
Washington Administrative Code Notice of Permanent Rules for License Plate Replacement

This explanatory statement concerns the **Washington State Department of Licensing's adoption of WAC 308-96A-021, 308-96A-026, 308-96A-056, 308-96A-057, 308-96A-064, 308-96A-065, 308-96A-070, 308-96A-071, 308-96A-072, 308-96A-073, 308-96A-074, 308-96A-076, 308-96A-077, 308-96A-078, 308-96A-079, 308-96A-175, 308-96A-176, 308-96A-202, 308-96A-203, 308-96A-210, 308-96A-260, 308-96A-300, 308-96A-530, 308-96A-545, and 308-96A-550, relating to license plate replacement requirements.**

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 May 23, 2015).

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 align WAC 308-96A with new license plate replacement requirements following a legislative change. License plates must now be replaced when a vehicle changes ownership in most cases instead of every seven years.

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

Comment received on 4/12/15 by email:

I think that the car dealers should have to run there cars through emissions the same that we the general public who want to sell a car have too. I porsonaly do not think this is a far thing. after all they sell a car as is yes I can sell as is but I or we have to make the car or ruck pass emissions and show proof to change title where dealers DO NOT and there are some dealers that take the public to the cleaners as it is. I have talked to others that think the same as I do.

Agency response:

Thank you for your comments. State law (RCW 70.120.190) requires motor vehicle dealers selling used vehicles to include a notice in the vehicle purchase form that explicitly states that the new owner may be required to make repairs if the vehicle does not meet vehicle emissions standards. The Department of Licensing is unable to impose the requirement that you suggest through an administrative rule.

WAC Changes:

Language was added to WAC 308-96A-065 stating that the department does not issue personalized plates with a number or letter combination that was previously reported as stolen. This is a technical correction; this is current policy and similar language exists in other WAC sections.