

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: PCB HWSS 16-02 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

SPONSOR(S): Highway & Waterway Safety Subcommittee

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
Orig. Comm.: Highway & Waterway Safety Subcommittee		Whittaker	Smith

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The proposed committee bill covers various issues related to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV). Specific issues the bill addresses are:

- Clarifying that the child restraint law for children aged 4 through 5 years does not apply to day care facilities or child care providers when a seat belt is used.
- Making the number of days required to change an address for driver licenses and vehicle registrations or to obtain a replacement license or identification card due to a legal name change be uniform at 30 days.
- Providing a no cost identification card to a juvenile offender who is in the custody or under the supervision of the Department of Juvenile Justice and receiving services.
- Providing for a no cost identification card to a driver who has had their driving privilege suspended or revoked by DHSMV due to a physical or mental impairment review.

The bill has an indeterminate fiscal impact on state revenues and expenditures. See fiscal section for additional detail.

The bill has an effective date of October 1, 2016.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Child Restraint Requirements (Section 1):

Present Situation

Per the child restraint requirements of s. 316.613, F.S., every operator of a motor vehicle while transporting a child 5 years of age or younger must provide for the protection of the child by properly using a crash-tested, federally approved child restraint device.

- For children aged through 3 years, the restraint device must be a separate carrier or a vehicle manufacturer's integrated seat.
- For children aged 4 through 5 years, a separate carrier, an integrated child seat, or a child booster seat may be used. However, the requirement to use a child restraint device does not apply when a safety belt is used and the child:
 - Is being transported gratuitously by an operator who is not a member of the child's immediate family;
 - Is being transported in a medical emergency situation involving the child; or
 - Has a medical condition that necessitates an exception as evidenced by appropriate documentation from a health care professional.

For the purposes of child restraint requirements a "motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle that is operated on the roadways, streets, and highways of the state. The term does not include:

- A school bus as defined in s. 316.003(45), F.S.
- A bus used for the transportation of persons for compensation, other than a bus regularly used to transport children to or from school, as defined in s. 316.615(1)(b), F.S., or in conjunction with school activities.
- A farm tractor or implement of husbandry.
- A truck having a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 26,000 pounds.
- A motorcycle, moped, or bicycle.

Any person who violates child restraint requirements commits a moving violation and shall pay \$60 and be assessed 3 points against his or her driver license. In lieu of the \$60 penalty and the assessment of 3 points, a person may elect, with the court's approval, to participate in a child restraint safety program approved by the chief judge of the circuit in which the violation occurs, and, upon completing such program, the penalty and associated costs may be waived at the court's discretion and the assessment of points shall be waived.¹

The child restraint requirements do not apply to a chauffeur-driven taxi, limousine, sedan, van, bus, motor coach, or other passenger vehicle if the operator and the motor vehicle are hired and used for the transportation of persons for compensation.²

Proposed Change

The bill amends s. 316.613(1)(a), F.S., clarifying that the child restraint law for children aged 4 through 5 years does not apply when a seat belt is used and the child is being transported by a:

- Child care facility,³
- Family day care home,⁴

¹ s. 316.613(5), F.S.

² s. 316.613(6), F.S.

³ "Child Care Facility" is defined in s. 402.302(2), F.S., and includes any child care center or child care arrangement which provides child care for more than five children unrelated to the operator and which receives a payment, fee, or grant for any of the children receiving care, wherever operated, and whether or not operated for profit.

- Large family child care home,⁵
- After school program not requiring licensure,⁶
- Exempted child care facility,⁷ or
- Entity excluded from the definition of “child care facility”⁸

The bill revises the definition of the term “motor vehicle”, for child restraint purposes, to no longer include a bus regularly used to transport children to or from school, or in conjunction with school activities.

Updating a Driver License or Motor Vehicle Registration (Section 2 and 4):

Present Situation

The required timeframe for updating a driver license or motor vehicle registration to reflect an address change or legal name change varies in Florida depending on the specific action and the residency of the individual.

A new resident to the state is required to obtain a Florida driver license within 30 days before operating a motor vehicle on the highways of this state.⁹ A resident of the state who possesses a valid driver license must report to DHSMV the legal address or name change within 10 calendar days of the change.¹⁰

For a motor vehicle registration, the owner of the vehicle must notify DHSMV of any change of address within 20 days after such change.¹¹

Proposed Change

The bill amends s. 320.02(4) and ss. 322.19(1) and (2), F.S., making the required timeframe 30 days for updating a driver license or motor vehicle registration to reflect an address change or legal name change.

The change in timeframe does not apply to a Sexual Offender or Sexual Predator, to whom the current 48 hour notification requirement under ss. 775.21 and 943.0435, F.S. remains.

No Cost ID to Certain Juvenile Offenders (Section 3 and 5):

Present Situation

⁴ “Family day care home” is defined in s. 402.302(8), F.S., as an occupied residence in which child care is regularly provided for children from at least two unrelated families and which receives a payment, fee, or grant for any of the children receiving care, whether or not operated for profit.

⁵ “Large family child care home” is defined in s. 402.302(11), F.S. as an occupied residence in which child care is regularly provided for children from at least two unrelated families, which receives a payment, fee, or grant for any of the children receiving care, whether or not operated for profit, and which has at least two full-time child care personnel on the premises during the hours of operation.

