

HB 4111 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Transportation Policy

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/5, 2/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Clarifies fees required to obtain a Real ID-compliant driver license for applicants seeking an original driver license, a replacement driver license, or renewal of an existing license to a Real-ID compliant license.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: Minimal revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Reducing cost for applicants who still have years left on existing license

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division (DMV) of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is the state entity responsible for issuing licenses and permits that authorize the holder to lawfully operate motor vehicles on the state's public roads and highways. The agency issues approximately 177,000 new driver licenses annually, in addition to issuing renewals for an additional 335,000 licenses each year.

The federal Real ID Act of 2005 prescribed minimum standards for state-issued driver licenses and identification cards in order for those documents to be acceptable identification for federal purposes, such as boarding airplanes and entering federal buildings. The law is administered by the federal Department of Homeland Security. The Legislative Assembly began the process of compliance with the Real ID Act with passage of Senate Bill 1080 (2008), which required persons applying for driver licenses or ID cards to provide proof of citizenship or legal presence. However, subsequent legislation (Senate Bill 536, 2009) prohibited DMV from further implementation of the Real ID Act unless federal funds are provided to cover the cost of implementation. Oregon is currently under a federal extension from the law's requirements, which is expected to allow Oregon-issued licenses and ID cards to be used through October of 2020.

Senate Bill 374 (2017) created a separate class of driver license, referred to as a "Real ID," that meets the full requirements of the federal Real ID Act. This process involves verifying identification documents, such as birth certificates and Social Security cards, and digitally scanning and storing these documents. That measure specified that the cost of implementing the Real ID card would be borne by the applicants. House Bill 4111 provides additional clarity regarding the fees to be paid for a Real ID at initial issuance, as well as when an existing driver license is replaced with or renewed as a Real ID.