

FORMATTING NOTE:

In initiatives, legislative bills and other proposed measures, language that is to be deleted from current statutes is represented by a "strikethrough" character and language that is to be added is underlined. Because these special characters cannot be formatted in all Internet browsers, a different set of symbols is used for presenting these proposals on-line. The symbols are as follows:

- Text that is surrounded by (({- text here -})) is text that will be DELETED FROM the existing statute if the proposed measure is approved.
- Text that is surrounded by {+ text here +} is text that will be ADDED TO the existing statute if the proposed measure is approved.
- {+ NEW SECTION+} (found at the beginning of a section or paragraph) indicates that ALL of the text in that section will become law if the proposed measure is approved.

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INITIATIVE 690

LEAGUE OF WASHINGTON TAXPAYERS (LWT)
INITIATIVE TO THE PEOPLE
"VEHICLE EXCISE TAX REVISION AND REDUCTION"

AN ACT Relating to vehicle registration and taxation; amending RCW 46.09.070, 46.10.040, 46.10.075, and 46.10.080; adding new sections to chapter 46.16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 46.68 RCW; creating a new section; and repealing RCW 46.09.110, 46.16.060, 46.16.061, 46.16.063, 46.16.065, 46.16.068, 46.16.070, 46.16.071, 46.16.079, 46.16.085, 46.16.090, 46.16.135, 46.16.505, 46.68.030, 46.68.035, 82.44.010, 82.44.015, 82.44.020, 82.44.023, 82.44.025, 82.44.030, 82.44.041, 82.44.060, 82.44.065, 82.44.080, 82.44.090, 82.44.100, 82.44.110, 82.44.120, 82.44.130, 82.44.140, 82.44.150, 82.44.155, 82.44.157, 82.44.160, 82.44.170, 82.44.180, 82.50.010, 82.50.060, 82.50.090, 82.50.170, 82.50.250, 82.50.400, 82.50.405, 82.50.410, 82.50.425, 82.50.435, 82.50.440, 82.50.460, 82.50.510, 82.50.520, 82.50.530, 82.50.540, and 82.50.901.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

{+ NEW SECTION. +} Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

(1) All existing excise tax schedules, fees, and rates for all vehicles, whether for personal or business use, are repealed and replaced with a new and revised fee schedule. This includes repealing the value code, the depreciation factor, and the tax rate.

(2) The new registration and licensing cost schedule becomes effective January 1, 1999.

(3) All vehicles, regardless of the year, value, make, or model qualify for the same licensing fee applicable to their respective defined categories.

{+ NEW SECTION. +} Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

Vehicles must be registered for two-year periods with the exception of heavy motor vehicles and buses, which are designated as category I vehicles. These vehicles may be licensed for a one-year, three-fourths year, one-half year, or one-fourth year period if the registered owner

provides documentation of the time frame for which licensing is being applied. Otherwise, the owner of a category I vehicle applying for an annual license must pay the two-year registration fee. Registration fees for category I vehicles are determined by gross weight in pounds (empty), starting at eight thousand pounds and increasing by two thousand pound increments up to one hundred five thousand five hundred pounds. The basic registration fee of one hundred ten dollars applies to all category I vehicles between eight thousand and ten thousand pounds, and as the vehicle weight increases by two thousand pounds or an increment thereof, the registration fee increases by fifteen dollars. The three-fourths year fee is the annual fee reduced by twenty-five percent, the one-half year fee by fifty percent, and the one-fourth year fee by seventy-five percent. A two dollar and fifty cent license fee applies for all category I vehicles that are licensed in the state of Washington.

{+ NEW SECTION. +} Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

Personal use trailers, homemade trailers, box utility trailers, boat trailers, business trailers, and horse trailers are designated as category II vehicles and must be licensed for a required two-year period. Registration fees are determined from the single or double axle weight tables that follow:

Single Axle Weight Table

Weight	Fee
400 pounds or less	\$10.00
401 to 1199 pounds	\$15.00
1200 to 2800 pounds.	\$30.00 plus
\$5.00 for each additional 250 pounds over the 2800 pound weight category.	

