

**FORMATTING NOTE:**

In initiatives, legislative bills and other proposed measures, language that is to be deleted from current statutes is represented by a "strikethrough" character and language that is to be added is underlined. Because these special characters cannot be formatted in all Internet browsers, a different set of symbols is used for presenting these proposals on-line. The symbols are as follows:

- Text that is surrounded by (({- text here -})) is text that will be DELETED FROM the existing statute if the proposed measure is approved.
- Text that is surrounded by {+ text here +} is text that will be ADDED TO the existing statute if the proposed measure is approved.
- {+ NEW SECTION+} (found at the beginning of a section or paragraph) indicates that ALL of the text in that section will become law if the proposed measure is approved.

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**INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 682**

LEAGUE OF WASHINGTON TAXPAYERS (LWT)

INITIATIVE TO THE PEOPLE

"VEHICLE EXCISE TAX REVISION AND REDUCTION"

{+ Proposed Ballot Title: +}

" Shall the current methods of determining the excise tax, and resulting registration costs for vehicles be revised and reduced?"

{+ Summary Statement: +} This Initiative revises and reduces the annual excise tax laws of Washington State for registration and licensing costs for all personal and business vehicles. It shall replace the current three-part formula for computing the tax. This shall eliminate the Value Code, Depreciation Factor and Tax Rate. All vehicles regardless of year, shall require the same license fee. All vehicles shall be licensed for a two year period. Effective date, January 1, 1998.

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

{+ NEW SECTION +}. Sec.1. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

(1) All existing tax schedules and rates for all vehicles, whether for personal or business use, are voided and replaced with a new and revised tax schedule. This includes the three-part formula used to compute the excise tax, consisting of the value code, the depreciation factor, and the tax rate, that are likewise voided.

(2) The new registration and licensing cost schedule becomes effective January 1, 1998.

(3) All vehicles, regardless of year, make, or model qualify for the same licensing fee applicable in their respective assigned categories.

(4) Vehicles must be registered for two-year periods with the exception of heavy motor vehicles and buses, which are designated as category one vehicles. These vehicles may be licensed for a one-year, three-fourths year, one-half year, or one-fourth year period if the registered owner provides documentation of the time frame for which licensing is being applied. Otherwise the owner of a category one vehicle applying for an annual license must pay the two-year registration fee. Registration fees for category one are determined by vehicle weight in pounds, starting at eight thousand pounds and increasing by two thousand pound increments up to one hundred five thousand five hundred pounds. The basic registration fee of one hundred ten dollars applies to all category one vehicles between eight thousand and ten thousand pounds, and as the vehicle weight increases by two thousand pounds the registration fee increases by fifteen dollars. The three-fourths year fee is reduced by twenty-five percent, the one-half year fee by fifty percent, and the one-fourth fee by seventy-five percent. A two dollar and fifty cent plate fee applies to all category one vehicles that are licensed in the state of Washington.

(5) Campers and trailers are designated as category two vehicles and must be licensed for a required two-year period. Registration fees start at fifty-four dollars for category two vehicles between six and ten feet long. Units longer than ten feet, in category two shall pay four dollars and fifty cents, per foot, registration fees. This formula is for all category two vehicles up to and including sixty-five feet long. A one dollar and fifty cent plate fee must be paid for category two vehicles not having a registration plate.

Travel trailers that extend extend for travel will be measured in the extended position. Trailers that fold for travel will be measured in the folded position, ready for travel.

(6) motor homes are designated as category three vehicles and must pay a basic fifty-four dollar registration fee for a motor home up to and including eleven feet long. A motor home more than eleven feet long shall pay six dollars per foot registration fee. If trip permits are issued for motor homes that are used for trips of a seven-day duration, the permits are available at a twenty-dollar per trip permit fee. If a trip designation is not chosen, all motor home registrations are for a two year period.

(7) All other vehicle types listed as follows are category four vehicles, and the registration fees, including plate fees, are:

{+ VEHICLE TYPE +}	{+ ANNUAL REISTRATION FEE
+}	
Passenger cars and pick ups. . . . .	\$35.00
Motocycles . . . . .	\$10.00
Light trailers (98000 pounds or less, loaded) . . . . .	\$33.00
Snowmobiles, off-road vehicles. . . . .	\$10.00

The minimum licensing period is for two years, and ownership papers, including the vehicle title, must be presented at the time the vehicle is to be registered and the fee paid. The fee for reissuance of a title shall not exceed ten dollars.

