



HILARY S. FRANZ
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS

SB 5910 | HB 2108

- Establishes a Smokey Bear License Plate
- Washington will be 1 of just 3 states (Oregon and Texas) with a Smokey Bear state license plate
- All revenue goes to wildfire prevention
- First DNR-sponsored license plate

CONTACT

Brian Considine
Legislative Director
Cell: 360-764-0013
brian.considine@dnr.wa.gov

Olgy Diaz
Deputy Legislative Director
Cell: 360-918-3555
olgy.diaz@dnr.wa.gov

Smokey Bear License Plate*



Why a Smokey Bear License Plate?

Since 1944, Smokey Bear has been the face of wildfire prevention around the world. Putting his image on vehicles across Washington will increase wildfire awareness by reminding everyone in the state that only they can prevent wildfires.

A Smokey Bear license plate will let people show their support for firefighters while supporting DNR's efforts to reduce the number of wildfires started by humans every year. The presence of Smokey Bear in the license plate will also help raise public awareness of wildfire prevention, ensuring the safety of our neighbors. Learn more about Smokey Bear at smokeybear.com.

When Will They be Available?

Under this bill, the public could start purchasing license plates in October 2024 for any vehicle required to have a license plate.

What Will They Cost?

This specialty license plate will cost \$40 for the initial plate and \$30 for renewal of a plate, and these costs are in addition to any vehicle registration fees and costs required by law. This will be DNR's first license plate and the state's only license plate for wildfire prevention.

DNR is the state's primary wildfire fighting force and responds every year to fires that threaten communities, natural lands and homes.

To sign the petition showing support for DNR's Smokey Bear license plate, please visit: [I want a Smokey Bear License Plate](#).

*This design is not final and could change, and it is subject to federal approval.

****DRAFT** DNR SB License Plate ARL**

BILL REQUEST - CODE REVISER'S OFFICE

BILL REQ. #: Z-0467.1/24

ATTY/TYPIST: AI:eab

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Creating the state department of natural resources' Smokey Bear special license plates.

DRAFT

AN ACT Relating to creating the state department of natural resources' Smokey Bear special license plates; reenacting and amending RCW 46.17.220, 46.18.200, and 46.68.425; adding a new section to chapter 46.04 RCW; and providing an effective date.

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

Sec. 1. RCW 46.17.220 and 2022 c 239 s 1 and 2022 c 117 s 1 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon application for a vehicle registration in chapter 46.16A RCW, the holder of a special license plate shall pay the appropriate special license plate fee as listed in this section.

PLATE TYPE	INITIAL FEE	RENEWAL FEE	DISTRIBUTED UNDER
(1) 4-H	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(2) Amateur radio license	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
(3) Armed forces	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(4) Breast cancer awareness	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(5) Collector vehicle	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
(6) Collegiate	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.430
(7) Endangered wildlife	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(8) Fred Hutch	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(9) Gonzaga University alumni association	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(10) Helping kids speak	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(11) Horseless carriage	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
(12) Keep kids safe	\$ 45.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(13) Law enforcement memorial	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420

(14) Military affiliate radio system	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
(15) Music matters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(16) Patches pal, or alternative name as designated by the department under RCW 46.04.383	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(17) Professional firefighters and paramedics	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(18) Purple Heart	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
(19) Ride share	\$ 25.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
(20) San Juan Islands	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(21) Seattle Mariners	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(22) Seattle NHL hockey	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(23) Seattle Seahawks	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(24) Seattle Sounders FC	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(25) Seattle Storm	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(26) Seattle University	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(27) Share the road	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(28) Ski & ride Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
(29) <u>Smokey Bear</u>	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.425</u>
<u>(30)</u> Square dancer	\$ 40.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
((30)) <u>(31)</u> State flower	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
((31)) <u>(32)</u> Volunteer firefighters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
((32)) <u>(33)</u> Washington apples	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420