Double Axle Weight Table

Weight	Fee
2500 to 3499 pounds.	\$35.00
3500 to 4999 pounds.	\$45.00
5000 to 7999 pounds.	\$70.00

A plate fee of one dollar fifty cents must be paid for each trailer in this category.

{+ NEW SECTION. +} Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

Motor homes are designated as category III vehicles. Registration fees are based on the total length of the unit as determined by the following table:

Vehicle Length	Annual Registration
Fee	
10 feet and under.	\$50.00
11 to 15 feet.	\$75.00
Units exceeding 15 feet will pay a registration fee of six dollars per foot.	

The department shall make seven-day trip permits available to motor home owners at a charge of twenty dollars per permit. No more than

four such permits may be issued in any one twelve-month period to the motor home unit. If a trip designation is not chosen, all motor home registrations are for a period of two years.

{+ NEW SECTION. +} Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

Passenger cars and pick-ups are designated as category IV, and must pay an annual registration fee of thirty-five dollars, which fee includes plates. Passenger cars and pick-ups must be licensed for a period of two years.

{+ NEW SECTION. +} Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

Motorcycles, off-road vehicles, and snowmobiles are designated as category V, and must be licensed under the following registration fee structure:

Vehicle Type	Annual Registration Fee
Motorcycles.	\$30.00
Off-road vehicles.	\$10.00
Snowmobiles.	\$10.00

Motorcycles, off-road vehicles, and snowmobiles must be licensed for a period of two years.

{+ NEW SECTION. +} Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

The clean air flat tax shall remain at the current rate as of January 1, 1997, and will not be increased.

{+ NEW SECTION. +} Sec. 8. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

The department of licensing shall publish and make available registration fee schedules for all vehicle categories, I through V.

The department of licensing shall adopt rules to implement sections 1 through 9 of this act.

{+ NEW SECTION. +} Sec. 9. A new section is added to chapter 46.68 RCW to read as follows:

All vehicle registration moneys collected by the department of licensing will be disbursed in the following manner: Eight percent to criminal justice, eighty percent to the motor vehicle fund for highway maintenance and construction, and twelve percent to the general fund.

Sec. 10. RCW 46.09.070 and 1997 c 241 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Application for (({- annual -})) {+ biennial +} or temporary ORV use permits shall be made to the department or its authorized agent in such manner and upon such forms as the department shall prescribe and shall state the name and address of each owner of the off-road vehicle.

(2) An application for (({- an annual -})) {+ a biennial +} permit shall be signed by at least one owner, and shall be accompanied by (({- a -})) {+ the +} fee (({- of five dollars -})) {+ prescribed by section 6 of this act +}. Upon receipt of the (({- annual -})) permit application and the application fee, the off-road vehicle shall be assigned a use permit number tag or decal, which shall be affixed to the off-road vehicle in a manner prescribed by the department. The

(({- annual -})) {+ biennial +} permit is valid for a period of (({- one -})) {+ two +} year{+ s +} and is renewable (({- each year -})) {+ at the end of that period +} in such manner as the department may prescribe for an additional period of (({- one -})) {+ two +} year{+ s +} upon payment of a renewal fee (({- of five dollars -})) {+ prescribed by section 6 of this act +}.

Any person acquiring an off-road vehicle for which (({- an annual -})) {+ a +} permit has been issued who desires to continue to use the permit must, within fifteen days of the acquisition of the off-road vehicle, make application to the department or its authorized agent for transfer of the permit, and the application shall be accompanied by a transfer fee of one dollar and twenty-five cents.

(3) A temporary use permit is valid for sixty days. Application for a temporary permit shall be accompanied by a fee of two dollars. The permit shall be carried on the vehicle at all times during its operation in the state.