(8) The clean air flat tax shall remain at the current rate as of January 1, 1998, and shall not be increased.

(9) All vehicle registration moneys collected by the department of licensing shall be disbursed in the following manner: seventy-eight percent to the motor vehicle fund for highway maintenance and construction, fourteen percent to the general fund, and eight percent to the criminal justice fund.

(10) The department of licensing shall publish and make available fee schedules for all vehicle categories, one through four.

(11) The department of licensing shall adopt rules to implement this section.

Sec. 2. RCW 46.09.070 and 1986 c 206 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Application for annual or temporary ORV use permits shall be made to the department or its authorized agent in such a manner and upon such forms as the department shall prescribe and shall state the name and address of each owner of the off-road vehicle.

(2) An application for an annual permit shall be signed by at least one owner, and shall be accompanied by {+ the +} fee {+ prescribed by section 1(7) of this act +}. Upon receipt of the annual permit application and the application fee, the off-road vehicle shall be assigned a use permit number tag or decal, which shall be affixed to the off-road vehicle in a manner prescribed by the department. The annual permit is valid for a period of one year and is renewable each year in such manner as the department may prescribe for the additional period of one year upon payment of a renewal fee {+ prescribed by section 1(7) of this act +}.

Any person acquiring an off-road vehicle for which an annual permit has been issued who desires to continue to use the permit must, within fifteen days of the acquisition of the off-road vehicle, make application to the department or its authorized agent for transfer of the permit, and the application shall be accompanied by a transfer fee of one dollar.

(3) A temporary use permit is valid for sixty days. Application for a temporary permit shall be accompanied by a fee of two dollars. The permit shall be carried on the vehicle at all times during its operation in the state.

(4) Except as provided in RCW 46.09.050, any out-of-state operator of an off-road vehicle shall, when operating in this state, comply with this chapter, and if an ORV use permit is required under this chapter, the operator shall obtain an annual or temporary permit and tag.

Sec. 3. RCW 46.10.040 and 1996 c 164 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

Application for registration shall be made to the department in the manner and upon forms the department prescribes, and shall state the name and address of each owner of the snowmobile to be registered, and shall be signed by at least one such owner, and shall be accompanied by {+ the +} annual registration fee prescribed under section 1(7) of this act. Upon receipt of the application and the application fee, the snowmobile shall be registered and a

registration number assigned, which shall be affixed to the snowmobile in a manner provided in RCW 46.10.070.

Any person acquiring a snowmobile already validly registered under the provisions of this chapter must, within ten days of the acquisition or purchase of snowmobile, make application to the department for transfer of the registration, and the application shall be accompanied by a transfer fee of one dollar.

A snowmobile owned by a resident of another state or Canadian province where registration is not required by the law may be issued a nonresident registration permit valid for not more than sixty days. Application for the permit shall state the name and address of each owner of the snowmobile to be registered and shall be signed by at least one owner and shall be accompanied by a registration fee of five dollars. The registration permit shall be carried on the vehicle at all times during operation in this state.

The registration fees provided in this section shall be in lieu of any personal property or excise tax heretofore imposed on snowmobiles by this state or any political subdivision thereof, and no city, county, or other municipality, and no state agency shall hereafter impose any other registration or license fee on any snowmobile in this state.

The department shall make available a pair of uniform decals consistent with the provisions of RCW 46.10.070. In addition to the registration fee provided in this section the department shall charge each applicant for registration the actual cost of the decal. The department shall make available replacement decals for a fee equivalent to the actual cost of the decals.

Sec.4. RCW 46.10.075 and 1991 sp.s. c 13 s 9 are each amended to read as follows:

There is created a snowmobile account within the state treasury. Monetary civil penalties from snowmobile dealers and snowmobile fuel tax moneys collected under this chapter and in excess of the amounts fixed for the administration of the registration and fuel tax provisions of this chapter shall be deposited in the snowmobile account and shall be appropriated only to the state parks and recreation commission for the administration and coordination of this chapter.

Sec.5. RCW 46.10.080 and 1982 c 17 s 7 are each amended to read as follows:

The moneys collected by the department as monetary civil penalties from snowmobile dealers and fuel tax moneys placed in the snowmobile account shall be distributed in the following manner:

- (1) Actual expenses not to exceed three percent for each year shall be retained by the department to cover expenses incurred in the administration of the fuel tax provisions of this chapter.
- (2) The remainder of such funds each year shall be remitted to the state treasurer to be deposited in the snowmobile account of the general fund and shall be appropriated only to the commission to be expended for snowmobile purposes. Such purposes may be limited to but not necessarily be limited to the administration, acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of snowmobile facilities and

development and implementation of snowmobile safety, enforcement, and education programs.

