
HOUSE BILL 1853

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Ramos, Peterson, and Paul

1 AN ACT Relating to the development and coordination of a
2 statewide don't drip and drive program; adding a new chapter to Title
3 46 RCW; making appropriations; providing an effective date; and
4 declaring an emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1)(a) The legislature finds, regarding
7 the don't drip and drive program undertaken by the department of
8 ecology between 2011 and 2017, that the program:

9 (i) Was designed to improve vehicle owners' awareness of vehicle
10 leaks and to motivate the owners of leaking vehicles to fix the
11 leaks;

12 (ii) Has achieved progress in addressing a significant source of
13 water pollution in the Puget Sound region: Vehicles that leak fluids
14 that cause significant water quality impairments;

15 (iii) Was developed in partnership with an extensive coalition of
16 municipalities and other partners in the Puget Sound region;

17 (iv) Was founded on extensive research and a well developed
18 educational campaign;

19 (v) Has been funded by a series of one-time grants; and

20 (vi) Has resulted in the reduction of the source of water
21 pollution from vehicle fluids, as well as a number of ancillary

1 benefits, including improved vehicle fuel economy for vehicle owners,
2 better air quality, the delayed need for vehicle repairs, improved
3 reliability in vehicle operation, and others;

4 (b) The legislature further finds that the results of the program
5 demonstrate benefits that could be realized: More comprehensively,
6 were the scope of the program to emphasize all benefits of proper
7 vehicle maintenance; more broadly, were the program to be expanded
8 statewide; and continuously, were the program to be funded with a
9 permanent revenue source;

10 (c) The legislature further finds that the benefits of proper
11 vehicle maintenance are more pronounced in older vehicles; and

12 (d) The legislature also recognizes the value of partnerships
13 with local governments and private sector stakeholders in ensuring
14 the development and establishment of a robust and enduring program.

15 (2) The legislature finds that an ongoing and statewide vehicle
16 maintenance improvement program to sustain and expand on the progress
17 under the don't drip and drive program is appropriate and necessary.
18 Such a program must be based on proper groundwork in the form of a
19 carefully developed implementation plan. The legislature therefore
20 intends to initiate such development by directing the stormwater
21 center at Washington State University to guide the formulation of the
22 plan, in collaboration with local partners and affected stakeholders.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The Washington stormwater center of the
24 Washington State University shall develop and coordinate a statewide
25 don't drip and drive program.

26 (1) The program's mission is to use behavior change strategies to
27 prevent stormwater pollution from leaking motor vehicles, to help
28 drivers properly maintain vehicles, and to help local jurisdictions
29 meet national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES)
30 requirements.

31 (2) The program must be based on the following principles:

32 (a) The program must utilize local partnerships. The program
33 should partner with local jurisdictions and other public, private,
34 and nonprofit businesses and organizations, including tribal and
35 regional organizations as appropriate, to promote the voluntary
36 program and assist with program implementation.

37 (b) The program should use messaging designed to motivate vehicle
38 owners to identify and repair leaks in their vehicles.

1 (c) The program should make use of incentives as needed to ensure
2 success, to the extent that funding or resources is provided for such
3 purposes.

4 (d) The program should take steps to address environmental
5 justice and equity issues, such as through outreach to low-income
6 vehicle owners, to vehicle owners who speak languages other than
7 English, and to those who may not be available to participate in the
8 program during normal business hours.

9 (3) With respect to the scope of the program:

10 (a) The program should be expanded to all areas of Washington
11 state. Any local jurisdiction should have the opportunity to
12 participate, but should not be required to do so.

13 (b) The program materials and tool kits should be available and
14 generalized enough to be adaptable to any jurisdiction.

15 (c) The program should provide technical assistance to local
16 jurisdictions to assist in developing partnerships, offering
17 workshops, and promoting the program.

18 (d) The program should provide for: Adequate marketing and
19 advertising; public events and workshops; and partnerships with
20 commercial and nonprofit organizations.

21 (e) The program should include outreach to businesses and owners
22 of fleet vehicles.

23 (f) The program should utilize an array of media types with
24 accessible communications and various languages.

25 (g) The program should account for differences in regional needs
26 and not employ a one size-fits-all approach.

27 (4) In administering the program, the stormwater center may
28 leverage expertise by contracting with nonprofit or for profit trade
29 associations of vehicle repair professionals. The stormwater center
30 should work closely with a statewide steering committee with
31 representatives of: The departments of commerce, ecology, and
32 transportation; local governments holding municipal stormwater
33 permits; local governments that have previously provided oversight
34 for the don't drip and drive program funded at the department of
35 ecology; environmental and environmental justice stakeholders; trade
36 schools and community colleges; and other regional partnerships, with
37 neighboring states or British Columbia, as appropriate.

38 (5) The program should be designed with goals and objectives and
39 include performance measures to track progress. The program should
40 include regular reporting to the governor and legislature.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1)(a) The sum of three hundred thousand
2 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
3 the fiscal biennium ending June 30, 2021, from the motor vehicle fund
4 to Washington State University for the purposes of developing a plan
5 for the implementation of a statewide don't drip and drive program.
6 The plan should be based on the provisions in section 2 of this act
7 and should include a detailed budget proposal.

8 (b) By September 1, 2020, the university shall submit a copy of
9 the plan to the governor and the appropriate standing committees of
10 the legislature.

11 (2) The sum of three hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof
12 as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal biennium ending
13 June 30, 2021, from the motor vehicle fund to the department of
14 commerce for grants to extend the existing don't drip and drive
15 program through June 30, 2021.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act constitute a
17 new chapter in Title 46 RCW.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
19 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
20 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
21 effect July 1, 2019.

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