((33)) (34)	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
Washington farmers and ranchers			
((34)) (35)	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
Washington lighthouses			
((35)) (36)	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
Washington state aviation			
((36)) (37)	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
Washington state parks			
((37)) (38)	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
Washington state wrestling			
((38)) (39)	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
Washington tennis			
((39)) (40)	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
Washington wine			
((40)) (41)	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
Washington's fish collection			
((41)) (42)	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
Washington's national parks			
((42)) (43)	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
Washington's wildlife collection			
((43)) (44) We love our pets	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420

Washington

Sec. 2. RCW 46.18.200 and 2022 c 239 s 2 and 2022 c 117 s 2 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

(1) Special license plate series reviewed and approved by the department:

(a) May be issued in lieu of standard issue or personalized license plates for vehicles required to display one and two license plates unless otherwise specified;

(b) Must be issued under terms and conditions established by the department;

(c) Must not be issued for vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW; and

(d) Must display a symbol or artwork approved by the department.

(2) The department approves and shall issue the following special license plates, subject to subsection (5) of this section:

LICENSE PLATE

DESCRIPTION, SYMBOL, OR
ARTWORK

4-H

Displays the "4-H" logo.

Armed forces collection

Recognizes the contribution of veterans, active duty military personnel, reservists, and members of the national guard, and includes six separate designs, each containing a symbol representing a different branch of the armed forces to include army, navy, air force, marine corps, coast guard, and national guard.

Breast cancer awareness

Displays a pink ribbon symbolizing breast cancer awareness.

Endangered wildlife	Displays a symbol or artwork symbolizing endangered wildlife in Washington state.
Fred Hutch	Displays the Fred Hutch logo.
Gonzaga University alumni association	Recognizes the Gonzaga University alumni association.
Helping kids speak	Recognizes an organization that supports programs that provide no-cost speech pathology programs to children.
Keep kids safe	Recognizes efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect.
Law enforcement memorial	Honors law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line of duty.
Music matters	Displays the "Music Matters" logo.
Patches pal, or alternative name as designated by the department under RCW 46.04.383	Displays the likenesses of the J.P. Patches and Gertrude characters from the J.P. Patches show, or characters otherwise identified in accordance with RCW 46.04.383.
Professional firefighters and paramedics	Recognizes professional firefighters and paramedics who are members of the Washington state council of firefighters.
San Juan Islands	Displays a symbol or artwork recognizing the San Juan Islands.
Seattle Mariners	Displays the "Seattle Mariners" logo.

Seattle NHL hockey	Displays the logo of the Seattle NHL hockey team.
Seattle Seahawks	Displays the "Seattle Seahawks" logo.
Seattle Sounders FC	Displays the "Seattle Sounders FC" logo.
Seattle Storm	Displays the "Seattle Storm" logo.
Seattle University	Recognizes Seattle University.
Share the road	Recognizes an organization that promotes bicycle safety and awareness education.
Ski & ride Washington	Recognizes the Washington snowsports industry.
<u>Smokey Bear</u>	<u>Displays the name, image, and likeness of Smokey Bear and messages for wildfire prevention.</u>
State flower	Recognizes the Washington state flower.
Volunteer firefighters	Recognizes volunteer firefighters.
Washington apples	Displays the Washington apple logo that recognizes the state's apple industry, the growers and shippers who produce and pack the world famous apples, and the tree fruit community.
Washington farmers and ranchers	Recognizes farmers and ranchers in Washington state.
Washington lighthouses	Recognizes an organization that supports selected Washington state lighthouses and provides

	environmental education programs.
Washington state aviation	Displays a Stearman biplane in the foreground with an image of Mount Rainier in the background.
Washington state parks	Recognizes Washington state parks as premier destinations of uncommon quality that preserve significant natural, cultural, historical, and recreational resources.
Washington state wrestling	Promotes and supports college wrestling in the state of Washington.
Washington tennis	Builds awareness and year-round opportunities for tennis in Washington state. Displays a symbol or artwork recognizing tennis in Washington state.
Washington wine	Displays a landscape of Washington's wine regions.
Washington's fish collection	Recognizes Washington's fish.
Washington's national park fund	Builds awareness of Washington's national parks and supports priority park programs and projects in Washington's national parks, such as enhancing visitor experience, promoting volunteerism, engaging communities, and providing educational opportunities related to Washington's national parks.

