2021 SENATE TRANSPORTATION

SB 2112

2021 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee
Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

SB 2112
1/8/2021

A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 39-02-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to department of transportation branch office duties.

Chair Clemens calls the meeting to order. Present are Chair Clemens, Vice Chair Fors, Senators Bakke, Conley, Dwyer, D. Larsen. [10:15]

Discussion Topics:

- SB 2112, relating to department of transportation branch office duties.

Robin Rehborg [10:16], Deputy Director for Driver Safety for the NDDOT, presents the bill and submits testimony #142 in favor of SB 2112.

Jennifer Blumhagen [10:22], Motor Vehicle Division Director for the NDDOT answers questions from the committee, submits testimony #144.

Additional written testimony: N/A

Senator Dwyer [10:42] motions to add an amendment to SB 2112. [LC.21.8111.01001]
Senator Conley [10:42] seconds the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator David Clemens	Y
Senator Robert Fors	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Doug Larsen	Y
Senator JoNell Bakke	Y

The motion to amend passes 6-0-0.

Chair Clemens adjourns the meeting. [10:44]

Sheldon Wolf, Committee Clerk

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for
Senator Dwyer

January 8, 2021

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2112

Page 1, line 8, remove "contracted"

Page 1, line 8, after "offices" insert ", including contracted branch offices,"

Renumber accordingly

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
January 8, 2021 - 10:15 a.m. - Fort Totten Room

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

SB 2112

Good morning Mr. Chairman 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 SB 2112.

This bill is a DOT Agency bill. Thank you for allowing me to explain this bill and answer any questions.

This bill proposes to add language to allow the DOT's contracted Motor Vehicle service offices to conduct driver license (DL) services along with their current motor vehicle services. With NDDOT's deployed technological changes such as online renewal, mobile application, and kiosk implementation, the need for customers to physically come into a contracted Motor Vehicle service office is decreasing. This change will also streamline government service delivery. Allowing the NDDOT contractors to complete driver license services will also assist our current NDDOT DL offices during high renewal periods. It will also reduce the time current NDDOT DL examiners spend traveling to these rural areas to conduct DL services. This change will also increase customer service for the communities as the contractors are open five days a week. Services offered may vary by contractor depending on the space limitations and employee capacity. There will be some training required and equipment will be provided, as necessary, to complete the services.

This concludes my testimony. Thank You.

#144

North Dakota Department of Transportation

Testimony Subject Matter Expert

Name: Jennifer Blumhagen

HB or SB Bill #: SB 2112

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2021 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee
Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

SB 2112
1/14/2021

A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 39-02-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to department of transportation branch office duties.

Chair Clemens calls the meeting to order. Chair Clemens, Vice Chair Fors, Senators Bakke, Conley, Dwyer, and D. Larsen are present. [9:14]

Discussion Topics:

- Transportation branch office duties
- An amendment to SB 2112

Senator Conley [9:16] motions DO PASS AS AMENDED.
Senator Bakke [9:16] seconds the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator David Clemens	Y
Senator Robert Fors	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Doug Larsen	Y
Senator JoNell Bakke	Y

The motion passes 6-0-0. [9:16]
Senator Fors will carry. [9:16]

Chair Clemens adjourns the meeting. [9:17]

Sheldon Wolf, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2112: Transportation Committee (Sen. Clemens, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2112 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 8, remove "contracted"

Page 1, line 8, after "offices" insert ", including contracted branch offices,"

Renumber accordingly

2021 HOUSE TRANSPORTATION

SB 2112

2021 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee
Room JW327E, State Capitol

SB 2112
3/11/2021
AM

A bill relating to department of transportation branch office duties.

10:15 AM **Chairman Ruby** opened the hearing.

Attendance

Representatives	
Representative Dan Ruby	P
Representative Tom Kading	P
Representative Rick Becker	P
Representative Cole Christensen	A
Representative LaurieBeth Hager	P
Representative Jared C. Hagert	P
Representative Karla Rose Hanson	P
Representative Terry B. Jones	P
Representative Emily O'Brien	A
Representative Mark S. Owens	P
Representative Bob Paulson	P
Representative Gary Paur	P
Representative Robin Weisz	A
Representative Greg Westlind	P

Discussion Topics:

- Contracted Motor Services offices

Robin Rehborg, Deputy Director for Driver Safety for the ND Department of Transportation, supportive testimony # 8692.

Chairman Ruby closed the hearing.

Representative Hagert moved a Do Pass.
Representative Jones seconded.

Roll Call Vote

Representatives	Vote
Representative Dan Ruby	Y
Representative Tom Kading	Y
Representative Rick Becker	Y
Representative Cole Christensen	A
Representative LaurieBeth Hager	Y
Representative Jared C. Hagert	Y

Representative Karla Rose Hanson	Y
Representative Terry B. Jones	Y
Representative Emily O'Brien	A
Representative Mark S. Owens	Y
Representative Bob Paulson	Y
Representative Gary Paur	Y
Representative Robin Weisz	A
Representative Greg Westlind	Y

Motion Carried 11-0-3 **Representative Hagert** carrier.

