

HCS HB 1413 -- DRIVER'S LICENSES FOR UNITED STATES CITIZENS

SPONSOR: Stacy

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Homeland Security by a vote of 7 to 3. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 6 to 3.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 1413.

This bill provides that beginning July 1, 2025, any Missouri driver's license or nondriver's license issued to a person who is a citizen of the United States, including naturalized citizens, will have a distinguishing mark on the front of the license that specifies that the license holder is a citizen of the United States. The Department of Revenue shall coordinate with the United States Department of State to establish criteria for establishing citizen status and a procedure for verifying that status.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that there is a blind spot in existing law which makes it illegal for non-citizens to vote because it is difficult to police this issue and discover violations. Certain practices by contracted Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) services automatically register people to vote who are not citizens or are otherwise ineligible to vote. The easiest remedy would be to add a citizenship marker on identification required to vote so election workers could screen potential voters at polling places.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Stacy; Tammy L. Brown, Jackson County Board of Election Commissioner; and W Dale Russell.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill made themselves available on behalf of other state offices in order to answer questions about existing policies and potential implementation of the provisions of the bill.

Testifying in person on the bill were Zachary Wyatt, Department of Revenue; and Trish Vincent, Secretary of State.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.