

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2015 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Transportation

CS/HB 27 — Driver Licenses and Identification Cards

by Highway and Waterway Safety Subcommittee and Reps. Gaetz, Workman, and others
(CS/SB 240 by Transportation Committee and Senators Brandes, Gaetz, and Gibson)

The bill provides for the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to accept a military identification card for proof of social security number during the application process to acquire a driver license or identification card.

Additionally, the bill authorizes the department to replace the veteran designation “V” with the word “Veteran” exhibited on the driver license or identification card of a veteran who qualifies and chooses to have such designation. The replacement of the “V” with the word “Veteran” will apply upon implementation of the new designs for the driver license and identification card by the department.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2015.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 116-0

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2015 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Transportation

CS/HB 145 — Commercial Motor Vehicle Review Board

by Highway and Waterway Safety Subcommittee and Rep. Beshears (CS/CS/CS/SB 220 by Fiscal Policy Committee; Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee; Transportation Committee; and Senator Simpson)

The bill addresses various issues relating to commercial motor vehicle overweight citations and the Commercial Motor Vehicle Review Board (Review Board). Related to overweight citations, the bill:

- Authorizes a driver of a commercial motor vehicle that receives an overweight citation for excess weight measured by portable scales to proceed to the nearest fixed scale at an official weigh station or certified public scale for verification of weight and requires the Florida Highway Patrol to escort the driver to the nearest fixed scale and attend the re-weighing;
- Voids the citation if the vehicle is found to be in compliance with weight requirements at the fixed scale; and
- Repeals provisions authorizing the Florida Highway Patrol to require vehicles be driven to the nearest weigh station or public scales for verification of weight and requiring an officer to weigh a vehicle at a fixed scale rather than by portable scales upon the request of the driver, if such a facility is available within five miles.

Related to the Review Board, the bill:

- Revises the membership and related provisions of the Review Board; and
- Requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to provide video conference capability at each of its district offices to enable a person requesting a hearing before the Commercial Motor Vehicle Review Board to appear remotely.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2015, except where otherwise provided.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 116-1

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CS/SB 160 — Rural Letter Carriers

by Fiscal Policy Committee and Senator Evers

The bill exempts a United States Postal Service rural letter carrier from mandatory seat belt usage requirements while performing duties in the course of his or her employment on a designated postal route.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 36-0; House 88-28

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2015 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Transportation

CS/SB 264 — Traffic Enforcement Agencies and Traffic Citations

by Fiscal Policy Committee and Senators Bradley and Brandes

The bill prohibits all traffic enforcement agencies from establishing a traffic citation quota. The bill also requires a county or municipality to submit a report to the Legislative Auditing Committee if the county's or municipality's revenue from traffic citations, in a fiscal year, exceeds 33 percent of the expense to operate the county's or municipality's law enforcement agency in the same fiscal year. The report must be submitted within six months after the end of the fiscal year and must detail:

- The total revenue from traffic citations of the county or municipality; and
- The total expenses for law enforcement of the county or municipality.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2015.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 116-1

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CS/CS/HB 369 — Human Trafficking

by Economic Affairs Committee; Transportation and Ports Subcommittee; and Reps. Kerner, Spano, and others (CS/SB 534 by Criminal Justice Committee and Senators Latvala and Sobel)

The bill seeks to heighten public awareness regarding human trafficking in the State of Florida.
The bill:

- Requires development of public awareness signs according to certain specifications, containing specific information for contacting the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, as well as other means for accessing help and services;
- Requires the Florida Department of Transportation to display a public awareness sign in every rest area, turnpike service plaza, weigh station, primary airport, passenger rail station, and welcome center open to the public in the state;
- Requires emergency rooms to display a public awareness sign in emergency rooms at general acute care hospitals;
- Requires employers to display a public awareness sign in a conspicuous location clearly visible to the public and employees of a strip club or other adult entertainment establishment, and at a business or establishment that offers massage or bodywork services for compensation that is not owned by a regulated health care profession; and
- Authorizes a county commission to adopt an ordinance to enforce employer signage violations, which are noncriminal violations punishable by a \$500 fine.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect January 1, 2016.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 113-0

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CS/HB 471 — Disabled Parking

by Highway and Waterway Safety Subcommittee and Reps. Dubose, Moraitis, and others (SB 788 by Senator Sobel)

The bill exempts vehicles displaying the disabled veteran license plate issued under s. 320.084, F.S., from any parking fees charged by a city or county in a facility that provides timed parking spaces.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2015.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 113-0

