
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5944

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senate Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senator Becker)

1 AN ACT Relating to negligent entrustment by rental car agencies;
2 and amending RCW 46.20.220.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.20.220 and 2010 c 8 s 9020 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to rent a motor vehicle
7 of any kind including a motorcycle to any other person unless the
8 latter person is then duly licensed as a vehicle driver for the kind
9 of motor vehicle being rented in this state or, in case of a
10 nonresident, then that he or she is duly licensed as a driver under
11 the laws of the state or country of his or her residence except a
12 nonresident whose home state or country does not require that a motor
13 vehicle driver be licensed((+)).

14 (2) It shall be unlawful for any person to rent a motor vehicle
15 to another person until he or she has: (a) Inspected the vehicle
16 driver's license of such other person and compared and verified the
17 signature thereon with the signature of such other person written in
18 his or her presence; (b) compared and verified the identity of such
19 other person to a photo on the driver's license; or (c) compared and
20 verified the identity of such other person as indicated on the

1 driver's license using other photo identification in combination with
2 credit or debit card information.

3 (3) Every person renting a motor vehicle to another person shall
4 keep a record of the (~~vehicle~~) license plate number of the motor
5 vehicle so rented, the name and address of the person to whom the
6 motor vehicle is rented, the number of the vehicle driver's license
7 of the person renting the vehicle and the date and place when and
8 where such vehicle driver's license was issued. Such record shall be
9 open to inspection by any police officer or anyone acting for the
10 director.

11 (4) Any person who rents a motor vehicle to another person and
12 does not comply with the requirements of this section may be held
13 liable for negligent entrustment. However, this subsection must not
14 be construed to require any person renting a motor vehicle to confirm
15 the: (a) Validity of the driver's license of the person renting the
16 motor vehicle beyond confirming that the driver's license is facially
17 valid and the signature on the driver's license matches the signature
18 of the person renting the vehicle; (b) identity of the person renting
19 to a photo on the driver's license; or (c) identity of the person
20 renting as indicated on the driver's license by other photo
21 identification in combination with credit or debit card information.

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