufacturer or distributor shall provide the dealer with written notice of the reasons for the disapproval at the time notice of disapproval is given.

(2) A manufacturer may not deny a claim based solely on a motor vehicle dealer's incidental failure to comply with a specific claim-processing requirement that results in a clerical error or other administrative technicality.

(3) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise agreement or other contract with a manufacturer or distributor, a motor vehicle dealer has one year after the expiration of a manufacturer or distributor incentive program to submit a claim for payment or compensation under the program.

(4) Notwithstanding the terms of a franchise agreement or other contract with a dealer and except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, after the expiration of one year after the date of payment of a claim under a manufacturer or distributor incentive program, a manufacturer or distributor may not:

(a) Charge back to a motor vehicle dealer, whether directly or indirectly, the amount of a claim that has been approved and paid by the manufacturer or distributor under an incentive program;

(b) Charge back to a motor vehicle dealer, whether directly or indirectly, the cash value of a prize or other thing of value awarded to the dealer under an incentive program; or

(c) Audit the records of a motor vehicle dealer to determine compliance with the terms of an incentive program. Where, however, a manufacturer or distributor has reasonable grounds to believe that the dealer committed fraud with respect to the incentive program, the manufacturer or distrib-

utor may audit the dealer for a fraudulent claim during any period for which an action for fraud may be commenced under applicable state law.

(5) Notwithstanding subsection (4)(a) and (b) of this section, a manufacturer or distributor may make charge-backs to a motor vehicle dealer if, after completion of an audit of the dealer's records, the manufacturer or distributor can show, by a preponderance of the evidence, that (a) the claim was intentionally false or fraudulent at the time it was submitted to the manufacturer or distributor, or (b) with respect to a claim under a service incentive program, the repair work was improperly performed in a substandard manner or was unnecessary to correct a defective condition. [2003 c 21 § 5.]

**Captions not law—2003 c 21:** See note following RCW 46.96.020.

**46.96.240 Venue.** Notwithstanding the provisions of a franchise agreement or other provision of law to the contrary, the venue for a cause of action, claim, lawsuit, administrative hearing or proceeding, arbitration, or mediation, whether arising under this chapter or otherwise, in which the parties or litigants are a manufacturer or distributor and one or more motor vehicle dealers, is the state of Washington. It is the public policy of this state that venue provided for in this section may not be modified or waived in any contract or other agreement, and any provision contained in a franchise agreement that requires arbitration or litigation to be conducted outside the state of Washington is void and unenforceable.

This section does not apply to a voluntary dispute resolution procedure that is not binding on the dealer. [2003 c 21 § 6.]

**Captions not law—2003 c 21:** See note following RCW 46.96.020.

**46.96.250 Immunity of franchisees and assigns.** A manufacturer shall, upon demand, indemnify and hold harmless any existing or former franchisee and the franchisee's successors and assigns from any and all damages sustained and attorneys' fees and other expenses reasonably incurred by the franchisee that result from or relate to any claim made or asserted by a third party against the franchisee to the extent the claim results from any of the following:

(1) The condition, characteristics, manufacture, assembly, or design of any vehicle, parts, accessories, tools, or equipment, or the selection or combination of parts or components manufactured or distributed by the manufacturer or distributor;

(2) Service systems, procedures, or methods that the franchisor required or recommended the franchisee to use;

(3) Improper use by the manufacturer, its assignees, contractors, representatives, or licensees of nonpublic personal information obtained from a franchisee concerning any consumer, customer, or employee of the franchisee; or

(4) Any act or omission of the manufacturer or distributor for which the franchisee would have a claim for contribution or indemnity under applicable law or under the franchise, irrespective of any prior termination or expiration of the franchise. [2010 c 178 § 9.]

**46.96.260 Civil actions for violations.** A new motor vehicle dealer who is injured in his or her business or property by a violation of this chapter may bring a civil action in the superior court to recover the actual damages sustained by

the dealer, together with the costs of the suit, including reasonable attorneys' fees if the new motor vehicle dealer prevails. The new motor vehicle dealer may bring a civil action in district court to recover his or her actual damages, except for damages that exceed the amount specified in RCW 3.66.020, and the costs of the suit, including reasonable attorneys' fees. [2010 c 178 § 11.]

**46.96.900 Severability—1989 c 415.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1989 c 415 § 22.]

### Chapter 46.98 RCW CONSTRUCTION

#### Sections

46.98.010	Continuation of existing law.
46.98.020	Provisions to be construed in pari materia.
46.98.030	Title, chapter, section headings not part of law.
46.98.040	Invalidity of part of title not to affect remainder.
46.98.041	Severability—1963 ex.s. c 3.
46.98.042	Severability—1965 ex.s. c 170.
46.98.043	Severability—1969 ex.s. c 281.
46.98.050	Repeals and saving—1961 c 12.
46.98.060	Emergency—1961 c 12.

**46.98.010 Continuation of existing law.** The provisions of this title insofar as they are substantially the same as statutory provisions repealed by this chapter, and relating to the same subject matter, shall be construed as restatements and continuations, and not as new enactments. [1961 c 12 § 46.98.010.]

**46.98.020 Provisions to be construed in pari materia.** The provisions of this title shall be construed in pari materia even though as a matter of prior legislative history they were not originally enacted in the same statute. The provisions of this title shall also be construed in pari materia with the provisions of Title 47 RCW, and with other laws relating to highways, roads, streets, bridges, ferries and vehicles. This section shall not operate retroactively. [1961 c 12 § 46.98.020.]

**46.98.030 Title, chapter, section headings not part of law.** Title headings, chapter headings, and section or subsection headings, as used in this title do not constitute any part of the law. [1961 c 12 § 46.98.030.]

**46.98.040 Invalidity of part of title not to affect remainder.** If any provision of this title or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the title, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1961 c 12 § 46.98.040.]

**46.98.041 Severability—1963 ex.s. c 3.** See RCW 47.98.041.

**46.98.042 Severability—1965 ex.s. c 170.** See RCW 47.98.042.

**46.98.043 Severability—1969 ex.s. c 281.** See RCW 47.98.045.

**46.98.050 Repeals and saving—1961 c 12.** See 1961 c 12 § 46.98.050.

**46.98.060 Emergency—1961 c 12.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing institutions and shall take effect immediately. [1961 c 12 § 46.98.060.]

# Chapter 66.44 RCW

## ENFORCEMENT—PENALTIES

### Sections

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66.44.318	Employees aged eighteen to twenty-one stocking, merchandising, and handling beer and wine.
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66.44.340	Employees eighteen years and over allowed to sell and handle beer and wine for certain licensed employers.
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66.44.365	Juvenile driving privileges—Alcohol or drug violations.
66.44.370	Resisting or opposing officers in enforcement of title.
66.44.800	Compliance by Washington wine and beer commissions.

### Minors

*access to tobacco, role of liquor control board: Chapter 70.155 RCW. prohibited to enter bars or taverns: RCW 26.28.080.*

*Sale or gift of tobacco to persons under certain age is gross misdemeanor: RCW 26.28.080.*

*State institutions, bringing in liquor prohibited: RCW 72.23.300.*

**66.44.010 Local officers to enforce law—Authority of board—Liquor enforcement officers.** (1) All county and municipal peace officers are hereby charged with the duty of

investigating and prosecuting all violations of this title, and the penal laws of this state relating to the manufacture, importation, transportation, possession, distribution and sale of liquor, and all fines imposed for violations of this title and the penal laws of this state relating to the manufacture, importation, transportation, possession, distribution and sale of liquor shall belong to the county, city or town wherein the court imposing the fine is located, and shall be placed in the general fund for payment of the salaries of those engaged in the enforcement of the provisions of this title and the penal laws of this state relating to the manufacture, importation, transportation, possession, distribution and sale of liquor: PROVIDED, That all fees, fines, forfeitures and penalties collected or assessed by a district court because of the violation of a state law shall be remitted as provided in chapter 3.62 RCW as now exists or is later amended.

(2) In addition to any and all other powers granted, the board shall have the power to enforce the penal provisions of this title and the penal laws of this state relating to the manufacture, importation, transportation, possession, distribution and sale of liquor.

(3) In addition to the other duties under this section, the board shall enforce chapters 82.24 and 82.26 RCW.

(4) The board may appoint and employ, assign to duty and fix the compensation of, officers to be designated as liquor enforcement officers. Such liquor enforcement officers shall have the power, under the supervision of the board, to enforce the penal provisions of this title and the penal laws of this state relating to the manufacture, importation, transportation, possession, distribution and sale of liquor. They shall have the power and authority to serve and execute all warrants and process of law issued by the courts in enforcing the penal provisions of this title or of any penal law of this state relating to the manufacture, importation, transportation, possession, distribution and sale of liquor, and the provisions of chapters 82.24 and 82.26 RCW. They shall have the power to arrest without a warrant any person or persons found in the act of violating any of the penal provisions of this title or of any penal law of this state relating to the manufacture, importation, transportation, possession, distribution and sale of liquor, and the provisions of chapters 82.24 and 82.26 RCW. [1998 c 18 § 1; 1987 c 202 § 224; 1969 ex.s. c 199 § 28; 1939 c 172 § 5; 1935 c 174 § 11; 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 70; RRS § 7306-70. Formerly RCW 66.44.010 through 66.44.030.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**66.44.040 Sufficiency of description of offenses in complaints, informations, process, etc.** In describing the offense respecting the sale, or keeping for sale or other disposal, of liquor, or the having, keeping, giving, purchasing or consumption of liquor in any information, summons, conviction, warrant, or proceeding under this title, it shall be sufficient to simply state the sale, or keeping for sale or disposal,



having, keeping, giving, purchasing, or consumption of liquor, without stating the name or kind of such liquor or the price thereof, or to whom it was sold or disposed of, or by whom consumed, or from whom it was purchased or received; and it shall not be necessary to state the quantity of liquor so sold, kept for sale, disposed of, had, kept, given, purchased, or consumed, except in the case of offenses where the quantity is essential, and then it shall be sufficient to allege the sale or disposal of more or less than such quantity. [1933 ex.s. c 62 § 57; RRS § 7306-57.]

**66.44.050 Description of offense in words of statutes—Proof required.** The description of any offense under this title, in the words of this title, or in any words of like effect, shall be sufficient in law; and any exception, exemption, provision, excuse, or qualification, whether it occurs by way of proviso or in the description of the offense in this title, may be proved by the defendant, but need not be specified or negated in the information; but if it is so specified or negated, no proof in relation to the matter so specified or negated shall be required on the part of the informant or complainant. [1933 ex.s. c 62 § 58; RRS § 7306-58.]

**66.44.060 Proof of unlawful sale establishes prima facie intent.** In any proceeding under this title, proof of one unlawful sale of liquor shall suffice to establish prima facie the intent or purpose of unlawfully keeping liquor for sale in violation of this title. [1933 ex.s. c 62 § 59; RRS § 7306-59.]

**66.44.070 Certified analysis is prima facie evidence of alcoholic content.** A certificate, signed by any person appointed or designated by the board in writing as an analyst, as to the percentage of alcohol contained in any liquid, drink, liquor, or combination of liquors, when produced in any court or before any court shall be prima facie evidence of the percentage of alcohol contained therein. [1933 ex.s. c 62 § 60; RRS § 7306-60.]

**66.44.080 Service of process on corporation.** In all prosecutions, actions, or proceedings under the provisions of this title against a corporation, every summons, warrant, order, writ or other proceeding may be served on the corporation in the same manner as is now provided by law for service of civil process. [1933 ex.s. c 62 § 61; RRS § 7306-61.]

**66.44.090 Acting without license.** Any person doing any act required to be licensed under this title without having in force a license issued to him or her shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2012 c 117 § 289; 1955 c 289 § 2. Prior: (i) 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 28; RRS § 7306-28.(ii) 1939 c 172 § 6(1); 1935 c 174 § 6(1); 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 92(1); RRS § 7306-92(1).]

**66.44.100 Opening or consuming liquor in public place—Penalty.** Except as permitted by this title, no person shall open the package containing liquor or consume liquor in a public place. Every person who violates any provision of this section shall be guilty of a class 3 civil infraction under chapter 7.80 RCW. [1999 c 189 § 3; 1981 1st ex.s. c 5 § 21; 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 34; RRS § 7306-34.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**66.44.120 Unlawful use of seal.** (1) No person other than an employee of the board may keep or have in his or her possession any official seal adopted by the board under this title, unless the same is attached to a package in accordance with the law; nor may any person keep or have in his or her possession any design in imitation of any official seal prescribed under this title, or calculated to deceive by its resemblance thereto, or any paper upon which any design in imitation thereof, or calculated to deceive as aforesaid, is stamped, engraved, lithographed, printed, or otherwise marked.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, every person who willfully violates this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor and is liable on conviction thereof for a first offense to imprisonment in the county jail for a period of not less than three months nor more than six months, without the option of the payment of a fine, and for a second offense, to imprisonment in the county jail for not less than six months nor more than three hundred sixty-four days, without the option of the payment of a fine.

(b) A third or subsequent offense is a class C felony, punishable by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not less than one year nor more than two years. [2012 c 2 § 209 (Initiative Measure No. 1183, approved November 8, 2011); 2011 c 96 § 46; 2005 c 151 § 11; 2003 c 53 § 299; 1992 c 7 § 42; 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 47; RRS § 7306-47.]

**Finding—Application—Rules—Effective date—Contingent effective date—2012 c 2 (Initiative Measure No. 1183):** See notes following RCW 66.24.620.

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**66.44.130 Sales of liquor by drink or bottle.** Except as otherwise provided in this title, every person who sells by the drink or bottle, any liquor shall be guilty of a violation of this title. [1955 c 289 § 3. Prior: 1939 c 172 § 6(2); 1935 c 174 § 15(2); 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 92(2); RRS § 7306-92(2).]

**66.44.140 Unlawful sale, transportation of spirituous liquor without stamp or seal—Unlawful operation, possession of still or mash.** Every person who shall sell or offer for sale, or transport in any manner, any spirituous liquor, without government stamp or seal attached thereto, or who shall operate without a license, any still or other device for the production of spirituous liquor, or shall have in his or her possession or under his or her control any mash capable of being distilled into spirituous liquor except as provided in RCW 66.12.130, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall upon his or her first conviction be fined not less than five hundred dollars and confined in the county jail not less than six months, and upon second and subsequent conviction shall be fined not less than one thousand dollars and confined in the county jail not less than one year. [2012 c 117 § 290; 1980 c 140 § 4; 1955 c 289 § 4. Prior: 1939 c 172 § 6(3); 1935 c 174 § 15(3); 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 92(3); RRS § 7306-92(3).]

**66.44.150 Buying liquor illegally.** If any person in this state buys alcoholic beverages from any person other than a person authorized by the board to sell alcoholic beverages, he or she is guilty of a misdemeanor. [2012 c 2 § 210 (Initiative Measure No. 1183, approved November 8, 2011); 1955 c 289

§ 5. Prior: 1939 c 172 § 6(4); 1935 c 174 § 15(4); 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 92(4); RRS § 7306-92(4).]

**Finding—Application—Rules—Effective date—Contingent effective date—2012 c 2 (Initiative Measure No. 1183):** See notes following RCW 66.24.620.

**66.44.160 Illegal possession, transportation of alcoholic beverages.** Except as otherwise provided in this title, any person who has or keeps or transports alcoholic beverages other than those purchased from the board, a state liquor store, or some person authorized by the board to sell them, shall be guilty of a violation of this title. [1955 c 289 § 6. Prior: 1939 c 172 § 6(5); 1935 c 174 § 15(5); 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 92(5); RRS § 7306-92(5).]

**66.44.170 Illegal possession of liquor with intent to sell—Prima facie evidence, what is.** Any person who keeps or possesses liquor upon his or her person or in any place, or on premises conducted or maintained by him or her as principal or agent with the intent to sell it contrary to provisions of this title, shall be guilty of a violation of this title. The possession of liquor by the principal or agent on premises conducted or maintained, under federal authority, as a retail dealer in liquors, shall be prima facie evidence of the intent to sell liquor. [2012 c 117 § 291; 1955 c 289 § 7. Prior: 1937 c 144 § 1 (adding new section 92A to 1933 ex.s. c 62); RRS § 7306-92A.]

**66.44.175 Violations of law.** Every person who violates any provision of this title or the regulations shall be guilty of a violation of this title, whether otherwise declared or not. [1933 ex.s. c 62 § 91; RRS § 7306-91.]

**66.44.180 General penalties—Jurisdiction for violations.** (1) Every person guilty of a violation of this title for which no penalty has been specifically provided:

(a) For a first offense, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than two months, or both;

(b) For a second offense, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six months; and

(c) For a third or subsequent offense, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for up to three hundred sixty-four days.

(2) If the offender convicted of an offense referred to in this section is a corporation, it shall for a first offense be liable to a penalty of not more than five thousand dollars, and for a second or subsequent offense to a penalty of not more than ten thousand dollars, or to forfeiture of its corporate license, or both.

(3) Every district judge and municipal judge shall have concurrent jurisdiction with superior court judges of the state of Washington of all violations of the provisions of this title and may impose any punishment provided therefor. [2011 c 96 § 47; 2003 c 53 § 300; 1987 c 202 § 225; 1981 1st ex.s. c 5 § 22; 1935 c 174 § 16; 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 93; RRS § 7306-93.]

**Findings—Intent—2011 c 96:** See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

2012

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**66.44.193 Sales on university or college campus.** If an institution of higher education chooses to allow the sale of alcoholic beverages on campus, the legislature encourages the institution to feature products produced in the state of Washington. [2003 c 51 § 2.]

**66.44.200 Sales to persons apparently under the influence of liquor—Purchases or consumption by persons apparently under the influence of liquor on licensed premises—Penalty—Notice—Separation of actions.** (1) No person shall sell any liquor to any person apparently under the influence of liquor.

(2)(a) No person who is apparently under the influence of liquor may purchase or consume liquor on any premises licensed by the board.

(b) A violation of this subsection is an infraction punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars.

(c) A defendant's intoxication may not be used as a defense in an action under this subsection.

(d) Until July 1, 2000, every establishment licensed under RCW 66.24.330 or 66.24.420 shall conspicuously post in the establishment notice of the prohibition against the purchase or consumption of liquor under this subsection.

(3) An administrative action for violation of subsection (1) of this section and an infraction issued for violation of subsection (2) of this section arising out of the same incident are separate actions and the outcome of one shall not determine the outcome of the other. [1998 c 259 § 1; 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 36; RRS § 7306-36.]

**66.44.210 Obtaining liquor for ineligible person.** Except in the case of liquor administered by a physician or dentist or sold upon a prescription in accordance with the provisions of this title, no person shall procure or supply, or assist directly or indirectly in procuring or supplying, liquor for or to anyone whose permit is suspended or has been canceled. [1933 ex.s. c 62 § 38; RRS § 7306-38.]

**66.44.240 Drinking in public conveyance—Penalty against carrier—Exception.** Every person engaged wholly or in part in the business of carrying passengers for hire, and every agent, servant, or employee of such person, who knowingly permits any person to drink any intoxicating liquor in any public conveyance, except in the compartment where such liquor is sold or served under the authority of a license lawfully issued, is guilty of a misdemeanor. This section does not apply to a public conveyance that is commercially chartered for group use or a for-hire vehicle licensed under city, county, or state law. [1983 c 165 § 29; 1909 c 249 § 442; RRS § 2694.]

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

*Alcoholic beverages, drinking or open container in vehicle on highway, exceptions: RCW 46.61.519.*

**66.44.250 Drinking in public conveyance—Penalty against individual—Restricted application.** Every person who drinks any intoxicating liquor in any public conveyance,

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except in a compartment or place where sold or served under the authority of a license lawfully issued, is guilty of a misdemeanor. With respect to a public conveyance that is commercially chartered for group use and with respect to a for-hire vehicle licensed under city, county, or state law, this section applies only to the driver of the vehicle. [1983 c 165 § 30; 1909 c 249 § 441; RRS § 2693.]

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

*Alcoholic beverages, drinking or open container in vehicle on highway, exceptions: RCW 46.61.519.*

**66.44.265 Candidates giving or purchasing liquor on election day prohibited.** It shall be unlawful for a candidate for office or for nomination thereto whose name appears upon the ballot at any election to give to or purchase for another person, not a member of his or her family, any liquor in or upon any premises licensed by the state for the sale of any such liquor by the drink during the hours that the polls are open on the day of such election. [1971 ex.s. c 112 § 2.]

**66.44.270 Furnishing liquor to minors—Possession, use—Penalties—Exhibition of effects—Exceptions.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to sell, give, or otherwise supply liquor to any person under the age of twenty-one years or permit any person under that age to consume liquor on his or her premises or on any premises under his or her control. For the purposes of this subsection, "premises" includes real property, houses, buildings, and other structures, and motor vehicles and watercraft. A violation of this subsection is a gross misdemeanor punishable as provided for in chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(2)(a) It is unlawful for any person under the age of twenty-one years to possess, consume, or otherwise acquire any liquor. A violation of this subsection is a gross misdemeanor punishable as provided for in chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(b) It is unlawful for a person under the age of twenty-one years to be in a public place, or to be in a motor vehicle in a public place, while exhibiting the effects of having consumed liquor. For purposes of this subsection, exhibiting the effects of having consumed liquor means that a person has the odor of liquor on his or her breath and either: (i) Is in possession of or close proximity to a container that has or recently had liquor in it; or (ii) by speech, manner, appearance, behavior, lack of coordination, or otherwise, exhibits that he or she is under the influence of liquor. This subsection (2)(b) does not apply if the person is in the presence of a parent or guardian or has consumed or is consuming liquor under circumstances described in subsection (4) or (5) of this section.

(3) Subsections (1) and (2)(a) of this section do not apply to liquor given or permitted to be given to a person under the age of twenty-one years by a parent or guardian and consumed in the presence of the parent or guardian. This subsection shall not authorize consumption or possession of liquor by a person under the age of twenty-one years on any premises licensed under chapter 66.24 RCW.

(4) This section does not apply to liquor given for medicinal purposes to a person under the age of twenty-one years by a parent, guardian, physician, or dentist.

(5) This section does not apply to liquor given to a person under the age of twenty-one years when such liquor is being used in connection with religious services and the amount consumed is the minimal amount necessary for the religious service.

(6) Conviction or forfeiture of bail for a violation of this section by a person under the age of twenty-one years at the time of such conviction or forfeiture shall not be a disqualification of that person to acquire a license to sell or dispense any liquor after that person has attained the age of twenty-one years. [1998 c 4 § 1; 1993 c 513 § 1; 1987 c 458 § 3; 1955 c 70 § 2. Prior: 1935 c 174 § 6(1); 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 37(1); RRS § 7306-37(1); prior: Code 1881 § 939; 1877 p 205 § 5.]

*Minors, access to tobacco, role of liquor control board: Chapter 70.155 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**66.44.280 Minor applying for permit.** Every person under the age of twenty-one years who makes application for a permit shall be guilty of an offense against this title. [1955 c 70 § 3. Prior: 1935 c 174 § 6(2); 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 37(2); RRS § 7306-37(2).]

**66.44.290 Minor purchasing or attempting to purchase liquor—Penalty.** (1) Every person under the age of twenty-one years who purchases or attempts to purchase liquor shall be guilty of a violation of this title. This section does not apply to persons between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one years who are participating in a controlled purchase program authorized by the liquor control board under rules adopted by the board. Violations occurring under a private, controlled purchase program authorized by the liquor control board may not be used for criminal or administrative prosecution.

(2) An employer who conducts an in-house controlled purchase program authorized under this section shall provide his or her employees a written description of the employer's in-house controlled purchase program. The written description must include notice of actions an employer may take as a consequence of an employee's failure to comply with company policies regarding the sale of alcohol during an in-house controlled purchase.

(3) An in-house controlled purchase program authorized under this section shall be for the purposes of employee training and employer self-compliance checks. An employer may not terminate an employee solely for a first-time failure to comply with company policies regarding the sale of alcohol during an in-house controlled purchase program authorized under this section.

(4) Every person between the ages of eighteen and twenty, inclusive, who is convicted of a violation of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable as provided by RCW 9A.20.021, except that a minimum fine of two hundred fifty dollars shall be imposed and any sentence requiring community restitution shall require not fewer than twenty-five hours of community restitution. [2003 c 53 § 301; 2001 c 295 § 1; 1965 c 49 § 1; 1955 c 70 § 4. Prior: 1935 c 174 § 6(1); 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 37(1); RRS § 7306-37(1).]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**66.44.292 Sales to minors by licensee or employee—Board notification to prosecuting attorney to formulate charges against minors.** The Washington state liquor control board shall furnish notification of any hearing or hearings held, wherein any licensee or his or her employee is found to have sold liquor to a minor, to the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the sale took place, upon which the prosecuting attorney may formulate charges against said minor or minors for such violation of RCW 66.44.290 as may appear. [2012 c 117 § 292; 1981 1st ex.s. c 5 § 23; 1965 c 49 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**66.44.300 Treats, gifts, purchases of liquor for or from minor, or holding out minor as at least twenty-one, in public place where liquor sold.** Any person who invites a minor into a public place where liquor is sold and treats, gives or purchases liquor for such minor, or permits a minor to treat, give or purchase liquor for the adult; or holds out such minor to be twenty-one years of age or older to the owner or employee of the liquor establishment, a law enforcement officer, or a liquor enforcement officer shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1994 c 201 § 7; 1941 c 78 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 7306-37A.]

**66.44.310 Minors frequenting off-limits area—Misrepresentation of age—Penalty—Classification of licensees.** (1) Except as otherwise provided by RCW 66.44.316, 66.44.350, and 66.24.590, it shall be a misdemeanor:

(a) To serve or allow to remain in any area classified by the board as off-limits to any person under the age of twenty-one years;

(b) For any person under the age of twenty-one years to enter or remain in any area classified as off-limits to such a person, but persons under twenty-one years of age may pass through a restricted area in a facility holding a spirits, beer, and wine private club license;

(c) For any person under the age of twenty-one years to represent his or her age as being twenty-one or more years for the purpose of purchasing liquor or securing admission to, or remaining in any area classified by the board as off-limits to such a person.

(2) The Washington state liquor control board shall have the power and it shall be its duty to classify licensed premises or portions of licensed premises as off-limits to persons under the age of twenty-one years of age. [2007 c 370 § 12; 1998 c 126 § 14; 1997 c 321 § 53; 1994 c 201 § 8; 1981 1st ex.s. c 5 § 24; 1943 c 245 § 1 (adding new section 36-A to 1933 ex.s. c 62); Rem. Supp. 1943 § 7306-36A. Formerly RCW 66.24.130 and 66.44.310.]

**Effective date—2007 c 370 §§ 10-20:** See note following RCW 66.04.010.

*Minors, access to tobacco, role of liquor control board: Chapter 70.155 RCW.*

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**66.44.316 Certain persons eighteen years and over permitted to enter and remain upon licensed premises during employment.** It is lawful for:

(1) Professional musicians, professional disc jockeys, or professional sound or lighting technicians actively engaged in support of professional musicians or professional disc

jockeys, eighteen years of age and older, to enter and to remain in any premises licensed under the provisions of Title 66 RCW, but only during and in the course of their employment as musicians, disc jockeys, or sound or lighting technicians;

(2) Persons eighteen years of age and older performing janitorial services to enter and remain on premises licensed under the provisions of Title 66 RCW when the premises are closed but only during and in the course of their performance of janitorial services;

(3) Employees of amusement device companies, which employees are eighteen years of age or older, to enter and to remain in any premises licensed under the provisions of Title 66 RCW, but only during and in the course of their employment for the purpose of installing, maintaining, repairing, or removing an amusement device. For the purposes of this section amusement device means coin-operated video games, pinball machines, juke boxes, or other similar devices; and

(4) Security and law enforcement officers, and firefighters eighteen years of age or older to enter and to remain in any premises licensed under Title 66 RCW, but only during and in the course of their official duties and only if they are not the direct employees of the licensee. However, the application of the [this] subsection to security officers is limited to casual, isolated incidents arising in the course of their duties and does not extend to continuous or frequent entering or remaining in any licensed premises.

This section shall not be construed as permitting the sale or distribution of any alcoholic beverages to any person under the age of twenty-one years. [1985 c 323 § 1; 1984 c 136 § 1; 1980 c 22 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 96 § 1.]

**66.44.318 Employees aged eighteen to twenty-one stocking, merchandising, and handling beer and wine.**

Licensees holding nonretail class liquor licenses are permitted to allow their employees between [the] ages of eighteen and twenty-one to stock, merchandise, and handle beer or wine on or about the nonretail premises if there is an adult twenty-one years of age or older on duty supervising such activities on the premises. [1995 c 100 § 2.]

**66.44.325 Unlawful transfer to minor of age identification.** Any person who transfers in any manner an identification of age to a minor for the purpose of permitting such minor to obtain alcoholic beverages shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable as provided by RCW 9A.20.021, except that a minimum fine of two hundred fifty dollars shall be imposed and any sentence requiring community restitution shall require not fewer than twenty-five hours of community restitution: PROVIDED, That corroborative testimony of a witness other than the minor shall be a condition precedent to conviction. [2002 c 175 § 43; 1987 c 101 § 2; 1961 c 147 § 1.]

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

*Cards of identification: RCW 66.20.170 through 66.20.210.*

**66.44.328 Preparation or acquisition and supply to persons under age twenty-one of facsimile of official identification card—Penalty.** No person may forge, alter, counterfeit, otherwise prepare or acquire and supply to a person under the age of twenty-one years a facsimile of any of the

officially issued cards of identification that are required for presentation under \*RCW 66.16.040. A violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor punishable as provided by RCW 9A.20.021 except that a minimum fine of two thousand five hundred dollars shall be imposed. [1987 c 101 § 3.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 66.16.040 was repealed by 2012 c 2 § 215 (Initiative Measure No. 1183).

**66.44.340 Employees eighteen years and over allowed to sell and handle beer and wine for certain licensed employers.** (1) Employers holding grocery store or beer and/or wine specialty shop licenses exclusively are permitted to allow their employees, between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one years, to sell, stock, and handle liquor in, on or about any establishment holding a license to sell such liquor, if:

(a) There is an adult twenty-one years of age or older on duty supervising the sale of liquor at the licensed premises; and

(b) In the case of spirits, there are at least two adults twenty-one years of age or older on duty supervising the sale of spirits at the licensed premises.

(2) \*Employees under twenty-one years of age may make deliveries of beer and/or wine purchased from licensees holding grocery store or beer and/or wine specialty shop licenses exclusively, when delivery is made to cars of customers adjacent to such licensed premises but only, however, when the underage employee is accompanied by the purchaser. [2012 c 2 § 211 (Initiative Measure No. 1183, approved November 8, 2011); 1999 c 281 § 11; 1986 c 5 § 1; 1981 1st ex.s. c 5 § 48; 1969 ex.s. c 38 § 1.]

\*Reviser's note: Initiative Measure No. 1183 removed the word "minor" and inserted the phrase "Employees under twenty-one years of age" without enclosing "minor" in double parentheses with strike-through and without underlining "Employees under twenty-one years of age."

**Finding—Application—Rules—Effective date—Contingent effective date—2012 c 2 (Initiative Measure No. 1183):** See notes following RCW 66.24.620.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**66.44.350 Employees eighteen years and over allowed to serve and carry liquor, clean up, etc., for certain licensed employers.** Notwithstanding provisions of RCW 66.44.310, employees holding beer and/or wine restaurant; beer and/or wine private club; snack bar; spirits, beer, and wine restaurant; spirits, beer, and wine private club; and sports entertainment facility licenses who are licensees eighteen years of age and over may take orders for, serve and sell liquor in any part of the licensed premises except cocktail lounges, bars, or other areas classified by the Washington state liquor control board as off-limits to persons under twenty-one years of age: PROVIDED, That such employees may enter such restricted areas to perform work assignments including picking up liquor for service in other parts of the licensed premises, performing clean up work, setting up and arranging tables, delivering supplies, delivering messages, serving food, and seating patrons: PROVIDED FURTHER, That such employees shall remain in the areas off-limits to minors no longer than is necessary to carry out their aforementioned duties: PROVIDED FURTHER, That such employees shall not be permitted to perform activities or

functions of a bartender. [1999 c 281 § 12; 1988 c 160 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 204 § 1.]

**66.44.365 Juvenile driving privileges—Alcohol or drug violations.** (1) If a juvenile thirteen years of age or older and under the age of eighteen is found by a court to have committed any offense that is a violation of this chapter, the court shall notify the department of licensing within twenty-four hours after entry of the judgment.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section, upon petition of a juvenile whose privilege to drive has been revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265, the court may notify the department of licensing that the juvenile's privilege to drive should be reinstated.

(3) If the conviction is for the juvenile's first violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41, 69.50, or 69.52 RCW, a juvenile may not petition the court for reinstatement of the juvenile's privilege to drive revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265 until the later of ninety days after the date the juvenile turns sixteen or ninety days after the judgment was entered. If the conviction was for the juvenile's second or subsequent violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41, 69.50, or 69.52 RCW, the juvenile may not petition the court for reinstatement of the juvenile's privilege to drive revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265 until the later of the date the juvenile turns seventeen or one year after the date judgment was entered. [1989 c 271 § 118; 1988 c 148 § 3.]

**Legislative finding—Severability—1988 c 148:** See notes following RCW 13.40.265.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**66.44.370 Resisting or opposing officers in enforcement of title.** No person shall knowingly or wilfully resist or oppose any state, county, or municipal peace officer, or liquor enforcement officer, in the discharge of his/her duties under Title 66 RCW, or aid and abet such resistance or opposition. Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a violation of this title and subject to arrest by any such officer. [1981 1st ex.s. c 5 § 27.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**66.44.800 Compliance by Washington wine and beer commissions.** (1) Nothing contained in chapter 15.88 RCW shall affect the compliance by the Washington wine commission with this chapter.

(2) Nothing contained in chapter 15.89 RCW shall affect the compliance by the Washington beer commission with this chapter. [2006 c 330 § 22; 1987 c 452 § 17.]

**Construction—Severability—2006 c 330:** See RCW 15.89.900 and 15.89.901.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

# Title 69

## FOOD, DRUGS, COSMETICS, AND POISONS

### Chapters

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- 69.06** Food and beverage establishment workers' permits.
- 69.07** Washington food processing act.
- 69.10** Food storage warehouses.
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- 69.28** Honey.
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*Hazardous substances (poison prevention): Chapter 70.106 RCW.*

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*Poison information centers: Chapter 18.76 RCW.*

*Preparations, patent medicines containing alcohol: Chapter 66.12 RCW.*

*Regulation of sale of drugs and medicines authorized: State Constitution Art. 20 § 2.*

*Unlawful to refill trademarked containers: RCW 19.76.110.*

### Chapter 69.04 RCW

### INTRASTATE COMMERCE IN FOOD, DRUGS, AND COSMETICS

(Formerly: Food, drug, and cosmetic act)

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*Food processing inspection account: RCW 69.07.120.*

*Patent medicine peddlers: Chapter 18.64 RCW.*

**69.04.001 Statement of purpose.** This chapter is intended to enact state legislation (1) which safeguards the public health and promotes the public welfare by protecting the consuming public from (a) potential injury by product use; (b) products that are adulterated; or (c) products that have been produced under unsanitary conditions, and the purchasing public from injury by merchandising deceit flowing from intrastate commerce in food, drugs, devices, and cosmetics; and (2) which is uniform, as provided in this chapter, with the federal food, drug, and cosmetic act; and with the federal trade commission act, to the extent it expressly outlaws the false advertisement of food, drugs, devices, and cosmetics; and (3) which thus promotes uniformity of such law and its administration and enforcement, in and throughout the United States. [1991 c 162 § 1; 1945 c 257 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-51.]

*Conformity with federal regulations: RCW 69.04.190 and 69.04.200.*

**69.04.002 Introductory.** For the purposes of this chapter, terms shall apply as herein defined unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. [1945 c 257 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-52.]

**69.04.003 "Federal act" defined.** The term "federal act" means the federal food, drug, and cosmetic act, approved on June 25, 1938. (Title 21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.; 52 Stat. 1040 et seq.) [1945 c 257 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-53.]

**69.04.004 "Intrastate commerce."** The term "intrastate commerce" means any and all commerce within the state of Washington and subject to the jurisdiction thereof; and includes the operation of any business or service establishment. [1945 c 257 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-54.]

**69.04.005 "Sale."** The term "sale" means any and every sale and includes (1) manufacture, processing, packing, canning, bottling, or any other production, preparation, or putting up; (2) exposure, offer, or any other proffer; (3) holding, storing, or any other possessing; (4) dispensing, giving, delivering, serving, or any other supplying; and (5) applying, administering, or any other using. [1945 c 257 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-55.]

**69.04.006 "Director."** The term "director" means the director of the department of agriculture of the state of Washington and his or her duly authorized representatives. [2012 c 117 § 328; 1945 c 257 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-56.]

*Director of agriculture, general duties: Chapter 43.23 RCW.*

**69.04.007 "Person."** The term "person" includes individual, partnership, corporation, and association. [1945 c 257 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-57.]

**69.04.008 "Food."** The term "food" means (1) articles used for food or drink for people or other animals, (2) bottled water, (3) chewing gum, and (4) articles used for components of any such article. [1992 c 34 § 2; 1945 c 257 § 9; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-58.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.04.009 "Drugs."** The term "drug" means (1) articles recognized in the official United States pharmacopoeia, official homeopathic pharmacopoeia of the United States, or official national formulary, or any supplement to any of them; and (2) articles intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in human beings or other animals; and (3) articles (other than food) intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of human beings or other animals; and (4) articles intended for use as a component of any article specified in clause (1), (2), or (3); but does not include devices or their components, parts, or accessories. [2009 c 549 § 1018; 1945 c 257 § 10; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-59. Prior: 1907 c 211 § 2.]

**69.04.010 "Device."** The term "device" (except when used in RCW 69.04.016 and in RCW 69.04.040(10), 69.04.270, 69.04.690, and in RCW 69.04.470 as used in the sentence "(as compared with other words, statements, designs, or devices, in the labeling)") means instruments, apparatus, and contrivances, including their components, parts and accessories, intended (1) for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in human beings or other animals; or (2) to affect the structure or any function of the body of human beings or other animals. [2009 c 549 § 1019; 1945 c 257 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-60.]

**69.04.011 "Cosmetic."** The term "cosmetic" means (1) articles intended to be rubbed, poured, sprinkled, or sprayed on, introduced into, or otherwise applied to the human body or any part thereof for cleansing, beautifying, promoting attractiveness, or altering the appearance, and (2) articles intended for use as a component of any such article; except that such term shall not include soap. [1945 c 257 § 12; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-61.]

**69.04.012 "Official compendium."** The term "official compendium" mean the official United States pharmacopoeia, official homeopathic pharmacopoeia of the United States, official national formulary, or any supplement to any of them. [1945 c 257 § 13; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-62.]

**69.04.013 "Label."** The term "label" means a display of written, printed, or graphic matter upon the immediate container of any article; and a requirement made by or under

authority of this chapter that any word, statement, or other information appear on the label shall not be considered to be complied with unless such word, statement, or other information also appears on the outside container or wrapper, if any there be, of the retail package of such article, or is easily legible through the outside container or wrapper. [1945 c 257 § 14; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-63.]

**69.04.014 "Immediate container."** The term "immediate container" does not include package liners. [1945 c 257 § 15; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-64.]

**69.04.015 "Labeling."** The term "labeling" means all labels and other written, printed, or graphic matter (1) upon any article or any of its containers or wrappers, or (2) accompanying such article. [1945 c 257 § 16; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-65.]

*Crimes relating to labeling: Chapter 9.16 RCW, RCW 69.40.055.*

**69.04.016 "Misleading labeling or advertisement," how determined.** If any article is alleged to be misbranded because the labeling is misleading, or if an advertisement is alleged to be false because it is misleading, then in determining whether the labeling or advertisement is misleading there shall be taken into account (among other things) not only representations made or suggested by statement, word, design, device, sound, or any combination thereof, but also the extent to which the labeling or advertisement fails to reveal facts material in the light of such representations or material with respect to consequences which may result from the use of the article to which the labeling or advertisement relates under the conditions of use prescribed in the labeling or advertisement thereof or under such conditions of use as are customary or usual. [1945 c 257 § 17; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-66.]

*Crimes relating to advertising: Chapter 9.04 RCW.*

**69.04.017 "Antiseptic" as germicide.** The representation of a drug, in its labeling or advertisement, as an antiseptic shall be considered to be a representation that it is a germicide, except in the case of a drug purporting to be, or represented as, an antiseptic for inhibitory use as a wet dressing, ointment, dusting powder, or such other use as involves prolonged contact with the body. [1945 c 257 § 18; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-67.]

**69.04.018 "New drug" defined.** The term "new drug" means (1) any drug the composition of which is such that such drug is not generally recognized, among experts qualified by scientific training and experience to evaluate the safety of drugs, as safe for use under the conditions prescribed, recommended, or suggested in the labeling thereof; or (2) any drug the composition of which is such that such drug, as a result of investigations to determine its safety for use under such conditions, has become so recognized, but which has not, otherwise than in such investigations, been used to a material extent or for a material time under such conditions: PROVIDED, That no drug in use on the \*effective date of this chapter shall be regarded as a new drug. [1945 c 257 § 19; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-68.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)



**69.04.019 "Advertisement."** The term "advertisement" means all representations, other than by labeling, for the purpose of inducing, or which are likely to induce, directly or indirectly, the purchase of food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics. [1945 c 257 § 20; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-69.]

**69.04.020 "Contaminated with filth."** The term "contaminated with filth" applies to any food, drug, device, or cosmetic not securely protected from dust, dirt, and as far as may be necessary by all reasonable means, from all foreign or injurious contaminations. [1945 c 257 § 21; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-70.]

**69.04.021 "Package."** The word "package" shall include, and be construed to include, wrapped meats enclosed in papers or other materials as prepared by the manufacturers thereof for sale. [1963 c 198 § 8.]

**69.04.022 "Pesticide chemical."** The term "pesticide chemical" means any substance defined as an economic poison and/or agricultural pesticide in Title 15 RCW as now enacted or hereafter amended. [1963 c 198 § 9.]

**69.04.023 "Raw agricultural commodity."** The term "raw agricultural commodity" means any food in its raw or natural state, including all fruits that are washed, colored or otherwise treated in their unpeeled natural form prior to marketing. [1963 c 198 § 10.]

**69.04.024 "Food additive," "safe."** (1) The term "food additive" means any substance the intended use of which results or may reasonably be expected to result, directly or indirectly, in its becoming a component or otherwise affecting the characteristics of any food (including any substance intended for use in producing, manufacturing, packing, processing, preparing, treating, packaging, transporting, or holding food; and including any source of radiation intended for any such use), if such substance generally is recognized, among experts qualified by scientific training and experience to evaluate its safety, as having been adequately shown through scientific procedures (or, in the case of a substance used in food prior to January 1, 1958; through either scientific procedures or experience based on common use in food) to be unsafe under the conditions of its intended use; except that such term does not include; (a) a pesticide chemical in or on a raw agricultural commodity; or (b) a pesticide chemical to the extent that it is intended for use or is used in the production, storage, or transportation of any raw agricultural commodity; or (c) a color additive.

(2) The term "safe" as used in the food additive definition has reference to the health of human beings or animals. [2009 c 549 § 1020; 1963 c 198 § 11.]

**69.04.025 "Color additive," "color."** (1) The term "color additive" means a material which (a) is a dye, pigment, or other substance made by a process of synthesis or similar artifice, or extracted, isolated, or otherwise derived, with or without intermediate or final change of identity, from a vegetable, animal, mineral, or other source, and (b) when added or applied to a food is capable (alone or through reaction with other substance) of imparting color thereto; except that such

term does not include any material which the director, by regulation, determines is used (or intended to be used) solely for a purpose or purposes other than coloring.

(2) The term "color" includes black, white, and intermediate grays.

(3) Nothing in subsection (1) hereof shall be construed to apply to any pesticide chemical, soil or plant nutrient, or other agricultural chemical solely because of its effect in aiding, retarding, or otherwise affecting, directly or indirectly, the growth or other natural physiological processes of produce of the soil and thereby affecting its color, whether before or after harvest. [1963 c 198 § 12.]

**69.04.040 Prohibited acts.** The following acts and the causing thereof are hereby prohibited:

(1) The sale in intrastate commerce of any food, drug, device, or cosmetic that is adulterated or misbranded.

(2) The adulteration or misbranding of any food, drug, device, or cosmetic in intrastate commerce.

(3) The receipt in intrastate commerce of any food, drug, device, or cosmetic that is adulterated or misbranded, and the sale thereof in such commerce for pay or otherwise.

(4) The introduction or delivery for introduction into intrastate commerce of (a) any food in violation of RCW 69.04.350; or (b) any new drug in violation of RCW 69.04.570.

(5) The dissemination within this state, in any manner or by any means or through any medium, of any false advertisement.

(6) The refusal to permit (a) entry and the taking of a sample or specimen or the making of any investigation or examination as authorized by RCW 69.04.780; or (b) access to or copying of any record as authorized by RCW 69.04.810.

(7) The refusal to permit entry or inspection as authorized by RCW 69.04.820.

(8) The removal, mutilation, or violation of an embargo notice as authorized by RCW 69.04.110.

(9) The giving of a guaranty or undertaking in intrastate commerce, referred to in RCW 69.04.080, that is false.

(10) The forging, counterfeiting, simulating, or falsely representing, or without proper authority, using any mark, stamp, tag, label, or other identification device authorized or required by regulations promulgated under RCW 69.04.350.

(11) The alteration, mutilation, destruction, obliteration, or removal of the whole or any part of the labeling of a food, drug, device, or cosmetic, or the doing of any other act with respect to a food, drug, device, or cosmetic, or the labeling or advertisement thereof, which results in a violation of this chapter.

(12) The using in intrastate commerce, in the labeling or advertisement of any drug, of any representation or suggestion that an application with respect to such drug is effective under section 505 of the federal act or under RCW 69.04.570, or that such drug complies with the provisions of either such section. [1945 c 257 § 22; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-71. Prior: 1917 c 168 § 1; 1907 c 211 § 1; 1901 c 94 § 1.]

**69.04.050 Remedy by injunction.** (1) In addition to the remedies hereinafter provided the director is hereby authorized to apply to the superior court of Thurston county for, and such court shall have jurisdiction upon prompt hearing

and for cause shown to grant, a temporary or permanent injunction restraining any person from violating any provision of RCW 69.04.040; without proof that an adequate remedy at law does not exist.

(2) Whenever it appears to the satisfaction of the court in the case of a newspaper, magazine, periodical, or other publication, published at regular intervals (a) that restraining the dissemination of a false advertisement in any particular issue of such publication would delay the delivery of such issue after the regular time therefor, and (b) that such delay would be due to the method by which the manufacture and distribution of such publication is customarily conducted by the publisher in accordance with sound business practice, and not to any method or device adopted for the evasion of this section or to prevent or delay the issuance of an injunction or restraining order with respect to such false advertisement or any other advertisement, the court shall exclude such issue from the operation of the restraining order or injunction. [1945 c 257 § 23; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-72.]

*Injunctions, generally: Chapter 7.40 RCW.*

**69.04.060 Criminal penalty for violations.** Any person who violates any provision of RCW 69.04.040 is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall on conviction thereof be subject to the following penalties:

(1) A fine of not more than two hundred dollars; or

(2) If the violation is committed after a conviction of such person under this section has become final, imprisonment for not more than thirty days, or a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, or both such imprisonment and fine. [2003 c 53 § 314; 1945 c 257 § 24; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-73. Prior: 1907 c 211 § 12; 1901 c 94 § 11.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.04.070 Additional penalty.** Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 69.04.060, a person who violates RCW 69.04.040 with intent to defraud or mislead is guilty of a misdemeanor and the penalty shall be imprisonment for not more than ninety days, or a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or both such imprisonment and fine. [2003 c 53 § 315; 1945 c 257 § 25; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-74.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.04.080 Avoidance of penalty.** No person shall be subject to the penalties of RCW 69.04.060:

(1) For having violated RCW 69.04.040(3), if he or she establishes that he or she received and sold such article in good faith, unless he or she refuses on request of the director to furnish the name and address of the person in the state of Washington from whom he or she received such article and copies of all available documents pertaining to his or her receipt thereof; or

(2) For having violated RCW 69.04.040 (1), (3), or (4), if he or she establishes a guaranty or undertaking signed by, and containing the name and address of, the person in the state of Washington from whom he or she received such article in good faith, to the effect that such article complies with this chapter; or

(3) For having violated RCW 69.04.040(5), if he or she establishes a guaranty or undertaking signed by, and containing the name and address of, the person in the state of Washington from whom he or she received such advertisement in good faith, to the effect that such advertisement complies with this chapter; or

(4) For having violated RCW 69.04.040(9), if he or she establishes that he or she gave such guaranty or undertaking in good faith and in reliance on a guaranty or undertaking to him or her, which guaranty or undertaking was to the same effect and was signed by, and contained the name and address of, a person in the state of Washington. [2012 c 117 § 329; 1945 c 257 § 26; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-75.]

**69.04.090 Liability of disseminator of advertisement.**

No publisher, radio broadcast licensee, advertising agency, or agency or medium for the dissemination of an advertisement, except the manufacturer, packer, distributor, or seller of the article to which the advertisement relates, shall be subject to the penalties of RCW 69.04.060 by reason of his or her dissemination of any false advertisement, unless he or she has refused on the request of the director to furnish the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor, seller, or advertising agency in the state of Washington, who caused him or her to disseminate such false advertisement. [2012 c 117 § 330; 1945 c 257 § 27; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-76.]

**69.04.100 Condemnation of adulterated or misbranded article.** Whenever the director shall find in intrastate commerce an article subject to this chapter which is so adulterated or misbranded that it is unfit or unsafe for human use and its immediate condemnation is required to protect the public health, such article is hereby declared to be a nuisance and the director is hereby authorized forthwith to destroy such article or to render it unsalable for human use. [1945 c 257 § 28; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-77.]

**69.04.110 Embargo of articles.** Whenever the director shall find, or shall have probable cause to believe, that an article subject to this chapter is in intrastate commerce in violation of this chapter, and that its embargo under this section is required to protect the consuming or purchasing public, due to its being adulterated or misbranded, or to otherwise protect the public from injury, or possible injury, he or she is hereby authorized to affix to such article a notice of its embargo and against its sale in intrastate commerce, without permission given under this chapter. But if, after such article has been so embargoed, the director shall find that such article does not involve a violation of this chapter, such embargo shall be forthwith removed. [1991 c 162 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 7 § 25; 1945 c 257 § 29; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-78.]

**Purpose of section:** See RCW 69.04.398.

**69.04.120 Procedure on embargo.** When the director has embargoed an article, he or she shall, forthwith and without delay and in no event later than thirty days after the affixing of notice of its embargo, petition the superior court for an order affirming the embargo. The court then has jurisdiction, for cause shown and after prompt hearing to any claimant of the embargoed article, to issue an order which directs the removal of the embargo or the destruction or the correction

and release of the article. An order for destruction or correction and release shall contain such provision for the payment of pertinent court costs and fees and administrative expenses as is equitable and which the court deems appropriate in the circumstances. An order for correction and release may contain such provision for a bond as the court finds indicated in the circumstances. [1991 c 162 § 4; 1983 c 95 § 8; 1945 c 257 § 30; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-79.]

**69.04.123 Exception to petition requirement under RCW 69.04.120.** The director need not petition the superior court as provided for in RCW 69.04.120 if the owner or claimant of such food or food products agrees in writing to the disposition of such food or food products as the director may order. [1995 c 374 § 20.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.04.130 Petitions may be consolidated.** Two or more petitions under RCW 69.04.120, which pend at the same time and which present the same issue and claimant hereunder, shall be consolidated for simultaneous determination by one court of jurisdiction, upon application to any court of jurisdiction by the director or by such claimant. [1945 c 257 § 31; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-80.]

**69.04.140 Claimant entitled to sample.** The claimant in any proceeding by petition under RCW 69.04.120 shall be entitled to receive a representative sample of the article subject to such proceeding, upon application to the court of jurisdiction made at any time after such petition and prior to the hearing thereon. [1945 c 257 § 32; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-81.]

**69.04.150 Damages not recoverable if probable cause existed.** No state court shall allow the recovery of damages from administrative action for condemnation under RCW 69.04.100 or for embargo under RCW 69.04.110, if the court finds that there was probable cause for such action. [1945 c 257 § 33; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-82.]

**69.04.160 Prosecutions.** (1) It shall be the duty of each state attorney, county attorney, or city attorney to whom the director reports any violation of this chapter, or regulations promulgated under it, to cause appropriate proceedings to be instituted in the proper courts, without delay, and to be duly prosecuted as prescribed by law.

(2) Before any violation of this chapter is reported by the director to any such attorney for the institution of a criminal proceeding, the person against whom such proceeding is contemplated shall be given appropriate notice and an opportunity to present his or her views to the director, either orally or in writing, with regard to such contemplated proceeding. [2012 c 117 § 331; 1945 c 257 § 34; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-83.]

**69.04.170 Minor infractions.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as requiring the director to report for the institution of proceedings under this chapter, minor violations of this chapter, whenever he or she believes that the public interest will be adequately served in the circumstances

by a suitable written notice or warning. [2012 c 117 § 332; 1945 c 257 § 35; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-84.]

**69.04.180 Proceedings to be in name of state.** All such proceedings for the enforcement, or to restrain violations, of this chapter shall be by and in the name of the state of Washington. [1945 c 257 § 36; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-85.]

**69.04.190 Standards may be prescribed by regulations.** Whenever in the judgment of the director such action will promote honesty and fair dealing in the interest of consumers, he or she shall promulgate regulations fixing and establishing for any food, under its common or usual name so far as practicable, a reasonable definition and standard of identity, a reasonable standard of quality, and/or reasonable standards of fill of container. In prescribing any standard of fill of container, consideration shall be given to and due allowance shall be made for product or volume shrinkage or expansion unavoidable in good commercial practice, and need for packing and protective material. In prescribing any standard of quality for any canned fruit or canned vegetable, consideration shall be given to and due allowance shall be made for the differing characteristics of the several varieties thereof. In prescribing a definition and standard of identity for any food or class of food in which optional ingredients are permitted, the director shall, for the purpose of promoting honesty and fair dealing in the interest of consumers, designate the optional ingredients which shall be named on the label. [2012 c 117 § 333; 1945 c 257 § 37; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-86. Prior: 1917 c 168 § 2.]

**69.04.200 Conformance with federal standards.** The definitions and standards of identity, the standards of quality and fill of container, and the label requirements prescribed by regulations promulgated under \*this section shall conform, insofar as practicable, with those prescribed by regulations promulgated under section 401 of the federal act and to the definitions and standards promulgated under the meat inspection act approved March 4, 1907, as amended. [1945 c 257 § 38; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-87.]

\*Reviser's note: The language "this section" appears in 1945 c 257 § 38 but apparently refers to 1945 c 257 § 37 codified as RCW 69.04.190.

**69.04.205 Bacon—Packaging at retail to reveal quality and leanness.** All packaged bacon other than that packaged in cans shall be offered and exposed for sale and sold, within the state of Washington only at retail in packages which permit the buyer to readily view the quality and degree of leanness of the product. [1971 c 49 § 1.]

**69.04.206 Bacon—Rules, regulations, and standards—Withholding packaging use—Hearing—Final determination—Appeal.** The director of the department of agriculture is hereby authorized to promulgate rules, regulations, and standards for the implementation of RCW 69.04.205 through 69.04.207. If the director has reason to believe that any packaging method, package, or container in use or proposed for use with respect to the marketing of bacon is false or misleading in any particular, or does not meet the requirements of RCW 69.04.205, he or she may

direct that such use be withheld unless the packaging method, package, or container is modified in such manner as he or she may prescribe so that it will not be false or misleading. If the person, firm, or corporation using or proposing to use the packaging method, package, or container does not accept the determination of the director such person, firm, or corporation may request a hearing, but the use of the packaging method, package, or container shall, if the director so directs, be withheld pending hearing and final determination by the director. Any such determination by the director shall be conclusive unless, within thirty days after receipt of notice of such final determination, the person, firm, or corporation adversely affected thereby appeals to a court of proper jurisdiction. [2012 c 117 § 334; 1971 c 49 § 2.]

**69.04.207 Bacon—Effective date.** RCW 69.04.205 through 69.04.207 shall take effect on January 1, 1972. [1971 c 49 § 3.]

**69.04.210 Food—Adulteration by poisonous or deleterious substance.** A food shall be deemed to be adulterated:

(1) If it bears or contains any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health; but in case the substance is not an added substance such food shall not be considered adulterated under this clause if the quantity of such substance in such food does not ordinarily render it injurious to health; or

(2)(a) If it bears or contains any added poisonous or added deleterious substance (other than one which is (i) a pesticide chemical in or on a raw agricultural commodity; (ii) a food additive, or (iii) a color additive) which is unsafe within the meaning of RCW 69.04.390, or (b) if it is a raw agricultural commodity and it bears or contains a pesticide chemical which is unsafe within the meaning of RCW 69.04.392, or (c) if it is, or it bears or contains, any food additive which is unsafe within the meaning of RCW 69.04.394: PROVIDED, That where a pesticide chemical has been used in or on a raw agricultural commodity in conformity with an exemption granted or a tolerance prescribed under RCW 69.04.392 and such raw agricultural commodity has been subjected to processing such as canning, cooking, freezing, dehydrating, or milling, the residue of such pesticide chemical remaining in or on such processed food shall, notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 69.04.390 and 69.04.394, not be deemed unsafe if such residue in or on the raw agricultural commodity has been removed to the extent possible in good manufacturing practice and the concentration of such residue in the processed food when ready to eat is not greater than the tolerance prescribed for the raw agricultural commodity; or

(3) If it consists in whole or in part of any diseased, contaminated, filthy, putrid, or decomposed substance, or if it is otherwise unfit for food; or

(4) If it has been produced, prepared, packed, or held under insanitary conditions whereby it may have become contaminated with filth, or whereby it may have been rendered diseased, unwholesome, or injurious to health; or

(5) If it is in whole or in part the product of a diseased animal or of an animal which has died otherwise than by slaughter or which has been fed on the uncooked offal from a slaughterhouse; or

(6) If its container is composed in whole or in part of any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render the contents injurious to health; or

(7) If it has been intentionally subjected to radiation, unless the use of the radiation was in conformity with a regulation or exemption in effect pursuant to RCW 69.04.394. [1963 c 198 § 1; 1945 c 257 § 39; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-88. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 1; 1907 c 211 § 3; 1901 c 94 § 3.]

**69.04.220 Food—Adulteration by abstraction, addition, substitution, etc.** A food shall be deemed to be adulterated (1) if any valuable constituent has been in whole or in part omitted or abstracted therefrom; or (2) if any substance has been substituted wholly or in part therefor; or (3) if damage or inferiority has been concealed in any manner; or (4) if any substance has been added thereto or mixed or packed therewith so as to increase its bulk or weight, or reduce its quality or strength, or make it appear better or of greater value than it is. [1945 c 257 § 40; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-89.]

**69.04.231 Food—Adulteration by color additive.** A food shall be deemed to be adulterated if it is, or it bears or contains a color additive which is unsafe within the meaning of RCW 69.04.396. [1963 c 198 § 5.]

**69.04.240 Confectionery—Adulteration.** A food shall be deemed to be adulterated if it is confectionery and it bears or contains any alcohol from natural or artificial alcohol flavoring in excess of one percent of the weight of the confection or any nonnutritive article or substance except harmless coloring, harmless flavoring, harmless resinous glaze not in excess of four-tenths of one percent, natural gum, and pectin. This section shall not apply to any chewing gum by reason of its containing harmless nonnutritive masticatory substances, or to any confection permitted to be sold by an endorsement from the liquor control board under RCW 66.24.360. [2007 c 226 § 3; 1984 c 78 § 2; 1945 c 257 § 42; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-91. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 1, part; 1907 c 211 § 3, part.]

**Finding and declaration—Severability—1984 c 78:** See notes following RCW 66.12.160.

**69.04.245 Poultry—Improper use of state's geographic outline.** Uncooked poultry is deemed to be misbranded if it is produced outside of this state but the label for the poultry contains the geographic outline of this state. [1989 c 257 § 2.]

**Legislative findings—1989 c 257:** "The legislature finds that: Poultry produced in this state is known throughout the state for its high quality; and one of the sources of that quality is the proximity of production centers to retail outlets in the state. The legislature also finds that labeling which misrepresents poultry produced elsewhere as being a product of this state may lead consumers to purchase products which they would not otherwise purchase. The legislature further finds that the presence of the geographic outline of this state on a label for poultry produced outside of the state misrepresents the product as having been produced in this state." [1989 c 257 § 1.]

**69.04.250 Food—Misbranding by false label, etc.** A food shall be deemed to be misbranded (1) if its labeling is false or misleading in any particular; or (2) if it is offered for sale under the name of another food; or (3) if it is an imitation of another food, unless its label bears, in type of uniform size and prominence, the word "imitation" and, immediately

thereafter, the name of the food imitated; or (4) if its container is so made, formed or filled as to be misleading. [1945 c 257 § 43; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-92. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 2; 1907 c 211 § 4.]

**69.04.260 Packaged food—Misbranding.** If a food is in package form, it shall be deemed to be misbranded, unless it bears a label containing (1) the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor; and (2) an accurate statement of the quantity of the contents in terms of weight, measure, or numerical count: PROVIDED, That under clause (2) of this section reasonable variations shall be permitted, and exemptions as to small packages shall be established, by regulations promulgated by the director. [1945 c 257 § 44; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-93.]

**69.04.270 Food—Misbranding by lack of prominent label.** A food shall be deemed to be misbranded if any word, statement, or other information required by or under authority of this chapter to appear on the label or labeling is not prominently placed thereon with such conspicuousness (as compared with other words, statements, designs, or devices, in the labeling) and in such terms as to render it likely to be read and understood by the ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase and use. [1945 c 257 § 45; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-94.]

**69.04.280 Food—Misbranding for nonconformity with standard of identity.** If a food purports to be or is represented as a food for which a definition and standard of identity has been prescribed by regulations as provided by RCW 69.04.190, it shall be deemed to be misbranded unless (1) it conforms to such definition and standard, and (2) its label bears the name of the food specified in the definition and standard, and, insofar as may be required by such regulations, the common names of optional ingredients (other than spices, flavoring, and coloring) present in such food. [1945 c 257 § 46; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-95.]

**69.04.290 Food—Misbranding for nonconformity with standard of quality.** If a food purports to be or is represented as a food for which a standard of quality has been prescribed by regulations as provided by RCW 69.04.190, and its quality falls below such standard, it shall be deemed to be misbranded unless its label bears in such manner and form as such regulations specify, a statement that it falls below such standard. [1945 c 257 § 47; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-96.]

**69.04.300 Food—Misbranding for nonconformity with standard of fill.** If a food purports to be or is represented as a food for which a standard or standards of fill of container have been prescribed by regulations as provided by RCW 69.04.190, and it falls below the standard of fill of container applicable thereto, it shall be deemed to be misbranded unless its label bears, in such manner and form as such regulations specify, a statement that it falls below such standard. [1945 c 257 § 48; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-97.]

**69.04.310 Food—Misbranding by failure to show usual name and ingredients.** If a food is not subject to the

provisions of RCW 69.04.280, it shall be deemed to be misbranded unless its label bears (1) the common or usual name of the food, if any there be, and (2) in case it is fabricated from two or more ingredients, the common or usual name of each such ingredient; except that spices, flavorings, and colorings, other than those sold as such, may be designated as spices, flavorings, and colorings without naming each: PROVIDED, That, to the extent that compliance with the requirements of clause (2) of this section is impracticable, or results in deception or unfair competition, exemptions shall be established by regulations promulgated by the director. [1945 c 257 § 49; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-98.]

**69.04.315 Halibut—Misbranding by failure to show proper name.** No person shall label or offer for sale any food fish product designated as halibut, with or without additional descriptive words unless such food fish product is Hippoglossus Hippoglossus or Hippoglossus Stenolepsis. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of misbranding under the provisions of this chapter. [1967 ex.s. c 79 § 1.]

**69.04.320 Food—Misbranding by failure to show dietary properties.** If a food purports to be or is represented for special dietary uses, it shall be deemed to be misbranded, unless its label bears such information concerning its vitamin, mineral and other dietary properties as is necessary in order to fully inform purchasers as to its value for such uses, as provided by regulations promulgated by the director, such regulations to conform insofar as practicable with regulations under section 403(j) of the federal act. [1945 c 257 § 50; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-99.]

**69.04.330 Food—Misbranding by failure to show artificial flavoring, coloring, etc.** If a food bears or contains any artificial flavoring, artificial coloring, or chemical preservative, it shall be deemed to be misbranded unless it bears labeling stating that fact: PROVIDED, That to the extent that compliance with the requirements of this section is impracticable, exemptions shall be established by regulations promulgated by the director. The provisions of this section and of RCW 69.04.280 and 69.04.310, with respect to artificial coloring, shall not apply in the case of butter, cheese, or ice cream. [1945 c 257 § 51; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-100.]

**69.04.331 Popcorn sold by theaters or commercial food service establishments—Misbranded if the use of butter or ingredients of butter-like flavoring not disclosed.** (1) If a theater or other commercial food service establishment prepares and sells popcorn for human consumption, the establishment, at the point of sale, shall disclose by posting a sign in a conspicuous manner to prospective consumers a statement as to whether the butter or butter-like flavoring added to or attributed to the popcorn offered for sale is butter or is some other product. If the flavoring is some other product, the establishment shall also disclose the ingredients of the product.

The director of agriculture shall adopt rules prescribing the size and content of the sign upon which the disclosure is to be made. Any popcorn sold by or offered for sale by such an establishment to a consumer in violation of this section or

the rules of the director implementing this section shall be deemed to be misbranded for the purposes of this chapter.

(2) The provisions of subsection (1) of this section do not apply to packaged popcorn labeled so as to disclose ingredients as required by law for prepackaged foods.

(3) For purposes of this section, "butter" is defined as the food product usually known as butter, and which is made exclusively from milk or cream, or both, with or without common salt, and with or without additional coloring matter, and containing not less than eighty percent by weight or [of] milkfat, all tolerance having been allowed for. [2012 c 25 § 1; 1986 c 203 § 17.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.04.333 Poultry and poultry products—Label to indicate if product frozen.** It shall be unlawful for any person to sell at retail or display for sale at retail any poultry and poultry products, including turkey, which has been frozen at any time, without having the package or container in which the same is sold bear a label clearly discernible to a customer that such product has been frozen and whether or not the same has since been thawed. No such poultry or poultry product shall be sold unless in such a package or container bearing said label. [1969 ex.s. c 194 § 1.]

**69.04.334 Turkeys—Label requirement as to grading.** No person shall advertise for sale, sell, offer for sale or hold for sale in intrastate commerce any turkey that does not bear a label. Such label shall be properly displayed on the package if such turkey is prepackaged, or attached to the turkey if not prepackaged. Such label shall, if the turkey has been graded, state the name of the governmental agency, whether federal or state, and the grade. No turkey which has been graded may be labeled as being ungraded. Any advertisement in any media concerning the sale of turkeys shall state or set forth whether a turkey is ungraded or graded and the specific grade if graded. [1969 ex.s. c 194 § 2.]

**69.04.335 RCW 69.04.333 and 69.04.334 subject to enforcement and penalty provisions of chapter.** The provisions of this chapter shall be applicable to the enforcement of RCW 69.04.333 and 69.04.334 and any person violating the provisions of RCW 69.04.333 and 69.04.334 shall be subject to the applicable civil and criminal penalties for such violations as provided for in this chapter. [1969 ex.s. c 194 § 3.]

**69.04.340 Natural vitamin, mineral, or dietary properties need not be shown.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require the labeling or advertising to indicate the natural vitamin, natural mineral, or other natural dietary properties of dairy products or other agricultural products when sold as food. [1945 c 257 § 52; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-101.]

**69.04.350 Permits to manufacture or process certain foods.** Whenever the director finds after investigation that the distribution in intrastate commerce of any class of food may, by reason of contamination with micro-organisms during the manufacture, processing, or packing thereof in any locality, be injurious to health, and that such injurious nature cannot be adequately determined after such articles have

entered intrastate commerce, he or she then, and in such case only, shall promulgate regulations providing for the issuance, to manufacturers, processors, or packers of such class of food in such locality, of permits to which shall be attached such conditions governing the manufacture, processing, or packing of such class of food, for such temporary period of time, as may be necessary to protect the public health; and after the effective date of such regulations, and during such temporary period, no person shall introduce or deliver for introduction into intrastate commerce, any such food manufactured, processed, or packed by any such manufacturer, processor, or packer unless such manufacturer, processor, or packer holds a permit issued by the director as provided by such regulations. Insofar as practicable, such regulations shall conform with, shall specify the conditions prescribed by, and shall remain in effect only so long as those promulgated under section 404(a) of the federal act. [2012 c 117 § 335; 1945 c 257 § 53; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-102.]

**69.04.360 Suspension of permit.** The director is authorized to suspend immediately upon notice any permit issued under authority of \*this section, if it is found that any of the conditions of the permit have been violated. The holder of a permit so suspended shall be privileged at any time to apply for the reinstatement of such permit, and the director shall, immediately after prompt hearing and an inspection of the factory or establishment, reinstate such permit, if it is found that adequate measures have been taken to comply with and maintain the conditions of the permit, as originally issued or as amended. [1945 c 257 § 54; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-103.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The language "this section" appears in 1945 c 257 § 54 but apparently refers to 1945 c 257 § 53 codified as RCW 69.04.350.

**69.04.370 Right of access for inspection.** Any officer or employee duly designated by the director shall have access to any factory or establishment, the operator of which holds a permit from the director, for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the conditions of the permit are being complied with, and denial of access for such inspection shall be ground for suspension of the permit until such access is freely given by the operator. [1945 c 257 § 55; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-104.]

**69.04.380 Food exempt if in transit for completion purposes.** Food which is, in accordance with the practice of the trade, to be processed, labeled, or repacked in substantial quantities at an establishment other than the establishment where it was originally processed or packed, is exempted from the affirmative labeling requirements of this chapter, while it is in transit in intrastate commerce from the one establishment to the other, if such transit is made in good faith for such completion purposes only; but it is otherwise subject to all the applicable provisions of this chapter. [1945 c 257 § 56; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-105.]

**69.04.390 Regulations permitting tolerance of harmful matter.** Any poisonous or deleterious substance added to any food, except where such substance is required in the production thereof or cannot be avoided by good manufacturing practice, shall be deemed unsafe for purposes of the applica-

tion of RCW 69.04.210(2)(a); but when such substance is so required or cannot be so avoided, the director shall promulgate regulations limiting the quantity therein or thereon to such extent as he or she finds necessary for the protection of public health, and any quantity exceeding the limits so fixed shall also be deemed unsafe for purposes of the application of RCW 69.04.210(2)(a). While such a regulation is in effect limiting the quantity of any such substance in the case of any food, such food shall not, by reason of bearing or containing any added amount of such substance, be considered to be adulterated within the meaning of RCW 69.04.210(1). In determining the quantity of such added substance to be tolerated in or on different articles of food, the director shall take into account the extent to which the use of such substance is required or cannot be avoided in the production of each such article, and the other ways in which the consumer may be affected by the same or other poisonous or deleterious substances. [2012 c 117 § 336; 1963 c 198 § 2; 1945 c 257 § 57; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-106.]

**69.04.392 Regulations permitting tolerance of harmful matter—Pesticide chemicals in or on raw agricultural commodities.** (1) Any poisonous or deleterious pesticide chemical, or any pesticide chemical which generally is recognized among experts qualified by scientific training and experience to evaluate the safety of pesticide chemicals as unsafe for use, added to a raw agricultural commodity, shall be deemed unsafe for the purpose of the application of RCW 69.04.210(2)(a) unless:

(a) A tolerance for such pesticide chemical in or on the raw agricultural commodity has been prescribed pursuant to subsection (2) of this section and the quantity of such pesticide chemical in or on the raw agricultural commodity is within the limits of the tolerance so prescribed; or

(b) With respect to use in or on such raw agricultural commodity, the pesticide chemical has been exempted from the requirement of a tolerance pursuant to subsection (2) of this section.

While a tolerance or exemption from tolerance is in effect for a pesticide chemical with respect to any raw agricultural commodity, such raw agricultural commodity shall not, by reason of bearing or containing any added amount of such pesticide chemical, be considered to be adulterated within the meaning of RCW 69.04.210(1).

(2) The regulations promulgated under section 408 of the federal food, drug and cosmetic act, as of July 1, 1975, setting forth the tolerances for pesticide chemicals in or on any raw agricultural commodity, are hereby adopted as the regulations for tolerances applicable to this chapter: PROVIDED, That the director is hereby authorized to adopt by regulation any new or future amendments to such federal regulations for tolerances, including exemption from tolerance and zero tolerances, to the extent necessary to protect the public health. The director is also authorized to issue regulations in the absence of federal regulations and to prescribe therein tolerances for pesticides, exemptions, and zero tolerances, upon his or her own motion or upon the petition of any interested party requesting that such a regulation be established. It shall be incumbent upon such petitioner to establish, by data submitted to the director, that a necessity exists for such regulation and that the effect of such regulation will not be detri-

mental to the public health. If the data furnished by the petitioner is not sufficient to allow the director to determine whether such a regulation should be promulgated, the director may require additional data to be submitted and failure to comply with this request shall be sufficient grounds to deny the request of the petitioner for the issuance of such regulation.