Washington's wildlife collection	Recognizes Washington's wildlife.
We love our pets	Recognizes an organization that assists local member agencies of the federation of animal welfare and control agencies to promote and perform spay/neuter surgery on Washington state pets to reduce pet overpopulation.
Wild on Washington	Symbolizes wildlife viewing in Washington state.

(3) Applicants for initial and renewal professional firefighters and paramedics special license plates must show proof of eligibility by providing a certificate of current membership from the Washington state council of firefighters.

(4) Applicants for initial volunteer firefighters special license plates must (a) have been a volunteer firefighter for at least (~~ten~~) 10 years or be a volunteer firefighter for one or more years and (b) have documentation of service from the district of the appropriate fire service. If the volunteer firefighter leaves firefighting service before (~~ten~~) 10 years of service have been completed, the volunteer firefighter shall surrender the license plates to the department on the registration renewal date. If the volunteer firefighter stays in service for at least (~~ten~~) 10 years and then leaves, the license plate may be retained by the former volunteer firefighter and as long as the license plate is retained for use the person will continue to pay the future registration renewals. A qualifying volunteer firefighter may have no more than one set of license plates per vehicle, and a maximum of two sets per applicant, for their personal vehicles. If the volunteer firefighter is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or a felony, the license plates must be surrendered upon conviction.

(5) The department shall not issue the Seattle NHL hockey special license plate until the department receives signature sheets satisfying the requirements identified in RCW 46.18.110(2)(f).

Sec. 3. RCW 46.68.425 and 2016 c 31 s 3 and 2016 c 30 s 4 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

(1) The department shall:

(a) Collect special license plate fees established under RCW 46.17.220;

(b) Deduct an amount not to exceed (~~twelve dollars~~) \$12 for initial issue and (~~two dollars~~) \$2 for renewal issue for administration and collection expenses incurred by it; and

(c) Remit the remaining proceeds to the custody of the state treasurer with a proper identifying detailed report.

(2) The state treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the motor vehicle fund until the department determines that the state has been reimbursed for the cost of implementing the special license plate. Upon determination by the department that the state has been reimbursed, the state treasurer shall credit the remaining special license plate fees to the following accounts by special license plate type:

SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE TYPE	ACCOUNT	CONDITIONS FOR USE OF FUNDS
Armed forces	RCW 43.60A.140	As specified in RCW 43.60A.140(4)
Breast cancer awareness	RCW 43.70.327	Must be used only by the department of health for efforts consistent with the breast, cervical, and colon health program

SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE TYPE	ACCOUNT	CONDITIONS FOR USE OF FUNDS
Endangered wildlife	RCW 77.12.170	Must be used only for the department of fish and wildlife's endangered wildlife program activities
Keep kids safe	RCW 43.121.100	As specified in RCW 43.121.100
Purple Heart	RCW 43.60A.140	As specified in RCW 43.60A.140(4)
<u>Smokey Bear wildfire prevention</u>	<u>RCW 76.04.511</u>	<u>Only for the department of natural resources to use for wildfire prevention programs</u>
Washington state parks	RCW 79A.05.059	Provide public educational opportunities and enhancement of Washington state parks
Washington's fish collection	RCW 77.12.170	Only for the department of fish and wildlife's use to support steelhead species management activities including, but not limited to, activities supporting conservation, recovery, and

SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE TYPE	ACCOUNT	CONDITIONS FOR USE OF FUNDS
Washington's wildlife collection	RCW 77.12.170	research to promote healthy, fishable steelhead Only for the department of fish and wildlife's game species management activities
Wild on Washington	RCW 77.12.170	Dedicated to the department of fish and wildlife's watchable wildlife activities, as defined in RCW 77.32.560

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04 RCW to read as follows:

"Smokey Bear license plates" means special license plates issued under RCW 46.18.200 that display the name, image, and likeness of Smokey Bear promoting wildfire prevention and the state department of natural resources' wildland wildfire program.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act takes effect October 1, 2024.

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