Additional written testimony:

Jodi Hendrickson favorable. #8366
Steve Dale, Mayor of Wahpeton, favorable #8127

Edmund Goerger, Wyndmere, favorable #7621
Lisa Kunkel, Wahpeton, favorable #7608

10:21 Adjourned

Jeanette Cook, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2112, as engrossed: Transportation Committee (Rep. D. Ruby, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (11 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 3 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed SB 2112 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
March 11, 2021 - 9:45 a.m. – Room 327E

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

SB 2112

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 (NDDOT). I'm here to provide information related to NDDOT's agency bill SB 2112. Thank you for allowing me to explain this bill and answer any questions.

Currently, the DOT has 18 contracted motor vehicle service offices which conduct Motor Vehicle (MV) services for NDDOT. These contractors, as required by contract, hire their own staff who are not employed by NDDOT. These employees are required to have extensive training which is provided by DOT MV. NDDOT currently has eight full-time Driver License offices. The employees of these offices are NDDOT team members. These DOT employees also travel to the part-time sites for Driver License services.

The bill proposes to add language to NDCC §39-02-03 to allow the DOT's contracted Motor Vehicle service offices to conduct driver license (DL) services along with their current motor vehicle services. With NDDOT's deployed technological changes such as online renewal, mobile application, and kiosk implementation, the need for customers to physically come into a contracted Motor Vehicle service office is decreasing. This change will also streamline government service delivery. Allowing the contractors to complete driver license services will also assist our current DOT DL offices during high renewal periods. It may also reduce the time current DL examiners spend traveling to some rural areas to conduct DL services. The change will also increase customer service for North Dakota communities as the contracted offices are open five days a week.

Services offered by the contracted offices may vary by contractor depending on the space limitations and employee capacity. There will be required training and equipment needed, as necessary, to complete the DL services.

This concludes my testimony. Thank You.

I am on the board of directors for the Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce. This testimony is in support of SB2112 relating to department of transportation branch office duties.
Allowing the NDDOT branch offices to complete driver license services will increase customer service for the City of Wahpeton and surrounding communities as our DOT branch is open five days a week and currently the NDDOT DL examiners are here only 2 days a month. The addition of these services is greatly needed in our rural community.
Thank you.
Jodi Hendrickson, Director
Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce
1505 11th St N
Wahpeton, ND 56520

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2112 RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BRANCH OFFICE DUTIES

House Transportation Committee
Meeting Scheduled at 9:45 AM 3/11/2021.

Honorable Chairman Ruby & Members of the House Transportation Committee:

SB 2112 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 39-02-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to department of transportation branch office duties.

Currently the Department of Transportation has a contracted branch office providing motor vehicle administrative services in the City of Wahpeton five days per week. Driver's license services were previously hosted at a different location in the city two days per month, their already backlogged schedule was suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The proposed bill will greatly enhance the level of service available to the south east region of North Dakota by providing the opportunity for a single contract location to offer motor vehicle and driver's license services up to five days per week. In the past we frequently had people travel 60 to 90 miles to come to Wahpeton, wait in line for 6+ hours and hope to renew their driver's license. Currently, a 16-year-old may have to wait up to 4 months to get an appointment in Fargo for their first driver's license exam. The wait time for commercial driver's license exams is a significant detriment to the freight industry that already has way more jobs than qualified applicants. The current motor vehicle office in Wahpeton provides an excellent level of service and would quickly adapt to add driver's license services to assist the residents of south east North Dakota.

It is an innovative and progressive solution presented in SB 2112 to build on a service delivery model that works very well. Expanded services in the Wahpeton Branch Office would quickly improve services to a tri-county area population of over 25,000 people playing an important role in the Department of Transportation's mission to safely move people and goods.

I strongly **SUPPORT** the proposed amendment to expand branch office duties to include motor vehicle and driver's license services.

Submitted with high regard on behalf of the City of Wahpeton.

Steve Dale, Mayor
City of Wahpeton

ND Department of Transportation

HB or SB Bill#: SB2112

Email: eddgoerger@gmail.com

Phone: 701-640-0536

Dear Chairperson and committee members;

I have been made aware that the NDDOT branch offices may be allowed to offer services for ND Drivers Licenses. This would be a very beneficial change for all rural areas. Currently the DL licenses renewal in Richland county is only two days per month. The times I have went to use them, the line was out the door and into the parking lot. This is very discouraging and forced me to drive to Fargo to complete my renewal. Having this available everyday of the week would spread out the use of the service, greatly reducing the grouping of renewals. In addition, I can see this having a positive economic impact on areas that can provide the service. When I go to have a DL issue taken care of, I will probably do other shopping or consume other services, thus helping my rural community.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Best regards,

Edmund Goerger

Wyndmere ND

ND Department of Transportation

HB or SB Bill #: SB2112

Email: lisa@wbchamber.net

Phone: 701-642-8744

I am the Executive Director of the Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce.This testimony is in support of SB2112 relating to department of transportation branch office duties.

Allowing the NDDOT branch offices to complete driver license services will increase customer service for the City of Wahpeton and surrounding communities as our DOT branch is open five days a week and currently the NDDOT DL examiners are here only 2 days a month. The addition of these services is greatly needed in our rural community.

Thank you.

Lisa Kunkel, Executive Director

Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce

1505 11th St N

Wahpeton, ND 56520