

**REVENUE: Minimal revenue impact, no statement issued**

**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

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**Action:** Do Pass  
**Vote:** 5 - 0 - 1  
**Yeas:** Edwards, Girod, Monroe, Thomsen, Beyer  
**Nays:** 0  
**Exc.:** Starr  
**Prepared By:** Patrick Brennan, Administrator  
**Meeting Dates:** 4/23, 5/9

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Exempts persons who are from countries with compact of free association with United States from needing to annually renew driver license.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Information on nations within the Compact of Free Association
- Impact of Senate Bill 1080 (2008) on licensure requirements
- Hardships faced by persons unable to acquire regular driver licenses

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** A Compact of Free Association (COFA) defines the relationship between the United States and three sovereign states: the Federated States of Micronesia; the Republic of the Marshall Islands; and the Republic of Palau. The Legislative Assembly instituted restrictions in 2008 (Senate Bill 1080) prohibiting persons who are not legally present within the United States from obtaining a driver license. Exceptions to the prohibition were made for legal immigrants and citizens of U.S. territories; however, COFA nations were inadvertently excluded from the exceptions. House Bill 2517 extends the exception to residents of COFA nations.