(3) In adopting any new or amended tolerances by regulation issued pursuant to this section, the director shall give appropriate consideration, among other relevant factors, to the following: (a) The purpose of this chapter being to promote uniformity of state legislation with the federal act; (b) the necessity for the production of an adequate, wholesome, and economical food supply; (c) the other ways in which the consumer may be affected by the same pesticide chemical or by other related substances that are poisonous or deleterious; and (d) the opinion of experts qualified by scientific training and experience to determine the proper tolerance to be allowed for any pesticide chemical. [2012 c 117 § 337; 1975 1st ex.s. c 7 § 26; 1963 c 198 § 3.]

**Purpose of section:** See RCW 69.04.398.

**69.04.394 Regulations permitting tolerance of harmful matter—Food additives.** (1) A food additive shall, with respect to any particular use or intended use of such additives, be deemed unsafe for the purpose of the application of clause (2)(c) of RCW 69.04.210, unless:

(a) It and its use or intended use conform to the terms of an exemption granted, pursuant to a regulation under subsection (2) hereof providing for the exemption from the requirements of this section for any food additive, and any food bearing or containing such additive, intended solely for investigational use by qualified experts when in the director's opinion such exemption is consistent with the public health; or

(b) There is in effect, and it and its use or intended use are in conformity with a regulation issued or effective under subsection (2) hereof prescribing the conditions under which such additive may be safely used.

While such a regulation relating to a food additive is in effect, a food shall not, by reason of bearing or containing such an additive in accordance with the regulation, be considered adulterated within the meaning of clause (1) of RCW 69.04.210.

(2) The regulations promulgated under section 409 of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, as of July 1, 1975, prescribing the conditions under which such food additive may be safely used, are hereby adopted as the regulations applicable to this chapter: PROVIDED, That the director is hereby authorized to adopt by regulation any new or future amendments to the federal regulations. The director is also authorized to issue regulations in the absence of federal regulations and to prescribe the conditions under which a food additive may be safely used and exemptions where such food additive is to be used solely for investigational purposes; either upon his or her own motion or upon the petition of any interested party requesting that such a regulation be established. It shall be incumbent upon such petitioner to establish, by data submitted to the director, that a necessity exists for such regulation and that the effect of such a regulation will not be detrimental to the public health. If the data fur-

nished by the petitioner is not sufficient to allow the director to determine whether such a regulation should be promulgated, the director may require additional data to be submitted and failure to comply with this request shall be sufficient grounds to deny the request of the petitioner for the issuance of such a regulation.

(3) In adopting any new or amended regulations pursuant to this section, the director shall give appropriate consideration, among other relevant factors, to the following: (a) The purpose of this chapter being to promote uniformity of state legislation with the federal act; (b) the probable consumption of the additive and of any substance formed in or on food because of the use of the additive; (c) the cumulative effect of such additive in the diet of human beings or animals, taking into account any chemically or pharmacologically related substance or substances in such diet; and (d) safety factors which in the opinion of experts qualified by scientific training and experience to evaluate the safety of food additives are generally recognized as appropriate for the use of animal experimentation data. [2009 c 549 § 1021; 1975 1st ex.s. c 7 § 27; 1963 c 198 § 4.]

**Purpose of section:** See RCW 69.04.398.

**69.04.396 Regulations permitting tolerance of harmful matter—Color additives.** (1) A color additive shall, with respect to any particular use (for which it is being used or intended to be used or is represented as suitable) in or on food, be deemed unsafe for the purpose of the application of RCW 69.04.231, unless:

(a) There is in effect, and such color additive and such use are in conformity with, a regulation issued under this section listing such additive for such use, including any provision of such regulation prescribing the conditions under which such additive may be safely used;

(b) Such additive and such use thereof conform to the terms of an exemption for experimental use which is in effect pursuant to regulation under this section.

While there are in effect regulations under this section relating to a color additive or an exemption with respect to such additive a food shall not, by reason of bearing or containing such additive in all respects in accordance with such regulations or such exemption, be considered adulterated within the meaning of clause (1) of RCW 69.04.210.

(2) The regulations promulgated under section 706 of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, as of July 1, 1975, prescribing the use or limited use of such color additive, are hereby adopted as the regulations applicable to this chapter: PROVIDED, That the director is hereby authorized to adopt by regulation any new or future amendments to the federal regulations. The director is also authorized to issue regulations in the absence of federal regulations and to prescribe therein the conditions under which a color additive may be safely used including exemptions for experimental purposes. Such a regulation may be issued either upon the director's own motion or upon the petition of any interested party requesting that such a regulation be established. It shall be incumbent upon such petitioner to establish, by data submitted to the director, that a necessity exists for such regulation and that the effect of such a regulation will not be detrimental to the public health. If the data furnished by the petitioner is not sufficient to allow the director to determine whether such

a regulation should be promulgated, the director may require additional data to be submitted and failure to comply with this request shall be sufficient grounds to deny the request of the petitioner for the issuance of such a regulation.

(3) In adopting any new or amended regulations pursuant to this section, the director shall give appropriate consideration, among other relevant factors, to the following: (a) The purpose of this chapter being to promote uniformity of state legislation with the federal act; (b) the probable consumption of, or other relevant exposure from, the additive and of any substance formed in or on food because of the use of the additive; (c) the cumulative effect, if any, of such additive in the diet of human beings or animals, taking into account the same or any chemically or pharmacologically related substance or substances in such diet; (d) safety factors which, in the opinion of experts qualified by scientific training and experience to evaluate the safety of color additives for the use or uses for which the additive is proposed to be listed, are generally recognized as appropriate for the use of animal experimentation data; (e) the availability of any needed practicable methods of analysis for determining the identity and quantity of (i) the pure dye and all intermediates and other impurities contained in such color additives, (ii) such additive in or on any article of food, and (iii) any substance formed in or on such article because of the use of such additive; and (f) the conformity by the manufacturer with the established standards in the industry relating to the proper formation of such color additive so as to result in a finished product safe for use as a color additive. [2009 c 549 § 1022; 1975 1st ex.s. c 7 § 28; 1963 c 198 § 6.]

**Purpose of section:** See RCW 69.04.398.

*Food—Adulteration by color additive:* RCW 69.04.231.

**69.04.398 Purpose of RCW 69.04.110, 69.04.392, 69.04.394, 69.04.396—Uniformity with federal laws and regulations—Application to production of kosher food products—Adoption of rules.** (1) The purpose of RCW 69.04.110, 69.04.392, 69.04.394, and 69.04.396 is to promote uniformity of state legislation and rules with the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act 21 USC 301 et seq. and regulations adopted thereunder. In accord with such declared purpose any regulation adopted under said federal food, drug and cosmetic act concerning food in effect on July 1, 1975, and not adopted under any other specific provision of RCW 69.04.110, 69.04.392, 69.04.394, and 69.04.396 are hereby deemed to have been adopted under the provision hereof. Further, to promote such uniformity any regulation adopted hereafter under the provisions of the federal food, drug and cosmetic act concerning food and published in the federal register shall be deemed to have been adopted under the provisions of RCW 69.04.110, 69.04.392, 69.04.394, and 69.04.396 in accord with chapter 34.05 RCW as enacted or hereafter amended. The director may, however, within thirty days of the publication of the adoption of any such regulation under the federal food, drug and cosmetic act give public notice that a hearing will be held to determine if such regulation shall not be applicable under the provisions of RCW 69.04.110, 69.04.392, 69.04.394, and 69.04.396. Such hearing shall be in accord with the requirements of chapter 34.05 RCW as enacted or hereafter amended.



(2) The provisions of subsection (1) of this section do not apply to rules adopted by the director as necessary to permit the production of kosher food products as defined in RCW 69.90.010.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (1) and (2) of this section the director may adopt rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter. [1991 c 162 § 5; 1986 c 203 § 18; 1975 1st ex.s. c 7 § 36.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.04.400 Conformance with federal regulations.**

The regulations promulgated under RCW 69.04.390 shall conform, insofar as practicable, with those promulgated under section 406 of the federal act. [1963 c 198 § 7; 1945 c 257 § 58; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-107.]

**69.04.410 Drugs—Adulteration by harmful substances.** A drug or device shall be deemed to be adulterated (1) if it consists in whole or in part of any filthy, putrid, or decomposed substance; or (2) if it has been produced, prepared, packed, or held under insanitary conditions whereby it may have been contaminated with filth, or whereby it may have been rendered injurious to health; or (3) if it is a drug and its container is composed in whole or in part of any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render the contents injurious to health; or (4) if it is a drug and it bears or contains, for purposes of coloring only, a coal tar color other than one that is harmless and suitable for use in drugs for such purposes, as provided by regulations promulgated under section 504 of the federal act. [1945 c 257 § 59; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-108. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 1; 1907 c 211 § 3; 1901 c 94 § 3.]

**69.04.420 Drugs—Adulteration for failure to comply with compendium standard.** If a drug or device purports to be or is represented as a drug the name of which is recognized in an official compendium, and its strength differs from, or its quality or purity falls below, the standard set forth in such compendium, it shall be deemed to be adulterated. Such determination as to strength, quality or purity shall be made in accordance with the tests or methods of assay set forth in such compendium or prescribed by regulations promulgated under section 501(b) of the federal act. No drug defined in an official compendium shall be deemed to be adulterated under this section because it differs from the standard of strength, quality, or purity therefor set forth in such compendium, if its difference in strength, quality, or purity from such standard is plainly stated on its label. Whenever a drug is recognized in both the United States pharmacopoeia and the homeopathic pharmacopoeia of the United States, it shall be subject to the requirements of the United States pharmacopoeia unless it is labeled and offered for sale as a homeopathic drug, in which case it shall be subject to the provisions of the homeopathic pharmacopoeia of the United States and not to those of the United States pharmacopoeia. [1945 c 257 § 60; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-109.]

**69.04.430 Drugs—Adulteration for lack of represented purity or quality.** If a drug or device is not subject to the provisions of RCW 69.04.420 and its strength differs from, or its purity or quality falls below, that which it pur-

ports or is represented to possess, it shall be deemed to be adulterated. [1945 c 257 § 61; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-110.]

**69.04.440 Drugs—Adulteration by admixture or substitution of ingredients.** A drug shall be deemed to be adulterated if any substance has been (1) mixed or packed therewith so as to reduce its quality or strength or (2) substituted wholly or in part therefor. [1945 c 257 § 62; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-111.]

**69.04.450 Drugs—Misbranding by false labeling.** A drug or device shall be deemed to be misbranded if its labeling is false or misleading in any particular. [1945 c 257 § 63; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-112. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 2; 1907 c 211 § 4.]

**69.04.460 Packaged drugs—Misbranding.** If a drug or device is in package form, it shall be deemed to be misbranded unless it bears a label containing (1) the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor; and (2) an accurate statement of the quantity of the contents in terms of weight, measure, or numerical count: PROVIDED, That under clause (2) of this section reasonable variations shall be permitted, and exemptions as to small packages shall be established, by regulations promulgated by the director. [1945 c 257 § 64; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-113. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 2; 1907 c 211 § 4.]

**69.04.470 Drugs—Misbranding by lack of prominent label.** A drug or device shall be deemed to be misbranded if any word, statement, or other information required by or under authority of this chapter to appear on the label or labeling is not prominently placed thereon with such conspicuousness (as compared with other words, statements, designs, or devices, in the labeling) and in such terms as to render it likely to be read and understood by the ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase and use. [1945 c 257 § 65; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-114. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 2; 1907 c 211 § 4.]

**69.04.480 Drugs—Misbranding for failure to state content of habit forming drug.** A drug or device shall be deemed to be misbranded if it is for use by human beings and contains any quantity of the narcotic or hypnotic substance alpha eucaine, barbituric acid, beta eucaine, bromal, cannabis, carbromal, chloral, coca, cocaine, codeine, heroin, marijuana, morphine, opium, paraldehyde, peyote, or sulphomethane; or any chemical derivative of such substance, which derivative has been designated as habit forming by regulations promulgated under section 502(d) of the federal act; unless its label bears the name and quantity or proportion of such substance or derivative and in juxtaposition therewith the statement "Warning—May be habit forming." [2009 c 549 § 1023; 1945 c 257 § 66; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-115. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 2; 1907 c 211 § 4.]

**69.04.490 Drugs—Misbranding by failure to show usual name and ingredients.** If a drug is not designated solely by a name recognized in an official compendium it shall be deemed to be misbranded unless its label bears (1) the common or usual name of the drug, if such there be; and

(2), in case it is fabricated from two or more ingredients, the common or usual name of each active ingredient, including the quantity, kind, and proportion of any alcohol, and also including, whether active or not, the name and quantity or proportion of any bromides, ether, chloroform, acetanilid, acetphenetidin, amidopyrine, antipyrine, atropine, hyoscyne, hyoscyamine, arsenic, digitalis, glucosides, mercury, ouabain, strophanthin, strychnine, thyroid, or any derivative or preparation of any such substances, contained therein: PROVIDED, That to the extent that compliance with the requirements of clause (2) of this section is impracticable, exemptions shall be established by regulations promulgated by the director. [1945 c 257 § 67; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-116. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 2; 1907 c 211 § 4.]

**69.04.500 Drugs—Misbranding by failure to give directions for use and warnings.** A drug or device shall be deemed to be misbranded unless its labeling bears (1) adequate directions for use; and (2) such adequate warnings against use in those pathological conditions or by children where its use may be dangerous to health, or against unsafe dosage or methods or duration of administration or application, in such manner and form, as are necessary for the protection of users: PROVIDED, That where any requirement of clause (1) of this section as applied to any drug or device, is not necessary for the protection of the public health, the director shall promulgate regulations exempting such drug or device from such requirements. Such regulations shall include the exemptions prescribed under section 502(f)(1) of the federal act, insofar as such exemptions are applicable hereunder. [1945 c 257 § 68; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-117. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 2; 1907 c 211 § 4.]

**69.04.510 Drugs—Misbranding for improper packaging and labeling.** A drug or device shall be deemed to be misbranded if it purports to be a drug the name of which is recognized in an official compendium, unless it is packaged and labeled as prescribed therein: PROVIDED, That the method of packing may be modified with the consent of the director, as permitted under section 502(g) of the federal act. Whenever a drug is recognized in both the United States pharmacopoeia and the homeopathic pharmacopoeia of the United States, it shall be subject to the requirements of the United States pharmacopoeia with respect to packaging and labeling unless it is labeled and offered for sale as a homeopathic drug, in which case it shall be subject to the provisions of the homeopathic pharmacopoeia of the United States, and not to those of the United States pharmacopoeia. [1945 c 257 § 69; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-118. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 2; 1907 c 211 § 4.]

**69.04.520 Drugs—Misbranding for failure to show possibility of deterioration.** If a drug or device has been found by the secretary of agriculture of the United States to be a drug liable to deterioration, it shall be deemed to be misbranded unless it is packaged in such form and manner, and its label bears a statement of such precautions, as required in an official compendium or by regulations promulgated under section 502(h) of the federal act for the protection of the public health. [1945 c 257 § 70; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-119. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 2; 1907 c 211 § 4.]

**69.04.530 Drugs—Misbranding by misleading representation.** A drug shall be deemed to be misbranded if (1) its container is so made, formed, or filled as to be misleading; or (2) if it is an imitation of another drug; or (3) if it is offered for sale under the name of another drug; or (4) if it is dangerous to health when used in the dosage, or with the frequency or duration prescribed, recommended, or suggested in the labeling thereof. [1945 c 257 § 71; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-120. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 2; 1907 c 211 § 4.]

**69.04.540 Drugs—Misbranding by sale without prescription of drug requiring it.** A drug or device shall be deemed to be misbranded if it is a drug which by label provides, or which the federal act or any applicable law requires by label to provide, in effect, that it shall be used only upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, or veterinarian, unless it is dispensed at retail on a written prescription signed by a physician, dentist, or veterinarian, who is licensed by law to administer such a drug. [1945 c 257 § 72; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-121. Prior: 1923 c 36 § 2; 1907 c 211 § 4.]

**69.04.550 Drugs exempt if in transit for completion purposes.** A drug or device which is, in accordance with the practice of the trade, to be processed, labeled, or repacked in substantial quantities at an establishment other than the establishment where it was originally processed or packed, is exempted from the affirmative labeling and packaging requirements of this chapter, while it is in transit in intrastate commerce from the one establishment to the other, if such transit is made in good faith for such completion purposes only; but it is otherwise subject to all the applicable provisions of this chapter. [1945 c 257 § 73; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-122.]

**69.04.560 Dispensing of certain drugs exempt.** A drug dispensed on a written prescription signed by a physician, dentist, or veterinarian (except a drug dispensed in the course of the conduct of a business of dispensing drugs pursuant to diagnosis by mail) shall, if (1) such physician, dentist, or veterinarian is licensed by law to administer such drug, and (2) such drug bears a label containing the name and place of business of the dispenser, the serial number and date of such prescription, and the name of such physician, dentist, or veterinarian, be exempt from the requirements of RCW 69.04.450 through 69.04.540. [1945 c 257 § 74; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-123.]

**69.04.565 DMSO (dimethyl sulfoxide) authorized.** Notwithstanding any other provision of state law, DMSO (dimethyl sulfoxide) may be introduced into intrastate commerce as long as (1) it is manufactured or distributed by persons licensed pursuant to chapter 18.64 RCW or chapter 18.92 RCW, and (2) it is used, or intended to be used, in the treatment of human beings or animals for any ailment or adverse condition: PROVIDED, That DMSO intended for topical application, consistent with rules governing purity and labeling promulgated by the state board of pharmacy, shall not be considered a legend drug and may be sold by any retailer. [1981 c 50 § 1.]

*DMSO use by health facilities, physicians: RCW 70.54.190.*

**69.04.570 Introduction of new drug.** No person shall introduce or deliver for introduction into intrastate commerce any new drug which is subject to section 505 of the federal act unless an application with respect to such drug has become effective thereunder. No person shall introduce or deliver for introduction into intrastate commerce any new drug which is not subject to section 505 of the federal act, unless (1) it has been found, by appropriate tests, that such drug is not unsafe for use under the conditions prescribed, recommended, or suggested in the labeling thereof; and (2) an application has been filed under this section of this chapter with respect to such drug: PROVIDED, That the requirement of subsection (2) of this section shall not apply to any drug introduced into intrastate commerce at any time prior to the enactment of this chapter or introduced into interstate commerce at any time prior to the enactment of the federal act: PROVIDED FURTHER, That if the director finds that the requirement of subsection (2) of this section as applied to any drug or class of drugs, is not necessary for the protection of the public health, he or she shall promulgate regulations of exemption accordingly. [2012 c 117 § 338; 1945 c 257 § 75; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-124.]

**69.04.580 Application for introduction.** An application under RCW 69.04.570 shall be filed with the director, and subject to any waiver by the director, shall include (1) full reports of investigations which have been made to show whether or not the drug, subject to the application, is safe for use under the conditions prescribed, recommended, or suggested in the labeling thereof; (2) a full list of the articles used as components of such drug; (3) a full statement of the composition of such drug; (4) a full description of the methods used in, and the facilities and controls used for, the manufacture, processing, and packing of such drug; (5) such samples of such drug and of the articles used as components thereof as the director may require; and (6) specimens of the labeling proposed to be used for such drug. [1945 c 257 § 76; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-125.]

**69.04.590 Effective date of application.** An application filed under RCW 69.04.570 shall become effective on the sixtieth day after the filing thereof, unless the director (1) makes such application effective prior to such day; or (2) issues an order with respect to such application pursuant to RCW 69.04.600. [1945 c 257 § 77; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-126.]

**69.04.600 Denial of application.** If the director finds, upon the basis of the information before him or her and after due notice and opportunity for hearing to the applicant, that the drug, subject to the application, is not safe for use under the conditions prescribed, recommended, or suggested in the labeling thereof, he or she shall, prior to such effective date, issue an order refusing to permit such application to become effective and stating the findings upon which it is based. [2012 c 117 § 339; 1945 c 257 § 78; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-127.]

**69.04.610 Revocation of denial.** An order refusing to permit an application under RCW 69.04.570 to become effective may be suspended or revoked by the director, for

cause and by order stating the findings upon which it is based. [1945 c 257 § 79; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-128.]

**69.04.620 Service of order of denial.** Orders of the director issued under RCW 69.04.600 shall be served (1) in person by a duly authorized representative of the director or (2) by mailing the order by registered mail addressed to the applicant or respondent at his or her address last known to the director. [2012 c 117 § 340; 1945 c 257 § 80; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-129.]

**69.04.630 Drug for investigational use exempt.** A drug shall be exempt from the operation of RCW 69.04.570 which is intended, and introduced or delivered for introduction into intrastate commerce, solely for investigational use by experts qualified by scientific training and experience to investigate the safety of drugs and which is plainly labeled "For investigational use only." [1945 c 257 § 81; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-130.]

**69.04.640 Court review of denial.** The superior court of Thurston county shall have jurisdiction to review and to affirm, modify, or set aside any order issued under RCW 69.04.600, upon petition seasonably made by the person to whom the order is addressed and after prompt hearing upon due notice to both parties. [1945 c 257 § 82; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-131.]

**69.04.650 Dispensing of certain drugs exempt.** A drug dispensed on a written prescription signed by a physician, dentist, or veterinarian (except a drug dispensed in the course of the conduct of a business of dispensing drugs pursuant to diagnosis by mail) shall, if (1) such physician, dentist, or veterinarian is licensed by law to administer such drug, and (2) such drug bears a label containing the name and place of business of the dispenser, the serial number and date of such prescription, and the name of such physician, dentist, or veterinarian, be exempt from the operation of RCW 69.04.570 through 69.04.640. [1945 c 257 § 83; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-132.]

**69.04.660 Federally licensed drugs exempt.** The provisions of RCW 69.04.570 shall not apply to any drug which is licensed under the federal virus, serum, and toxin act of July 1, 1902; or under the federal virus, serums, toxins, anti-toxins, and analogous products act of March 4, 1913. [1945 c 257 § 84; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-133.]

**69.04.670 Cosmetics—Adulteration by injurious substances.** A cosmetic shall be deemed to be adulterated (1) if it bears or contains any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render it injurious to users under the conditions of use prescribed in the labeling thereof, or under such conditions of use as are customary or usual: PROVIDED, That this provision shall not apply to coal tar hair dye, the label of which bears the following legend conspicuously displayed thereon: "Caution—This product contains ingredients which may cause skin irritation on certain individuals and a preliminary test according to accompanying direction should first be made. This product must not be used for dyeing the eyelashes or eyebrows; to do so may cause blindness.", and

the labeling of which bears adequate directions for such preliminary testing. For the purposes of this paragraph and paragraph (5) the term "hair dye" shall not include eyelash dyes or eyebrow dyes; or (2) if it consists in whole or in part of any filthy, putrid, or decomposed substance; or (3) if it has been produced, prepared, packed, or held under insanitary conditions whereby it may have become contaminated with filth, or whereby it may have been rendered injurious to health; or (4) if its container is composed in whole or in part of any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render the contents injurious to health; or (5) if it is not a hair dye and it bears or contains a coal tar color other than one that is harmless and suitable for use in cosmetics, as provided by regulations promulgated under section 604 of the federal act. [1945 c 257 § 85; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-134.]

**69.04.680 Cosmetics—Misbranding by false label, etc.** A cosmetic shall be deemed to be misbranded (1) if its labeling is false or misleading in any particular; or (2) if in package form, unless it bears a label containing (a) the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor; and (b) an accurate statement of the quantity of the contents in terms of weight, measure, or numerical count: PROVIDED, That under clause (b) of this section reasonable variations shall be permitted, and exemptions as to small packages shall be established, by regulations prescribed by the director. [1945 c 257 § 86; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-135.]

**69.04.690 Cosmetics—Misbranding by lack of prominent label.** A cosmetic shall be deemed to be misbranded (1) if any word, statement, or other information required by or under authority of this chapter to appear on the label or labeling is not prominently placed thereon with such conspicuousness (as compared with other words, statements, designs, or devices, in the labeling) and in such terms as to render it likely to be read and understood by the ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase and use; or (2) if its container is so made, formed, or filled as to be misleading. [1945 c 257 § 87; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-136.]

**69.04.700 Cosmetics exempt if in transit for completion purposes.** A cosmetic which is, in accordance with the practice of the trade, to be processed, labeled, or repacked in substantial quantities at an establishment other than the establishment where it was originally processed or packed, is exempted from the affirmative labeling requirements of this chapter, while it is in transit in intrastate commerce from the one establishment to the other, if such transit is made in good faith for such completion purposes only; but it is otherwise subject to all the applicable provisions of this chapter. [1945 c 257 § 88; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-137.]

**69.04.710 Advertisement, when deemed false.** An advertisement of a food, drug, device, or cosmetic shall be deemed to be false, if it is false or misleading in any particular. [1945 c 257 § 89; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-138.]

**69.04.720 Advertising of cure of certain diseases deemed false.** The advertisement of a drug or device representing it to have any effect in albuminuria, appendicitis,

arteriosclerosis, blood poison, bone disease, Bright's disease, cancer, carbuncles, cholecystitis, diabetes, diphtheria, dropsy, erysipelas, gallstones, heart and vascular diseases, high blood pressure, mastoiditis, measles, meningitis, mumps, nephritis, otitis media, paralysis, pneumonia, poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis), prostate gland disorders, pyelitis, scarlet fever, sexual impotence, sinus infection, smallpox, tuberculosis, tumors, typhoid, uremia, \*venereal disease, shall also be deemed to be false; except that no advertisement not in violation of RCW 69.04.710 shall be deemed to be false under this section if it is disseminated only to members of the medical, veterinary, dental, pharmaceutical, and other legally recognized professions dealing with the healing arts, or appears only in the scientific periodicals of these professions, or is disseminated only for the purpose of public health education by persons not commercially interested, directly or indirectly, in the sale of such drugs or devices: PROVIDED, That whenever the director determines that an advance in medical science has made any type of self-medication safe as to any of the diseases named above, the director shall by regulation authorize the advertisement of drugs having curative or therapeutic effect for such disease, subject to such conditions and restrictions as the director may deem necessary in the interest of public health: PROVIDED FURTHER, That this section shall not be construed as indicating that self-medication for diseases other than those named herein is safe or efficacious. [1945 c 257 § 90; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-139.]

\*Reviser's note: The term "venereal disease" was changed to "sexually transmitted disease" by 1988 c 206.

**69.04.730 Enforcement, where vested—Regulations.** The authority to promulgate regulations for the efficient enforcement of this chapter is hereby vested in the director: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the director shall designate the Washington state board of pharmacy to carry out all the provisions of this chapter pertaining to drugs and cosmetics, with authority to promulgate regulations for the efficient enforcement thereof. [1945 c 257 § 91 (vetoed); 1947 c 25 (passed notwithstanding veto); Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6163-139a.]

**69.04.740 Regulations to conform with federal regulations.** The purpose of this chapter being to promote uniformity of state legislation with the federal act, the director is hereby authorized (1) to adopt, insofar as applicable, the regulations from time to time promulgated under the federal act; and (2) to make the regulations promulgated under this chapter conform, insofar as practicable, with those promulgated under the federal act. [1945 c 257 § 92; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-140.]

**69.04.750 Hearings.** Hearings authorized or required by this chapter shall be conducted by the director or his or her duly authorized representative designated for the purpose. [2012 c 117 § 341; 1945 c 257 § 93; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-141.]

**69.04.761 Hearing on proposed regulation—Procedure.** The director shall hold a public hearing upon a proposal to promulgate any new or amended regulation under this chapter. The procedure to be followed concerning such

hearings shall comply in all respects with chapter 34.05 RCW (Administrative Procedure Act) as now enacted or hereafter amended. [1963 c 198 § 13.]

**69.04.770 Review on petition prior to effective date.**

The director shall have jurisdiction to review and to affirm, modify, or set aside any order issued under \*RCW 69.04.760, promulgating a new or amended regulation under this chapter, upon petition made at any time prior to the effective date of such regulation, by any person adversely affected by such order. [1945 c 257 § 95; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-143.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 69.04.760 was repealed by 1963 c 198 § 15. Later enactment, see RCW 69.04.761.

**69.04.780 Investigations—Samples—Right of entry—Verified statements.** The director shall cause the investigation and examination of food, drugs, devices, and cosmetics subject to this chapter. The director shall have the right (1) to take a sample or specimen of any such article, for examination under this chapter, upon tendering the market price therefor to the person having such article in custody; and (2) to enter any place or establishment within this state, at reasonable times, for the purpose of taking a sample or specimen of any such article, for such examination.

The director and the director's deputies, assistants, and inspectors are authorized to do all acts and things necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter, including the taking of verified statements. Such department personnel are empowered to administer oaths of verification on the statements. [1991 c 162 § 6; 1945 c 257 § 96; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-144.]

**69.04.790 Owner may obtain part of sample.** Where a sample or specimen of any such article is taken for examination under this chapter, the director shall, upon request, provide a part thereof for examination by any person named on the label of such article, or the owner thereof, or his or her attorney or agent; except that the director is authorized, by regulation, to make such reasonable exceptions from, and to impose such reasonable terms and conditions relating to, the operation of this section as he or she finds necessary for the proper administration of the provisions of this chapter. [2012 c 117 § 342; 1945 c 257 § 97; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-145.]

**69.04.800 Access to records of other agencies.** For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this chapter, pertinent records of any administrative agency of the state government shall be open to inspection by the director. [1945 c 257 § 98; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-146.]

**69.04.810 Access to records of intrastate carriers.** For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this chapter, carriers engaged in intrastate commerce, and persons receiving food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics in intrastate commerce or holding such articles so received, shall, upon the request of the director, permit the director at reasonable times, to have access to and to copy all records showing the movement in intrastate commerce of any food, drug, device, or cosmetic, or the holding thereof during or after such movement, and the quantity, shipper, and consignee thereof; and it shall be unlawful for any such carrier or person to fail to permit such

access to and the copying of any such records so requested when such request is accompanied by a statement in writing specifying the nature or kind of food, drug, device, or cosmetic to which such request relates: PROVIDED, That evidence obtained under this section shall not be used in a criminal prosecution of the person from whom obtained: PROVIDED FURTHER, That except for violations of RCW 69.04.955, penalties levied under RCW 69.04.980, the requirements of RCW 69.04.950 through 69.04.980, and the requirements of this section, carriers shall not be subject to the other provisions of this chapter by reason of their receipt, carriage, holding, or delivery of food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics in the usual course of business as carriers. [1990 c 202 § 9; 1945 c 257 § 99; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-147.]

**69.04.820 Right of entry to factories, warehouses, vehicles, etc.** For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this chapter, the director is authorized (1) to enter, at reasonable times, any factory, warehouse, or establishment subject to this chapter, or to enter any vehicle being used to transport or hold food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics in intrastate commerce; and (2) to inspect, at reasonable times, such factory, warehouse, establishment, or vehicle and all pertinent equipment, finished and unfinished materials, containers, labeling, and advertisements therein. [1945 c 257 § 100; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-148.]

**69.04.830 Publication of reports of judgments, orders and decrees.** The director may cause to be published from time to time reports summarizing all judgments, decrees, and court orders which have been rendered under this chapter, including the nature of the charge and the disposition thereof. [1945 c 257 § 101; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-149.]

**69.04.840 Dissemination of information.** The director may cause to be disseminated information regarding food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics in situations involving, in the opinion of the director, imminent danger to health or gross deception of, or fraud upon, the consumer. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the director from collecting, reporting, and illustrating the results of his or her examinations and investigations under this chapter. [2012 c 117 § 343; 1945 c 257 § 102; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-150.]

**69.04.845 Severability—1945 c 257.** If any provision of this chapter is declared unconstitutional, or the applicability thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the constitutionality of the remainder of the chapter and the applicability thereof to other persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby. [1945 c 257 § 103; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-151.]

**69.04.850 Construction—1945 c 257.** This chapter and the regulations promulgated hereunder shall be so interpreted and construed as to effectuate its general purpose to secure uniformity with federal acts and regulations relating to adulterating, misbranding and false advertising of food, drugs, devices, and cosmetics. [1945 c 257 § 104; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-152.]

**69.04.860 Effective date of chapter—1945 c 257.** This chapter shall take effect ninety days after the date of its enactment, and all state laws or parts of laws in conflict with this chapter are then repealed: PROVIDED, That the provisions of section 91 shall become effective on the enactment of this chapter, and thereafter the director is hereby authorized to conduct hearings and to promulgate regulations which shall become effective on or after the effective date of this chapter as the director shall direct: PROVIDED FURTHER, That all other provisions of this chapter to the extent that they may relate to the enforcement of such sections, shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this chapter. [1945 c 257 § 105; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-153.]

**Reviser's note:** 1945 c 257 § 91 referred to herein was vetoed by the governor but was subsequently reenacted as 1947 c 25 notwithstanding the veto. Section 91 is codified as RCW 69.04.730. For effective date of section 91 see preface 1947 session laws.

**69.04.870 Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the Uniform Washington Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. [1945 c 257 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6163-50.]

**69.04.880 Civil penalty.** Whenever the director finds that a person has committed a violation of a provision of this chapter, the director may impose upon and collect from the violator a civil penalty not exceeding one thousand dollars per violation per day. Each and every such violation shall be a separate and distinct offense. Imposition of the civil penalty shall be subject to a hearing in conformance with chapter 34.05 RCW. [1991 c 162 § 2.]

**69.04.900 Perishable packaged food—Pull date labeling—Definitions.** For the purpose of RCW 69.04.900 through 69.04.920:

(1) "Perishable packaged food goods" means and includes all foods and beverages, except alcoholic beverages, frozen foods, fresh meat, poultry and fish and a raw agricultural commodity as defined in this chapter, intended for human consumption which are canned, bottled, or packaged other than at the time and point of retail sale, which have a high risk of spoilage within a period of thirty days, and as determined by the director of the department of agriculture by rule and regulation to be perishable.

(2) "Pull date" means the latest date a packaged food product shall be offered for sale to the public.

(3) "Shelf life" means the length of time during which a packaged food product will retain its safe consumption quality if stored under proper temperature conditions.

(4) "Fish" as used in subsection (1) of this section shall mean any water breathing animals, including, but not limited to, shellfish such as lobster, clams, crab, or other mollusca which are prepared, processed, sold, or intended or offered for sale. [1974 ex.s. c 57 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 112 § 1.]

**69.04.905 Perishable packaged food—Pull date labeling—Required.** All perishable packaged food goods with a projected shelf life of thirty days or less, which are offered for sale to the public after January 1, 1974 shall state on the package the pull date. The pull date must be stated in day, and month and be in a style and format that is readily decipherable by consumers: PROVIDED, That the director of the department of agriculture may exclude the monthly

requirement on the pull date for perishable packaged food goods which have a shelf life of seven days or less. No perishable packaged food goods shall be offered for sale after the pull date, except as provided in RCW 69.04.910. [1974 ex.s. c 57 § 2; 1973 1st ex.s. c 112 § 2.]

**69.04.910 Perishable packaged food—Pull date labeling—Selling or trading goods beyond pull date—Repackaging to substitute for original date—Exception.** No person shall sell, trade or barter any perishable packaged food goods beyond the pull date appearing thereon, nor shall any person rewrap or repackage any packaged perishable food goods with the intention of placing a pull date thereon which is different from the original: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That those packaged perishable food goods whose pull dates have expired may be sold if they are still wholesome and are without danger to health, and are clearly identified as having passed the pull date. [1973 1st ex.s. c 112 § 3.]

**69.04.915 Perishable packaged food—Pull date labeling—Storage—Rules and regulations.** The director of the department of agriculture shall by rule and regulation establish uniform standards for pull date labeling, and optimum storage conditions of perishable packaged food goods. In addition to his or her other duties, the director, in consultation with the secretary of the department of health where appropriate, may promulgate such other rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of RCW 69.04.900 through 69.04.920. [2012 c 117 § 344; 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 225; 1973 1st ex.s. c 112 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.04.920 Perishable packaged food—Pull date labeling—Penalties.** Any person convicted of a violation of RCW 69.04.905 or 69.04.910 shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars. [1973 1st ex.s. c 112 § 5.]

**69.04.928 Seafood labeling requirements—Pamphlet—Direct retail endorsement.** The department of agriculture must develop a pamphlet that generally describes the labeling requirements for seafood, as set forth in this chapter, and provide an adequate quantity of the pamphlets to the department of fish and wildlife to distribute with the issuance of a direct retail endorsement under RCW 77.65.510. [2002 c 301 § 11.]

**Finding—Effective date—2002 c 301:** See notes following RCW 77.65.510.

**69.04.930 Frozen fish and meat—Labeling requirements—Exceptions.** It shall be unlawful for any person to sell at retail or display for sale at retail any food fish as defined in RCW 77.08.022 or shellfish as defined in RCW 77.08.010, any meat, or any meat food product which has been frozen at any time, without having the package or container in which the same is sold bear a label clearly discernible to a customer that such product has been frozen and whether or not the same has since been thawed. No such food fish or shellfish, meat or meat food product shall be sold unless in such a package or container bearing said label: PROVIDED, That this section shall not include any of the aforementioned food or food products that have been frozen

prior to being smoked, cured, cooked or subjected to the heat of commercial sterilization. [2003 c 39 § 28; 1999 c 291 § 32; 1988 c 254 § 8; 1983 1st ex.s. c 46 § 179; 1975 c 39 § 1.]

**69.04.932 Salmon labeling—Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout RCW 69.04.933 through 69.04.935.

(1) "Salmon" means all species of the genus *Oncorhynchus*, except those classified as game fish in Title 77 RCW, and includes:

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	Chinook salmon or king salmon
<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>	Coho salmon or silver salmon
<i>Oncorhynchus keta</i>	Chum salmon
<i>Oncorhynchus gorbuscha</i>	Pink salmon
<i>Oncorhynchus nerka</i>	Sockeye salmon
<i>Salmo salar</i> (in other than its landlocked form)	Atlantic salmon

(2) "Commercially caught" means salmon harvested by commercial fishers. [1993 c 282 § 2.]

**Finding—1993 c 282:** "The legislature finds that salmon consumers in Washington benefit from knowing the species and origin of the salmon they purchase. The accurate identification of such species, as well as knowledge of the country or state of origin and of whether they were caught commercially or were farm-raised, is important to consumers." [1993 c 282 § 1.]

**69.04.933 Salmon labeling—Identification of species—Exceptions—Penalty.** With the exception of a commercial fisher engaged in sales of fish to a fish buyer, no person may sell at wholesale or retail any fresh or frozen salmon food fish or cultured aquatic salmon without identifying the species of salmon by its common name to the buyer at the point of sale such that the buyer can make an informed decision in purchasing. A person knowingly violating this section is guilty of misbranding under this chapter. A person who receives misleading or erroneous information about the species of salmon and subsequently inaccurately identifies salmon shall not be guilty of misbranding. This section shall not apply to salmon that is minced, pulverized, coated with batter, or breaded. [1993 c 282 § 3.]

**Finding—1993 c 282:** See note following RCW 69.04.932.

**69.04.934 Salmon labeling—Identification as farm-raised or commercially caught—Exceptions—Penalty.** With the exception of a commercial fisher engaged in sales of fish to a fish buyer, no person may sell at wholesale or retail any fresh or frozen:

(1) Private sector cultured aquatic salmon without identifying the product as farm-raised salmon; or

(2) Commercially caught salmon designated as food fish under Title 77 RCW without identifying the product as commercially caught salmon.

Identification of the products under subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall be made to the buyer at the point of sale such that the buyer can make an informed decision in purchasing.

A person knowingly violating this section is guilty of misbranding under this chapter. A person who receives misleading or erroneous information about whether the salmon is farm-raised or commercially caught, and subsequently inaccurately identifies salmon shall not be guilty of misbranding. This section shall not apply to salmon that is minced, pulver-

ized, coated with batter, or breaded. [2003 c 39 § 29; 1993 c 282 § 4.]

**Finding—1993 c 282:** See note following RCW 69.04.932.

**69.04.935 Salmon labeling—Rules for identification and enforcement.** To promote honesty and fair dealing for consumers, the director, in consultation with the director of the department of fish and wildlife, shall adopt rules:

(1) Fixing and establishing a reasonable definition and standard of identity for salmon for purposes of identifying and selling salmon;

(2) Enforcing RCW 69.04.933 and 69.04.934. [1994 c 264 § 39; 1993 c 282 § 5.]

**Finding—1993 c 282:** See note following RCW 69.04.932.

**69.04.940 Imported lamb products—Labeling requirements.** All retail sales of fresh or frozen lamb products which are imported from another country shall be labelled with the country of origin. For the purposes of this section "imported lamb products" shall include but not be limited to, live lambs imported from another country but slaughtered in the United States. [1987 c 393 § 25.]

**69.04.950 Transport of bulk foods—Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout RCW 69.04.950 through 69.04.980:

(1) "Food" means: (a) Any article used for food or drink for humans or used as a component of such an article; or (b) a food grade substance.

(2) "Food grade substance" means a substance which satisfies the requirements of the federal food, drug, and cosmetic act, meat inspection act, and poultry products act and rules promulgated thereunder as materials approved by the federal food and drug administration, United States department of agriculture, or United States environmental protection agency for use: (a) As an additive in food or drink for human consumption, (b) in sanitizing food or drink for human consumption, (c) in processing food or drink for human consumption, or (d) in maintaining equipment with food contact surfaces during which maintenance the substance is expected to come in contact with food or drink for human consumption.

(3) "In bulk form" means a food or substance which is not packaged or contained by anything other than the cargo carrying portion of the vehicle or vessel.

(4) "Vehicle or vessel" means a commercial vehicle or commercial vessel which has a gross weight of more than ten thousand pounds, is used to transport property, and is a motor vehicle, motor truck, trailer, railroad car, or vessel. [1990 c 202 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.04.955 Transport of bulk foods—Prohibitions—Exemption.** (1) Except as provided in RCW 69.04.965 and 69.04.975, no person may transport in intrastate commerce food in bulk form in the cargo carrying portion of a vehicle or vessel that has been used for transporting in bulk form a cargo other than food.

(2) No person may transport in intrastate commerce food in bulk form in the cargo carrying portion of a vehicle or vessel unless the vehicle or vessel is marked "Food or Food

Compatible Only" in conformance with rules adopted under RCW 69.04.960.

(3) No person may transport in intrastate commerce a substance in bulk form other than food or a substance on a list adopted under RCW 69.04.960 in the cargo carrying portion of a vehicle or vessel marked "Food or Food Compatible Only."

(4) This section does not apply to the transportation of a raw agricultural commodity from the point of its production to the facility at which the commodity is first processed or packaged. [1990 c 202 § 2.]

**69.04.960 Transport of bulk foods—Compatible substances—Cleaning vehicle or vessel—Vehicle or vessel marking.** (1) The director of agriculture and the secretary of health shall jointly adopt by rule:

(a) A list of food compatible substances other than food that may be transported in bulk form as cargo in a vehicle or vessel that is also used, on separate occasions, to transport food in bulk form as cargo. The list shall contain those substances that the director and the secretary determine will not pose a health hazard if food in bulk form were transported in the vehicle or vessel after it transported the substance. In making this determination, the director and the secretary shall assume that some residual portion of the substance will remain in the cargo carrying portion of the vehicle or vessel when the food is transported;

(b) The procedures to be used to clean the vehicle or vessel after transporting the substance and prior to transporting the food;

(c) The form of the certificates to be used under RCW 69.04.965; and

(d) Requirements for the "Food or Food Compatible Only" marking which must be borne by a vehicle or vessel under RCW 69.04.955 or 69.04.965.

(2) In developing and adopting rules under this section and RCW 69.04.970, the director and the secretary shall consult with the secretary of transportation, the chief of the state patrol, the chair of the utilities and transportation commission, and representatives of the vehicle and vessel transportation industries, food processors, and agricultural commodity organizations. [1990 c 202 § 3.]

**69.04.965 Transport of bulk foods—Transports not constituting violations.** Transporting food as cargo in bulk form in intrastate commerce in a vehicle or vessel that has previously been used to transport in bulk form a cargo other than food does not constitute a violation of RCW 69.04.955 if:

(1) The cargo is a food compatible substance contained on the list adopted by the director and secretary under RCW 69.04.960;

(2) The vehicle or vessel has been cleaned as required by the rules adopted under RCW 69.04.960;

(3) The vehicle or vessel is marked "Food or Food Compatible" in conformance with rules adopted under RCW 69.04.960; and

(4) A certificate accompanies the vehicle or vessel when the food is transported by other than railroad car which attests, under penalty of perjury, to the fact that the vehicle or vessel has been cleaned as required by those rules and is

dated and signed by the party responsible for that cleaning. Such certificates shall be maintained by the owner of the vehicle or vessel for not less than three years and shall be available for inspection concerning compliance with RCW 69.04.950 through 69.04.980. The director of agriculture and the secretary of health shall jointly adopt rules requiring such certificates for the transportation of food under this section by railroad car and requiring such certificates to be available for inspection concerning compliance with RCW 69.04.950 through 69.04.980. Forms for the certificates shall be provided by the department of agriculture. [1990 c 202 § 4.]

**69.04.970 Transport of bulk foods—Substances rendering vehicle or vessel permanently unsuitable for bulk food transport—Procedures to rehabilitate vehicles and vessels.** The director of agriculture and the secretary of health shall jointly adopt by rule:

(1) A list of substances which, if transported in bulk form in the cargo carrying portion of a vehicle or vessel, render the vehicle or vessel permanently unsuitable for use in transporting food in bulk form because the prospect that any residue might be present in the vehicle or vessel when it transports food poses a hazard to the public health; and

(2) Procedures to be used to rehabilitate a vehicle or vessel that has been used to transport a substance other than a substance contained on a list adopted under RCW 69.04.960 or under subsection (1) of this section. The procedures shall ensure that transporting food in the cargo carrying portion of the vehicle or vessel after its rehabilitation will not pose a health hazard. [1990 c 202 § 5.]

**69.04.975 Transport of bulk foods—Rehabilitation of vehicles and vessels—Inspection—Certification—Marking—Costs.** A vehicle or vessel that has been used to transport a substance other than food or a substance contained on the lists adopted by the director and secretary under RCW 69.04.960 and 69.04.970, may be rehabilitated and used to transport food only if:

(1) The vehicle or vessel is rehabilitated in accordance with the procedures established by the director and secretary in RCW 69.04.970;

(2) The vehicle or vessel is inspected by the department of agriculture, and the department determines that transporting food in the cargo carrying portion of the vehicle or vessel will not pose a health hazard;

(3) A certificate accompanies the vehicle or vessel certifying that the vehicle or vessel has been rehabilitated and inspected and is authorized to transport food, and is dated and signed by the director of agriculture, or an authorized agent of the director. Such certificates shall be maintained for the life of the vehicle by the owner of the vehicle or vessel, and shall be available for inspection concerning compliance with RCW 69.04.950 through 69.04.980. Forms for the certificates shall be provided by the department of agriculture; and

(4) The vehicle or vessel is marked as required by RCW 69.04.955 or is marked and satisfies the requirements of RCW 69.04.965 which are not inconsistent with the rehabilitation authorized by this section.

No vehicle or vessel that has transported in bulk form a substance contained on the list adopted under RCW 69.04.970 qualifies for rehabilitation.



The cost of rehabilitation shall be borne by the vehicle or vessel owner. The director shall determine a reasonable fee to be imposed on the vehicle or vessel owner based on inspection, laboratory, and administrative costs incurred by the department in rehabilitating the vehicle or vessel. [1990 c 202 § 6.]

**69.04.980 Transport of bulk foods—Penalties.** A person who knowingly transports a cargo in violation of RCW 69.04.955 or who knowingly causes a cargo to be transported in violation of RCW 69.04.955 is subject to a civil penalty, as determined by the director of agriculture, for each such violation as follows:

(1) For a person's first violation or first violation in a period of five years, not more than five thousand dollars;

(2) For a person's second or subsequent violation within five years of a previous violation, not more than ten thousand dollars.

The director shall impose the penalty by an order which is subject to the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW.

The director shall, wherever practical, secure the assistance of other public agencies, including but not limited to the department of health, the utilities and transportation commission, and the state patrol, in identifying and investigating potential violations of RCW 69.04.955. [1990 c 202 § 7.]

### Chapter 69.06 RCW

#### FOOD AND BEVERAGE ESTABLISHMENT WORKERS' PERMITS

##### Sections

69.06.010	Food and beverage service worker's permit—Filing, duration—Minimum training requirements.
69.06.020	Permit exclusive and valid throughout state—Fee.
69.06.030	Diseased persons—May not work—Employer may not hire.
69.06.040	Application of chapter to retail food establishments.
69.06.045	Application of chapter to temporary food service establishments.
69.06.050	Permit to be secured within fourteen days from time of employment.
69.06.060	Penalty.
69.06.070	Limited duty permit.
69.06.080	Chapter not applicable to persons who meet requirements of RCW 70.128.250.

**69.06.010 Food and beverage service worker's permit—Filing, duration—Minimum training requirements.** It shall be unlawful for any person to be employed in the handling of unwrapped or unpackaged food unless he or she shall furnish and place on file with the person in charge of such establishment, a food and beverage service worker's permit, as prescribed by the state board of health. Such permit shall be kept on file by the employer or kept by the employee on his or her person and open for inspection at all reasonable hours by authorized public health officials. Such permit shall be returned to the employee upon termination of employment. Initial permits, including limited duty permits, shall be valid for two years from the date of issuance. Subsequent renewal permits shall be valid for three years from the date of issuance, except an employee may be granted a renewal permit that is valid for five years from the date of issuance if the employee demonstrates that he or she has obtained additional food safety training prior to renewal of the permit. Rules establishing minimum training requirements must be adopted

by the state board of health and developed by the department of health in conjunction with local health jurisdictions and representatives of the food service industry. [1998 c 136 § 1; 1987 c 223 § 5; 1957 c 197 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.06.020 Permit exclusive and valid throughout state—Fee.** The permit provided in RCW 69.06.010 or 69.06.070 shall be valid in every city, town and county in the state, for the period for which it is issued, and no other health certificate shall be required of such employees by any municipal corporation or political subdivision of the state. The cost of the permit shall be uniform throughout the state and shall be in that amount set by the state board of health. The cost of the permit shall reflect actual costs of food worker training and education, administration of the program, and testing of applicants. The state board of health shall periodically review the costs associated with the permit program and adjust the fee accordingly. The board shall also ensure that the fee is not set at an amount that would prohibit low-income persons from obtaining permits. [1998 c 136 § 3; 1987 c 223 § 6; 1957 c 197 § 2.]

**69.06.030 Diseased persons—May not work—Employer may not hire.** It shall be unlawful for any person afflicted with any contagious or infectious disease that may be transmitted by food or beverage to work in or about any place where unwrapped or unpackaged food and/or beverage products are prepared or sold, or offered for sale for human consumption and it shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to employ a person so afflicted. Nothing in this section eliminates any authority or requirement to control or suppress communicable diseases pursuant to chapter 70.05 RCW and \*RCW 43.20.050(2)(e). [1998 c 136 § 4; 1957 c 197 § 3.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 43.20.050 was amended by 2009 c 495 § 1, changing subsection (2)(e) to subsection (2)(f).

**69.06.040 Application of chapter to retail food establishments.** This chapter shall apply to any retail establishment engaged in the business of food handling or food service. [1987 c 223 § 7; 1957 c 197 § 4.]

**69.06.045 Application of chapter to temporary food service establishments.** As used in this section, "temporary food service establishment" means a food service establishment operating at a fixed location for a period of time of not more than twenty-one consecutive days in conjunction with a single event or celebration. This chapter applies to temporary food service establishments with the following exceptions:

(1) Only the operator or person in charge of a temporary food service establishment shall be required to secure a food and beverage service workers' permit; and

(2) The operator or person in charge of a temporary food service establishment shall secure a valid food and beverage service workers' permit before commencing the food handling operation. [1987 c 223 § 8.]

**69.06.050 Permit to be secured within fourteen days from time of employment.** Individuals under this chapter must obtain a food and beverage service workers' permit within fourteen days from commencement of employment.

Individuals under this chapter may work for up to fourteen calendar days without a food and beverage service workers' permit, provided that they receive information or training regarding safe food handling practices from the employer prior to commencement of employment. Documentation that the information or training has been provided to the individual must be kept on file by the employer. [1998 c 136 § 5; 1957 c 197 § 5.]

**69.06.060 Penalty.** Any violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be a misdemeanor. [1957 c 197 § 6.]

**69.06.070 Limited duty permit.** The local health officer may issue a limited duty permit when necessary to reasonably accommodate a person with a disability. The limited duty permit must specify the activities that the permit holder may perform, and must include only activities having low public health risk. [1998 c 136 § 2.]

**69.06.080 Chapter not applicable to persons who meet requirements of RCW 70.128.250.** Except for the food safety training standards adopted by the state board of health under RCW 69.06.010, the provisions of this chapter do not apply to persons who work in adult family homes and successfully complete training and continuing education as required by RCW 70.128.250. [2005 c 505 § 7.]

### Chapter 69.07 RCW

#### WASHINGTON FOOD PROCESSING ACT

##### Sections

69.07.005	Legislative declaration.
69.07.010	Definitions.
69.07.020	Enforcement—Rules—Adoption—Contents—Standards.
69.07.040	Food processing license—Waiver if licensed under chapter 15.36 RCW—Expiration date—Application, contents—Fee.
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69.07.060	Denial, suspension, or revocation of license—Grounds.
69.07.065	Suspension of license summarily—Reinstatement.
69.07.070	Rules and regulations, hearings subject to Administrative Procedure Act.
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69.07.085	Sanitary certificates—Fee.
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69.07.103	Poultry—Slaughter, preparation, sale—One thousand or fewer—Special permit—Rules—Fee.
69.07.110	Enforcement of chapter.
69.07.120	Disposition of money into food processing inspection account.
69.07.135	Unlawful to sell or distribute food from unlicensed processor.
69.07.140	Violations—Warning notice.
69.07.150	Violations—Penalties.
69.07.160	Authority of director and department under chapter 69.04 RCW not impaired by any provision of chapter 69.07 RCW.
69.07.170	Definitions.
69.07.180	Bottled water labeling standards.
69.07.190	Bottled soft drinks, soda, or seltzer exempt from bottled water labeling requirements.
69.07.900	Chapter is cumulative and nonexclusive.
69.07.910	Severability—1967 ex.s. c 121.
69.07.920	Short title.

**69.07.005 Legislative declaration.** The processing of food intended for public consumption is important and vital to the health and welfare both immediate and future and is hereby declared to be a business affected with the public interest. The provisions of this chapter [1991 c 137] are enacted to safeguard the consuming public from unsafe, adulterated, or misbranded food by requiring licensing of all food

processing plants as defined in this chapter and setting forth the requirements for such licensing. [1991 c 137 § 1.]

**69.07.010 Definitions.** For the purposes of this chapter:

(1) "Department" means the department of agriculture of the state of Washington;

(2) "Director" means the director of the department;

(3) "Food" means any substance used for food or drink by any person, including ice, bottled water, and any ingredient used for components of any such substance regardless of the quantity of such component;

(4) "Sale" means selling, offering for sale, holding for sale, preparing for sale, trading, bartering, offering a gift as an inducement for sale of, and advertising for sale in any media;

(5) "Food processing" means the handling or processing of any food in any manner in preparation for sale for human consumption: PROVIDED, That it shall not include fresh fruit or vegetables merely washed or trimmed while being prepared or packaged for sale in their natural state;

(6) "Food processing plant" includes but is not limited to any premises, plant, establishment, building, room, area, facilities and the appurtenances thereto, in whole or in part, where food is prepared, handled or processed in any manner for distribution or sale for resale by retail outlets, restaurants, and any such other facility selling or distributing to the ultimate consumer: PROVIDED, That, as set forth herein, establishments processing foods in any manner for resale shall be considered a food processing plant as to such processing;

(7) "Food service establishment" shall mean any fixed or mobile restaurant, coffee shop, cafeteria, short order cafe, luncheonette, grill, tearoom, sandwich shop, soda fountain, tavern, bar, cocktail lounge, night club, roadside stand, industrial-feeding establishment, retail grocery, retail food market, retail meat market, retail bakery, private, public, or nonprofit organization routinely serving food, catering kitchen, commissary or similar place in which food or drink is prepared for sale or for service on the premises or elsewhere, and any other eating or drinking establishment or operation where food is served or provided for the public with or without charge.

For the purpose of this chapter any custom cannery or processing plant where raw food products, food, or food products are processed for the owner thereof, or the food processing facilities are made available to the owners or persons in control of raw food products or food or food products for processing in any manner, shall be considered to be food processing plants;

(8) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, or association. [1992 c 34 § 3; 1991 c 137 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 121 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.07.020 Enforcement—Rules—Adoption—Contents—Standards.** (1) The department shall enforce and carry out the provisions of this chapter, and may adopt the necessary rules to carry out its purposes.

(2) Such rules may include:

(a) Standards for temperature controls in the storage of foods, so as to provide proper refrigeration.

(b) Standards for temperatures at which low acid foods must be processed and the length of time such temperatures must be applied and at what pressure in the processing of such low acid foods.

(c) Standards and types of recording devices that must be used in providing records of the processing of low acid foods, and how they shall be made available to the department of agriculture for inspection.

(d) Requirements for the keeping of records of the temperatures, times and pressures at which foods were processed, or for the temperatures at which refrigerated products were stored by the licensee and the furnishing of such records to the department.

(e) Standards that must be used to establish the temperature and purity of water used in the processing of foods. [1969 c 68 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 121 § 2.]

**69.07.040 Food processing license—Waiver if licensed under chapter 15.36 RCW—Expiration date—Application, contents—Fee.** It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a food processing plant or process foods in the state without first having obtained an annual license from the department, which shall expire on a date set by rule by the director. License fees shall be prorated where necessary to accommodate staggering of expiration dates. Application for a license shall be on a form prescribed by the director and accompanied by the license fee. The license fee is determined by computing the gross annual sales for the accounting year immediately preceding the license year. If the license is for a new operator, the license fee shall be based on an estimated gross annual sales for the initial license period.

If gross annual sales are: The license fee is:

\$0 to \$50,000 \$55.00

\$50,001 to \$500,000 \$110.00

\$500,001 to \$1,000,000 \$220.00

\$1,000,001 to \$5,000,000 \$385.00

\$5,000,001 to \$10,000,000 \$550.00

Greater than \$10,000,000 \$825.00

Such application shall include the full name of the applicant for the license and the location of the food processing plant he or she intends to operate. If such applicant is an individual, receiver, trustee, firm, partnership, association or corporation, the full name of each member of the firm or partnership, or names of the officers of the association or corporation shall be given on the application. Such application shall further state the principal business address of the applicant in the state and elsewhere and the name of a person domiciled in this state authorized to receive and accept service of summons of legal notices of all kinds for the applicant. The application shall also specify the type of food to be processed and the method or nature of processing operation or preservation of that food and any other necessary information. Upon the approval of the application by the director and compliance with the provisions of this chapter, including the applicable regulations adopted hereunder by the department, the applicant shall be issued a license or renewal thereof.

Licenses shall be issued to cover only those products, processes, and operations specified in the license application and approved for licensing. Wherever a license holder wishes to engage in processing a type of food product that is differ-

ent than the type specified on the application supporting the licensee's existing license and processing that type of food product would require a major addition to or modification of the licensee's processing facilities or has a high potential for harm, the licensee shall submit an amendment to the current license application. In such a case, the licensee may engage in processing the new type of food product only after the amendment has been approved by the department.

If upon investigation by the director, it is determined that a person is processing food for retail sale and is not under permit, license, or inspection by a local health authority, then that person may be considered a food processor and subject to the provisions of this chapter. The director may waive the licensure requirements of this chapter for a person's operations at a facility if the person has obtained a milk processing plant license under chapter 15.36 RCW to conduct the same or a similar operation at the facility. [1995 c 374 § 21. Prior: 1993 sp.s. c 19 § 11; 1993 c 212 § 2; 1992 c 160 § 3; 1991 c 137 § 3; 1988 c 5 § 1; 1969 c 68 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 121 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.07.050 Renewal of license—Additional fee, when.** If the application for renewal of any license provided for under this chapter is not filed prior to the expiration date as established by rule by the director, an additional fee of ten percent of the cost of the license shall be assessed and added to the original fee and shall be paid by the applicant before the renewal license shall be issued: PROVIDED, That such additional fee shall not be charged if the applicant furnishes an affidavit certifying that he or she has not operated a food processing plant or processed foods subsequent to the expiration of his or her license. [1992 c 160 § 4; 1991 c 137 § 4; 1988 c 5 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 121 § 5.]

**69.07.060 Denial, suspension, or revocation of license—Grounds.** The director may, subsequent to a hearing thereon, deny, suspend, or revoke any license provided for in this chapter if he or she determines that an applicant has committed any of the following acts:

(1) Refused, neglected, or failed to comply with the provisions of this chapter, the rules and regulations adopted hereunder, or any lawful order of the director.

(2) Refused, neglected, or failed to keep and maintain records required by this chapter, or to make such records available when requested pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

(3) Refused the department access to any portion or area of the food processing plant for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

(4) Refused the department access to any records required to be kept under the provisions of this chapter.

(5) Refused, neglected, or failed to comply with any provisions of chapter 69.04 RCW, Washington food, drug, and cosmetic act, or any regulations adopted thereunder.

The provisions of this section requiring that a hearing be conducted before an action may be taken against a license do not apply to an action taken under RCW 69.07.065. [2012 c 117 § 345; 1991 c 137 § 5; 1979 c 154 § 19; 1967 ex.s. c 121 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.07.065 Suspension of license summarily—Reinstatement.** (1) Whenever the director finds an establishment operating under conditions that constitute an immediate danger to public health or whenever the licensee or any employee of the licensee actively prevents the director or the director's representative, during an onsite inspection, from determining whether such a condition exists, the director may summarily suspend, pending a hearing, a license provided for in this chapter.

(2) Whenever a license is summarily suspended, the holder of the license shall be notified in writing that the license is, upon service of the notice, immediately suspended and that prompt opportunity for a hearing will be provided.

(3) Whenever a license is summarily suspended, food processing operations shall immediately cease. However, the director may reinstate the license when the condition that caused the suspension has been abated to the director's satisfaction. [1991 c 137 § 6.]

**69.07.070 Rules and regulations, hearings subject to Administrative Procedure Act.** The adoption of any rules and regulations under the provisions of this chapter, or the holding of a hearing in regard to a license issued or which may be issued under the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to the applicable provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW, the Administrative Procedure Act, as enacted or hereafter amended. [1967 ex.s. c 121 § 7.]

**69.07.080 Inspections by department—Access—When.** For purpose of determining whether the rules adopted pursuant to RCW 69.07.020, as now or hereafter amended are complied with, the department shall have access for inspection purposes to any part, portion or area of a food processing plant, and any records required to be kept under the provisions of this chapter or rules and regulations adopted hereunder. Such inspection shall, when possible, be made during regular business hours or during any working shift of said food processing plant. The department may, however, inspect such food processing plant at any time when it has received information that an emergency affecting the public health has arisen and such food processing plant is or may be involved in the matters causing such emergency. [1969 c 68 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 121 § 8.]

**69.07.085 Sanitary certificates—Fee.** The department may issue sanitary certificates to food processors under this chapter subject to such requirements as it may establish by rule. The fee for issuance shall be fifty dollars per certificate. Fees collected under this section shall be deposited in the agricultural local fund. [1995 c 374 § 23; 1988 c 254 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.07.095 Authority of director and personnel.** The director or the director's deputies, assistants, and inspectors are authorized to do all acts and things necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter, including the taking of verified statements. The department personnel are empowered to administer oaths of verification on the statement. [1991 c 137 § 7.]

**69.07.100 Establishments exempted from provisions of chapter.** (1) The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to establishments issued a permit or licensed under the provisions of:

- (a) Chapter 69.25 RCW, the Washington wholesome eggs and egg products act;
- (b) Chapter 69.28 RCW, the Washington state honey act;
- (c) Chapter 16.49 RCW, the meat inspection act;
- (d) Chapter 77.65 RCW, relating to the direct retail endorsement for wild-caught seafood;
- (e) Chapter 69.22 RCW, relating to cottage food operations;
- (f) Title 66 RCW, relating to alcoholic beverage control; and
- (g) Chapter 69.30 RCW, the sanitary control of shellfish act.

(2) If any such establishments process foods not specifically provided for in the above entitled acts, the establishments are subject to the provisions of this chapter.

(3) The provisions of this chapter do not apply to restaurants or food service establishments. [2011 c 281 § 13; 2002 c 301 § 10; 1995 c 374 § 22; 1988 c 5 § 4; 1983 c 3 § 168; 1967 ex.s. c 121 § 10.]

**Finding—Effective date—2002 c 301:** See notes following RCW 77.65.510.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.07.103 Poultry—Slaughter, preparation, sale—One thousand or fewer—Special permit—Rules—Fee.**

(1) A special permit issued by the department under this section is required for the slaughter, preparation, and sale of one thousand or fewer poultry in a calendar year by a poultry producer for the sale of whole raw poultry directly to the ultimate consumer at the producer's farm. Activities conducted under the permit are exempt from any other licensing requirements of this chapter.

(2)(a) The department must adopt by rule requirements for the permit. The requirements must be generally patterned after those established by the state board of health for temporary food service establishments, but must be tailored specifically to poultry slaughter, preparation, and sale activities. The requirements must include, but are not limited to, those for: Cooling procedures, when applicable; sanitary facilities, equipment, and utensils; clean water; washing and other hygienic practices; and waste and wastewater disposal.

(b) A permit expires December 31st and may be issued for either one or two years as requested by the permit applicant upon payment of the applicable fee in accordance with subsection (4) of this section.

(3) The department shall conduct such inspections as are reasonably necessary to ensure compliance with permit requirements.

(4) The fee for a special permit is seventy-five dollars for one year, or one hundred twenty-five dollars for two years. [2009 c 114 § 1; 2003 c 397 § 2.]

**69.07.110 Enforcement of chapter.** The department may use all the civil remedies provided for in chapter 69.04 RCW (The Uniform Washington Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act) in carrying out and enforcing the provisions of this chapter. [1967 ex.s. c 121 § 11.]

**69.07.120 Disposition of money into food processing inspection account.** All moneys received by the department under the provisions of this chapter and chapter 69.22 RCW shall be paid into the food processing inspection account hereby created within the agricultural local fund established in RCW 43.23.230 and shall be used solely to carry out the provisions of this chapter and chapters 69.22 and 69.04 RCW. [2011 c 281 § 12; 1992 c 160 § 5; 1967 ex.s. c 121 § 12.]

**69.07.135 Unlawful to sell or distribute food from unlicensed processor.** It shall be unlawful to resell, to offer for resale, or to distribute for resale in intrastate commerce any food processed in a food processing plant, which has not obtained a license, as provided for in this chapter, once notification by the director has been given to the person or persons reselling, offering, or distributing food for resale, that said food is from an unlicensed processing operation. [1991 c 137 § 8.]

**69.07.140 Violations—Warning notice.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as requiring the department to report for prosecution violations of this chapter when it believes that the public interest will best be served by a suitable notice of warning in writing. [1967 ex.s. c 121 § 14.]

**69.07.150 Violations—Penalties.** (1)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, any person violating any provision of this chapter or any rule or regulation adopted hereunder is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) A second or subsequent violation is a gross misdemeanor. Any offense committed more than five years after a previous conviction shall be considered a first offense.

(2) Whenever the director finds that a person has committed a violation of any of the provisions of this chapter, and that violation has not been punished pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, the director may impose upon and collect from the violator a civil penalty not exceeding one thousand dollars per violation per day. Each violation shall be a separate and distinct offense. [2003 c 53 § 316; 1991 c 137 § 9; 1967 ex.s. c 121 § 15.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.07.160 Authority of director and department under chapter 69.04 RCW not impaired by any provision of chapter 69.07 RCW.** The authority granted to the director and to the department under the provisions of the Uniform Washington Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (chapter 69.04 RCW), as now or hereafter amended, shall not be deemed to be reduced or otherwise impaired as a result of any provision or provisions of the Washington Food Processing Act (chapter 69.07 RCW). [1969 c 68 § 4.]

**69.07.170 Definitions.** As used in RCW 69.07.180 and 69.07.190:

(1) "Artesian water" means bottled water from a well tapping a confined aquifer in which the water level stands above the water table. "Artesian water" shall meet the requirements of "natural water."

(2) "Bottled water" means water that is placed in a sealed container or package and is offered for sale for human consumption or other consumer uses.

(3) "Carbonated water" or "sparkling water" means bottled water containing carbon dioxide.

(4) "Department" means the department of agriculture.

(5) "Distilled water" means bottled water that has been produced by a process of distillation and meets the definition of purified water in the most recent edition of the United States Pharmacopeia.

(6) "Drinking water" means bottled water obtained from an approved source that has at minimum undergone treatment consisting of filtration, activated carbon or particulate, and ozonation or an equivalent disinfection process, or that meets the requirements of the federal safe drinking water act of 1974 as amended and complies with all department of health rules regarding drinking water.

(7) "Mineral water" means bottled water that contains not less than five hundred parts per million total dissolved solids. "Natural mineral water" shall meet the requirements of "natural water."

(8) "Natural water" means bottled spring, mineral, artesian, or well water that is derived from an underground formation and may be derived from a public water system as defined in RCW 70.119A.020 only if that supply has a single source such as an actual spring, artesian well, or pumped well, and has not undergone any treatment that changes its original chemical makeup except ozonation or an equivalent disinfection process.

(9) "Plant operator" means a person who owns or operates a bottled water plant.

(10) "Purified water" means bottled water produced by distillation, deionization, reverse osmosis, or other suitable process and that meets the definition of purified water in the most recent edition of the United States Pharmacopeia. Water that meets this definition and is vaporized, then condensed, may be labeled "distilled water."

(11) "Spring water" means water derived from an underground formation from which water flows naturally to the surface of the earth. "Spring water" shall meet the requirements of "natural water."

(12) "Water dealer" means a person who imports bottled water or causes bulk water to be transported for bottling for human consumption or other consumer uses.

(13) "Well water" means water from a hole bored, drilled, or otherwise constructed in the ground that taps the water of an aquifer. "Well water" shall meet the requirements of "natural water." [1992 c 34 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.07.180 Bottled water labeling standards.** All bottled water must conform to applicable federal and state labeling laws and be labeled in compliance with the following standards:

(1) Mineral water may be labeled "mineral water." Bottled water to which minerals are added shall be labeled so as to disclose that minerals are added, and may not be labeled "natural mineral water."

(2) Spring water may be labeled "spring water" or "natural spring water."

(3) Water containing carbon dioxide that emerges from the source and is bottled directly with its entrapped gas or from which the gas is mechanically separated and later reintroduced at a level not higher than naturally occurring in the water may bear on its label the words "naturally carbonated" or "naturally sparkling."

(4) Bottled water that contains carbon dioxide other than that naturally occurring in the source of the product shall be labeled with the words "carbonated," "carbonation added," or "sparkling" if the carbonation is obtained from a natural or manufactured source.

(5) Well water may be labeled "well water" or "natural well water."

(6) Artesian water may be labeled "artesian water" or "natural artesian water."

(7) Purified water may be labeled "purified water" and the method of preparation shall be stated on the label, except that purified water produced by distillation may be labeled as "distilled water."

(8) Drinking water may be labeled "drinking water."

(9) The use of the word "spring," or any derivative of "spring" other than in a trademark, trade name, or company name, to describe water that is not spring water is prohibited.

(10) A product meeting more than one of the definitions in RCW 69.07.170 may be identified by any of the applicable product types defined in RCW 69.07.170, except where otherwise specifically prohibited.

(11) Supplemental printed information and graphics may appear on the label but shall not imply properties of the product or preparation methods that are not factual. [1992 c 34 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.07.190 Bottled soft drinks, soda, or seltzer exempt from bottled water labeling requirements.** Bottled soft drinks, soda, or seltzer products commonly recognized as soft drinks and identified on the product identity panel with a common or usual name other than one of those specified in RCW 69.07.170 are exempt from the requirements of RCW 69.07.180. Water that is not in compliance with the requirements of RCW 69.07.180 may not be identified, labeled, or advertised as "artesian water," "bottled water," "distilled water," "natural water," "purified water," "spring water," or "well water." [1992 c 34 § 7.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.07.900 Chapter is cumulative and nonexclusive.** The provisions of this chapter shall be cumulative and nonexclusive and shall not affect any other remedy. [1967 ex.s. c 121 § 16.]

**69.07.910 Severability—1967 ex.s. c 121.** If any provision of this chapter, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1967 ex.s. c 121 § 17.]

**69.07.920 Short title.** This chapter shall be known and designated as the Washington food processing act. [1967 ex.s. c 121 § 18.]

## Chapter 69.10 RCW FOOD STORAGE WAREHOUSES

### Sections

69.10.005	Definitions.
69.10.010	Inspection of food storage warehouses—Powers of director.
69.10.015	Annual license required—Director's duties—Fee—Application—Renewal.
69.10.020	Exemption from licensure—Independent inspection—Report to department.
69.10.025	Application for renewal of license after expiration date—Additional fee.
69.10.030	Director may deny, suspend, or revoke license—Actions by applicant—Hearing required.
69.10.035	Immediate danger to public health—Summarily suspending license—Written notification—Hearing—Reinstatement of license.
69.10.040	Unlicensed food storage warehouse—Unlawful to sell, offer for sale, or distribute in intrastate commerce.
69.10.045	Disposition of moneys received under this chapter.
69.10.050	Civil remedies—Restrictions on civil penalties—Fee limitations for inspections and analyses.
69.10.055	Rules.
69.10.060	Director and deputies, assistants, and inspectors authorized to act—May take verified statements.
69.10.900	Effective date—1995 c 374 §§ 1-47, 50-53, and 59-68.