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SB 676 — Voluntary Contributions to End Breast Cancer

by Senator Benacquisto

The bill requires the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to include language on motor vehicle registration, driver license, and identification card application forms, permitting a voluntary contribution of \$1 or more per applicant, for the Florida Breast Cancer Coalition Research Foundation, Inc.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2015.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 113-2

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CS/CS/SB 7040 — Public Records/E-mail Addresses/Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

by Rules Committee; Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee; and Transportation Committee

The bill creates an exemption from the state's public records laws for customer e-mail addresses collected by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles during driver license and motor vehicle record transactions. Specifically, the exemption applies to e-mail addresses collected by the Department for:

- Sending a notification regarding motor vehicle titles, pursuant to s. 319.40(3), F.S.;
- Providing a renewal notice for a motor vehicle license or registration, pursuant to s. 320.95(2), F.S.; and
- Providing a renewal notice for a driver license or identification card, pursuant to s. 322.08(8), F.S.

The bill provides a statement of public necessity, as required by the State Constitution, and includes a retroactivity clause. Therefore, e-mail addresses currently held by the Department for the aforementioned purposes will also be exempt from public disclosure.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2015.

Vote: Senate 38-1; House 112-4

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CS/HB 7055 — Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

by Economic Affairs Committee; Highway and Waterway Safety Subcommittee; and Rep. Steube (CS/SB 7072 by Fiscal Policy Committee and Transportation Committee)

The bill revises multiple laws administered by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV). More specifically, the bill:

- Allows an employing state agency to pay up to \$5,000 directly to a venue to cover funeral and burial expenses for full-time law enforcement, correctional, or correctional probation officers killed in the line of duty;
- Allows a golf cart to be operated on a two-lane county road within the jurisdiction of a municipality, if allowed by such municipality;
- Revises the size of required red hazard flags from 12-inches square to 18-inches square on loads that extend four feet or more beyond a vehicle's perimeter, to comply with federal regulations;
- Authorizes the Department of Transportation to issue a special permit for truck tractor-semitrailer combinations carrying multiple sections or single units of manufactured buildings on an overlength trailer of no more than 80 feet;
- Increases the fine a local government may issue for an unlawfully displayed vehicle for sale, hire, or rental, which is parked upon public property or parked upon private property without permission from the property owner, from \$100 per violation to \$500 per violation.
- Extends the repeal of the Pilot Rebuilt Motor Vehicle Inspection program from July 1, 2015 to July 1, 2018, and revises program requirements, including:
 - o Increases the amount of the required surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit an applicant must have from \$50,000 to \$100,000;
 - o Requires an applicant to secure and maintain a facility at a permanent structure where the only services provided are rebuilt inspection services;
 - o Requires the operator of such facility to annually attest he or she is not employed by, does not have an ownership interest in, or does not have a financial arrangement with certain entities from which he or she receives remuneration, directly or indirectly, for the referral of customers for rebuilt inspection services;
 - o Requires program participants to maintain records of each rebuilt vehicle examination processed at the facility for at least five years; and
 - o Requires the DHSMV to terminate an operator from the program who does not meet the minimum eligibility requirements.
- Provides that residential manufactured buildings located on mobile home lots shall be treated as a mobile home for purposes of ch. 319, F.S., which addresses titling;
- Directs the DHSMV to include language on motor vehicle registration, driver license, and identification card application forms, permitting a voluntary contribution of \$1 or more per applicant, for the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation;
- Requires the DHSMV, and their authorized agents, to provide each applicant for a motor vehicle registration or driver license the option to register emergency contact information

and to be contacted with information about state and federal benefits available as a result of military service;

- Removes certain obsolete requirements for establishing a specialty license plate, including the application fee, marketing strategy, and financial analysis of the requested specialty plate;
- Removes provisions for the issuance of the Corrections Foundation license plate, the Children First license plate, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars license plate, which have been discontinued by the DHSMV for failure to meet minimum sale or presale requirements;
- Includes Major League Soccer within the Florida Professional Sports Team license plate;
- Revises the identification of ancient and antique motor vehicles by requiring the use of the model date of the vehicle to determine its age rather than the manufacture date of a vehicle's engine;
- Allows disclosure of confidential personal injury protection and property damage liability insurance policy numbers of a person involved in a motor vehicle accident to DHSMV-approved third parties that provide data collection services to an insurer of any person involved in such accident, and to governmental entities if necessary to perform its duties;
- Provides that certified emergency medical technicians with proper training can administer emergency allergy treatments; and
- Provides reenactments and conforming cross-references to reflect the changes made in this bill.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect October 1, 2015.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 115-0