(3) Nothing in this section is intended to discourage any public agency in this state from developing and implementing snowmobile programs, provided that the programs are not inconsistent with the rules adopted by the commission.

NEW SECTION. Sec.6. No terms, conditions or requirements of this act may be revised or altered without a vote of the people at a general election, and any changes must be approved by a sixty-percent majority of all ballots cast.

{+ NEW SECTION. +} Sec.7 The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:

- (1) RCW 46.09.110 and 1986 c 206 s 6, 1985 c 57 s 60, 1977 ex.s.c 220 s 9, 1972 ex.s. c 153 s 11, & 1971 ex.s. c 47 s 16;
- (2) RCW 46.16.060 and 1992 c 216 s 4, 1987 1st ex.s. c 9 s 3, 1985 c 380 s 13, 1981 c 342 s 8, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 3, 1969 ex.s. c 170 s 3, 1969 c 99 s 5, 1965 c 25 s 1, 1961 ex.s. c 7 s 9, & 1966 c 12 s 46.16.060;
- (3) RCW 46.16.061 and 1985 c 380 s 14, 1984 c 7 s 49, & 1963 ex.s. c 3 s 40;
- (4) RCW 46.16.063 and 1996 c 237 s 1 & 1980 c 60 s 2;
- (5) RCW 46.16.065 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 4, 1961 ex.s. c 7 s 10 & 1961 c 12 s 46.16.065;
- (6) RCW 46.16. 068 and 1993 c 123 s 4;
- (7) RCW 46.16.070 and 1994 c 262 s 8 & 1993 sp.s. c 23 s 60;
- (8) RCW 46.16.071 and 1996 c 315 s 4;
- (9) RCW 46.16.079 and 1986 c 18 s 5, 1975 c 25 s 16, & 1963 c 18 s 1;
- (10) RCW 46.16.085 and 1991 c 163 s 3, 1989 c 156 s 2, 1987 c 244 s 4, 1986 c 18 s 8, & 1985 c 380 s 16;
- (11) RCW 46.16.090 and 1989 c 156 s 3 & 1986 c 18 s 10;
- (12) RCW 46.16.135 and 1986 c 18 s 12, 1985 c 380 s 19, 1979 ex.s.c 136 s 46, 1979 c 134 s 1, 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 s 3, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 6, 1969 ex.s. c 170 s 7, & 1961 c 12 s 46.16.135;
- (13) RCW 46.16.505 and 1975 1st ex.s, c 118 s 11, 1975 c 41 s 1, & 1971 ex.s. c 231 s 7;
- (14) RCW 82.44.010 and 1990 c 42 s 301, 1979 c 107 s 10, 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 54, 1967 c 121 s 4, 1963 c 199 s 1, & 1961 c 15 s 82.44.010;
- (15) RCW 82.44.015 and 1996 c 244 s 7, 1993 c 488 s 3, 1982 c 142 s 1, & 1980 c 166 s 3;
- (16) RCW 82.44.020 and 1993 sp.s. c 23 s 61, 1993 c 123 s 2, 1991 c 199 s 220, 1990 c 42 s 302, & 1988 c 191 s 1;