### 69.10.005 Definitions.

For the purpose of this chapter:

(1) "Food storage warehouse" means any premises, establishment, building, room area, facility, or place, in whole or in part, where food is stored, kept, or held for wholesale distribution to other wholesalers or to retail outlets, restaurants, and any such other facility selling or distributing to the ultimate consumer. Food storage warehouses include, but are not limited to, facilities where food is kept or held refrigerated or frozen and include facilities where food is stored to the account of another firm and/or is owned by the food storage warehouse. "Food storage warehouse" does not include grain elevators or fruit and vegetable storage and packing houses that store, pack, and ship fresh fruit and vegetables even though they may use refrigerated or controlled atmosphere storage practices in their operation. However, this chapter applies to multiple food storage operations that also distribute or ripen fruits and vegetables.

(2) "Department" means the Washington department of agriculture.

(3) "Director" means the director of the Washington department of agriculture.

(4) "Food" means the same as defined in RCW 69.04.008.

(5) "Independent sanitation consultant" means an individual, partnership, cooperative, or corporation that by reason of education, certification, and experience has satisfactorily demonstrated expertise in food and dairy sanitation and is approved by the director to advise on such areas including, but not limited to: Principles of cleaning and sanitizing food processing plants and equipment; rodent, insect, bird, and other pest control; principals [principles] of hazard analysis critical control point; basic food product labeling; principles of proper food storage and protection; proper personnel work practices and attire; sanitary design, construction, and installation of food plant facilities, equipment, and utensils; and other pertinent food safety issues. [1995 c 374 § 8.]

**69.10.010 Inspection of food storage warehouses—Powers of director.** The director or his or her representative may inspect food storage warehouses for compliance with the

provisions of chapter 69.04 RCW and the rules adopted under chapter 69.04 RCW as deemed necessary by the director. Any food storage warehouse found to not be in substantial compliance with chapter 69.04 RCW and the rules adopted under chapter 69.04 RCW will be reinspected as deemed necessary by the director to determine compliance. This does not preclude the director from using any other remedies as provided under chapter 69.04 RCW to gain compliance or to embargo products as provided under RCW 69.04.110 to protect the public from adulterated foods. [1995 c 374 § 9.]

**69.10.015 Annual license required—Director's duties—Fee—Application—Renewal.** Except as provided in this section and RCW 69.10.020, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate a food storage warehouse in the state without first having obtained an annual license from the department, which shall expire on a date set by rule by the director. Application for a license or license renewal shall be on a form prescribed by the director and accompanied by the license fee. The license fee is fifty dollars.

For a food storage warehouse that has been inspected on at least an annual basis for compliance with the provisions of the current good manufacturing practices (Title 21 C.F.R. part 110) by a federal agency or by a state agency acting on behalf of and under contract with a federal agency and that is not exempted from licensure by RCW 69.10.020, the annual license fee for the warehouse is twenty-five dollars.

The application shall include the full name of the applicant for the license and the location of the food storage warehouse he or she intends to operate. If such applicant is an individual, receiver, trustee, firm, partnership, association, or corporation, the full name of each member of the firm or partnership, or names of the officers of the association or corporation must be given on the application. The application shall further state the principal business address of the applicant in the state and elsewhere and the name of a person domiciled in this state authorized to receive and accept service of summons of legal notices of all kinds for the applicant. Upon the approval of the application by the director and compliance with the provisions of this chapter, including the applicable regulations adopted under this chapter by the department, the applicant shall be issued a license or renewal thereof. The director shall waive licensure under this chapter for firms that are licensed under the provisions of chapter 69.07 or 15.36 RCW. [1995 c 374 § 10.]

**69.10.020 Exemption from licensure—Independent inspection—Report to department.** A food storage warehouse that is inspected for compliance with the current good manufacturing practices (Title 21 C.F.R. part 110) on at least an annual basis by an independent sanitation consultant approved by the department shall be exempted from licensure under this chapter.

A report identifying the inspector and the inspecting entity, the date of the inspection, and any violations noted on such inspection shall be forwarded to the department by the food storage warehouse within sixty days of the completion of the inspection. An inspection shall be conducted and an inspection report for a food storage warehouse shall be filed with the department at least once every twelve months or the warehouse shall be licensed under this chapter and inspected

by the department for a period of two years. [1995 c 374 § 11.]

**69.10.025 Application for renewal of license after expiration date—Additional fee.** If the application for renewal of any license provided for under this chapter is not filed prior to the expiration date as established by rule by the director, an additional fee of ten percent of the cost of the license shall be assessed and added to the original fee and must be paid by the applicant before the renewal license is issued. [1995 c 374 § 12.]

**69.10.030 Director may deny, suspend, or revoke license—Actions by applicant—Hearing required.** The director may, subsequent to a hearing thereon, deny, suspend, or revoke any license provided for in this chapter if he or she determines that an applicant has committed any of the following acts:

(1) Refused, neglected, or failed to comply with the provisions of this chapter, the rules adopted under this chapter, or any lawful order of the director;

(2) Refused, neglected, or failed to keep and maintain records required by this chapter, or to make such records available if requested pursuant to the provisions of this chapter;

(3) Refused the department access to any portion or area of the food storage warehouse for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this chapter;

(4) Refused the department access to any records required to be kept under the provisions of this chapter;

(5) Refused, neglected, or failed to comply with any provisions of chapter 69.04 RCW, Washington food, drug, and cosmetic act, or any rules adopted under chapter 69.04 RCW.

The provisions of this section requiring that a hearing be conducted before an action may be taken against a license do not apply to an action taken under RCW 69.10.035. [1995 c 374 § 13.]

**69.10.035 Immediate danger to public health—Summarily suspending license—Written notification—Hearing—Reinstatement of license.** (1) Whenever the director finds a food storage warehouse operating under conditions that constitute an immediate danger to public health or whenever the licensee or any employee of the licensee actively prevents the director or the director's representative, during an on-site inspection, from determining whether such a condition exists, the director may summarily suspend, pending a hearing, a license provided for in this chapter.

(2) Whenever a license is summarily suspended, the holder of the license shall be notified in writing that the license is, upon service of the notice, immediately suspended and that prompt opportunity for a hearing will be provided.

(3) Whenever a license is summarily suspended, food distribution operations shall immediately cease. However, the director may reinstate the license if the condition that caused the suspension has been abated to the director's satisfaction. [1995 c 374 § 14.]

**69.10.040 Unlicensed food storage warehouse—Unlawful to sell, offer for sale, or distribute in intrastate commerce.** It is unlawful to sell, offer for sale, or distribute

in intrastate commerce food from or stored in a food storage warehouse that is required to be licensed under this chapter but that has not obtained a license, once notification by the director has been given to the persons selling, offering, or distributing food for sale, that the food is in or from such an unlicensed food storage warehouse. [1995 c 374 § 15.]

**69.10.045 Disposition of moneys received under this chapter.** All moneys received by the department under provisions of this chapter, except moneys collected for civil penalties levied under this chapter, shall be paid into an account created in the agricultural local fund established in RCW 43.23.230 and shall be used solely to carry out provisions of this chapter and chapter 69.04 RCW. All moneys collected for civil penalties levied under this chapter shall be deposited in the state general fund. [1995 c 374 § 16.]

**69.10.050 Civil remedies—Restrictions on civil penalties—Fee limitations for inspections and analyses.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the department may use all the civil remedies provided under chapter 69.04 RCW in carrying out and enforcing the provisions of this chapter.

(2) Civil penalties are intended to be used to obtain compliance and shall not be collected if a warehouse successfully completes a mutually agreed upon compliance agreement with the department. A warehouse that enters into a compliance agreement with the department shall pay only for inspections conducted by the department and any laboratory analyses as required by the inspections as outlined and agreed to in the compliance agreement. In no event shall the fee for these inspections and analyses exceed four hundred dollars per inspection or one thousand dollars in total. [1995 c 374 § 17.]

**69.10.055 Rules.** (1) The department shall enforce and carry out the provisions of this chapter and may adopt the necessary rules to carry out its purpose.

(2) The adoption of rules under the provisions of this chapter are subject to the applicable provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW, the administrative procedure act. [1995 c 374 § 18.]

**69.10.060 Director and deputies, assistants, and inspectors authorized to act—May take verified statements.** The director or director's deputies, assistants, and inspectors are authorized to do all acts and things necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter, including the taking of verified statements. The department personnel are empowered to administer oaths of verification on the statement. [1995 c 374 § 19.]

**69.10.900 Effective date—1995 c 374 §§ 1-47, 50-53, and 59-68.** See note following RCW 15.36.012.

## Chapter 69.22 RCW COTTAGE FOOD OPERATIONS

### Sections

69.22.010	Definitions.
69.22.020	Requirements—Authority of director.

69.22.030	Permits, permit renewals.
69.22.040	Basic hygiene inspections.
69.22.050	Annual gross sales—Department to determine annual amount.
69.22.060	Access to permitted areas of domestic residence housing cottage food operations—Authority of director.
69.22.070	Cottage foods operations permit—Denial, suspension, or revocation.
69.22.080	Application of administrative procedure act.
69.22.090	Penalties.
69.22.100	Exemption—Provisions of chapter 69.07 RCW or permitting and inspection by local health jurisdiction.
69.22.110	Application of other state or federal laws or local unit of government ordinances not affected.

**69.22.010 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Cottage food operation" means a person who produces cottage food products only in the home kitchen of that person's primary domestic residence in Washington and only for sale directly to the consumer.

(2) "Cottage food products" means nonpotentially hazardous baked goods; jams, jellies, preserves, and fruit butters as defined in 21 C.F.R. Sec. 150 as it existed on July 22, 2011; and other nonpotentially hazardous foods identified by the director in rule.

(3) "Department" means the department of agriculture.

(4) "Director" means the director of the department.

(5) "Domestic residence" means a single-family dwelling or an area within a rental unit where a single person or family actually resides. Domestic residence does not include:

(a) A group or communal residential setting within any type of structure; or

(b) An outbuilding, shed, barn, or other similar structure.

(6) "Home kitchen" means a kitchen primarily intended for use by the residents of a home. It may contain one or more stoves or ovens, which may be a double oven, designed for residential use.

(7) "Permitted area" means the portion of a domestic residence housing a home kitchen where the preparation, packaging, storage, or handling of cottage food products occurs.

(8) "Potentially hazardous food" means foods requiring temperature control for safety because they are capable of supporting the rapid growth of pathogenic or toxigenic microorganisms, or the growth and toxin production of *Clostridium botulinum*. [2011 c 281 § 1.]

**69.22.020 Requirements—Authority of director.** (1) The director may adopt, by rule, requirements for cottage food operations. These requirements may include, but are not limited to:

(a) The application and renewal of permits under RCW 69.22.030;

(b) Inspections as provided under RCW 69.22.040;

(c) Sanitary procedures;

(d) Facility, equipment, and utensil requirements;

(e) Labeling specificity beyond the requirements of this section;

(f) Requirements for clean water sources and waste and wastewater disposal; and

(g) Requirements for washing and other hygienic practices.

(2) A cottage food operation must package and properly label for sale to the consumer any food it produces, and the



food may not be repackaged, sold, or used as an ingredient in other foods by a food processing plant, or sold by a food service establishment.

(3) A cottage food operation must place on the label of any food it produces or packages, at a minimum, the following information:

(a) The name and address of the business of the cottage food operation;

(b) The name of the cottage food product;

(c) The ingredients of the cottage food product, in descending order of predominance by weight;

(d) The net weight or net volume of the cottage food product;

(e) Allergen labeling as specified by the director in rule;

(f) If any nutritional claim is made, appropriate labeling as specified by the director in rule;

(g) The following statement printed in at least the equivalent of eleven-point font size in a color that provides a clear contrast to the background: "Made in a home kitchen that has not been subject to standard inspection criteria."

(4) Cottage food products may only be sold directly to the consumer and may not be sold by internet, mail order, or for retail sale outside the state.

(5) Cottage food products must be stored only in the primary domestic residence. [2011 c 281 § 2.]

**69.22.030 Permits, permit renewals.** (1) All cottage food operations must be permitted annually by the department on forms developed by the department. All permits and permit renewals must be made on forms developed by the director and be accompanied by an inspection fee as provided in RCW 69.22.040, a seventy-five dollar public health review fee, and a thirty dollar processing fee. All fees must be deposited into the food processing inspection account created in RCW 69.07.120.

(2) In addition to the provision of any information required by the director on forms developed under subsection (1) of this section and the payment of all fees, an applicant for a permit or a permit renewal as a cottage food operation must also provide documentation that all individuals to be involved in the preparation of cottage foods [cottage food products] have secured a food and beverage service worker's permit under chapter 69.06 RCW.

(3) All cottage food operations permitted under this section must include a signed document attesting, by opting to become permitted, that the permitted cottage food operation expressly grants to the director the right to enter the domestic residence housing the cottage food operation during normal business hours, or at other reasonable times, for the purposes of inspections under this chapter. [2011 c 281 § 3.]

**69.22.040 Basic hygiene inspections.** (1) The permitted area of all cottage food operations must be inspected for basic hygiene by the director both before initial permitting under RCW 69.22.030 and annually after initial permitting. In addition, the director may inspect the permitted area of a cottage food operation at any time in response to a foodborne outbreak or other public health emergency.

(2) When conducting an annual basic hygiene inspection, the director shall, at a minimum, inspect for the following:

(a) That the permitted cottage food operator understands that no person other than the permittee, or a person under the direct supervision of the permittee, may be engaged in the processing, preparing, packaging, or handling of any cottage food products or be in the home kitchen during the preparation, packaging, or handling of any cottage food products;

(b) That no cottage food preparation, packaging, or handling is occurring in the home kitchen concurrent with any other domestic activities such as family meal preparation, dishwashing, clothes washing or ironing, kitchen cleaning, or guest entertainment;

(c) That no infants, small children, or pets are in the home kitchen during the preparation, packaging, or handling of any cottage food products;

(d) That all food contact surfaces, equipment, and utensils used for the preparation, packaging, or handling of any cottage food products are washed, rinsed, and sanitized before each use;

(e) That all food preparation and food and equipment storage areas are maintained free of rodents and insects; and

(f) That all persons involved in the preparation and packaging of cottage food products:

(i) Have obtained a food and beverage service worker's permit under chapter 69.06 RCW;

(ii) Are not going to work in the home kitchen when ill;

(iii) Wash their hands before any food preparation and food packaging activities; and

(iv) Avoid bare hand contact with ready-to-eat foods through the use of single-service gloves, bakery papers, tongs, or other utensils.

(3) The department shall charge an inspection fee of one hundred twenty-five dollars for any initial or annual basic hygiene inspection, which must be deposited into the food processing inspection account created in RCW 69.07.120. An additional inspection fee must be collected for each visit to a cottage food operation for the purposes of conducting an inspection for compliance.

(4) The director may contract with local health jurisdictions to conduct the inspections required under this section. [2011 c 281 § 4.]

**69.22.050 Annual gross sales—Department to determine annual amount.** (1) The gross sales of cottage food products may not exceed an annual amount set by the department. The determination of the maximum annual gross sales must be computed on the basis of the amount of gross sales within or at a particular domestic residence and may not be computed on a per person basis within or at an individual domestic residence.

(2) If gross sales exceed the maximum annual gross sales amount, the cottage food operation must either obtain a food processing plant license under chapter 69.07 RCW or cease operations.

(3) A cottage food operation exceeding the maximum annual gross sales amount is not entitled to a full or partial refund of any fees paid under RCW 69.22.030 or 69.22.040.

(4) The maximum annual gross sales amount must be established in rule by the department consistent with this subsection. The amount must be set at fifteen thousand dollars until December 31, 2012. Beginning January 1, 2013, the department must increase the fifteen thousand dollar annual

gross sales limit biennially to reflect inflation. The department may determine inflation-based increases in any matter it deems most efficient.

(5) The director may request in writing documentation to verify the annual gross sales figure. [2011 c 281 § 5.]

**69.22.060 Access to permitted areas of domestic residence housing cottage food operations—Authority of director.** (1) For the purpose of determining compliance with this chapter, the director may access, for inspection purposes, the permitted area of a domestic residence housing a cottage food operation permitted by the director under this chapter. This authority includes the authority to inspect any records required to be kept under the provisions of this chapter.

(2) All inspections must be made at reasonable times and, when possible, during regular business hours.

(3) Should the director be denied access to the permitted area of a domestic residence housing a cottage food operation where access was sought for the purposes of enforcing or administering this chapter, the director may apply to any court of competent jurisdiction for a search warrant authorizing access to the permitted area of a domestic residence housing a permitted cottage food operation, upon which the court may issue a search warrant for the purposes requested.

(4) Any access under this section must be limited to the permitted area and further limited to the purpose of enforcing or administering this chapter. [2011 c 281 § 6.]

**69.22.070 Cottage foods operations permit—Denial, suspension, or revocation.** (1) After conducting a hearing, the director may deny, suspend, or revoke any permit provided for in this chapter if it is determined that a permittee has committed any of the following acts:

(a) Refused, neglected, or failed to comply with the provisions of this chapter, any rules adopted to administer this chapter, or any lawful order of the director;

(b) Refused, neglected, or failed to keep and maintain records required by this chapter, or to make the records available when requested pursuant to the provisions of this chapter;

(c) Consistent with RCW 69.22.060, refused the director access to the permitted area of a domestic residence housing a cottage food operation for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this chapter;

(d) Consistent with RCW 69.22.060, refused the department access to any records required to be kept under the provisions of this chapter; or

(e) Exceeded the annual income limits provided in RCW 69.22.050.

(2) The director may summarily suspend a permit issued under this chapter if the director finds that a cottage food operation is operating under conditions that constitute an immediate danger to public health or if the director is denied access to the permitted area of a domestic residence housing a cottage food operation and records where the access was sought for the purposes of enforcing or administering this chapter. [2011 c 281 § 7.]

**69.22.080 Application of administrative procedure act.** The rights, remedies, and procedures respecting the

administration of this chapter, including rule making, emergency actions, and permit suspension, revocation, or denial are governed by chapter 34.05 RCW. [2011 c 281 § 8.]

**69.22.090 Penalties.** (1)(a) Any person engaging in a cottage food operation without a valid permit issued under RCW 69.22.030 or otherwise violating any provision of this chapter, or any rule adopted under this chapter, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) A second or subsequent violation is a gross misdemeanor. Any offense committed more than five years after a previous conviction shall be considered a first offense.

(2) Whenever the director finds that a person has committed a violation of any of the provisions of this chapter, and that violation has not been punished pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, the director may impose upon and collect from the violator a civil penalty not exceeding one thousand dollars per violation per day. Each violation shall be a separate and distinct offense. [2011 c 281 § 9.]

**69.22.100 Exemption—Provisions of chapter 69.07 RCW or permitting and inspection by local health jurisdiction.** Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, cottage food operations with a valid permit under RCW 69.22.030 are not subject to the provisions of chapter 69.07 RCW or to permitting and inspection by a local health jurisdiction. [2011 c 281 § 10.]

**69.22.110 Application of other state or federal laws or local unit of government ordinances not affected.** Nothing in this chapter affects the application of any other state or federal laws or any applicable ordinances enacted by any local unit of government. [2011 c 281 § 11.]

## Chapter 69.25 RCW

### WASHINGTON WHOLESOME EGGS AND EGG PRODUCTS ACT

#### Sections

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**69.25.010 Legislative finding.** Eggs and egg products are an important source of the state's total supply of food, and are used in food in various forms. They are consumed throughout the state and the major portion thereof moves in intrastate commerce. It is essential, in the public interest, that the health and welfare of consumers be protected by the adoption of measures prescribed herein for assuring that eggs and egg products distributed to them and used in products consumed by them are wholesome, otherwise not adulterated, and properly labeled and packaged. Lack of effective regulation for the handling or disposition of unwholesome, otherwise adulterated, or improperly labeled or packaged egg products and certain qualities of eggs is injurious to the public welfare and destroys markets for wholesome, unadulterated, and properly labeled and packaged eggs and egg products and results in sundry losses to producers and processors, as well as injury to consumers. Unwholesome, otherwise adulterated, or improperly labeled or packaged products can be sold at lower prices and compete unfairly with the wholesome, unadulterated, and properly labeled and packaged products, to the detriment of consumers and the public generally. It is hereby found that all egg products and the qualities of eggs which are regulated under this chapter are either in intrastate commerce, or substantially affect such commerce, and that regulation by the director, as contemplated by this chapter, is appropriate to protect the health and welfare of consumers. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 2.]

**69.25.020 Definitions.** When used in this chapter the following terms shall have the indicated meanings, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Adulterated" applies to any egg or egg product under one or more of the following circumstances:

(a) If it bears or contains any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health; but in case the substance is not an added substance, such article shall not be considered adulterated under this clause if the quantity of such substance in or on such article does not ordinarily render it injurious to health;

(b) If it bears or contains any added poisonous or added deleterious substance (other than one which is: (i) A pesticide chemical in or on a raw agricultural commodity; (ii) a food additive; or (iii) a color additive) which may, in the judgment of the director, make such article unfit for human food;

(c) If it is, in whole or in part, a raw agricultural commodity and such commodity bears or contains a pesticide chemical which is unsafe within the meaning of RCW 69.04.392, as enacted or hereafter amended;

(d) If it bears or contains any food additive which is unsafe within the meaning of RCW 69.04.394, as enacted or hereafter amended;

(e) If it bears or contains any color additive which is unsafe within the meaning of RCW 69.04.396; however, an article which is not otherwise deemed adulterated under subsection (1)(c), (d), or (e) of this section shall nevertheless be deemed adulterated if use of the pesticide chemical, food additive, or color additive, in or on such article, is prohibited by regulations of the director in official plants;

(f) If it consists in whole or in part of any filthy, putrid, or decomposed substance, or if it is otherwise unfit for human food;

(g) If it consists in whole or in part of any damaged egg or eggs to the extent that the egg meat or white is leaking, or it has been contacted by egg meat or white leaking from other eggs;

(h) If it has been prepared, packaged, or held under insanitary conditions whereby it may have become contaminated with filth, or whereby it may have been rendered injurious to health;

(i) If it is an egg which has been subjected to incubation or the product of any egg which has been subjected to incubation;

(j) If its container is composed, in whole or in part, of any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render the contents injurious to health;

(k) If it has been intentionally subjected to radiation, unless the use of the radiation was in conformity with a regulation or exemption in effect pursuant to RCW 69.04.394; or

(l) If any valuable constituent has been in whole or in part omitted or abstracted therefrom; or if any substance has been substituted, wholly or in part therefor; or if damage or inferiority has been concealed in any manner; or if any substance has been added thereto or mixed or packed therewith so as to increase its bulk or weight, or reduce its quality or strength, or make it appear better or of greater value than it is.

(2) "Ambient temperature" means the atmospheric temperature surrounding or encircling shell eggs.

(3) "At retail" means any transaction in intrastate commerce between a retailer and a consumer.

(4) "Candling" means the examination of the interior of eggs by the use of transmitted light used in a partially dark room or place.

(5) "Capable of use as human food" shall apply to any egg or egg product unless it is denatured, or otherwise identified, as required by regulations prescribed by the director, to deter its use as human food.

(6) "Check" means an egg that has a broken shell or crack in the shell but has its shell membranes intact and contents not leaking.

(7) "Clean and sound shell egg" means any egg whose shell is free of adhering dirt or foreign material and is not cracked or broken.

(8) "Consumer" means any person who purchases eggs for his or her own family use or consumption; or any restaurant, hotel, boarding house, bakery, or other institution or concern which purchases eggs for serving to guests or patrons thereof, or for its own use in cooking or baking.

(9) "Container" or "package" includes any box, can, tin, plastic, or other receptacle, wrapper, or cover.

(10) "Department" means the department of agriculture of the state of Washington.

(11) "Director" means the director of the department or his duly authorized representative.

(12) "Dirty egg" means an egg that has a shell that is unbroken and has adhering dirt or foreign material.

(13) "Egg" means the shell egg of the domesticated chicken, turkey, duck, goose, or guinea, or any other species of fowl.

(14) "Egg handler" or "dealer" means any person who produces, contracts for or obtains possession or control of any eggs or egg products for the purpose of sale to another dealer or retailer, or for processing and sale to a dealer, retailer or consumer. For the purpose of this chapter, "sell" or "sale" includes the following: Offer for sale, expose for sale, have in possession for sale, exchange, barter, trade, or as an inducement for the sale of another product.

(15)(a) "Egg product" means any dried, frozen, or liquid eggs, with or without added ingredients, excepting products which contain eggs only in a relatively small proportion, or historically have not been, in the judgment of the director, considered by consumers as products of the egg food industry, and which may be exempted by the director under such conditions as the director may prescribe to assure that the egg ingredients are not adulterated and are not represented as egg products.

(b) The following products are not included in the definition of "egg product" if they are prepared from eggs or egg products that have been either inspected by the United States department of agriculture or by the department under a cooperative agreement with the United States department of agriculture: Freeze-dried products, imitation egg products, egg substitutes, dietary foods, dried no-bake custard mixes, egg-nog mixes, acidic dressings, noodles, milk and egg dip, cake mixes, French toast, balut and other similar ethnic delicacies, and sandwiches containing eggs or egg products.

(16) "Immediate container" means any consumer package, or any other container in which egg products, not consumer-packaged, are packed.

(17) "Incubator reject" means an egg that has been subjected to incubation and has been removed from incubation during the hatching operations as infertile or otherwise unhatchable.

(18) "Inedible" means eggs of the following descriptions: Black rots, yellow rots, white rots, mixed rots (addled eggs), sour eggs, eggs with green whites, eggs with stuck yolks, moldy eggs, musty eggs, eggs showing blood rings, and eggs containing embryo chicks (at or beyond the blood ring stage).

(19) "Inspection" means the application of such inspection methods and techniques as are deemed necessary by the director to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

(20) "Inspector" means any employee or official of the department authorized to inspect eggs or egg products under the authority of this chapter.

(21) "Intrastate commerce" means any eggs or egg products in intrastate commerce, whether such eggs or egg products are intended for sale, held for sale, offered for sale, sold, stored, transported, or handled in this state in any manner and prepared for eventual distribution in this state, whether at wholesale or retail.

(22) "Leaker" means an egg that has a crack or break in the shell and shell membranes to the extent that the egg contents are exposed or are exuding or free to exude through the shell.

(23) "Loss" means an egg that is unfit for human food because it is smashed or broken so that its contents are leaking; or overheated, frozen, or contaminated; or an incubator reject; or because it contains a bloody white, large meat spots, a large quantity of blood, or other foreign material.

(24) "Master license system" means the mechanism established by chapter 19.02 RCW by which master licenses, endorsed for individual state-issued licenses, are issued and renewed utilizing a master application and a master license expiration date common to each renewable license endorsement.

(25) "Misbranded" shall apply to egg products which are not labeled and packaged in accordance with the requirements prescribed by regulations of the director under RCW 69.25.100.

(26) "Official certificate" means any certificate prescribed by regulations of the director for issuance by an inspector or other person performing official functions under this chapter.

(27) "Official device" means any device prescribed or authorized by the director for use in applying any official mark.

(28) "Official inspection legend" means any symbol prescribed by regulations of the director showing that egg products were inspected in accordance with this chapter.

(29) "Official mark" means the official inspection legend or any other symbol prescribed by regulations of the director to identify the status of any article under this chapter.

(30) "Official plant" means any plant which is licensed under the provisions of this chapter, at which inspection of the processing of egg products is maintained by the United States department of agriculture or by the state under cooperative agreements with the United States department of agriculture or by the state.

(31) "Official standards" means the standards of quality, grades, and weight classes for eggs, adopted under the provisions of this chapter.

(32) "Pasteurize" means the subjecting of each particle of egg products to heat or other treatments to destroy harm-

ful, viable micro-organisms by such processes as may be prescribed by regulations of the director.

(33) "Person" means any natural person, firm, partnership, exchange, association, trustee, receiver, corporation, and any member, officer, or employee thereof, or assignee for the benefit of creditors.

(34) "Pesticide chemical," "food additive," "color additive," and "raw agricultural commodity" shall have the same meaning for purposes of this chapter as prescribed in chapter 69.04 RCW.

(35) "Plant" means any place of business where egg products are processed.

(36) "Processing" means manufacturing egg products, including breaking eggs or filtering, mixing, blending, pasteurizing, stabilizing, cooling, freezing, drying, or packaging egg products.

(37) "Restricted egg" means any check, dirty egg, incubator reject, inedible, leaker, or loss.

(38) "Retailer" means any person in intrastate commerce who sells eggs to a consumer.

(39) "Shipping container" means any container used in packaging a product packed in an immediate container. [2011 c 306 § 1; 1995 c 374 § 25; 1982 c 182 § 42; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 3.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Effective date—2011 c 306:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2012." [2011 c 306 § 7.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.25.030 Purpose—Certain federal rules adopted by reference—Hearing, notice by director—Adoption of rules by director.** The purpose of this chapter is to promote uniformity of state legislation and regulations with the federal egg products inspection act, 21 U.S.C. sec. 1031, et seq., and regulations adopted thereunder. In accord with such declared purpose, any regulations adopted under the federal egg products inspection act relating to eggs and egg products, as defined in \*RCW 69.25.020 (11) and (12), in effect on July 1, 1975, are hereby deemed to have been adopted under the provisions hereof. Further, to promote such uniformity, any regulations adopted hereafter under the provisions of the federal egg products inspection act relating to eggs and egg products, as defined in \*RCW 69.25.020 (11) and (12), and published in the federal register, shall be deemed to have been adopted under the provisions of this chapter in accord with chapter 34.05 RCW, as now or hereafter amended. The director may, however, within thirty days of the publication of the adoption of any such regulation under the federal egg products inspection act, give public notice that a hearing will be held to determine if such regulations shall not be applicable under the provisions of this chapter. Such hearing shall be in accord with the requirements of chapter 34.05 RCW, as now or hereafter amended.

The director, in addition to the foregoing, may adopt any rule and regulation necessary to carry out the purpose and provisions of this chapter. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 69.25.020 was alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k), changing subsections (11) and (12) to subsections (15) and (13), respectively, effective August 1, 2012.

**69.25.040 Application of administrative procedure act.** The adoption, amendment, modification, or revocation of any rules or regulations under the provisions of this chapter, or the holding of a hearing in regard to a license issued or which may be issued or denied under the provisions of this chapter, shall be subject to the applicable provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW, the administrative procedure act, as now or hereafter amended. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 5.]

**69.25.050 Egg handler's or dealer's license and number—Branch license—Application, fee, posting required, procedure.** (1)(a) No person shall act as an egg handler or dealer without first obtaining an annual license and permanent dealer's number from the department.

(b) Application for an egg dealer license or egg dealer branch license must be made through the master license system as provided under chapter 19.02 RCW and expires on the master license expiration date. The annual egg dealer license fee is thirty dollars and the annual egg dealer branch license fee is fifteen dollars. A copy of the master license must be posted at each location where the licensee operates. The application must include the full name of the applicant for the license, the location of each facility the applicant intends to operate, and, if applicable, documentation of compliance with RCW 69.25.065 or 69.25.103.

(2) If an applicant is an individual, receiver, trustee, firm, partnership, association or corporation, the full name of each member of the firm or partnership or the names of the officers of the association or corporation shall be given on the application. The application must further state the principal business address of the applicant in the state and elsewhere and the name of a person domiciled in this state authorized to receive and accept service of summons of legal notices of all kinds for the applicant and any other necessary information prescribed by the director.

(3) The applicant must be issued a license or renewal under this section upon the approval of the application and compliance with the provisions of this chapter, including the applicable rules adopted by the department.

(4) The license and permanent egg handler or dealer's number is nontransferable. [2011 c 306 § 2; 1995 c 374 § 26; 1982 c 182 § 43; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 6.]

**Effective date—2011 c 306:** See note following RCW 69.25.020.

*Master license—Expiration date:* RCW 19.02.090.

*Master license system*

*definition:* RCW 69.25.020(24).

*existing licenses or permits registered under, when:* RCW 19.02.810.

*to include additional licenses:* RCW 19.02.110.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.25.060 Egg handler's or dealer's license—Late renewal fee.** If the application for the renewal of an egg handler's or dealer's license is not filed before the master license expiration date, the master license delinquency fee shall be assessed under chapter 19.02 RCW and shall be paid by the applicant before the renewal license shall be issued. [1982 c 182 § 44; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 7.]

*Master license*

*delinquency fee—Rate—Disposition:* RCW 19.02.085.

*expiration date:* RCW 19.02.090.

*system—Existing licenses or permits registered under, when:* RCW 19.02.810.

**69.25.065 Egg handler's or dealer's license—Renewal applications—Egg and egg products provided in intrastate commerce produced by commercial egg layer operations—Proof.** (1) All new and renewal applications submitted under RCW 69.25.050 before January 1, 2026, must include proof that all eggs and egg products provided in intrastate commerce by the applicant are produced by commercial egg layer operations:

(a) With a current certification under the 2010 version of the united egg producers animal husbandry guidelines for United States egg laying flocks for conventional cage systems or cage-free systems or a subsequent version of the guidelines recognized by the department in rule; or

(b) Operated in strict compliance with any standards, adopted by the department in rule, that are equivalent to or more stringent than the standards identified in (a) of this subsection.

(2) All new and renewal applications submitted under RCW 69.25.050 before January 1, 2017, must, in addition to complying with subsection (1) of this section, include proof that all eggs and egg products provided in intrastate commerce by the applicant are produced by commercial egg layer operations whose housing facilities, if built between January 1, 2012, and December 31, 2016, are either:

(a) Approved under, or convertible to, the American humane association facility system plan for enriched colony housing in effect on January 1, 2011, or a subsequent version of the plan recognized by the department in rule and, in addition, are convertible to the standards identified in RCW 69.25.107; or

(b) Operated in strict compliance with any standards, adopted by the department in rule, that are equivalent to or more stringent than the standards identified in (a) of this subsection.

(3) All new and renewal applications submitted under RCW 69.25.050 between January 1, 2017, and December 31, 2025, must, in addition to complying with subsection (1) of this section, include proof that all eggs and egg products provided in intrastate commerce by the applicant are produced by commercial egg layer operations whose housing facilities, if built on or after January 1, 2012, are either:

(a) Approved under the American humane association facility system plan and audit protocol for enriched colony housing in effect on January 1, 2011, or a subsequent version of the plan recognized by the department in rule and, in addition, are operated to the standards identified in RCW 69.25.107; or

(b) Operated in strict compliance with any standards, adopted by the department in rule, that are equivalent to or more stringent than the standards identified in (a) of this subsection.

(4) All new and renewal applications submitted under RCW 69.25.050 on or after January 1, 2026, must include proof that all eggs and egg products provided in intrastate commerce by the applicant are produced by commercial egg layer operations that are either:

(a) Approved under the American humane association facility system plan and audit protocol for enriched colony housing in effect on January 1, 2011, or a subsequent version of the plan recognized by the department in rule and, in addition,

are operated to the standards identified in RCW 69.25.107; or

(b) Operated in strict compliance with any standards, adopted by the department in rule, that are equivalent to or more stringent than the standards identified in (a) of this subsection.

(5) The following are exempt from the requirements of subsections (2) and (3) of this section:

(a) Applicants with fewer than three thousand laying chickens; and

(b) Commercial egg layer operations when producing eggs or egg products from turkeys, ducks, geese, guineas, or other species of fowl other than domestic chickens. [2011 c 306 § 3.]

**Effective date—2011 c 306:** See note following RCW 69.25.020.

**69.25.070 Egg handler's or dealer's license—Denial, suspension, revocation, or conditional issuance.** The department may deny, suspend, revoke, or issue a license or a conditional license if it determines that an applicant or licensee has committed any of the following acts:

(1) That the applicant or licensee is violating or has violated any of the provisions of this chapter or rules and regulations adopted thereunder.

(2) That the application contains any materially false or misleading statement or involves any misrepresentation by any officer, agent, or employee of the applicant.

(3) That the applicant or licensee has concealed or withheld any facts regarding any violation of this chapter by any officer, agent, or employee of the applicant or licensee. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 8.]

**69.25.080 Continuous inspection at processing plants—Exemptions—Condemnation and destruction of adulterated eggs and egg products—Reprocessing—Appeal—Inspections of egg handlers.** (1) For the purpose of preventing the entry into or movement in intrastate commerce of any egg product which is capable of use as human food and is misbranded or adulterated, the director shall, whenever processing operations are being conducted, unless under inspection by the United States department of agriculture, cause continuous inspection to be made, in accordance with the regulations promulgated under this chapter, of the processing of egg products, in each plant processing egg products for commerce, unless exempted under RCW 69.25.170. Without restricting the application of the preceding sentence to other kinds of establishments within its provisions, any food manufacturing establishment, institution, or restaurant which uses any eggs that do not meet the requirements of RCW 69.25.170(1)(a) in the preparation of any articles for human food, shall be deemed to be a plant processing egg products, with respect to such operations.

(2) The director, at any time, shall cause such retention, segregation, and reinspection as he or she deems necessary of eggs and egg products capable of use as human food in each official plant.

(3) Eggs and egg products found to be adulterated at official plants shall be condemned, and if no appeal be taken from such determination or condemnation, such articles shall be destroyed for human food purposes under the supervision of an inspector: PROVIDED, That articles which may by

reprocessing be made not adulterated need not be condemned and destroyed if so reprocessed under the supervision of an inspector and thereafter found to be not adulterated. If an appeal be taken from such determination, the eggs or egg products shall be appropriately marked and segregated pending completion of an appeal inspection, which appeal shall be at the cost of the appellant if the director determines that the appeal is frivolous. If the determination of condemnation is sustained, the eggs or egg products shall be destroyed for human food purposes under the supervision of an inspector.

(4) The director shall cause such other inspections to be made of the business premises, facilities, inventory, operations, and records of egg handlers, and the records and inventory of other persons required to keep records under RCW 69.25.140, as he or she deems appropriate (and in the case of shell egg packers, packing eggs for the ultimate consumer, at least once each calendar quarter) to assure that only eggs fit for human food are used for such purpose, and otherwise to assure compliance by egg handlers and other persons with the requirements of RCW 69.25.140, except that the director shall cause such inspections to be made as he or she deems appropriate to assure compliance with such requirements at food manufacturing establishments, institutions, and restaurants, other than plants processing egg products. Representatives of the director shall be afforded access to all such places of business for purposes of making the inspections provided for in this chapter. [2012 c 117 § 346; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 9.]

**69.25.090 Sanitary operation of official plants—Inspection refused if requirements not met.** (1) The operator of each official plant shall operate such plant in accordance with such sanitary practices and shall have such premises, facilities, and equipment as are required by regulations promulgated by the director to effectuate the purposes of this chapter, including requirements for segregation and disposition of restricted eggs.

(2) The director shall refuse to render inspection to any plant whose premises, facilities, or equipment, or the operation thereof, fail to meet the requirements of this section. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 10.]

**69.25.100 Egg products—Pasteurization—Labeling requirements—False or misleading labels or containers—Director may order use of withheld—Hearing, determination, and appeal.** (1) Egg products inspected at any official plant under the authority of this chapter and found to be not adulterated shall be pasteurized before they leave the official plant, except as otherwise permitted by regulations of the director, and shall at the time they leave the official plant, bear in distinctly legible form on their shipping containers or immediate containers, or both, when required by regulations of the director, the official inspection legend and official plant number, of the plant where the products were processed, and such other information as the director may require by regulations to describe the products adequately and to assure that they will not have false or misleading labeling.

(2) No labeling or container shall be used for egg products at official plants if it is false or misleading or has not been approved as required by the regulations of the director.

If the director has reason to believe that any labeling or the size or form of any container in use or proposed for use with respect to egg products at any official plant is false or misleading in any particular, he or she may direct that such use be withheld unless the labeling or container is modified in such manner as he or she may prescribe so that it will not be false or misleading. If the person using or proposing to use the labeling or container does not accept the determination of the director, such person may request a hearing, but the use of the labeling or container shall, if the director so directs, be withheld pending hearing and final determination by the director. Any such determination by the director shall be conclusive unless, within thirty days after receipt of notice of such final determination, the person adversely affected thereby appeals to the superior court in the county in which such person has its principal place of business. [2012 c 117 § 347; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 11.]

**69.25.103 Eggs or egg products—In-state production—Associated commercial egg layer operation compliance with applicable standards.** Any egg handler or dealer involved with the in-state production of eggs or egg products only intended for sale outside of the state of Washington must ensure that the associated commercial egg layer operation is in compliance with the applicable standards as provided in RCW 69.25.065. [2011 c 306 § 4.]

**Effective date—2011 c 306:** See note following RCW 69.25.020.

**69.25.107 Commercial egg layer operations—Requirements.** (1) All commercial egg layer operations required under RCW 69.25.065 to meet the American humane association facility system plan, or an equivalent to the plan, must also ensure that all hens in the operation are provided with:

(a) No less than one hundred sixteen and three-tenths square inches of space per hen; and

(b) Access to areas for nesting, scratching, and perching.

(2) The requirements of this section apply for any commercial egg layer operation on the same dates that RCW 69.25.065 requires compliance with the American humane association facility system plan or an equivalent to the plan. [2011 c 306 § 5.]

**Effective date—2011 c 306:** See note following RCW 69.25.020.

**69.25.110 Prohibited acts and practices.** (1) No person shall buy, sell, or transport, or offer to buy or sell, or offer or receive for transportation, in any business in intrastate commerce any restricted eggs, capable of use as human food, except as authorized by regulations of the director under such conditions as he or she may prescribe to assure that only eggs fit for human food are used for such purpose.

(2) No egg handler shall possess with intent to use, or use, any restricted eggs in the preparation of human food for intrastate commerce except that such eggs may be so possessed and used when authorized by regulations of the director under such conditions as he or she may prescribe to assure that only eggs fit for human food are used for such purpose.

(3) No person shall process any egg products for intrastate commerce at any plant except in compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

(4) No person shall buy, sell, or transport, or offer to buy or sell, or offer or receive for transportation, in intrastate commerce any egg products required to be inspected under this chapter unless they have been so inspected and are labeled and packaged in accordance with the requirements of RCW 69.25.100.

(5) No operator of any official plant shall allow any egg products to be moved from such plant if they are adulterated or misbranded and capable of use as human food.

(6) No person shall:

(a) Manufacture, cast, print, lithograph, or otherwise make any device containing any official mark or simulation thereof, or any label bearing any such mark or simulation, or any form of official certificate or simulation thereof, except as authorized by the director;

(b) Forge or alter any official device, mark, or certificate;

(c) Without authorization from the director, use any official device, mark, or certificate, or simulation thereof, or detach, deface, or destroy any official device or mark; or use any labeling or container ordered to be withheld from use under RCW 69.25.100 after final judicial affirmation of such order or expiration of the time for appeal if no appeal is taken under said section;

(d) Contrary to the regulations prescribed by the director, fail to use, or to detach, deface, or destroy any official device, mark, or certificate;

(e) Knowingly possess, without promptly notifying the director or his or her representative, any official device or any counterfeit, simulated, forged, or improperly altered official certificate or any device or label, or any eggs or egg products bearing any counterfeit, simulated, forged, or improperly altered official mark;

(f) Knowingly make any false statement in any shipper's certificate or other nonofficial or official certificate provided for in the regulations prescribed by the director;

(g) Knowingly represent that any article has been inspected or exempted, under this chapter when in fact it has not been so inspected or exempted; and

(h) Refuse access, at any reasonable time, to any representative of the director, to any plant or other place of business subject to inspection under any provisions of this chapter.

(7) No person, while an official or employee of the state or local governmental agency, or thereafter, shall use to his or her own advantage, or reveal other than to the authorized representatives of the United States government or the state in their official capacity, or as ordered by a court in a judicial proceeding, any information acquired under the authority of this chapter concerning any matter which the originator or relator of such information claims to be entitled to protection as a trade secret. [2012 c 117 § 348; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 12.]

**69.25.120 Director to cooperate with other agencies—May conduct examinations.** The director shall, whenever he or she determines that it would effectuate the purposes of this chapter, cooperate with any state, federal, or other governmental agencies in carrying out any provisions of this chapter. In carrying out the provisions of this chapter, the director may conduct such examinations, investigations, and inspections as he or she determines practicable through

any officer or employee of any such agency commissioned by him or her for such purpose. [2012 c 117 § 349; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 13.]

**69.25.130 Eggs or egg products not intended for use as human food—Identification or denaturing required.**

Inspection shall not be provided under this chapter at any plant for the processing of any egg products which are not intended for use as human food, but such articles, prior to their offer for sale or transportation in intrastate commerce, shall be denatured or identified as prescribed by regulations of the director to deter their use for human food. No person shall buy, sell, or transport or offer to buy or sell, or offer or receive for transportation, in intrastate commerce, any restricted eggs or egg products which are not intended for use as human food unless they are denatured or identified as required by the regulations of the director. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 14.]

**69.25.140 Records required, access to and copying of.**

For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this chapter and the regulations promulgated thereunder, all persons engaged in the business of transporting, shipping, or receiving any eggs or egg products in intrastate commerce or in interstate commerce, or holding such articles so received, and all egg handlers, shall maintain such records showing, for such time and in such form and manner, as the director may prescribe, to the extent that they are concerned therewith, the receipt, delivery, sale, movement, and disposition of all eggs and egg products handled by them, and shall, upon the request of the director, permit him or her at reasonable times to have access to and to copy all such records. [2012 c 117 § 350; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 15.]

**69.25.150 Penalties—Liability of employer—**

**Defense.** (1)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, any person violating any provision of this chapter or any rule adopted under this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) A second or subsequent violation is a gross misdemeanor. Any offense committed more than five years after a previous conviction shall be considered a first offense.

(2) Whenever the director finds that a person has committed a violation of any of the provisions of this chapter, and that violation has not been punished pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, the director may impose upon and collect from the violator a civil penalty not exceeding one thousand dollars per violation per day. Each violation shall be a separate and distinct offense.

(3) When construing or enforcing the provisions of RCW 69.25.110, the act, omission, or failure of any person acting for or employed by any individual, partnership, corporation, or association within the scope of the person's employment or office shall in every case be deemed the act, omission, or failure of such individual, partnership, corporation, or association, as well as of such person.

(4) No carrier or warehouse operator shall be subject to the penalties of this chapter, other than the penalties for violation of RCW 69.25.140, or 69.25.155, by reason of his or her receipt, carriage, holding, or delivery, in the usual course of business, as a carrier or warehouse operator of eggs or egg products owned by another person unless the carrier or ware-



house operator has knowledge, or is in possession of facts which would cause a reasonable person to believe that such eggs or egg products were not eligible for transportation under, or were otherwise in violation of, this chapter, or unless the carrier or warehouse operator refuses to furnish on request of a representative of the director the name and address of the person from whom he or she received such eggs or egg products and copies of all documents, if there be any, pertaining to the delivery of the eggs or egg products to, or by, such carrier or warehouse operator. [2011 c 336 § 836; 2003 c 53 § 317; 1995 c 374 § 27; 1992 c 7 § 47; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 16.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.25.155 Interference with person performing official duties.** (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person who forcibly assaults, resists, impedes, intimidates, or interferes with any person while engaged in or on account of the performance of his or her official duties under this chapter is guilty of a class C felony and shall be punished by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars or imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than three years, or both.

(2) Whoever, in the commission of any act described in subsection (1) of this section, uses a deadly or dangerous weapon is guilty of a class B felony and shall be punished by a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars or by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not more than ten years, or both. [2003 c 53 § 318.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.25.160 Notice of violation—May take place of prosecution.** Before any violation of this chapter, other than RCW 69.25.155, is reported by the director to any prosecuting attorney for institution of a criminal proceeding, the person against whom such proceeding is contemplated shall be given reasonable notice of the alleged violation and opportunity to present his or her views orally or in writing with regard to such contemplated proceeding. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as requiring the director to report for criminal prosecution violation of this chapter whenever he or she believes that the public interest will be adequately served and compliance with this chapter obtained by a suitable written notice of warning. [2003 c 53 § 319; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 17.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.25.170 Exemptions permitted by rule of director.**

(1) The director may, by regulation and under such conditions and procedures as he or she may prescribe, exempt from specific provisions of this chapter:

(a) The sale, transportation, possession, or use of eggs which contain no more restricted eggs than are allowed by the tolerance in the official state standards for consumer grades for shell eggs;

(b) The processing of egg products at any plant where the facilities and operating procedures meet such sanitary

standards as may be prescribed by the director, and where the eggs received or used in the manufacture of egg products contain no more restricted eggs than are allowed by the official standards of the state consumer grades for shell eggs, and the egg products processed at such plant;

(c) The sale of eggs by any poultry producer from his or her own flocks directly to a household consumer exclusively for use by such consumer and members of his or her household and his or her nonpaying guests and employees, and the transportation, possession, and use of such eggs in accordance with this subsection;

(d) The sale of eggs by shell egg packers on his or her own premises directly to household consumers for use by such consumer and members of his or her household and his or her nonpaying guests and employees, and the transportation, possession, and use of such eggs in accordance with this subsection;

(e) The sale of eggs by any egg producer with an annual egg production from a flock of three thousand hens or less.

(2) The director may modify or revoke any regulation granting exemption under this chapter whenever he or she deems such action appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this chapter. [2012 c 117 § 351; 1995 c 374 § 28; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 18.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.25.180 Limiting entry of eggs and egg products into official plants.** The director may limit the entry of eggs and egg products and other materials into official plants under such conditions as he or she may prescribe to assure that allowing the entry of such articles into such plants will be consistent with the purposes of this chapter. [2012 c 117 § 352; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 19.]

**69.25.190 Embargo of eggs or egg products in violation of this chapter—Time limit—Removal of official marks.** Whenever any eggs or egg products subject to this chapter are found by any authorized representative of the director upon any premises and there is reason to believe that they are or have been processed, bought, sold, possessed, used, transported, or offered or received for sale or transportation in violation of this chapter, or that they are in any other way in violation of this chapter, or whenever any restricted eggs capable of use as human food are found by such a representative in the possession of any person not authorized to acquire such eggs under the regulations of the director, such articles may be embargoed by such representative for a reasonable period but not to exceed twenty days, pending action under RCW 69.25.200 or notification of any federal or other governmental authorities having jurisdiction over such articles, and shall not be moved by any person from the place at which they are located when so detained until released by such representative. All official marks may be required by such representative to be removed from such articles before they are released unless it appears to the satisfaction of the director that the articles are eligible to retain such marks. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 20.]

**69.25.200 Embargo—Petition for court order affirming—Removal of embargo or destruction or correction and release—Court costs, fees, administrative expenses—**

**Bond may be required.** When the director has embargoed any eggs or egg products, he or she shall petition the superior court of the county in which the eggs or egg products are located for an order affirming such embargo. Such court shall have jurisdiction for cause shown and after a prompt hearing to any claimant of eggs or egg products, shall issue an order which directs the removal of such embargo or the destruction or correction and release of such eggs and egg products. An order for destruction or the correction and release of such eggs and egg products shall contain such provision for the payment of pertinent court costs and fees and administrative expenses as is equitable and which the court deems appropriate in the circumstances. An order for correction and release may contain such provisions for a bond as the court finds indicated in the circumstance. [2012 c 117 § 353; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 21.]

**69.25.210 Embargo—Order affirming not required, when.** The director need not petition the superior court as provided for in RCW 69.25.200 if the owner or claimant of such eggs or egg products agrees in writing to the disposition of such eggs or egg products as the director may order. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 22.]

**69.25.220 Embargo—Consolidation of petitions.** Two or more petitions under RCW 69.25.200 which pend at the same time and which present the same issue and claimant hereunder may be consolidated for simultaneous determination by one court of competent jurisdiction, upon application to any court of jurisdiction by the director or claimant. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 23.]

**69.25.230 Embargo—Sampling of article.** The claimant in any proceeding by petition under RCW 69.25.200 shall be entitled to receive a representative sample of the article subject to such proceedings upon application to the court of competent jurisdiction made at any time after such petition and prior to the hearing thereon. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 24.]

**69.25.240 Condemnation—Recovery of damages restricted.** No state court shall allow the recovery of damages for administrative action for condemnation under the provisions of this chapter, if the court finds that there was probable cause for such action. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 25.]

**69.25.250 Assessment—Rate, applicability, time of payment—Reports—Contents, frequency—Exemption.** (1)(a) There is hereby levied an assessment not to exceed three mills per dozen eggs entering intrastate commerce, as prescribed by rules issued by the director. The assessment is applicable to all eggs entering intrastate commerce, except as provided in RCW 69.25.170 and 69.25.290, and must be paid to the director on a monthly basis on or before the tenth day following the month the eggs enter intrastate commerce.

(b) The director may require reports by egg handlers or dealers along with the payment of the assessment fee. The reports may include any and all pertinent information necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

(c) The director may, by rule, require egg container manufacturers to report on a monthly basis all egg containers sold

to any egg handler or dealer and bearing such egg handler or dealer's permanent number.

(2) Egg products in intrastate commerce are exempt from the assessment in subsection (1) of this section. [2011 c 306 § 6; 1995 c 374 § 29; 1993 sp.s. c 19 § 12; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 26.]

**Effective date—2011 c 306:** See note following RCW 69.25.020.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.25.260 Assessment—Prepayment by purchase of egg seals—Permit for printing seal on containers or labels.** Any egg handler or dealer may prepay the assessment provided for in RCW 69.25.250 by purchasing Washington state egg seals from the director to be placed on egg containers showing that the proper assessment has been paid. Any carton manufacturer or printer may apply to the director for a permit to place reasonable facsimiles of the Washington state egg seals to be imprinted on egg containers or on the identification labels which show egg grade and size and the name of the egg handler or dealer. The director shall, from time to time, prescribe rules and regulations governing the affixing of seals and he or she is authorized to cancel any such permit issued pursuant to this chapter, whenever he or she finds that a violation of the terms under which the permit has been granted has been violated. [2012 c 117 § 354; 1979 ex.s. c 238 § 10; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 27.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.25.270 Assessment—Monthly payment—Audit—Failure to pay, penalty.** Every egg handler or dealer who pays assessments required under the provisions of this chapter on a monthly basis in lieu of seals shall be subject to audit by the director at such frequency as is deemed necessary by the director. The cost to the director for performing such audit shall be chargeable to and payable by the egg handler or dealer subject to audit. Failure to pay assessments when due or refusal to pay for audit costs may be cause for a summary suspension of an egg handler's or dealer's license and a charge of one percent per month, or fraction thereof shall be added to the sum due the director, for each remittance not received by the director when due. The conditions and charges applicable to egg handlers and dealers set forth herein shall also be applicable to payments due the director for facsimiles of seals placed on egg containers. [1987 c 393 § 16; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 28.]

**69.25.280 Assessment—Use of proceeds.** The proceeds from assessment fees paid to the director shall be retained for the inspection of eggs and carrying out the provisions of this chapter relating to eggs. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 29.]

**69.25.290 Assessment—Exclusions.** The assessments provided in this chapter shall not apply to:

- (1) Sale and shipment to points outside of this state;
- (2) Sale to the United States government and its instrumentalities;
- (3) Sale to breaking plants for processing into egg products;
- (4) Sale between egg dealers. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 30.]

**69.25.300 Transfer of moneys in state egg account.**

All moneys in the state egg account, created by \*RCW 69.24.450, at the time of July 1, 1975, shall be transferred to the director and shall be retained and expended for administering and carrying out the purposes of this chapter. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 31.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 69.24.450 was repealed by 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 40.

**69.25.310 Containers—Marking required—Obliteration of previous markings required for reuse—Temporary use of another handler's or dealer's permanent number—Penalty.** (1) All containers used by an egg handler or dealer to package eggs shall bear the name and address or the permanent number issued by the director to said egg handler or dealer. Such permanent number shall be displayed in a size and location prescribed by the director. It shall be a violation for any egg handler or dealer to use a container that bears the permanent number of another egg handler or dealer unless such number is totally obliterated prior to use. The director may in addition require the obliteration of any or all markings that may be on any container which will be used for eggs by an egg handler or dealer.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section and following written notice to the director, licensed egg handlers and dealers may use new containers bearing another handler's or dealer's permanent number on a temporary basis, in any event not longer than one year, with the consent of such other handler or dealer for the purpose of using up existing container stocks. Sale of container stock shall constitute agreement by the parties to use the permanent number. [1995 c 374 § 30; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 32.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.25.320 Records required, additional—Sales to retailer or food service—Exception—Defense to charged violation—Sale of eggs deteriorated due to storage time—Requirements for storage, display, or transportation.** (1) In addition to any other records required to be kept and furnished the director under the provisions of this chapter, the director may require any person who sells to any retailer, or to any restaurant, hotel, boarding house, bakery, or any institution or concern which purchases eggs for serving to guests or patrons thereof or for its use in preparation of any food product for human consumption, candled or graded eggs other than those of his or her own production sold and delivered on the premises where produced, to furnish that retailer or other purchaser with an invoice covering each such sale, showing the exact grade or quality, and the size or weight of the eggs sold, according to the standards prescribed by the director, together with the name and address of the person by whom the eggs were sold. The person selling and the retailer or other purchaser shall keep a copy of said invoice on file at his or her place of business for a period of thirty days, during which time the copy shall be available for inspection at all reasonable times by the director: PROVIDED, That no retailer or other purchaser shall be guilty of a violation of this chapter if he or she can establish a guarantee from the person from whom the eggs were purchased to the effect that they, at the time of purchase, conformed to the information required by the director on such invoice: PROVIDED FURTHER,

That if the retailer or other purchaser having labeled any such eggs in accordance with the invoice keeps them for such a time after they are purchased as to cause them to deteriorate to a lower grade or standard, and sells them under the label of the invoice grade or standard, he or she shall be guilty of a violation of this chapter.

(2) Each retailer and each distributor shall store shell eggs awaiting sale or display eggs under clean and sanitary conditions in areas free from rodents and insects. Shell eggs must be stored up off the floor away from strong odors, pesticides, and cleaners.

(3) After being received at the point of first purchase, all graded shell eggs packed in containers for the purpose of sale to consumers shall be held and transported under refrigeration at ambient temperatures no greater than forty-five degrees Fahrenheit (seven and two-tenths degrees Celsius). This provision shall apply without limitation to retailers, institutional users, dealer/wholesalers, food handlers, transportation firms, or any person who handles eggs after the point of first purchase.

(4) No invoice shall be required on eggs when packed for sale to the United States department of defense, or a component thereof, if labeled with grades promulgated by the United States secretary of agriculture. [2012 c 117 § 355; 1995 c 374 § 31; 1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 33.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.25.900 Savings.** The enactment of this chapter shall not have the effect of terminating or in any way modifying any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence on July 1, 1975. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 35.]

**69.25.910 Chapter is cumulative and nonexclusive.** The provisions of this chapter shall be cumulative and nonexclusive and shall not affect any other remedy at law. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 37.]

**69.25.920 Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 201.** If any provision of this chapter, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 38.]

**69.25.930 Short title.** This act may be known and cited as the "Washington wholesome eggs and egg products act". [1975 1st ex.s. c 201 § 39.]

## Chapter 69.28 RCW HONEY

### Sections

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*Bees and apiaries: Chapter 15.60 RCW.*

*Commission merchants, agricultural products: Title 20 RCW.*

**69.28.020 Enforcement power and duty of director and agents.** The director is hereby empowered, through his or her duly authorized agents, to enforce all provisions of this chapter. The director shall have the power to define, promulgate, and enforce such reasonable regulations as he or she may deem necessary in carrying out the provisions of this chapter. [2012 c 117 § 356; 1939 c 199 § 29; RRS § 6163-29. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1939 c 199 § 44 now codified as RCW 69.28.025.]

**69.28.025 Rules and regulations have force of law.** Any rules or regulations promulgated and published by the director under the provisions of this chapter shall have the force and effect of law. [1939 c 199 § 44; RRS § 6163-44. Formerly RCW 69.28.020, part.]

**69.28.030 Rules prescribing standards.** The director is hereby authorized, and it shall be his or her duty, upon the taking effect of this chapter and from time to time thereafter, to adopt, establish, and promulgate reasonable rules and regulations specifying grades or standards of quality governing the sale of honey: PROVIDED, That, in the interest of uniformity, such grades and standards of quality shall conform as nearly to those established by the United States department of agriculture as local conditions will permit. [2012 c 117 § 357; 1939 c 199 § 24; RRS § 6163-24.]

**69.28.040 Right to enter, inspect, and take samples.** The director or any of his or her duly authorized agents shall

have the power to enter and inspect at reasonable times every place, vehicle, plant, or other place where honey is being produced, stored, packed, transported, exposed, or offered for sale, and to inspect all such honey and the containers thereof and to take for inspection such samples of said honey as may be necessary. [2012 c 117 § 358; 1939 c 199 § 28; RRS § 6163-28.]

**69.28.050 Containers to be labeled.** It shall be unlawful to deliver for shipment, ship, transport, sell, expose or offer for sale any containers or subcontainers of honey within this state unless they shall be conspicuously marked with the name and address of the producer or distributor, the net weight of the honey, the grade of the honey, and, if imported from any foreign country, the name of the country or territory from which the said honey was imported, or if a blend of honey, any part of which is foreign honey, the container must be labeled with the name of the country or territory where such honey was produced and the proportion of each foreign honey used in the blend. [1939 c 199 § 32; RRS § 6163-32.]

**69.28.060 Requisites of markings.** When any markings are used or required to be used under this chapter on any container of honey to identify the container or describe the contents thereof, such markings must be plainly and conspicuously marked, stamped, stenciled, printed, labeled or branded in the English language, in letters large enough to be discernible by any person, on the front, side or top of any container. [1939 c 199 § 35; RRS § 6163-35.]

**69.28.070 "Marked" defined—When honey need not be marked.** The term "marked" shall mean printed in the English language on the top, front or side of any container containing honey: PROVIDED, That it shall not be necessary to mark honey sold by the producer thereof to any distributor, packer or manufacturer with the net weight, color or grade if the honey is to be used in the manufacture of honey products or is to be graded and packaged by the distributor or packer for resale. [1939 c 199 § 21; RRS § 6163-21.]

**69.28.080 Purchaser to be advised of standards—Exceptions.** It shall be unlawful for any person to deliver, sell, offer, or expose for sale any honey for human consumption within the state without notifying the person or persons purchasing or intending to purchase the same, of the exact grade or quality of such honey, according to the standards prescribed by the director, by stamping or printing on the container of any such honey such grade or quality: PROVIDED, This section shall not apply to honey while it is in transit in intrastate commerce from one establishment to the other, to be processed, labeled, or repacked. [1961 c 60 § 1; 1957 c 103 § 1; 1949 c 105 § 6; 1939 c 199 § 39; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6163-39.]

**69.28.090 Forgery, simulation, etc., of marks, labels, etc., unlawful.** It shall be unlawful to forge, counterfeit, simulate, falsely represent or alter without proper authority any mark, stamp, tab, label, seal, sticker or other identification device provided by this chapter. [1961 c 60 § 2; 1939 c 199 § 40; RRS § 6163-40. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1939 c 199 § 41 now codified as RCW 69.28.095.]

**69.28.095 Unlawful mutilation or removal of seals, marks, etc., used by director.** It shall be unlawful to mutilate, destroy, obliterate, or remove without proper authority, any mark, stamp, tag, label, seal, sticker or other identification device used by the director under the provisions of this chapter. [1939 c 199 § 41; RRS § 6163-41. Formerly RCW 69.28.090, part.]

**69.28.100 Marks for "slack-filled" container.** Any slack-filled container shall be conspicuously marked "slack-filled". [1939 c 199 § 36; RRS § 6163-36. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1939 c 199 § 10 now codified as RCW 69.28.270.]

**69.28.110 Use of used containers.** It shall be unlawful to sell, offer, or expose for sale to the consumer any honey in any secondhand or used containers which formerly contained honey, unless all markings as to grade, name and weight have been obliterated, removed or erased. [1939 c 199 § 37; RRS § 6163-37.]

**69.28.120 Floral source labels.** Any honey which is a blend of two or more floral types of honey shall not be labeled as a honey product from any one particular floral source alone. [1939 c 199 § 34; RRS § 6163-34.]

**69.28.130 Adulterated honey—Sale or offer unlawful.** It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, offer or intend for sale any adulterated honey as honey. [1939 c 199 § 26; RRS § 6163-26. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1939 c 199 §§ 27 and 33 now codified as RCW 69.28.133 and 69.28.135.]

**69.28.133 Nonconforming honey—Sale or offer unlawful.** It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, offer or intend for sale any honey which does not conform to the provisions of this chapter or any regulation promulgated by the director under this chapter. [1939 c 199 § 27; RRS § 6163-27. Formerly RCW 69.28.130, part.]

**69.28.135 Warning-tagged honey—Movement prohibited.** It shall be unlawful to move any honey or containers of honey to which any warning tag or notice has been affixed except under authority from the director. [1939 c 199 § 33; RRS § 6163-33. Formerly RCW 69.28.130, part.]

**69.28.140 Possession of unlawful honey as evidence.** Possession by any person, of any honey which is sold, exposed or offered for sale in violation of this chapter shall be prima facie evidence that the same is kept or shipped to the said person, in violation of the provisions of this chapter. [1939 c 199 § 30; RRS § 6163-30.]

**69.28.170 Inspectors—Prosecutions.** It shall be the duty of the director to enforce this chapter and to appoint and employment [employ] such inspectors as may be necessary therefor. The director shall notify the prosecuting attorneys for the counties of the state of violations of this chapter occurring in their respective counties, and it shall be the duty of the respective prosecuting attorneys immediately to institute and prosecute proceeding in their respective counties and

to enforce the penalties provided for by this chapter. [1939 c 199 § 43; RRS § 6163-43.]

**69.28.180 Violation of rules and regulations unlawful.** It shall be unlawful for any person to violate any rule or regulation promulgated by the director under the provisions of this chapter. [1939 c 199 § 25; RRS § 6163-25. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1939 c 199 § 44 now codified in RCW 69.28.185.]

**69.28.185 Penalty.** Any person who violates any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon violation thereof shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars or imprisonment in the county jail for a period of not more than six months or by both such fine and imprisonment. [1939 c 199 § 42; RRS § 6163-42. Formerly RCW 69.28.180, part.]

**69.28.190 "Director" defined.** The term "director" means the director of agriculture of the state of Washington or his or her duly authorized representative. [2012 c 117 § 359; 1939 c 199 § 2; RRS § 6163-2. Formerly RCW 69.28.010, part.]

**69.28.200 "Container" defined.** The term "container" shall mean any box, crate, chest, carton, barrel, keg, bottle, jar, can or any other receptacle containing honey. [1939 c 199 § 3; RRS § 6163-3.]

**69.28.210 "Subcontainer" defined.** The term "sub-container" shall mean any section box or other receptacle used within a container. [1939 c 199 § 4; RRS § 6163-4.]

**69.28.220 "Section box" defined.** The term "section box" shall mean the wood or other frame in which bees have built a small comb of honey. [1939 c 199 § 5; RRS § 6163-5.]

**69.28.230 "Clean and sound containers" defined.** The term "clean and sound containers" shall mean containers which are virtually free from rust, stains or leaks. [1939 c 199 § 6; RRS § 6163-6.]

**69.28.240 "Pack," "packing," or "packed" defined.** The term "pack", "packing", or "packed" shall mean the arrangement of all or part of the subcontainers in any container. [1939 c 199 § 7; RRS § 6163-7.]

**69.28.250 "Label" defined.** The term "label" shall mean a display of written, printed or graphic matter upon the immediate container of any article. [1939 c 199 § 8; RRS § 6163-8.]

**69.28.260 "Person" defined.** The term "person" includes individual, partnership, corporation and/or association. [1939 c 199 § 9; RRS § 6163-9.]

**69.28.270 "Slack-filled" defined.** The term "slack-filled" shall mean that the contents of any container occupy less than ninety-five percent of the volume of the closed con-

tainer. [1939 c 199 § 10; RRS § 6163-10. Formerly RCW 69.28.100, part.]

**69.28.280 "Deceptive arrangement" defined.** The term "deceptive arrangement" shall mean any lot or load, arrangement or display of honey which has in any exposed surface, honey which is so superior in quality, appearance or condition, or in any other respects, to any of that which is concealed or unexposed as to materially misrepresent any part of the lot, load, arrangement or display. [1939 c 199 § 11; RRS § 6163-11.]

**69.28.290 "Misleading" defined.** The term "misleading" shall mean the placing or presence of any false or misleading statement, design or device upon, or in connection with, any container or lot of honey, or upon the label, lining or wrapper of any such container, or any placard used in connection therewith, and having reference to such honey. A statement, design or device is false and misleading when the honey to which it refers does not conform in every respect to such statement. [1939 c 199 § 12; RRS § 6163-12.]

**69.28.300 "Placard" defined.** The term "placard" means any sign, label or designation, other than an oral designation, used with any honey as a description or identification thereof. [1939 c 199 § 13; RRS § 6163-13.]

**69.28.310 "Honey" defined.** The term "honey" as used herein is the nectar of floral exudations of plants, gathered and stored in the comb by honey bees (*apis mellifica*). It is laevo-rotatory, contains not more than twenty-five percent of water, not more than twenty-five one-hundredths of one percent of ash, not more than eight percent of sucrose, its specific gravity is 1.412, its weight not less than eleven pounds twelve ounces per standard gallon of 231 cubic inches at sixty-eight degrees Fahrenheit. [1939 c 199 § 14; RRS § 6163-14. Formerly RCW 69.28.010, part.]

**69.28.320 "Comb-honey" defined.** The term "comb-honey" means honey which has not been extracted from the comb. [1939 c 199 § 15; RRS § 6163-15.]

**69.28.330 "Extracted honey" defined.** The term "extracted honey" means honey which has been removed from the comb. [1939 c 199 § 16; RRS § 6163-16.]

**69.28.340 "Crystallized honey" defined.** The term "crystallized honey" means honey which has assumed a solid form due to the crystallization of one or more of the natural sugars therein. [1939 c 199 § 17; RRS § 6163-17.]

**69.28.350 "Honeydew" defined.** The term "honeydew" is the saccharine exudation of plants, other than nectarous exudations, gathered and stored in the comb by honey bees (*apis mellifica*) and is dextrorotatory. [1939 c 199 § 18; RRS § 6163-18. Formerly RCW 69.28.010, part.]

**69.28.360 "Foreign material" defined.** The term "foreign material" means pollen, wax particles, insects, or materials not deposited by bees. [1937 c 199 § 19; RRS § 6163-19.]

**69.28.370 "Foreign honey" defined.** The term "foreign honey" means any honey not produced within the continental United States. [1939 c 199 § 20; RRS § 6163-20.]

**69.28.380 "Adulterated honey" defined.** The term "adulterated honey" means any honey to which has been added honeydew, glucose, dextrose, molasses, sugar, sugar syrup, invert sugar, or any other similar product or products, other than the nectar of floral exudations of plants gathered and stored in the comb by honey bees. [1939 c 199 § 22; RRS § 6163-22. Formerly RCW 69.28.010, part.]

**69.28.390 "Serious damage" defined.** The term "serious damage" means any injury or defect that seriously affects the edibility or shipping quality of the honey. [1939 c 199 § 23; RRS § 6163-23.]

**69.28.400 Labeling requirements for artificial honey or mixtures containing honey.** (1) No person shall sell, keep for sale, expose or offer for sale, any article or product in imitation or semblance of honey branded exclusively as "honey", "liquid or extracted honey", "strained honey" or "pure honey".

(2) No person, firm, association, company or corporation shall manufacture, sell, expose or offer for sale, any compound or mixture branded or labeled exclusively as honey which shall be made up of honey mixed with any other substance or ingredient.

(3) Whenever honey is mixed with any other substance or ingredient and the commodity is to be marketed in imitation or semblance of honey, the product shall be labeled with the word "artificial" or "imitation" in the same type size and style as the word "honey";

(4) Whenever any substance or commodity is to be marketed in imitation or semblance of honey, but contains no honey, the product shall not be branded or labeled with the word "honey" and/or depict thereon a picture or drawing of a bee, bee hive, or honeycomb;

(5) Whenever honey is mixed with any other substance or ingredient and the commodity is to be marketed, there shall be printed on the package containing such compound or mixture a statement giving the ingredients of which it is made; if honey is one of such ingredients it shall be so stated in the same size type as are the other ingredients; nor shall such compound or mixture be branded or labeled exclusively with the word "honey" in any form other than as herein provided; nor shall any product in semblance of honey, whether a mixture or not, be sold, exposed or offered for sale as honey, or branded or labeled exclusively with the word "honey", unless such article is pure honey. [1975 1st ex.s. c 283 § 1.]

**69.28.410 Embargo on honey or product—Notice by director—Removal.** Whenever the director shall find, or shall have probable cause to believe, that any honey or product subject to the provisions of this chapter, as now or hereafter amended, is in intrastate commerce, which was introduced into such intrastate commerce in violation of the provisions of this chapter, as now or hereafter amended, he or she is hereby authorized to affix to such honey or product a notice placing an embargo on such honey or product, and prohibit-

ing its sale in intrastate commerce, and no person shall move or sell such honey or product without first receiving permission from the director to move or sell such honey or product. But if, after such honey or product has been embargoed, the director shall find that such honey or product does not involve a violation of this chapter, as now or hereafter amended, such embargo shall be forthwith removed. [2012 c 117 § 360; 1975 1st ex.s. c 283 § 3.]

