

the day and date thereof. If he allow the claim, it shall be presented to the judge of the court, who shall in the same manner indorse on it his allowance or rejection, or he may by order allow or reject the claim. If the executor or administrator reject the claim in whole or in part, he shall notify the claimant forthwith of said rejection and file in the office of the clerk an affidavit showing such notification and the date thereof. Such notification shall be by personal service or registered mail.

Claims against estate—Failure to act.

If the executor or administrator shall neglect for the period of sixty days after service upon him or his attorney to act upon any such claim, the claimant may take the matter up before the court and the court may require the executor or administrator to act on such claim and in its discretion may impose costs and attorney's fees.

Passed the House February 28, 1963.

Passed the Senate March 11, 1963.

Approved by the Governor March 19, 1963.

CHAPTER 44.

[H. B. 195.]

MOTOR VEHICLES—STOLEN AND ABANDONED VEHICLES.

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; and amending section 46.52-.110, chapter 12, Laws of 1961, and RCW 46.52.110.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

RCW 46.52.110 amended.

SECTION 1. Section 46.52.110, chapter 12, Laws of 1961, and RCW 46.52.110 are each amended to read as follows:

Stolen and abandoned vehicles. Reports of.

It shall be the duty of the sheriff of every county, the chief of police or chief police officer of every incorporated city and town of this state, constables and members of the Washington state patrol to re-

port immediately to the chief of the Washington state patrol all motor vehicles reported to them as stolen or recovered, upon forms to be provided by the chief of the Washington state patrol.

In the event that any motor vehicle reported as stolen has been recovered, the person so reporting the same as stolen shall be guilty of a misdemeanor unless he shall report the recovery thereof to the sheriff, chief of police, or other chief police officer to whom such motor vehicle was reported as stolen.

Upon receipt of such information the chief of the Washington state patrol shall file the same in a "stolen vehicle index." He shall also file any reports of vehicles stolen in other states and reported to him as such. It shall be the duty of the chief of the Washington state patrol to keep a file record of all vehicles reported to him as recovered.

The chief of the Washington state patrol shall publish at least once a month a list of all vehicles reported as stolen and not reported as having been recovered and all abandoned vehicles and forward a copy of such list to every sheriff in this state, the chief of police or chief police officer of every incorporated city and town with a population in excess of three thousand inhabitants, each member of the Washington state patrol and the cognizant state officer of each state in the United States.

Such information shall be provided by the chief of the Washington state patrol for the use of the director of licenses as will permit the director of licenses to check the motor or serial number set forth in any application for certificate of ownership or certificate of license registration against such "stolen vehicle index" and no such certificates shall be issued upon any vehicle recorded as stolen and the director of licenses shall immediately inform the chief of the Washington state patrol of any application upon any such vehicle.

Stolen and
abandoned
vehicles.
Reports of—
Notice—Sale
—Violations,
penalties.

It shall be the duty of the sheriff of every county, the chief of police or chief police officer of each incorporated city and town, members of the Washington state patrol and constables to report to the chief of the Washington state patrol all vehicles found abandoned on a public highway or at any other place and the same shall be taken into the custody of the sheriff of the county wherein found abandoned and stored and the same shall, for the purposes of listing the same, be considered as a recovered vehicle. Personal notice that such vehicle has been found abandoned shall be forwarded to the registered and legal owners of such vehicle if any record of registered or legal owner thereof exists in this state. In the event there appears to be a registered or legal ownership thereof in another state the sheriff shall send notice thereof to the official having cognizance of issuing legal or registered ownerships in such other state. If, at the expiration of twenty days from the date of mailing such notices by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested, the vehicle remains unclaimed and has not been reported as a stolen vehicle, then the same may be sold at public auction either at the site of the vehicle or at the court house door upon notice published in one issue of a paper of general circulation in the county in which such vehicle has been found abandoned, such publication to describe the vehicle and set forth the place, date and time at which such vehicle shall be put up for public auction, which date shall be not sooner than three days following the date of such publication. Any surplus accruing at said sale after deducting the cost of placing the vehicle in custody, advertising and selling the same, shall be held for the owner a period of ten days and if not claimed by the expiration thereof shall be certified one-half to the county treasurer of such county to be placed in the county

current expense fund and one-half to the state treasurer to be credited to the highway safety fund.

If no bids are received at said sale the sheriff shall deliver the vehicle to the garage operators who may be entitled to reimbursement for towing and storing the vehicle. In this event such garage operators may dispose of all or any part of the vehicle as they may determine.

Any vehicle left in a garage for storage more than fifteen days where the same has not been left by the registered owner under a contract of storage and has not during such period been removed by the person leaving the same shall be an abandoned vehicle and shall be delivered to the sheriff of the county with notice of such fact. Any garage keeper failing to report such fact to the sheriff and tender delivery to him of such vehicle at the end of fifteen days shall thereby forfeit any claims for the storage of such vehicle. All such vehicles considered abandoned by being left in a garage shall be disposed of in accordance with the procedure prescribed above for abandoned vehicles.

Except for the forfeiture of claim for storage as set forth herein for failure to report vehicle left in excess of fifteen days, nothing in this section shall be construed to impair any lien for storage accruing to a garage keeper under other law of this state.

Passed the House February 19, 1963.

Passed the Senate March 11, 1963.

Approved by the Governor March 19, 1963.