



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Transportation

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DATE: February 5, 2020

TO: House Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Lindsay Baker, Assistant Director
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SUBJECT: House Bill 4065 – Elimination of Driver License Suspension for Failure to Comply

INTRODUCTION

Current Oregon law requires specific action when a court notifies ODOT-DMV of a person's failure to pay a fine imposed. This process of license suspension, revocation, and reinstatement is managed through partnership between the court systems and ODOT-DMV.

DISCUSSION

Current law allows a court to suspend or place restrictions on a person's driving privileges for failure to pay a fine related to a traffic infraction (known as Failure to Comply or FTC). Once notified by the court, ODOT-DMV issues a driver license Suspension Notice, with the suspension automatically effective 60 days after the Suspension Notice is issued. If the person makes acceptable arrangements with the court (*i.e.* full payment or entering into a payment plan) during that 60 day period, the court notifies ODOT-DMV and the impending suspension is rescinded. If no arrangements are made within this 60 day period, the person's driving privileges are suspended. After suspension occurs, driving privileges may be reinstated after acceptable arrangements are made with the court, the court notifies DMV, and the person pays a \$75 reinstatement fee.

During calendar year 2019:

- 98,669 FTC Suspension Notices were issued by DMV
- 23,182 rescissions were processed
- 28,357 reinstatements were processed

ODOT supports HB 4065 and the elimination of the FTC suspension; this measure will result in a workload reduction for DMV. Additionally, elimination of FTC suspensions will allow individuals to continue driving to work, giving them the ability to continue to make progress toward paying existing fines. Any workload savings realized by this change will be diverted to processing other DMV transactions.

SUMMARY

ODOT supports the elimination of the FTC suspension. ODOT-DMV performs over 150,000 related transactions each year; elimination of the FTC suspension would allow DMV resources to be reallocated to address existing transaction backlogs.