(4) Except as provided in RCW 46.09.050, any out-of-state operator of an off-road vehicle shall, when operating in this state, comply with this chapter, and if an ORV use permit is required under this chapter, the operator shall obtain (({- an annual -})) {+ a biennial +} or temporary permit and tag.

Sec. 11. RCW 46.10.040 and 1997 c 241 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

Application for registration shall be made to the department in the manner and upon forms the department prescribes, and shall state the name and address of each owner of the snowmobile to be registered, and shall be signed by at least one such owner, and shall be accompanied by (({- an annual -})) {+ a biennial +} registration fee (({- to be established by the commission, after consultation with the committee and any state-wide snowmobile user groups. The fee shall be fifteen dollars pending action by the commission to increase the fee. The commission shall increase the fee by two dollars and fifty cents effective September 30, 1996, and the commission shall increase the fee by another two dollars and fifty cents effective September 30, 1997. After the fee increase effective September 30, 1997, the commission shall not increase the fee -})) {+ prescribed by section 6 of this act +}. Upon receipt of the application and the application fee, the snowmobile shall be registered and a registration number assigned, which shall be affixed to the snowmobile in a manner provided in RCW 46.10.070.

The registration (({- provided in -})) {+ issued under +} this section (({- shall be -})) {+ is +} valid for a period of (({- one -})) {+ two +} year{+ s +}. At the end of the period of registration, every owner of a snowmobile in this state shall renew his or her registration in the manner the department prescribes, for an additional period of (({- one -})) {+ two +} year{+ s +}, upon payment of the (({- annual -})) registration fee (({- as determined by the commission -})) {+ prescribed by section 6 of this act +}.

Any person acquiring a snowmobile already validly registered under the provisions of this chapter must, within ten days of the acquisition or purchase of the snowmobile, make application to the department for transfer of the registration, and the application shall be accompanied by a transfer fee of one dollar and twenty-five cents.

A snowmobile owned by a resident of another state or Canadian province where registration is not required by law may be issued a nonresident registration permit valid for not more than sixty days. Application for the permit shall state the name and address of each

owner of the snowmobile to be registered and shall be signed by at least one owner and shall be accompanied by a registration fee of five dollars. The registration permit shall be carried on the vehicle at all times during its operation in this state.

The registration fees provided in this section shall be in lieu of any personal property or excise tax heretofore imposed on snowmobiles by this state or any political subdivision thereof, and no city, county, or other municipality, and no state agency shall hereafter impose any other registration or license fee on any snowmobile in this state.

The department shall make available a pair of uniform decals consistent with the provisions of RCW 46.10.070. In addition to the registration fee provided in this section the department shall charge each applicant for registration the actual cost of the decal. The department shall make available replacement decals for a fee equivalent to the actual cost of the decals.

Sec. 12. RCW 46.10.075 and 1991 sp.s. c 13 s 9 are each amended to read as follows:

There is created a snowmobile account within the state treasury. (({- Snowmobile registration fees, -})) {+ M +}onetary civil penalties from snowmobile dealers(({- , -})) and snowmobile fuel tax moneys collected under this chapter and in excess of the amounts fixed for the administration of the (({- registration and -})) fuel tax provisions of this chapter shall be deposited in the snowmobile account and shall be appropriated only to the state parks and recreation commission for the administration and coordination of this chapter.

Sec. 13. RCW 46.10.080 and 1982 c 17 s 7 are each amended to read as follows:

The moneys collected by the department as (({- snowmobile registration fees, -})) monetary civil penalties from snowmobile dealers(({- , -})) and fuel tax moneys placed in the snowmobile account shall be distributed in the following manner:

(1) Actual expenses not to exceed three percent for each year shall be retained by the department to cover expenses incurred in the administration of the (({- registration and -})) fuel tax provisions of this chapter.