⁶ Per Rule 65C-22.008, Florida Administrative Code, a definition is provided for child care which distinguishes between child care programs that require child care licensure and after-school programs that do not require licensure.

⁷ Section 402.316, F.S., provides for an exempted child care facility which is an integral part of church or parochial schools conducting regularly scheduled classes, courses of study, or educational programs accredited by, or by a member of, an organization which publishes and requires compliance with its standards for health, safety, and sanitation.

⁸ The following are excluded from the definition of “child care facility” per s. 402.302(2)(a)-(e), F.S.: Public schools and nonpublic schools and their integral programs, except as provided in s. 402.3025; Summer camps having children in full-time residence; Summer day camps; Bible schools normally conducted during vacation periods; and Operators of transient establishments, as defined in chapter 509, which provide child care services solely for the guests of their establishment or resort, provided that all child care personnel of the establishment are screened according to the level 2 screening requirements of chapter 435.

⁹ s. 322.031(1), F.S.

¹⁰ s. 322.19(1) and (2), F.S.

¹¹ s. 320.02(4), F.S.

The law currently provides for a fee waiver for a replacement identification card to Florida born inmates being released from prison and to a person who presents evidence that he or she is homeless.¹²

Proposed Change

The bill amends ss.322.051(9) and 322.21(1)(f), F.S., to provide a no fee original, renewal, or replacement identification card to a juvenile offender who is in the custody or under the supervision of the Department of Juvenile Justice and receiving services. The issuance of the no fee identification card to juvenile offenders shall be processed by DHSMV's mobile issuing units.

No Cost ID due to Medical Sanction of a Driver License by DHSMV (Section 6):

Present Situation

DHSMV having good cause to believe that a licensed driver is incompetent or otherwise not qualified to be licensed, may, at any time upon written notice of at least 5 days to the licensee, require him or her to submit to an examination or reexamination. Upon the conclusion of the exam or reexam, DHSMV may suspend or revoke the driver license of the person or restrict the license. Anyone who refuses to submit to the required exam or reexam will have his or her driver license suspended or revoked.¹³

Proposed Change

The bill amends s. 322.221, F.S., to provide a no cost identification card to those who have had their driving privilege suspended or revoked by DHSMV, whom having good cause to believe that a licensed driver was incompetent or otherwise not qualified to be licensed after written notice of at least 5 days to the licensee, requiring him or her to submit to an examination or reexamination and upon conclusion of the exam or reexam, DHSMV suspended or revoked the driver license of the person or restricted the license.

Anyone who refuses to submit to the required exam or reexam will have his or her driver license suspended or revoked and can also be provided a no cost identification card.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

- Section 1** Amends s. 316.613, F.S., revising exemptions from using a certain child restraint device; revising the definition of the term "motor vehicle."
- Section 2** Amends s. 320.02, F.S., providing exceptions to a requirement that the owner of a motor vehicle notify the department of a change of address within a certain time period; revising such time period.
- Section 3** Amends s. 322.051, F.S., providing for the issuance of identification cards at no charge to certain persons in the custody or under the supervision of the Department of Juvenile Justice; requiring certain identification cards to be processed by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles' mobile issuing units.
- Section 4** Amends s. 322.19, F.S., providing exceptions to a requirement that a person obtain a replacement driver license reflecting a change of name within a certain time period; revising the time period for obtaining a replacement license reflecting certain changes of information; requiring certain persons to obtain a replacement identification card reflecting a change of name within a certain time period.
- Section 5** Amends s. 322.21, F.S., providing for the issuance of identification cards at no charge to certain persons in the custody or under the supervision of the Department of Juvenile Justice; requiring certain identification cards to be processed by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles' mobile issuing units.

¹² s. 322.051(9), F.S.

¹³ s. 322.221, F.S.

Section 6 Amends s. 322.221, F.S., directing the department to issue an identification card at no cost to a person whose driver license is suspended or revoked due to certain circumstances.

Section 7 Provides an effective date of October 1, 2016.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

The bill has an indeterminate, but significant negative impact on state funds. The Revenue Estimating Conference has not yet estimated the impacts of the bill.

However, according to DHSMV, the bill will likely have a maximum negative impact of \$62,500 to General Revenue for the original issuance of an identification card to 2,500 juvenile offenders annually. Depending on the type of card issued (renewal or replacement) both the General Revenue Fund and Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund could be impacted due to revenue splits.

The impact of issuing no-cost identification cards to individuals who have their driver license suspended or revoked due to a medical sanction is estimated by DHSMV to have a negative impact of \$459,625 to General Revenue in the first year.

2. Expenditures:

Per DHSMV, the cardstock used to print an identification card costs \$1.97. The estimated cost of issuing approximately 2,500 cards to juvenile offenders and 18,000 cards for those driver licenses medically suspended is \$40,385 annually.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

To the extent a juvenile offender or medically sanctioned individual would have purchased an identification card, under the bill, the Tax Collector would forgo their \$6.25 retained share.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

To the extent a juvenile offender or medically sanctioned individual would have purchased an identification card, under the bill, that individual will receive an identification free of cost or service charge.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

The bill does not require a municipality or county to expand funds or to take action requiring the expenditure of funds. The bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate. The bill does not require a reduction of the percentage of state tax shared with municipalities or counties.

2. Other:

None

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

N/A