

Allow Oregonians to recreate in Washington

WOHVA understands frustration dealerships have with losing business because some residents buy and register their vehicles in Oregon. However, this proposed bill doesn't help with compliance and makes life harder for their customers, our neighbors, and ORV users in Washington.

Removing Reciprocity will not increase sales tax compliance

- Leglistaton cannot stop residents from buying out of state
- Enforcing sales tax law for ORVs is only effective on public land
- DNR would have to stop an ORV, establish that it doesn't have a Washington registration, that the operator is the owner of the ORV and that the owner is a Washington resident.
- DNR Policy allows for any non-resident ORV tag regardless of state law
- We'd see more, not less Oregon ORV stickers since 30% of Washington residents visit Oregon ORV trails. This would make DNR's job even more difficult, trying to sift through who has a registration and who doesn't.

The end result is that violators could only be caught during an emphasis patrol/trailhead checkpoint. And since DNR owns millions of acres and thousands of miles of roads, only a small percentage of violators would be caught.

Non-Resident registration is very difficult

If passed, an Oregon resident would have to jump through many hoops to recreate legally in this state:

1. You must visit the county auditor or subagent, none are open sundays, and usually 9am-5pm
2. The temporary permit is only valid for 60 days and is \$15.75
3. There is no annual pass
4. Operating without a valid pass is a traffic infraction

There is no way to get a temporary permit online, you would have to drive into Washington once every 2 months to get a new pass, and wait in line. Most Oregon residents would just stop using ORVs in Washington.

Removing Reciprocity would cause serious harm to WA tourism and volunteerism

- Thousands of hours are spent from Oregon residents on DNR ORV Trail projects
- Oregon residents would be subject to a moving violation if they don't have a temporary pass. DNR would have to stop all Oregon residents to check validity of the paper permit.
- Oregon's ORV tourism study estimates 30% of total visits are from Washington residents. The Washington SCORP estimates 2.2 Billion dollars is spent in the state. If the majority of Oregon residents cannot legally recreate in Washington and we lose even 5% of visits, that's equivalent to 114 Million dollars.

Laws already exist to enforce sales tax avoidance

The department of Revenue already has laws that require sales or use tax to be paid on out-of-state purchases. In 2017, the legislature passed SB-5338 which added a warranty provision to get a list of potential tax evaders as well as RCW 46.09.495 which made it clear that residents must register ORVs. RCW 46.09.420 makes it clear the reciprocity exemption to registration is only for out-of-state residents.

What can I do?

Please contact your [Representative or Senator](#) and urge them to drop sponsorship of this bill! It's also helpful to use both links to comment on each bill. Links to each below:

Contact: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/>

Provide Comment on HB-2723: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/bill/2723>

Provide Comment on SB-6115: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/bill/6115>