- (17) RCW 82.44.023 and 1994 c 227 s 3 & 1992 c 194 s 8;
- (18) RCW 82.44.025 and 1996 c 139 s 3;
- (19) RCW 82.44.030 and 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 51 & 1961 c 15 s 82.44.030;
- (20) RCW 82.44.041 and 1990 c 42 s 303;
- (21) RCW 82.44.060 2nd 1990 c 42 s 304, 1981 c 222 s 12, 1979 c 158 s 233 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 54 s 2, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 14, 1963 c 199 s 4, & 1961 s 15 s 82.44.060;
- (22) RCW 82.44.065 and 1990 c 42 s 305;
- (23) RCW 82.44.080 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.080;
- (24) RCW 82.44.090 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.090;
- (25) RCW 82.44.1000 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.100;
- (26) RCW 82.44.110 and 1995 1st sp.s. c 15 s 2 & 1995 c 398 s 14;
- (27) RCW 82.44.120 and 1993 c 307 s 3, 1990 c 42 s 307, 1989 c 68 s 2, 1983 c 26 s 3 1979 c 120 s 2, 1975 1st wx.s. c 278 s 95, 1974 ex.s. c 54 s 4, 1967 c 121 s 2, 1963 c 199 s 5, & 1961 c 15 s 82.44.120;
- (28) RCW 82.40 130 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44 130;
- (29) RCW 82.40.140 and 1979 c 158 s 237, 1967 c 121 s 3, & 1961 c 15 s 82.44.140;
- (30) 82.44.150 and 1995 2nd sp.s. c 14 s 538, 1994 c 241 s 1, & 1993 c 491 s 2;
- (31) RCW 82.44.155 and 1993 c 492 s 254, 1991 c 199 s 223, & 1990 c 42 s 309;
- (32) RCW 82.44.157 and 1994 c 266 s 14;
- (33) RCW 82.44.160 and 1995 c 28 s 1;
- (34) RCW 82.44.170 and 1990 c 42 s 311, 1987 c 244 s 56, & 1985 c 380 s 22;
- (35) RCW 82.44.180 and 1995 c 269 s 2601;
- (36) RCW 82.50.010 and 1989 c 337 s 20, 1979 c 107 s 11, 1977 ex.s. c 22 s 6, 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 35, 1967 ex.s. c 149 s 44, & 1961 c 15 s 82.59.010;
- (37) RCW 82.50.060 and 1961 c 15 s 82.50.060;
- (38) RCW 82.50.090 and 1961 c 15 s 82.50.090;
- (39) RCW 82.5..170 and 1992 c 154 s 6;

- (40) RCW 82.50.250 and 1967 ex.s. c 149 s 59;
- (41) RCW 82.50.400 and 1993 c 238 s 7, 1992 c 154 s 5, 1990 c 42 s 320, 1979 c 123 s 1, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 15, & 1971 ex.s. 229 s 55;
- (42) RCW 82.50.405 and 1991 c 199 s 226;
- (43) RCW 82.50.410 and 1991 c 199 s 225, 1990 c 42 s 321, 1979 c 123 s 2, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 16, 1972 ex.s. 144 s 2, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 56;
- (44) 82.50.425 and 1990 c 42 s 323;
- (45) RCW 82.50.435 and 1990 c 42 s 324;
- (46) RCW 82.50.440 and 1979 c 158 s 242, 1975 1st ex.s. c 9 s 2, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 59;
- (47) RCW 82.50.460 and 1979 c 123 s 3, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 17, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 61;
- (48) RCW 82.50.510 and 1991 c 199 s 227, 1990 c 42 s 322, 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 75 s 1, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 66;
- (49) RCW 82.50.520 and 1983 c 26 s 4, 1979 c 123 s 4, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 67;
- (50) 82.50 530 and 1993 c 32 s 1, 1981 c 304 s 32, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 68;
- (51) RCW 82.50.540 and 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 69; and
- (52) RCW 82.50.901 and 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 53.

{+ NEW SECTION +}. Sec 8, If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

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LEAGUE OF WASHINGTON TAXPAYERS (LWT)  
INITIATIVE TO THE PEOPLE  
"VEHICLE EXCISE TAX REVISION AND REDUCTION "

AN ACT Relating to vehicle registration and taxation; amending RCW 46.09.070, 46.10.040, 46.10.075, and 46.10.080; adding a new section to chapter 46.16 RCW; creating a new section; and repealing RCW 46.09.110, 46.16.060, 46.16.061, 46.16.063, 46.16.065, 46.16.068, 46.16.070, 46.16.071, 46.16.079, 46.16.085, 46.16.090, 46.16.135, 46.16.505, 82.44.010, 82.44.015, 82.44.020, 82.44.023, 82.44.025, 82.44.030, 82.44.041, 82.44.060, 82.44.065, 82.44.080, 82.44.090, 82.44.100, 82.44.110, 82.44.120, 82.44.130, 82.44.140, 82.44.150, 82.44.155, 82.44.157, 82.44.160, 82.44.170, 82.44.180, 82.50.010, 82.50.060, 82.50.090, 82.50.170, 82.50.250, 82.50.400, 82.50.405, 82.50.410, 82.50.425, 82.50.435, 82.50.440, 82.50.460, 82.50.510, 82.50.520, 82.50.530, 82.50.540, and 82.50.901.