**69.28.420 Embargo on honey or product—Court order affirming, required—Order for destruction or correction and release—Bond.** When the director has embargoed any honey or product, he or she shall, no later than twenty days after the affixing of notice of its embargo, petition the superior court for an order affirming such embargo. Such court shall then have jurisdiction, for cause shown and after prompt hearing to any claimant of such honey or product, to issue an order which directs the removal of such embargo or the destruction or the correction and release of such honey or product. An order for destruction or correction and release shall contain such provision for the payment of pertinent court costs and fees and administrative expenses, as is equitable and which the court deems appropriate in the circumstances. An order for correction and release may contain such provision for bond, as the court finds indicated in the circumstances. [2012 c 117 § 361; 1975 1st ex.s. c 283 § 4.]

**69.28.430 Consolidation of petitions presenting same issue and claimant.** Two or more petitions under this chapter, as now or hereafter amended, which pend at the same time and which present the same issue and claimant hereunder, shall be consolidated for simultaneous determination by one court of jurisdiction, upon application to any court of jurisdiction by the director or by such claimant. [1975 1st ex.s. c 283 § 5.]

**69.28.440 Sample of honey or product may be obtained—Procedure.** The claimant in any proceeding by petition under this chapter, as now or hereafter amended, shall be entitled to receive a representative sample of the honey or product subject to such proceeding, upon application to the court of jurisdiction made at any time after such petition and prior to the hearing thereon. [1975 1st ex.s. c 283 § 6.]

**69.28.450 Recovery of damages barred if probable cause for embargo.** No state court shall allow the recovery of damages for embargo under this chapter, as now or hereafter amended, if the court finds that there was probable cause for such action. [1975 1st ex.s. c 283 § 7.]

**69.28.900 Severability—1939 c 199.** If any provisions of this chapter, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter, and the application of such provisions to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this chapter is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, such decisions shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this chapter. The legislature hereby declares that it would have passed this chapter and each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase

thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more of the other sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases be declared unconstitutional. [1939 c 199 § 45; RRS § 6163-45.]

**69.28.910 Short title.** This chapter may be known and cited as the Washington state honey act. [1939 c 199 § 1; RRS § 6163-1.]

## Chapter 69.30 RCW SANITARY CONTROL OF SHELLFISH

### Sections

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*Shellfish: Chapter 77.60 RCW.*

**69.30.005 Purpose.** The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the sanitary control of shellfish. Protection of the public health requires assurances that commercial shellfish are harvested only from approved growing areas and that processing of shellfish is conducted in a safe and sanitary manner. [1989 c 200 § 2.]

**69.30.010 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Approved shellfish tag or label" means a tag or label meeting the requirements of the national shellfish sanitation program model ordinance.

(2) "Commercial quantity" means any quantity exceeding: (a) Forty pounds of mussels; (b) one hundred oysters; (c) fourteen horse clams; (d) six geoducks; (e) fifty pounds of hard or soft shell clams; or (f) fifty pounds of scallops. The poundage in this subsection (2) constitutes weight with the shell.

(3) "Department" means the state department of health.

(4) "Establishment" means the buildings, together with the necessary equipment and appurtenances, used for the storage, culling, shucking, packing and/or shipping of shellfish in commercial quantity or for sale for human consumption.

(5) "Ex officio fish and wildlife officer" means an ex officio fish and wildlife officer as defined in RCW 77.08.010.

(6) "Fish and wildlife officer" means a fish and wildlife officer as defined in RCW 77.08.010.

(7) "Person" means any individual, partnership, firm, company, corporation, association, or the authorized agents of any such entities.

(8) "Sale" means to sell, offer for sale, barter, trade, deliver, consign, hold for sale, consignment, barter, trade, or delivery, and/or possess with intent to sell or dispose of in any commercial manner.

(9) "Secretary" means the secretary of health or his or her authorized representatives.

(10) "Shellfish" means all varieties of fresh and frozen oysters, mussels, clams, and scallops, either shucked or in the shell, and any fresh or frozen edible products thereof.

(11) "Shellfish growing areas" means the lands and waters in and upon which shellfish are grown for harvesting in commercial quantity or for sale for human consumption.

(12) "Shellstock" means live molluscan shellfish in the shell. [2011 c 194 § 1; 2001 c 253 § 5; 1995 c 147 § 1; 1991 c 3 § 303; 1989 c 200 § 1; 1985 c 51 § 1; 1979 c 141 § 70; 1955 c 144 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**69.30.020 Approved shellfish tag or label—Requirement to sell or offer to sell shellfish.** It is unlawful to sell or offer to sell shellfish in this state unless the shellfish bear an approved shellfish tag or label indicating compliance with the sanitary requirements of this state or a state, territory, province, or country of origin whose requirements are equal or comparable to those established pursuant to this chapter. The department, a fish and wildlife officer, or an ex officio fish and wildlife officer may immediately seize containers of shellfish that are not affixed with an approved shellfish tag or label. [2011 c 194 § 2; 1955 c 144 § 2.]

**69.30.030 Rules and regulations—Duties of state board of health.** (1) The state board of health shall adopt rules governing the sanitation of shellfish, shellfish growing areas, and shellfish plant facilities and operations in order to protect public health and carry out the provisions of this chapter. Such rules and regulations may include reasonable sanitary requirements relative to the quality of shellfish growing waters and areas, boat and barge sanitation, building construction, water supply, sewage and waste water disposal, lighting and ventilation, insect and rodent control, shell disposal, garbage and waste disposal, cleanliness of establishment, the handling, storage, construction and maintenance of equipment, the handling, storage and refrigeration of shellfish, the identification of containers, and the handling, maintenance, and storage of permits, certificates, and records regarding shellfish taken under this chapter. The state board of health shall adopt rules governing procedures for the disposition of seized shellfish.

(2) The state board of health shall consider the most recent version of the national shellfish sanitation program model ordinance, adopted by the interstate shellfish sanitation conference, when adopting rules. [2011 c 194 § 3; 1995 c 147 § 2; 1955 c 144 § 3.]

**69.30.050 Shellfish growing areas—Requirements to harvest—Certificates of approval.** (1) It is unlawful for a person to harvest shellfish from shellfish growing areas in a commercial quantity or for sale for human consumption unless the shellfish growing area:

(a) Has a valid certificate of approval; and

(b) Meets the requirements of this chapter and the rules adopted under this chapter.

(2) A person may not remove shellfish in a commercial quantity or for sale for human consumption from a shellfish growing area in the state of Washington unless:

(a) The person has received a certificate of approval for the shellfish growing area from the department; and

(b) Approved shellfish tags are affixed to each container of shellstock prior to removal from the shellfish growing area, except bulk tagging is permitted as allowed in the national shellfish sanitation program model ordinance.

(3) Before issuing a certificate of approval, the department shall inspect the shellfish growing area. The department shall issue a certificate of approval if the area meets the requirements of this chapter and the rules adopted under this chapter.

(4) A certificate of approval is valid for a period of twelve months. The department may revoke a certificate of approval at any time the area is found out of compliance with the requirements of this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter.

(5) It is unlawful to remove shellfish from shellfish growing areas without a certificate of approval in a commercial quantity for purposes other than human consumption, including but not limited to use as bait or seed, unless:

(a) The shellfish operation and shellfish growing area is readily available to monitoring and inspections; and

(b) The department has determined the shellfish operation is designed to ensure that shellfish harvested from such an area is not diverted for human consumption.

(6) Nothing in this section prohibits a person from removing shellfish for use as bait or seed from an approved shellfish growing area.

(7) The department's certificate of approval to harvest shellfish for purposes other than human consumption shall specify:

(a) The date or dates and time of harvest;

(b) All applicable conditions of harvest;

(c) Identification by tagging, dyeing, or other department-approved means; and

(d) Information about the removal method, transportation method, processing technique, sale details, and other factors to ensure that shellfish harvested from such areas are not diverted for human consumption. [2011 c 194 § 4; 1995 c 147 § 3; 1985 c 51 § 2; 1955 c 144 § 5.]

**69.30.060 Certificates of approval—Culling, shucking, packing establishments.** (1) It is unlawful for a person to cull, shuck, or pack shellfish in the state of Washington in a commercial quantity or for sale for human consumption unless the establishment in which such operations are conducted has been certified by the department as meeting the requirements of the state board of health.

(2) A person may not cull, shuck, or pack shellfish within the state of Washington in a commercial quantity or



for sale for human consumption, unless the person has received a certificate of approval from the department for the establishment in which such operations will be done.

(3) Before issuing a certificate of approval, the department shall inspect the establishment, and if the establishment meets the rules of the state board of health, the department shall issue a certificate of approval. Such certificates of approval shall be issued for a period not to exceed twelve months, and may be revoked at any time the establishment or the operations are found not to be in compliance with the rules of the state board of health. [2011 c 194 § 5; 1985 c 51 § 3; 1955 c 144 § 6.]

**69.30.070 Certificates of approval—Compliance with other laws and rules required.** Any certificate of approval issued under the provisions of this chapter shall not relieve any person from complying with the laws, rules and/or regulations of the department of fish and wildlife, relative to shellfish. [1994 c 264 § 40; 1955 c 144 § 7.]

**69.30.080 Licenses or certificates of approval—Department may deny, revoke, or suspend.** (1) The department may deny, revoke, or suspend a person's license or certificate of approval for:

(a) Violations of this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter; or

(b) Harassing or threatening an authorized representative of the department during the performance of his or her duties.

(2) RCW 43.70.115 governs notice of a license denial, revocation, suspension, or modification and provides the right to an adjudicative proceeding. [2011 c 194 § 6; 1991 c 3 § 304; 1989 c 175 § 125; 1979 c 141 § 71; 1955 c 144 § 8.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.30.085 License, certificate of approval—Denial, revocation, suspension—Prohibited acts—Penalties.** (1) A person, or its director or officer, whose license or certificate of approval is denied, revoked, or suspended as a result of violations of this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter may not:

(a) Supervise, be employed by, or manage a shellfish operation licensed or certified under this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter;

(b) Participate in the harvesting, shucking, packing, or shipping of shellfish in commercial quantities or for sale;

(c) Participate in the brokering of shellfish, purchase of shellfish for resale, or retail sale of shellfish; or

(d) Engage in any activity associated with selling or offering to sell shellfish.

(2) Subsections (1)(c) and (d) of this section do not apply to retail purchases of shellfish for personal use.

(3) Subsection (1) of this section applies to a person only during the period of time in which that person's license or certificate of approval is denied, revoked, or suspended.

(4) Unlawful operations under subsection (1) of this section when a license or certificate of approval is denied, revoked, or suspended is a class C felony. Upon conviction, the department shall order that the person's license or certificate of approval be revoked for a period of at least five years, or that a person whose application for a license or certificate

of approval was denied be ineligible to reapply for a period of at least five years.

(5) A license or certificate of approval issued under this chapter may not be assigned or transferred in any manner without department approval. [2011 c 194 § 7; 1998 c 44 § 1.]

**69.30.110 Possession or sale in violation of chapter—Enforcement—Seizure—Disposal.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to possess a commercial quantity of shellfish or to sell or offer to sell shellfish in the state which have not been grown, shucked, packed, or shipped in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. Failure of a shellfish grower to display a certificate of approval, or department-approved equivalent, issued under RCW 69.30.050 to an authorized representative of the department, a fish and wildlife officer, or an ex officio fish and wildlife officer subjects the grower to the penalty provisions of this chapter, as well as seizure and disposition, up to and including disposal, of the shellfish by the representative or officer.

(2) Failure of a shellfish processor to display a certificate of approval issued under RCW 69.30.060 to an authorized representative of the department, a fish and wildlife officer, or an ex officio fish and wildlife officer subjects the processor to the penalty provisions of this chapter, as well as seizure and disposition, up to and including disposal, of the shellfish by the representative or officer. [2011 c 194 § 8; 2001 c 253 § 6; 1995 c 147 § 4; 1985 c 51 § 4; 1979 c 141 § 74; 1955 c 144 § 11.]

**69.30.120 Inspection by department—Access to regulated business or entity—Administrative inspection warrant.** The department may enter and inspect any shellfish growing area or establishment for the purposes of determining compliance with this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter. The department may inspect all shellfish, all permits, all certificates of approval and all records.

During such inspections the department shall have free and unimpeded access to all buildings, yards, warehouses, storage and transportation facilities, vehicles, and other places reasonably considered to be or to have been part of the regulated business or entity, to all ledgers, books, accounts, memorandums, or records required to be compiled or maintained under this chapter or under rules adopted pursuant to this chapter, and to any products, components, or other materials reasonably believed to be or to have been used, processed, or produced by or in connection with the regulated business or activity. In connection with such inspections the department may take such samples or specimens as may be reasonably necessary to determine whether there exists a violation of this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter.

Inspection of establishments may be conducted between eight a.m. and five p.m. on any weekday that is not a legal holiday, during any time the regulated business or entity has established as its usual business hours, at any time the regulated business or entity is open for business or is otherwise in operation, and at any other time with the consent of the owner or authorized agent of the regulated business or entity.

The department may apply for an administrative inspection warrant to a court of competent jurisdiction and an administrative inspection warrant may issue where:

(1) The department has attempted an inspection under this chapter and access to all or part of the regulated business or entity has been actually or constructively denied; or

(2) There is reasonable cause to believe that a violation of this chapter or of rules adopted under this chapter is occurring or has occurred. [1995 c 147 § 5; 1985 c 51 § 5; 1955 c 144 § 12.]

#### 69.30.130 Water pollution laws and rules applicable.

All existing laws and rules and regulations governing the pollution of waters of the state shall apply in the control of pollution of shellfish growing areas. [1955 c 144 § 13.]

**69.30.140 Penalties.** Except as provided in RCW 69.30.085(4), any person convicted of violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. A conviction is an unvacated forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure the defendant's appearance in court, the payment of a fine, a plea of guilty, or a finding of guilt on a violation of this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter, regardless of whether imposition of sentence is deferred or the penalty is suspended, and shall be treated as a conviction for purposes of license revocation and suspension of privileges under \*RCW 77.15.700(5). [2011 c 194 § 9; 2001 c 253 § 7; 1995 c 147 § 6; 1985 c 51 § 6; 1955 c 144 § 14.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 77.15.700 was amended by 2003 c 386 § 2, deleting subsection (5).

**69.30.145 Civil penalties.** As limited by RCW 69.30.150, the department may impose civil penalties for violations of standards set forth in this chapter or rules adopted under RCW 69.30.030. [1989 c 200 § 3.]

**69.30.150 Civil penalties—General provisions.** (1) In addition to any other penalty provided by law, every person who violates standards set forth in this chapter or rules adopted under RCW 69.30.030 is subject to a penalty of not more than five hundred dollars per day for every violation. Every violation is a separate and distinct offense. In case of a continuing violation, every day's continuance is a separate and distinct violation. Every person who, through an act of commission or omission, procures, aids, or abets in the violation is in violation of this section and is subject to the penalty provided in this section.

(2) The penalty provided for in this section shall be imposed by a notice in writing to the person against whom the civil fine is assessed and shall describe the violation with reasonable particularity. The notice shall be personally served in the manner of service of a summons in a civil action or in a manner which shows proof of receipt. Any penalty imposed by this section shall become due and payable twenty-eight days after receipt of notice unless application for remission or mitigation is made as provided in subsection (3) of this section or unless application for an adjudicative proceeding is filed as provided in subsection (4) of this section.

(3) Within fourteen days after the notice is received, the person incurring the penalty may apply in writing to the department for the remission or mitigation of the penalty. Upon receipt of the application, the department may remit or

mitigate the penalty upon whatever terms the department deems proper, giving consideration to the degree of hazard associated with the violation. The department may only grant a remission or mitigation that it deems to be in the best interests of carrying out the purposes of this chapter. The department may ascertain the facts regarding all such applications in a manner it deems proper. When an application for remission or mitigation is made, any penalty incurred pursuant to this section becomes due and payable twenty-eight days after receipt of the notice setting forth the disposition of the application, unless an application for an adjudicative proceeding to contest the disposition is filed as provided in subsection (4) of this section.

(4) Within twenty-eight days after notice is received, the person incurring the penalty may file an application for an adjudicative proceeding and may pursue subsequent review as provided in chapter 34.05 RCW and applicable rules of the department or board of health.

(5) Any penalty imposed by final order following an adjudicative proceeding becomes due and payable upon service of the final order.

(6) The attorney general may bring an action in the name of the department in the superior court of Thurston county or of any county in which the violator may do business to collect any penalty imposed under this chapter.

(7) All penalties imposed under this section shall be paid to the state treasury and credited to the general fund. [1989 c 200 § 4.]

**69.30.900 Severability—1955 c 144.** If any provision of this chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the provisions of the application of this chapter which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of the chapter are declared to be severable. [1955 c 144 § 15.]

## Chapter 69.36 RCW

### WASHINGTON CAUSTIC POISON ACT OF 1929

#### Sections

69.36.010	Definitions.
69.36.020	Misbranded sales, etc., prohibited—Exceptions.
69.36.030	Condemnation of misbranded packages.
69.36.040	Enforcement—Approval of labels.
69.36.050	Duty to prosecute.
69.36.060	Penalty.
69.36.070	Short title.

*Highway transportation of poisons, corrosives, etc.: RCW 46.48.170, 46.48.175.*

**69.36.010 Definitions.** In this chapter, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

(1) The term "dangerous caustic or corrosive substance" means each and all of the acids, alkalis, and substances named below: (a) Hydrochloric acid and any preparation containing free or chemically unneutralized hydrochloric acid (HCl) in a concentration of ten percent or more; (b) sulphuric acid and any preparation containing free or chemically unneutralized sulphuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) in concentration of ten percent or more; (c) nitric acid or any preparation containing free or chemically unneutralized nitric acid (HNO<sub>3</sub>) in a con-

centration of five percent or more; (d) carbolic acid ( $C_6H_5OH$ ), otherwise known as phenol, and any preparation containing carbolic acid in a concentration of five percent or more; (e) oxalic acid and any preparation containing free or chemically unneutralized oxalic acid ( $H_2C_2O_4$ ) in a concentration of ten percent or more; (f) any salt of oxalic acid and any preparation containing any such salt in a concentration of ten percent or more; (g) acetic acid or any preparation containing free or chemically unneutralized acetic acid ( $HC_2H_3O_2$ ) in a concentration of twenty percent or more; (h) hypochlorous acid, either free or combined, and any preparation containing the same in a concentration so as to yield ten percent or more by weight of available chlorine, excluding calx chlorinata, bleaching powder, and chloride of lime; (i) potassium hydroxide and any preparation containing free or chemically unneutralized potassium hydroxide (KOH), including caustic potash and Vienna paste, in a concentration of ten percent or more; (j) sodium hydroxide and any preparation containing free or chemically unneutralized sodium hydroxide (NaOH), including caustic soda and lye, in a concentration of ten percent or more; (k) silver nitrate, sometimes known as lunar caustic, and any preparation containing silver nitrate ( $AgNO_3$ ) in a concentration of five percent or more; and (l) ammonia water and any preparation yielding free or chemically uncombined ammonia ( $NH_3$ ), including ammonium hydroxide and "hartshorn", in a concentration of five percent or more.

(2) The term "misbranded parcel, package, or container" means a retail parcel, package, or container of any dangerous caustic or corrosive substance for household use, not bearing a conspicuous, easily legible label or sticker, containing (a) the name of the article; (b) the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, seller, or distributor; (c) the word "POISON," running parallel with the main body of reading matter on said label or sticker, on a clear, plain background of a distinctly contrasting color, in uncondensed gothic capital letters, the letters to be not less than twenty-four point size, unless there is on said label or sticker no other type so large, in which event the type shall be not smaller than the largest type on the label or sticker; and (d) directions for treatment in case of accidental personal injury by the dangerous caustic or corrosive substance; PROVIDED, That such directions need not appear on labels or stickers on parcels, packages, or containers at the time of shipment or of delivery for shipment by manufacturers or wholesalers for other than household use. PROVIDED FURTHER, That this chapter is not to be construed as applying to any substance subject to the chapter, sold at wholesale or retail for use by a retail druggist in filling prescriptions or in dispensing, in pursuance of a prescription by a physician, dentist, or veterinarian; or for use by or under the direction of a physician, dentist, or veterinarian; or for use by a chemist in the practice or teaching of his or her profession; or for any industrial or professional use, or for use in any of the arts and sciences. [2012 c 117 § 362; 1929 c 82 § 1; RRS § 2508-1. Formerly RCW 69.36.010 and 69.36.020, part.]

**69.36.020 Misbranded sales, etc., prohibited—Exceptions.** No person shall sell, barter, or exchange, or receive, hold, pack, display, or offer for sale, barter, or

exchange, in this state any dangerous caustic or corrosive substance in a misbranded parcel, package, or container, said parcel, package, or container being designed for household use; PROVIDED, That household products for cleaning and washing purposes, subject to this chapter and labeled in accordance therewith, may be sold, offered for sale, held for sale, and distributed in this state by any dealer, wholesale or retail; PROVIDED FURTHER, That no person shall be liable to prosecution and conviction under this chapter when he or she establishes a guaranty bearing the signature and address of a vendor residing in the United States from whom he or she purchased the dangerous caustic or corrosive substance, to the effect that such substance is not misbranded within the meaning of this chapter. No person in this state shall give any such guaranty when such dangerous caustic or corrosive substance is in fact misbranded within the meaning of this chapter. [2012 c 117 § 363; 1929 c 82 § 2; RRS § 2508-2. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1929 c 82 § 1 now codified in RCW 69.32.010.]

**69.36.030 Condemnation of misbranded packages.**

Any dangerous caustic or corrosive substance in a misbranded parcel, package, or container suitable for household use, that is being sold, bartered, or exchanged, or held, displayed, or offered for sale, barter, or exchange, shall be liable to be proceeded against in any superior court within the jurisdiction of which the same is found and seized for confiscation, and if such substance is condemned as misbranded, by said court, it shall be disposed of by destruction or sale, as the court may direct; and if sold, the proceeds, less the actual costs and charges, shall be paid over to the state treasurer; but such substance shall not be sold contrary to the laws of the state: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That upon the payment of the costs of such proceedings and the execution and delivery of a good and sufficient bond to the effect that such substance will not be unlawfully sold or otherwise disposed of, the court may by order direct that such substance be delivered to the owner thereof. Such condemnation proceedings shall conform as near as may be to proceedings in the seizure, and condemnation of substances unfit for human consumption. [1929 c 82 § 3; RRS § 2508-3.]

**69.36.040 Enforcement—Approval of labels.** The director of agriculture shall enforce the provisions of this chapter, and he or she is hereby authorized and empowered to approve and register such brands and labels intended for use under the provisions of this chapter as may be submitted to him or her for that purpose and as may in his or her judgment conform to the requirements of this statute: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That in any prosecution under this chapter the fact that any brand or label involved in said prosecution has not been submitted to said director for approval, or if submitted, has not been approved by him or her, shall be immaterial. [2012 c 117 § 364; 1929 c 82 § 5; RRS § 2508-5.]

**69.36.050 Duty to prosecute.** Every prosecuting attorney to whom there is presented, or who in any way procures, satisfactory evidence of any violation of the provisions of this chapter shall cause appropriate proceedings to be commenced and prosecuted in the proper courts, without delay,

for the enforcement of the penalties as in such cases herein provided. [1929 c 82 § 6; RRS § 2508-6.]

**69.36.060 Penalty.** Any person violating the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1929 c 82 § 4; RRS § 2508-4.]

**69.36.070 Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the Washington Caustic Poison Act of 1929. [1929 c 82 § 7; RRS § 2508-7.]

### Chapter 69.38 RCW

#### POISONS—SALES AND MANUFACTURING

##### Sections

69.38.010	"Poison" defined.
69.38.020	Exemptions from chapter.
69.38.030	Poison register—Identification of purchaser.
69.38.040	Inspection of poison register—Penalty for failure to maintain register.
69.38.050	False representation—Penalty.
69.38.060	Manufacturers and sellers of poisons—License required—Penalty.

**69.38.010 "Poison" defined.** As used in this chapter "poison" means:

- (1) Arsenic and its preparations;
- (2) Cyanide and its preparations, including hydrocyanic acid;
- (3) Strychnine; and
- (4) Any other substance designated by the state board of pharmacy which, when introduced into the human body in quantities of sixty grains or less, causes violent sickness or death. [1987 c 34 § 1.]

**69.38.020 Exemptions from chapter.** All substances regulated under chapters 15.58, 17.21, 69.04, 69.41, and 69.50 RCW, and chapter 69.45 RCW are exempt from the provisions of this chapter. [1987 c 34 § 2.]

**69.38.030 Poison register—Identification of purchaser.** It is unlawful for any person, either on the person's own behalf or while an employee of another, to sell any poison without first recording in ink in a "poison register" kept solely for this purpose the following information:

- (1) The date and hour of the sale;
- (2) The full name and home address of the purchaser;
- (3) The kind and quantity of poison sold; and
- (4) The purpose for which the poison is being purchased.

The purchaser shall present to the seller identification which contains the purchaser's photograph and signature. No sale may be made unless the seller is satisfied that the purchaser's representations are true and that the poison will be used for a lawful purpose. Both the purchaser and the seller shall sign the poison register entry.

If a delivery of a poison will be made outside the confines of the seller's premises, the seller may require the business purchasing the poison to submit a letter of authorization as a substitute for the purchaser's photograph and signature requirements. The letter of authorization shall include the unified business identifier and address of the business, a full description of how the substance will be used, and the signature of the purchaser. Either the seller or the employee of the

seller delivering or transferring the poison shall affix his or her signature to the letter as a witness to the signature and identification of the purchaser. The transaction shall be recorded in the poison register as provided in this section. Letters of authorization shall be kept with the poison register and shall be subject to the inspection and preservation requirements contained in RCW 69.38.040. [1988 c 197 § 1; 1987 c 34 § 3.]

**69.38.040 Inspection of poison register—Penalty for failure to maintain register.** Every poison register shall be open for inspection by law enforcement and health officials at all times and shall be preserved for at least two years after the date of the last entry. Any person failing to maintain the poison register as required in this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor. [1987 c 34 § 4.]

**69.38.050 False representation—Penalty.** Any person making any false representation to a seller when purchasing a poison is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1987 c 34 § 5.]

**69.38.060 Manufacturers and sellers of poisons—License required—Penalty.** The state board of pharmacy, after consulting with the department of health, shall require and provide for the annual licensure of every person now or hereafter engaged in manufacturing or selling poisons within this state. Upon a payment of a fee as set by the department, the department shall issue a license in such form as it may prescribe to such manufacturer or seller. Such license shall be displayed in a conspicuous place in such manufacturer's or seller's place of business for which it is issued.

Any person manufacturing or selling poison within this state without a license is guilty of a misdemeanor. [1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 440; 1987 c 34 § 6.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

### Chapter 69.40 RCW

#### POISONS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

##### Sections

69.40.010	Poison in edible products.
69.40.015	Poison in edible products—Penalty.
69.40.020	Poison in milk or food products—Penalty.
69.40.025	Supplementary to existing laws—Enforcement.
69.40.030	Placing poison or other harmful object or substance in food, drinks, medicine, or water—Penalty.
69.40.055	Selling repackaged poison without labeling—Penalty.

*Pharmacists: Chapter 18.64 RCW.*

*Poison information centers: Chapter 18.76 RCW.*

*Poisoning animals—Strychnine sales: RCW 16.52.190 and 16.52.193.*

*Washington pesticide application act: Chapter 17.21 RCW.*

**69.40.010 Poison in edible products.** It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, offer for sale, use, distribute, or leave in any place, any crackers, biscuit, bread or any other preparation resembling or in similitude, of any edible product, containing arsenic, strychnine or any other poison. [1905 c 141 § 1; RRS § 6140. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1905 c 141 § 2 now codified as RCW 69.40.015.]

**69.40.015 Poison in edible products—Penalty.** Any person violating the provisions of RCW 69.40.010 shall upon

conviction be punished by a fine of not less than ten dollars nor more than five hundred dollars. [1905 c 141 § 2; RRS § 6141. Formerly RCW 69.40.010, part.]

#### 69.40.020 Poison in milk or food products—Penalty.

Any person who shall sell, offer to sell, or have in his or her possession for the purpose of sale, either as owner, proprietor, or assistant, or in any manner whatsoever, whether for hire or otherwise, any milk or any food products, containing the chemical ingredient commonly known as formaldehyde, or in which any formaldehyde or other poisonous substance has been mixed, for the purpose of preservation or otherwise, is guilty of a class C felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary for the period of not less than one year nor more than three years. [2003 c 53 § 320; 1905 c 50 § 1; RRS § 6142. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1905 c 50 § 2, now codified as RCW 69.40.025.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

#### 69.40.025 Supplementary to existing laws—Enforcement.

\*This act shall be supplementary to the laws of this state now in force prohibiting the adulteration of food and fraud in the sale thereof; and the state dairy and food commissioner, the chemist of the state agricultural experiment station, the state attorney general and the prosecuting attorneys of the several counties of this state are hereby required, without additional compensation, to assist in the execution of \*this act, and in the prosecution of all persons charged with the violation thereof, in like manner and with like powers as they are now authorized and required by law to enforce the laws of this state against the adulteration of food and fraud in the sale thereof. [1905 c 50 § 2; RRS § 6143. Formerly RCW 69.40.020, part.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) "This act" appears in 1905 c 50 and the sections of the act are codified as RCW 69.40.020 and 69.40.025.

(2) The duties of the state dairy and food commissioner have devolved upon the director of agriculture through a chain of statute as follows: 1913 c 60 § 6(2); 1921 c 7 § 93(1). See RCW 43.23.090(1).

#### 69.40.030 Placing poison or other harmful object or substance in food, drinks, medicine, or water—Penalty.

(1) Every person who willfully mingles poison or places any harmful object or substance, including but not limited to pins, tacks, needles, nails, razor blades, wire, or glass in any food, drink, medicine, or other edible substance intended or prepared for the use of a human being or who shall knowingly furnish, with intent to harm another person, any food, drink, medicine, or other edible substance containing such poison or harmful object or substance to another human being, and every person who willfully poisons any spring, well, or reservoir of water, is guilty of a class B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not less than five years or by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars.

(2) \*This act shall not apply to the employer or employers of a person who violates this section without such employer's knowledge. [2003 c 53 § 321; 1992 c 7 § 48; 1973 c 119 § 1; 1909 c 249 § 264; RRS § 2516. Prior: Code 1881 § 802; 1873 p 185 § 27; 1869 p 202 § 25; 1854 p 79 § 25.]

**\*Reviser's note:** "this act" refers to the 1973 c 119 § 1 amendment to this section.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

#### 69.40.055 Selling repackaged poison without labeling—Penalty.

It shall be unlawful for any person to sell at retail or furnish any repackaged poison drug or product without affixing or causing to be affixed to the bottle, box, vessel, or package a label containing the name of the article, all labeling required by the Food and Drug Administration and other federal or state laws or regulations, and the word "poison" distinctly shown with the name and place of the business of the seller.

This section shall not apply to the dispensing of drugs or poisons on the prescription of a practitioner.

The board of pharmacy shall have the authority to promulgate rules for the enforcement and implementation of this section.

Every person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1981 c 147 § 4.]

### Chapter 69.41 RCW

#### LEGEND DRUGS—PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

##### Sections

- 69.41.010 Definitions.
- 69.41.020 Prohibited acts—Information not privileged communication.
- 69.41.030 Sale, delivery, or possession of legend drug without prescription or order prohibited—Exceptions—Penalty.
- 69.41.032 Prescription of legend drugs by dialysis programs.
- 69.41.040 Prescription requirements—Penalty.
- 69.41.042 Record requirements.
- 69.41.044 Confidentiality.
- 69.41.050 Labeling requirements—Penalty.
- 69.41.055 Electronic communication of prescription information—Board may adopt rules.
- 69.41.060 Search and seizure.
- 69.41.062 Search and seizure at rental premises—Notification of landlord.
- 69.41.065 Violations—Juvenile driving privileges.
- 69.41.072 Violations of chapter 69.50 RCW not to be charged under chapter 69.41 RCW—Exception.
- 69.41.075 Rules—Availability of lists of drugs.
- 69.41.080 Animal control—Rules for possession and use of legend drugs.
- 69.41.085 Medication assistance—Community-based care setting.

##### SUBSTITUTION OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

- 69.41.100 Legislative recognition and declaration.
- 69.41.110 Definitions.
- 69.41.120 Prescriptions to contain instruction as to whether or not a therapeutically equivalent generic drug may be substituted—Out-of-state prescriptions—Form—Contents—Procedure.
- 69.41.130 Savings in price to be passed on to purchaser.
- 69.41.140 Minimum manufacturing standards and practices.
- 69.41.150 Liability of practitioner, pharmacist.
- 69.41.160 Pharmacy signs as to substitution for prescribed drugs.
- 69.41.170 Coercion of pharmacist prohibited—Penalty.
- 69.41.180 Rules.
- 69.41.190 Preferred drug substitution—Exceptions—Notice—Limited restrictions.

##### IDENTIFICATION OF LEGEND DRUGS—MARKING

- 69.41.200 Requirements for identification of legend drugs—Marking.
- 69.41.210 Definitions.
- 69.41.220 Published lists of drug imprints—Requirements for.
- 69.41.230 Drugs in violation are contraband.
- 69.41.240 Rules—Labeling and marking.
- 69.41.250 Exemptions.
- 69.41.260 Manufacture or distribution for resale—Requirements.
- 69.41.280 Confidentiality.

## USE OF STEROIDS

69.41.300	Definitions.
69.41.310	Rules.
69.41.320	Practitioners—Restricted use—Medical records.
69.41.330	Public warnings—School districts.
69.41.340	Student athletes—Violations—Penalty.
69.41.350	Penalties.
69.41.900	Severability—1979 c 110.

*Drug nuisances—Injunctions: Chapter 7.43 RCW.*

**69.41.010 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, the following terms have the meanings indicated unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(1) "Administer" means the direct application of a legend drug whether by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or any other means, to the body of a patient or research subject by:

(a) A practitioner; or

(b) The patient or research subject at the direction of the practitioner.

(2) "Community-based care settings" include: Community residential programs for the developmentally disabled, certified by the department of social and health services under chapter 71A.12 RCW; adult family homes licensed under chapter 70.128 RCW; and assisted living facilities licensed under chapter 18.20 RCW. Community-based care settings do not include acute care or skilled nursing facilities.

(3) "Deliver" or "delivery" means the actual, constructive, or attempted transfer from one person to another of a legend drug, whether or not there is an agency relationship.

(4) "Department" means the department of health.

(5) "Dispense" means the interpretation of a prescription or order for a legend drug and, pursuant to that prescription or order, the proper selection, measuring, compounding, labeling, or packaging necessary to prepare that prescription or order for delivery.

(6) "Dispenser" means a practitioner who dispenses.

(7) "Distribute" means to deliver other than by administering or dispensing a legend drug.

(8) "Distributor" means a person who distributes.

(9) "Drug" means:

(a) Substances recognized as drugs in the official United States pharmacopoeia, official homeopathic pharmacopoeia of the United States, or official national formulary, or any supplement to any of them;

(b) Substances intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in human beings or animals;

(c) Substances (other than food, minerals or vitamins) intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of human beings or animals; and

(d) Substances intended for use as a component of any article specified in (a), (b), or (c) of this subsection. It does not include devices or their components, parts, or accessories.

(10) "Electronic communication of prescription information" means the communication of prescription information by computer, or the transmission of an exact visual image of a prescription by facsimile, or other electronic means for original prescription information or prescription refill information for a legend drug between an authorized practitioner and a pharmacy or the transfer of prescription information for a legend drug from one pharmacy to another pharmacy.

(11) "In-home care settings" include an individual's place of temporary and permanent residence, but does not include acute care or skilled nursing facilities, and does not include community-based care settings.

(12) "Legend drugs" means any drugs which are required by state law or regulation of the state board of pharmacy to be dispensed on prescription only or are restricted to use by practitioners only.

(13) "Legible prescription" means a prescription or medication order issued by a practitioner that is capable of being read and understood by the pharmacist filling the prescription or the nurse or other practitioner implementing the medication order. A prescription must be hand printed, typewritten, or electronically generated.

(14) "Medication assistance" means assistance rendered by a nonpractitioner to an individual residing in a community-based care setting or in-home care setting to facilitate the individual's self-administration of a legend drug or controlled substance. It includes reminding or coaching the individual, handing the medication container to the individual, opening the individual's medication container, using an enabler, or placing the medication in the individual's hand, and such other means of medication assistance as defined by rule adopted by the department. A nonpractitioner may help in the preparation of legend drugs or controlled substances for self-administration where a practitioner has determined and communicated orally or by written direction that such medication preparation assistance is necessary and appropriate. Medication assistance shall not include assistance with intravenous medications or injectable medications, except prefilled insulin syringes.

(15) "Person" means individual, corporation, government or governmental subdivision or agency, business trust, estate, trust, partnership or association, or any other legal entity.

(16) "Practitioner" means:

(a) A physician under chapter 18.71 RCW, an osteopathic physician or an osteopathic physician and surgeon under chapter 18.57 RCW, a dentist under chapter 18.32 RCW, a podiatric physician and surgeon under chapter 18.22 RCW, a veterinarian under chapter 18.92 RCW, a registered nurse, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or licensed practical nurse under chapter 18.79 RCW, an optometrist under chapter 18.53 RCW who is certified by the optometry board under RCW 18.53.010, an osteopathic physician assistant under chapter 18.57A RCW, a physician assistant under chapter 18.71A RCW, a naturopath licensed under chapter 18.36A RCW, a pharmacist under chapter 18.64 RCW, or, when acting under the required supervision of a dentist licensed under chapter 18.32 RCW, a dental hygienist licensed under chapter 18.29 RCW;

(b) A pharmacy, hospital, or other institution licensed, registered, or otherwise permitted to distribute, dispense, conduct research with respect to, or to administer a legend drug in the course of professional practice or research in this state; and

(c) A physician licensed to practice medicine and surgery or a physician licensed to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery in any state, or province of Canada, which shares a common border with the state of Washington.

(17) "Secretary" means the secretary of health or the secretary's designee. [2012 c 10 § 44; 2009 c 549 § 1024; 2006 c 8 § 115. Prior: 2003 c 257 § 2; 2003 c 140 § 11; 2000 c 8 § 2; prior: 1998 c 222 § 1; 1998 c 70 § 2; 1996 c 178 § 16; 1994 sp.s. c 9 § 736; prior: 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 426; 1989 c 36 § 3; 1984 c 153 § 17; 1980 c 71 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 139 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 186 § 1.]

**Application—2012 c 10:** See note following RCW 18.20.010.

**Findings—2006 c 8:** "The legislature finds that prescription drug errors occur because the pharmacist or nurse cannot read the prescription from the physician or other provider with prescriptive authority. The legislature further finds that legible prescriptions can prevent these errors." [2006 c 8 § 114.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings and subheadings not law—Severability—2006 c 8:** See notes following RCW 5.64.010.

**Effective date—2003 c 140:** See note following RCW 18.79.040.

**Findings—Intent—2000 c 8:** "The legislature finds that we have one of the finest health care systems in the world and excellent professionals to deliver that care. However, there are incidents of medication errors that are avoidable and serious mistakes that are preventable. Medical errors throughout the health care system constitute one of the nation's leading causes of death and injury resulting in over seven thousand deaths a year, according to a recent report from the institute of medicine. The majority of medical errors do not result from individual recklessness, but from basic flaws in the way the health system is organized. There is a need for a comprehensive strategy for government, industry, consumers, and health providers to reduce medical errors. The legislature declares a need to bring about greater safety for patients in this state who depend on prescription drugs.

It is the intent of the legislature to promote medical safety as a top priority for all citizens of our state." [2000 c 8 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.41.020 Prohibited acts—Information not privileged communication.** Legend drugs shall not be sold, delivered, dispensed or administered except in accordance with this chapter.

(1) No person shall obtain or attempt to obtain a legend drug, or procure or attempt to procure the administration of a legend drug:

- (a) By fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge; or
- (b) By the forgery or alteration of a prescription or of any written order; or
- (c) By the concealment of a material fact; or
- (d) By the use of a false name or the giving of a false address.

(2) Information communicated to a practitioner in an effort unlawfully to procure a legend drug, or unlawfully to procure the administration of any such drug, shall not be deemed a privileged communication.

(3) No person shall willfully make a false statement in any prescription, order, report, or record, required by this chapter.

(4) No person shall, for the purpose of obtaining a legend drug, falsely assume the title of, or represent himself or herself to be, a manufacturer, wholesaler, or any practitioner.

(5) No person shall make or utter any false or forged prescription or other written order for legend drugs.

(6) No person shall affix any false or forged label to a package or receptacle containing legend drugs.

(7) No person shall willfully fail to maintain the records required by RCW 69.41.042 and \*69.41.270.

(8) A violation of this section is a class B felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 322.

Prior: 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 408; 1989 c 352 § 8; 1973 1st ex.s. c 186 § 2.]

\***Reviser's note:** RCW 69.41.270 was repealed by 2003 c 275 § 5.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.41.030 Sale, delivery, or possession of legend drug without prescription or order prohibited—Exceptions—Penalty.** (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to sell,

deliver, or possess any legend drug except upon the order or prescription of a physician under chapter 18.71 RCW, an osteopathic physician and surgeon under chapter 18.57 RCW, an optometrist licensed under chapter 18.53 RCW who is certified by the optometry board under RCW 18.53.010, a dentist under chapter 18.32 RCW, a podiatric physician and surgeon under chapter 18.22 RCW, a veterinarian under chapter 18.92 RCW, a commissioned medical or dental officer in the United States armed forces or public health service in the discharge of his or her official duties, a duly licensed physician or dentist employed by the veterans administration in the discharge of his or her official duties, a registered nurse or advanced registered nurse practitioner under chapter 18.79 RCW when authorized by the nursing care quality assurance commission, an osteopathic physician assistant under chapter 18.57A RCW when authorized by the board of osteopathic medicine and surgery, a physician assistant under chapter 18.71A RCW when authorized by the medical quality assurance commission, or any of the following professionals in any province of Canada that shares a common border with the state of Washington or in any state of the United States: A physician licensed to practice medicine and surgery or a physician licensed to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery, a dentist licensed to practice dentistry, a podiatric physician and surgeon licensed to practice podiatric medicine and surgery, a licensed advanced registered nurse practitioner, or a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the above provisions shall not apply to sale, delivery, or possession by drug wholesalers or drug manufacturers, or their agents or employees, or to any practitioner acting within the scope of his or her license, or to a common or contract carrier or warehouse operator, or any employee thereof, whose possession of any legend drug is in the usual course of business or employment: PROVIDED FURTHER, That nothing in this chapter or chapter 18.64 RCW shall prevent a family planning clinic that is under contract with the health care authority from selling, delivering, possessing, and dispensing commercially prepackaged oral contraceptives prescribed by authorized, licensed health care practitioners.

(2)(a) A violation of this section involving the sale, delivery, or possession with intent to sell or deliver is a class B felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(b) A violation of this section involving possession is a misdemeanor. [2011 1st sp.s. c 15 § 79; 2011 c 336 § 837; 2010 c 83 § 1. Prior: 2003 c 142 § 3; 2003 c 53 § 323; 1996 c 178 § 17; 1994 sp.s. c 9 § 737; 1991 c 30 § 1; 1990 c 219 § 2; 1987 c 144 § 1; 1981 c 120 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 139 § 2; 1977 c 69 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 186 § 3.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2011 c 336 § 837 and by 2011 1st sp.s. c 15 § 79, each without reference to the other. Both amend-

ments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—Findings—Intent—Report—Agency transfer—References to head of health care authority—Draft legislation—2011 1st sp.s. c 15:** See notes following RCW 74.09.010.

**Severability—2003 c 142:** See note following RCW 18.53.010.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Finding—1990 c 219:** "The legislature finds that Washington citizens in the border areas of this state are prohibited from having prescriptions from out-of-state dentists and veterinarians filled at their in-state pharmacies, and that it is in the public interest to remove this barrier for the state's citizens." [1990 c 219 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.41.032 Prescription of legend drugs by dialysis programs.** This chapter shall not prevent a medicare-approved dialysis center or facility operating a medicare-approved home dialysis program from selling, delivering, possessing, or dispensing directly to its dialysis patients, in case or full shelf lots, if prescribed by a physician licensed under chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW, those legend drugs determined by the board pursuant to rule. [1987 c 41 § 2.]

*Application of pharmacy statutes to dialysis programs: RCW 18.64.257.*

**69.41.040 Prescription requirements—Penalty.** (1) A prescription, in order to be effective in legalizing the possession of legend drugs, must be issued for a legitimate medical purpose by one authorized to prescribe the use of such legend drugs. An order purporting to be a prescription issued to a drug abuser or habitual user of legend drugs, not in the course of professional treatment, is not a prescription within the meaning and intent of this section; and the person who knows or should know that he or she is filling such an order, as well as the person issuing it, may be charged with violation of this chapter. A legitimate medical purpose shall include use in the course of a bona fide research program in conjunction with a hospital or university.

(2) A violation of this section is a class B felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 324; 1973 1st ex.s. c 186 § 4.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.41.042 Record requirements.** A pharmaceutical manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacy, or practitioner who purchases, dispenses, or distributes legend drugs shall maintain invoices or such other records as are necessary to account for the receipt and disposition of the legend drugs.

The records maintained pursuant to this section shall be available for inspection by the board and its authorized representatives and shall be maintained for two years. [1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 405.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.41.044 Confidentiality.** All records, reports, and information obtained by the board or its authorized representatives from or on behalf of a pharmaceutical manufacturer, representative of a manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacy, or practitioner who purchases, dispenses, or distributes legend drugs under this chapter are confidential and exempt from public inspection and copying under chapter 42.56 RCW.

Nothing in this section restricts the investigations or the proceedings of the board so long as the board and its authorized representatives comply with the provisions of chapter 42.56 RCW. [2005 c 274 § 328; 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 406.]

**Part headings not law—Effective date—2005 c 274:** See RCW 42.56.901 and 42.56.902.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.41.050 Labeling requirements—Penalty.** (1) To every box, bottle, jar, tube or other container of a legend drug, which is dispensed by a practitioner authorized to prescribe legend drugs, there shall be affixed a label bearing the name of the prescriber, complete directions for use, the name of the drug either by the brand or generic name and strength per unit dose, name of patient and date: PROVIDED, That the practitioner may omit the name and dosage of the drug if he or she determines that his or her patient should not have this information and that, if the drug dispensed is a trial sample in its original package and which is labeled in accordance with federal law or regulation, there need be set forth additionally only the name of the issuing practitioner and the name of the patient.

(2) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 325; 1980 c 83 § 8; 1973 1st ex.s. c 186 § 5.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.41.055 Electronic communication of prescription information—Board may adopt rules.** (1) Information concerning an original prescription or information concerning a prescription refill for a legend drug may be electronically communicated between an authorized practitioner and a pharmacy of the patient's choice with no intervening person having access to the prescription drug order pursuant to the provisions of this chapter if the electronically communicated prescription information complies with the following:

(a) Electronically communicated prescription information must comply with all applicable statutes and rules regarding the form, content, recordkeeping, and processing of a prescription for a legend drug;

(b) The system used for transmitting electronically communicated prescription information and the system used for receiving electronically communicated prescription information must be approved by the board. This subsection does not apply to currently used facsimile equipment transmitting an exact visual image of the prescription. The board shall maintain and provide, upon request, a list of systems used for electronically communicating prescription information currently approved by the board;

(c) An explicit opportunity for practitioners must be made to indicate their preference on whether a therapeutically equivalent generic drug may be substituted;

(d) Prescription drug orders are confidential health information, and may be released only to the patient or the patient's authorized representative, the prescriber or other authorized practitioner then caring for the patient, or other persons specifically authorized by law to receive such information;

(e) To maintain confidentiality of prescription records, the electronic system shall have adequate security and systems safeguards designed to prevent and detect unauthorized



access, modification, or manipulation of these records. The pharmacist in charge shall establish or verify the existence of policies and procedures which ensure the integrity and confidentiality of prescription information transmitted to the pharmacy by electronic means. All managers, employees, and agents of the pharmacy are required to read, sign, and comply with the established policies and procedures; and

(f) The pharmacist shall exercise professional judgment regarding the accuracy, validity, and authenticity of the prescription drug order received by way of electronic transmission, consistent with federal and state laws and rules and guidelines of the board.

(2) The board may adopt rules implementing this section. [1998 c 222 § 2.]

**69.41.060 Search and seizure.** If, upon the sworn complaint of any person, it shall be made to appear to any judge of the superior or district court that there is probable cause to believe that any legend drug is being used, manufactured, sold, bartered, exchanged, given away, furnished or otherwise disposed of or kept in violation of the provisions of this chapter, such judge shall, with or without the approval of the prosecuting attorney, issue a warrant directed to any peace officer in the county, commanding the peace officer to search the premises designated and described in such complaint and warrant, and to seize all legend drugs there found, together with the vessels in which they are contained, and all implements, furniture and fixtures used or kept for the illegal manufacture, sale, barter, exchange, giving away, furnishing or otherwise disposing of such legend drugs and to safely keep the same, and to make a return of said warrant within three days, showing all acts and things done thereunder, with a particular statement of all articles seized and the name of the person or persons in whose possession the same were found, if any, and if no person be found in the possession of said articles, the returns shall so state. A copy of said warrant shall be served upon the person or persons found in possession of any such legend drugs, furniture or fixtures so seized, and if no person be found in the possession thereof, a copy of said warrant shall be posted on the door of the building or room wherein the same are found, or, if there be no door, then in any conspicuous place upon the premises. [1987 c 202 § 227; 1973 1st ex.s. c 186 § 6.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**69.41.062 Search and seizure at rental premises—Notification of landlord.** Whenever a legend drug which is sold, delivered, or possessed in violation of this chapter is seized at rental premises, the law enforcement agency shall make a reasonable attempt to discover the identity of the landlord and shall notify the landlord in writing, at the last address listed in the property tax records and at any other address known by the law enforcement agency, of the seizure and the location of the seizure. [1988 c 150 § 8.]

**Legislative findings—Severability—1988 c 150:** See notes following RCW 59.18.130.

**69.41.065 Violations—Juvenile driving privileges.**

(1) If a juvenile thirteen years of age or older and under the age of twenty-one is found by a court to have committed any offense that is a violation of this chapter, the court shall notify

the department of licensing within twenty-four hours after entry of the judgment.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section, upon petition of a juvenile whose privilege to drive has been revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265, the court may notify the department of licensing that the juvenile's privilege to drive should be reinstated.

(3) If the conviction is for the juvenile's first violation of this chapter or chapter 66.44, 69.50, or 69.52 RCW, the juvenile may not petition the court for reinstatement of the juvenile's privilege to drive revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265 until the later of ninety days after the date the juvenile turns sixteen or ninety days after the judgment was entered. If the conviction was for the juvenile's second or subsequent violation of this chapter or chapter 66.44, 69.50, or 69.52 RCW, the juvenile may not petition the court for reinstatement of the juvenile's privilege to drive revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265 until the later of the date the juvenile turns seventeen or one year after the date judgment was entered. [1989 c 271 § 119; 1988 c 148 § 4.]

**Legislative finding—Severability—1988 c 148:** See notes following RCW 13.40.265.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.41.072 Violations of chapter 69.50 RCW not to be charged under chapter 69.41 RCW—Exception.** Any offense which is a violation of chapter 69.50 RCW other than RCW 69.50.4012 shall not be charged under this chapter. [2003 c 53 § 327.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.41.075 Rules—Availability of lists of drugs.** The state board of pharmacy may make such rules for the enforcement of this chapter as are deemed necessary or advisable. The board shall identify, by rule-making pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW, those drugs which may be dispensed only on prescription or are restricted to use by practitioners, only. In so doing the board shall consider the toxicity or other potentiality for harmful effect of the drug, the method of its use, and any collateral safeguards necessary to its use. The board shall classify a drug as a legend drug where these considerations indicate the drug is not safe for use except under the supervision of a practitioner.

In identifying legend drugs the board may incorporate in its rules lists of drugs contained in commercial pharmaceutical publications by making specific reference to each such list and the date and edition of the commercial publication containing it. Any such lists so incorporated shall be available for public inspection at the headquarters of the department of health and shall be available on request from the department of health upon payment of a reasonable fee to be set by the department. [1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 427; 1979 ex.s. c 139 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.41.080 Animal control—Rules for possession and use of legend drugs.** Humane societies and animal control agencies registered with the state board of pharmacy under chapter 69.50 RCW and authorized to euthanize animals may purchase, possess, and administer approved legend drugs for

the sole purpose of sedating animals prior to euthanasia, when necessary, and for use in chemical capture programs. For the purposes of this section, "approved legend drugs" means those legend drugs designated by the board by rule as being approved for use by such societies and agencies for animal sedating or capture and does not include any substance regulated under chapter 69.50 RCW. Any society or agency so registered shall not permit persons to administer any legend drugs unless such person has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the board adequate knowledge of the potential hazards involved in and the proper techniques to be used in administering the drugs.

The board shall promulgate rules to regulate the purchase, possession, and administration of legend drugs by such societies and agencies and to insure strict compliance with the provisions of this section. Such rules shall require that the storage, inventory control, administration, and recordkeeping for approved legend drugs conform to the standards adopted by the board under chapter 69.50 RCW to regulate the use of controlled substances by such societies and agencies. The board may suspend or revoke a registration under chapter 69.50 RCW upon a determination by the board that the person administering legend drugs has not demonstrated adequate knowledge as herein provided. This authority is granted in addition to any other power to suspend or revoke a registration as provided by law. [1989 c 242 § 1.]

**69.41.085 Medication assistance—Community-based care setting.** Individuals residing in community-based care settings, such as adult family homes, assisted living facilities, and residential care settings for individuals with developmental disabilities, including an individual's home, may receive medication assistance. Nothing in this chapter affects the right of an individual to refuse medication or requirements relating to informed consent. [2012 c 10 § 45; 2003 c 140 § 12; 1998 c 70 § 1.]

**Application—2012 c 10:** See note following RCW 18.20.010.

**Effective date—2003 c 140:** See note following RCW 18.79.040.

## SUBSTITUTION OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

**69.41.100 Legislative recognition and declaration.** The legislature recognizes the responsibility of the state to insure that the citizens of the state are offered a choice between generic drugs and brand name drugs and the benefit of quality pharmaceutical products at competitive prices. Advances in the drug industry resulting from research and the elimination of counterfeiting of prescription drugs should benefit the users of the drugs. Pharmacy must continue to operate with accountability and effectiveness. The legislature hereby declares it to be the policy of the state that its citizens receive safe and therapeutically effective drug products at the most reasonable cost consistent with high drug quality standards. [1986 c 52 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 352 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.41.110 Definitions.** As used in RCW 69.41.100 through 69.41.180, the following words shall have the following meanings:

(1) "Brand name" means the proprietary or trade name selected by the manufacturer and placed upon a drug, its container, label, or wrapping at the time of packaging;

(2) "Generic name" means the official title of a drug or drug ingredients published in the latest edition of a nationally recognized pharmacopoeia or formulary;

(3) "Substitute" means to dispense, with the practitioner's authorization, a "therapeutically equivalent" drug product of the identical base or salt as the specific drug product prescribed: PROVIDED, That with the practitioner's prior consent, therapeutically equivalent drugs other than the identical base or salt may be dispensed;

(4) "Therapeutically equivalent" means essentially the same efficacy and toxicity when administered to an individual in the same dosage regimen; and

(5) "Practitioner" means a physician, osteopathic physician and surgeon, dentist, veterinarian, or any other person authorized to prescribe drugs under the laws of this state. [1979 c 110 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 352 § 2.]

**69.41.120 Prescriptions to contain instruction as to whether or not a therapeutically equivalent generic drug may be substituted—Out-of-state prescriptions—Form—Contents—Procedure.** Every drug prescription shall contain an instruction on whether or not a therapeutically equivalent generic drug may be substituted in its place, unless substitution is permitted under a prior-consent authorization.

If a written prescription is involved, the prescription must be legible and the form shall have two signature lines at opposite ends on the bottom of the form. Under the line at the right side shall be clearly printed the words "DISPENSE AS WRITTEN". Under the line at the left side shall be clearly printed the words "SUBSTITUTION PERMITTED". The practitioner shall communicate the instructions to the pharmacist by signing the appropriate line. No prescription shall be valid without the signature of the practitioner on one of these lines. In the case of a prescription issued by a practitioner in another state that uses a one-line prescription form or variation thereof, the pharmacist may substitute a therapeutically equivalent generic drug unless otherwise instructed by the practitioner through the use of the words "dispense as written", words of similar meaning, or some other indication.

If an oral prescription is involved, the practitioner or the practitioner's agent shall instruct the pharmacist as to whether or not a therapeutically equivalent generic drug may be substituted in its place. The pharmacist shall note the instructions on the file copy of the prescription.

The pharmacist shall note the manufacturer of the drug dispensed on the file copy of a written or oral prescription. [2000 c 8 § 3; 1990 c 218 § 1; 1979 c 110 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 352 § 3.]

**Findings—Intent—2000 c 8:** See note following RCW 69.41.010.

**69.41.130 Savings in price to be passed on to purchaser.** Unless the brand name drug is requested by the patient or the patient's representative, the pharmacist shall substitute an equivalent drug product which he or she has in stock if its wholesale price to the pharmacist is less than the wholesale price of the prescribed drug product, and at least sixty percent of the savings shall be passed on to the pur-

chaser. [2012 c 117 § 365; 1986 c 52 § 2; 1979 c 110 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 352 § 4.]

**69.41.140 Minimum manufacturing standards and practices.** A pharmacist may not substitute a product under the provisions of this section unless the manufacturer has shown that the drug has been manufactured with the following minimum good manufacturing standards and practices:

- (1) Maintain quality control standards equal to those of the Food and Drug Administration;
- (2) Comply with regulations promulgated by the Food and Drug Administration. [1979 c 110 § 4; 1977 ex.s. c 352 § 5.]

**69.41.150 Liability of practitioner, pharmacist.** (1) A practitioner who authorizes a prescribed drug shall not be liable for any side effects or adverse reactions caused by the manner or method by which a substituted drug product is selected or dispensed.

(2) A pharmacist who substitutes an equivalent drug product pursuant to RCW 69.41.100 through 69.41.180 as now or hereafter amended assumes no greater liability for selecting the dispensed drug product than would be incurred in filling a prescription for a drug product prescribed by its established name.

(3) A pharmacist who substitutes a preferred drug for a nonpreferred drug pursuant to RCW 69.41.190 assumes no greater liability for substituting the preferred drug than would be incurred in filling a prescription for the preferred drug when prescribed by name. [2003 1st sp.s. c 29 § 6; 1979 c 110 § 5; 1977 ex.s. c 352 § 6.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—Conflict with federal requirements—Effective date—2003 1st sp.s. c 29:** See notes following RCW 74.09.650.

**69.41.160 Pharmacy signs as to substitution for prescribed drugs.** Every pharmacy shall post a sign in a location at the prescription counter that is readily visible to patrons stating, "Under Washington law, an equivalent but less expensive drug may in some cases be substituted for the drug prescribed by your doctor. Such substitution, however, may only be made with the consent of your doctor. Please consult your pharmacist or physician for more information." [1979 c 110 § 6; 1977 ex.s. c 352 § 7.]

**69.41.170 Coercion of pharmacist prohibited—Penalty.** It shall be unlawful for any employer to coerce, within the meaning of RCW 9A.36.070, any pharmacist to dispense a generic drug or to substitute a generic drug for another drug. A violation of this section shall be punishable as a misdemeanor. [1977 ex.s. c 352 § 8.]

**69.41.180 Rules.** The state board of pharmacy may adopt any necessary rules under chapter 34.05 RCW for the implementation, continuation, or enforcement of RCW 69.41.100 through 69.41.180, including, but not limited to, a list of therapeutically or nontherapeutically equivalent drugs which, when adopted, shall be provided to all registered pharmacists in the state and shall be updated as necessary. [1979 c 110 § 7; 1977 ex.s. c 352 § 9.]

**69.41.190 Preferred drug substitution—Exceptions—Notice—Limited restrictions.** (1)(a) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, any pharmacist filling a prescription under a state purchased health care program as defined in \*RCW 41.05.011(2) shall substitute, where identified, a preferred drug for any nonpreferred drug in a given therapeutic class, unless the endorsing practitioner has indicated on the prescription that the nonpreferred drug must be dispensed as written, or the prescription is for a refill of an antipsychotic, antidepressant, antiepileptic, chemotherapy, antiretroviral, or immunosuppressive drug, or for the refill of an immunomodulator/antiviral treatment for hepatitis C for which an established, fixed duration of therapy is prescribed for at least twenty-four weeks but no more than forty-eight weeks, in which case the pharmacist shall dispense the prescribed nonpreferred drug.

(b) When a substitution is made under (a) of this subsection, the dispensing pharmacist shall notify the prescribing practitioner of the specific drug and dose dispensed.

(2)(a) A state purchased health care program may impose limited restrictions on an endorsing practitioner's authority to write a prescription to dispense as written only under the following circumstances:

(i) There is statistical or clear data demonstrating the endorsing practitioner's frequency of prescribing dispensed as written for nonpreferred drugs varies significantly from the prescribing patterns of his or her peers;

(ii) The medical director of a state purchased health program has: (A) Presented the endorsing practitioner with data that indicates the endorsing practitioner's prescribing patterns vary significantly from his or her peers, (B) provided the endorsing practitioner an opportunity to explain the variation in his or her prescribing patterns to those of his or her peers, and (C) if the variation in prescribing patterns cannot be explained, provided the endorsing practitioner sufficient time to change his or her prescribing patterns to align with those of his or her peers; and

(iii) The restrictions imposed under (a) of this subsection (2) must be limited to the extent possible to reduce variation in prescribing patterns and shall remain in effect only until such time as the endorsing practitioner can demonstrate a reduction in variation in line with his or her peers.

(b) A state purchased health care program may immediately designate an available, less expensive, equally effective generic product in a previously reviewed drug class as a preferred drug, without first submitting the product to review by the pharmacy and therapeutics committee established pursuant to RCW 70.14.050.

(c) For a patient's first course of treatment within a therapeutic class of drugs, a state purchased health care program may impose limited restrictions on endorsing practitioners' authority to write a prescription to dispense as written, only under the following circumstances:

(i) There is a less expensive, equally effective therapeutic alternative generic product available to treat the condition;

(ii) The drug use review board established under WAC 388-530-4000 reviews and provides recommendations as to the appropriateness of the limitation;

(iii) Notwithstanding the limitation set forth in (c)(ii) of this subsection (2), the endorsing practitioner shall have an

opportunity to request as medically necessary, that the brand name drug be prescribed as the first course of treatment;

(iv) The state purchased health care program may provide, where available, prescription, emergency room, diagnosis, and hospitalization history with the endorsing practitioner; and

(v) Specifically for antipsychotic restrictions, the state purchased health care program shall effectively guide good practice without interfering with the timeliness of clinical decision making. Health care authority prior authorization programs must provide for responses within twenty-four hours and at least a seventy-two hour emergency supply of the requested drug.

(d) If, within a therapeutic class, there is an equally effective therapeutic alternative over-the-counter drug available, a state purchased health care program may designate the over-the-counter drug as the preferred drug.

(e) A state purchased health care program may impose limited restrictions on endorsing practitioners' authority to prescribe pharmaceuticals to be dispensed as written for a purpose outside the scope of their approved labels only under the following circumstances:

(i) There is a less expensive, equally effective on-label product available to treat the condition;

(ii) The drug use review board established under WAC 388-530-4000 reviews and provides recommendations as to the appropriateness of the limitation; and

(iii) Notwithstanding the limitation set forth in (e)(ii) of this subsection (2), the endorsing practitioner shall have an opportunity to request as medically necessary, that the drug be prescribed for a covered off-label purpose.

(f) The provisions of this subsection related to the definition of medically necessary, prior authorization procedures and patient appeal rights shall be implemented in a manner consistent with applicable federal and state law.

(3) Notwithstanding the limitations in subsection (2) of this section, for refills for an antipsychotic, antidepressant, antiepileptic, chemotherapy, antiretroviral, or immunosuppressive drug, or for the refill of an immunomodulator antiviral treatment for hepatitis C for which an established, fixed duration of therapy is prescribed for at least twenty-four weeks by no more than forty-eight weeks, the pharmacist shall dispense the prescribed nonpreferred drug. [2011 1st sp.s. c 15 § 80; 2009 c 575 § 1; 2006 c 233 § 1; 2003 1st sp.s. c 29 § 5.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 41.05.011 was alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k), changing subsection (2) to subsection (21).

**Effective date—Findings—Intent—Report—Agency transfer—References to head of health care authority—Draft legislation—2011 1st sp.s. c 15:** See notes following RCW 74.09.010.

**Effective date—2009 c 575:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 19, 2009]." [2009 c 575 § 2.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—Conflict with federal requirements—Effective date—2003 1st sp.s. c 29:** See notes following RCW 74.09.650.

## IDENTIFICATION OF LEGEND DRUGS—MARKING

**69.41.200 Requirements for identification of legend drugs—Marking.** (1) No legend drug in solid dosage form

may be manufactured or commercially distributed within this state unless it has clearly marked or imprinted on it an individual symbol, number, company name, words, letters, marking, or National Drug Code number identifying the drug and the manufacturer or distributor of such drug.

(2) No manufacturer or distributor may sell any legend drug contained within a bottle, vial, carton, or other container, or in any way affixed or appended to or enclosed within a package of any kind designed or intended for delivery in such container or package to an ultimate consumer within this state unless such container or package has clearly and permanently marked or imprinted on it an individual symbol, number, company name, words, letters, marking, or National Drug Code number identifying the drug and the manufacturer or distributor of such drug.

(3) Whenever the distributor of a legend drug does not also manufacture it, the names and places of businesses of both shall appear on the stock container or package label in words that truly distinguish each. [1980 c 83 § 1.]

**69.41.210 Definitions.** The terms defined in this section shall have the meanings indicated when used in RCW 69.41.200 through 69.41.260.

(1) "Distributor" means any corporation, person, or other entity which distributes for sale a legend drug under its own label even though it is not the actual manufacturer of the legend drug.

(2) "Solid dosage form" means capsules or tablets or similar legend drug products intended for administration and which could be ingested orally.

(3) "Legend drug" means any drugs which are required by state law or regulation of the board to be dispensed as prescription only or are restricted to use by prescribing practitioners only and shall include controlled substances in Schedules II through V of chapter 69.50 RCW.

(4) "Board" means the state board of pharmacy. [1980 c 83 § 2.]

**69.41.220 Published lists of drug imprints—Requirements for.** Each manufacturer and distributor shall publish and provide to the board by filing with the department printed material which will identify each current imprint used by the manufacturer or distributor. The board shall be notified of any change by the filing of any change with the department. This information shall be provided by the department to all pharmacies licensed in the state of Washington, poison control centers, and hospital emergency rooms. [1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 428; 1980 c 83 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.41.230 Drugs in violation are contraband.** Any legend drug prepared or manufactured or offered for sale in violation of this chapter or implementing rules shall be contraband and subject to seizure under the provisions of RCW 69.41.060. [1980 c 83 § 4.]

**69.41.240 Rules—Labeling and marking.** The board shall have authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the enforcement and implementation of RCW 69.41.050 and 69.41.200 through 69.41.260. [1980 c 83 § 5.]

**69.41.250 Exemptions.** (1) The board, upon application of a manufacturer, may exempt a particular legend drug from the requirements of RCW 69.41.050 and 69.41.200 through 69.41.260 on the grounds that imprinting is infeasible because of size, texture, or other unique characteristics.

(2) The provisions of RCW 69.41.050 and 69.41.200 through 69.41.260 shall not apply to any legend drug which is prepared or manufactured by a pharmacy in this state and is for the purpose of retail sale from such pharmacy and not intended for resale. [1980 c 83 § 6.]

**69.41.260 Manufacture or distribution for resale—Requirements.** All legend drugs manufactured or distributed for resale to any entity in this state other than the ultimate consumer shall meet the requirements of RCW 69.41.050 and 69.41.200 through 69.41.260 from a date eight months after June 12, 1980. [1980 c 83 § 7.]

**69.41.280 Confidentiality.** All records, reports, and information obtained by the board or its authorized representatives from or on behalf of a pharmaceutical manufacturer, representative of a manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacy, or practitioner who purchases, dispenses, or distributes legend drugs under this chapter are confidential and exempt from public inspection and copying under chapter 42.56 RCW. Nothing in this section restricts the investigations or the proceedings of the board so long as the board and its authorized representatives comply with the provisions of chapter 42.56 RCW. [2005 c 274 § 329; 1989 c 352 § 6.]

**Part headings not law—Effective date—2005 c 274:** See RCW 42.56.901 and 42.56.902.

## USE OF STEROIDS

**69.41.300 Definitions.** For the purposes of RCW 69.41.300 through 69.41.350, "steroids" shall include the following:

(1) "Anabolic steroids" means synthetic derivatives of testosterone or any isomer, ester, salt, or derivative that act in the same manner on the human body;

(2) "Androgens" means testosterone in one of its forms or a derivative, isomer, ester, or salt, that act in the same manner on the human body; and

(3) "Human growth hormones" means growth hormones, or a derivative, isomer, ester, or salt that act in the same manner on the human body. [2003 c 53 § 328; 1989 c 369 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.41.310 Rules.** The state board of pharmacy shall specify by rule drugs to be classified as steroids as defined in RCW 69.41.300.

On or before December 1 of each year, the board shall inform the appropriate legislative committees of reference of the drugs that the board has added to the steroids in RCW 69.41.300. The board shall submit a statement of rationale for the changes. [1989 c 369 § 2.]

**69.41.320 Practitioners—Restricted use—Medical records.** (1)(a) A practitioner shall not prescribe, administer, or dispense steroids, as defined in RCW 69.41.300, or any form of autotransfusion for the purpose of manipulating hor-

mones to increase muscle mass, strength, or weight, or for the purpose of enhancing athletic ability, without a medical necessity to do so.

(b) A person violating this subsection is guilty of a gross misdemeanor and is subject to disciplinary action under RCW 18.130.180.

(2) A practitioner shall complete and maintain patient medical records which accurately reflect the prescribing, administering, or dispensing of any substance or drug described in this section or any form of autotransfusion. Patient medical records shall indicate the diagnosis and purpose for which the substance, drug, or autotransfusion is prescribed, administered, or dispensed and any additional information upon which the diagnosis is based. [2003 c 53 § 329; 1989 c 369 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.41.330 Public warnings—School districts.** The superintendent of public instruction shall develop and distribute to all school districts signs of appropriate design and dimensions advising students of the health risks that steroids present when used solely to enhance athletic ability, and of the penalties for their unlawful possession provided by RCW 69.41.300 through 69.41.350.

School districts shall post or cause the signs to be posted in a prominent place for ease of viewing on the premises of school athletic departments. [2003 c 53 § 330; 1989 c 369 § 5.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.41.340 Student athletes—Violations—Penalty.** The superintendent of public instruction, in consultation with the Washington interscholastic activity association, shall promulgate rules by January 1, 1990, regarding loss of eligibility to participate in school-sponsored athletic events for any student athlete found to have violated this chapter. The regents or trustees of each institution of higher education shall promulgate rules by January 1, 1990, regarding loss of eligibility to participate in school-sponsored athletic events for any student athlete found to have violated this chapter. [1989 c 369 § 6.]

**69.41.350 Penalties.** (1) A person who violates the provisions of this chapter by possessing under two hundred tablets or eight 2cc bottles of steroid without a valid prescription is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(2) A person who violates the provisions of this chapter by possessing over two hundred tablets or eight 2cc bottles of steroid without a valid prescription is guilty of a class C felony and shall be punished according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 326; 1989 c 369 § 4; 1983 1st ex.s. c 4 § 4; 1973 1st ex.s. c 186 § 7. Formerly RCW 69.41.070.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.41.900 Severability—1979 c 110.** If any provision of this 1979 act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the applica-

tion of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1979 c 110 § 8.]

### Chapter 69.43 RCW PRECURSOR DRUGS

#### Sections

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**69.43.010 Report to state board of pharmacy—List of substances—Modification of list—Identification of purchasers—Report of transactions—Penalties.** (1) A report to the state board of pharmacy shall be submitted in accordance with this chapter by a manufacturer, wholesaler, retailer, or other person who sells, transfers, or otherwise furnishes to any person any of the following substances or their salts or isomers:

- (a) Anthranilic acid;
- (b) Barbituric acid;
- (c) Chlorephedrine;
- (d) Diethyl malonate;
- (e) D-lysergic acid;
- (f) Ephedrine;
- (g) Ergotamine tartrate;
- (h) Ethylamine;
- (i) Ethyl malonate;
- (j) Ethylephedrine;
- (k) Lead acetate;
- (l) Malonic acid;
- (m) Methylamine;

- (n) Methylformamide;
- (o) Methylephedrine;
- (p) Methylpseudoephedrine;
- (q) N-acetylanthranilic acid;
- (r) Norpseudoephedrine;
- (s) Phenylacetic acid;
- (t) Phenylpropanolamine;
- (u) Piperidine;
- (v) Pseudoephedrine; and
- (w) Pyrrolidine.

