



April 2, 2013

Re: Senate Bill 833 – Short Term Driver License

Dear State Senator or Representative:

The Oregon Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) is comprised of over 190 attorneys practicing in Oregon and other states. AILA Oregon supports a bill that directs the Oregon Department of Transportation to issue short term driver licenses to applicants who are unable to provide proof of legal presence in the United States but have otherwise complied with all requirements for a license, and have resided in Oregon for more than one year. This bill is the result of Governor Kitzhaber's Task Force, working for the last two years, in consultation with the DMV, GOP and Democratic leaders, and stakeholders including representatives from law enforcement, business, the insurance industry, faith communities, farm labor and immigration advocates.

SB 833 is a public safety measure designed to improve traffic safety and reduce the number of unlicensed, uninsured drivers on Oregon's roads. Oregonians need to drive to go to work, church, the store and school, and should do so legally. SB 833 is a common-sense measure that will require applicants to prove their identity, date of birth, prove they can drive, and prove they have auto insurance just like other Oregonians.

AILA attorneys recognize a genuine need for a short-term driver's license for anyone who cannot provide the proper documentation for a standard driver license (including undocumented immigrants, U.S. citizens born overseas, adoptees, the elderly, the homeless, and others). Proof of identity, proof of residency in Oregon, and submission of the applicant's photo to the DMV facial recognition database will prevent identity fraud and deter people from other states from attempting to get a driver license in Oregon. The short-term license will not serve as an ID to purchase a firearm or obtain a concealed handgun permit, and will not affect a person's eligibility status for state or federal benefits. It is not intended for the purpose of boarding a plane, buying a gun, entering a federal building, voting or obtaining other state or federal benefits. Rather, the Short-term Driver License is for the purpose of driving only.

We ask that you support SB 833. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Marandas". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

John J. Marandas
Chair, AILA Oregon