(2) The remainder of such funds each year shall be remitted to the state treasurer to be deposited in the snowmobile account of the general fund and shall be appropriated only to the commission to be expended for snowmobile purposes. Such purposes may include but not necessarily be limited to the administration, acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of snowmobile facilities and development and implementation of snowmobile safety, enforcement, and education programs.

(3) Nothing in this section is intended to discourage any public agency in this state from developing and implementing snowmobile programs. The commission is authorized to make grants to public agencies and to contract with any public or private agency or person for the purpose of developing and implementing snowmobile programs, provided that the programs are not inconsistent with the rules adopted by the commission.

{+ NEW SECTION. +} Sec. 14. No terms, conditions, or requirements of this act may be revised or altered without a vote of the people at a duly called election. Any changes must be approved by a sixty-percent majority of all ballots cast, and a sixty per centum of the

number of voters from the preceding general election shall be required.

{+ NEW SECTION. +} Sec. 15. The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:

- (1) RCW 46.09.110 and 1986 c 206 s 6, 1985 c 57 s 60, 1977 ex.s. c 220 s 9, 1972 ex.s. c 153 s 11, & 1971 ex.s. c 47 s 16;
- (2) RCW 46.16.060 and 1992 c 216 s 4, 1987 1st ex.s. c 9 s 3, 1985 c 380 s 13, 1981 c 342 s 8, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 3, 1969 ex.s. c 170 s 3, 1969 c 99 s 5, 1965 c 25 s 1, 1961 ex.s. c 7 s 9, & 1961 c 12 s 46.16.060;
- (3) RCW 46.16.061 and 1985 c 380 s 14, 1984 c 7 s 49, & 1963 ex.s. c 3 s 40;
- (4) RCW 46.16.063 and 1996 c 237 s 1 & 1980 c 60 s 2;
- (5) RCW 46.16.065 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 4, 1961 ex.s. c 7 s 10, & 1961 c 12 s 46.16.065;
- (6) RCW 46.16.068 and 1993 c 123 s 4;
- (7) RCW 46.16.070 and 1994 c 262 s 8 & 1993 sp.s. c 23 s 60;
- (8) RCW 46.16.071 and 1996 c 315 s 4;
- (9) RCW 46.16.079 and 1986 c 18 s 5, 1975 c 25 s 16, & 1963 c 18 s 1;
- (10) RCW 46.16.085 and 1991 c 163 s 3, 1989 c 156 s 2, 1987 c 244 s 4, 1986 c 18 s 8, & 1985 c 380 s 16;
- (11) RCW 46.16.090 and 1989 c 156 s 3 & 1986 c 18 s 10;
- (12) RCW 46.16.135 and 1986 c 18 s 12, 1985 c 380 s 19, 1979 ex.s. c 136 s 46, 1979 c 134 s 1, 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 s 3, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 6, 1969 ex.s. c 170 s 7, & 1961 c 12 s 46.16.135;
- (13) RCW 46.16.505 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 11, 1975 c 41 s 1, & 1971 ex.s. c 231 s 7;
- (14) RCW 46.68.030 and 1990 c 42 s 109 & 1985 c 380 s 20;
- (15) RCW 46.68.035 and 1993 c 102 s 7, 1990 c 42 s 106, 1989 c 156 s 4, & 1985 c 380 s 21;
- (16) RCW 82.44.010 and 1990 c 42 s 301, 1979 c 107 s 10, 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 54, 1967 c 121 s 4, 1963 c 199 s 1, & 1961 c 15 s 82.44.010;
- (17) RCW 82.44.015 and 1996 c 244 s 7, 1993 c 488 s 3, 1982 c 142 s 1, & 1980 c 166 s 3;
- (18) RCW 82.44.020 and 1993 sp.s. c 23 s 61, 1993 c 123 s 2, 1991 c 199 s 220, 1990 c 42 s 302, & 1988 c 191 s 1;
- (19) RCW 82.44.023 and 1994 c 227 s 3 & 1992 c 194 s 8;
- (20) RCW 82.44.025 and 1996 c 139 s 3;
- (21) RCW 82.44.030 and 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 51 & 1961 c 15 s 82.44.030;
- (22) RCW 82.44.041 and 1990 c 42 s 303;
- (23) RCW 82.44.060 and 1990 c 42 s 304, 1981 c 222 s 12, 1979 c 158 s 233, 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 54 s 2, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 14, 1963 c 199 s 4, & 1961 s 15 s 82.44.060;
- (24) RCW 82.44.065 and 1990 c 42 s 305;
- (25) RCW 82.44.080 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.080;
- (26) RCW 82.44.090 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.090;
- (27) RCW 82.44.100 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.100;
- (28) RCW 82.44.110 and 1997 c 338 s 68 & 1997 c 149 s 911;
- (29) RCW 82.44.120 and 1993 c 307 s 3, 1990 c 42 s 307, 1989 c 68 s 2, 1983 c 26 s 3, 1979 c 120 s 2, 1975 1st ex.s. c 278 s 95, 1974 ex.s. c 54 s 4, 1967 c 121 s 2, 1963 c 199 s 5, & 1961 c 15 s 82.44.120;
- (30) RCW 82.44.130 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.130;
- (31) RCW 82.44.140 and 1979 c 158 s 237, 1967 c 121 s 3, & 1961 c 15 s 82.44.140;
- (32) RCW 82.44.150 and 1995 2nd sp.s. c 14 s 538, 1994 c 241 s 1,