(2) The state board of pharmacy shall administer this chapter and may, by rule adopted pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW, add a substance to or remove a substance from the list in subsection (1) of this section. In determining whether to add or remove a substance, the board shall consider the following:

- (a) The likelihood that the substance is useable as a precursor in the illegal production of a controlled substance as defined in chapter 69.50 RCW;
- (b) The availability of the substance;
- (c) The relative appropriateness of including the substance in this chapter or in chapter 69.50 RCW; and
- (d) The extent and nature of legitimate uses for the substance.

(3)(a) Any manufacturer, wholesaler, retailer, or other person shall, before selling, transferring, or otherwise furnishing any substance specified in subsection (1) of this section to any person, require proper identification from the purchaser.

(b) For the purposes of this subsection, "proper identification" means:

(i) A motor vehicle operator's license or other official state-issued identification of the purchaser containing a photograph of the purchaser, and includes the residential or mailing address of the purchaser, other than a post office box number;

(ii) The motor vehicle license number of any motor vehicle owned or operated by the purchaser;

(iii) A letter of authorization from any business for which any substance specified in subsection (1) of this section is being furnished, which includes the business license number and address of the business;

(iv) A description of how the substance is to be used; and

(v) The signature of the purchaser.

The person selling, transferring, or otherwise furnishing any substance specified in subsection (1) of this section shall affix his or her signature as a witness to the signature and identification of the purchaser.

(c) A violation of or a failure to comply with this subsection is a misdemeanor.

(4) Any manufacturer, wholesaler, retailer, or other person who sells, transfers, or otherwise furnishes the substance specified in subsection (1) of this section to any person shall, not less than twenty-one days before delivery of the substance, submit a report of the transaction, which includes the identification information specified in subsection (3) of this section to the state board of pharmacy. However, the state board of pharmacy may authorize the submission of the reports on a monthly basis with respect to repeated, regular transactions between the furnisher and the recipient involving

the same substance if the state board of pharmacy determines that either of the following exist:

(a) A pattern of regular supply of the substance exists between the manufacturer, wholesaler, retailer, or other person who sells, transfers, or otherwise furnishes such substance and the recipient of the substance; or

(b) The recipient has established a record of using the substance for lawful purposes.

(5) Any person specified in subsection (4) of this section who does not submit a report as required by subsection (4) of this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2001 c 96 § 2; 1998 c 245 § 107; 1988 c 147 § 1.]

**Intent—2001 c 96:** "Communities all over the state of Washington have experienced an increase in the illegal manufacture of methamphetamine. Illegal methamphetamine labs create a significant threat to the health and safety of the people of the state. Some of the chemicals and compounds used to make methamphetamine, and the toxic wastes the process generates, are hazards to the public health. Increases in crime, violence, and the abuse and neglect of children present at laboratory sites are also associated with the increasing number of illegal laboratory sites. The drugs ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine, which are used in the illegal manufacture of methamphetamine, have been identified as factors in the increase in the number of illegal methamphetamine labs. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to place restrictions on the sale and possession of those three drugs in order to reduce the proliferation of illegal methamphetamine laboratories and the associated threats to public health and safety." [2001 c 96 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.43.020 Receipt of substance from source outside state—Report—Penalty.** (1) Any manufacturer, wholesaler, retailer, or other person who receives from a source outside of this state any substance specified in RCW 69.43.010(1) shall submit a report of such transaction to the state board of pharmacy under rules adopted by the board.

(2) Any person specified in subsection (1) of this section who does not submit a report as required by subsection (1) of this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2001 c 96 § 3; 1988 c 147 § 2.]

**Intent—Severability—2001 c 96:** See notes following RCW 69.43.010.

**69.43.030 Exemptions.** RCW 69.43.010 and 69.43.020 do not apply to any of the following:

(1) Any pharmacist or other authorized person who sells or furnishes a substance upon the prescription of a practitioner, as defined in chapter 69.41 RCW;

(2) Any practitioner who administers or furnishes a substance to his or her patients;

(3) Any manufacturer or wholesaler licensed by the state board of pharmacy who sells, transfers, or otherwise furnishes a substance to a licensed pharmacy or practitioner;

(4) Any sale, transfer, furnishing, or receipt of any drug that contains ephedrine, phenylpropanolamine, or pseudoephedrine, or of any cosmetic that contains a substance specified in RCW 69.43.010(1), if such drug or cosmetic is lawfully sold, transferred, or furnished, over the counter without a prescription under chapter 69.04 or 69.41 RCW. [1988 c 147 § 3.]

**69.43.035 Suspicious transactions—Report—Penalty.** (1) Any manufacturer or wholesaler who sells, transfers, or otherwise furnishes any substance specified in RCW 69.43.010(1) to any person in a suspicious transaction shall

report the transaction in writing to the state board of pharmacy.

(2) Any person specified in subsection (1) of this section who does not submit a report as required by subsection (1) of this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(3) For the purposes of this section, "suspicious transaction" means a sale or transfer to which any of the following applies:

(a) The circumstances of the sale or transfer would lead a reasonable person to believe that the substance is likely to be used for the purpose of unlawfully manufacturing a controlled substance under chapter 69.50 RCW, based on such factors as the amount involved, the method of payment, the method of delivery, and any past dealings with any participant in the transaction. The state board of pharmacy shall adopt by rule criteria for determining whether a transaction is suspicious, taking into consideration the recommendations in appendix A of the report to the United States attorney general by the suspicious orders task force under the federal comprehensive methamphetamine control act of 1996.

(b) The transaction involves payment for any substance specified in RCW 69.43.010(1) in cash or money orders in a total amount of more than two hundred dollars.

(4) The board of pharmacy shall transmit to the department of revenue a copy of each report of a suspicious transaction that it receives under this section. [2004 c 52 § 6; 2001 c 96 § 4.]

**Finding—Severability—Effective date—2004 c 52:** See notes following RCW 18.64.044.

**Intent—Severability—2001 c 96:** See notes following RCW 69.43.010.

**69.43.040 Reporting form.** (1) The department of health, in accordance with rules developed by the state board of pharmacy shall provide a common reporting form for the substances in RCW 69.43.010 that contains at least the following information:

(a) Name of the substance;

(b) Quantity of the substance sold, transferred, or furnished;

(c) The date the substance was sold, transferred, or furnished;

(d) The name and address of the person buying or receiving the substance; and

(e) The name and address of the manufacturer, wholesaler, retailer, or other person selling, transferring, or furnishing the substance.

(2) Monthly reports authorized under RCW 69.43.010(4) may be computer-generated in accordance with rules adopted by the department. [2001 c 96 § 7; 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 441; 1988 c 147 § 4.]

**Intent—Severability—2001 c 96:** See notes following RCW 69.43.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.43.043 Recordkeeping requirements—Penalty.** (1) Any manufacturer or wholesaler who sells, transfers, or otherwise furnishes any substance specified in RCW 69.43.010(1) to any person shall maintain a record of each such sale or transfer. The records must contain:

(a) The name of the substance;

(b) The quantity of the substance sold, transferred, or furnished;

(c) The date the substance was sold, transferred, or furnished;

(d) The name and address of the person buying or receiving the substance; and

(e) The method of and amount of payment for the substance.

(2) The records of sales and transfers required by this section shall be available for inspection by the state board of pharmacy and its authorized representatives and shall be maintained for two years.

(3) A violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor. [2001 c 96 § 5.]

**Intent—Severability—2001 c 96:** See notes following RCW 69.43.010.

**69.43.048 Reporting and recordkeeping requirements—Submission of computer readable data, copies of federal reports.** A manufacturer, wholesaler, retailer, or other person who sells, transfers, or otherwise furnishes any substance specified in RCW 69.43.010(1) and who is subject to the reporting or recordkeeping requirements of this chapter may satisfy the requirements by submitting to the state board of pharmacy, and its authorized representatives:

(1) Computer readable data from which all of the required information may be readily derived; or

(2) Copies of reports that are filed under federal law that contain all of the information required by the particular reporting or recordkeeping requirement of this chapter which it is submitted to satisfy. [2001 c 96 § 6.]

**Intent—Severability—2001 c 96:** See notes following RCW 69.43.010.

**69.43.050 Rules.** (1) The state board of pharmacy may adopt all rules necessary to carry out this chapter.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, the department of health may adopt rules necessary for the administration of this chapter. [1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 442; 1988 c 147 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.43.060 Theft—Missing quantity—Reporting.** (1) The theft or loss of any substance under RCW 69.43.010 discovered by any person regulated by this chapter shall be reported to the state board of pharmacy within seven days after such discovery.

(2) Any difference between the quantity of any substance under RCW 69.43.010 received and the quantity shipped shall be reported to the state board of pharmacy within seven days of the receipt of actual knowledge of the discrepancy. When applicable, any report made pursuant to this subsection shall also include the name of any common carrier or person who transported the substance and the date of shipment of the substance. [1988 c 147 § 6.]

**69.43.070 Sale, transfer, or furnishing of substance for unlawful purpose—Receipt of substance with intent to use unlawfully—Class B felony.** (1) Any manufacturer, wholesaler, retailer, or other person who sells, transfers, or otherwise furnishes any substance listed in RCW 69.43.010

with knowledge or the intent that the recipient will use the substance unlawfully to manufacture a controlled substance under chapter 69.50 RCW is guilty of a class B felony under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(2) Any person who receives any substance listed in RCW 69.43.010 with intent to use the substance unlawfully to manufacture a controlled substance under chapter 69.50 RCW is guilty of a class B felony under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1988 c 147 § 7.]

**69.43.080 False statement in report or record—Class C felony.** It is unlawful for any person knowingly to make a false statement in connection with any report or record required under this chapter. A violation of this section is a class C felony under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1988 c 147 § 8.]

**69.43.090 Permit to sell, transfer, furnish, or receive substance—Exemptions—Application for permit—Fee—Renewal—Penalty.** (1) Any manufacturer, wholesaler, retailer, or other person who sells, transfers, or otherwise furnishes any substance specified in RCW 69.43.010 to any person or who receives from a source outside of the state any substance specified in RCW 69.43.010 shall obtain a permit for the conduct of that business from the state board of pharmacy. However, a permit shall not be required of any manufacturer, wholesaler, retailer, or other person for the sale, transfer, furnishing, or receipt of any drug that contains ephedrine, phenylpropanolamine, or pseudoephedrine, or of any cosmetic that contains a substance specified in RCW 69.43.010(1), if such drug or cosmetic is lawfully sold, transferred, or furnished over the counter without a prescription or by a prescription under chapter 69.04 or 69.41 RCW.

(2) Applications for permits shall be filed with the department in writing and signed by the applicant, and shall set forth the name of the applicant, the business in which the applicant is engaged, the business address of the applicant, and a full description of any substance sold, transferred, or otherwise furnished, or received.

(3) The board may grant permits on forms prescribed by it. The permits shall be effective for not more than one year from the date of issuance.

(4) Each applicant shall pay at the time of filing an application for a permit a fee determined by the department.

(5) A permit granted under this chapter may be renewed on a date to be determined by the board, and annually thereafter, upon the filing of a renewal application and the payment of a permit renewal fee determined by the department.

(6) Permit fees charged by the department shall not exceed the costs incurred by the department in administering this chapter.

(7) Selling, transferring, or otherwise furnishing, or receiving any substance specified in RCW 69.43.010 without a required permit, is a gross misdemeanor. [2001 c 96 § 8; 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 443; 1988 c 147 § 9.]

**Intent—Severability—2001 c 96:** See notes following RCW 69.43.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.43.100 Refusal, suspension, or revocation of a manufacturer's or wholesaler's permit.** The board shall



have the power to refuse, suspend, or revoke the permit of any manufacturer or wholesaler upon proof that:

(1) The permit was procured through fraud, misrepresentation, or deceit;

(2) The permittee has violated or has permitted any employee to violate any of the laws of this state relating to drugs, controlled substances, cosmetics, or nonprescription drugs, or has violated any of the rules and regulations of the board of pharmacy. [1988 c 147 § 10.]

**69.43.105 Ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, phenylpropanolamine—Sales restrictions—Record of transaction—Exceptions—Penalty.** (1) For purposes of this section, "traditional Chinese herbal practitioner" means a person who is certified as a diplomate in Chinese herbology from the national certification commission for acupuncture and oriental medicine or who has received a certificate in Chinese herbology from a school accredited by the accreditation council on acupuncture and oriental medicine.

(2) A pharmacy licensed by, or shopkeeper or itinerant vendor registered with, the department of health under chapter 18.64 RCW, or an employee thereof, a practitioner as defined in RCW 18.64.011, or a traditional Chinese herbal practitioner may not knowingly sell, transfer, or otherwise furnish to any person a product at retail that he or she knows to contain any detectable quantity of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, without first obtaining photo identification of the person that shows the date of birth of the person.

(3) A person buying or receiving a product at retail containing any detectable quantity of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, from a pharmacy licensed by, or shopkeeper or itinerant vendor registered with, the department of health under chapter 18.64 RCW, or an employee thereof, a practitioner as defined in RCW 18.64.011, or a traditional Chinese herbal practitioner must first produce photo identification of the person that shows the date of birth of the person.

(4) Any product containing any detectable quantity of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, shall be kept (a) behind a counter where the public is not permitted, or (b) in a locked display case so that a customer wanting access must ask an employee of the merchant for assistance.

(5) No pharmacy licensed by, or shopkeeper or itinerant vendor registered with, the department of health under chapter 18.64 RCW, or an employee thereof, a practitioner as defined in RCW 18.64.011, or a traditional Chinese herbal practitioner may sell any product containing any detectable quantity of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, to a person that is not at least eighteen years old.

(6) A pharmacy licensed by, or shopkeeper or itinerant vendor registered with, the department of health under chapter 18.64 RCW selling a nonprescription drug containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers shall require the purchaser to electronically or manually sign a record of the transaction. The record must include the name and address of the purchaser, the date and time of the sale, the name and initials of the shopkeeper, itinerant vendor, pharmacist, pharmacy tech-

nician, or employee conducting the transaction, the name of the product being sold, as well as the total quantity in grams, of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, being sold.

(7) The board of pharmacy, by rule, may exempt products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, in combination with another active ingredient from the requirements of this section if they are found not to be used in the illegal manufacture of methamphetamine or other controlled dangerous substances. A manufacturer of a drug product may apply for removal of the product from the requirements of this section if the product is determined by the board to have been formulated in such a way as to effectively prevent the conversion of the active ingredient into methamphetamine. The burden of proof for exemption is upon the person requesting the exemption. The petitioner shall provide the board with evidence that the product has been formulated in such a way as to serve as an effective general deterrent to the conversion of pseudoephedrine into methamphetamine. The evidence must include the furnishing of a valid scientific study, conducted by an independent, professional laboratory and evincing professional quality chemical analysis. Factors to be considered in whether a product should be excluded from this section include but are not limited to:

(a) Ease with which the product can be converted to methamphetamine;

(b) Ease with which ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine is extracted from the substance and whether it forms an emulsion, salt, or other form;

(c) Whether the product contains a "molecular lock" that renders it incapable of being converted into methamphetamine;

(d) Presence of other ingredients that render the product less likely to be used in the manufacture of methamphetamine; and

(e) Any pertinent data that can be used to determine the risk of the substance being used in the illegal manufacture of methamphetamine or any other controlled substance.

(8) Nothing in this section applies:

(a) To any product containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers that is not the only active ingredient and that is in liquid, liquid capsule, or gel capsule form;

(b) To the sale of a product that may only be sold upon the presentation of a prescription;

(c) To the sale of a product by a traditional Chinese herbal practitioner to a patient; or

(d) When the details of the transaction are recorded in a pharmacy profile individually identified with the recipient and maintained by a licensed pharmacy.

(9)(a) No pharmacy licensed by, or shopkeeper or itinerant vendor registered with, the department of health under chapter 18.64 RCW, a practitioner as defined in RCW 18.64.011, or a traditional Chinese herbal practitioner may retaliate against any employee that has made a good faith attempt to comply with the requirements of this section by requesting that a customer present photo identification, making a reasonable effort to determine the customer's age.

(b) No pharmacy licensed by, or shopkeeper or itinerant vendor registered with, the department of health under chap-

ter 18.64 RCW, a practitioner as defined in RCW 18.64.011, or a traditional Chinese herbal practitioner is subject to prosecution under subsection (10) of this section if they made a good faith attempt to comply with the requirements of this section by requesting that a customer present photo identification, making a reasonable effort to determine the customer's age.

(10) A violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor. [2010 c 182 § 1; 2005 c 388 § 2.]

**Finding—2005 c 388:** "Restricting access to certain precursor drugs used to manufacture methamphetamine to ensure that they are only sold at retail to individuals who will use them for legitimate purposes upon production of proper identification is an essential step to controlling the manufacture of methamphetamine." [2005 c 388 § 1.]

**Effective dates—2005 c 388:** "(1) Section 2 of this act takes effect October 1, 2005.

(2) Sections 1, 3 through 7, 9, and 10 of this act take effect January 1, 2006.

(3) Section 8 of this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 11, 2005]." [2005 c 388 § 11.]

**Severability—2005 c 388:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2005 c 388 § 10.]

**69.43.110 Ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, phenylpropanolamine—Sales restrictions—Electronic sales tracking system—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for a pharmacy licensed by, or shopkeeper or itinerant vendor registered with, the department of health under chapter 18.64 RCW, or an employee thereof, or a practitioner as defined in RCW 18.64.011, knowingly to sell, transfer, or to otherwise furnish, in a single transaction a total of more than 3.6 grams of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, in any twenty-four hour period or more than a total of nine grams per purchaser in any thirty-day period.

(2) It is unlawful for a person who is not a manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacy, practitioner, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor licensed by or registered with the department of health under chapter 18.64 RCW to purchase or acquire more than 3.6 grams in any twenty-four hour period, or more than a total of nine grams in any thirty-day period, of the substances specified in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) It is unlawful for any person to sell or distribute any of the substances specified in subsection (1) of this section unless the person is licensed by or registered with the department of health under chapter 18.64 RCW, or is a practitioner as defined in RCW 18.64.011.

(4)(a) Beginning July 1, 2011, or the date upon which the electronic sales tracking system established under RCW 69.43.165 is available, whichever is later, a pharmacy licensed by, or shopkeeper or itinerant vendor registered with, the department of health under chapter 18.64 RCW shall, before completing a sale under this section, submit the required information to the electronic sales tracking system established under RCW 69.43.165, as long as such a system is available without cost to the pharmacy, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor for accessing the system. The pharmacy, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor may not complete the sale if the

system generates a stop sale alert, except as permitted in RCW 69.43.165.

(b) If a pharmacy, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor selling a nonprescription drug containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers experiences mechanical or electronic failure of the electronic sales tracking system and is unable to comply with the electronic sales tracking requirement, he or she shall maintain a written log or an alternative electronic record-keeping mechanism until such time as he or she is able to comply with the electronic sales tracking requirement.

(c) A pharmacy, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor selling a nonprescription drug containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers may seek an exemption from submitting transactions to the electronic sales tracking system in writing to the board of pharmacy stating the reasons for the exemption. The board may grant an exemption for good cause shown, but in no event shall a granted exemption exceed one hundred eighty days. The board may grant multiple exemptions for any pharmacy, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor if the good cause shown indicates significant hardship for compliance with this section. A pharmacy, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor that receives an exemption shall maintain a logbook in hardcopy form and must require the purchaser to provide the information required under this section before the completion of any sale. The logbook shall be maintained as a record of each sale for inspection by any law enforcement officer or board inspector during normal business hours in accordance with any rules adopted pursuant to RCW 69.43.165. For purposes of this subsection (4)(c), "good cause" includes, but is not limited to, situations where the installation of the necessary equipment to access the system is unavailable or cost prohibitive to the pharmacy, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor.

(d) A pharmacy, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor may withdraw from participating in the electronic sales tracking system if the system is no longer being furnished without cost for accessing the system. A pharmacy, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor who withdraws from the electronic sales tracking system is subject to the same requirements as a pharmacy, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor who has been granted an exemption under (c) of this subsection.

(e) For the purposes of this subsection (4) and RCW 69.43.165:

(i) "Cost for accessing the system" means costs relating to:

(A) Access to the web-based electronic sales tracking software, including inputting and retrieving data;

(B) The web-based software known as software as a service;

(C) Training; and

(D) Technical support to integrate to point of sale vendors, if necessary.

(ii) "Cost for accessing the system" does not include:

(A) Costs relating to required internet access;

(B) Optional hardware that a pharmacy may choose to purchase for work flow purposes; or

(C) Other equipment.

(5) A violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor. [2010 c 182 § 2; 2005 c 388 § 4; 2004 c 52 § 5; 2001 c 96 § 9.]

**Finding—Effective dates—Severability—2005 c 388:** See notes following RCW 69.43.105.

**Finding—Severability—Effective date—2004 c 52:** See notes following RCW 18.64.044.

**Intent—Severability—2001 c 96:** See notes following RCW 69.43.010.

**69.43.120 Ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, phenylpropanolamine—Possession of more than fifteen grams—Penalty—Exceptions.** (1) Any person who possesses more than fifteen grams of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, or a combination of any of those substances, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(2) This section does not apply to any of the following:

(a) A pharmacist or other authorized person who sells or furnishes ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers upon the prescription of a practitioner, as defined in RCW 69.41.010;

(b) A practitioner who administers or furnishes ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers to his or her patients;

(c) A pharmacy, manufacturer, or wholesaler licensed by, or shopkeeper or itinerant vendor registered with, the department of health under chapter 18.64 RCW;

(d) A person in the course of his or her business of selling, transporting, or storing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, for a person described in (a), (b), or (c) of this subsection; or

(e) A person in possession of more than fifteen grams of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers in their home or residence under circumstances consistent with typical medicinal or household use as indicated by, but not limited to, storage location and possession of products in a variety of strengths, brands, types, purposes, and expiration dates. [2001 c 96 § 10.]

**Intent—Severability—2001 c 96:** See notes following RCW 69.43.010.

**69.43.130 Exemptions—Pediatric products—Products exempted by the state board of pharmacy.** RCW 69.43.110 and 69.43.120 do not apply to:

(1) Pediatric products primarily intended for administration to children under twelve years of age, according to label instructions, either: (a) In solid dosage form whose individual dosage units do not exceed fifteen milligrams of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine; or (b) in liquid form whose recommended dosage, according to label instructions, does not exceed fifteen milligrams of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine per five milliliters of liquid product;

(2) Pediatric liquid products primarily intended for administration to children under two years of age for which the recommended dosage does not exceed two milliliters and the total package content does not exceed one fluid ounce;

(3) Products that the state board of pharmacy, upon application of a manufacturer, exempts by rule from RCW 69.43.110 and 69.43.120 because the product has been formulated in such a way as to effectively prevent the conver-

sion of the active ingredient into methamphetamine, or its salts or precursors; or

(4) Products, as packaged, that the board of pharmacy, upon application of a manufacturer, exempts from RCW \*69.43.110(1)(b) and 69.43.120 because:

(a) The product meets the federal definition of an ordinary over-the-counter pseudoephedrine product as defined in 21 U.S.C. 802;

(b) The product is a salt, isomer, or salts of isomers of pseudoephedrine and, as packaged, has a total weight of more than three grams but the net weight of the pseudoephedrine base is equal to or less than three grams; and

(c) The board of pharmacy determines that the value to the people of the state of having the product, as packaged, available for sale to consumers outweighs the danger, and the product, as packaged, has not been used in the illegal manufacture of methamphetamine. [2004 c 52 § 7; 2001 c 96 § 11.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 69.43.110 was amended by 2010 c 182 § 2, changing subsection (1)(b) to subsection (1).

**Finding—Severability—Effective date—2004 c 52:** See notes following RCW 18.64.044.

**Intent—Severability—2001 c 96:** See notes following RCW 69.43.010.

**69.43.135 Iodine, methylsulfonylmethane—Sales restrictions—Recording of transactions—Penalties.** (1) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(a) "Iodine matrix" means iodine at a concentration greater than two percent by weight in a matrix or solution.

(b) "Matrix" means something, as a substance, in which something else originates, develops, or is contained.

(c) "Methylsulfonylmethane" means methylsulfonylmethane in its powder form only, and does not include products containing methylsulfonylmethane in other forms such as liquids, tablets, capsules not containing methylsulfonylmethane in pure powder form, ointments, creams, cosmetics, foods, and beverages.

(2) Any person who knowingly purchases in a thirty-day period or possesses any quantity of iodine in its elemental form, an iodine matrix, or more than two pounds of methylsulfonylmethane is guilty of a gross misdemeanor, except as provided in subsection (3) of this section.

(3) Subsection (2) of this section does not apply to:

(a) A person who possesses iodine in its elemental form or an iodine matrix as a prescription drug, under a prescription issued by a licensed veterinarian, physician, or advanced registered nurse practitioner;

(b) A person who possesses iodine in its elemental form, an iodine matrix, or any quantity of methylsulfonylmethane in its powder form and is actively engaged in the practice of animal husbandry of livestock;

(c) A person who possesses iodine in its elemental form or an iodine matrix in conjunction with experiments conducted in a chemistry or chemistry-related laboratory maintained by a:

(i) Public or private secondary school;

(ii) Public or private institution of higher education that is accredited by a regional or national accrediting agency recognized by the United States department of education;

(iii) Manufacturing facility, government agency, or research facility in the course of lawful business activities;

(d) A veterinarian, physician, advanced registered nurse practitioner, pharmacist, retail distributor, wholesaler, manufacturer, warehouse operator, or common carrier, or an agent of any of these persons who possesses iodine in its elemental form, an iodine matrix, or methylsulfonylmethane in its powder form in the regular course of lawful business activities; or

(e) A person working in a general hospital who possesses iodine in its elemental form or an iodine matrix in the regular course of employment at the hospital.

(4) Any person who purchases any quantity of iodine in its elemental form, an iodine matrix, or any quantity of methylsulfonylmethane must present an identification card or driver's license issued by any state in the United States or jurisdiction of another country before purchasing the item.

(5) The Washington state patrol shall develop a form to be used in recording transactions involving iodine in its elemental form, an iodine matrix, or methylsulfonylmethane. A person who sells or otherwise transfers any quantity of iodine in its elemental form, an iodine matrix, or any quantity of methylsulfonylmethane to a person for any purpose authorized in subsection (3) of this section must record each sale or transfer. The record must be made on the form developed by the Washington state patrol and must be retained by the person for at least three years. The Washington state patrol or any local law enforcement agency may request access to the records.

(a) Failure to make or retain a record required under this subsection is a misdemeanor.

(b) Failure to comply with a request for access to records required under this subsection to the Washington state patrol or a local law enforcement agency is a misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 838; 2006 c 188 § 1.]

**69.43.140 Civil penalty—State board of pharmacy waiver.** (1) In addition to the other penalties provided for in this chapter or in chapter 18.64 RCW, the state board of pharmacy may impose a civil penalty, not to exceed ten thousand dollars for each violation, on any licensee or registrant who has failed to comply with this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter. In the case of a continuing violation, every day the violation continues shall be considered a separate violation.

(2) The state board of pharmacy may waive the suspension or revocation of a license or registration issued under chapter 18.64 RCW, or waive any civil penalty under this chapter, if the licensee or registrant establishes that he or she acted in good faith to prevent violations of this chapter, and the violation occurred despite the licensee's or registrant's exercise of due diligence. In making such a determination, the state board of pharmacy may consider evidence that an employer trained employees on how to sell, transfer, or otherwise furnish substances specified in RCW 69.43.010(1) in accordance with applicable laws. [2001 c 96 § 12.]

**Intent—Severability—2001 c 96:** See notes following RCW 69.43.010.

**69.43.150 Application of chapter to local government.** This chapter is applicable and uniform throughout this state and in all counties, cities, code cities, and towns therein.

A county, city, code city, or town may not adopt or enforce any ordinance, pertaining to this chapter, which prohibits conduct that is not prohibited under this chapter, or defining violations or penalties different from those provided under this chapter. However, this section does not preclude a county, city, code city, or town from revoking, canceling, suspending, or otherwise limiting a business or professional license it has issued for conduct that violates any provision of this chapter. [2001 c 96 § 13.]

**Intent—Severability—2001 c 96:** See notes following RCW 69.43.010.

**69.43.160 Ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, phenylpropanolamine—Methods to prevent sales violations—Department of health preparation of sign summarizing prohibitions.** (1) To prevent violations of RCW 69.43.110, every licensee and registrant under chapter 18.64 RCW, who sells at retail any products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, shall do either or may do both of the following:

(a) Program scanners, cash registers, or other electronic devices used to record sales in a manner that will alert persons handling transactions to potential violations of RCW 69.43.110(1) and/or prevent such violations; or

(b) Place one or more signs on the premises to notify customers of the prohibitions of RCW 69.43.110. Any such sign may, but is not required to, conform to the language and format prepared by the department of health under subsection (2) of this section.

(2) The department of health shall prepare language and format for a sign summarizing the prohibitions in RCW 69.43.110 and 69.43.120 and make the language and format available to licensees and registrants under chapter 18.64 RCW, for voluntary use in their places of business to inform customers and employees of the prohibitions. Nothing in this section requires the department of health to provide licensees or registrants with copies of signs, or any licensee or registrant to use the specific language or format prepared by the department under this subsection. [2001 c 96 § 14.]

**Intent—Severability—2001 c 96:** See notes following RCW 69.43.010.

**69.43.165 Ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, phenylpropanolamine—Electronic sales tracking system—Board of pharmacy authority to adopt rules.** (1) The board of pharmacy shall implement a real-time electronic sales tracking system to monitor the nonprescription sale of products in this state containing any detectable quantity of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, provided that the system is available to the state without cost for accessing the system to the state or retailers. The board is authorized to enter into a public-private partnership, through a memorandum of understanding or similar arrangement, to make the system available.

(2) The records submitted to the tracking system are for the confidential use of the pharmacy, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor who submitted them, except that:

(a) The records must be produced in court when lawfully required;

(b) The records must be open for inspection by the board of pharmacy; and

(c) The records must be available to any general or limited authority Washington peace officer to enforce the provisions of this chapter or to federal law enforcement officers in accordance with rules adopted by the board of pharmacy regarding the privacy of the purchaser of products covered by chapter 182, Laws of 2010 and law enforcement access to the records submitted to the tracking system as provided in this section consistent with the federal combat meth act.

(3) The electronic sales tracking system shall be capable of generating a stop sale alert, which shall be a notification that completion of the sale would result in the seller or purchaser violating the quantity limits in RCW 69.43.110 (1) and (2). The system shall contain an override function for use by a dispenser of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, who has a reasonable fear of imminent bodily harm. Each instance in which the override function is utilized shall be logged by the system.

(4) The board of pharmacy shall have the authority to adopt rules necessary to implement and enforce the provisions of this section. The board of pharmacy shall adopt rules regarding the privacy of the purchaser of products covered by chapter 182, Laws of 2010, and any public or law enforcement access to the records submitted to the tracking system as provided in subsection (2)(c) of this section consistent with the federal combat meth act.

(5) The board of pharmacy may not raise licensing or registration fees to fund the rule making or implementation of this section. [2010 c 182 § 3.]

**69.43.168 Pharmacy, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor—Electronic sales tracking system—Liability.** A pharmacy, shopkeeper, or itinerant vendor participating in the electronic sales tracking system under RCW 69.43.110(4):

(1) Is not liable for civil damages resulting from any act or omission in carrying out the requirements of RCW 69.43.110(4), other than an act or omission constituting gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct; and

(2) Is not liable for civil damages resulting from a data breach that was proximately caused by a failure on the part of the electronic sales tracking system to take reasonable care through the use of industry standard levels of encryption to guard against unauthorized access to account information that is in the possession or control of the system. [2010 c 182 § 4.]

**69.43.180 Expansion of log requirements—Petition by law enforcement.** (1) The Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs or the Washington state patrol may petition the state board of pharmacy to apply the log requirements in \*RCW 69.43.170 to one or more products that contain ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, that is not the only active ingredient and that is in liquid, liquid capsule, or gel capsule form. The petition shall establish that:

(a) Ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine can be effectively extracted from the product and converted into methamphetamine or another controlled dangerous substance; and

(b) Law enforcement, the Washington state patrol, or the department of ecology are finding substantial evidence that the product is being used for the illegal manufacture of methamphetamine or another controlled dangerous substance.

(2) The board of pharmacy shall adopt rules when a petition establishes that requiring the application of the log requirements in \*RCW 69.43.170 to the sale of the product at retail is warranted based upon the effectiveness and extent of use of the product for the illegal manufacture of methamphetamine or other controlled dangerous substances and the extent of the burden of any restrictions upon consumers. The board of pharmacy may adopt emergency rules to apply the log requirements to the sale of a product when the petition establishes that the immediate restriction of the product is necessary in order to protect public health and safety. [2005 c 388 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 69.43.170 was repealed by 2010 c 182 § 6.

**Finding—Effective dates—Severability—2005 c 388:** See notes following RCW 69.43.105.

**69.43.190 Products found at methamphetamine sites—Report.** Each county sheriff shall compile and maintain a record of commercial products containing ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine and packaging found at methamphetamine laboratory sites. The data shall be forwarded to the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs and shall be reported to the legislature by November 1, 2007, and annually thereafter. [2005 c 388 § 9.]

**Finding—Effective dates—Severability—2005 c 388:** See notes following RCW 69.43.105.

## Chapter 69.45 RCW DRUG SAMPLES

### Sections

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69.45.030	Records maintained by manufacturer—Report of loss or theft of drug samples—Reports of practitioners receiving controlled substance drug samples.
69.45.040	Storage and transportation of drug samples—Disposal of samples which have exceeded their expiration dates.
69.45.050	Distribution of drug samples—Written request—No fee or charge permitted—Possession of legend drugs or controlled substances by manufacturers' representatives.
69.45.060	Disposal of surplus, outdated, or damaged drug samples.
69.45.070	Registration fees—Penalty.
69.45.080	Violations of chapter—Manufacturer's liability—Penalty—Seizure of drug samples.
69.45.090	Confidentiality.
69.45.900	Severability—1987 c 411.

**69.45.010 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Board" means the board of pharmacy.

(2) "Drug samples" means any federal food and drug administration approved controlled substance, legend drug, or products requiring prescriptions in this state, which is distributed at no charge to a practitioner by a manufacturer or a manufacturer's representative, exclusive of drugs under clinical investigations approved by the federal food and drug administration.

(3) "Controlled substance" means a drug, substance, or immediate precursor of such drug or substance, so designated

under or pursuant to chapter 69.50 RCW, the uniform controlled substances act.

(4) "Deliver" or "delivery" means the actual, constructive, or attempted transfer from one person to another of a drug or device, whether or not there is an agency relationship.

(5) "Dispense" means the interpretation of a prescription or order for a drug, biological, or device and, pursuant to that prescription or order, the proper selection, measuring, compounding, labeling, or packaging necessary to prepare that prescription or order for delivery.

(6) "Distribute" means to deliver, other than by administering or dispensing, a legend drug.

(7) "Legend drug" means any drug that is required by state law or by regulations of the board to be dispensed on prescription only or is restricted to use by practitioners only.

(8) "Manufacturer" means a person or other entity engaged in the manufacture or distribution of drugs or devices, but does not include a manufacturer's representative.

(9) "Person" means any individual, corporation, government or governmental subdivision or agency, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, association, or any other legal entity.

(10) "Practitioner" means a physician under chapter 18.71 RCW, an osteopathic physician or an osteopathic physician and surgeon under chapter 18.57 RCW, a dentist under chapter 18.32 RCW, a podiatric physician and surgeon under chapter 18.22 RCW, a veterinarian under chapter 18.92 RCW, a pharmacist under chapter 18.64 RCW, a commissioned medical or dental officer in the United States armed forces or the public health service in the discharge of his or her official duties, a duly licensed physician or dentist employed by the veterans administration in the discharge of his or her official duties, a registered nurse or advanced registered nurse practitioner under chapter 18.79 RCW when authorized to prescribe by the nursing care quality assurance commission, an osteopathic physician assistant under chapter 18.57A RCW when authorized by the board of osteopathic medicine and surgery, or a physician assistant under chapter 18.71A RCW when authorized by the medical quality assurance commission.

(11) "Manufacturer's representative" means an agent or employee of a drug manufacturer who is authorized by the drug manufacturer to possess drug samples for the purpose of distribution in this state to appropriately authorized health care practitioners.

(12) "Reasonable cause" means a state of facts found to exist that would warrant a reasonably intelligent and prudent person to believe that a person has violated state or federal drug laws or regulations.

(13) "Department" means the department of health.

(14) "Secretary" means the secretary of health or the secretary's designee. [1994 sp.s. c 9 § 738; 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 444; 1987 c 411 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.45.020 Registration of manufacturers—Additional information required by the department.** A manufacturer that intends to distribute drug samples in this state shall register annually with the department, providing the name and address of the manufacturer, and shall:

(1) Provide a twenty-four hour telephone number and the name of the individual(s) who shall respond to reasonable official inquiries from the department, as directed by the board, based on reasonable cause, regarding required records, reports, or requests for information pursuant to a specific investigation of a possible violation. Each official request by the department and each response by a manufacturer shall be limited to the information specifically relevant to the particular official investigation. Requests for the address of sites in this state at which drug samples are stored by the manufacturer's representative and the names and addresses of the individuals who are responsible for the storage or distribution of the drug samples shall be responded to as soon as possible but not later than the close of business on the next business day following the request; or

(2) If a twenty-four hour telephone number is not available, provide the addresses of sites in this state at which drug samples are stored by the manufacturer's representative, and the names and addresses of the individuals who are responsible for the storage or distribution of the drug samples. The manufacturer shall annually submit a complete updated list of the sites and individuals to the department. [1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 445; 1987 c 411 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.45.030 Records maintained by manufacturer—Report of loss or theft of drug samples—Reports of practitioners receiving controlled substance drug samples.** (1) The following records shall be maintained by the manufacturer distributing drug samples in this state and shall be available for inspection by authorized representatives of the department based on reasonable cause and pursuant to an official investigation:

(a) An inventory of drug samples held in this state for distribution, taken at least annually by a representative of the manufacturer other than the individual in direct control of the drug samples;

(b) Records or documents to account for all drug samples distributed, destroyed, or returned to the manufacturer. The records shall include records for sample drugs signed for by practitioners, dates and methods of destruction, and any dates of returns; and

(c) Copies of all reports of lost or stolen drug samples.

(2) All required records shall be maintained for two years and shall include transaction dates.

(3) Manufacturers shall report to the department the discovery of any loss or theft of drug samples as soon as possible but not later than the close of business on the next business day following the discovery.

(4) Manufacturers shall report to the department as frequently as, and at the same time as, their other reports to the federal drug enforcement administration, or its lawful successor, the name, address and federal registration number for each practitioner who has received controlled substance drug samples and the name, strength and quantity of the controlled substance drug samples distributed. [1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 446; 1987 c 411 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.45.040 Storage and transportation of drug samples—Disposal of samples which have exceeded their**

**expiration dates.** (1) Drug samples shall be stored in compliance with the requirements of federal and state laws, rules, and regulations.

(2) Drug samples shall be maintained in a locked area to which access is limited to persons authorized by the manufacturer.

(3) Drug samples shall be stored and transported in such a manner as to be free of contamination, deterioration, and adulteration.

(4) Drug samples shall be stored under conditions of temperature, light, moisture, and ventilation so as to meet the label instructions for each drug.

(5) Drug samples which have exceeded the expiration date shall be physically separated from other drug samples until disposed of or returned to the manufacturer. [1987 c 411 § 4.]

**69.45.050 Distribution of drug samples—Written request—No fee or charge permitted—Possession of legend drugs or controlled substances by manufacturers' representatives.** (1) Drug samples may be distributed by a manufacturer or a manufacturer's representative only to practitioners legally authorized to prescribe such drugs or, at the request of such practitioner, to pharmacies of hospitals or other health care entities. The recipient of the drug sample must execute a written receipt upon delivery that is returned to the manufacturer or the manufacturer's representative.

(2) Drug samples may be distributed by a manufacturer or a manufacturer's representative only to a practitioner legally authorized to prescribe such drugs pursuant to a written request for such samples. The request shall contain:

(a) The recipient's name, address, and professional designation;

(b) The name, strength, and quantity of the drug samples delivered;

(c) The name or identification of the manufacturer and of the individual distributing the drug sample; and

(d) The dated signature of the practitioner requesting the drug sample.

(3) No fee or charge may be imposed for sample drugs distributed in this state.

(4) A manufacturer's representative shall not possess legend drugs or controlled substances other than those distributed by the manufacturer they represent. Nothing in this section prevents a manufacturer's representative from possessing a legally prescribed and dispensed legend drug or controlled substance. [1989 c 164 § 2; 1987 c 411 § 5.]

**Legislative finding—1989 c 164:** "The legislature finds that chapter 69.45 RCW is more restrictive than the federal prescription drug marketing act of 1987, and the legislature further finds that a change in chapter 69.45 RCW accepting the position of the federal law is beneficial to the citizens of this state." [1989 c 164 § 1.]

**69.45.060 Disposal of surplus, outdated, or damaged drug samples.** Surplus, outdated, or damaged drug samples shall be disposed of as follows:

(1) Returned to the manufacturer; or

(2) Witnessed destruction by such means as to assure that the drug cannot be retrieved. However, controlled substances shall be returned to the manufacturer or disposed of in accordance with rules adopted by the board: **PROVIDED**, That the board shall adopt by rule the regulations of the fed-

eral drug enforcement administration or its lawful successor unless, stating reasonable grounds, it adopts rules consistent with such regulations. [1987 c 411 § 6.]

**69.45.070 Registration fees—Penalty.** The department may charge reasonable fees for registration. The registration fee shall not exceed the fee charged by the department for a pharmacy location license. If the registration fee is not paid on or before the date due, a renewal or new registration may be issued only upon payment of the registration renewal fee and a penalty fee equal to the registration renewal fee. [1991 c 229 § 8; 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 447; 1987 c 411 § 7.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.45.080 Violations of chapter—Manufacturer's liability—Penalty—Seizure of drug samples.** (1) The manufacturer is responsible for the actions and conduct of its representatives with regard to drug samples.

(2) The board may hold a public hearing to examine a possible violation and may require a designated representative of the manufacturer to attend.

(3) If a manufacturer fails to comply with this chapter following notification by the board, the board may impose a civil penalty of up to five thousand dollars. The board shall take no action to impose any civil penalty except pursuant to a hearing held in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW.

(4) Specific drug samples which are distributed in this state in violation of this chapter, following notification by the board, shall be subject to seizure following the procedures set out in RCW 69.41.060. [1987 c 411 § 8.]

**69.45.090 Confidentiality.** All records, reports, and information obtained by the board from or on behalf of a manufacturer or manufacturer's representative under this chapter are confidential and exempt from public inspection and copying under chapter 42.56 RCW. This section does not apply to public disclosure of the identity of persons found by the board to have violated state or federal law, rules, or regulations. This section is not intended to restrict the investigations and proceedings of the board so long as the board maintains the confidentiality required by this section. [2005 c 274 § 330; 1987 c 411 § 9.]

**Part headings not law—Effective date—2005 c 274:** See RCW 42.56.901 and 42.56.902.

**69.45.900 Severability—1987 c 411.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1987 c 411 § 12.]

## Chapter 69.50 RCW

### UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT

#### Sections

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#### ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS

**69.50.101 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, definitions of terms shall be as indicated where used in this chapter:

(a) "Administer" means to apply a controlled substance, whether by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or any other means, directly to the body of a patient or research subject by:

(1) a practitioner authorized to prescribe (or, by the practitioner's authorized agent); or

(2) the patient or research subject at the direction and in the presence of the practitioner.

(b) "Agent" means an authorized person who acts on behalf of or at the direction of a manufacturer, distributor, or dispenser. It does not include a common or contract carrier, public warehouseperson, or employee of the carrier or warehouseperson.

(c) "Board" means the state board of pharmacy.

(d) "Controlled substance" means a drug, substance, or immediate precursor included in Schedules I through V as set forth in federal or state laws, or federal or board rules.

(e)(1) "Controlled substance analog" means a substance the chemical structure of which is substantially similar to the chemical structure of a controlled substance in Schedule I or II and:

(i) that has a stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system substantially similar to the stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system of a controlled substance included in Schedule I or II; or

(ii) with respect to a particular individual, that the individual represents or intends to have a stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system substantially similar to the stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system of a controlled substance included in Schedule I or II.

(2) The term does not include:

(i) a controlled substance;

(ii) a substance for which there is an approved new drug application;

(iii) a substance with respect to which an exemption is in effect for investigational use by a particular person under Section 505 of the federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. Sec. 355, to the extent conduct with respect to the substance is pursuant to the exemption; or



(iv) any substance to the extent not intended for human consumption before an exemption takes effect with respect to the substance.

(f) "Deliver" or "delivery," means the actual or constructive transfer from one person to another of a substance, whether or not there is an agency relationship.

(g) "Department" means the department of health.

(h) "Dispense" means the interpretation of a prescription or order for a controlled substance and, pursuant to that prescription or order, the proper selection, measuring, compounding, labeling, or packaging necessary to prepare that prescription or order for delivery.

(i) "Dispenser" means a practitioner who dispenses.

(j) "Distribute" means to deliver other than by administering or dispensing a controlled substance.

(k) "Distributor" means a person who distributes.

(l) "Drug" means (1) a controlled substance recognized as a drug in the official United States pharmacopoeia/national formulary or the official homeopathic pharmacopoeia of the United States, or any supplement to them; (2) controlled substances intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in individuals or animals; (3) controlled substances (other than food) intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of individuals or animals; and (4) controlled substances intended for use as a component of any article specified in (1), (2), or (3) of this subsection. The term does not include devices or their components, parts, or accessories.

(m) "Drug enforcement administration" means the drug enforcement administration in the United States Department of Justice, or its successor agency.

(n) "Electronic communication of prescription information" means the communication of prescription information by computer, or the transmission of an exact visual image of a prescription by facsimile, or other electronic means for original prescription information or prescription refill information for a Schedule III-V controlled substance between an authorized practitioner and a pharmacy or the transfer of prescription information for a controlled substance from one pharmacy to another pharmacy.

(o) "Immediate precursor" means a substance:

(1) that the state board of pharmacy has found to be and by rule designates as being the principal compound commonly used, or produced primarily for use, in the manufacture of a controlled substance;

(2) that is an immediate chemical intermediary used or likely to be used in the manufacture of a controlled substance; and

(3) the control of which is necessary to prevent, curtail, or limit the manufacture of the controlled substance.

(p) "Isomer" means an optical isomer, but in RCW 69.50.101(r)(5), 69.50.204(a) (12) and (34), and 69.50.206(b)(4), the term includes any geometrical isomer; in RCW 69.50.204(a) (8) and (42), and 69.50.210(c) the term includes any positional isomer; and in RCW 69.50.204(a)(35), 69.50.204(c), and 69.50.208(a) the term includes any positional or geometric isomer.

(q) "Manufacture" means the production, preparation, propagation, compounding, conversion, or processing of a controlled substance, either directly or indirectly or by extraction from substances of natural origin, or independ-

ently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, and includes any packaging or repackaging of the substance or labeling or relabeling of its container. The term does not include the preparation, compounding, packaging, repackaging, labeling, or relabeling of a controlled substance:

(1) by a practitioner as an incident to the practitioner's administering or dispensing of a controlled substance in the course of the practitioner's professional practice; or

(2) by a practitioner, or by the practitioner's authorized agent under the practitioner's supervision, for the purpose of, or as an incident to, research, teaching, or chemical analysis and not for sale.

(r) "Marijuana" or "marihuana" means all parts of the plant *Cannabis*, whether growing or not; the seeds thereof; the resin extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds or resin. The term does not include the mature stalks of the plant, fiber produced from the stalks, oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant, any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the mature stalks (except the resin extracted therefrom), fiber, oil, or cake, or the sterilized seed of the plant which is incapable of germination.

(s) "Narcotic drug" means any of the following, whether produced directly or indirectly by extraction from substances of vegetable origin, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis:

(1) Opium, opium derivative, and any derivative of opium or opium derivative, including their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, whenever the existence of the salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation. The term does not include the isoquinoline alkaloids of opium.

(2) Synthetic opiate and any derivative of synthetic opiate, including their isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters, and ethers, whenever the existence of the isomers, esters, ethers, and salts is possible within the specific chemical designation.

(3) Poppy straw and concentrate of poppy straw.

(4) Coca leaves, except coca leaves and extracts of coca leaves from which cocaine, ecgonine, and derivatives or ecgonine or their salts have been removed.

(5) Cocaine, or any salt, isomer, or salt of isomer thereof.

(6) Cocaine base.

(7) Ecgonine, or any derivative, salt, isomer, or salt of isomer thereof.

(8) Any compound, mixture, or preparation containing any quantity of any substance referred to in subparagraphs (1) through (7).

(t) "Opiate" means any substance having an addiction-forming or addiction-sustaining liability similar to morphine or being capable of conversion into a drug having addiction-forming or addiction-sustaining liability. The term includes opium, substances derived from opium (opium derivatives), and synthetic opiates. The term does not include, unless specifically designated as controlled under RCW 69.50.201, the dextrorotatory isomer of 3-methoxy-n-methylmorphinan and its salts (dextromethorphan). The term includes the racemic and levorotatory forms of dextromethorphan.

(u) "Opium poppy" means the plant of the species *Papaver somniferum* L., except its seeds.

(v) "Person" means individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, association, joint venture, government, governmental subdivision or agency, or any other legal or commercial entity.

(w) "Poppy straw" means all parts, except the seeds, of the opium poppy, after mowing.

(x) "Practitioner" means:

(1) A physician under chapter 18.71 RCW; a physician assistant under chapter 18.71A RCW; an osteopathic physician and surgeon under chapter 18.57 RCW; an osteopathic physician assistant under chapter 18.57A RCW who is licensed under RCW 18.57A.020 subject to any limitations in RCW 18.57A.040; an optometrist licensed under chapter 18.53 RCW who is certified by the optometry board under RCW 18.53.010 subject to any limitations in RCW 18.53.010; a dentist under chapter 18.32 RCW; a podiatric physician and surgeon under chapter 18.22 RCW; a veterinarian under chapter 18.92 RCW; a registered nurse, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or licensed practical nurse under chapter 18.79 RCW; a naturopathic physician under chapter 18.36A RCW who is licensed under RCW 18.36A.030 subject to any limitations in RCW 18.36A.040; a pharmacist under chapter 18.64 RCW or a scientific investigator under this chapter, licensed, registered or otherwise permitted insofar as is consistent with those licensing laws to distribute, dispense, conduct research with respect to or administer a controlled substance in the course of their professional practice or research in this state.

(2) A pharmacy, hospital or other institution licensed, registered, or otherwise permitted to distribute, dispense, conduct research with respect to or to administer a controlled substance in the course of professional practice or research in this state.

(3) A physician licensed to practice medicine and surgery, a physician licensed to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery, a dentist licensed to practice dentistry, a podiatric physician and surgeon licensed to practice podiatric medicine and surgery, an advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed to prescribe controlled substances, or a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in any state of the United States.

(y) "Prescription" means an order for controlled substances issued by a practitioner duly authorized by law or rule in the state of Washington to prescribe controlled substances within the scope of his or her professional practice for a legitimate medical purpose.

(z) "Production" includes the manufacturing, planting, cultivating, growing, or harvesting of a controlled substance.

(aa) "Secretary" means the secretary of health or the secretary's designee.

(bb) "State," unless the context otherwise requires, means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

(cc) "Ultimate user" means an individual who lawfully possesses a controlled substance for the individual's own use or for the use of a member of the individual's household or for administering to an animal owned by the individual or by a member of the individual's household. [2012 c 8 § 1; 2010

c 177 § 1; 2003 c 142 § 4; 1998 c 222 § 3; 1996 c 178 § 18; 1994 sp.s. c 9 § 739; 1993 c 187 § 1. Prior: 1990 c 248 § 1; 1990 c 219 § 3; 1990 c 196 § 8; 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 429; 1987 c 144 § 2; 1986 c 124 § 1; 1984 c 153 § 18; 1980 c 71 § 2; 1973 2nd ex.s. c 38 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.101.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Severability—2003 c 142:** See note following RCW 18.53.010.

**Finding—1990 c 219:** See note following RCW 69.41.030.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.102 Drug paraphernalia—Definitions.** (a) As used in this chapter, "drug paraphernalia" means all equipment, products, and materials of any kind which are used, intended for use, or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing into the human body a controlled substance. It includes, but is not limited to:

(1) Kits used, intended for use, or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, or harvesting of any species of plant which is a controlled substance or from which a controlled substance can be derived;

(2) Kits used, intended for use, or designed for use in manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, or preparing controlled substances;

(3) Isomerization devices used, intended for use, or designed for use in increasing the potency of any species of plant which is a controlled substance;

(4) Testing equipment used, intended for use, or designed for use in identifying or in analyzing the strength, effectiveness, or purity of controlled substances;

(5) Scales and balances used, intended for use, or designed for use in weighing or measuring controlled substances;

(6) Diluents and adulterants, such as quinine hydrochloride, mannitol, mannite, dextrose, and lactose, used, intended for use, or designed for use in cutting controlled substances;

(7) Separation gins and sifters used, intended for use, or designed for use in removing twigs and seeds from, or in otherwise cleaning or refining, marijuana;

(8) Blenders, bowls, containers, spoons, and mixing devices used, intended for use, or designed for use in compounding controlled substances;

(9) Capsules, balloons, envelopes, and other containers used, intended for use, or designed for use in packaging small quantities of controlled substances;

(10) Containers and other objects used, intended for use, or designed for use in storing or concealing controlled substances;

(11) Hypodermic syringes, needles, and other objects used, intended for use, or designed for use in parenterally injecting controlled substances into the human body;

(12) Objects used, intended for use, or designed for use in ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing marijuana, cocaine, hashish, or hashish oil into the human body, such as:

(i) Metal, wooden, acrylic, glass, stone, plastic, or ceramic pipes with or without screens, permanent screens, hashish heads, or punctured metal bowls;

- (ii) Water pipes;
- (iii) Carburetion tubes and devices;
- (iv) Smoking and carburetion masks;
- (v) Roach clips: Meaning objects used to hold burning material, such as a marihuana cigarette, that has become too small or too short to be held in the hand;
- (vi) Miniature cocaine spoons, and cocaine vials;
- (vii) Chamber pipes;
- (viii) Carburetor pipes;
- (ix) Electric pipes;
- (x) Air-driven pipes;
- (xi) Chillums;
- (xii) Bongos; and
- (xiii) Ice pipes or chillers.

(b) In determining whether an object is drug paraphernalia under this section, a court or other authority should consider, in addition to all other logically relevant factors, the following:

- (1) Statements by an owner or by anyone in control of the object concerning its use;
- (2) Prior convictions, if any, of an owner, or of anyone in control of the object, under any state or federal law relating to any controlled substance;
- (3) The proximity of the object, in time and space, to a direct violation of this chapter;
- (4) The proximity of the object to controlled substances;
- (5) The existence of any residue of controlled substances on the object;
- (6) Direct or circumstantial evidence of the intent of an owner, or of anyone in control of the object, to deliver it to persons whom he or she knows, or should reasonably know, intend to use the object to facilitate a violation of this chapter; the innocence of an owner, or of anyone in control of the object, as to a direct violation of this chapter shall not prevent a finding that the object is intended or designed for use as drug paraphernalia;
- (7) Instructions, oral or written, provided with the object concerning its use;
- (8) Descriptive materials accompanying the object which explain or depict its use;
- (9) National and local advertising concerning its use;
- (10) The manner in which the object is displayed for sale;
- (11) Whether the owner, or anyone in control of the object, is a legitimate supplier of like or related items to the community, such as a licensed distributor or dealer of tobacco products;
- (12) Direct or circumstantial evidence of the ratio of sales of the object(s) to the total sales of the business enterprise;
- (13) The existence and scope of legitimate uses for the object in the community; and
- (14) Expert testimony concerning its use. [2012 c 117 § 366; 1981 c 48 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## ARTICLE II STANDARDS AND SCHEDULES

**69.50.201 Enforcement of chapter—Authority to change schedules of controlled substances.** (a) The state

board of pharmacy shall enforce this chapter and may add substances to or delete or reschedule substances listed in RCW 69.50.204, 69.50.206, 69.50.208, 69.50.210, or 69.50.212 pursuant to the procedures of chapter 34.05 RCW.

(1) In making a determination regarding a substance, the board shall consider the following:

- (i) the actual or relative potential for abuse;
- (ii) the scientific evidence of its pharmacological effect, if known;
- (iii) the state of current scientific knowledge regarding the substance;
- (iv) the history and current pattern of abuse;
- (v) the scope, duration, and significance of abuse;
- (vi) the risk to the public health;
- (vii) the potential of the substance to produce psychic or physiological dependence liability; and
- (viii) whether the substance is an immediate precursor of a controlled substance.

(2) The board may consider findings of the federal Food and Drug Administration or the Drug Enforcement Administration as prima facie evidence relating to one or more of the determinative factors.

(b) After considering the factors enumerated in subsection (a) of this section, the board shall make findings with respect thereto and adopt and cause to be published a rule controlling the substance upon finding the substance has a potential for abuse.

(c) The board, without regard to the findings required by subsection (a) of this section or RCW 69.50.203, 69.50.205, 69.50.207, 69.50.209, and 69.50.211 or the procedures prescribed by subsections (a) and (b) of this section, may place an immediate precursor in the same schedule in which the controlled substance of which it is an immediate precursor is placed or in any other schedule. If the board designates a substance as an immediate precursor, substances that are precursors of the controlled precursor are not subject to control solely because they are precursors of the controlled precursor.

(d) If a substance is designated, rescheduled, or deleted as a controlled substance under federal law, the board shall similarly control the substance under this chapter after the expiration of thirty days from the date of publication in the federal register of a final order designating the substance as a controlled substance or rescheduling or deleting the substance or from the date of issuance of an order of temporary scheduling under Section 508 of the federal Dangerous Drug Diversion Control Act of 1984, 21 U.S.C. Sec. 811(h), unless within that thirty-day period, the board or an interested party objects to inclusion, rescheduling, temporary scheduling, or deletion. If no objection is made, the board shall adopt and cause to be published, without the necessity of making determinations or findings as required by subsection (a) of this section or RCW 69.50.203, 69.50.205, 69.50.207, 69.50.209, and 69.50.211, a final rule, for which notice of proposed rule making is omitted, designating, rescheduling, temporarily scheduling, or deleting the substance. If an objection is made, the board shall make a determination with respect to the designation, rescheduling, or deletion of the substance as provided by subsection (a) of this section. Upon receipt of an objection to inclusion, rescheduling, or deletion under this chapter by the board, the board shall publish notice of the

receipt of the objection, and control under this chapter is stayed until the board adopts a rule as provided by subsection (a) of this section.

(e) The board, by rule and without regard to the requirements of subsection (a) of this section, may schedule a substance in Schedule I regardless of whether the substance is substantially similar to a controlled substance in Schedule I or II if the board finds that scheduling of the substance on an emergency basis is necessary to avoid an imminent hazard to the public safety and the substance is not included in any other schedule or no exemption or approval is in effect for the substance under Section 505 of the federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. Sec. 355. Upon receipt of notice under RCW 69.50.214, the board shall initiate scheduling of the controlled substance analog on an emergency basis pursuant to this subsection. The scheduling of a substance under this subsection expires one year after the adoption of the scheduling rule. With respect to the finding of an imminent hazard to the public safety, the board shall consider whether the substance has been scheduled on a temporary basis under federal law or factors set forth in subsection (a)(1)(iv), (v), and (vi) of this section, and may also consider clandestine importation, manufacture, or distribution, and, if available, information concerning the other factors set forth in subsection (a)(1) of this section. A rule may not be adopted under this subsection until the board initiates a rule-making proceeding under subsection (a) of this section with respect to the substance. A rule adopted under this subsection must be vacated upon the conclusion of the rule-making proceeding initiated under subsection (a) of this section with respect to the substance.

(g) [(f)] Authority to control under this section does not extend to distilled spirits, wine, malt beverages, or tobacco as those terms are defined or used in Titles 66 and 26 RCW. [1998 c 245 § 108; 1993 c 187 § 2; 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 430; 1986 c 124 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.201.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.202 Nomenclature.** The controlled substances listed or to be listed in the schedules in RCW 69.50.204, 69.50.206, 69.50.208, 69.50.210, and 69.50.212 are included by whatever official, common, usual, chemical, or trade name designated. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.202.]

**69.50.203 Schedule I tests.** (a) The state board of pharmacy shall place a substance in Schedule I upon finding that the substance:

- (1) has high potential for abuse;
- (2) has no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States; and
- (3) lacks accepted safety for use in treatment under medical supervision.

(b) The board may place a substance in Schedule I without making the findings required by subsection (a) of this section if the substance is controlled under Schedule I of the federal Controlled Substances Act by a federal agency as the result of an international treaty, convention, or protocol. [1993 c 187 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.203.]

**69.50.204 Schedule I.** Unless specifically excepted by state or federal law or regulation or more specifically

included in another schedule, the following controlled substances are listed in Schedule I:

(a) Any of the following opiates, including their isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters, and ethers whenever the existence of these isomers, esters, ethers, and salts is possible within the specific chemical designation:

- (1) Acetyl-alpha-methylfentanyl (N-[1-(1-methyl-2-phenethyl)-4-piperidiny]-N-phenylacetamide);
- (2) Acetylmethadol;
- (3) Allylprodine;
- (4) Alphacetylmethadol, except levo-alpha-acetylmethadol, also known as levo-alpha-acetylmethadol, levomethadyl acetate, or LAAM;
- (5) Alphameprodine;
- (6) Alphamethadol;
- (7) Alpha-methylfentanyl (N-[1-(alpha-methyl-beta-phenyl) ethyl-4-piperidyl] propionanilide); (1-(1-methyl-2-phenylethyl)-4-(N-propanilido) piperidine);
- (8) Alpha-methylthiofentanyl (N-[1-methyl-2-(2-thienyl)ethyl-4-piperidiny]-N-phenylpropanamide);
- (9) Benzethidine;
- (10) Betacetylmethadol;
- (11) Beta-hydroxyfentanyl (N-[1-(2-hydroxy-2-phenethyl)-4-piperidiny]-N-phenylpropanamide);
- (12) Beta-hydroxy-3-methylfentanyl, some trade or other names: N-[1-(2-hydrox-2-phenethyl)-3-methyl-4-piperidiny]-N-phenylpropanamide;
- (13) Betameprodine;
- (14) Betamethadol;
- (15) Betaprodine;
- (16) Clonitazene;
- (17) Dextromoramide;
- (18) Diampromide;
- (19) Diethylthiambutene;
- (20) Difenoxin;
- (21) Dimenoxadol;
- (22) Dimepheptanol;
- (23) Dimethylthiambutene;
- (24) Dioxaphetyl butyrate;
- (25) Dipipanone;
- (26) Ethylmethylthiambutene;
- (27) Etonitazene;
- (28) Etoxidine;
- (29) Furethidine;
- (30) Hydroxypethidine;
- (31) Ketobemidone;
- (32) Levomoramide;
- (33) Levophenacymorphan;
- (34) 3-Methylfentanyl (N-[3-methyl-1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidyl]-N-phenylprop anamide);
- (35) 3-Methylthiofentanyl (N-[(3-methyl-1-(2-thienyl)ethyl-4-piperidiny]-N-phenylpropanamide);
- (36) Morpheridine;
- (37) MPPP (1-methyl-4-phenyl-4-propionoxypiperidine);
- (38) Noracymethadol;
- (39) Norlevorphanol;
- (40) Normethadone;
- (41) Norpipanone;
- (42) Para-fluorofentanyl (N-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-[1-(2-phenethyl)-4-piperidiny] propanamide);

- (43) PEPAP(1-(-2-phenethyl)-4-phenyl-4-acetoxypiperidine);
- (44) Phenadoxone;
- (45) Phenampromide;
- (46) Phenomorphan;
- (47) Phenoperidine;
- (48) Piritramide;
- (49) Proheptazine;
- (50) Properidine;
- (51) Propiram;
- (52) Racemoramide;
- (53) Thiofentanyl (N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-thienyl)ethyl-4-piperidinyl]-propanamide);
- (54) Tilidine;
- (55) Trimeperidine.

(b) Opium derivatives. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any of the following opium derivatives, including their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of those salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation:

- (1) Acetorphine;
- (2) Acetyldihydrocodeine;
- (3) Benzylmorphine;
- (4) Codeine methylbromide;
- (5) Codeine-N-Oxide;
- (6) Cyprenorphine;
- (7) Desomorphine;
- (8) Dihydromorphine;
- (9) Drotebanol;
- (10) Etorphine, except hydrochloride salt;
- (11) Heroin;
- (12) Hydromorphanol;
- (13) Methyl-desorphine;
- (14) Methyl-dihydromorphine;
- (15) Morphine methylbromide;
- (16) Morphine methylsulfonate;
- (17) Morphine-N-Oxide;
- (18) Myrophine;
- (19) Nicocodeine;
- (20) Nicomorphine;
- (21) Normorphine;
- (22) Pholcodine;
- (23) Thebacon.

(c) Hallucinogenic substances. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of the following hallucinogenic substances, including their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of those salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation. For the purposes of this subsection only, the term "isomer" includes the optical, position, and geometric isomers:

- (1) Alpha-ethyltryptamine: Some trade or other names: Etryptamine; monase; a-ethyl-1H-indole-3-ethanamine; 3-(2-aminobutyl) indole; a-ET; and AET;
- (2) 4-bromo-2,5-dimethoxy-amphetamine: Some trade or other names: 4-bromo-2,5-dimethoxy-a-methylphenethylamine; 4-bromo-2,5-DMA;

(3) 4-bromo-2,5-dimethoxyphenethylamine: Some trade or other names: 2-(4-bromo-2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-aminoethane; alpha-desmethyl DOB; 2C-B, nexus;

(4) 2,5-dimethoxyamphetamine: Some trade or other names: 2,5-dimethoxy-a-methylphenethylamine; 2,5-DMA;

(5) 2,5-dimethoxy-4-ethylamphetamine (DOET);

(6) 2,5-dimethoxy-4-(n)-propylthiophenethylamine: Other name: 2C-T-7;

(7) 4-methoxyamphetamine: Some trade or other names: 4-methoxy-a-methylphenethylamine; paramethoxyamphetamine, PMA;

(8) 5-methoxy-3,4-methylenedioxy-amphetamine;

(9) 4-methyl-2,5-dimethoxy-amphetamine: Some trade and other names: 4-methyl-2,5-dimethoxy-a-methylphenethylamine; "DOM"; and "STP";

(10) 3,4-methylenedioxy amphetamine;

(11) 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA);

(12) 3,4-methylenedioxy-N-ethylamphetamine, also known as N-ethyl-alpha-methyl-3,4(methylenedioxy)phenethylamine, N-ethyl MDA, MDE, MDEA;

(13) N-hydroxy-3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine also known as N-hydroxy-alpha-methyl-3,4(methylenedioxy)phenethylamine, N-hydroxy MDA;

(14) 3,4,5-trimethoxy amphetamine;

(15) Alpha-methyltryptamine: Other name: AMT;

(16) Bufotenine: Some trade or other names: 3-(beta-Dimethylaminoethyl)-5-hydroxindole; 3-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-5-indolol; N, N-dimethylserotonin; 5-hydroxy-N,N-dimethyltryptamine; mappine;

(17) Diethyltryptamine: Some trade or other names: N,N-Diethyltryptamine; DET;

(18) Dimethyltryptamine: Some trade or other names: DMT;

(19) 5-methoxy-N,N-diisopropyltryptamine: Other name: 5-MeO-DIPT;

(20) Ibogaine: Some trade or other names: 7-Ethyl-6,6 beta,7,8,9,10,12,13,-octahydro-2-methoxy-6,9-methano-5H-pyrido (1',2' 1,2) azepino (5,4-b) indole; Tabernanthe iboga;

(21) Lysergic acid diethylamide;

(22) Marihuana or marijuana;

(23) Mescaline;

(24) Parahexyl-7374: Some trade or other names: 3-Hexyl-1-hydroxy-7, 8, 9, 10-tetrahydro-6, 6, 9-trimethyl-6H-dibenzo[b,d]pyran; synhexyl;

(25) Peyote, meaning all parts of the plant presently classified botanically as *Lophophora Williamsii* Lemaire, whether growing or not, the seeds thereof, any extract from any part of such plant, and every compound, manufacture, salts, derivative, mixture, or preparation of such plant, its seeds, or extracts; (interprets 21 U.S.C. Sec. 812 (c), Schedule I (c)(12));

(26) N-ethyl-3-piperidyl benzilate;

(27) N-methyl-3-piperidyl benzilate;

(28) Psilocybin;

(29) Psilocyn;

(30) Tetrahydrocannabinols, meaning tetrahydrocannabinols naturally contained in a plant of the genus *Cannabis* (cannabis plant), as well as synthetic equivalents of the substances contained in the plant, or in the resinous extractives of *Cannabis*, species, and/or synthetic substances, deriva-

tives, and their isomers with similar chemical structure and pharmacological activity such as the following:

(i) 1 - cis - or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and their optical isomers, excluding tetrahydrocannabinol in sesame oil and encapsulated in a soft gelatin capsule in a drug product approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration;

(ii) 6 - cis - or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and their optical isomers;

(iii) 3,4 - cis - or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and its optical isomers;

(Since nomenclature of these substances is not internationally standardized, compounds of these structures, regardless of numerical designation of atomic positions covered.)

(31) Ethylamine analog of phencyclidine: Some trade or other names: N-ethyl-1-phenylcyclohexylamine, (1-phenylcyclohexyl) ethylamine; N-(1-phenylcyclohexyl)ethylamine; cyclohexamine; PCE;

(32) Pyrrolidine analog of phencyclidine: Some trade or other names: 1-(1-phenylcyclohexyl)pyrrolidine; PCPy; PHP;

(33) Thiophene analog of phencyclidine: Some trade or other names: 1-(1-[2-thienyl]-cyclohexyl)-piperidine; 2-thienyl analog of phencyclidine; TCP; TCP;

(34) 1-[1-(2-thienyl)cyclohexyl]pyrrolidine: A trade or other name is TCPy.

(d) Depressants. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of the following substances having a depressant effect on the central nervous system, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation.

(1) Gamma-hydroxybutyric acid: Some other names include GHB; gamma-hydroxybutyrate; 4-hydroxybutyrate; 4-hydroxybutanoic acid; sodium oxybate; sodium oxybutyrate;

(2) Mecloqualone;

(3) Methaqualone.

(e) Stimulants. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of the following substances having a stimulant effect on the central nervous system, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers:

(1) Aminorex: Some other names: aminoxaphen; 2-amino-5-phenyl-2-oxazoline; or 4, 5-dihydro-5-phenyl-2-oxazoline;

(2) N-Benzylpiperazine: Some other names: BZP, 1-benzylpiperazine;

(3) Cathinone, also known as 2-amino-1-phenyl-1-propanone, alpha-aminopropiophenone, 2-aminopropiophenone and norephedrone;

(4) Fenethylamine;

(5) Methcathinone: Some other names: 2-(methylamino)-propiophenone; alpha-(methylamino)propionophenone; 2-(methylamino)-1-phenylpropan-1-one; alpha-N-methylaminopropiophenone; monomethylpropion; ephedrone; N-methylcathinone; methylcathinone; AL-464; AL-422; AL-463 and UR1432, its salts, optical isomers, and salts of optical isomers;

(6) (+-)-cis-4-methylaminorex ((+)-cis-4,5-dihydro-4-methyl-5-phenyl-2-oxazolamine);

(7) N-ethylamphetamine;

(8) N,N-dimethylamphetamine: Some trade or other names: N,N-alpha-trimethyl-benzeneethanamine; N,N-alpha-trimethylphenoethylene.

The controlled substances in this section may be added, rescheduled, or deleted as provided for in RCW 69.50.201. [2010 c 177 § 2; 1993 c 187 § 4; 1986 c 124 § 3; 1980 c 138 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.204.]

*State board of pharmacy may change schedules of controlled substances: RCW 69.50.201.*

**69.50.205 Schedule II tests.** (a) The state board of pharmacy shall place a substance in Schedule II upon finding that:

(1) the substance has high potential for abuse;

(2) the substance has currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, or currently accepted medical use with severe restrictions; and

(3) the abuse of the substance may lead to severe psychological or physical dependence.

(b) The state board of pharmacy may place a substance in Schedule II without making the findings required by subsection (a) of this section if the substance is controlled under Schedule II of the federal Controlled Substances Act by a federal agency as the result of an international treaty, convention, or protocol. [1993 c 187 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.205.]

**69.50.206 Schedule II.** (a) The drugs and other substances listed in this section, by whatever official name, common or usual name, chemical name, or brand name designated, are included in Schedule II.

