
Washington Administrative Code Notice of Permanent Rules for Personalized License Plates

This explanatory statement concerns the **Washington State Department of Licensing's adoption of WAC 308-96A-065 and 308-96A-550 regarding personalized license plates.**

The Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.325(6)) requires agencies to complete a concise explanatory statement before filing adopted rules with the Office of the Code Reviser. This statement must be provided to anyone who gave comment about the proposed rule making.

Once persons who gave comment during this rule making have had a chance to receive this document, the Department of Licensing will file the amended rules with the Office of the Code Reviser. These rule changes will become effective 31 days after filing (approximately January 29, 2016).

The Department of Licensing appreciates your involvement in this rule making process. If you have any questions, please contact Damon Monroe, Agency Rules Coordinator, at (360) 902-3843 or e-mail at dmonroe@dol.wa.gov.

What are the agency's reasons for adopting this rule?

To update the personalized plate configuration restrictions and make technical corrections.

Summary of all public comments received on this rule proposal and the agency's response to those comments:

Comment received on 11/8/15 by email:

I'm in favor of all the proposed rulemaking changes to WAC 308-96A-550 with no concerns. I'm also in favor of the proposed rulemaking changes to WAC 308-96A-065 with the following concern. I believe that the deletion of current subsection (3) (a) (vi) blasphemous; and replacement of subsection (3) (a) (vi) with Derogatory which is currently (3) (a) (vii), is not in the best interest of all Washington Motorists and Pedestrians who might see these personalized license plates issued by the DOL. Blasphemy is not appropriate for ANY VEHICLE LICENSE PLATE! I happen to find when I see anything blasphemous, I get offended. I believe in free speech and the right to choose your own religion, but, I don't believe that people should be allowed to get Personalized License Plates that uses profane words to describe anything religious. As founder of the Religion and Religious Beliefs Worship Center, I allow anyone to come to my organization regardless of their personal beliefs and religious preference, as long as they believe in something. Please don't allow people to use blasphemous words or phrases on Washington's License Plates! I ask you to reconsider leaving (3) (a) (vi) as blasphemous, for no one likes to see hurtful phrases on anything!

Agency response:

Thank you for your comments. The personalized plate configuration restrictions in statute and the agency's administrative rules will ensure that configurations that are derogatory, slanderous, or offensive to good taste and decency will not be issued.

WAC Changes:

None.