& 1993 c 491 s 2;

(33) RCW 82.44.155 and 1993 c 492 s 254, 1991 c 199 s 223, & 1990 c 42 s 309;

(34) RCW 82.44.157 and 1994 c 266 s 14;

(35) RCW 82.44.160 and 1995 c 28 s 1;

(36) RCW 82.44.170 and 1990 c 42 s 311, 1987 c 244 s 56, & 1985 c 380 s 22;

(37) RCW 82.44.180 and 1995 c 269 s 2601;

(38) RCW 82.50.010 and 1989 c 337 s 20, 1979 c 107 s 11, 1977 ex.s. c 22 s 6, 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 35, 1967 ex.s. c 149 s 44, & 1961 c 15 s 82.50.010;

(39) RCW 82.50.060 and 1961 c 15 s 82.50.060;

(40) RCW 82.50.090 and 1961 c 15 s 82.50.090;

(41) RCW 82.50.170 and 1992 c 154 s 6;

(42) RCW 82.50.250 and 1967 ex.s. c 149 s 59;

(43) RCW 82.50.400 and 1993 c 238 s 7, 1992 c 154 s 5, 1990 c 42 s 320, 1979 c 123 s 1, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 15, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 55;

(44) RCW 82.50.405 and 1991 c 199 s 226;

(45) RCW 82.50.410 and 1991 c 199 s 225, 1990 c 42 s 321, 1979 c 123 s 2, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 16, 1972 ex.s. c 144 s 2, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 56;

(46) RCW 82.50.425 and 1990 c 42 s 323;

(47) RCW 82.50.435 and 1990 c 42 s 324;

(48) RCW 82.50.440 and 1979 c 158 s 242, 1975 1st ex.s. c 9 s 2, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 59;

(49) RCW 82.50.460 and 1979 c 123 s 3, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 17, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 61;

(50) RCW 82.50.510 and 1991 c 199 s 227, 1990 c 42 s 322, 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 75 s 1, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 66;

(51) RCW 82.50.520 and 1983 c 26 s 4, 1979 c 123 s 4, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 67;

(52) RCW 82.50.530 and 1993 c 32 s 1, 1981 c 304 s 32, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 68;

(53) RCW 82.50.540 and 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 69; and

(54) RCW 82.50.901 and 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 53.

{+ NEW SECTION. +} Sec. 16. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

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