

HB 2015 -5, -6 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

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Meeting Dates: 4/17, 5/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes the Department of Transportation to issue, renew, or replace a noncommercial driver license, noncommercial river permit, or identification card without proof of legal presence. Declares emergency.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Background on implementation of Real ID Act
- Impact of not being able to legally drive
- Examples of inability of U.S. citizens to attain driver license for lack of required documents
- Senate Bill 833 (2013) rejected by voters (Ballot Measure 88)
- Sovereignty of United States
- Examples of crimes committed by undocumented individuals

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-5 Removes requirement to provide written statement that person has not been issued Social Security number. Requires applicant to provide Social Security number, rather than proof of Social Security number. Adds references to limited term commercial driver license that is not a Real ID. Adds section requiring Department of Transportation to conduct outreach program to educate license and permit applicants regarding provisions of measure; repeals provisions related to outreach program on January 2, 2023. Authorizes Department of Transportation to develop and require the availability or use of, by rule, any form or application the Department determines is necessary to ensure compliance with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

-6 Removes emergency clause and refers measure to voters at the next statewide primary election.

BACKGROUND:

In 2008, Senate Bill 1080 required applications for driver licenses, driving permits and identification cards issued by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) must provide proof of United States citizenship or lawful presence and a Social Security number. Senate Bill 833 (2013) authorized ODOT to issue driver licenses, permit and identification cards without proof of lawful presence in the United States. Measure 88 (2014) suspended the law allowing driving privileges for those who can't provide legal proof of presence in the United States. There are currently 12 states and the District of Columbia that issue driver's licenses to those who are unable to provide proof of lawful presence in the United States.

House Bill 2015 allows the Department of Transportation to issue, renew or replace a noncommercial driver license, noncommercial driver permit or identification card to an applicant without proof of legal presence. This measure allows an applicant to provide a written statement describing they have not been assigned a Social Security number. Declares emergency.