

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 8 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Clem, Dallum, Greenlick, Komp, Krummel, Lim, Whisnant, Buckley

Nays: 0

Exc.: Roblan

Prepared By: Derrick Olsen, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 01/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Instructs Department of Transportation to inform Department of Education of suspension, cancellation, or revocation of driving privileges of person with school bus endorsement on his/her driver's license.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Department of Education/DMV rulemaking on issue
- Due process for bus drivers with suspended driver's licenses
- Department of Education/school district liability for school bus drivers without valid licenses
- Department of Education notification to local school districts of action taken against school bus drivers

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: This bill was pre-session filed at the request of Superintendent of Public Instruction Susan Castillo for the Department of Education. Currently, individual school districts can inform the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) when an employee with a school bus "S" endorsement begins working for them, and then the DMV places an "employer stop" on the individual's record. If a driver has an "employer stop" on their record, DMV will notify the school district any time the driver gets a conviction, or a suspension or revocation of the driver's license. School districts who do not take the initiative to contact the DMV do not receive any information from the DMV. Under the current system, the DMV does not notify the Department of Education, which issues mandatory school bus certificates for school bus drivers, of adverse action against any person with an "S" endorsement."

This bill is designed to ensure that all school bus drivers are subject to a notification system by requiring the DMV to track all drivers with school bus endorsements and inform the Department of Education of any adverse actions against any person with an "S" endorsement. Upon receiving notification of adverse action from the DMV, the Department of Education can suspend or revoke a school bus certificate and then inform the individual school district of that action.

The Department of Transportation does not object to this bill, and the DMV and the Department of Education will work together on implementation if this bill is approved.