(b) Substances. (Vegetable origin or chemical synthesis.) Unless specifically excepted, any of the following substances, except those listed in other schedules, whether produced directly or indirectly by extraction from substances of vegetable origin, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by combination of extraction and chemical synthesis:

(1) Opium and opiate, and any salt, compound, derivative, or preparation of opium or opiate, excluding apomorphine, thebaine-derived butorphanol, dextrophan, nalbuphine, nalmefene, naloxone, and naltrexone, and their respective salts, but including the following:

(i) Raw opium;

(ii) Opium extracts;

(iii) Opium fluid;

(iv) Powdered opium;

(v) Granulated opium;

(vi) Tincture of opium;

(vii) Codeine;

(viii) Dihydroetorphine;

(ix) Ethylmorphine;

(x) Etorphine hydrochloride;

(xi) Hydrocodone;

(xii) Hydromorphone;

(xiii) Metopon;

(xiv) Morphine;

(xv) Oripavine;

(xvi) Oxycodone;

(xvii) Oxymorphone; and

(xviii) Thebaine.

(2) Any salt, compound, isomer, derivative, or preparation thereof that is chemically equivalent or identical with any of the substances referred to in subsection (b)(1) of this section, but not including the isoquinoline alkaloids of opium.

(3) Opium poppy and poppy straw.

(4) Coca leaves and any salt, compound, derivative, or preparation of coca leaves including cocaine and ecgonine, and their salts, isomers, derivatives, and salts of isomers and derivatives, and any salt, compound, derivative, or preparation thereof which is chemically equivalent or identical with any of these substances, except that the substances shall not include decocainized coca leaves or extractions of coca leaves which do not contain cocaine or ecgonine.

(5) Concentrate of poppy straw (The crude extract of poppy straw in either liquid, solid, or powder form which contains the phenanthrene alkaloids of the opium poppy.)

(c) Opiates. Unless specifically excepted or unless in another schedule, any of the following synthetic opiates, including its isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters, and ethers, whenever the existence of such isomers, esters, ethers, and salts is possible within the specific chemical designation, dextrorphan and levopropoxyphene excepted:

- (1) Alfentanil;
- (2) Alphaprodine;
- (3) Anileridine;
- (4) Bezitramide;
- (5) Bulk dextropropoxyphene (nondosage forms);
- (6) Carfentanil;
- (7) Dihydrocodeine;
- (8) Diphenoxylate;
- (9) Fentanyl;
- (10) Isomethadone;
- (11) Levo-alpha-acetylmethadol, also known as levo-alpha-acetylmethadol, levomethadyl acetate, or LAAM;
- (12) Levomethorphan;
- (13) Levorphanol;
- (14) Metazocine;
- (15) Methadone;
- (16) Methadone—Intermediate, 4-cyano-2-dimethyl-amino-4, 4-diphenyl butane;
- (17) Moramide—Intermediate, 2-methyl-3-morpholino-1, 1-diphenylpropane-carboxylic acid;
- (18) Pethidine (meperidine);
- (19) Pethidine—Intermediate-A, 4-cyano-1-methyl-4-phenylpiperidine;
- (20) Pethidine—Intermediate-B, ethyl-4-phenylpiperidine-4-carboxylate;
- (21) Pethidine-Intermediate-C, 1-methyl-4-phenylpiperidine-4-carboxylic acid;
- (22) Phenazocine;
- (23) Piminodine;
- (24) Racemethorphan;
- (25) Racemorphan;
- (26) Remifentanil;
- (27) Sufentanil;
- (28) Tapentadol.

(d) Stimulants. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture,

or preparation which contains any quantity of the following substances having a stimulant effect on the central nervous system:

(1) Amphetamine, its salts, optical isomers, and salts of its optical isomers;

(2) Methamphetamine, its salts, isomers, and salts of its isomers;

(3) Phenmetrazine and its salts;

(4) Methylphenidate;

(5) Lisdexamfetamine, its salts, isomers, and salts of its isomers.

(e) Depressants. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of the following substances having a depressant effect on the central nervous system, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation:

(1) Amobarbital;

(2) Glutethimide;

(3) Pentobarbital;

(4) Phencyclidine;

(5) Secobarbital.

(f) Hallucinogenic substances.

Nabilone: Some trade or other names are ( $\pm$ )-trans-3-(1,1-dimethylheptyl)-6,6a,7,8,10,10a-hexahydro-1-hydroxy-6,6-dimethyl-9H-dibenzol[b,d]pyran-9-one.

(g) Immediate precursors. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of the following substances:

(1) Immediate precursor to amphetamine and methamphetamine:

(i) Phenylacetone: Some trade or other names phenyl-2-propanone, P2P, benzyl methyl ketone, methyl benzyl ketone.

(2) Immediate precursors to phencyclidine (PCP):

(i) 1-phenylcyclohexylamine;

(ii) 1-piperidinocyclohexanecarbonitrile (PCC).

The controlled substances in this section may be added, rescheduled, or deleted as provided for in RCW 69.50.201. [2010 c 177 § 3; 1993 c 187 § 6; 1986 c 124 § 4; 1980 c 138 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.206.]

*State board of pharmacy may change schedules of controlled substances: RCW 69.50.201.*

**69.50.207 Schedule III tests.** (a) The state board of pharmacy shall place a substance in Schedule III upon finding that:

(1) the substance has a potential for abuse less than the substances included in Schedules I and II;

(2) the substance has currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States; and

(3) abuse of the substance may lead to moderate or low physical dependence or high psychological dependence.

(b) The state board of pharmacy may place a substance in Schedule III without making the findings required by subsection (a) of this section if the substance is controlled under Schedule III of the federal Controlled Substances Act by a federal agency as the result of an international treaty, conven-

tion, or protocol. [1993 c 187 § 7; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.207.]

**69.50.208 Schedule III.** Unless specifically excepted by state or federal law or regulation or more specifically included in another schedule, the following controlled substances are listed in Schedule III:

(a) Stimulants. Any material, compound, mixture, or preparation containing any quantity of the following substances having a stimulant effect on the central nervous system, including their salts, isomers, whether optical, position, or geometric, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of those salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation:

(1) Any compound, mixture, or preparation in dosage unit form containing any stimulant substance included in Schedule II and which was listed as an excepted compound on August 25, 1971, pursuant to the federal Controlled Substances Act, and any other drug of the quantitative composition shown in that list for those drugs or which is the same except for containing a lesser quantity of controlled substances;

- (2) Benzphetamine;
- (3) Chlorphentermine;
- (4) Clortermine;
- (5) Phendimetrazine.

(b) Depressants. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of the following substances having a depressant effect on the central nervous system:

- (1) Any compound, mixture, or preparation containing:
  - (i) Amobarbital;
  - (ii) Secobarbital;
  - (iii) Pentobarbital;

or any salt thereof and one or more other active medicinal ingredients which are not listed in any schedule;

- (2) Any suppository dosage form containing:
  - (i) Amobarbital;
  - (ii) Secobarbital;
  - (iii) Pentobarbital;

or any salt of any of these drugs and approved by the Food and Drug Administration for marketing only as a suppository;

(3) Any substance which contains any quantity of a derivative of barbituric acid, or any salt of a derivative of barbituric acid;

- (4) Chlorhexadol;
- (5) Embutramide;

(6) Any drug product containing gamma hydroxybutyric acid, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, for which an application is approved under section 505 of the federal food, drug, and cosmetic act;

(7) Ketamine, its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, some other names for ketamine: (<plus-minus>)-2-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-(methylamino)-cyclohexanone;

- (8) Lysergic acid;
- (9) Lysergic acid amide;
- (10) Methyprylon;
- (11) Sulfondiethylmethane;
- (12) Sulfonethylmethane;

(13) Sulfonmethane;

(14) Tiletamine and zolazepam or any of their salts—some trade or other names for a tiletamine-zolazepam combination product: Telazol, some trade or other names for tiletamine: 2-(ethylamino)-2-(2-thienyl) cyclohexanone, some trade or other names for zolazepam: 4-(2-fluorophenyl)-6,8-dihydro-1,3,8-trimethylpyrazolo-[3,4-e][1,4]-diazepin-7(1H)-one flupyrazapon.

(c) Nalorphine.

(d) Narcotic drugs. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation containing limited quantities of any of the following narcotic drugs, or any salts thereof calculated as the free anhydrous base or alkaloid, in limited quantities as set forth in this subsection:

(1) Not more than 1.8 grams of codeine per 100 milliliters or not more than 90 milligrams per dosage unit, with an equal or greater quantity of an isoquinoline alkaloid of opium;

(2) Not more than 1.8 grams of codeine per 100 milliliters or not more than 90 milligrams per dosage unit, with one or more active, nonnarcotic ingredients in recognized therapeutic amounts;

(3) Not more than 300 milligrams of dihydrocodeinone (hydrocodone) per 100 milliliters or not more than 15 milligrams per dosage unit, with a fourfold or greater quantity of an isoquinoline alkaloid of opium;

(4) Not more than 300 milligrams of dihydrocodeinone (hydrocodone) per 100 milliliters or not more than 15 milligrams per dosage unit, with one or more active, nonnarcotic ingredients in recognized therapeutic amounts;

(5) Not more than 1.8 grams of dihydrocodeine per 100 milliliters or not more than 90 milligrams per dosage unit, with one or more active, nonnarcotic ingredients in recognized therapeutic amounts;

(6) Not more than 300 milligrams of ethylmorphine per 100 milliliters or not more than 15 milligrams per dosage unit, with one or more active, nonnarcotic ingredients in recognized therapeutic amounts;

(7) Not more than 500 milligrams of opium per 100 milliliters or per 100 grams, or not more than 25 milligrams per dosage unit, with one or more active, nonnarcotic ingredients in recognized therapeutic amounts; and

(8) Not more than 50 milligrams of morphine per 100 milliliters or per 100 grams with one or more active, nonnarcotic ingredients in recognized therapeutic amounts.

(e) Any material, compound, mixture, or preparation containing any of the following narcotic drugs or their salts: Buprenorphine.

(f) Hallucinogenic substances. Dronabinol (synthetic) in sesame oil and encapsulated in a soft gelatin capsule in a United States food and drug administration approved product. Some other names for dronabinol: [6a R-trans]-6a,7,8,10a-tetrahydro-6,6,9-trimethyl-3-pentyl-6H-dibenzo[b,d]pyran-i-ol, or (-)-delta-9-(trans)-tetrahydrocannabinol.

(g) Anabolic steroids. The term "anabolic steroids" means any drug or hormonal substance, chemically and pharmacologically related to testosterone, other than estrogens, progestins, corticosteroids, and dehydroepiandrosterone, that promotes muscle growth and includes:

- (1) 3β,17-dihydroxy-5α-androstane;



- (2)  $3\alpha,17\beta$ -dihydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androstande;
- (3) 5 $\alpha$ -androstan-3,17-dione;
- (4) 1-androstenediol ( $3\beta,17\beta$ -dihydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androst-1-ene);
- (5) 1-androstenediol ( $3\alpha,17\beta$ -dihydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androst-1-ene);
- (6) 4-androstenediol ( $3\beta,17\beta$ -dihydroxy-androst-4-ene);
- (7) 5-androstenediol ( $3\beta,17\beta$ -dihydroxy-androst-5-ene);
- (8) 1-androstenedione ([5 $\alpha$ ]-androst-1-en-3,17-dione);
- (9) 4-androstenedione (androst-4-en-3,17-dione);
- (10) 5-androstenedione (androst-5-en-3,17-dione);
- (11) Bolasterone ( $7\alpha,17\alpha$ -dimethyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyandro-4-en-3-one);
- (12) Boldenone (17 $\beta$ -hydroxyandro-1,4,-diene-3-one);
- (13) Calusterone ( $7\beta,17\alpha$ -dimethyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyandro-4-en-3-one);
- (14) Clostebol (4-chloro-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyandro-4-en-3-one);
- (15) Dehydrochloromethyltestosterone (4-chloro-17 $\beta$ -hydroxy-17 $\alpha$ -methyl-androst-1,4-dien-3-one);
- (16)  $\Delta 1$ -dihydrotestosterone (a.k.a. '1-testosterone') (17 $\beta$ -hydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androst-1-en-3-one);
- (17) 4-dihydrotestosterone (17 $\beta$ -hydroxy-androstan-3-one);
- (18) Drostanolone (17 $\beta$ -hydroxy-2 $\alpha$ -methyl-5 $\alpha$ -androstan-3-one);
- (19) Ethylestrenol (17 $\alpha$ -ethyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyestr-4-ene);
- (20) Fluoxymesterone (9-fluoro-17 $\alpha$ -methyl-11 $\beta,17\beta$ -dihydroxyandro-4-en-3-one);
- (21) Formebolone (2-formyl-17 $\alpha$ -methyl-11 $\alpha,17\beta$ -dihydroxyandro-1,4-dien-3-one);
- (22) Furazabol (17 $\alpha$ -methyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyandro-2,3-c]-furazan);
- (23) 13 $\beta$ -ethyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxygon-4-en-3-one;
- (24) 4-hydroxytestosterone (4,17 $\beta$ -dihydroxyandro-4-en-3-one);
- (25) 4-hydroxy-19-nortestosterone (4,17 $\beta$ -dihydroxyestr-4-en-3-one);
- (26) Mestanolone (17 $\alpha$ -methyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxy-5-androstan-3-one);
- (27) Mesterolone (1 $\alpha$  methyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxy-[5 $\alpha$ ]-androstan-3-one);
- (28) Methandienone (17 $\alpha$ -methyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyandro-1,4-dien-3-one);
- (29) Methandriol (17 $\alpha$ -methyl-3 $\beta,17\beta$ -dihydroxyandro-5-ene);
- (30) Methenolone (1-methyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androst-1-en-3-one);
- (31) 17 $\alpha$ -methyl-3 $\beta,17\beta$ -dihydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androstande;
- (32) 17 $\alpha$ -methyl-3 $\alpha,17\beta$ -dihydroxy-5 $\alpha$ -androstande;
- (33) 17 $\alpha$ -methyl-3 $\beta,17\beta$ -dihydroxyandro-4-ene;
- (34) 17 $\alpha$ -methyl-4-hydroxynandrolone (17 $\alpha$ -methyl-4-hydroxy-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyestr-4-en-3-one);
- (35) Methyldienolone (17 $\alpha$ -methyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyestra-4,9(10)-dien-3-one);
- (36) Methyltrienolone (17 $\alpha$ -methyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyestra-4,9-11-trien-3-one);
- (37) Methyltestosterone (17 $\alpha$ -methyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyandro-4-en-3-one);
- (38) Mibolerone ( $7\alpha,17\alpha$ -dimethyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyestr-4-en-3-one);
- (39) 17 $\alpha$ -methyl- $\Delta 1$ -dihydrotestosterone (17 $\beta$ -hydroxy-17 $\alpha$ -methyl-5 $\alpha$ -androst-1-en-3-one) (also known as '17 $\alpha$ -methyl-1-testosterone');
- (40) Nandrolone (17 $\beta$ -hydroxyestr-4-en-3-one);
- (41) 19-nor-4-androstenediol ( $3\beta,17\beta$ -dihydroxyestr-4-ene);
- (42) 19-nor-4-androstenediol ( $3\alpha,17\beta$ -dihydroxyestr-4-ene);
- (43) 19-nor-5-androstenediol ( $3\beta,17\beta$ -dihydroxyestr-5-ene);
- (44) 19-nor-5-androstenediol ( $3\alpha,17\beta$ -dihydroxyestr-5-ene);
- (45) 19-nor-4-androstenedione (estr-4-en-3,17-dione);
- (46) 19-nor-5-androstenedione (estr-5-en-3,17-dione);
- (47) Norbolethone (13 $\beta,17\alpha$ -diethyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxygon-4-en-3-one);
- (48) Norclostebol (4-chloro-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyestr-4-en-3-one);
- (49) Norethandrolone (17 $\alpha$ -ethyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyestr-4-en-3-one);
- (50) Normethandrolone (17 $\alpha$ -methyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxyestr-4-en-3-one);
- (51) Oxandrolone (17 $\alpha$ -methyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxy-2-oxa[5 $\alpha$ ]-androstan-3-one);
- (52) Oxymesterone (17 $\alpha$ -methyl-4,17 $\beta$ -dihydroxyandro-4-en-3-one);
- (53) Oxymetholone (17 $\alpha$ -methyl-2-hydroxymethylene-17 $\beta$ -hydroxy-[5 $\alpha$ ]-androstan-3-one);
- (54) Stanozolol (17 $\alpha$ -methyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxy-[5 $\alpha$ ]-andro-2-eno[3,2-c]-pyrazole);
- (55) Stenbolone (17 $\beta$ -hydroxy-2-methyl-[5 $\alpha$ ]-andro-1-en-3-one);
- (56) Testolactone (13-hydroxy-3-oxo-13,17-secoandrosta-1,4-dien-17-oic acid lactone);
- (57) Testosterone (17 $\beta$ -hydroxyandro-4-en-3-one);
- (58) Tetrahydrogestrinone (13 $\beta,17\alpha$ -diethyl-17 $\beta$ -hydroxygon-4,9,11-trien-3-one);
- (59) Trenbolone (17 $\beta$ -hydroxyestr-4,9,11-trien-3-one); and
- (60) Any salt, ester, or ether of a drug or substance described in this section. Such term does not include an anabolic steroid that is expressly intended for administration through implants to cattle or other nonhuman species and that has been approved by the secretary of the department of health and human services for such administration. If any person prescribes, dispenses, or distributes such steroid for human use, the person shall be considered to have prescribed, dispensed, or distributed an anabolic steroid within the meaning of this section.

The state board of pharmacy may except by rule any compound, mixture, or preparation containing any stimulant or depressant substance listed in subsection (a)(1) and (2) of this section from the application of all or any part of this chapter if the compound, mixture, or preparation contains

one or more active medicinal ingredients not having a stimulant or depressant effect on the central nervous system, and if the admixtures are in combinations, quantity, proportion, or concentration that vitiate the potential for abuse of the substances having a stimulant or depressant effect on the central nervous system.

The controlled substances listed in this section may be added, rescheduled, or deleted as provided for in RCW 69.50.201. [2010 c 177 § 4; 1993 c 187 § 8; 1986 c 124 § 5; 1980 c 138 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.208.]

*State board of pharmacy may change schedules of controlled substances: RCW 69.50.201.*

**69.50.209 Schedule IV tests.** (a) The state board of pharmacy shall place a substance in Schedule IV upon finding that:

(1) the substance has a low potential for abuse relative to substances in Schedule III;

(2) the substance has currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States; and

(3) abuse of the substance may lead to limited physical dependence or psychological dependence relative to the substances included in Schedule III.

(b) The state board of pharmacy may place a substance in Schedule IV without making the findings required by subsection (a) of this section if the substance is controlled under Schedule IV of the federal Controlled Substances Act by a federal agency as the result of an international treaty, convention, or protocol. [1993 c 187 § 9; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.209.]

**69.50.210 Schedule IV.** Unless specifically excepted by state or federal law or regulation or more specifically included in another schedule, the following controlled substances are listed in Schedule IV:

(a) Any material, compound, mixture, or preparation containing any of the following narcotic drugs, or their salts calculated as the free anhydrous base or alkaloid, in limited quantities as set forth below:

(1) Not more than 1 milligram of difenoxin and not less than 25 micrograms of atropine sulfate per dosage unit.

(2) Dextropropoxyphene (alpha-(+)-4-dimethylamino-1,2-diphenyl-3-methyl-2-propionoxybutane).

(b) Depressants. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation containing any quantity of the following substances having a depressant effect on the central nervous system, including their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of those salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation:

- (1) Alprazolam;
- (2) Barbitol;
- (3) Bromazepam;
- (4) Camazepam;
- (5) Carisoprodol;
- (6) Chloral betaine;
- (7) Chloral hydrate;
- (8) Chlordiazepoxide;
- (9) Clobazam;
- (10) Clonazepam;
- (11) Clorazepate;

- (12) Clotiazepam;
- (13) Cloxazolam;
- (14) Delorazepam;
- (15) Diazepam;
- (16) Dichloralphenazone;
- (17) Estazolam;
- (18) Ethchlorvynol;
- (19) Ethinamate;
- (20) Ethyl loflazepate;
- (21) Fludiazepam;
- (22) Flunitrazepam;
- (23) Flurazepam;
- (24) Halazepam;
- (25) Haloxazolam;
- (26) Ketazolam;
- (27) Loprazolam;
- (28) Lorazepam;
- (29) Lormetazepam;
- (30) Mebutamate;
- (31) Medazepam;
- (32) Meprobamate;
- (33) Methohexital;
- (34) Methylphenobarbital (mephobarbital);
- (35) Midazolam;
- (36) Nimetazepam;
- (37) Nitrazepam;
- (38) Nordiazepam;
- (39) Oxazepam;
- (40) Oxazolam;
- (41) Paraldehyde;
- (42) Petrichloral;
- (43) Phenobarbital;
- (44) Pinazepam;
- (45) Prazepam;
- (46) Quazepam;
- (47) Temazepam;
- (48) Tetrazepam;
- (49) Triazolam;
- (50) Zaleplon;
- (51) Zolpidem; and
- (52) Zopiclone.

(c) Fenfluramine. Any material, compound, mixture, or preparation containing any quantity of the following substance, including its salts, isomers, and salts of such isomers, whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible: Fenfluramine.

(d) Stimulants. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation containing any quantity of the following substances having a stimulant effect on the central nervous system, including their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers:

- (1) Cathine((+)norpseudoephedrine);
- (2) Diethylpropion;
- (3) Fencamfamin;
- (4) Fenproporex;
- (5) Mazindol;
- (6) Mefenorex;
- (7) Modafinil;
- (8) Pemoline (including organometallic complexes and chelates thereof);
- (9) Phentermine;

- (10) Pipradrol;
- (11) Sibutramine;
- (12) SPA ((-)-1-dimethylamino-1, 2-dephenylethane).

(e) Other substances. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation containing any quantity of the following substance, including its salts:

- (1) Pentazocine;
- (2) Butorphanol, including its optical isomers.

The state board of pharmacy may except by rule any compound, mixture, or preparation containing any depressant substance listed in subsection (b) of this section from the application of all or any part of this chapter if the compound, mixture, or preparation contains one or more active medicinal ingredients not having a depressant effect on the central nervous system, and if the admixtures are in combinations, quantity, proportion, or concentration that vitiate the potential for abuse of the substances having a depressant effect on the central nervous system.

The controlled substances listed in this section may be added, rescheduled, or deleted as provided for in RCW 69.50.201. [2010 c 177 § 5; 1993 c 187 § 10; 1986 c 124 § 6; 1981 c 147 § 2; 1980 c 138 § 4; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.210.]

*State board of pharmacy may change schedules of controlled substances: RCW 69.50.201.*

**69.50.211 Schedule V tests.** (a) The state board of pharmacy shall place a substance in Schedule V upon finding that:

- (1) the substance has low potential for abuse relative to the controlled substances included in Schedule IV;
- (2) the substance has currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States; and
- (3) abuse of the substance may lead to limited physical dependence or psychological dependence relative to the substances included in Schedule IV.

(b) The state board of pharmacy may place a substance in Schedule V without being required to make the findings required by subsection (a) of this section if the substance is controlled under Schedule V of the federal Controlled Substances Act by a federal agency as the result of an international treaty, convention, or protocol. [1993 c 187 § 11; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.211.]

**69.50.212 Schedule V.** Unless specifically excepted by state or federal law or regulation or more specifically included in another schedule, the following controlled substances are listed in Schedule V:

(a) Any compound, mixture, or preparation containing any of the following narcotic drugs, or their salts calculated as the free anhydrous base or alkaloid, in limited quantities as set forth in this subsection, which also contains one or more nonnarcotic active medicinal ingredients in sufficient proportion to confer upon the compound, mixture, or preparation, valuable medicinal qualities other than those possessed by the narcotic drug alone:

- (1) Not more than 200 milligrams of codeine per 100 milliliters or per 100 grams;
- (2) Not more than 100 milligrams of dihydrocodeine per 100 milliliters or per 100 grams;

(3) Not more than 100 milligrams of ethylmorphine per 100 milliliters or per 100 grams;

(4) Not more than 2.5 milligrams of diphenoxylate and not less than 25 micrograms of atropine sulfate per dosage unit;

(5) Not more than 100 milligrams of opium per 100 milliliters or per 100 grams;

(6) Not more than 0.5 milligrams of difenoxin and not less than 25 micrograms of atropine sulfate per dosage unit.

(b) Stimulants. Unless specifically exempted or excluded or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of the following substances having a stimulant effect on the central nervous system, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers: Pyrovalerone.

(c) Depressants. Unless specifically exempted or excluded or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of the following substances having a depressant effect on the central nervous system, including its salts:

(1) ~~Ilacosam~~[(R)-2-acetoamido-N-benzyl-3-methoxy-propionamide];

(2) Pregabalin {(S)-3-(aminomethyl)-5-methylhexanoic acid}.

The controlled substances listed in this section may be added, rescheduled, or deleted as provided for in RCW 69.50.201. [2010 c 177 § 6; 1993 c 187 § 12; 1986 c 124 § 7; 1980 c 138 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.212.]

*State board of pharmacy may change schedules of controlled substances: RCW 69.50.201.*

**69.50.213 Republishing of schedules.** The state board of pharmacy shall publish updated schedules annually. Failure to publish updated schedules is not a defense in any administrative or judicial proceeding under this chapter. [1993 c 187 § 13; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.213.]

**69.50.214 Controlled substance analog.** A controlled substance analog, to the extent intended for human consumption, shall be treated, for the purposes of this chapter, as a substance included in Schedule I. Within thirty days after the initiation of prosecution with respect to a controlled substance analog by indictment or information, the prosecuting attorney shall notify the state board of pharmacy of information relevant to emergency scheduling as provided for in \*RCW 69.50.201(f). After final determination that the controlled substance analog should not be scheduled, no prosecution relating to that substance as a controlled substance analog may continue or take place. [1993 c 187 § 14.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 69.50.201 was amended by 1998 c 245 § 108, changing subsection (f) to subsection (e).

### ARTICLE III

#### REGULATION OF MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTION, AND DISPENSING OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

**69.50.301 Rules—Fees.** The board may adopt rules and the department may charge reasonable fees, relating to the registration and control of the manufacture, distribution, and dispensing of controlled substances within this state. [1993 c

187 § 15; 1991 c 229 § 9; 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 431; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.301.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.302 Registration requirements.** (a) Every person who manufactures, distributes, or dispenses any controlled substance within this state or who proposes to engage in the manufacture, distribution, or dispensing of any controlled substance within this state, shall obtain annually a registration issued by the department in accordance with the board's rules.

(b) A person registered by the department under this chapter to manufacture, distribute, dispense, or conduct research with controlled substances may possess, manufacture, distribute, dispense, or conduct research with those substances to the extent authorized by the registration and in conformity with this Article.

(c) The following persons need not register and may lawfully possess controlled substances under this chapter:

(1) An agent or employee of any registered manufacturer, distributor, or dispenser of any controlled substance if the agent or employee is acting in the usual course of business or employment. This exemption shall not include any agent or employee distributing sample controlled substances to practitioners without an order;

(2) A common or contract carrier or warehouse operator, or an employee thereof, whose possession of any controlled substance is in the usual course of business or employment;

(3) An ultimate user or a person in possession of any controlled substance pursuant to a lawful order of a practitioner or in lawful possession of a substance included in Schedule V.

(d) The board may waive by rule the requirement for registration of certain manufacturers, distributors, or dispensers upon finding it consistent with the public health and safety. Personal practitioners licensed or registered in the state of Washington under the respective professional licensing acts shall not be required to be registered under this chapter unless the specific exemption is denied pursuant to RCW 69.50.305 for violation of any provisions of this chapter.

(e) A separate registration is required at each principal place of business or professional practice where the applicant manufactures, distributes, or dispenses controlled substances.

(f) The department may inspect the establishment of a registrant or applicant for registration in accordance with rules adopted by the board. [2011 c 336 § 839; 1993 c 187 § 16; 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 432; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.302.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.303 Registration.** (a) The department shall register an applicant to manufacture or distribute controlled substances included in RCW 69.50.204, 69.50.206, 69.50.208, 69.50.210, and 69.50.212 unless the board determines that the issuance of that registration would be inconsistent with the public interest. In determining the public interest, the board shall consider the following factors:

(1) maintenance of effective controls against diversion of controlled substances into other than legitimate medical, scientific, research, or industrial channels;

(2) compliance with applicable state and local law;

(3) promotion of technical advances in the art of manufacturing controlled substances and the development of new substances;

(4) any convictions of the applicant under any laws of another country or federal or state laws relating to any controlled substance;

(5) past experience in the manufacture or distribution of controlled substances, and the existence in the applicant's establishment of effective controls against diversion of controlled substances into other than legitimate medical, scientific, research, or industrial channels;

(6) furnishing by the applicant of false or fraudulent material in any application filed under this chapter;

(7) suspension or revocation of the applicant's federal registration to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances as authorized by federal law; and

(8) any other factors relevant to and consistent with the public health and safety.

(b) Registration under subsection (a) of this section does not entitle a registrant to manufacture or distribute controlled substances included in Schedule I or II other than those specified in the registration.

(c) Practitioners must be registered, or exempted under RCW 69.50.302(d), to dispense any controlled substances or to conduct research with controlled substances included in Schedules II through V if they are authorized to dispense or conduct research under the law of this state. The board need not require separate registration under this Article for practitioners engaging in research with nonnarcotic substances included in Schedules II through V where the registrant is already registered under this Article in another capacity. Practitioners registered under federal law to conduct research with substances included in Schedule I may conduct research with substances included in Schedule I within this state upon furnishing the board evidence of that federal registration.

(d) A manufacturer or distributor registered under the federal Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. Sec. 801 et seq., may submit a copy of the federal application as an application for registration as a manufacturer or distributor under this section. The board may require a manufacturer or distributor to submit information in addition to the application for registration under the federal act. [1993 c 187 § 17; 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 433; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.303.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.304 Revocation and suspension of registration—Seizure or placement under seal of controlled substances.** (a) A registration, or exemption from registration, under RCW 69.50.303 to manufacture, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance may be suspended or revoked by the state board of pharmacy upon finding that the registrant has:

(1) furnished false or fraudulent material information in any application filed under this chapter;

(2) been convicted of a felony under any state or federal law relating to any controlled substance;

(3) had the registrant's federal registration suspended or revoked and is no longer authorized by federal law to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances; or

(4) committed acts that would render registration under RCW 69.50.303 inconsistent with the public interest as determined under that section.

(b) The board may limit revocation or suspension of a registration to the particular controlled substance or schedule of controlled substances, with respect to which grounds for revocation or suspension exist.

(c) If the board suspends or revokes a registration, all controlled substances owned or possessed by the registrant at the time of suspension or the effective date of the revocation order may be placed under seal. No disposition may be made of substances under seal until the time for taking an appeal has elapsed or until all appeals have been concluded unless a court, upon application, orders the sale of perishable substances and the deposit of the proceeds of the sale with the court. Upon a revocation order becoming final, all controlled substances may be forfeited to the state.

(d) The department may seize or place under seal any controlled substance owned or possessed by a registrant whose registration has expired or who has ceased to practice or do business in the manner contemplated by the registration. The controlled substance must be held for the benefit of the registrant or the registrant's successor in interest. The department shall notify a registrant, or the registrant's successor in interest, who has any controlled substance seized or placed under seal, of the procedures to be followed to secure the return of the controlled substance and the conditions under which it will be returned. The department may not dispose of any controlled substance seized or placed under seal under this subsection until the expiration of one hundred eighty days after the controlled substance was seized or placed under seal. The costs incurred by the department in seizing, placing under seal, maintaining custody, and disposing of any controlled substance under this subsection may be recovered from the registrant, any proceeds obtained from the disposition of the controlled substance, or from both. Any balance remaining after the costs have been recovered from the proceeds of any disposition must be delivered to the registrant or the registrant's successor in interest.

(e) The department shall promptly notify the drug enforcement administration of all orders restricting, suspending, or revoking registration and all forfeitures of controlled substances. [1993 c 187 § 18; 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 434; 1986 c 124 § 8; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.304.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.305 Procedure for denial, suspension, or revocation of registration.** (a) Any registration, or exemption from registration, issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall not be denied, suspended, or revoked unless the board denies, suspends, or revokes such registration, or exemption from registration, by proceedings consistent with the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW.

(b) The board may suspend any registration simultaneously with the institution of proceedings under RCW 69.50.304, or where renewal of registration is refused, if it finds that there is an imminent danger to the public health or safety which warrants this action. The suspension shall continue in effect until the conclusion of the proceedings, including judicial review thereof, unless sooner withdrawn by the board or dissolved by a court of competent jurisdiction. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.305.]

**69.50.306 Records of registrants.** Persons registered, or exempted from registration under RCW 69.50.302(d), to manufacture, distribute, dispense, or administer controlled substances under this chapter shall keep records and maintain inventories in conformance with the recordkeeping and inventory requirements of federal law and with any additional rules the state board of pharmacy issues. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.306.]

**69.50.308 Prescriptions.** (a) A controlled substance may be dispensed only as provided in this section.

(b) Except when dispensed directly by a practitioner authorized to prescribe or administer a controlled substance, other than a pharmacy, to an ultimate user, a substance included in Schedule II may not be dispensed without the written prescription of a practitioner.

(1) Schedule II narcotic substances may be dispensed by a pharmacy pursuant to a facsimile prescription under the following circumstances:

(i) The facsimile prescription is transmitted by a practitioner to the pharmacy; and

(ii) The facsimile prescription is for a patient in a long-term care facility. "Long-term care facility" means nursing homes licensed under chapter 18.51 RCW, assisted living facilities licensed under chapter 18.20 RCW, and adult family homes licensed under chapter 70.128 RCW; or

(iii) The facsimile prescription is for a patient of a hospice program certified or paid for by medicare under Title XVIII; or

(iv) The facsimile prescription is for a patient of a hospice program licensed by the state; and

(v) The practitioner or the practitioner's agent notes on the facsimile prescription that the patient is a long-term care or hospice patient.

(2) Injectable Schedule II narcotic substances that are to be compounded for patient use may be dispensed by a pharmacy pursuant to a facsimile prescription if the facsimile prescription is transmitted by a practitioner to the pharmacy.

(3) Under (1) and (2) of this subsection the facsimile prescription shall serve as the original prescription and shall be maintained as other Schedule II narcotic substances prescriptions.

(c) In emergency situations, as defined by rule of the state board of pharmacy, a substance included in Schedule II may be dispensed upon oral prescription of a practitioner, reduced promptly to writing and filed by the pharmacy. Prescriptions shall be retained in conformity with the requirements of RCW 69.50.306. A prescription for a substance included in Schedule II may not be refilled.

(d) Except when dispensed directly by a practitioner authorized to prescribe or administer a controlled substance, other than a pharmacy, to an ultimate user, a substance included in Schedule III or IV, which is a prescription drug as determined under RCW 69.04.560, may not be dispensed without a written or oral prescription of a practitioner. Any oral prescription must be promptly reduced to writing. The prescription shall not be filled or refilled more than six months after the date thereof or be refilled more than five times, unless renewed by the practitioner.

(e) A valid prescription or lawful order of a practitioner, in order to be effective in legalizing the possession of con-

trolled substances, must be issued in good faith for a legitimate medical purpose by one authorized to prescribe the use of such controlled substance. An order purporting to be a prescription not in the course of professional treatment is not a valid prescription or lawful order of a practitioner within the meaning and intent of this chapter; and the person who knows or should know that the person is filling such an order, as well as the person issuing it, can be charged with a violation of this chapter.

(f) A substance included in Schedule V must be distributed or dispensed only for a medical purpose.

(g) A practitioner may dispense or deliver a controlled substance to or for an individual or animal only for medical treatment or authorized research in the ordinary course of that practitioner's profession. Medical treatment includes dispensing or administering a narcotic drug for pain, including intractable pain.

(h) No administrative sanction, or civil or criminal liability, authorized or created by this chapter may be imposed on a pharmacist for action taken in reliance on a reasonable belief that an order purporting to be a prescription was issued by a practitioner in the usual course of professional treatment or in authorized research.

(i) An individual practitioner may not dispense a substance included in Schedule II, III, or IV for that individual practitioner's personal use. [2012 c 10 § 46; 2001 c 248 § 1; 1993 c 187 § 19; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.308.]

**Application—2012 c 10:** See note following RCW 18.20.010.

**69.50.309 Containers.** A person to whom or for whose use any controlled substance has been prescribed, sold, or dispensed by a practitioner, and the owner of any animal for which such controlled substance has been prescribed, sold, or dispensed may lawfully possess it only in the container in which it was delivered to him or her by the person selling or dispensing the same. [2012 c 117 § 367; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.309.]

**69.50.310 Sodium pentobarbital—Registration of humane societies and animal control agencies for use in animal control.** On and after September 21, 1977, a humane society and animal control agency may apply to the department for registration pursuant to the applicable provisions of this chapter for the sole purpose of being authorized to purchase, possess, and administer sodium pentobarbital to euthanize injured, sick, homeless, or unwanted domestic pets and animals. Any agency so registered shall not permit a person to administer sodium pentobarbital unless such person has demonstrated adequate knowledge of the potential hazards and proper techniques to be used in administering this drug.

The department may issue a limited registration to carry out the provisions of this section. The board shall promulgate such rules as it deems necessary to insure strict compliance with the provisions of this section. The board may suspend or revoke registration upon determination that the person administering sodium pentobarbital has not demonstrated adequate knowledge as herein provided. This authority is granted in addition to any other power to suspend or revoke registration as provided by law. [1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 435; 1977 ex.s. c 197 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.311 Triplicate prescription form program—Compliance by health care practitioners.** Any licensed health care practitioner with prescription or dispensing authority shall, as a condition of licensure and as directed by the practitioner's disciplinary board, consent to the requirement, if imposed, of complying with a triplicate prescription form program as may be established by rule by the department of health. [1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 436; 1984 c 153 § 20.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.312 Electronic communication of prescription information—Board may adopt rules.** (1) Information concerning an original prescription or information concerning a prescription refill for a controlled substance may be electronically communicated to a pharmacy of the patient's choice pursuant to the provisions of this chapter if the electronically communicated prescription information complies with the following:

(a) Electronically communicated prescription information must comply with all applicable statutes and rules regarding the form, content, recordkeeping, and processing of a prescription for a legend drug;

(b) The system used for transmitting electronically communicated prescription information and the system used for receiving electronically communicated prescription information must be approved by the board. This subsection does not apply to currently used facsimile equipment transmitting an exact visual image of the prescription. The board shall maintain and provide, upon request, a list of systems used for electronically communicating prescription information currently approved by the board;

(c) An explicit opportunity for practitioners must be made to indicate their preference on whether a therapeutically equivalent generic drug may be substituted;

(d) Prescription drug orders are confidential health information, and may be released only to the patient or the patient's authorized representative, the prescriber or other authorized practitioner then caring for the patient, or other persons specifically authorized by law to receive such information;

(e) To maintain confidentiality of prescription records, the electronic system shall have adequate security and systems safeguards designed to prevent and detect unauthorized access, modification, or manipulation of these records. The pharmacist in charge shall establish or verify the existence of policies and procedures which ensure the integrity and confidentiality of prescription information transmitted to the pharmacy by electronic means. All managers, employees, and agents of the pharmacy are required to read, sign, and comply with the established policies and procedures; and

(f) The pharmacist shall exercise professional judgment regarding the accuracy, validity, and authenticity of the prescription drug order received by way of electronic transmission, consistent with federal and state laws and rules and guidelines of the board.

(2) The board may adopt rules implementing this section. [1998 c 222 § 4.]

**69.50.315 Medical assistance—Drug-related overdose—Naloxone—Prosecution for possession.** (1)(a) A person acting in good faith who seeks medical assistance for

someone experiencing a drug-related overdose shall not be charged or prosecuted for possession of a controlled substance pursuant to RCW 69.50.4013, or penalized under RCW 69.50.4014, if the evidence for the charge of possession of a controlled substance was obtained as a result of the person seeking medical assistance.

(b) A person acting in good faith may receive a naloxone prescription, possess naloxone, and administer naloxone to an individual suffering from an apparent opiate-related overdose.

(2) A person who experiences a drug-related overdose and is in need of medical assistance shall not be charged or prosecuted for possession of a controlled substance pursuant to RCW 69.50.4013, or penalized under RCW 69.50.4014, if the evidence for the charge of possession of a controlled substance was obtained as a result of the overdose and the need for medical assistance.

(3) The protection in this section from prosecution for possession crimes under RCW 69.50.4013 shall not be grounds for suppression of evidence in other criminal charges. [2010 c 9 § 2.]

**Intent—2010 c 9:** "The legislature intends to save lives by increasing timely medical attention to drug overdose victims through the establishment of limited immunity from prosecution for people who seek medical assistance in a drug overdose situation. Drug overdose is the leading cause of unintentional injury death in Washington state, ahead of motor vehicle-related deaths. Washington state is one of sixteen states in which drug overdoses cause more deaths than traffic accidents. Drug overdose mortality rates have increased significantly since the 1990s, according to the centers for disease control and prevention, and illegal and prescription drug overdoses killed more than thirty-eight thousand people nationwide in 2006, the last year for which firm data is available. The Washington state department of health reports that in 1999 unintentional drug poisoning was responsible for four hundred three deaths in this state; in 2007, the number had increased to seven hundred sixty-one, compared with six hundred ten motor vehicle-related deaths that same year. Many drug overdose fatalities occur because peers delay or forego calling 911 for fear of arrest or police involvement, which researchers continually identify as the most significant barrier to the ideal first response of calling emergency services." [2010 c 9 § 1.]

**69.50.320 Registration of department of fish and wildlife for use in chemical capture programs—Rules.** The department of fish and wildlife may apply to the department of health for registration pursuant to the applicable provisions of this chapter to purchase, possess, and administer controlled substances for use in chemical capture programs. The department of fish and wildlife must not permit a person to administer controlled substances unless the person has demonstrated adequate knowledge of the potential hazards and proper techniques to be used in administering controlled substances.

The department of health may issue a limited registration to carry out the provisions of this section. The board may adopt rules to ensure strict compliance with the provisions of this section. The board, in consultation with the department of fish and wildlife, must by rule add or remove additional controlled substances for use in chemical capture programs. The board shall suspend or revoke registration upon determination that the person administering controlled substances has not demonstrated adequate knowledge as required by this section. This authority is granted in addition to any other power to suspend or revoke registration as provided by law. [2003 c 175 § 2.]

**Findings—2003 c 175:** "The legislature finds that the department of fish and wildlife is responsible for the proper management of the state's diverse wildlife resources. Wildlife management often requires the department of fish and wildlife to immobilize individual animals in order for the animals to be moved, treated, examined, or for other legitimate purposes. The legislature finds that it is often necessary for the department to use certain controlled substances to accomplish these purposes. Therefore, the legislature finds that the department of fish and wildlife, in coordination with the board of pharmacy, must be enabled to use approved controlled substances in order to accomplish its legitimate wildlife management goals." [2003 c 175 § 1.]

#### ARTICLE IV OFFENSES AND PENALTIES

**69.50.401 Prohibited acts: A—Penalties.** (1) Except as authorized by this chapter, it is unlawful for any person to manufacture, deliver, or possess with intent to manufacture or deliver, a controlled substance.

(2) Any person who violates this section with respect to:

(a) A controlled substance classified in Schedule I or II which is a narcotic drug or flunitrazepam, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, classified in Schedule IV, is guilty of a class B felony and upon conviction may be imprisoned for not more than ten years, or (i) fined not more than twenty-five thousand dollars if the crime involved less than two kilograms of the drug, or both such imprisonment and fine; or (ii) if the crime involved two or more kilograms of the drug, then fined not more than one hundred thousand dollars for the first two kilograms and not more than fifty dollars for each gram in excess of two kilograms, or both such imprisonment and fine;

(b) Amphetamine, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, or methamphetamine, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, is guilty of a class B felony and upon conviction may be imprisoned for not more than ten years, or (i) fined not more than twenty-five thousand dollars if the crime involved less than two kilograms of the drug, or both such imprisonment and fine; or (ii) if the crime involved two or more kilograms of the drug, then fined not more than one hundred thousand dollars for the first two kilograms and not more than fifty dollars for each gram in excess of two kilograms, or both such imprisonment and fine. Three thousand dollars of the fine may not be suspended. As collected, the first three thousand dollars of the fine must be deposited with the law enforcement agency having responsibility for cleanup of laboratories, sites, or substances used in the manufacture of the methamphetamine, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers. The fine moneys deposited with that law enforcement agency must be used for such clean-up cost;

(c) Any other controlled substance classified in Schedule I, II, or III, is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW;

(d) A substance classified in Schedule IV, except flunitrazepam, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW; or

(e) A substance classified in Schedule V, is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2005 c 218 § 1; 2003 c 53 § 331. Prior: 1998 c 290 § 1; 1998 c 82 § 2; 1997 c 71 § 2; 1996 c 205 § 2; 1989 c 271 § 104; 1987 c 458 § 4; 1979 c 67 § 1; 1973 2nd ex.s. c 2 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.401.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Serious drug offenders, notice of release or escape:* RCW 72.09.710.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.4011 Counterfeit substances—Penalties.** (1) Except as authorized by this chapter, it is unlawful for any person to create, deliver, or possess a counterfeit substance.

(2) Any person who violates this section with respect to:

(a) A counterfeit substance classified in Schedule I or II which is a narcotic drug, or flunitrazepam classified in Schedule IV, is guilty of a class B felony and upon conviction may be imprisoned for not more than ten years, fined not more than twenty-five thousand dollars, or both;

(b) A counterfeit substance which is methamphetamine, is guilty of a class B felony and upon conviction may be imprisoned for not more than ten years, fined not more than twenty-five thousand dollars, or both;

(c) Any other counterfeit substance classified in Schedule I, II, or III, is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW;

(d) A counterfeit substance classified in Schedule IV, except flunitrazepam, is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW;

(e) A counterfeit substance classified in Schedule V, is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 332.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.50.4012 Delivery of substance in lieu of controlled substance—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful, except as authorized in this chapter and chapter 69.41 RCW, for any person to offer, arrange, or negotiate for the sale, gift, delivery, dispensing, distribution, or administration of a controlled substance to any person and then sell, give, deliver, dispense, distribute, or administer to that person any other liquid, substance, or material in lieu of such controlled substance.

(2) Any person who violates this section is guilty of a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 333.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.50.4013 Possession of controlled substance—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to possess a controlled substance unless the substance was obtained directly from, or pursuant to, a valid prescription or order of a practitioner while acting in the course of his or her professional practice, or except as otherwise authorized by this chapter.

(2) Except as provided in RCW 69.50.4014, any person who violates this section is guilty of a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 334.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.50.4014 Possession of forty grams or less of marijuana—Penalty.** Except as provided in RCW 69.50.401(2)(c), any person found guilty of possession of forty grams or less of marijuana is guilty of a misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 335.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.50.4015 Involving a person under eighteen in unlawful controlled substance transaction—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful to compensate, threaten, solicit, or in any other manner involve a person under the age of eighteen years in a transaction unlawfully to manufacture, sell, or deliver a controlled substance.

(2) A violation of this section is a class C felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 336.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.50.4016 Provisions not applicable to offenses under RCW 69.50.410.** RCW 69.50.401 through 69.50.4015 shall not apply to offenses defined and punishable under the provisions of RCW 69.50.410. [2003 c 53 § 337.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.50.402 Prohibited acts: B—Penalties.** (1) It is unlawful for any person:

(a) Who is subject to Article III to distribute or dispense a controlled substance in violation of RCW 69.50.308;

(b) Who is a registrant, to manufacture a controlled substance not authorized by his or her registration, or to distribute or dispense a controlled substance not authorized by his or her registration to another registrant or other authorized person;

(c) Who is a practitioner, to prescribe, order, dispense, administer, supply, or give to any person:

(i) Any amphetamine, including its salts, optical isomers, and salts of optical isomers classified as a schedule II controlled substance by the board of pharmacy pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW; or

(ii) Any nonnarcotic stimulant classified as a schedule II controlled substance and designated as a nonnarcotic stimulant by the board of pharmacy pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW;

except for the treatment of narcolepsy or for the treatment of hyperkinesia, or for the treatment of drug-induced brain dysfunction, or for the treatment of epilepsy, or for the differential diagnostic psychiatric evaluation of depression, or for the treatment of depression shown to be refractory to other therapeutic modalities, or for the treatment of multiple sclerosis, or for the clinical investigation of the effects of such drugs or compounds, in which case an investigative protocol therefor shall have been submitted to and reviewed and approved by the state board of pharmacy before the investigation has been begun: PROVIDED, That the board of pharmacy, in consultation with the medical quality assurance commission and the osteopathic disciplinary board, may establish by rule, pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW, disease states or conditions in addition to those listed in this subsection for the treatment of which Schedule II nonnarcotic stimulants may be prescribed, ordered, dispensed, administered, supplied, or given to patients by practitioners: AND PROVIDED, FURTHER, That investigations by the board of pharmacy of abuse of prescriptive authority by physicians, licensed pursuant to chapter 18.71 RCW, pursuant to subsection (1)(c) of this section



shall be done in consultation with the medical quality assurance commission;

(d) To refuse or fail to make, keep or furnish any record, notification, order form, statement, invoice, or information required under this chapter;

(e) To refuse an entry into any premises for any inspection authorized by this chapter; or

(f) Knowingly to keep or maintain any store, shop, warehouse, dwelling, building, vehicle, boat, aircraft, or other structure or place, which is resorted to by persons using controlled substances in violation of this chapter for the purpose of using these substances, or which is used for keeping or selling them in violation of this chapter.

(2) Any person who violates this section is guilty of a class C felony and upon conviction may be imprisoned for not more than two years, fined not more than two thousand dollars, or both. [2010 c 177 § 7; 2003 c 53 § 338; 1994 sp.s. c 9 § 740; 1980 c 138 § 6; 1979 ex.s. c 119 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.402.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.403 Prohibited acts: C—Penalties.** (1) It is unlawful for any person knowingly or intentionally:

(a) To distribute as a registrant a controlled substance classified in Schedules I or II, except pursuant to an order form as required by \*RCW 69.50.307;

(b) To use in the course of the manufacture, distribution, or dispensing of a controlled substance, or to use for the purpose of acquiring or obtaining a controlled substance, a registration number which is fictitious, revoked, suspended, or issued to another person;

(c) To obtain or attempt to obtain a controlled substance, or procure or attempt to procure the administration of a controlled substance, (i) by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge; or (ii) by forgery or alteration of a prescription or any written order; or (iii) by the concealment of material fact; or (iv) by the use of a false name or the giving of a false address;

(d) To falsely assume the title of, or represent herself or himself to be, a manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacist, physician, dentist, veterinarian, or other authorized person for the purpose of obtaining a controlled substance;

(e) To make or utter any false or forged prescription or false or forged written order;

(f) To affix any false or forged label to a package or receptacle containing controlled substances;

(g) To furnish false or fraudulent material information in, or omit any material information from, any application, report, or other document required to be kept or filed under this chapter, or any record required to be kept by this chapter;

(h) To possess a false or fraudulent prescription with intent to obtain a controlled substance; or

(i) To attempt to illegally obtain controlled substances by providing more than one name to a practitioner when obtaining a prescription for a controlled substance. If a person's name is legally changed during the time period that he or she is receiving health care from a practitioner, the person shall inform all providers of care so that the medical and pharmacy

records for the person may be filed under a single name identifier.

(2) Information communicated to a practitioner in an effort unlawfully to procure a controlled substance or unlawfully to procure the administration of such substance, shall not be deemed a privileged communication.

(3) A person who violates this section is guilty of a class C felony and upon conviction may be imprisoned for not more than two years, or fined not more than two thousand dollars, or both. [2003 c 53 § 339; 1996 c 255 § 1; 1993 c 187 § 21; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.403.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 69.50.307 was repealed by 2001 c 248 § 2.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.50.404 Penalties under other laws.** Any penalty imposed for violation of this chapter is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any civil or administrative penalty or sanction otherwise authorized by law. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.404.]

**69.50.405 Bar to prosecution.** If a violation of this chapter is a violation of a federal law or the law of another state, a conviction or acquittal under federal law or the law of another state for the same act is a bar to prosecution in this state. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.405.]

**69.50.406 Distribution to persons under age eighteen.**

(1) Any person eighteen years of age or over who violates RCW 69.50.401 by distributing a controlled substance listed in Schedules I or II which is a narcotic drug or methamphetamine, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, or flunitrazepam, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, listed in Schedule IV, to a person under eighteen years of age is guilty of a class A felony punishable by the fine authorized by RCW 69.50.401(2) (a) or (b), by a term of imprisonment of up to twice that authorized by RCW 69.50.401(2) (a) or (b), or by both.

(2) Any person eighteen years of age or over who violates RCW 69.50.401 by distributing any other controlled substance listed in Schedules I, II, III, IV, and V to a person under eighteen years of age who is at least three years his or her junior is guilty of a class B felony punishable by the fine authorized by RCW 69.50.401(2) (c), (d), or (e), by a term of imprisonment up to twice that authorized by RCW 69.50.401(2) (c), (d), or (e), or both. [2005 c 218 § 2; 2003 c 53 § 340; 1998 c 290 § 2; 1996 c 205 § 7; 1987 c 458 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.406.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.407 Conspiracy.** Any person who attempts or conspires to commit any offense defined in this chapter is punishable by imprisonment or fine or both which may not exceed the maximum punishment prescribed for the offense, the commission of which was the object of the attempt or conspiracy. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.407.]

**69.50.408 Second or subsequent offenses.** (1) Any person convicted of a second or subsequent offense under this chapter may be imprisoned for a term up to twice the

term otherwise authorized, fined an amount up to twice that otherwise authorized, or both.

(2) For purposes of this section, an offense is considered a second or subsequent offense, if, prior to his or her conviction of the offense, the offender has at any time been convicted under this chapter or under any statute of the United States or of any state relating to narcotic drugs, marihuana, depressant, stimulant, or hallucinogenic drugs.

(3) This section does not apply to offenses under RCW 69.50.4013. [2003 c 53 § 341; 1989 c 8 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.408.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.50.410 Prohibited acts: D—Penalties.** (1) Except as authorized by this chapter it is a class C felony for any person to sell for profit any controlled substance or counterfeit substance classified in Schedule I, RCW 69.50.204, except leaves and flowering tops of marihuana.

For the purposes of this section only, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

(a) "To sell" means the passing of title and possession of a controlled substance from the seller to the buyer for a price whether or not the price is paid immediately or at a future date.

(b) "For profit" means the obtaining of anything of value in exchange for a controlled substance.

(c) "Price" means anything of value.

(2)(a) Any person convicted of a violation of subsection (1) of this section shall receive a sentence of not more than five years in a correctional facility of the department of social and health services for the first offense.

(b) Any person convicted on a second or subsequent cause, the sale having transpired after prosecution and conviction on the first cause, of subsection (1) of this section shall receive a mandatory sentence of five years in a correctional facility of the department of social and health services and no judge of any court shall suspend or defer the sentence imposed for the second or subsequent violation of subsection (1) of this section.

(3)(a) Any person convicted of a violation of subsection (1) of this section by selling heroin shall receive a mandatory sentence of two years in a correctional facility of the department of social and health services and no judge of any court shall suspend or defer the sentence imposed for such violation.

(b) Any person convicted on a second or subsequent sale of heroin, the sale having transpired after prosecution and conviction on the first cause of the sale of heroin shall receive a mandatory sentence of ten years in a correctional facility of the department of social and health services and no judge of any court shall suspend or defer the sentence imposed for this second or subsequent violation: PROVIDED, That the indeterminate sentence review board under RCW 9.95.040 shall not reduce the minimum term imposed for a violation under this subsection.

(4) Whether or not a mandatory minimum term has expired, an offender serving a sentence under this section may be granted an extraordinary medical placement when authorized under \*RCW 9.94A.728(4).

(5) In addition to the sentences provided in subsection (2) of this section, any person convicted of a violation of subsection (1) of this section shall be fined in an amount calculated to at least eliminate any and all proceeds or profits directly or indirectly gained by such person as a result of sales of controlled substances in violation of the laws of this or other states, or the United States, up to the amount of five hundred thousand dollars on each count.

(6) Any person, addicted to the use of controlled substances, who voluntarily applies to the department of social and health services for the purpose of participating in a rehabilitation program approved by the department for addicts of controlled substances shall be immune from prosecution for subsection (1) offenses unless a filing of an information or indictment against such person for a violation of subsection (1) of this section is made prior to his or her voluntary participation in the program of the department of social and health services. All applications for immunity under this section shall be sent to the department of social and health services in Olympia. It shall be the duty of the department to stamp each application received pursuant to this section with the date and time of receipt.

(7) This section shall not apply to offenses defined and punishable under the provisions of RCW 69.50.401 through 69.50.4015. [2003 c 53 § 342; 1999 c 324 § 6; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 103 § 1; 1973 2nd ex.s. c 2 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 9.94A.728 was amended by 2009 c 455 § 2, changing subsection (4) to subsection (3).

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.50.412 Prohibited acts: E—Penalties.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to use drug paraphernalia to plant, propagate, cultivate, grow, harvest, manufacture, compound, convert, produce, process, prepare, test, analyze, pack, repack, store, contain, conceal, inject, ingest, inhale, or otherwise introduce into the human body a controlled substance. Any person who violates this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(2) It is unlawful for any person to deliver, possess with intent to deliver, or manufacture with intent to deliver drug paraphernalia, knowing, or under circumstances where one reasonably should know, that it will be used to plant, propagate, cultivate, grow, harvest, manufacture, compound, convert, produce, process, prepare, test, analyze, pack, repack, store, contain, conceal, inject, ingest, inhale, or otherwise introduce into the human body a controlled substance. Any person who violates this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(3) Any person eighteen years of age or over who violates subsection (2) of this section by delivering drug paraphernalia to a person under eighteen years of age who is at least three years his or her junior is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(4) It is unlawful for any person to place in any newspaper, magazine, handbill, or other publication any advertisement, knowing, or under circumstances where one reasonably should know, that the purpose of the advertisement, in whole or in part, is to promote the sale of objects designed or intended for use as drug paraphernalia. Any person who violates this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(5) It is lawful for any person over the age of eighteen to possess sterile hypodermic syringes and needles for the purpose of reducing bloodborne diseases. [2012 c 117 § 368; 2002 c 213 § 1; 1981 c 48 § 2.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.4121 Drug paraphernalia—Selling or giving—Penalty.** (1) Every person who sells or gives, or permits to be sold or given to any person any drug paraphernalia in any form commits a class 1 civil infraction under chapter 7.80 RCW. For purposes of this subsection, "drug paraphernalia" means all equipment, products, and materials of any kind which are used, intended for use, or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing into the human body a controlled substance. Drug paraphernalia includes, but is not limited to objects used, intended for use, or designed for use in ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing marihuana, cocaine, hashish, or hashish oil into the human body, such as:

(a) Metal, wooden, acrylic, glass, stone, plastic, or ceramic pipes with or without screens, permanent screens, hashish heads, or punctured metal bowls;

(b) Water pipes;

(c) Carburetion tubes and devices;

(d) Smoking and carburetion masks;

(e) Roach clips: Meaning objects used to hold burning material, such as a marihuana cigarette, that has become too small or too short to be held in the hand;

(f) Miniature cocaine spoons and cocaine vials;

(g) Chamber pipes;

(h) Carburetor pipes;

(i) Electric pipes;

(j) Air-driven pipes;

(k) Chillums;

(l) Bongs; and

(m) Ice pipes or chillers.

(2) It shall be no defense to a prosecution for a violation of this section that the person acted, or was believed by the defendant to act, as agent or representative of another.

(3) Nothing in subsection (1) of this section prohibits legal distribution of injection syringe equipment through public health and community based HIV prevention programs, and pharmacies. [2002 c 213 § 2; 1998 c 317 § 1.]

**69.50.413 Health care practitioners—Suspension of license for violation of chapter.** The license of any licensed health care practitioner shall be suspended for any violation of this chapter. The suspension shall run concurrently with, and not less than, the term of the sentence for the violation. [1984 c 153 § 21.]

**69.50.414 Sale or transfer of controlled substance to minor—Cause of action by parent—Damages.** The parent or legal guardian of any minor to whom a controlled substance, as defined in RCW 69.50.101, is sold or transferred, shall have a cause of action against the person who sold or transferred the controlled substance for all damages to the minor or his or her parent or legal guardian caused by such

sale or transfer. Damages shall include: (a) Actual damages, including the cost for treatment or rehabilitation of the minor child's drug dependency, (b) forfeiture to the parent or legal guardian of the cash value of any proceeds received from such sale or transfer of a controlled substance, and (c) reasonable attorney fees.

This section shall not apply to a practitioner, as defined in \*RCW 69.50.101(t), who sells or transfers a controlled substance to a minor pursuant to a valid prescription or order. [1986 c 124 § 10.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The reference to RCW 69.50.101(t) is erroneous. "Practitioner" is defined in (w) of that section. RCW 69.50.101 was alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k), changing subsection (w) to subsection (x).

**69.50.415 Controlled substances homicide—Penalty.**

(1) A person who unlawfully delivers a controlled substance in violation of RCW 69.50.401(2) (a), (b), or (c) which controlled substance is subsequently used by the person to whom it was delivered, resulting in the death of the user, is guilty of controlled substances homicide.

(2) Controlled substances homicide is a class B felony punishable according to chapter 9A.20 RCW. [2003 c 53 § 343; 1996 c 205 § 8; 1987 c 458 § 2.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.416 Counterfeit substances prohibited—Penalties.**

(1) It is unlawful for any person knowingly or intentionally to manufacture, deliver, or possess with intent to manufacture or deliver, a controlled substance which, or the container or labeling of which, without authorization, bears the trademark, trade name, or other identifying mark, imprint, number, or device, or any likeness thereof, of a manufacturer, distributor, or dispenser, other than the person who in fact manufactured, distributed, or dispensed the substance.

(2) It is unlawful for any person knowingly or intentionally to make, distribute, or possess a punch, die, plate, stone, or other thing designed to print, imprint, or reproduce the trademark, trade name, or other identifying mark, imprint, or device of another or any likeness of any of the foregoing upon any drug or container or labeling thereof.

(3) A person who violates this section is guilty of a class C felony and upon conviction may be imprisoned for not more than two years, fined not more than two thousand dollars, or both. [2003 c 53 § 344; 1993 c 187 § 22.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.50.420 Violations—Juvenile driving privileges.**

(1) If a juvenile thirteen years of age or older and under the age of twenty-one is found by a court to have committed any offense that is a violation of this chapter, the court shall notify the department of licensing within twenty-four hours after entry of the judgment.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section, upon petition of a juvenile whose privilege to drive has been revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265, the court may at any time the court deems appropriate notify the department of licensing to reinstate the juvenile's privilege to drive.

(3) If the conviction is for the juvenile's first violation of this chapter or chapter 66.44, 69.41, or 69.52 RCW, the juvenile may not petition the court for reinstatement of the juvenile's privilege to drive revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265 until the later of ninety days after the date the juvenile turns sixteen or ninety days after the judgment was entered. If the conviction was for the juvenile's second or subsequent violation of this chapter or chapter 66.44, 69.41, or 69.52 RCW, the juvenile may not petition the court for reinstatement of the juvenile's privilege to drive revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265 until the later of the date the juvenile turns seventeen or one year after the date judgment was entered. [1989 c 271 § 120; 1988 c 148 § 5.]

**Legislative finding—Severability—1988 c 148:** See notes following RCW 13.40.265.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.425 Misdemeanor violations—Minimum penalties.** A person who is convicted of a misdemeanor violation of any provision of this chapter shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than twenty-four consecutive hours, and by a fine of not less than two hundred fifty dollars. On a second or subsequent conviction, the fine shall not be less than five hundred dollars. These fines shall be in addition to any other fine or penalty imposed. Unless the court finds that the imposition of the minimum imprisonment will pose a substantial risk to the defendant's physical or mental well-being or that local jail facilities are in an overcrowded condition, the minimum term of imprisonment shall not be suspended or deferred. If the court finds such risk or overcrowding exists, it shall sentence the defendant to a minimum of forty hours of community restitution. If a minimum term of imprisonment is suspended or deferred, the court shall state in writing the reason for granting the suspension or deferral and the facts upon which the suspension or deferral is based. Unless the court finds the person to be indigent, the minimum fine shall not be suspended or deferred. [2002 c 175 § 44; 1989 c 271 § 105.]

**Effective date—2002 c 175:** See note following RCW 7.80.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.430 Additional fine for certain felony violations.** (1) Every person convicted of a felony violation of RCW 69.50.401 through 69.50.4013, 69.50.4015, 69.50.402, 69.50.403, 69.50.406, 69.50.407, 69.50.410, or 69.50.415 shall be fined one thousand dollars in addition to any other fine or penalty imposed. Unless the court finds the person to be indigent, this additional fine shall not be suspended or deferred by the court.

(2) On a second or subsequent conviction for violation of any of the laws listed in subsection (1) of this section, the person shall be fined two thousand dollars in addition to any other fine or penalty imposed. Unless the court finds the person to be indigent, this additional fine shall not be suspended or deferred by the court. [2003 c 53 § 345; 1989 c 271 § 106.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.435 Violations committed in or on certain public places or facilities—Additional penalty—Defenses—**

**Construction—Definitions.** (1) Any person who violates RCW 69.50.401 by manufacturing, selling, delivering, or possessing with the intent to manufacture, sell, or deliver a controlled substance listed under RCW 69.50.401 or who violates RCW 69.50.410 by selling for profit any controlled substance or counterfeit substance classified in schedule I, RCW 69.50.204, except leaves and flowering tops of marijuana to a person:

- (a) In a school;
- (b) On a school bus;
- (c) Within one thousand feet of a school bus route stop designated by the school district;
- (d) Within one thousand feet of the perimeter of the school grounds;
- (e) In a public park;
- (f) In a public housing project designated by a local governing authority as a drug-free zone;
- (g) On a public transit vehicle;
- (h) In a public transit stop shelter;
- (i) At a civic center designated as a drug-free zone by the local governing authority; or
- (j) Within one thousand feet of the perimeter of a facility designated under (i) of this subsection, if the local governing authority specifically designates the one thousand foot perimeter

may be punished by a fine of up to twice the fine otherwise authorized by this chapter, but not including twice the fine authorized by RCW 69.50.406, or by imprisonment of up to twice the imprisonment otherwise authorized by this chapter, but not including twice the imprisonment authorized by RCW 69.50.406, or by both such fine and imprisonment. The provisions of this section shall not operate to more than double the fine or imprisonment otherwise authorized by this chapter for an offense.

(2) It is not a defense to a prosecution for a violation of this section that the person was unaware that the prohibited conduct took place while in a school or school bus or within one thousand feet of the school or school bus route stop, in a public park, in a public housing project designated by a local governing authority as a drug-free zone, on a public transit vehicle, in a public transit stop shelter, at a civic center designated as a drug-free zone by the local governing authority, or within one thousand feet of the perimeter of a facility designated under subsection (1)(i) of this section, if the local governing authority specifically designates the one thousand foot perimeter.

(3) It is not a defense to a prosecution for a violation of this section or any other prosecution under this chapter that persons under the age of eighteen were not present in the school, the school bus, the public park, the public housing project designated by a local governing authority as a drug-free zone, or the public transit vehicle, or at the school bus route stop, the public transit vehicle stop shelter, at a civic center designated as a drug-free zone by the local governing authority, or within one thousand feet of the perimeter of a facility designated under subsection (1)(i) of this section, if the local governing authority specifically designates the one thousand foot perimeter at the time of the offense or that school was not in session.

(4) It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution for a violation of this section that the prohibited conduct took place

entirely within a private residence, that no person under eighteen years of age or younger was present in such private residence at any time during the commission of the offense, and that the prohibited conduct did not involve delivering, manufacturing, selling, or possessing with the intent to manufacture, sell, or deliver any controlled substance in RCW 69.50.401 for profit. The affirmative defense established in this section shall be proved by the defendant by a preponderance of the evidence. This section shall not be construed to establish an affirmative defense with respect to a prosecution for an offense defined in any other section of this chapter.

(5) In a prosecution under this section, a map produced or reproduced by any municipality, school district, county, transit authority engineer, or public housing authority for the purpose of depicting the location and boundaries of the area on or within one thousand feet of any property used for a school, school bus route stop, public park, public housing project designated by a local governing authority as a drug-free zone, public transit vehicle stop shelter, or a civic center designated as a drug-free zone by a local governing authority, or a true copy of such a map, shall under proper authentication, be admissible and shall constitute prima facie evidence of the location and boundaries of those areas if the governing body of the municipality, school district, county, or transit authority has adopted a resolution or ordinance approving the map as the official location and record of the location and boundaries of the area on or within one thousand feet of the school, school bus route stop, public park, public housing project designated by a local governing authority as a drug-free zone, public transit vehicle stop shelter, or civic center designated as a drug-free zone by a local governing authority. Any map approved under this section or a true copy of the map shall be filed with the clerk of the municipality or county, and shall be maintained as an official record of the municipality or county. This section shall not be construed as precluding the prosecution from introducing or relying upon any other evidence or testimony to establish any element of the offense. This section shall not be construed as precluding the use or admissibility of any map or diagram other than the one which has been approved by the governing body of a municipality, school district, county, transit authority, or public housing authority if the map or diagram is otherwise admissible under court rule.

(6) As used in this section the following terms have the meanings indicated unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(a) "School" has the meaning under RCW 28A.150.010 or 28A.150.020. The term "school" also includes a private school approved under RCW 28A.195.010;

(b) "School bus" means a school bus as defined by the superintendent of public instruction by rule which is owned and operated by any school district and all school buses which are privately owned and operated under contract or otherwise with any school district in the state for the transportation of students. The term does not include buses operated by common carriers in the urban transportation of students such as transportation of students through a municipal transportation system;

(c) "School bus route stop" means a school bus stop as designated by a school district;

(d) "Public park" means land, including any facilities or improvements on the land, that is operated as a park by the state or a local government;

(e) "Public transit vehicle" means any motor vehicle, streetcar, train, trolley vehicle, or any other device, vessel, or vehicle which is owned or operated by a transit authority and which is used for the purpose of carrying passengers on a regular schedule;

(f) "Transit authority" means a city, county, or state transportation system, transportation authority, public transportation benefit area, public transit authority, or metropolitan municipal corporation within the state that operates public transit vehicles;

(g) "Stop shelter" means a passenger shelter designated by a transit authority;

(h) "Civic center" means a publicly owned or publicly operated place or facility used for recreational, educational, or cultural activities;

(i) "Public housing project" means the same as "housing project" as defined in RCW 35.82.020. [2003 c 53 § 346. Prior: 1997 c 30 § 2; 1997 c 23 § 1; 1996 c 14 § 2; 1991 c 32 § 4; prior: 1990 c 244 § 1; 1990 c 33 § 588; 1989 c 271 § 112.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Findings—Intent—1997 c 30:** "The legislature finds that a large number of illegal drug transactions occur in or near public housing projects. The legislature also finds that this activity places the families and children residing in these housing projects at risk for drug-related crimes and increases the general level of fear among the residents of the housing project and the areas surrounding these projects. The intent of the legislature is to allow local governments to designate public housing projects as drug-free zones." [1997 c 30 § 1.]

**Findings—Intent—1996 c 14:** "The legislature finds that a large number of illegal drug transactions occur in or near publicly owned places used for recreational, educational, and cultural purposes. The legislature also finds that this activity places the people using these facilities at risk for drug-related crimes, discourages the use of recreational, educational, and cultural facilities, blights the economic development around these facilities, and increases the general level of fear among the residents of the areas surrounding these facilities. The intent of the legislature is to allow local governments to designate a perimeter of one thousand feet around publicly owned places used primarily for recreation, education, and cultural activities as drug-free zones." [1996 c 14 § 1.]

**Purpose—Statutory references—Severability—1990 c 33:** See RCW 28A.900.100 through 28A.900.102.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

#### **69.50.440 Possession with intent to manufacture—**

**Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to possess ephedrine or any of its salts or isomers or salts of isomers, pseudoephedrine or any of its salts or isomers or salts of isomers, pressurized ammonia gas, or pressurized ammonia gas solution with intent to manufacture methamphetamine, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers.

(2) Any person who violates this section is guilty of a class B felony and may be imprisoned for not more than ten years, fined not more than twenty-five thousand dollars, or both. Three thousand dollars of the fine may not be suspended. As collected, the first three thousand dollars of the fine must be deposited with the law enforcement agency having responsibility for cleanup of laboratories, sites, or substances used in the manufacture of the methamphetamine, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers. The fine

moneys deposited with that law enforcement agency must be used for such clean-up cost. [2005 c 218 § 3; 2003 c 53 § 347; 2002 c 134 § 1; 2000 c 225 § 4; 1997 c 71 § 3; 1996 c 205 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Effective date—2002 c 134:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 26, 2002]." [2002 c 134 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## ARTICLE V ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

**69.50.500 Powers of enforcement personnel.** (a) It is hereby made the duty of the state board of pharmacy, the department, and their officers, agents, inspectors and representatives, and all law enforcement officers within the state, and of all prosecuting attorneys, to enforce all provisions of this chapter, except those specifically delegated, and to cooperate with all agencies charged with the enforcement of the laws of the United States, of this state, and all other states, relating to controlled substances as defined in this chapter.

(b) Employees of the department of health, who are so designated by the board as enforcement officers are declared to be peace officers and shall be vested with police powers to enforce the drug laws of this state, including this chapter. [1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 437; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.500.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.501 Administrative inspections.** The state board of pharmacy may make administrative inspections of controlled premises in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) For purposes of this section only, "controlled premises" means:

(a) places where persons registered or exempted from registration requirements under this chapter are required to keep records; and

(b) places including factories, warehouses, establishments, and conveyances in which persons registered or exempted from registration requirements under this chapter are permitted to hold, manufacture, compound, process, sell, deliver, or otherwise dispose of any controlled substance.

