

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
January 21, 2020 - 9:00 a.m. - Room 327E

North Dakota Department of Transportation
Robin Rehborg, Deputy Director for Driver Safety

HB 1168

Good morning, Chairman Ruby and members of the committee. I'm Robin Rehborg, Deputy Director for Driver Safety for the North Dakota Department of Transportation (DOT). I'm here to provide information related to HB 1168. Thank you for your time today.

House Bill 1168 provides for the implementation of the Mobile Driver License (DL) through the use of any mobile device. Today a driver license is used for the following two primary goals, to confirm identity and to convey driving privileges. The mobile license allows the holder to share only what information is necessary. When verifying age, it is not necessary to share name, address, and the exact date of birth. It provides another level of privacy to citizens providing greater control over personal information. If you are pulled over by law enforcement, you will remain in possession of the device and the officer can access your credentials wirelessly once you confirm to send the information. It also allows for a contactless verification of information at an airport

It allows the state to remotely manage a license by adding, updating, or revoking driving privileges and allows an option to quickly update an address and have a current credential without having to visit an office. If the phone is lost or stolen, the license can be deleted remotely before a new digital version is issued. It is also going to be less vulnerable to fraud and counterfeiting. A Mobile DL is not a replacement for the actual card, rather a supplement to it.

The benefits of a Mobile DL include security, only accessed by the owner of the device through a pin or fingerprint. There is also a convenience knowing you always have your phone with you and freedom to leave your wallet at home.

The amendment to 39-06-13, number two, adds provisions for the written examination or knowledge test for a class D license to be accessed online. Allowing online testing would be a benefit to the citizens particularly in the rural communities as the student could access the exam anytime of the day and if they should fail they could take it again the next day without having to schedule an appointment and go to an office.

This technology is very new. Currently, we are aware of seven states who are in some stage of implementation of conducting online testing. It is important to note that even though the test is taken online, the student would not be able to immediately drive. They would still need to come into a Driver License office to obtain their learners permit card. They must verify identity, show their test certificate, prove residency and have their photo taken.

The amendment to 39-06-19, number nine and ten would allow citizens to renew their driver license electronically indefinitely until age 65. The most recent survey of states conducted by AAMVA (American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators) on renewal requirements showed a majority of states, which allow online renewal, require an in person visit to a DL office every other renewal cycle. This is considered an industry standard. It is currently a REAL-ID requirement to renew in person every sixteen years. A person's appearance can change significantly over that timeframe, so it is important to have an updated photo and eye test. HB 1102 recommended a change to the online renewal system to allow those age under 70 to renew online. This bill has been passed on the house floor.

This concludes my testimony. Thank You.