



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Raised Bill No. 6548

LCO No. 3557

03557_____TRA

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:
(TRA)

AN ACT CONCERNING COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL DRIVER LICENSING STANDARDS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 14-36h of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

3 (a) Each motor vehicle operator's license issued by the
4 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in accordance with section 14-36,
5 each commercial driver's license issued in accordance with the
6 provisions of section 14-44d and each identity card issued by said
7 commissioner in accordance with section 1-1h shall contain the
8 following: (1) The person's full legal name, except to the extent that the
9 commissioner may permit the use of initials for names other than the
10 person's surname, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (e)
11 of this section; (2) the person's date of birth; (3) the person's gender; (4)
12 the person's height and eye color; (5) the person's assigned operator's
13 license or identity card number; (6) the person's address of principal
14 residence in this state; (7) the person's signature; and (8) the person's
15 color photograph or digital image.

16 (b) The commissioner shall provide that each such license or
17 identity card document contains physical security features designed to
18 prevent tampering, counterfeiting or duplication of the document.

19 (c) Each such document shall also contain one or more machine-
20 readable technology feature or component, including, but not limited
21 to, a bar code or magnetic strip.

22 (d) As used in this section, the term "full legal name" means the
23 most complete version of the name that appears on a person's
24 certificate of birth, official passport or other document or documents
25 accepted by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to verify a person's
26 identity, unless such person presents a marriage license or certificate, a
27 certificate of civil union, a divorce decree or an order of a court of
28 competent jurisdiction pertaining to a permanent change of the
29 person's name.

30 (e) If the commissioner permits a motor vehicle operator's license,
31 commercial driver's license or identity card to include a version of a
32 person's full legal name that contains initials, or any other form of
33 truncation of any of the names that appear on the document or
34 documents used to establish identity, the commissioner shall maintain
35 a record that includes the most complete version of such person's
36 name, without truncation, as well as any other versions of such
37 person's name that appear on the documents presented, or that such
38 person is known to have used.

39 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) Before the Commissioner of
40 Motor Vehicles issues a motor vehicle operator's license, in accordance
41 with the provisions of section 14-36 of the general statutes, a
42 commercial driver's license, in accordance with the provisions of
43 section 14-44d of the general statutes, or an identity card, in accordance
44 with the provisions of section 1-1h of the general statutes, to any
45 person who is not a citizen or national of the United States, the
46 commissioner shall verify that such person has been lawfully admitted
47 for permanent or temporary residence in the United States.

48 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) On and after January 1, 2010,
49 the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall not accept an application for
50 a motor vehicle operator's license, commercial driver's license or
51 identity card from any person who is not a citizen or national unless it
52 is accompanied by valid, documentary evidence that such person is
53 lawfully admitted for permanent or temporary residence in the United
54 States and that such person: (1) Has conditional permanent resident
55 status in the United States; (2) has an application approved for asylum
56 in the United States or has entered into the United States in refugee
57 status; (3) has current nonimmigrant status in the United States; (4) has
58 an application pending for asylum in the United States; (5) has an
59 application pending or approved for temporary protected status in the
60 United States; (6) has approved deferred action status; or (7) has an
61 application pending for lawful permanent residence or conditional
62 permanent resident status.

63 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) On and after January 1, 2010,
64 if an applicant for an operator's license, commercial driver's license or
65 identity card under section 3 of this act provides evidence that such
66 applicant has the status described in any provision of subdivisions (3)
67 to (7), inclusive, of said section 3, or otherwise indicates that such
68 applicant's presence in the United States is, pursuant to any provision
69 of federal law, of limited duration, and if the Commissioner of Motor
70 Vehicles determines that the applicant has satisfied all other
71 requirements of law for such person's application to be granted, the
72 commissioner shall issue a temporary, limited-term motor vehicle
73 operator's license, commercial driver's license or identity card. Such
74 operator's license or identity card shall be valid only during the
75 applicant's authorized stay in the United States or, if there is no
76 definite end to the period of authorized stay, for one year. The
77 expiration date of any such license or identity card issued under this
78 section shall be clearly displayed, and any such license or identity card
79 issued shall clearly indicate that such license or identity card has been
80 issued for a limited term. The commissioner shall not approve an
81 application for renewal or for an extension of the term of any such