(2) When authorized by an administrative inspection warrant issued pursuant to RCW 69.50.502 an officer or employee designated by the board, upon presenting the warrant and appropriate credentials to the owner, operator, or agent in charge, may enter controlled premises for the purpose of conducting an administrative inspection.

(3) When authorized by an administrative inspection warrant, an officer or employee designated by the board may:

(a) inspect and copy records required by this chapter to be kept;

(b) inspect, within reasonable limits and in a reasonable manner, controlled premises and all pertinent equipment, finished and unfinished material, containers and labeling found therein, and, except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, all other things therein, including records, files, papers,

processes, controls, and facilities bearing on violation of this chapter; and

(c) inventory any stock of any controlled substance therein and obtain samples thereof;

(4) This section does not prevent the inspection without a warrant of books and records pursuant to an administrative subpoena issued in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW, nor does it prevent entries and administrative inspections, including seizures of property, without a warrant:

(a) if the owner, operator, or agent in charge of the controlled premises consents;

(b) in situations presenting imminent danger to health or safety;

(c) in situations involving inspection of conveyances if there is reasonable cause to believe that the mobility of the conveyance makes it impracticable to obtain a warrant;

(d) in any other exceptional or emergency circumstance where time or opportunity to apply for a warrant is lacking; or,

(e) in all other situations in which a warrant is not constitutionally required;

(5) An inspection authorized by this section shall not extend to financial data, sales data, other than shipment data, or pricing data unless the owner, operator, or agent in charge of the controlled premises consents in writing. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.501.]

**69.50.502 Warrants for administrative inspections.** Issuance and execution of administrative inspection warrants shall be as follows:

(1) A judge of a superior court, or a judge of a district court within his or her jurisdiction, and upon proper oath or affirmation showing probable cause, may issue warrants for the purpose of conducting administrative inspections authorized by this chapter or rules hereunder, and seizures of property appropriate to the inspections. For purposes of the issuance of administrative inspection warrants, probable cause exists upon showing a valid public interest in the effective enforcement of this chapter or rules hereunder, sufficient to justify administrative inspection of the area, premises, building, or conveyance in the circumstances specified in the application for the warrant;

(2) A warrant shall issue only upon an affidavit of a designated officer or employee having knowledge of the facts alleged, sworn to before the judge and establishing the grounds for issuing the warrant. If the judge is satisfied that the grounds for the application exist or that there is probable cause to believe they exist, he or she shall issue a warrant identifying the area, premises, building, or conveyance to be inspected, the purpose of the inspection, and, if appropriate, the type of property to be inspected, if any. The warrant shall:

(a) State the grounds for its issuance and the name of each person whose affidavit has been taken in support thereof;

(b) Be directed to a person authorized by RCW 69.50.500 to execute it;

(c) Command the person to whom it is directed to inspect the area, premises, building, or conveyance identified for the purpose specified and, if appropriate, direct the seizure of the property specified;

(d) Identify the item or types of property to be seized, if any;

(e) Direct that it be served during normal business hours and designate the judge to whom it shall be returned;

(3) A warrant issued pursuant to this section must be executed and returned within ten days of its date unless, upon a showing of a need for additional time, the court orders otherwise. If property is seized pursuant to a warrant, a copy shall be given to the person from whom or from whose premises the property is taken, together with a receipt for the property taken. The return of the warrant shall be made promptly, accompanied by a written inventory of any property taken. The inventory shall be made in the presence of the person executing the warrant and of the person from whose possession or premises the property was taken, if present, or in the presence of at least one credible person other than the person executing the warrant. A copy of the inventory shall be delivered to the person from whom or from whose premises the property was taken and to the applicant for the warrant;

(4) The judge who has issued a warrant shall attach thereto a copy of the return and all papers returnable in connection therewith and file them with the clerk of the court in which the inspection was made. [2012 c 117 § 369; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.502.]

**69.50.503 Injunctions.** (a) The superior courts of this state have jurisdiction to restrain or enjoin violations of this chapter.

(b) The defendant may demand trial by jury for an alleged violation of an injunction or restraining order under this section. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.503.]

**69.50.504 Cooperative arrangements.** The state board of pharmacy shall cooperate with federal and other state agencies in discharging its responsibilities concerning traffic in controlled substances and in suppressing the abuse of controlled substances. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.504.]

**69.50.505 Seizure and forfeiture.** (1) The following are subject to seizure and forfeiture and no property right exists in them:

(a) All controlled substances which have been manufactured, distributed, dispensed, acquired, or possessed in violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW, and all hazardous chemicals, as defined in RCW 64.44.010, used or intended to be used in the manufacture of controlled substances;

(b) All raw materials, products, and equipment of any kind which are used, or intended for use, in manufacturing, compounding, processing, delivering, importing, or exporting any controlled substance in violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW;

(c) All property which is used, or intended for use, as a container for property described in (a) or (b) of this subsection;

(d) All conveyances, including aircraft, vehicles, or vessels, which are used, or intended for use, in any manner to facilitate the sale, delivery, or receipt of property described in (a) or (b) of this subsection, except that:

(i) No conveyance used by any person as a common carrier in the transaction of business as a common carrier is sub-

ject to forfeiture under this section unless it appears that the owner or other person in charge of the conveyance is a consenting party or privy to a violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW;

(ii) No conveyance is subject to forfeiture under this section by reason of any act or omission established by the owner thereof to have been committed or omitted without the owner's knowledge or consent;

(iii) No conveyance is subject to forfeiture under this section if used in the receipt of only an amount of marijuana for which possession constitutes a misdemeanor under RCW 69.50.4014;

(iv) A forfeiture of a conveyance encumbered by a bona fide security interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if the secured party neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or omission; and

(v) When the owner of a conveyance has been arrested under this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW the conveyance in which the person is arrested may not be subject to forfeiture unless it is seized or process is issued for its seizure within ten days of the owner's arrest;

(e) All books, records, and research products and materials, including formulas, microfilm, tapes, and data which are used, or intended for use, in violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW;

(f) All drug paraphernalia;

(g) All moneys, negotiable instruments, securities, or other tangible or intangible property of value furnished or intended to be furnished by any person in exchange for a controlled substance in violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW, all tangible or intangible personal property, proceeds, or assets acquired in whole or in part with proceeds traceable to an exchange or series of exchanges in violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW, and all moneys, negotiable instruments, and securities used or intended to be used to facilitate any violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW. A forfeiture of money, negotiable instruments, securities, or other tangible or intangible property encumbered by a bona fide security interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if, at the time the security interest was created, the secured party neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or omission. No personal property may be forfeited under this subsection (1)(g), to the extent of the interest of an owner, by reason of any act or omission which that owner establishes was committed or omitted without the owner's knowledge or consent; and

(h) All real property, including any right, title, and interest in the whole of any lot or tract of land, and any appurtenances or improvements which are being used with the knowledge of the owner for the manufacturing, compounding, processing, delivery, importing, or exporting of any controlled substance, or which have been acquired in whole or in part with proceeds traceable to an exchange or series of exchanges in violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW, if such activity is not less than a class C felony and a substantial nexus exists between the commercial production or sale of the controlled substance and the real property. However:

(i) No property may be forfeited pursuant to this subsection (1)(h), to the extent of the interest of an owner, by reason

of any act or omission committed or omitted without the owner's knowledge or consent;

(ii) The bona fide gift of a controlled substance, legend drug, or imitation controlled substance shall not result in the forfeiture of real property;

(iii) The possession of marijuana shall not result in the forfeiture of real property unless the marijuana is possessed for commercial purposes, the amount possessed is five or more plants or one pound or more of marijuana, and a substantial nexus exists between the possession of marijuana and the real property. In such a case, the intent of the offender shall be determined by the preponderance of the evidence, including the offender's prior criminal history, the amount of marijuana possessed by the offender, the sophistication of the activity or equipment used by the offender, and other evidence which demonstrates the offender's intent to engage in commercial activity;

(iv) The unlawful sale of marijuana or a legend drug shall not result in the forfeiture of real property unless the sale was forty grams or more in the case of marijuana or one hundred dollars or more in the case of a legend drug, and a substantial nexus exists between the unlawful sale and the real property; and

(v) A forfeiture of real property encumbered by a bona fide security interest is subject to the interest of the secured party if the secured party, at the time the security interest was created, neither had knowledge of nor consented to the act or omission.

(2) Real or personal property subject to forfeiture under this chapter may be seized by any board inspector or law enforcement officer of this state upon process issued by any superior court having jurisdiction over the property. Seizure of real property shall include the filing of a *lis pendens* by the seizing agency. Real property seized under this section shall not be transferred or otherwise conveyed until ninety days after seizure or until a judgment of forfeiture is entered, whichever is later: PROVIDED, That real property seized under this section may be transferred or conveyed to any person or entity who acquires title by foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure of a security interest. Seizure of personal property without process may be made if:

(a) The seizure is incident to an arrest or a search under a search warrant or an inspection under an administrative inspection warrant;

(b) The property subject to seizure has been the subject of a prior judgment in favor of the state in a criminal injunction or forfeiture proceeding based upon this chapter;

(c) A board inspector or law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the property is directly or indirectly dangerous to health or safety; or

(d) The board inspector or law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used in violation of this chapter.

(3) In the event of seizure pursuant to subsection (2) of this section, proceedings for forfeiture shall be deemed commenced by the seizure. The law enforcement agency under whose authority the seizure was made shall cause notice to be served within fifteen days following the seizure on the owner of the property seized and the person in charge thereof and any person having any known right or interest therein, including any community property interest, of the seizure and

intended forfeiture of the seized property. Service of notice of seizure of real property shall be made according to the rules of civil procedure. However, the state may not obtain a default judgment with respect to real property against a party who is served by substituted service absent an affidavit stating that a good faith effort has been made to ascertain if the defaulted party is incarcerated within the state, and that there is no present basis to believe that the party is incarcerated within the state. Notice of seizure in the case of property subject to a security interest that has been perfected by filing a financing statement in accordance with chapter 62A.9A RCW, or a certificate of title, shall be made by service upon the secured party or the secured party's assignee at the address shown on the financing statement or the certificate of title. The notice of seizure in other cases may be served by any method authorized by law or court rule including but not limited to service by certified mail with return receipt requested. Service by mail shall be deemed complete upon mailing within the fifteen day period following the seizure.

(4) If no person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of items specified in subsection (1)(d), (g), or (h) of this section within forty-five days of the service of notice from the seizing agency in the case of personal property and ninety days in the case of real property, the item seized shall be deemed forfeited. The community property interest in real property of a person whose spouse or domestic partner committed a violation giving rise to seizure of the real property may not be forfeited if the person did not participate in the violation.

(5) If any person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of items specified in subsection (1)(b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), or (h) of this section within forty-five days of the service of notice from the seizing agency in the case of personal property and ninety days in the case of real property, the person or persons shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard as to the claim or right. The notice of claim may be served by any method authorized by law or court rule including, but not limited to, service by first-class mail. Service by mail shall be deemed complete upon mailing within the forty-five day period following service of the notice of seizure in the case of personal property and within the ninety-day period following service of the notice of seizure in the case of real property. The hearing shall be before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency or the chief law enforcement officer's designee, except where the seizing agency is a state agency as defined in RCW 34.12.020(4), the hearing shall be before the chief law enforcement officer of the seizing agency or an administrative law judge appointed under chapter 34.12 RCW, except that any person asserting a claim or right may remove the matter to a court of competent jurisdiction. Removal of any matter involving personal property may only be accomplished according to the rules of civil procedure. The person seeking removal of the matter must serve process against the state, county, political subdivision, or municipality that operates the seizing agency, and any other party of interest, in accordance with RCW 4.28.080 or 4.92.020, within forty-five days after the person seeking removal has notified the seizing law enforcement agency of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession. The



court to which the matter is to be removed shall be the district court when the aggregate value of personal property is within the jurisdictional limit set forth in RCW 3.66.020. A hearing before the seizing agency and any appeal therefrom shall be under Title 34 RCW. In all cases, the burden of proof is upon the law enforcement agency to establish, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the property is subject to forfeiture.

The seizing law enforcement agency shall promptly return the article or articles to the claimant upon a determination by the administrative law judge or court that the claimant is the present lawful owner or is lawfully entitled to possession thereof of items specified in subsection (1)(b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), or (h) of this section.

(6) In any proceeding to forfeit property under this title, where the claimant substantially prevails, the claimant is entitled to reasonable attorneys' fees reasonably incurred by the claimant. In addition, in a court hearing between two or more claimants to the article or articles involved, the prevailing party is entitled to a judgment for costs and reasonable attorneys' fees.

(7) When property is forfeited under this chapter the board or seizing law enforcement agency may:

(a) Retain it for official use or upon application by any law enforcement agency of this state release such property to such agency for the exclusive use of enforcing the provisions of this chapter;

(b) Sell that which is not required to be destroyed by law and which is not harmful to the public;

(c) Request the appropriate sheriff or director of public safety to take custody of the property and remove it for disposition in accordance with law; or

(d) Forward it to the drug enforcement administration for disposition.

(8)(a) When property is forfeited, the seizing agency shall keep a record indicating the identity of the prior owner, if known, a description of the property, the disposition of the property, the value of the property at the time of seizure, and the amount of proceeds realized from disposition of the property.

(b) Each seizing agency shall retain records of forfeited property for at least seven years.

(c) Each seizing agency shall file a report including a copy of the records of forfeited property with the state treasurer each calendar quarter.

(d) The quarterly report need not include a record of forfeited property that is still being held for use as evidence during the investigation or prosecution of a case or during the appeal from a conviction.

(9)(a) By January 31st of each year, each seizing agency shall remit to the state treasurer an amount equal to ten percent of the net proceeds of any property forfeited during the preceding calendar year. Money remitted shall be deposited in the state general fund.

(b) The net proceeds of forfeited property is the value of the forfeitable interest in the property after deducting the cost of satisfying any bona fide security interest to which the property is subject at the time of seizure; and in the case of sold property, after deducting the cost of sale, including reasonable fees or commissions paid to independent selling agents, and the cost of any valid landlord's claim for damages under subsection (15) of this section.

(c) The value of sold forfeited property is the sale price. The value of retained forfeited property is the fair market value of the property at the time of seizure, determined when possible by reference to an applicable commonly used index, such as the index used by the department of licensing for valuation of motor vehicles. A seizing agency may use, but need not use, an independent qualified appraiser to determine the value of retained property. If an appraiser is used, the value of the property appraised is net of the cost of the appraisal. The value of destroyed property and retained firearms or illegal property is zero.

(10) Forfeited property and net proceeds not required to be paid to the state treasurer shall be retained by the seizing law enforcement agency exclusively for the expansion and improvement of controlled substances related law enforcement activity. Money retained under this section may not be used to supplant preexisting funding sources.

(11) Controlled substances listed in Schedule I, II, III, IV, and V that are possessed, transferred, sold, or offered for sale in violation of this chapter are contraband and shall be seized and summarily forfeited to the state. Controlled substances listed in Schedule I, II, III, IV, and V, which are seized or come into the possession of the board, the owners of which are unknown, are contraband and shall be summarily forfeited to the board.

(12) Species of plants from which controlled substances in Schedules I and II may be derived which have been planted or cultivated in violation of this chapter, or of which the owners or cultivators are unknown, or which are wild growths, may be seized and summarily forfeited to the board.

(13) The failure, upon demand by a board inspector or law enforcement officer, of the person in occupancy or in control of land or premises upon which the species of plants are growing or being stored to produce an appropriate registration or proof that he or she is the holder thereof constitutes authority for the seizure and forfeiture of the plants.

(14) Upon the entry of an order of forfeiture of real property, the court shall forward a copy of the order to the assessor of the county in which the property is located. Orders for the forfeiture of real property shall be entered by the superior court, subject to court rules. Such an order shall be filed by the seizing agency in the county auditor's records in the county in which the real property is located.

(15) A landlord may assert a claim against proceeds from the sale of assets seized and forfeited under subsection (7)(b) of this section, only if:

(a) A law enforcement officer, while acting in his or her official capacity, directly caused damage to the complaining landlord's property while executing a search of a tenant's residence; and

(b) The landlord has applied any funds remaining in the tenant's deposit, to which the landlord has a right under chapter 59.18 RCW, to cover the damage directly caused by a law enforcement officer prior to asserting a claim under the provisions of this section;

(i) Only if the funds applied under (b) of this subsection are insufficient to satisfy the damage directly caused by a law enforcement officer, may the landlord seek compensation for the damage by filing a claim against the governmental entity under whose authority the law enforcement agency operates within thirty days after the search;

(ii) Only if the governmental entity denies or fails to respond to the landlord's claim within sixty days of the date of filing, may the landlord collect damages under this subsection by filing within thirty days of denial or the expiration of the sixty-day period, whichever occurs first, a claim with the seizing law enforcement agency. The seizing law enforcement agency must notify the landlord of the status of the claim by the end of the thirty-day period. Nothing in this section requires the claim to be paid by the end of the sixty-day or thirty-day period.

(c) For any claim filed under (b) of this subsection, the law enforcement agency shall pay the claim unless the agency provides substantial proof that the landlord either:

(i) Knew or consented to actions of the tenant in violation of this chapter or chapter 69.41 or 69.52 RCW; or

(ii) Failed to respond to a notification of the illegal activity, provided by a law enforcement agency under RCW 59.18.075, within seven days of receipt of notification of the illegal activity.

(16) The landlord's claim for damages under subsection (15) of this section may not include a claim for loss of business and is limited to:

(a) Damage to tangible property and clean-up costs;

(b) The lesser of the cost of repair or fair market value of the damage directly caused by a law enforcement officer;

(c) The proceeds from the sale of the specific tenant's property seized and forfeited under subsection (7)(b) of this section; and

(d) The proceeds available after the seizing law enforcement agency satisfies any bona fide security interest in the tenant's property and costs related to sale of the tenant's property as provided by subsection (9)(b) of this section.

(17) Subsections (15) and (16) of this section do not limit any other rights a landlord may have against a tenant to collect for damages. However, if a law enforcement agency satisfies a landlord's claim under subsection (15) of this section, the rights the landlord has against the tenant for damages directly caused by a law enforcement officer under the terms of the landlord and tenant's contract are subrogated to the law enforcement agency. [2009 c 479 § 46; 2009 c 364 § 1; 2008 c 6 § 631; 2003 c 53 § 348; 2001 c 168 § 1; 1993 c 487 § 1; 1992 c 211 § 1. Prior: (1992 c 210 § 5 repealed by 1992 c 211 § 2); 1990 c 248 § 2; 1990 c 213 § 12; 1989 c 271 § 212; 1988 c 282 § 2; 1986 c 124 § 9; 1984 c 258 § 333; 1983 c 2 § 15; prior: 1982 c 189 § 6; 1982 c 171 § 1; prior: 1981 c 67 § 32; 1981 c 48 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 77 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.505.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2009 c 364 § 1 and by 2009 c 479 § 46, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—2009 c 479:** See note following RCW 2.56.030.

**Part headings not law—Severability—2008 c 6:** See RCW 26.60.900 and 26.60.901.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Findings—1989 c 271:** "The legislature finds that: Drug offenses and crimes resulting from illegal drug use are destructive to society; the nature of drug trafficking results in many property crimes and crimes of violence; state and local governmental agencies incur immense expenses in the investigation, prosecution, adjudication, incarceration, and treatment of drug-related offenders and the compensation of their victims; drug-related offenses are difficult to eradicate because of the profits derived from the criminal activi-

ties, which can be invested in legitimate assets and later used for further criminal activities; and the forfeiture of real assets where a substantial nexus exists between the commercial production or sale of the substances and the real property will provide a significant deterrent to crime by removing the profit incentive of drug trafficking, and will provide a revenue source that will partially defray the large costs incurred by government as a result of these crimes. The legislature recognizes that seizure of real property is a very powerful tool and should not be applied in cases in which a manifest injustice would occur as a result of forfeiture of an innocent spouse's community property interest." [1989 c 271 § 211.]

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.34.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.506 Burden of proof; liabilities.** (a) It is not necessary for the state to negate any exemption or exception in this chapter in any complaint, information, indictment, or other pleading or in any trial, hearing, or other proceeding under this chapter. The burden of proof of any exemption or exception is upon the person claiming it.

(b) In the absence of proof that a person is the duly authorized holder of an appropriate registration or order form issued under this chapter, he or she is presumed not to be the holder of the registration or form. The burden of proof is upon him or her to rebut the presumption.

(c) No liability is imposed by this chapter upon any authorized state, county, or municipal officer, engaged in the lawful performance of his or her duties. [2012 c 117 § 370; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.506.]

**69.50.507 Judicial review.** All final determinations, findings, and conclusions of the state board of pharmacy under this chapter are final and conclusive decisions of the matters involved. Any person aggrieved by the decision may obtain review of the decision in the superior court wherein he or she resides or in the superior court of Thurston county, such review to be in conformity with the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW. [2012 c 117 § 371; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.507.]

**69.50.508 Education and research.** (a) The state board of pharmacy may carry out educational programs designed to prevent and deter misuse and abuse of controlled substances. In connection with these programs it may:

(1) promote better recognition of the problems of misuse and abuse of controlled substances within the regulated industry and among interested groups and organizations;

(2) assist the regulated industry and interested groups and organizations in contributing to the reduction of misuse and abuse of controlled substances;

(3) consult with interested groups and organizations to aid them in solving administrative and organizational problems;

(4) evaluate procedures, projects, techniques, and controls conducted or proposed as part of educational programs on misuse and abuse of controlled substances;

(5) disseminate the results of research on misuse and abuse of controlled substances to promote a better public understanding of what problems exist and what can be done to combat them; and

(6) assist in the education and training of state and local law enforcement officials in their efforts to control misuse and abuse of controlled substances.

(b) The board may encourage research on misuse and abuse of controlled substances. In connection with the research, and in furtherance of the enforcement of this chapter, it may:

(1) establish methods to assess accurately the effects of controlled substances and identify and characterize those with potential for abuse;

(2) make studies and undertake programs of research to:

(i) develop new or improved approaches, techniques, systems, equipment and devices to strengthen the enforcement of this chapter;

(ii) determine patterns of misuse and abuse of controlled substances and the social effects thereof; and,

(iii) improve methods for preventing, predicting, understanding and dealing with the misuse and abuse of controlled substances; and,

(3) enter into contracts with public agencies, institutions of higher education, and private organizations or individuals for the purpose of conducting research, demonstrations, or special projects which bear directly on misuse and abuse of controlled substances.

(c) The board may enter into contracts for educational and research activities without performance bonds.

(d) The board may authorize persons engaged in research on the use and effects of controlled substances to withhold the names and other identifying characteristics of individuals who are the subjects of the research. Persons who obtain this authorization are not compelled in any civil, criminal, administrative, legislative, or other proceeding to identify the individuals who are the subjects of research for which the authorization was obtained.

(e) The board may authorize the possession and distribution of controlled substances by persons engaged in research. Persons who obtain this authorization are exempt from state prosecution for possession and distribution of controlled substances to the extent of the authorization. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.508.]

**69.50.509 Search and seizure of controlled substances.** If, upon the sworn complaint of any person, it shall be made to appear to any judge of the superior court, district court, or municipal court that there is probable cause to believe that any controlled substance is being used, manufactured, sold, bartered, exchanged, administered, dispensed, delivered, distributed, produced, possessed, given away, furnished or otherwise disposed of or kept in violation of the provisions of this chapter, such judge shall, with or without the approval of the prosecuting attorney, issue a warrant directed to any law enforcement officer of the state, commanding him or her to search the premises designated and described in such complaint and warrant, and to seize all controlled substances there found, together with the vessels in which they are contained, and all implements, furniture and fixtures used or kept for the illegal manufacture, sale, barter, exchange, administering, dispensing, delivering, distributing, producing, possessing, giving away, furnishing or otherwise disposing of such controlled substances, and to safely keep the same, and to make a return of said warrant within three days, showing all acts and things done thereunder, with a particular statement of all articles seized and the name of the person or persons in whose possession the same were found, if

any, and if no person be found in the possession of said articles, the returns shall so state. The provisions of RCW 10.31.030 as now or hereafter amended shall apply to actions taken pursuant to this chapter. [1987 c 202 § 228; 1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.509.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**69.50.510 Search and seizure at rental premises—Notification of landlord.** Whenever a controlled substance which is manufactured, distributed, dispensed, or acquired in violation of this chapter is seized at rental premises, the law enforcement agency shall make a reasonable attempt to discover the identity of the landlord and shall notify the landlord in writing, at the last address listed in the property tax records and at any other address known by the law enforcement agency, of the seizure and the location of the seizure. [1988 c 150 § 9.]

**Legislative findings—Severability—1988 c 150:** See notes following RCW 59.18.130.

**69.50.511 Cleanup of hazardous substances at illegal drug manufacturing facility—Rules.** Law enforcement agencies who during the official investigation or enforcement of any illegal drug manufacturing facility come in contact with or are aware of any substances suspected of being hazardous as defined in RCW 70.105D.020, shall notify the department of ecology for the purpose of securing a contractor to identify, clean up, store, and dispose of suspected hazardous substances, except for those random and representative samples obtained for evidentiary purposes. Whenever possible, a destruct order covering hazardous substances which may be described in general terms shall be obtained concurrently with a search warrant. Materials that have been photographed, fingerprinted, and subsampled by police shall be destroyed as soon as practical. The department of ecology shall make every effort to recover costs from the parties responsible for the suspected hazardous substance. All recoveries shall be deposited in the account or fund from which contractor payments are made.

The department of ecology may adopt rules to carry out its responsibilities under this section. The department of ecology shall consult with law enforcement agencies prior to adopting any rule or policy relating to this section. [2007 c 104 § 17; 1990 c 213 § 13; 1989 c 271 § 228.]

**Application—Construction—Severability—2007 c 104:** See RCW 64.70.015 and 64.70.900.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.50.525 Diversion prevention and control—Report.** (a) As used in this section, "diversion" means the transfer of any controlled substance from a licit to an illicit channel of distribution or use.

(b) The department shall regularly prepare and make available to other state regulatory, licensing, and law enforcement agencies a report on the patterns and trends of actual distribution, diversion, and abuse of controlled substances.

(c) The department shall enter into written agreements with local, state, and federal agencies for the purpose of improving identification of sources of diversion and to improve enforcement of and compliance with this chapter and other laws and regulations pertaining to unlawful con-

duct involving controlled substances. An agreement must specify the roles and responsibilities of each agency that has information or authority to identify, prevent, and control drug diversion and drug abuse. The department shall convene periodic meetings to coordinate a state diversion prevention and control program. The department shall arrange for cooperation and exchange of information among agencies and with neighboring states and the federal government. [1998 c 245 § 109; 1993 c 187 § 20.]

ARTICLE VI  
MISCELLANEOUS

**69.50.601 Pending proceedings.** (a) Prosecution for any violation of law occurring prior to May 21, 1971 is not affected or abated by this chapter. If the offense being prosecuted is similar to one set out in Article IV of this chapter, then the penalties under Article IV apply if they are less than those under prior law.

(b) Civil seizures or forfeitures and injunctive proceedings commenced prior to May 21, 1971 are not affected by this chapter.

(c) All administrative proceedings pending under prior laws which are superseded by this chapter shall be continued and brought to a final determination in accord with the laws and rules in effect prior to May 21, 1971. Any substance controlled under prior law which is not listed within Schedules I through V, is automatically controlled without further proceedings and shall be listed in the appropriate schedule.

(d) The state board of pharmacy shall initially permit persons to register who own or operate any establishment engaged in the manufacture, distribution, or dispensing of any controlled substance prior to May 21, 1971 and who are registered or licensed by the state.

(e) This chapter applies to violations of law, seizures and forfeiture, injunctive proceedings, administrative proceedings and investigations which occur following May 21, 1971. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.601.]

**69.50.602 Continuation of rules.** Any orders and rules promulgated under any law affected by this chapter and in effect on May 21, 1971 and not in conflict with it continue in effect until modified, superseded or repealed. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.602.]

**69.50.603 Uniformity of interpretation.** This chapter shall be so applied and construed as to effectuate its general purpose to make uniform the law with respect to the subject of this chapter among those states which enact it. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.603.]

**69.50.604 Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the Uniform Controlled Substances Act. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.604.]

**69.50.605 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 308.** If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this

end the provisions of this act are severable. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.605.]

**69.50.606 Repealers.** The laws specified below are repealed except with respect to rights and duties which matured, penalties which were incurred and proceedings which were begun before the effective date of this act:

(1) Section 2072, Code of 1881, section 418, chapter 249, Laws of 1909, section 4, chapter 205, Laws of 1963 and RCW 9.91.030;

(2) Section 69.33.220, chapter 27, Laws of 1959, section 7, chapter 256, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. and RCW 69.33.220;

(3) Sections 69.33.230 through 69.33.280, chapter 27, Laws of 1959 and RCW 69.33.230 through 69.33.280;

(4) Section 69.33.290, chapter 27, Laws of 1959, section 1, chapter 97, Laws of 1959 and RCW 69.33.290;

(5) Section 69.33.300, chapter 27, Laws of 1959, section 8, chapter 256, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. and RCW 69.33.300;

(6) Sections 69.33.310 through 69.33.400, chapter 27, Laws of 1959 and RCW 69.33.310 through 69.33.400;

(7) Section 69.33.410, chapter 27, Laws of 1959, section 20, chapter 38, Laws of 1963 and RCW 69.33.410;

(8) Sections 69.33.420 through 69.33.440, 69.33.900 through 69.33.950, chapter 27, Laws of 1959 and RCW 69.33.420 through 69.33.440, 69.33.900 through 69.33.950;

(9) Section 255, chapter 249, Laws of 1909 and RCW 69.40.040;

(10) Section 1, chapter 6, Laws of 1939, section 1, chapter 29, Laws of 1939, section 1, chapter 57, Laws of 1945, section 1, chapter 24, Laws of 1955, section 1, chapter 49, Laws of 1961, section 1, chapter 71, Laws of 1967, section 9, chapter 256, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. and RCW 69.40.060;

(11) Section 1, chapter 23, Laws of 1955, section 2, chapter 49, Laws of 1961, section 2, chapter 71, Laws of 1967 and RCW 69.40.061;

(12) Section 21, chapter 38, Laws of 1963 and RCW 69.40.063;

(13) Section 2, chapter 6, Laws of 1939, section 23, chapter 38, Laws of 1963, section 10, chapter 256, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. and RCW 69.40.070;

(14) Section 12, chapter 256, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. and RCW 69.40.075;

(15) Section 1, chapter 205, Laws of 1963 and RCW 69.40.080;

(16) Section 2, chapter 205, Laws of 1963 and RCW 69.40.090;

(17) Section 3, chapter 205, Laws of 1963 and RCW 69.40.100;

(18) Section 11, chapter 256, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. and RCW 69.40.110;

(19) Section 1, chapter 33, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 69.40.120; and

(20) Section 1, chapter 80, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.606.]

**69.50.607 Effective date—1971 ex.s. c 308.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately. [1971 ex.s. c 308 § 69.50.607.]

**69.50.608 State preemption.** The state of Washington fully occupies and preempts the entire field of setting penalties for violations of the controlled substances act. Cities, towns, and counties or other municipalities may enact only those laws and ordinances relating to controlled substances that are consistent with this chapter. Such local ordinances shall have the same penalties as provided for by state law. Local laws and ordinances that are inconsistent with the requirements of state law shall not be enacted and are preempted and repealed, regardless of the nature of the code, charter, or home rule status of the city, town, county, or municipality. [1989 c 271 § 601.]

**69.50.609 Captions not law—1993 c 187.** Section captions as used in this act constitute no part of the law. [1993 c 187 § 23.]

### Chapter 69.51 RCW CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES THERAPEUTIC RESEARCH ACT

#### Sections

69.51.010	Short title.
69.51.020	Legislative purpose.
69.51.030	Definitions.
69.51.040	Controlled substances therapeutic research program.
69.51.050	Patient qualification review committee.
69.51.060	Sources and distribution of marijuana.
69.51.080	Cannabis and related products considered Schedule II substances.

**69.51.010 Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the Controlled Substances Therapeutic Research Act. [1979 c 136 § 1.]

**69.51.020 Legislative purpose.** The legislature finds that recent research has shown that the use of marijuana may alleviate the nausea and ill effects of cancer chemotherapy and radiology, and, additionally, may alleviate the ill effects of glaucoma. The legislature further finds that there is a need for further research and experimentation regarding the use of marijuana under strictly controlled circumstances. It is for this purpose that the Controlled Substances Therapeutic Research Act is hereby enacted. [1979 c 136 § 2.]

**69.51.030 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Board" means the state board of pharmacy;
- (2) "Department" means the department of health.
- (3) "Marijuana" means all parts of the plant of the genus *Cannabis* L., whether growing or not, the seeds thereof, the resin extracted from any part of the plant, and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds, or resin; and
- (4) "Practitioner" means a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW. [1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 438; 1979 c 136 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.51.040 Controlled substances therapeutic research program.** (1) There is established in the board the controlled substances therapeutic research program. The program shall be administered by the department. The board shall promulgate rules necessary for the proper administra-

tion of the Controlled Substances Therapeutic Research Act. In such promulgation, the board shall take into consideration those pertinent rules promulgated by the United States drug enforcement agency, the food and drug administration, and the national institute on drug abuse.

(2) Except as provided in RCW 69.51.050(4), the controlled substances therapeutic research program shall be limited to cancer chemotherapy and radiology patients and glaucoma patients, who are certified to the patient qualification review committee by a practitioner as being involved in a life-threatening or sense-threatening situation. No patient may be admitted to the controlled substances therapeutic research program without full disclosure by the practitioner of the experimental nature of this program and of the possible risks and side effects of the proposed treatment in accordance with the informed consent provisions of chapter 7.70 RCW.

(3) The board shall provide by rule for a program of registration with the department of bona fide controlled substance therapeutic research projects. [1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 439; 1979 c 136 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.51.050 Patient qualification review committee.** (1) The board shall appoint a patient qualification review committee to serve at its pleasure. The patient qualification review committee shall be comprised of:

- (a) A physician licensed to practice medicine in Washington state and specializing in the practice of ophthalmology;
- (b) A physician licensed to practice medicine in Washington state and specializing in the subspecialty of medical oncology;
- (c) A physician licensed to practice medicine in Washington state and specializing in the practice of psychiatry; and
- (d) A physician licensed to practice medicine in Washington state and specializing in the practice of radiology.

Members of the committee shall be compensated at the rate of fifty dollars per day for each day spent in the performance of their official duties, and shall receive reimbursement for their travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

(2) The patient qualification review committee shall review all applicants for the controlled substance therapeutic research program and their licensed practitioners and certify their participation in the program.

(3) The patient qualification review committee and the board shall insure that the privacy of individuals who participate in the controlled substance therapeutic research program is protected by withholding from all persons not connected with the conduct of the research the names and other identifying characteristics of such individuals. Persons authorized to engage in research under the controlled substance therapeutic research program may not be compelled in any civil, criminal, administrative, legislative, or other proceeding to identify the individuals who are the subjects of research for which the authorization was granted, except to the extent necessary to permit the board to determine whether the research is being conducted in accordance with the authorization.

(4) The patient qualification review committee may include other disease groups for participation in the controlled substances therapeutic research program after partici-

ment medical data have been presented by a practitioner to both the committee and the board, and after approval for such participation has been granted pursuant to pertinent rules promulgated by the United States drug enforcement agency, the food and drug administration, and the national institute on drug abuse. [1979 c 136 § 5.]

**69.51.060 Sources and distribution of marijuana.** (1) The board shall obtain marijuana through whatever means it deems most appropriate and consistent with regulations promulgated by the United States food and drug administration, the drug enforcement agency, and the national institute on drug abuse, and pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

(2) The board may use marijuana which has been confiscated by local or state law enforcement agencies and has been determined to be free from contamination.

(3) The board shall distribute the analyzed marijuana to approved practitioners and/or institutions in accordance with rules promulgated by the board. [1979 c 136 § 6.]

**69.51.080 Cannabis and related products considered Schedule II substances.** (1) The enumeration of tetrahydrocannabinols, or a chemical derivative of tetrahydrocannabinols in RCW 69.50.204 as a Schedule I controlled substance does not apply to the use of cannabis, tetrahydrocannabinols, or a chemical derivative of tetrahydrocannabinols by certified patients pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

(2) Cannabis, tetrahydrocannabinols, or a chemical derivative of tetrahydrocannabinols shall be considered Schedule II substances as enumerated in RCW 69.50.206 only for the purposes enumerated in this chapter. [1979 c 136 § 8.]

**Chapter 69.51A RCW  
MEDICAL CANNABIS**  
(Formerly: Medical marijuana)

Sections

69.51A.005 Purpose and intent.  
69.51A.010 Definitions.  
69.51A.020 Construction of chapter.  
69.51A.025 Construction of chapter—Compliance with RCW 69.51A.040.  
69.51A.030 Acts not constituting crimes or unprofessional conduct—Health care professionals not subject to penalties or liabilities.  
69.51A.040 Compliance with chapter—Qualifying patients and designated providers not subject to penalties—Law enforcement not subject to liability.  
69.51A.043 Failure to register—Affirmative defense.  
69.51A.045 Possession of cannabis exceeding lawful amount—Affirmative defense.  
69.51A.047 Failure to register or present valid documentation—Affirmative defense.  
69.51A.050 Medical marijuana, lawful possession—State not liable.  
69.51A.055 Limitations of chapter—Persons under supervision.  
69.51A.060 Crimes—Limitations of chapter.  
69.51A.070 Addition of medical conditions.  
69.51A.085 Collective gardens.  
69.51A.090 Applicability of valid documentation definition.  
69.51A.100 Qualifying patient’s designation of provider—Provider’s service as designated provider—Termination.  
69.51A.110 Suitability for organ transplant.  
69.51A.120 Parental rights or residential time—Not to be restricted.  
69.51A.130 State and municipalities—Not subject to liability.  
69.51A.140 Counties, cities, towns—Authority to adopt and enforce requirements.  
69.51A.200 Evaluation.  
69.51A.900 Short title—1999 c 2.  
69.51A.901 Severability—1999 c 2.

69.51A.902 Captions not law—1999 c 2.  
69.51A.903 Severability—2011 c 181.

**69.51A.005 Purpose and intent.** (1) The legislature finds that:

(a) There is medical evidence that some patients with terminal or debilitating medical conditions may, under their health care professional’s care, benefit from the medical use of cannabis. Some of the conditions for which cannabis appears to be beneficial include, but are not limited to:

- (i) Nausea, vomiting, and cachexia associated with cancer, HIV-positive status, AIDS, hepatitis C, anorexia, and their treatments;
- (ii) Severe muscle spasms associated with multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, and other seizure and spasticity disorders;
- (iii) Acute or chronic glaucoma;
- (iv) Crohn’s disease; and
- (v) Some forms of intractable pain.

(b) Humanitarian compassion necessitates that the decision to use cannabis by patients with terminal or debilitating medical conditions is a personal, individual decision, based upon their health care professional’s professional medical judgment and discretion.

(2) Therefore, the legislature intends that:

(a) Qualifying patients with terminal or debilitating medical conditions who, in the judgment of their health care professionals, may benefit from the medical use of cannabis, shall not be arrested, prosecuted, or subject to other criminal sanctions or civil consequences under state law based solely on their medical use of cannabis, notwithstanding any other provision of law;

(b) Persons who act as designated providers to such patients shall also not be arrested, prosecuted, or subject to other criminal sanctions or civil consequences under state law, notwithstanding any other provision of law, based solely on their assisting with the medical use of cannabis; and

(c) Health care professionals shall also not be arrested, prosecuted, or subject to other criminal sanctions or civil consequences under state law for the proper authorization of medical use of cannabis by qualifying patients for whom, in the health care professional’s professional judgment, the medical use of cannabis may prove beneficial.

(3) Nothing in this chapter establishes the medical necessity or medical appropriateness of cannabis for treating terminal or debilitating medical conditions as defined in RCW 69.51A.010.

(4) Nothing in this chapter diminishes the authority of correctional agencies and departments, including local governments or jails, to establish a procedure for determining when the use of cannabis would impact community safety or the effective supervision of those on active supervision for a criminal conviction, nor does it create the right to any accommodation of any medical use of cannabis in any correctional facility or jail. [2011 c 181 § 102; 2010 c 284 § 1; 2007 c 371 § 2; 1999 c 2 § 2 (Initiative Measure No. 692, approved November 3, 1998).]

**Intent—2007 c 371:** "The legislature intends to clarify the law on medical marijuana so that the lawful use of this substance is not impaired and medical practitioners are able to exercise their best professional judgment in the delivery of medical treatment, qualifying patients may fully participate in the medical use of marijuana, and designated providers may assist patients in the manner provided by this act without fear of state criminal prosecution.

This act is also intended to provide clarification to law enforcement and to all participants in the judicial system." [2007 c 371 § 1.]

**69.51A.010 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Designated provider" means a person who:

(a) Is eighteen years of age or older;

(b) Has been designated in writing by a patient to serve as a designated provider under this chapter;

(c) Is prohibited from consuming marijuana obtained for the personal, medical use of the patient for whom the individual is acting as designated provider; and

(d) Is the designated provider to only one patient at any one time.

(2) "Health care professional," for purposes of this chapter only, means a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 RCW, a physician assistant licensed under chapter 18.71A RCW, an osteopathic physician licensed under chapter 18.57 RCW, an osteopathic physicians' assistant licensed under chapter 18.57A RCW, a naturopath licensed under chapter 18.36A RCW, or an advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW.

(3) "Medical use of marijuana" means the production, possession, or administration of marijuana, as defined in \*RCW 69.50.101(q), for the exclusive benefit of a qualifying patient in the treatment of his or her terminal or debilitating illness.

(4) "Qualifying patient" means a person who:

(a) Is a patient of a health care professional;

(b) Has been diagnosed by that health care professional as having a terminal or debilitating medical condition;

(c) Is a resident of the state of Washington at the time of such diagnosis;

(d) Has been advised by that health care professional about the risks and benefits of the medical use of marijuana; and

(e) Has been advised by that health care professional that they may benefit from the medical use of marijuana.

(5) "Tamper-resistant paper" means paper that meets one or more of the following industry-recognized features:

(a) One or more features designed to prevent copying of the paper;

(b) One or more features designed to prevent the erasure or modification of information on the paper; or

(c) One or more features designed to prevent the use of counterfeit valid documentation.

(6) "Terminal or debilitating medical condition" means:

(a) Cancer, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), multiple sclerosis, epilepsy or other seizure disorder, or spasticity disorders; or

(b) Intractable pain, limited for the purpose of this chapter to mean pain unrelieved by standard medical treatments and medications; or

(c) Glaucoma, either acute or chronic, limited for the purpose of this chapter to mean increased intraocular pressure unrelieved by standard treatments and medications; or

(d) Crohn's disease with debilitating symptoms unrelieved by standard treatments or medications; or

(e) Hepatitis C with debilitating nausea or intractable pain unrelieved by standard treatments or medications; or

(f) Diseases, including anorexia, which result in nausea, vomiting, wasting, appetite loss, cramping, seizures, muscle spasms, or spasticity, when these symptoms are unrelieved by standard treatments or medications; or

(g) Any other medical condition duly approved by the Washington state medical quality assurance commission in consultation with the board of osteopathic medicine and surgery as directed in this chapter.

(7) "Valid documentation" means:

(a) A statement signed and dated by a qualifying patient's health care professional written on tamper-resistant paper, which states that, in the health care professional's professional opinion, the patient may benefit from the medical use of marijuana; and

(b) Proof of identity such as a Washington state driver's license or identicard, as defined in RCW 46.20.035. [2010 c 284 § 2; 2007 c 371 § 3; 1999 c 2 § 6 (Initiative Measure No. 692, approved November 3, 1998).]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 69.50.101 was alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k), changing subsection (q) to subsection (r).

**Intent—2007 c 371:** See note following RCW 69.51A.005.

**69.51A.020 Construction of chapter.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to supersede Washington state law prohibiting the acquisition, possession, manufacture, sale, or use of cannabis for nonmedical purposes. Criminal penalties created under chapter 181, Laws of 2011 do not preclude the prosecution or punishment for other crimes, including other crimes involving the manufacture or delivery of cannabis for nonmedical purposes. [2011 c 181 § 103; 1999 c 2 § 3 (Initiative Measure No. 692, approved November 3, 1998).]

**69.51A.025 Construction of chapter—Compliance with RCW 69.51A.040.** Nothing in this chapter or in the rules adopted to implement it precludes a qualifying patient or designated provider from engaging in the private, unlicensed, noncommercial production, possession, transportation, delivery, or administration of cannabis for medical use as authorized under RCW 69.51A.040. [2011 c 181 § 413.]

**69.51A.030 Acts not constituting crimes or unprofessional conduct—Health care professionals not subject to penalties or liabilities.** (1) The following acts do not constitute crimes under state law or unprofessional conduct under chapter 18.130 RCW, and a health care professional may not be arrested, searched, prosecuted, disciplined, or subject to other criminal sanctions or civil consequences or liability under state law, or have real or personal property searched, seized, or forfeited pursuant to state law, notwithstanding any other provision of law as long as the health care professional complies with subsection (2) of this section:

(a) Advising a patient about the risks and benefits of medical use of cannabis or that the patient may benefit from the medical use of cannabis; or

(b) Providing a patient meeting the criteria established under \*RCW 69.51A.010(26) with valid documentation, based upon the health care professional's assessment of the patient's medical history and current medical condition, where such use is within a professional standard of care or in the individual health care professional's medical judgment.

(2)(a) A health care professional may only provide a patient with valid documentation authorizing the medical use of cannabis or register the patient with the registry established in **section 901** of this act if he or she has a newly initiated or existing documented relationship with the patient, as a primary care provider or a specialist, relating to the diagnosis and ongoing treatment or monitoring of the patient's terminal or debilitating medical condition, and only after:

(i) Completing a physical examination of the patient as appropriate, based on the patient's condition and age;

(ii) Documenting the terminal or debilitating medical condition of the patient in the patient's medical record and that the patient may benefit from treatment of this condition or its symptoms with medical use of cannabis;

(iii) Informing the patient of other options for treating the terminal or debilitating medical condition; and

(iv) Documenting other measures attempted to treat the terminal or debilitating medical condition that do not involve the medical use of cannabis.

(b) A health care professional shall not:

(i) Accept, solicit, or offer any form of pecuniary remuneration from or to a licensed dispenser, licensed producer, or licensed processor of cannabis products;

(ii) Offer a discount or any other thing of value to a qualifying patient who is a customer of, or agrees to be a customer of, a particular licensed dispenser, licensed producer, or licensed processor of cannabis products;

(iii) Examine or offer to examine a patient for purposes of diagnosing a terminal or debilitating medical condition at a location where cannabis is produced, processed, or dispensed;

(iv) Have a business or practice which consists solely of authorizing the medical use of cannabis;

(v) Include any statement or reference, visual or otherwise, on the medical use of cannabis in any advertisement for his or her business or practice; or

(vi) Hold an economic interest in an enterprise that produces, processes, or dispenses cannabis if the health care professional authorizes the medical use of cannabis.

(3) A violation of any provision of subsection (2) of this section constitutes unprofessional conduct under chapter 18.130 RCW. [2011 c 181 § 301; 2010 c 284 § 3; 2007 c 371 § 4; 1999 c 2 § 4 (Initiative Measure No. 692, approved November 3, 1998).]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 69.51A.010(26) is a reference to the definition of "qualifying patient" which was amended and renumbered by 2011 c 181 § 201, but the section was vetoed by the governor.

\*\*\*(2) The section creating a registry, 2011 c 181 § 901, was vetoed by the governor.

**Intent—2007 c 371:** See note following RCW 69.51A.005.

**69.51A.040 Compliance with chapter—Qualifying patients and designated providers not subject to penalties—Law enforcement not subject to liability.** The medical use of cannabis in accordance with the terms and conditions of this chapter does not constitute a crime and a qualifying patient or designated provider in compliance with the terms and conditions of this chapter may not be arrested, prosecuted, or subject to other criminal sanctions or civil consequences, for possession, manufacture, or delivery of, or for possession with intent to manufacture or deliver, cannabis

under state law, or have real or personal property seized or forfeited for possession, manufacture, or delivery of, or for possession with intent to manufacture or deliver, cannabis under state law, and investigating peace officers and law enforcement agencies may not be held civilly liable for failure to seize cannabis in this circumstance, if:

(1)(a) The qualifying patient or designated provider possesses no more than fifteen cannabis plants and:

(i) No more than twenty-four ounces of useable cannabis;

(ii) No more cannabis product than what could reasonably be produced with no more than twenty-four ounces of useable cannabis; or

(iii) A combination of useable cannabis and cannabis product that does not exceed a combined total representing possession and processing of no more than twenty-four ounces of useable cannabis.

(b) If a person is both a qualifying patient and a designated provider for another qualifying patient, the person may possess no more than twice the amounts described in (a) of this subsection, whether the plants, useable cannabis, and cannabis product are possessed individually or in combination between the qualifying patient and his or her designated provider;

(2) The qualifying patient or designated provider presents his or her proof of registration with the department of health, to any peace officer who questions the patient or provider regarding his or her medical use of cannabis;

(3) The qualifying patient or designated provider keeps a copy of his or her proof of registration with the registry established in **section 901** of this act and the qualifying patient or designated provider's contact information posted prominently next to any cannabis plants, cannabis products, or useable cannabis located at his or her residence;

(4) The investigating peace officer does not possess evidence that:

(a) The designated provider has converted cannabis produced or obtained for the qualifying patient for his or her own personal use or benefit; or

(b) The qualifying patient has converted cannabis produced or obtained for his or her own medical use to the qualifying patient's personal, nonmedical use or benefit;

(5) The investigating peace officer does not possess evidence that the designated provider has served as a designated provider to more than one qualifying patient within a fifteen-day period; and

(6) The investigating peace officer has not observed evidence of any of the circumstances identified in **section 901(4)** of this act. [2011 c 181 § 401; 2007 c 371 § 5; 1999 c 2 § 5 (Initiative Measure No. 692, approved November 3, 1998).]

**Reviser's note:** Section 901 of this act was vetoed by the governor.

**Intent—2007 c 371:** See note following RCW 69.51A.005.

#### **69.51A.043 Failure to register—Affirmative defense.**

(1) A qualifying patient or designated provider who is not registered with the registry established in **section 901** of this act may raise the affirmative defense set forth in subsection (2) of this section, if:

(a) The qualifying patient or designated provider presents his or her valid documentation to any peace officer who



questions the patient or provider regarding his or her medical use of cannabis;

(b) The qualifying patient or designated provider possesses no more cannabis than the limits set forth in RCW 69.51A.040(1);

(c) The qualifying patient or designated provider is in compliance with all other terms and conditions of this chapter;

(d) The investigating peace officer does not have probable cause to believe that the qualifying patient or designated provider has committed a felony, or is committing a misdemeanor in the officer's presence, that does not relate to the medical use of cannabis;

(e) No outstanding warrant for arrest exists for the qualifying patient or designated provider; and

(f) The investigating peace officer has not observed evidence of any of the circumstances identified in \*section 901(4) of this act.

(2) A qualifying patient or designated provider who is not registered with the registry established in \*section 901 of this act, but who presents his or her valid documentation to any peace officer who questions the patient or provider regarding his or her medical use of cannabis, may assert an affirmative defense to charges of violations of state law relating to cannabis through proof at trial, by a preponderance of the evidence, that he or she otherwise meets the requirements of RCW 69.51A.040. A qualifying patient or designated provider meeting the conditions of this subsection but possessing more cannabis than the limits set forth in RCW 69.51A.040(1) may, in the investigating peace officer's discretion, be taken into custody and booked into jail in connection with the investigation of the incident. [2011 c 181 § 402.]

\*Reviser's note: Section 901 of this act was vetoed by the governor.

**69.51A.045 Possession of cannabis exceeding lawful amount—Affirmative defense.** A qualifying patient or designated provider in possession of cannabis plants, useable cannabis, or cannabis product exceeding the limits set forth in RCW 69.51A.040(1) but otherwise in compliance with all other terms and conditions of this chapter may establish an affirmative defense to charges of violations of state law relating to cannabis through proof at trial, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the qualifying patient's necessary medical use exceeds the amounts set forth in RCW 69.51A.040(1). An investigating peace officer may seize cannabis plants, useable cannabis, or cannabis product exceeding the amounts set forth in RCW 69.51A.040(1): PROVIDED, That in the case of cannabis plants, the qualifying patient or designated provider shall be allowed to select the plants that will remain at the location. The officer and his or her law enforcement agency may not be held civilly liable for failure to seize cannabis in this circumstance. [2011 c 181 § 405.]

**69.51A.047 Failure to register or present valid documentation—Affirmative defense.** A qualifying patient or designated provider who is not registered with the registry established in \*section 901 of this act or does not present his or her valid documentation to a peace officer who questions the patient or provider regarding his or her medical use of cannabis but is in compliance with all other terms and condi-

tions of this chapter may establish an affirmative defense to charges of violations of state law relating to cannabis through proof at trial, by a preponderance of the evidence, that he or she was a validly authorized qualifying patient or designated provider at the time of the officer's questioning. A qualifying patient or designated provider who establishes an affirmative defense under the terms of this section may also establish an affirmative defense under RCW 69.51A.045. [2011 c 181 § 406.]

\*Reviser's note: The section creating a registry, 2011 c 181 § 901, was vetoed by the governor.

**69.51A.050 Medical marijuana, lawful possession—State not liable.** (1) The lawful possession or manufacture of medical marijuana as authorized by this chapter shall not result in the forfeiture or seizure of any property.

(2) No person shall be prosecuted for constructive possession, conspiracy, or any other criminal offense solely for being in the presence or vicinity of medical marijuana or its use as authorized by this chapter.

(3) The state shall not be held liable for any deleterious outcomes from the medical use of marijuana by any qualifying patient. [1999 c 2 § 7 (Initiative Measure No. 692, approved November 3, 1998).]

**69.51A.055 Limitations of chapter—Persons under supervision.** (1)(a) The arrest and prosecution protections established in RCW 69.51A.040 may not be asserted in a supervision revocation or violation hearing by a person who is supervised by a corrections agency or department, including local governments or jails, that has determined that the terms of this section are inconsistent with and contrary to his or her supervision.

(b) The affirmative defenses established in RCW 69.51A.043, 69.51A.045, 69.51A.047, and \*section 407 of this act may not be asserted in a supervision revocation or violation hearing by a person who is supervised by a corrections agency or department, including local governments or jails, that has determined that the terms of this section are inconsistent with and contrary to his or her supervision.

(2) The provisions of RCW 69.51A.040, 69.51A.085, and 69.51A.025 do not apply to a person who is supervised for a criminal conviction by a corrections agency or department, including local governments or jails, that has determined that the terms of this chapter are inconsistent with and contrary to his or her supervision.

(3) A person may not be licensed as a licensed producer, licensed processor of cannabis products, or a licensed dispenser under \*section 601, 602, or 701 of this act if he or she is supervised for a criminal conviction by a corrections agency or department, including local governments or jails, that has determined that licensure is inconsistent with and contrary to his or her supervision. [2011 c 181 § 1105.]

\*Reviser's note: Sections 407, 601, 602, and 701 were vetoed by the governor.

**69.51A.060 Crimes—Limitations of chapter.** (1) It shall be a class 3 civil infraction to use or display medical cannabis in a manner or place which is open to the view of the general public.

(2) Nothing in this chapter establishes a right of care as a covered benefit or requires any state purchased health care as defined in RCW 41.05.011 or other health carrier or health plan as defined in Title 48 RCW to be liable for any claim for reimbursement for the medical use of cannabis. Such entities may enact coverage or noncoverage criteria or related policies for payment or nonpayment of medical cannabis in their sole discretion.

(3) Nothing in this chapter requires any health care professional to authorize the medical use of cannabis for a patient.

(4) Nothing in this chapter requires any accommodation of any on-site medical use of cannabis in any place of employment, in any school bus or on any school grounds, in any youth center, in any correctional facility, or smoking cannabis in any public place or hotel or motel.

(5) Nothing in this chapter authorizes the use of medical cannabis by any person who is subject to the Washington code of military justice in chapter 38.38 RCW.

(6) Employers may establish drug-free work policies. Nothing in this chapter requires an accommodation for the medical use of cannabis if an employer has a drug-free work place.

(7) It is a class C felony to fraudulently produce any record purporting to be, or tamper with the content of any record for the purpose of having it accepted as, valid documentation under \*RCW 69.51A.010(32)(a), or to backdate such documentation to a time earlier than its actual date of execution.

(8) No person shall be entitled to claim the protection from arrest and prosecution under RCW 69.51A.040 or the affirmative defense under RCW 69.51A.043 for engaging in the medical use of cannabis in a way that endangers the health or well-being of any person through the use of a motorized vehicle on a street, road, or highway, including violations of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, or equivalent local ordinances. [2011 c 181 § 501; 2010 c 284 § 4; 2007 c 371 § 6; 1999 c 2 § 8 (Initiative Measure No. 692, approved November 3, 1998).]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 69.51A.010(32) is a reference to the definition of "valid documentation" which was amended and renumbered by 2011 c 181 § 201, but the section was vetoed by the governor.

**Intent—2007 c 371:** See note following RCW 69.51A.005.

**69.51A.070 Addition of medical conditions.** The Washington state medical quality assurance commission in consultation with the board of osteopathic medicine and surgery, or other appropriate agency as designated by the governor, shall accept for consideration petitions submitted to add terminal or debilitating conditions to those included in this chapter. In considering such petitions, the Washington state medical quality assurance commission in consultation with the board of osteopathic medicine and surgery shall include public notice of, and an opportunity to comment in a public hearing upon, such petitions. The Washington state medical quality assurance commission in consultation with the board of osteopathic medicine and surgery shall, after hearing, approve or deny such petitions within one hundred eighty days of submission. The approval or denial of such a petition shall be considered a final agency action, subject to judicial

review. [2007 c 371 § 7; 1999 c 2 § 9 (Initiative Measure No. 692, approved November 3, 1998).]

**Intent—2007 c 371:** See note following RCW 69.51A.005.

**69.51A.085 Collective gardens.** (1) Qualifying patients may create and participate in collective gardens for the purpose of producing, processing, transporting, and delivering cannabis for medical use subject to the following conditions:

(a) No more than ten qualifying patients may participate in a single collective garden at any time;

(b) A collective garden may contain no more than fifteen plants per patient up to a total of forty-five plants;

(c) A collective garden may contain no more than twenty-four ounces of useable cannabis per patient up to a total of seventy-two ounces of useable cannabis;

(d) A copy of each qualifying patient's valid documentation or proof of registration with the registry established in \*section 901 of this act, including a copy of the patient's proof of identity, must be available at all times on the premises of the collective garden; and

(e) No useable cannabis from the collective garden is delivered to anyone other than one of the qualifying patients participating in the collective garden.

(2) For purposes of this section, the creation of a "collective garden" means qualifying patients sharing responsibility for acquiring and supplying the resources required to produce and process cannabis for medical use such as, for example, a location for a collective garden; equipment, supplies, and labor necessary to plant, grow, and harvest cannabis; cannabis plants, seeds, and cuttings; and equipment, supplies, and labor necessary for proper construction, plumbing, wiring, and ventilation of a garden of cannabis plants.

(3) A person who knowingly violates a provision of subsection (1) of this section is not entitled to the protections of this chapter. [2011 c 181 § 403.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The section creating a registry, 2011 c 181 § 901, was vetoed by the governor.

**69.51A.090 Applicability of valid documentation definition.** The provisions of RCW 69.51A.010, relating to the definition of "valid documentation," apply prospectively only, not retroactively, and do not affect valid documentation obtained prior to June 10, 2010. [2010 c 284 § 5.]

**69.51A.100 Qualifying patient's designation of provider—Provider's service as designated provider—Termination.** (1) A qualifying patient may revoke his or her designation of a specific provider and designate a different provider at any time. A revocation of designation must be in writing, signed and dated. The protections of this chapter cease to apply to a person who has served as a designated provider to a qualifying patient seventy-two hours after receipt of that patient's revocation of his or her designation.

(2) A person may stop serving as a designated provider to a given qualifying patient at any time. However, that person may not begin serving as a designated provider to a different qualifying patient until fifteen days have elapsed from the date the last qualifying patient designated him or her to serve as a provider. [2011 c 181 § 404.]

**69.51A.110 Suitability for organ transplant.** A qualifying patient's medical use of cannabis as authorized by a health care professional may not be a sole disqualifying factor in determining the patient's suitability for an organ transplant, unless it is shown that this use poses a significant risk of rejection or organ failure. This section does not preclude a health care professional from requiring that a patient abstain from the medical use of cannabis, for a period of time determined by the health care professional, while waiting for a transplant organ or before the patient undergoes an organ transplant. [2011 c 181 § 408.]

**69.51A.120 Parental rights or residential time—Not to be restricted.** A qualifying patient or designated provider may not have his or her parental rights or residential time with a child restricted solely due to his or her medical use of cannabis in compliance with the terms of this chapter absent written findings supported by evidence that such use has resulted in a long-term impairment that interferes with the performance of parenting functions as defined under RCW 26.09.004. [2011 c 181 § 409.]

**69.51A.130 State and municipalities—Not subject to liability.** (1) No civil or criminal liability may be imposed by any court on the state or its officers and employees for actions taken in good faith under this chapter and within the scope of their assigned duties.

(2) No civil or criminal liability may be imposed by any court on cities, towns, and counties or other municipalities and their officers and employees for actions taken in good faith under this chapter and within the scope of their assigned duties. [2011 c 181 § 1101.]

**69.51A.140 Counties, cities, towns—Authority to adopt and enforce requirements.** (1) Cities and towns may adopt and enforce any of the following pertaining to the production, processing, or dispensing of cannabis or cannabis products within their jurisdiction: Zoning requirements, business licensing requirements, health and safety requirements, and business taxes. Nothing in chapter 181, Laws of 2011 is intended to limit the authority of cities and towns to impose zoning requirements or other conditions upon licensed dispensers, so long as such requirements do not preclude the possibility of siting licensed dispensers within the jurisdiction. If the jurisdiction has no commercial zones, the jurisdiction is not required to adopt zoning to accommodate licensed dispensers.

(2) Counties may adopt and enforce any of the following pertaining to the production, processing, or dispensing of cannabis or cannabis products within their jurisdiction in locations outside of the corporate limits of any city or town: Zoning requirements, business licensing requirements, and health and safety requirements. Nothing in chapter 181, Laws of 2011 is intended to limit the authority of counties to impose zoning requirements or other conditions upon licensed dispensers, so long as such requirements do not preclude the possibility of siting licensed dispensers within the jurisdiction. If the jurisdiction has no commercial zones, the jurisdiction is not required to adopt zoning to accommodate licensed dispensers. [2011 c 181 § 1102.]

**69.51A.200 Evaluation.** (1) By July 1, 2014, the Washington state institute for public policy shall, within available funds, conduct a cost-benefit evaluation of the implementation of chapter 181, Laws of 2011 and the rules adopted to carry out its purposes.

(2) The evaluation of the implementation of chapter 181, Laws of 2011 and the rules adopted to carry out its purposes shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, consideration of the following factors:

(a) Qualifying patients' access to an adequate source of cannabis for medical use;

(b) Qualifying patients' access to a safe source of cannabis for medical use;

(c) Qualifying patients' access to a consistent source of cannabis for medical use;

(d) Qualifying patients' access to a secure source of cannabis for medical use;

(e) Qualifying patients' and designated providers' contact with law enforcement and involvement in the criminal justice system;

(f) Diversion of cannabis intended for medical use to nonmedical uses;

(g) Incidents of home invasion burglaries, robberies, and other violent and property crimes associated with qualifying patients accessing cannabis for medical use;

(h) Whether there are health care professionals who make a disproportionately high amount of authorizations in comparison to the health care professional community at large;

(i) Whether there are indications of health care professionals in violation of RCW 69.51A.030; and

(j) Whether the health care professionals making authorizations reside in this state or out of this state.

(3) For purposes of facilitating this evaluation, the departments of health and agriculture will make available to the Washington state institute for public policy requested data, and any other data either department may consider relevant, from which all personally identifiable information has been redacted. [2011 c 181 § 1001.]

**69.51A.900 Short title—1999 c 2.** This chapter may be known and cited as the Washington state medical use of cannabis act. [2011 c 181 § 1106; 1999 c 2 § 1 (Initiative Measure No. 692, approved November 3, 1998).]

**69.51A.901 Severability—1999 c 2.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1999 c 2 § 10 (Initiative Measure No. 692, approved November 3, 1998).]

**69.51A.902 Captions not law—1999 c 2.** Captions used in this chapter are not any part of the law. [1999 c 2 § 11 (Initiative Measure No. 692, approved November 3, 1998).]

**69.51A.903 Severability—2011 c 181.** If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the act that can be given effect

without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable. [2011 c 181 § 1103.]

### Chapter 69.52 RCW IMITATION CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

#### Sections

69.52.010	Legislative findings.
69.52.020	Definitions.
69.52.030	Violations—Exceptions.
69.52.040	Seizure of contraband.
69.52.045	Seizure at rental premises—Notification of landlord.
69.52.050	Injunctive action by attorney general authorized.
69.52.060	Injunctive or other legal action by manufacturer of controlled substances authorized.
69.52.070	Violations—Juvenile driving privileges.
69.52.900	Severability—1982 c 171.
69.52.901	Effective date—1982 c 171.

*Drug nuisances—Injunctions: Chapter 7.43 RCW.*

**69.52.010 Legislative findings.** The legislature finds that imitation controlled substances are being manufactured to imitate the appearance of the dosage units of controlled substances for sale to school age youths and others to facilitate the fraudulent sale of controlled substances. The legislature further finds that manufacturers are endeavoring to profit from the manufacture of these imitation controlled substances while avoiding liability by accurately labeling the containers or packaging which contain these imitation controlled substances. The close similarity of appearance between dosage units of imitation controlled substances and controlled substances is indicative of a deliberate and wilful attempt to profit by deception without regard to the tragic human consequences. The use of imitation controlled substances is responsible for a growing number of injuries and deaths, and the legislature hereby declares that this chapter is necessary for the protection and preservation of the public health and safety. [1982 c 171 § 2.]

**69.52.020 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Controlled substance" means a substance as that term is defined in chapter 69.50 RCW.

(2) "Distribute" means the actual or constructive transfer (or attempted transfer) or delivery or dispensing to another of an imitation controlled substance.

(3) "Imitation controlled substance" means a substance that is not a controlled substance, but which by appearance or representation would lead a reasonable person to believe that the substance is a controlled substance. Appearance includes, but is not limited to, color, shape, size, and markings of the dosage unit. Representation includes, but is not limited to, representations or factors of the following nature:

(a) Statements made by an owner or by anyone else in control of the substance concerning the nature of the substance, or its use or effect;

(b) Statements made to the recipient that the substance may be resold for inordinate profit; or

(c) Whether the substance is packaged in a manner normally used for illicit controlled substances.

(4) "Manufacture" means the production, preparation, compounding, processing, encapsulating, packaging or

repackaging, or labeling or relabeling of an imitation controlled substance. [1982 c 171 § 3.]

**69.52.030 Violations—Exceptions.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to manufacture, distribute, or possess with intent to distribute, an imitation controlled substance. Any person who violates this subsection shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a class C felony.

(2) Any person eighteen years of age or over who violates subsection (1) of this section by distributing an imitation controlled substance to a person under eighteen years of age is guilty of a class B felony.

(3) It is unlawful for any person to cause to be placed in any newspaper, magazine, handbill, or other publication, or to post or distribute in any public place, any advertisement or solicitation offering for sale imitation controlled substances. Any person who violates this subsection is guilty of a class C felony.

(4) No civil or criminal liability shall be imposed by virtue of this chapter on any person registered under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act pursuant to RCW 69.50.301 or 69.50.303 who manufactures, distributes, or possesses an imitation controlled substance for use as a placebo or other use by a registered practitioner, as defined in \*RCW 69.50.101(t), in the course of professional practice or research.

(5) No prosecution under this chapter shall be dismissed solely by reason of the fact that the dosage units were contained in a bottle or other container with a label accurately describing the ingredients of the imitation controlled substance dosage units. The good faith of the defendant shall be an issue of fact for the trier of fact. [1983 1st ex.s. c 4 § 5; 1982 c 171 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The reference to RCW 69.50.101(t) is erroneous. "Practitioner" is defined in (w) of that section. RCW 69.50.101 was alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k), changing subsection (w) to subsection (x).

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.52.040 Seizure of contraband.** Imitation controlled substances shall be subject to seizure, forfeiture, and disposition in the same manner as are controlled substances under RCW 69.50.505. [1982 c 171 § 5.]

**69.52.045 Seizure at rental premises—Notification of landlord.** Whenever an imitation controlled substance which is manufactured, distributed, or possessed in violation of this chapter is seized at rental premises, the law enforcement agency shall make a reasonable attempt to discover the identity of the landlord and shall notify the landlord in writing, at the last address listed in the property tax records and at any other address known to the law enforcement agency, of the seizure and the location of the seizure. [1988 c 150 § 10.]

**Legislative findings—Severability—1988 c 150:** See notes following RCW 59.18.130.

**69.52.050 Injunctive action by attorney general authorized.** The attorney general is authorized to apply for injunctive action against a manufacturer or distributor of imitation controlled substances in this state. [1982 c 171 § 6.]

**69.52.060 Injunctive or other legal action by manufacturer of controlled substances authorized.** Any manufacturer of controlled substances licensed or registered in a state requiring such licensure or registration, may bring injunctive or other action against a manufacturer or distributor of imitation controlled substances in this state. [1982 c 171 § 7.]

**69.52.070 Violations—Juvenile driving privileges.** (1) If a juvenile thirteen years of age or older and under the age of twenty-one is found by a court to have committed any offense that is a violation of this chapter, the court shall notify the department of licensing within twenty-four hours after entry of the judgment.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section, upon petition of a juvenile whose privilege to drive has been revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265, the court may at any time the court deems appropriate notify the department of licensing to reinstate the juvenile’s privilege to drive.

(3) If the conviction is for the juvenile’s first violation of this chapter or chapter 66.44, 69.41, or 69.50 RCW, the juvenile may not petition the court for reinstatement of the juvenile’s privilege to drive revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265 until the later of ninety days after the date the juvenile turns sixteen or ninety days after the judgment was entered. If the conviction was for the juvenile’s second or subsequent violation of this chapter or chapter 66.44, 69.41, or 69.50 RCW, the juvenile may not petition the court for reinstatement of the juvenile’s privilege to drive revoked pursuant to RCW 46.20.265 until the later of the date the juvenile turns seventeen or one year after the date judgment was entered. [1989 c 271 § 121; 1988 c 148 § 6.]

**Legislative finding—Severability—1988 c 148:** See notes following RCW 13.40.265.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.52.900 Severability—1982 c 171.** If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1982 c 171 § 8.]

**69.52.901 Effective date—1982 c 171.** This act shall take effect on July 1, 1982. [1982 c 171 § 10.]

**Chapter 69.53 RCW**

**USE OF BUILDINGS FOR UNLAWFUL DRUGS**

Sections

- 69.53.010 Unlawful use of building for drug purposes—Liability of owner or manager—Penalty.
- 69.53.020 Unlawful fortification of building for drug purposes—Penalty.
- 69.53.030 Unlawful use of fortified building—Penalty.

**69.53.010 Unlawful use of building for drug purposes—Liability of owner or manager—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for any person who has under his or her management or control any building, room, space, or enclosure, either as an owner, lessee, agent, employee, or mortgagee, to knowingly rent, lease, or make available for use, with or without compensation, the building, room, space, or enclosure for the purpose of unlawfully manufacturing, delivering,

selling, storing, or giving away any controlled substance under chapter 69.50 RCW, legend drug under chapter 69.41 RCW, or imitation controlled substance under chapter 69.52 RCW.

(2) It shall be a defense for an owner, manager, or other person in control pursuant to subsection (1) of this section to, in good faith, notify a law enforcement agency of suspected drug activity pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, or to process an unlawful detainer action for drug-related activity against the tenant or occupant.

(3) A violation of this section is a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1988 c 150 § 13; 1987 c 458 § 7.]

**Legislative findings—Severability—1988 c 150:** See notes following RCW 59.18.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.53.020 Unlawful fortification of building for drug purposes—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for any person who has under his or her management or control any building, room, space, or enclosure, either as an owner, lessee, agent, employee, or mortgagee, to knowingly allow the building, room, space, or enclosure to be fortified to suppress law enforcement entry in order to further the unlawful manufacture, delivery, sale, storage, or gift of any controlled substance under chapter 69.50 RCW, legend drug under chapter 69.41 RCW, or imitation controlled substance under chapter 69.52 RCW.

(2) It shall be a defense for an owner, manager, or other person in control pursuant to subsection (1) of this section to, in good faith, notify a law enforcement agency of suspected drug activity pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, or to process an unlawful detainer action for drug-related activity against the tenant or occupant.

(3) A violation of this section is a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1988 c 150 § 14; 1987 c 458 § 8.]

**Legislative findings—Severability—1988 c 150:** See notes following RCW 59.18.130.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.53.030 Unlawful use of fortified building—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to use a building, room, space, or enclosure specifically designed to suppress law enforcement entry in order to unlawfully manufacture, deliver, sell, store, or give away any controlled substance under chapter 69.50 RCW, legend drug under chapter 69.41 RCW, or imitation controlled substance under chapter 69.52 RCW.

