

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass and Be Placed on the Consent Calendar
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Berger, Edwards C., Garrard, Gelser, Jenson, Nolan, Read, Roblan
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Jerry Watson, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/2, 3/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Changes list of documents in ORS 194.515 upon which notary may rely in identifying person by adding a current driver license or current identify card issued by any state, a current U.S. passport or current officially recognized passport of a foreign country, a current U.S. military identification card, or a current identity card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe. Deletes use of documents containing only the person's signature, including use of financial institution signature card.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Amendment to incorporate new Passport Card issued by U.S. government
- Use of "current" or "valid" in statutory description of identification documents

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Under current law, acceptable identification documents that a notary public may accept when identifying a signer require the person's photograph, signature and physical description. Proponents assert that the existing statute, ORS 194.515, has not kept pace with new forms of identification that may create a higher assurance of a person's identity, although not providing the required physical description or signature. Proponents further assert that Oregon notaries are not currently able to accept many U.S. military identification cards or recent passports issued by the United States government as proof of a person's identity, without also requiring the person to present some other form of identification.

The proposal adds four types of documents as sufficient alone to identify a person: 1) a current driver license or current identify card issued by any state; 2) a current U.S. passport or current officially recognized passport of a foreign country; 3) a current U.S. military identification card; or 4) a current identity card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe. The proposal deletes use of documents containing only the person's signature, including use of a financial institution signature card. In the case of a notary who is also an employee of a financial institution, one of the two current documents otherwise required could be a signature card signed by the customer of the financial institution and held by the financial institution.

Proponents indicated that The Oregon Bankers Association recommended the bill be amended to include the new Passport Card issued by the United States government as an acceptable form of identification. Proponents expressed support for that recommendation and indicated that the bill could be amended in the Senate.