82 license or identity card unless the holder of such document presents
83 valid documentary evidence that an authorized official or agency of
84 the United States has taken an action that has the effect of extending
85 such holder's period of authorized stay. The fee for a motor vehicle
86 operator's license or a commercial driver's license issued for a limited
87 term shall be prorated, annually, in accordance with the provisions of
88 section 14-41 or 14-44h of the general statutes, as applicable.

89 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) Each federal Social Security
90 number furnished to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in
91 connection with an application for a motor vehicle operator's license, a
92 commercial driver's license or an identity card, or any renewal thereof,
93 shall be checked against the records of the United States Social Security
94 Administration. The commissioner may refuse to issue or renew an
95 operator's license, commercial driver's license or identity card or may
96 suspend or revoke any license or identity card that has been issued, if
97 the federal Social Security number furnished by the applicant does not
98 match the number on file with and reported by the United States Social
99 Security Administration. The commissioner shall inform each
100 applicant who is not issued such operator's license, commercial
101 driver's license or identity card and each holder of a license or identity
102 card whose operator's license, commercial driver's license or identity
103 card is suspended or revoked pursuant to this section, of the steps that
104 such applicant, license holder or identity card holder may take to
105 resolve such discrepancy or problem with respect to such applicant's
106 federal Social Security number.

107 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) The Commissioner of Motor
108 Vehicles shall not approve an application for a motor vehicle
109 operator's license, commercial driver's license or identity card or issue
110 a license or identity card to any person until the commissioner, or the
111 commissioner's designee, has reviewed the applicant's information
112 required to establish the applicant's identity, in accordance with such
113 methods and procedures as the commissioner may establish. The
114 commissioner shall not accept any foreign document, other than an

115 official passport, for identification purposes of an individual who has
116 not previously held a motor vehicle operator's license or state-issued
117 identification card. If the commissioner has reason to believe that a
118 person holds more than one motor vehicle operator's license,
119 commercial driver's license or identity card, except for a duplicate
120 license issued pursuant to section 14-50a of the general statutes, the
121 commissioner, in addition to any other actions authorized by law, shall
122 suspend or revoke all such licenses or cards held by such person.

123 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) On and after January 1, 2010,
124 if an applicant for a motor vehicle operator's license, commercial
125 driver's license or identity card is the holder of a similar document
126 issued by any other state or territory of the United States, the
127 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall not approve such application
128 until such applicant surrenders such license, identity card or similar
129 document and the commissioner receives satisfactory evidence that all
130 rights and privileges conferred by such license, card or similar
131 document have been terminated.

132 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) (a) As used in this section,
133 "fraudulent document" means a document that is forged, substantially
134 altered or intended to identify a person other than the applicant.

135 (b) If the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles has reason to believe that
136 any identification document presented by an applicant in connection
137 with an application for a motor vehicle operator's license, commercial
138 driver's license or identity card is fraudulent, the commissioner or any
139 employee of the Department of Motor Vehicles authorized and
140 designated by the commissioner may take immediate possession of
141 such document. The applicant who presented such document, the
142 possession of which is taken and retained by the commissioner or the
143 commissioner's designee, shall be given a written receipt, substantially
144 conforming to a receipt for seized property given in accordance with
145 the provisions of section 54-36f of the general statutes. The
146 commissioner shall have no obligation to return the document unless

147 the commissioner determines, upon further inquiry and investigation,
148 that such document is not fraudulent, or the commissioner is
149 presented with an order of the superior court made in accordance with
150 the provisions of section 54-36a of the general statutes.

151 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) The Commissioner of Motor
152 Vehicles may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of
153 chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the provisions of
154 section 14-36h of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and
155 sections 2 to 8, inclusive, of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	14-36h
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To adopt federal driver licensing identification standards.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]