(2) A violation of this section is a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1987 c 458 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**Chapter 69.55 RCW**

**AMMONIA**

(Formerly: Anhydrous ammonia)

Sections

- 69.55.010 Theft of ammonia.
- 69.55.020 Unlawful storage of ammonia.
- 69.55.030 Damages—Liability.

**69.55.010 Theft of ammonia.** (1) A person who, with intent to deprive the owner or owner's agent, wrongfully obtains pressurized ammonia gas or pressurized ammonia gas solution, is guilty of theft of ammonia.

(2) Theft of ammonia is a class C felony. [2002 c 133 § 1; 2000 c 225 § 1.]

**Effective date—2002 c 133:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 26, 2002]." [2002 c 133 § 5.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.55.020 Unlawful storage of ammonia.** A person is guilty of the crime of unlawful storage of ammonia if the person possesses, transports, or delivers pressurized ammonia gas or pressurized ammonia gas solution in a container that (1) is not approved by the United States department of transportation to hold ammonia, or (2) was not constructed to meet state and federal industrial health and safety standards for holding ammonia. Violation of this section is a class C felony.

This section does not apply to public employees or private contractors authorized to clean up and dispose of hazardous waste or toxic substances under chapter 70.105 or 70.105D RCW or to solid waste haulers and their employees who unknowingly possess, transport, or deliver pressurized ammonia gas or pressurized ammonia gas solution during the course of the performance of their duties. [2002 c 133 § 2; 2000 c 225 § 2.]

**Effective date—2002 c 133:** See note following RCW 69.55.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**69.55.030 Damages—Liability.** Any damages arising out of the unlawful possession of, storage of, or tampering with pressurized ammonia gas or pressurized ammonia gas solution, or pressurized ammonia gas equipment or pressurized ammonia gas solution equipment, shall be the sole responsibility of the unlawful possessor, storer, or tamperer. In no case shall liability for damages arising out of the unlawful possession of, storage of, or tampering with pressurized ammonia gas or pressurized ammonia gas solution, or pressurized ammonia gas equipment or pressurized ammonia gas solution equipment, extend to the lawful owner, installer, maintainer, designer, manufacturer, possessor, or seller of the pressurized ammonia gas or pressurized ammonia gas solution, or pressurized ammonia gas equipment or pressurized ammonia gas solution equipment, unless such damages arise out of the owner, installer, maintainer, designer, manufacturer, possessor, or seller's acts or omissions that constitute negligent misconduct to abide by the laws regarding pressurized ammonia gas or pressurized ammonia gas solution possession and storage. [2002 c 133 § 3; 2000 c 225 § 3.]

**Effective date—2002 c 133:** See note following RCW 69.55.010.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

## Chapter 69.60 RCW

### OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS

#### Sections

69.60.010	Legislative findings.
69.60.020	Definitions.
69.60.030	Identification required.

69.60.040	Imprint information—Publication—Availability.
69.60.050	Noncompliance—Contraband—Fine.
69.60.060	Rules.
69.60.070	Imprinting requirements—Retailers and wholesalers.
69.60.080	Exemptions—Application by manufacturer.
69.60.090	Implementation of federal system—Termination of state system.
69.60.900	Severability—1993 c 135.
69.60.901	Effective date—1993 c 135.

**69.60.010 Legislative findings.** The legislature of the state of Washington finds that:

(1) Accidental and purposeful ingestions of solid medication forms continue to be the most frequent cause of poisoning in our state;

(2) Modern treatment is dependent upon knowing the ingredients of the ingestant;

(3) The imprinting of identifying characteristics on all tablets, capsules, and caplets of prescription medication forms, both trade name products and generic products, has been extremely beneficial in our state and was accomplished at trivial cost to the manufacturers and consumers;

(4) Although over-the-counter medications usually constitute a lower order of risk to ingestees, treatment after overdose is equally dependent upon knowing the ingredients involved, but there is no coding index uniformly used by this class of medication;

(5) Approximately seventy percent of over-the-counter medications in solid form already have some type of an identifier imprinted on their surfaces;

(6) While particular efforts are being instituted to prevent recurrent tampering with over-the-counter medications, the added benefit of rapid and prompt identification of all possible contaminated products, including over-the-counter medications, would make for a significant improvement in planning for appropriate tracking and monitoring programs;

(7) At the same time, health care professionals serving the elderly find it especially advantageous to be able to identify and confirm the ingredients of their multiple medications, including over-the-counter products, as are often consumed by such patients;

(8) The legislature supports and encourages efforts that are being made to establish a national, legally enforceable system governing the imprinting of solid dosage form over-the-counter medications, which system is consistent with the requirements of this chapter. [1989 c 247 § 1.]

**69.60.020 Definitions.** The terms defined in this section shall have the meanings indicated when used in this chapter.

(1) "Solid dosage form" means capsules or tablets or similar over-the-counter medication products intended for administration and which could be ingested orally.

(2) "Over-the-counter medication" means a drug that can be obtained without a prescription and is not restricted to use by prescribing practitioners. For purposes of this chapter, over-the-counter medication does not include vitamins.

(3) "Board" means the state board of pharmacy.

(4) "Purveyor" means any corporation, person, or other entity that offers over-the-counter medications for wholesale, retail, or other type of sale. [1989 c 247 § 3.]

**69.60.030 Identification required.** (1) No over-the-counter medication in solid dosage form may be manufactured or commercially distributed within this state unless it has clearly marked or imprinted on it an individual symbol, number, company name, words, letters, marking, or national drug code number identifying the medication and the manufacturer or distributor of the medication: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That an over-the-counter medication which has clearly marked or imprinted on it a distinctive logo, symbol, product name, letters, or other identifying mark, or which by its color, shape, or size together with a distinctive logo, symbol, product name, letters, or other mark is identifiable, shall be deemed in compliance with the provisions of this chapter.

(2) No manufacturer may sell any over-the-counter medication in solid dosage form contained within a bottle, vial, carton, or other container, or in any way affixed or appended to or enclosed within a package of any kind designed or intended for delivery in such container or package to an ultimate consumer within this state unless such container or package has clearly and permanently marked or imprinted on it an individual symbol, number, company name, words, letters, marking, or national drug code number identifying the medication and the manufacturer, packer, or distributor of the medication. [1993 c 135 § 1; 1989 c 247 § 2.]

**69.60.040 Imprint information—Publication—Availability.** Each manufacturer shall publish and provide to the board printed material which will identify each current imprint used by the manufacturer and the board shall be notified of any change. This information shall be provided by the board to all pharmacies licensed in the state of Washington, poison control centers, and hospital emergency rooms. [1989 c 247 § 4.]

**69.60.050 Noncompliance—Contraband—Fine.** (1) Any over-the-counter medication prepared or manufactured or offered for sale in violation of this chapter or implementing rules shall be contraband and subject to seizure, in the same manner as contraband legend drugs under RCW 69.41.060.

(2) A purveyor who fails to comply with this chapter after one notice of noncompliance by the board is subject to a one thousand dollar civil fine for each instance of noncompliance. [1989 c 247 § 5.]

**69.60.060 Rules.** The board shall have authority to promulgate rules for the enforcement and implementation of this chapter. [1989 c 247 § 6.]

**69.60.070 Imprinting requirements—Retailers and wholesalers.** All over-the-counter medications manufactured in, received by, distributed to, or shipped to any retailer or wholesaler in this state after January 1, 1994, shall meet the requirements of this chapter. No over-the-counter medication may be sold to a consumer in this state after January 1, 1995, unless such over-the-counter medication complies with the imprinting requirements of this chapter. [1993 c 135 § 2; 1989 c 247 § 7.]

**69.60.080 Exemptions—Application by manufacturer.** The board, upon application of a manufacturer, may

exempt an over-the-counter drug from the requirements of chapter 69.60 RCW on the grounds that imprinting is infeasible because of size, texture, or other unique characteristics. [1989 c 247 § 8.]

**69.60.090 Implementation of federal system—Termination of state system.** Before January 1, 1994, the board of pharmacy will consult with the state toxicologist to determine whether the federal government has established a legally enforceable system that is substantially equivalent to the requirements of this chapter that govern the imprinting of solid dosage form over-the-counter medication. To be substantially equivalent, the effective dates for implementation of the federal system for imprinting solid dosage form over-the-counter medication must be the same or earlier than the dates of implementation set out in the state system for imprinting solid dosage form over-the-counter medication. If the board determines that the federal system for imprinting solid dosage form over-the-counter medication is substantially equivalent to the state system for imprinting solid dosage form over-the-counter medication, this chapter will cease to exist on January 1, 1994. If the board determines that the federal system is substantially equivalent, except that the federal dates for implementation are later than the Washington state dates, this chapter will cease to exist when the federal system is implemented. [1993 c 135 § 3; 1989 c 247 § 9.]

**69.60.900 Severability—1993 c 135.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1993 c 135 § 4.]

**69.60.901 Effective date—1993 c 135.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately [April 30, 1993]. [1993 c 135 § 5.]

## Chapter 69.80 RCW

### FOOD DONATION AND DISTRIBUTION— LIABILITY

#### Sections

69.80.010	Purpose.
69.80.020	Definitions.
69.80.031	Good samaritan food donation act—Definitions—Collecting, distributing, gleaning—Liability.
69.80.040	Information and referral service for food donation program.
69.80.050	Inspection of donated food by state and local agencies—Variance.
69.80.060	Safe receipt, preparation, and handling of donated food—Rules—Educational materials.
69.80.900	Construction.

**69.80.010 Purpose.** The purpose of this chapter is to promote the free distribution of food to needy persons, prevent waste of food products, and provide liability protection for persons and organizations donating or distributing such food products. [1983 c 241 § 1.]

**69.80.020 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Distributing organization" means a charitable nonprofit organization under section 501(c) of the federal internal revenue code which distributes food free of charge and includes any nonprofit organization that distributes food free of charge to other nonprofit organizations or to the public.

(2) "Donor" means a person, corporation, association, or other organization which donates food to a distributing organization. "Donor" includes, but is not limited to, farmers, processors, distributors, wholesalers, and retailers of food. "Donor" also includes persons who harvest agricultural crops or perishable foods which have been donated by the owner to a distributing organization.

(3) "Food" means food products for human consumption as defined in RCW 69.04.008. [1983 c 241 § 2.]

**69.80.031 Good samaritan food donation act—Definitions—Collecting, distributing, gleaning—Liability.** (1) This section may be cited as the "good samaritan food donation act."

(2) As used in this section:

(a) "Apparently fit grocery product" means a grocery product that meets all quality and labeling standards imposed by federal, state, and local laws and regulations even though the product may not be readily marketable due to appearance, age, freshness, grade, size, surplus, or other conditions.

(b) "Apparently wholesome food" means food that meets all quality and labeling standards imposed by federal, state, and local laws and regulations even though the food may not be readily marketable due to appearance, age, freshness, grade, size, surplus, or other conditions.

(c) "Donate" means to give without requiring anything of monetary value from the recipient, except that the term shall include giving by a nonprofit organization to another nonprofit organization, notwithstanding that the donor organization has charged a nominal fee to the donee organization, if the ultimate recipient or user is not required to give anything of monetary value.

(d) "Food" means a raw, cooked, processed, or prepared edible substance, ice, beverage, or ingredient used or intended for use in whole or in part for human consumption.

(e) "Gleaner" means a person who harvests for free distribution to the needy, or for donation to a nonprofit organization for ultimate distribution to the needy, an agricultural crop that has been donated by the owner.

(f) "Grocery product" means a nonfood grocery product, including a disposable paper or plastic product, household cleaning product, laundry detergent, cleaning product, or miscellaneous household item.

(g) "Gross negligence" means voluntary and conscious conduct by a person with knowledge, at the time of the conduct, that the conduct is likely to be harmful to the health or well-being of another person.

(h) "Intentional misconduct" means conduct by a person with knowledge, at the time of the conduct, that the conduct is harmful to the health or well-being of another person.

(i) "Nonprofit organization" means an incorporated or unincorporated entity that:

(i) Is operating for religious, charitable, or educational purposes; and

(ii) Does not provide net earnings to, or operate in any other manner that inures to the benefit of, any officer, employee, or shareholder of the entity.

(j) "Person" means an individual, corporation, partnership, organization, association, or governmental entity, including a retail grocer, wholesaler, hotel, motel, manufacturer, restaurant, caterer, farmer, and nonprofit food distributor or hospital. In the case of a corporation, partnership, organization, association, or governmental entity, the term includes an officer, director, partner, deacon, trustee, council-member, or other elected or appointed individual responsible for the governance of the entity.

(3) A person or gleaner is not subject to civil or criminal liability arising from the nature, age, packaging, or condition of apparently wholesome food or an apparently fit grocery product that the person or gleaner donates in good faith to a nonprofit organization for ultimate distribution to needy individuals, except that this subsection does not apply to an injury to or death of an ultimate user or recipient of the food or grocery product that results from an act or omission of the donor constituting gross negligence or intentional misconduct.

(4) A person who allows the collection or gleaning of donations on property owned or occupied by the person by gleaners, or paid or unpaid representatives of a nonprofit organization, for ultimate distribution to needy individuals is not subject to civil or criminal liability that arises due to the injury or death of the gleaner or representative, except that this subsection does not apply to an injury or death that results from an act or omission of the person constituting gross negligence or intentional misconduct.

(5) If some or all of the donated food and grocery products do not meet all quality and labeling standards imposed by federal, state, and local laws and regulations, the person or gleaner who donates the food and grocery products is not subject to civil or criminal liability in accordance with this section if the nonprofit organization that receives the donated food or grocery products:

(a) Is informed by the donor of the distressed or defective condition of the donated food or grocery products;

(b) Agrees to recondition the donated food or grocery products to comply with all the quality and labeling standards prior to distribution; and

(c) Is knowledgeable of the standards to properly recondition the donated food or grocery product.

(6) This section may not be construed to create liability. [1994 c 299 § 36.]

**Intent—Finding—Severability—Conflict with federal requirements—1994 c 299:** See notes following RCW 74.12.400.

**69.80.040 Information and referral service for food donation program.** The department of agriculture shall maintain an information and referral service for persons and organizations that have notified the department of their desire to participate in the food donation program under this chapter. [1983 c 241 § 4.]

**69.80.050 Inspection of donated food by state and local agencies—Variance.** (1) Appropriate state and local



agencies are authorized to inspect donated food items for wholesomeness and may establish procedures for the handling of food items.

(2) To facilitate the free distribution of food to needy persons, the local health officer, upon request from either a donor or distributing organization, may grant a variance to chapter 246-215 WAC covering physical facilities, equipment standards, and food source requirements when no known or expected health hazard would exist as a result of the action. [2002 c 217 § 3; 1983 c 241 § 6.]

**Effective date—2002 c 217 § 3:** "Section 3 of this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 28, 2002]." [2002 c 217 § 4.]

**Finding—Purpose—2002 c 217:** "The legislature finds and declares that the distribution of food by donors to charitable organizations, such as shelters, churches, and fraternal organizations, serving communal meals to needy individuals can be done safely consistent with rules and recommended health and safety guidelines. The establishment of recommended donor guidelines by the department of health can educate the public about the preparation and handling of food donated to charitable organizations for distribution to homeless and other needy people. The purpose of this act is to authorize and facilitate the donation of food to needy persons in accordance with health and safety guidelines and rules, to assure that the donated food will not place needy recipients at risk, and to encourage businesses and individuals to donate surplus food to charitable organizations serving our state's needy population." [2002 c 217 § 1.]

**69.80.060 Safe receipt, preparation, and handling of donated food—Rules—Educational materials.** (1) No later than December 31, 2004, the state board of health shall promulgate rules for the safe receipt, preparation, and handling by distributing organizations of food accepted from donors in order to facilitate the donation of food, free of charge, and to protect the health and safety of needy people.

(2) No later than December 31, 2004, the department of health, in consultation with the state board of health, shall develop educational materials for donors containing recommended health and safety guidelines for the preparation and handling of food donated to distributing organizations. [2002 c 217 § 2.]

**Finding—Purpose—2002 c 217:** See note following RCW 69.80.050.

**69.80.900 Construction.** Nothing in this chapter may be construed to create any liability of, or penalty against a donor or distributing organization except as provided in RCW 69.80.031. [1994 c 299 § 38; 1983 c 241 § 5.]

**Intent—Finding—Severability—Conflict with federal requirements—1994 c 299:** See notes following RCW 74.12.400.

## Chapter 69.90 RCW KOSHER FOOD PRODUCTS

### Sections

69.90.010	Definitions.
69.90.020	Sale of "kosher" and "kosher style" food products prohibited if not kosher—Representations—Penalty.
69.90.030	Violation of chapter is violation of consumer protection act.
69.90.900	Short title.

*Organic products: Chapter 15.86 RCW.*

**69.90.010 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Food product" includes any article other than drugs, whether in raw or prepared form, liquid or solid, or packaged or unpackaged, and which is used for human consumption.

(2) "Kosher" means a food product which has been prepared, processed, manufactured, maintained, and sold in accordance with the requisites of traditional Jewish dietary law.

(3) "Person" includes individuals, partnerships, corporations, and associations. [1985 c 127 § 2.]

**69.90.020 Sale of "kosher" and "kosher style" food products prohibited if not kosher—Representations—Penalty.** (1) No person may knowingly sell or offer for sale any food product represented as "kosher" or "kosher style" when that person knows that the food product is not kosher and when the representation is likely to cause a prospective purchaser to believe that it is kosher. Such a representation can be made orally or in writing, or by display of a sign, mark, insignia, or simulation.

(2) A person violating this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 349; 1985 c 127 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**69.90.030 Violation of chapter is violation of consumer protection act.** A violation of this chapter shall constitute a violation of the consumer protection act, chapter 19.86 RCW. [1985 c 127 § 4.]

**69.90.900 Short title.** This chapter shall be known as the sale of kosher food products act of 1985. [1985 c 127 § 1.]

## Chapter 70.74 RCW

# WASHINGTON STATE EXPLOSIVES ACT

### Sections

70.74.010	Definitions.
70.74.013	Funds collected by department.
70.74.020	Restrictions on manufacture, sale, or storage—Users— Reports on storage—Waiver.
70.74.022	License required to manufacture, purchase, sell, use, possess, transport, or store explosives—Penalty—Surrender of explosives by unlicensed person—Other relief.
70.74.025	Magazines—Classification, location and construction—Standards—Use.
70.74.030	Quantity and distance tables for storage—Adoption by rule.
70.74.040	Limit on storage quantity.
70.74.050	Quantity and distance table for explosives manufacturing buildings.
70.74.061	Quantity and distance tables for separation between maga- zines—Adoption by rule.
70.74.100	Storage of caps with explosives prohibited.
70.74.110	Manufacturer's report—Inspection—License.
70.74.120	Storage report—Inspection—License—Cancellation.
70.74.130	Dealer in explosives—Application—License.
70.74.135	Purchaser of explosives—Application—License.
70.74.137	Purchaser's license fee.
70.74.140	Storage license fee.
70.74.142	User's license or renewal—Fee.
70.74.144	Manufacturer's license fee—Manufacturers to comply with dealer requirements when selling.
70.74.146	Seller's license fee—Sellers to comply with dealer require- ments.
70.74.150	Annual inspection.
70.74.160	Unlawful access to explosives.
70.74.170	Discharge of firearms or igniting flame near explosives.
70.74.180	Explosive devices prohibited—Penalty.
70.74.191	Exemptions.
70.74.201	Municipal or county ordinances unaffected—State preemp- tion.
70.74.210	Coal mining code unaffected.
70.74.230	Shipments out of state—Dealer's records.
70.74.240	Sale to unlicensed person prohibited.
70.74.250	Blasting near fur farms and hatcheries.
70.74.270	Malicious placement of an explosive—Penalties.
70.74.272	Malicious placement of an imitation device—Penalties.
70.74.275	Intimidation or harassment with an explosive—Class C fel- ony.
70.74.280	Malicious explosion of a substance—Penalties.
70.74.285	"Terrorist act" defined.
70.74.295	Abandonment of explosives.
70.74.297	Separate storage of components capable of detonation when mixed.
70.74.300	Explosive containers to be marked—Penalty.
70.74.310	Gas bombs, explosives, stink bombs, etc.
70.74.320	Small arms ammunition, primers and propellants—Transporta- tion regulations.
70.74.330	Small arms ammunition, primers and propellants—Separation from flammable materials.
70.74.340	Small arms ammunition, primers and propellants—Transporta- tion, storage and display requirements.
70.74.350	Small arms ammunition, primers and propellants—Primers, transportation and storage requirements.
70.74.360	Licenses—Fingerprint and criminal record checks—Fee— Licenses prohibited for certain persons—License fees.
70.74.370	License revocation, nonrenewal, or suspension.
70.74.380	Licenses—Expiration—Extension of storage licenses.
70.74.390	Implementation of chapter and rules pursuant to chapter 49.17 RCW.
70.74.400	Seizure and forfeiture.
70.74.410	Reporting theft or loss of explosives.

**70.74.010 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context:

(1) The terms "authorized," "approved," or "approval" shall be held to mean authorized, approved, or approval by the department of labor and industries.

(2) The term "blasting agent" shall be held to mean and include any material or mixture consisting of a fuel and oxidizer, that is intended for blasting and not otherwise defined as an explosive; if the finished product, as mixed for use or shipment, cannot be detonated by means of a number 8 test blasting cap when unconfined. A number 8 test blasting cap is one containing two grams of a mixture of eighty percent mercury fulminate and twenty percent potassium chlorate, or a blasting cap of equivalent strength. An equivalent strength cap comprises 0.40-0.45 grams of PETN base charge pressed in an aluminum shell with bottom thickness not to exceed 0.03 of an inch, to a specific gravity of not less than 1.4 g/cc., and primed with standard weights of primer depending on the manufacturer.

(3) The term "dealer" shall be held to mean and include any person who purchases explosives or blasting agents for the sole purpose of resale, and not for use or consumption.

(4) The term "efficient artificial barricade" shall be held to mean an artificial mound or properly revetted wall of earth of a minimum thickness of not less than three feet or such other artificial barricade as approved by the department of labor and industries.

(5) The term "explosive" or "explosives" whenever used in this chapter, shall be held to mean and include any chemical compound or mechanical mixture that is commonly used or intended for the purpose of producing an explosion, that contains any oxidizing and combustible units, or other ingredients, in such proportions, quantities, or packing, that an ignition by fire, by friction, by concussion, by percussion, or by detonation of any part of the compound or mixture may cause such a sudden generation of highly heated gases that the resultant gaseous pressures are capable of producing destructive effects on contiguous objects or of destroying life or limb. In addition, the term "explosives" shall include all material which is classified as division 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, or 1.6 explosives by the United States department of transportation. For the purposes of this chapter, small arms ammunition, small arms ammunition primers, smokeless powder not exceeding fifty pounds, and black powder not exceeding five pounds shall not be defined as explosives, unless possessed or used for a purpose inconsistent with small arms use or other lawful purpose.

(6) Classification of explosives shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) DIVISION 1.1 and 1.2 EXPLOSIVES: Possess mass explosion or detonating hazard and include dynamite, nitroglycerin, picric acid, lead azide, fulminate of mercury, black powder exceeding five pounds, blasting caps in quantities of 1001 or more, and detonating primers.

(b) DIVISION 1.3 EXPLOSIVES: Possess a minor blast hazard, a minor projection hazard, or a flammable hazard and include propellant explosives, including smokeless powder exceeding fifty pounds.

(c) DIVISION 1.4, 1.5, and 1.6 EXPLOSIVES: Include certain types of manufactured articles which contain division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3 explosives, or all, as components, but in restricted quantities, and also include blasting caps in quantities of 1000 or less.

(7) The term "explosive-actuated power devices" shall be held to mean any tool or special mechanized device which is actuated by explosives, but not to include propellant-actuated power devices.

(8) The term "explosives manufacturing building," shall be held to mean and include any building or other structure (excepting magazines) containing explosives, in which the manufacture of explosives, or any processing involving explosives, is carried on, and any building where explosives are used as a component part or ingredient in the manufacture of any article or device.

(9) The term "explosives manufacturing plant" shall be held to mean and include all lands, with the buildings situated thereon, used in connection with the manufacturing or processing of explosives or in which any process involving explosives is carried on, or the storage of explosives thereat, as well as any premises where explosives are used as a component part or ingredient in the manufacture of any article or device.

(10) The term "forbidden or not acceptable explosives" shall be held to mean and include explosives which are forbidden or not acceptable for transportation by common carriers by rail freight, rail express, highway, or water in accordance with the regulations of the federal department of transportation.

(11) The term "fuel" shall be held to mean and include a substance which may react with the oxygen in the air or with the oxygen yielded by an oxidizer to produce combustion.

(12) The term "handloader" shall be held to mean and include any person who engages in the noncommercial assembling of small arms ammunition for his or her own use, specifically the operation of installing new primers, powder, and projectiles into cartridge cases.

(13) The term "handloader components" means small arms ammunition, small arms ammunition primers, smokeless powder not exceeding fifty pounds, and black powder as used in muzzle loading firearms not exceeding five pounds.

(14) The term "highway" shall be held to mean and include any public street, public alley, or public road, including a privately financed, constructed, or maintained road that is regularly and openly traveled by the general public.

(15) The term "improvised device" means a device which is fabricated with explosives or destructive, lethal, noxious, pyrotechnic, or incendiary chemicals and which is designed, or has the capacity, to disfigure, destroy, distract, or harass.

(16) The term "inhabited building," shall be held to mean and include only a building regularly occupied in whole or in part as a habitation for human beings, or any church, schoolhouse, railroad station, store, or other building where people are accustomed to assemble, other than any building or struc-

ture occupied in connection with the manufacture, transportation, storage, or use of explosives.

(17) The term "magazine," shall be held to mean and include any building or other structure, other than an explosives manufacturing building, used for the storage of explosives.

(18) The term "motor vehicle" shall be held to mean and include any self-propelled automobile, truck, tractor, semi-trailer or full trailer, or other conveyance used for the transportation of freight.

(19) The term "natural barricade" shall be held to mean and include any natural hill, mound, wall, or barrier composed of earth or rock or other solid material of a minimum thickness of not less than three feet.

(20) The term "oxidizer" shall be held to mean a substance that yields oxygen readily to stimulate the combustion of organic matter or other fuel.

(21) The term "person" shall be held to mean and include any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, association, society, joint stock company, joint stock association, and including any trustee, receiver, assignee, or personal representative thereof.

(22) The term "propellant-actuated power device" shall be held to mean and include any tool or special mechanized device or gas generator system which is actuated by a propellant or which releases and directs work through a propellant charge.

(23) The term "public conveyance" shall be held to mean and include any railroad car, streetcar, ferry, cab, bus, airplane, or other vehicle which is carrying passengers for hire.

(24) The term "public utility transmission system" shall mean power transmission lines over 10 KV, telephone cables, or microwave transmission systems, or buried or exposed pipelines carrying water, natural gas, petroleum, or crude oil, or refined products and chemicals, whose services are regulated by the utilities and transportation commission, municipal, or other publicly owned systems.

(25) The term "purchaser" shall be held to mean any person who buys, accepts, or receives any explosives or blasting agents.

(26) The term "pyrotechnic" shall be held to mean and include any combustible or explosive compositions or manufactured articles designed and prepared for the purpose of producing audible or visible effects which are commonly referred to as fireworks as defined in chapter 70.77 RCW.

(27) The term "railroad" shall be held to mean and include any steam, electric, or other railroad which carries passengers for hire.

(28) The term "small arms ammunition" shall be held to mean and include any shotgun, rifle, pistol, or revolver cartridge, and cartridges for propellant-actuated power devices and industrial guns. Military-type ammunition containing explosive bursting charges, incendiary, tracer, spotting, or pyrotechnic projectiles is excluded from this definition.

(29) The term "small arms ammunition primers" shall be held to mean small percussion-sensitive explosive charges encased in a cup, used to ignite propellant powder and shall include percussion caps as used in muzzle loaders.

(30) The term "smokeless powder" shall be held to mean and include solid chemicals or solid chemical mixtures in excess of fifty pounds which function by rapid combustion.

(31) The term "user" shall be held to mean and include any natural person, manufacturer, or blaster who acquires, purchases, or uses explosives as an ultimate consumer or who supervises such use.

Words used in the singular number shall include the plural, and the plural the singular. [2012 c 117 § 390; 2002 c 370 § 1; 1993 c 293 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 88 § 5; 1970 ex.s. c 72 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 3; 1931 c 111 § 1; RRS § 5440-1.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Severability—2002 c 370:** See note following RCW 70.77.126.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**70.74.013 Funds collected by department.** All funds collected by the department under RCW 70.74.137 through 70.74.146 and 70.74.360 shall be transferred to the state treasurer for deposit into the accident and medical aid funds under RCW 51.44.010 and 51.44.020. [2008 c 285 § 11.]

**Intent—Captions not law—Effective date—2008 c 285:** See notes following RCW 43.22.434.

**70.74.020 Restrictions on manufacture, sale, or storage—Users—Reports on storage—Waiver.** (1) No person shall manufacture, possess, store, sell, purchase, transport, or use explosives or blasting agents except in compliance with this chapter.

(2) The director of the department of labor and industries shall make and promulgate rules and regulations concerning qualifications of users of explosives and shall have the authority to issue licenses for users of explosives to effectuate the purpose of this chapter: PROVIDED, That where there is a finding by the director that the use or disposition of explosives in any class of industry presents no unusual hazard to the safety of life or limb of persons employed therewith, and where the users are supervised by a superior in an employment relationship who is sufficiently experienced in the use of explosives, and who possesses a license for such use under this chapter, the director in his or her discretion may exclude said users in those classes of industry from individual licensing.

(3) The director of the department of labor and industries shall make and promulgate rules and regulations concerning the manufacture, sale, purchase, use, transportation, storage, and disposal of explosives, and shall have the authority to issue licenses for the manufacture, purchase, sale, use, transportation, and storage of explosives to effectuate the purpose of this chapter. The director of the department of labor and industries is hereby delegated the authority to grant written waiver of this chapter whenever it can be shown that the manufacturing, handling, or storing of explosives are in compliance with applicable national or federal explosive safety standards: PROVIDED, That any resident of this state who is qualified to purchase explosives in this state and who has complied with the provisions of this chapter applicable to him or her may purchase explosives from an authorized dealer of a bordering state and may transport said explosives into this state for use herein: PROVIDED FURTHER, That residents of this state shall, within ten days of the date of purchase, present to the department of labor and industries a report signed by both vendor and vendee of every purchase from an out of state dealer, said report indicating the date of

purchase, name of vendor, vendor's license number, vendor's business address, amount and kind of explosives purchased, the name of the purchaser, the purchaser's license number, and the name of receiver if different than purchaser.

(4) It shall be unlawful to sell, give away, or otherwise dispose of, or deliver to any person under twenty-one years of age any explosives including black powder, and blasting caps or other explosive igniters, whether said person is acting for himself or herself or for any other person: PROVIDED, That small arms ammunition and handloader components shall not be considered explosives for the purposes of this section: PROVIDED FURTHER, That if there is a finding by the director that said use or disposition of explosives poses no unusual hazard to the safety of life or limb in any class of industry, where persons eighteen years of age or older are employed as users, and where said persons are adequately trained and adequately supervised by a superior in an employment relationship who is sufficiently experienced in the use of explosives, and who possesses a valid license for such use under this chapter, the director in his or her discretion may exclude said persons in that class of industry from said minimum age requirement.

(5) All persons engaged in keeping, using, or storing any compound, mixture, or material, in wet condition, or otherwise, which upon drying out or undergoing other physical changes, may become an explosive within the definition of RCW 70.74.010, shall report in writing subscribed to by such person or his or her agent, to the department of labor and industries, report blanks to be furnished by such department, and such reports to require:

- (a) The kind of compound, mixture, or material kept or stored, and maximum quantity thereof;
- (b) Condition or state of compound, mixture, or material;
- (c) Place where kept or stored.

The department of labor and industries may at any time cause an inspection to be made to determine whether the condition of the compound, mixture, or material is as reported. [2012 c 117 § 391; 1982 c 111 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 88 § 6; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 4; 1967 c 99 § 1; 1931 c 111 § 2; RRS § 5440-2.]

**70.74.022 License required to manufacture, purchase, sell, use, possess, transport, or store explosives—Penalty—Surrender of explosives by unlicensed person—Other relief.** (1) It is unlawful for any person to manufacture, purchase, sell, offer for sale, use, possess, transport, or store any explosive, improvised device, or components that are intended to be assembled into an explosive or improvised device without having a validly issued license from the department of labor and industries, which license has not been revoked or suspended. Violation of this section is a class C felony.

(2) Upon notice from the department of labor and industries or any law enforcement agency having jurisdiction, a person manufacturing, purchasing, selling, offering for sale, using, possessing, transporting, or storing any explosive, improvised device, or components of explosives or improvised devices without a license shall immediately surrender those explosives, improvised devices, or components to the department or to the respective law enforcement agency.

(3) At any time that the director of labor and industries requests the surrender of explosives, improvised devices, or

components of explosives or improvised devices, from any person pursuant to subsection (2) of this section, the director may in addition request the attorney general to make application to the superior court of the county in which the unlawful practice exists for a temporary restraining order or such other relief as appears to be appropriate under the circumstances. [1993 c 293 § 2; 1988 c 198 § 10.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**70.74.025 Magazines—Classification, location and construction—Standards—Use.** The director of the department of labor and industries shall establish by rule or regulation requirements for classification, location and construction of magazines for storage of explosives in compliance with accepted applicable explosive safety standards. All explosives shall be kept in magazines which meet the requirements of this chapter. [1969 ex.s. c 137 § 9.]

**70.74.030 Quantity and distance tables for storage—Adoption by rule.** All explosive manufacturing buildings and magazines in which explosives or blasting agents except small arms ammunition and smokeless powder are had, kept, or stored, must be located at distances from inhabited buildings, railroads, highways, and public utility transmission systems in conformity with the quantity and distance tables adopted by the department of labor and industries by rule. The department of labor and industries shall adopt the quantity and distance tables promulgated by the federal bureau of alcohol, tobacco, and firearms unless the department determines the tables to be inappropriate. The tables shall be the basis on which applications for storage license[s] are made and storage licenses issued as provided in RCW 70.74.110 and 70.74.120. [1988 c 198 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 88 § 7; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 10; 1931 c 111 § 5; RRS § 5440-5.]

**70.74.040 Limit on storage quantity.** No quantity in excess of three hundred thousand pounds, or the equivalent in blasting caps shall be had, kept or stored in any factory building or magazine in this state. [1970 ex.s. c 72 § 2; 1931 c 111 § 4; RRS § 5440-4.]

**70.74.050 Quantity and distance table for explosives manufacturing buildings.** All explosives manufacturing buildings shall be located one from the other and from other buildings on explosives manufacturing plants in which persons are regularly employed, and all magazines shall be located from factory buildings and buildings on explosives plants in which persons are regularly employed, in conformity with the intraexplosives plant quantity and distance table below set forth:

EXPLOSIVES	Pounds Over	Pounds Not Over	Distance Feet
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		Separate Building or Within Substantial Dividing Walls
10	25	40
25	50	60
50	100	80
100	200	100
200	300	120
300	400	130
400	500	140
500	750	160
750	1,000	180
1,000	1,500	210
1,500	2,000	230
2,000	3,000	260
3,000	4,000	280
4,000	5,000	300
5,000	6,000	320
6,000	7,000	340
7,000	8,000	360
8,000	9,000	380
9,000	10,000	400
10,000	12,500	420
12,500	15,000	450
15,000	17,500	470
17,500	20,000	490
20,000	25,000	530
25,000	30,000	560
30,000	35,000	590
35,000	40,000	620
40,000	45,000	640
45,000	50,000	660
50,000	55,000	680
55,000	60,000	700
60,000	65,000	720
65,000	70,000	740
70,000	75,000	770
75,000	80,000	780
80,000	85,000	790
85,000	90,000	800
90,000	95,000	820
95,000	100,000	830
100,000	125,000	900
125,000	150,000	950
150,000	175,000	1,000
175,000	200,000	1,050
200,000	225,000	1,100
225,000	250,000	1,150

[1972 ex.s. c 88 § 8; 1931 c 111 § 5; RRS § 5440-5.]

**70.74.061 Quantity and distance tables for separation between magazines—Adoption by rule.** Magazines containing blasting caps and electric blasting caps shall be separated from other magazines containing like contents, or from magazines containing explosives by distances set in the quantity and distance tables adopted by the department of labor and industries by rule. The department of labor and

industries shall adopt the quantity and distance tables promulgated by the federal bureau of alcohol, tobacco, and firearms unless the department determines the tables to be inappropriate. The tables shall be the basis on which applications for storage license[s] are made and storage licenses issued as provided in RCW 70.74.110 and 70.74.120. [1988 c 198 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 11.]

**70.74.100 Storage of caps with explosives prohibited.**

No blasting caps, or other detonating or fulminating caps, or detonators, or flame-producing devices shall be kept or stored in any magazine in which other explosives are kept or stored. [1969 ex.s. c 137 § 12; 1931 c 111 § 10; RRS § 5440-10.]

**70.74.110 Manufacturer's report—Inspection—**

**License.** All persons engaged in the manufacture of explosives, or any process involving explosives, or where explosives are used as a component part in the manufacture of any article or device, on August 11, 1969, shall within sixty days thereafter, and all persons engaging in the manufacture of explosives, or any process involving explosives, or where explosives are used as a component part in the manufacture of any article or device after August 11, 1969, shall, before so engaging, make an application in writing, subscribed to by such person or his or her agent, to the department of labor and industries, the application stating:

- (1) Location of place of manufacture or processing;
- (2) Kind of explosives manufactured, processed, or used;
- (3) The distance that such explosives manufacturing building is located or intended to be located from the other factory buildings, magazines, inhabited buildings, railroads and highways, and public utility transmission systems;
- (4) The name and address of the applicant;
- (5) The reason for desiring to manufacture explosives;
- (6) The applicant's citizenship, if the applicant is an individual;
- (7) If the applicant is a partnership, the names and addresses of the partners, and their citizenship;
- (8) If the applicant is an association or corporation, the names and addresses of the officers and directors thereof, and their citizenship; and
- (9) Such other pertinent information as the director of labor and industries shall require to effectuate the purpose of this chapter.

There shall be kept in the main office on the premises of each explosives manufacturing plant a plan of said plant showing the location of all explosives manufacturing buildings and the distance they are located from other factory buildings where persons are employed and from magazines, and these plans shall at all times be open to inspection by duly authorized inspectors of the department of labor and industries. The superintendent of each plant shall upon demand of said inspector furnish the following information:

- (a) The maximum amount and kind of explosive material which is or will be present in each building at one time.
- (b) The nature and kind of work carried on in each building and whether or not said buildings are surrounded by natural or artificial barricades.

Except as provided in RCW 70.74.370, the department of labor and industries shall as soon as possible after receiving such application cause an inspection to be made of the

explosives manufacturing plant, and if found to be in accordance with RCW 70.74.030 and 70.74.050 and 70.74.061, such department shall issue a license to the person applying therefor showing compliance with the provisions of this chapter if the applicant demonstrates that either the applicant or the officers, agents, or employees of the applicant are sufficiently experienced in the manufacture of explosives and the applicant meets the qualifications for a license under RCW 70.74.360. Such license shall continue in full force and effect until expired, suspended, or revoked by the department pursuant to this chapter. [2012 c 117 § 392; 1997 c 58 § 870; 1988 c 198 § 5; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 13; 1941 c 101 § 1; 1931 c 111 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 5440-1.]

**Effective dates—Intent—1997 c 58:** See notes following RCW 74.20A.320.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**70.74.120 Storage report—Inspection—License—**

**Cancellation.** All persons engaged in keeping or storing and all persons having in their possession explosives on August 11, 1969, shall within sixty days thereafter, and all persons engaging in keeping or storing explosives or coming into possession thereof after August 11, 1969, shall before engaging in the keeping or storing of explosives or taking possession thereof, make an application in writing subscribed to by such person or his or her agent, to the department of labor and industries stating:

- (1) The location of the magazine, if any, if then existing, or in case of a new magazine, the proposed location of such magazine;
- (2) The kind of explosives that are kept or stored or possessed or intended to be kept or stored or possessed and the maximum quantity that is intended to be kept or stored or possessed thereat;
- (3) The distance that such magazine is located or intended to be located from other magazines, inhabited buildings, explosives manufacturing buildings, railroads, highways, and public utility transmission systems;
- (4) The name and address of the applicant;
- (5) The reason for desiring to store or possess explosives;
- (6) The citizenship of the applicant if the applicant is an individual;
- (7) If the applicant is a partnership, the names and addresses of the partners and their citizenship;
- (8) If the applicant is an association or corporation, the names and addresses of the officers and directors thereof and their citizenship;
- (9) And such other pertinent information as the director of the department of labor and industries shall require to effectuate the purpose of this chapter.

The department of labor and industries shall, as soon as may be after receiving such application, cause an inspection to be made of the magazine, if then constructed, and, in the case of a new magazine, as soon as may be after same is found to be constructed in accordance with the specification provided in RCW 70.74.025, such department shall determine the amount of explosives that may be kept and stored in such magazine by reference to the quantity and distance tables specified in or adopted under this chapter and shall issue a license to the person applying therefor if the applicant

demonstrates that either the applicant or the officers, agents, or employees of the applicant are sufficiently experienced in the handling of explosives and possess suitable storage facilities therefor, and that the applicant meets the qualifications for a license under RCW 70.74.360. Said license shall set forth the maximum quantity of explosives that may be had, kept, or stored by said person. Such license shall be valid until canceled for one or more of the causes hereinafter provided. Whenever by reason of change in the physical conditions surrounding said magazine at the time of the issuance of the license therefor, such as:

- (a) The erection of buildings nearer said magazine;
- (b) The construction of railroads nearer said magazine;
- (c) The opening for public travel of highways nearer said magazine; or
- (d) The construction of public utilities transmission systems near said magazine; then the amounts of explosives which may be lawfully had, kept, or stored in said magazine must be reduced to conform to such changed conditions in accordance with the quantity and distance table notwithstanding the license, and the department of labor and industries shall modify or cancel such license in accordance with the changed conditions. Whenever any person to whom a license has been issued, keeps or stores in the magazine or has in his or her possession, any quantity of explosives in excess of the maximum amount set forth in said license, or whenever any person fails for thirty days to pay the annual license fee hereinafter provided after the same becomes due, the department is authorized to cancel such license. Whenever a license is canceled by the department for any cause herein specified, the department shall notify the person to whom such license is issued of the fact of such cancellation and shall in said notice direct the removal of all explosives stored in said magazine within ten days from the giving of said notice, or, if the cause of cancellation be the failure to pay the annual license fee, or the fact that explosives are kept for an unlawful purpose, the department of labor and industries shall order such person to dispossess himself or herself of said explosives within ten days from the giving of said notice. Failure to remove the explosives stored in said magazine or to dispossess oneself of the explosives as herein provided within the time specified in said notice shall constitute a violation of this chapter. [2012 c 117 § 393; 1988 c 198 § 6; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 14; 1941 c 101 § 2; 1931 c 111 § 12; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 5440-12.]

**70.74.130 Dealer in explosives—Application—License.** Every person desiring to engage in the business of dealing in explosives shall apply to the department of labor and industries for a license therefor. Said application shall state, among other things:

- (1) The name and address of applicant;
- (2) The reason for desiring to engage in the business of dealing in explosives;
- (3) Citizenship, if an individual applicant;
- (4) If a partnership, the names and addresses of the partners and their citizenship;
- (5) If an association or corporation, the names and addresses of the officers and directors thereof and their citizenship; and

(6) Such other pertinent information as the director of labor and industries shall require to effectuate the purpose of this chapter.

Except as provided in RCW 70.74.370, the department of labor and industries shall issue the license if the applicant demonstrates that either the applicant or the principal officers, agents, or employees of the applicant are experienced in the business of dealing in explosives, possess suitable facilities therefor, have not been convicted of any crime that would warrant revocation or nonrenewal of a license under this chapter, and have never had an explosives-related license revoked under this chapter or under similar provisions of any other state. [1997 c 58 § 871; 1988 c 198 § 7; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 16; 1941 c 101 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 5440-12a.]

**Effective dates—Intent—1997 c 58:** See notes following RCW 74.20A.320.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**70.74.135 Purchaser of explosives—Application—License.** All persons desiring to purchase explosives except handloader components shall apply to the department of labor and industries for a license. Said application shall state, among other things:

- (1) The location where explosives are to be used;
- (2) The kind and amount of explosives to be used;
- (3) The name and address of the applicant;
- (4) The reason for desiring to use explosives;
- (5) The citizenship of the applicant if the applicant is an individual;
- (6) If the applicant is a partnership, the names and addresses of the partners and their citizenship;
- (7) If the applicant is an association or corporation, the names and addresses of the officers and directors thereof and their citizenship; and
- (8) Such other pertinent information as the director of the department of labor and industries shall require to effectuate the purpose of this chapter.

The department of labor and industries shall issue the license if the applicant demonstrates that either the applicant or the officers, agents or employees of the applicant are sufficiently experienced in the use of explosives to authorize a purchase license. However, no purchaser's license may be issued to any person who cannot document proof of possession or right to use approved and licensed storage facilities unless the person signs a statement certifying that explosives will not be stored. [1988 c 198 § 8; 1971 ex.s. c 302 § 7; 1970 ex.s. c 72 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 18.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**70.74.137 Purchaser's license fee.** Every person applying for a purchaser's license, or renewal thereof, shall pay an annual license fee of twenty-five dollars. The director of labor and industries may adjust the amount of the license fee to reflect the administrative costs of the department. The fee shall not exceed one hundred dollars.

Said license fee shall accompany the application and shall be transmitted by the department to the state treasurer: PROVIDED, That if the applicant is denied a purchaser's license the license fee shall be returned to said applicant by registered mail. [2008 c 285 § 5; 1988 c 198 § 12; 1972 ex.s. c 88 § 2.]

**Intent—Captions not law—Effective date—2008 c 285:** See notes following RCW 43.22.434.

**70.74.140 Storage license fee.** Every person engaging in the business of keeping or storing of explosives shall pay an annual license fee for each magazine maintained, to be graduated by the department of labor and industries according to the quantity kept or stored therein, of fifty dollars. The director of labor and industries may adjust the amount of the license fee to reflect the administrative costs of the department. The fee shall not exceed four hundred dollars.

Said license fee shall accompany the application and shall be transmitted by the department to the state treasurer. [2008 c 285 § 6; 1988 c 198 § 13; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 15; 1931 c 111 § 13; RRS § 5440-13.]

**Intent—Captions not law—Effective date—2008 c 285:** See notes following RCW 43.22.434.

**70.74.142 User's license or renewal—Fee.** Every person applying for a user's license, or renewal thereof, under this chapter shall pay an annual license fee of fifty dollars. The director of labor and industries may adjust the amount of the license fee to reflect the administrative costs of the department. The fee shall not exceed two hundred dollars.

Said license fee shall accompany the application, and be transmitted by the department to the state treasurer: PROVIDED, That if the applicant is denied a user's license the license fee shall be returned to said applicant by registered mail. [2008 c 285 § 7; 1988 c 198 § 14; 1972 ex.s. c 88 § 1.]

**Intent—Captions not law—Effective date—2008 c 285:** See notes following RCW 43.22.434.

**70.74.144 Manufacturer's license fee—Manufacturers to comply with dealer requirements when selling.** Every person engaged in the business of manufacturing explosives shall pay an annual license fee of fifty dollars. The director of labor and industries may adjust the amount of the license fee to reflect the administrative costs of the department. The fee shall not exceed two hundred dollars.

Businesses licensed to manufacture explosives are not required to have a dealer's license, but must comply with all of the dealer requirements of this chapter when they sell explosives.

The license fee shall accompany the application and shall be transmitted by the department to the state treasurer. [2008 c 285 § 8; 1988 c 198 § 15.]

**Intent—Captions not law—Effective date—2008 c 285:** See notes following RCW 43.22.434.

**70.74.146 Seller's license fee—Sellers to comply with dealer requirements.** Every person engaged in the business of selling explosives shall pay an annual license fee of fifty dollars. The director of labor and industries may adjust the amount of the license fee to reflect the administrative costs of the department. The fee shall not exceed two hundred dollars.

Businesses licensed to sell explosives must comply with all of the dealer requirements of this chapter.

The license fee shall accompany the application and shall be transmitted by the department to the state treasurer. [2008 c 285 § 9; 1988 c 198 § 16.]

**Intent—Captions not law—Effective date—2008 c 285:** See notes following RCW 43.22.434.

**70.74.150 Annual inspection.** The department of labor and industries shall make, or cause to be made, at least one inspection during every year, of each licensed explosives plant or magazine. [1931 c 111 § 14; RRS § 5440-14.]

**70.74.160 Unlawful access to explosives.** No person, except the director of labor and industries or the director's authorized agent, the owner, the owner's agent, or a person authorized to enter by the owner or owner's agent, or a law enforcement officer acting within his or her official capacity, may enter any explosives manufacturing building, magazine or car, vehicle or other common carrier containing explosives in this state. Violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1993 c 293 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 19; 1931 c 111 § 15; RRS § 5440-15.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**70.74.170 Discharge of firearms or igniting flame near explosives.** No person shall discharge any firearms at or against any magazine or explosives manufacturing buildings or ignite any flame or flame-producing device nearer than two hundred feet from said magazine or explosives manufacturing building. [1969 ex.s. c 137 § 20; 1931 c 111 § 16; RRS § 5440-16.]

**70.74.180 Explosive devices prohibited—Penalty.** Any person who has in his or her possession or control any shell, bomb, or similar device, charged or filled with one or more explosives, intending to use it or cause it to be used for an unlawful purpose, is guilty of a class A felony, and upon conviction shall be punished by imprisonment in a state prison for a term of not more than twenty years. [2003 c 53 § 354; 1984 c 55 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 21; 1931 c 111 § 18; RRS § 5440-18.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**70.74.191 Exemptions.** The laws contained in this chapter and regulations prescribed by the department of labor and industries pursuant to this chapter shall not apply to:

(1) Explosives or blasting agents in the course of transportation by way of railroad, water, highway, or air under the jurisdiction of, and in conformity with, regulations adopted by the federal department of transportation, the Washington state utilities and transportation commission, and the Washington state patrol;

(2) The laboratories of schools, colleges, and similar institutions if confined to the purpose of instruction or research and if not exceeding the quantity of one pound;

(3) Explosives in the forms prescribed by the official United States Pharmacopoeia;

(4) The transportation, storage, and use of explosives or blasting agents in the normal and emergency operations of United States agencies and departments including the regular United States military departments on military reservations; arsenals, navy yards, depots, or other establishments owned by, operated by, or on behalf of, the United States; or the duly authorized militia of any state; or to emergency operations of



any state department or agency, any police, or any municipality or county;

(5) A hazardous devices technician when carrying out normal and emergency operations, handling evidence, and operating and maintaining a specially designed emergency response vehicle that carries no more than ten pounds of explosive material or when conducting training and whose employer possesses the minimum safety equipment prescribed by the federal bureau of investigation for hazardous devices work. For purposes of this section, a hazardous devices technician is a person who is a graduate of the federal bureau of investigation hazardous devices school and who is employed by a state, county, or municipality;

(6) The importation, sale, possession, and use of fireworks as defined in chapter 70.77 RCW, signaling devices, flares, fuses, and torpedoes;

(7) The transportation, storage, and use of explosives or blasting agents in the normal and emergency avalanche control procedures as conducted by trained and licensed ski area operator personnel. However, the storage, transportation, and use of explosives and blasting agents for such use shall meet the requirements of regulations adopted by the director of labor and industries;

(8) The storage of consumer fireworks as defined in chapter 70.77 RCW pursuant to a forfeiture or seizure under chapter 70.77 RCW by the chief of the Washington state patrol, through the director of fire protection, or his or her deputy, or by state agencies or local governments having general law enforcement authority; and

(9) Any violation under this chapter if any existing ordinance of any city, municipality, or county is more stringent than this chapter. [2002 c 370 § 2; 1998 c 40 § 1; 1993 c 293 § 5; 1985 c 191 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 5.]

**Severability—2002 c 370:** See note following RCW 70.77.126.

**Purpose—1985 c 191:** "It is the purpose of this 1985 act to protect the public by enabling ski area operators to exercise appropriate avalanche control measures. The legislature finds that avalanche control is of vital importance to safety in ski areas and that the provisions of the Washington state explosives act contain restrictions which do not reflect special needs for the use of explosives as a means of clearing an area of serious avalanche risks. This 1985 act recognizes these needs while providing for a system of regulations designed to ensure that the use of explosives for avalanche control conforms to fundamental safety requirements." [1985 c 191 § 1.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**70.74.201 Municipal or county ordinances unaffected—State preemption.** This chapter shall not affect, modify or limit the power of a city, municipality or county in this state to make an ordinance that is more stringent than this chapter which is applicable within their respective corporate limits or boundaries: PROVIDED, That the state shall be deemed to have preempted the field of regulation of small arms ammunition and handloader components. [1970 ex.s. c 72 § 5; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 6.]

**70.74.210 Coal mining code unaffected.** All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That nothing in this act shall be construed as amending, limiting, or repealing any provision of chapter 36, session laws of 1917, known as the coal mining code. [1931 c 111 § 22; RRS § 5440-22.]

**70.74.230 Shipments out of state—Dealer's records.**

If any manufacturer of explosives or dealer therein shall have shipped any explosives into another state, and the laws of such other state shall designate an officer or agency to regulate the possession, receipt or storage of explosives, and such officer or agency shall so require, such manufacturer shall, at least once each calendar month, file with such officer or agency of such other state a report giving the names of all purchasers and the amount and description of all explosives sold or delivered in such other state. Dealers in explosives shall keep a record of all explosives purchased or sold by them, which record shall include the name and address of each vendor and vendee, the date of each sale or purchase, and the amount and kind of explosives sold or purchased. Such records shall be open for inspection by the duly authorized agents of the department of labor and industries and by all federal, state and local law enforcement officers at all times, and a copy of such record shall be furnished once each calendar month to the department of labor and industries in such form as said department shall prescribe. [1941 c 101 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 5440-23.]

**70.74.240 Sale to unlicensed person prohibited.** No dealer shall sell, barter, give or dispose of explosives to any person who does not hold a license to purchase explosives issued under the provisions of this chapter. [1970 ex.s. c 72 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 17; 1941 c 101 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 5440-24.]

**70.74.250 Blasting near fur farms and hatcheries.**

Between the dates of January 15th and June 15th of each year it shall be unlawful for any person to do, or cause to be done, any blasting within fifteen hundred feet from any fur farm or commercial hatchery except in case of emergency without first giving to the person in charge of such farm or hatchery twenty-four hours notice: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That in the case of an established quarry and sand and gravel operations, and where it is necessary for blasting to be done continually, the notice required in this section may be made at the beginning of the period each year when blasting is to be done. [1941 c 107 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 5440-25.]

**70.74.270 Malicious placement of an explosive—Penalties.** A person who maliciously places any explosive or improvised device in, upon, under, against, or near any building, car, vessel, railroad track, airplane, public utility transmission system, or structure, in such manner or under such circumstances as to destroy or injure it if exploded is guilty of:

(1) Malicious placement of an explosive in the first degree if the offense is committed with intent to commit a terrorist act. Malicious placement of an explosive in the first degree is a class A felony;

(2) Malicious placement of an explosive in the second degree if the offense is committed under circumstances not amounting to malicious placement of an explosive in the first degree and if the circumstances and surroundings are such that the safety of any person might be endangered by the explosion. Malicious placement of an explosive in the second degree is a class B felony;

(3) Malicious placement of an explosive in the third degree if the offense is committed under circumstances not amounting to malicious placement of an explosive in the first or second degree. Malicious placement of an explosive in the third degree is a class B felony. [1997 c 120 § 1; 1993 c 293 § 6; 1992 c 7 § 49; 1984 c 55 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 302 § 8; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 23; 1909 c 249 § 400; RRS § 2652.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**70.74.272 Malicious placement of an imitation device—Penalties.** (1) A person who maliciously places any imitation device in, upon, under, against, or near any building, car, vessel, railroad track, airplane, public utility transmission system, or structure, with the intent to give the appearance or impression that the imitation device is an explosive or improvised device, is guilty of:

(a) Malicious placement of an imitation device in the first degree if the offense is committed with intent to commit a terrorist act. Malicious placement of an imitation device in the first degree is a class B felony;

(b) Malicious placement of an imitation device in the second degree if the offense is committed under circumstances not amounting to malicious placement of an imitation device in the first degree. Malicious placement of an imitation device in the second degree is a class C felony.

(2) For purposes of this section, "imitation device" means a device or substance that is not an explosive or improvised device, but which by appearance or representation would lead a reasonable person to believe that the device or substance is an explosive or improvised device. [1997 c 120 § 2.]

**70.74.275 Intimidation or harassment with an explosive—Class C felony.** Unless otherwise allowed to do so under this chapter, a person who exhibits a device designed, assembled, fabricated, or manufactured, to convey the appearance of an explosive or improvised device, and who intends to, and does, intimidate or harass a person, is guilty of a class C felony. [1993 c 293 § 4.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**70.74.280 Malicious explosion of a substance—Penalties.** A person who maliciously, by the explosion of gunpowder or any other explosive substance or material, destroy or damage any building, car, airplane, vessel, common carrier, railroad track, or public utility transmission system or structure is guilty of:

(1) Malicious explosion of a substance in the first degree if the offense is committed with intent to commit a terrorist act. Malicious explosion of a substance in the first degree is a class A felony;

(2) Malicious explosion of a substance in the second degree if the offense is committed under circumstances not amounting to malicious explosion of a substance in the first degree and if thereby the life or safety of a human being is endangered. Malicious explosion of a substance in the second degree is a class A felony;

(3) Malicious explosion of a substance in the third degree if the offense is committed under circumstances not amounting to malicious explosion of a substance in the first or second degree. Malicious explosion of a substance in the

third degree is a class B felony. [1997 c 120 § 3; 1992 c 7 § 50; 1971 ex.s. c 302 § 9; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 24; 1909 c 249 § 401; RRS § 2653.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**70.74.285 "Terrorist act" defined.** For the purposes of RCW 70.74.270, 70.74.272, and 70.74.280 "terrorist act" means an act that is intended to: (1) Intimidate or coerce a civilian population; (2) influence the policy of a branch or level of government by intimidation or coercion; (3) affect the conduct of a branch or level of government by intimidation or coercion; or (4) retaliate against a branch or level of government for a policy or conduct of the government. [1997 c 120 § 4.]

**70.74.295 Abandonment of explosives.** It shall be unlawful for any person to abandon explosives or improvised devices. Violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1993 c 293 § 7; 1972 ex.s. c 88 § 3.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**70.74.297 Separate storage of components capable of detonation when mixed.** Any two components which, when mixed, become capable of detonation by a No. 6 cap must be stored in separate locked containers or in a licensed, approved magazine. [1972 ex.s. c 88 § 4.]

**70.74.300 Explosive containers to be marked—Penalty.** Every person who shall put up for sale, or who shall deliver to any warehouse operator, dock, depot, or common carrier any package, cask, or can containing any explosive, nitroglycerin, dynamite, or powder, without having been properly labeled thereon to indicate its explosive classification, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [2011 c 336 § 840; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 26; 1909 c 249 § 254; RRS § 2506.]

**70.74.310 Gas bombs, explosives, stink bombs, etc.** Any person other than a lawfully constituted peace officer of this state who shall deposit, leave, place, spray, scatter, spread, or throw in any building, or any place, or who shall counsel, aid, assist, encourage, incite, or direct any other person or persons to deposit, leave, place, spray, scatter, spread, or throw, in any building or place, or who shall have in his or her possession for the purpose of, and with the intent of depositing, leaving, placing, spraying, scattering, spreading, or throwing, in any building or place, or of counseling, aiding, assisting, encouraging, inciting, or directing any other person or persons to deposit, leave, place, spray, scatter, spread, or throw, any stink bomb, stink paint, tear bomb, tear shell, explosive, or flame-producing device, or any other device, material, chemical, or substance, which, when exploded or opened, or without such exploding or opening, by reason of its offensive and pungent odor, does or will annoy, injure, endanger, or inconvenience any person or persons, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor: PROVIDED, That this section shall not apply to persons in the military service, actually engaged in the performance of military duties, pursuant to orders from competent authority nor to any property owner or person acting under his or her authority in providing protection against the commission of a felony. [2012

c 117 § 394; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 27; 1927 c 245 § 1; RRS § 2504-1.]

**70.74.320 Small arms ammunition, primers and propellants—Transportation regulations.** The federal regulations of the United States department of transportation on the transportation of small arms ammunition, of small arms ammunition primers, and of small arms smokeless propellants are hereby adopted in this chapter by reference.

The director of the department of labor and industries has the authority to issue future regulations in accordance with amendments and additions to the federal regulations of the United States department of transportation on the transportation of small arms ammunition, of small arms ammunition primers, and of small arms smokeless propellants. [1969 ex.s. c 137 § 28.]

**70.74.330 Small arms ammunition, primers and propellants—Separation from flammable materials.** Small arms ammunition shall be separated from flammable liquids, flammable solids and oxidizing materials by a fire-resistant wall of one-hour rating or by a distance of twenty-five feet. [1969 ex.s. c 137 § 29.]

**70.74.340 Small arms ammunition, primers and propellants—Transportation, storage and display requirements.** Quantities of small arms smokeless propellant (class B) in shipping containers approved by the federal department of transportation not in excess of fifty pounds may be transported in a private vehicle.

Quantities in excess of twenty-five pounds but not to exceed fifty pounds in a private passenger vehicle shall be transported in an approved magazine as specified by the department of labor and industries rules and regulations.

Transportation of quantities in excess of fifty pounds is prohibited in passenger vehicles: PROVIDED, That this requirement shall not apply to duly licensed dealers.

Transportation of quantities in excess of fifty pounds shall be in accordance with federal department of transportation regulations.

Small arms smokeless propellant intended for personal use in quantities not to exceed twenty-five pounds may be stored without restriction in residences; quantities over twenty-five pounds but not to exceed fifty pounds shall be stored in a strong box or cabinet constructed with three-fourths inch plywood (minimum), or equivalent, on all sides, top, and bottom.

Black powder as used in muzzle loading firearms may be transported in a private vehicle or stored without restriction in private residences in quantities not to exceed five pounds.

Not more than seventy-five pounds of small arms smokeless propellant, in containers of one pound maximum capacity may be displayed in commercial establishments.

Not more than twenty-five pounds of black powder as used in muzzle loading firearms may be stored in commercial establishments of which not more than four pounds in containers of one pound maximum capacity may be displayed.

Quantities in excess of one hundred fifty pounds of smokeless propellant or twenty-five pounds of black powder as used in muzzle loading firearms shall be stored in magazines constructed as specified in the rules and regulations for

construction of magazines, and located in compliance with this chapter.

All small arms smokeless propellant when stored shall be packed in federal department of transportation approved containers. [1970 ex.s. c 72 § 6; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 30.]

**70.74.350 Small arms ammunition, primers and propellants—Primers, transportation and storage requirements.** Small arms ammunition primers shall not be transported or stored except in the original shipping container approved by the federal department of transportation.

Truck or rail transportation of small arms ammunition primers shall be in accordance with the federal regulation of the United States department of transportation.

No more than twenty-five thousand small arms ammunition primers shall be transported in a private passenger vehicle: PROVIDED, That this requirement shall not apply to duly licensed dealers.

Quantities not to exceed ten thousand small arms ammunition primers may be stored in a residence.

Small arms ammunition primers shall be separate from flammable liquids, flammable solids, and oxidizing materials by a fire-resistant wall of one-hour rating or by a distance of twenty-five feet.

Not more than seven hundred fifty thousand small arms ammunition primers shall be stored in any one building except as next provided; no more than one hundred thousand shall be stored in any one pile, and piles shall be separated by at least fifteen feet.

Quantities of small arms ammunition primers in excess of seven hundred fifty thousand shall be stored in magazines in accordance with RCW 70.74.025. [1969 ex.s. c 137 § 31.]

**70.74.360 Licenses—Fingerprint and criminal record checks—Fee—Licenses prohibited for certain persons—License fees.** (1) The director of labor and industries shall require, as a condition precedent to the original issuance and upon renewal every three years thereafter of any explosive license, fingerprinting and criminal history record information checks of every applicant. In the case of a corporation, fingerprinting and criminal history record information checks shall be required for the management officials directly responsible for the operations where explosives are used if such persons have not previously had their fingerprints recorded with the department of labor and industries. In the case of a partnership, fingerprinting and criminal history record information checks shall be required of all general partners. Such fingerprints as are required by the department of labor and industries shall be submitted on forms provided by the department to the identification section of the Washington state patrol and to the identification division of the federal bureau of investigation in order that these agencies may search their records for prior convictions of the individuals fingerprinted. The Washington state patrol shall provide to the director of labor and industries such criminal record information as the director may request. The applicant shall give full cooperation to the department of labor and industries and shall assist the department of labor and industries in all aspects of the fingerprinting and criminal history record information check. The applicant shall be required to pay the

current federal and state fee for fingerprint-based criminal history background checks.

(2) The director of labor and industries shall not issue a license to manufacture, purchase, store, use, or deal with explosives to:

(a) Any person under twenty-one years of age;

(b) Any person whose license is suspended or whose license has been revoked, except as provided in RCW 70.74.370;

(c) Any person who has been convicted in this state or elsewhere of a violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, perjury, false swearing, or bomb threats or a crime involving a schedule I or II controlled substance, or any other drug or alcohol related offense, unless such other drug or alcohol related offense does not reflect a drug or alcohol dependency. However, the director of labor and industries may issue a license if the person suffering a drug or alcohol related dependency is participating in or has completed an alcohol or drug recovery program acceptable to the department of labor and industries and has established control of their alcohol or drug dependency. The director of labor and industries shall require the applicant to provide proof of such participation and control; or

(d) Any person who has previously been adjudged to be mentally ill or insane, or to be incompetent due to any mental disability or disease and who has not at the time of application been restored to competency.

(3) The director of labor and industries may establish reasonable licensing fees for the manufacture, dealing, purchase, use, and storage of explosives. [2009 c 39 § 1; 2008 c 285 § 10; 1988 c 198 § 3.]

**Intent—Captions not law—Effective date—2008 c 285:** See notes following RCW 43.22.434.

**70.74.370 License revocation, nonrenewal, or suspension.** (1) The department of labor and industries shall revoke and not renew the license of any person holding a manufacturer, dealer, purchaser, user, or storage license upon conviction of any of the following offenses, which conviction has become final:

(a) A violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030;

(b) A crime involving perjury or false swearing, including the making of a false affidavit or statement under oath to the department of labor and industries in an application or report made pursuant to this title;

(c) A crime involving bomb threats;

(d) A crime involving a schedule I or II controlled substance, or any other drug or alcohol related offense, unless such other drug or alcohol related offense does not reflect a drug or alcohol dependency. However, the department of labor and industries may condition renewal of the license to any convicted person suffering a drug or alcohol dependency who is participating in an alcoholism or drug recovery program acceptable to the department of labor and industries and has established control of their alcohol or drug dependency. The department of labor and industries shall require the licensee to provide proof of such participation and control;

(e) A crime relating to possession, use, transfer, or sale of explosives under this chapter or any other chapter of the Revised Code of Washington.

(2) The department of labor and industries shall revoke the license of any person adjudged to be mentally ill or insane, or to be incompetent due to any mental disability or disease. The director shall not renew the license until the person has been restored to competency.

(3) The department of labor and industries is authorized to suspend, for a period of time not to exceed six months, the license of any person who has violated this chapter or the rules promulgated pursuant to this chapter.

(4) The department of labor and industries may revoke the license of any person who has repeatedly violated this chapter or the rules promulgated pursuant to this chapter, or who has twice had his or her license suspended under this chapter.

(5) The department of labor and industries shall immediately suspend the license or certificate of a person who has been certified pursuant to RCW 74.20A.320 by the department of social and health services as a person who is not in compliance with a support order or a \*residential or visitation order. If the person has continued to meet all other requirements for reinstatement during the suspension, reissuance of the license or certificate shall be automatic upon the department of labor and industries' receipt of a release issued by the department of social and health services stating that the licensee is in compliance with the order.

(6) Upon receipt of notification by the department of labor and industries of revocation or suspension, a licensee must surrender immediately to the department any or all such licenses revoked or suspended. [1997 c 58 § 872; 1988 c 198 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** 1997 c 58 § 886 requiring a court to order certification of noncompliance with residential provisions of a court-ordered parenting plan was vetoed. Provisions ordering the department of social and health services to certify a responsible parent based on a court order to certify for non-compliance with residential provisions of a parenting plan were vetoed. See RCW 74.20A.320.

**Effective dates—Intent—1997 c 58:** See notes following RCW 74.20A.320.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**70.74.380 Licenses—Expiration—Extension of storage licenses.** With the exception of storage licenses for permanent facilities, every license issued under the authority of this chapter shall expire after one year from the date issued unless suspended or revoked. The director of labor and industries may extend the duration of storage licenses for permanent facilities to two years provided the location, distances, and use of the facilities remain unchanged. The fee for the two-year storage license shall be twice the annual fee. [1988 c 198 § 9.]

**70.74.390 Implementation of chapter and rules pursuant to chapter 49.17 RCW.** Unless specifically provided otherwise by statute, this chapter and the rules adopted thereunder shall be implemented and enforced, including penalties, violations, citations, appeals, and other administrative procedures, pursuant to the Washington industrial safety and health act, chapter 49.17 RCW. [1988 c 198 § 11.]

**70.74.400 Seizure and forfeiture.** (1) Explosives, improvised devices, and components of explosives and improvised devices that are possessed, manufactured, deliv-

ered, imported, exported, stored, sold, purchased, transported, abandoned, detonated, or used, or intended to be used, in violation of a provision of this chapter are subject to seizure and forfeiture by a law enforcement agency and no property right exists in them.

(2) The law enforcement agency making the seizure shall notify the Washington state department of labor and industries of the seizure.

(3) Seizure of explosives, improvised devices, and components of explosives and improvised devices under subsection (1) of this section may be made if:

(a) The seizure is incident to arrest or a search under a search warrant;

(b) The explosives, improvised devices, or components have been the subject of a prior judgment in favor of the state in an injunction or forfeiture proceeding based upon this chapter;

(c) A law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the explosives, improvised devices, or components are directly or indirectly dangerous to health or safety; or

(d) The law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that the explosives, improvised devices, or components were used or were intended to be used in violation of this chapter.

(4) A law enforcement agency shall destroy explosives seized under this chapter when it is necessary to protect the public safety and welfare. When destruction is not necessary to protect the public safety and welfare, and the explosives are not being held for evidence, a seizure pursuant to this section commences proceedings for forfeiture.

(5) The law enforcement agency under whose authority the seizure was made shall issue a written notice of the seizure and commencement of the forfeiture proceedings to the person from whom the explosives were seized, to any known owner of the explosives, and to any person who has a known interest in the explosives. The notice shall be issued within fifteen days of the seizure. The notice of seizure and commencement of the forfeiture proceedings shall be served in the same manner as provided in RCW 4.28.080 for service of a summons. The law enforcement agency shall provide a form by which the person or persons may request a hearing before the law enforcement agency to contest the seizure.

(6) If no person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of the explosives, improvised devices, or components within thirty days of the date the notice was issued, the seized explosives, devices, or components shall be deemed forfeited.

(7) If, within thirty days of the issuance of the notice, any person notifies the seizing law enforcement agency in writing of the person's claim of ownership or right to possession of items seized, the person or persons shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard as to the claim or right. The hearing shall be before the chief law enforcement or the officer's designee of the seizing agency, except that the person asserting the claim or right may remove the matter to a court of competent jurisdiction if the aggregate value of the items seized is more than five hundred dollars. The hearing and any appeal shall be conducted according to chapter 34.05 RCW. The seizing law enforcement agency shall bear the burden of

proving that the person (a) has no lawful right of ownership or possession and (b) that the items seized were possessed, manufactured, stored, sold, purchased, transported, abandoned, detonated, or used in violation of a provision of this chapter with the person's knowledge or consent.

(8) The seizing law enforcement agency shall promptly return the items seized to the claimant upon a determination that the claimant is entitled to possession of the items seized.

(9) If the items seized are forfeited under this statute, the seizing agency shall dispose of the explosives by summary destruction. However, when explosives are destroyed either to protect public safety or because the explosives were forfeited, the person from whom the explosives were seized loses all rights of action against the law enforcement agency or its employees acting within the scope of their employment, or other governmental entity or employee involved with the seizure and destruction of explosives.

(10) This section is not intended to change the seizure and forfeiture powers, enforcement, and penalties available to the department of labor and industries pursuant to chapter 49.17 RCW as provided in RCW 70.74.390. [2002 c 370 § 3; 1993 c 293 § 8.]

**Severability—2002 c 370:** See note following RCW 70.77.126.

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**70.74.410 Reporting theft or loss of explosives.** A person who knows of a theft or loss of explosives for which that person is responsible under this chapter shall report the theft or loss to the local law enforcement agency within twenty-four hours of discovery of the theft or loss. The local law enforcement agency shall immediately report the theft or loss to the department of labor and industries. [1993 c 293 § 9.]

Additional notes found at [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

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### GOLD

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