

HCS HB 950 -- DRIVER'S LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

SPONSOR: Davidson

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Transportation by a vote of 11 to 1, with 1 voting present. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Legislative by a vote of 8 to 0 with 1 voting present.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 950.

This bill allows a person who is a citizen of the United States and has never applied for or been issued a Social Security number (SSN) to provide an affidavit to the Department of Revenue. The affidavit language is provided in the bill and states that the applicant is a citizen and has not applied for or been issued a SSN. The Department must accept the affidavit in place of the person's SSN when they apply for a non-REAL ID nondriver's license or driver's license. The affidavit may also be provided in an application for a commercial driver's license or permit where doing so would not conflict with Federal law.

The bill requires the Department to delete photographs taken during the application process for non-REAL ID driver's licenses and nondriver's licenses upon request by an applicant. The Department is prohibited from using facial recognition cameras when producing non-REAL ID driver's licenses and nondriver's licenses.

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 it protects people's privacy. People are not required to have Social Security numbers, and if they are willing to go through the added steps necessary, they should be able to protect their privacy while still receiving licenses. In the future, if the Department of Revenue is using facial recognition cameras, this provides an alternative to people with concerns. The bill allows applicants to bring their own photos, subject to the same requirements used in passport photos.

Testifying in person for the bill was Representative Davidson.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that, for religious reasons, people can have an ID with no photo, but they have to take a photo for police to see when they scan the license. Police

compare the photo on file with the driver of a vehicle to ensure the driver is the actual holder of the license. The 173 contracted license offices would have to get scanning equipment to enter the photos that people provide and scanning the photos could also lead to longer wait times. All Missouri IDs have a blue background so people can see facial features on the ID. Commercial Driver's License applications must have a Social Security number included per Federal law. Individuals are able to pay taxes without a Social Security number. They instead receive an ITIN number and still contribute to the Social Security system.

Testifying in person on the bill was Zachary Wyatt, Department of Revenue.

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.