Bill No.: HB-7201
Title: AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONVENIENCE OF ACQUIRING MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSES AND REGISTRATIONS.
Vote Date: 3/20/2019
Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute
PH Date: 3/6/2019
File No.: 483

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SPONSORS OF BILL:
Sen. Martin M. Looney, 11th Dist.
Transportation Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:
This bill is a proposal from Governor Lamont that seeks to cut down on wait times at the Department of Motor Vehicles. Average wait times at the DMV are often 35 minutes to well over 1 hour 15 minutes. By extending Vehicle registrations one additional year to a three year duration and extending driver licenses an additional two years to an eight year duration Governor Lamont aims to decrease the foot traffic at DMV locations and in so doing lower wait times at DMV branch locations for a more user friendly experience.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Acting Commissioner Judeen Wrinn, Department of Motor Vehicles

This bill is part of the Governor’s budget recommendations that makes changes to the license and ID card renewal period and extends vehicle registrations renewals and clarifies language in various statutes. These initiatives will cut down on residents’ trips to the DMV, and help to shorten the wait time when they do need to visit.

Sec. 1: Increases the first issuance of an ID card from 6 years to 7 years from the applicant’s birthday, and specifies that the renewal period will be determined by the commissioner, up to a period of 8 years. Raises the fee from $22.50 to $28.00 for the initial ID and to $32 for an 8-year renewal.
Sec. 2: For skip a trip, authorizes the commissioner to establish criteria to determine whether a license or ID holder is eligible. Establishes a 7-year duration for an initial license (up from 6) and raises the fee from $72 to $84. For an 8-year renewal, the fee is $96 and for less than 8-years, the commissioner will prorate the fee. The convenience fee that a DMV partner may charge a customer is raised from $8 to $10.

Sec 3: Conforms the statutory section pertaining to driver’s licenses for ages sixty-five years and older to account for a 2-year renewal period and prorate the cost for a 2-year period that will be at the discretion of the commissioner.

Sec 4: Establishes a one-sixth prorated fee for a 6-month courtesy registration to conform to the change of the registration period to 3 years.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:
None

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:
None

Reported by: Philip N Mainiero Date: 4/5/19