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## Transportation Committee

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### SSB 5610

**Brief Description:** Authorizing the release of driving record abstracts for employment purposes.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, Delvin, Sheldon, Berkey, Jarrett and Shin).

#### Brief Summary of Substitute Bill

- Allows employers, prospective employers, volunteer organizations, and agents acting on behalf of these entities, to obtain a driving record abstract so long as the abstract is obtained for employment purposes.

**Hearing Date:** 4/2/09

**Staff:** David Munnecke (786-7315)

#### Background:

The Director of the Department of Licensing (DOL) maintains a case record on every person licensed to operate a motor vehicle in Washington. These case records or abstracts contain information relating to a person's driving record, including:

- a list of motor vehicle accidents in which the person was driving;
- whether any of the motor vehicle accidents resulted in a fatality;
- any reported convictions, forfeitures of bail, or findings that an infraction was committed based upon a violation of any motor vehicle law;
- the status of the person's driving privilege in this state; and
- any reports of failure to appear in response to a traffic citation or failure to respond to a notice of an infraction.

Washington law restricts the distribution and use of abstracts. Certified abstracts may only be released to specified persons, including:

- the individual named in the abstract;

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- an employer, prospective employer, or volunteer organization for which the individual named in the abstract has applied for a position that requires the transportation of certain groups;
- a transit authority checking prospective vanpool drivers;
- specified insurance companies;
- an alcohol/drug assessment or treatment agency approved by the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS);
- city and county prosecuting attorneys;
- state colleges, universities, or agencies for risk management or employment purposes; and
- units of local government authorized to self-insure.

**Summary of Bill:**

The list of those to whom the DOL may furnish a driving record abstract is expanded to include employers, prospective employers, volunteer organizations, and agents acting on behalf of these entities, so long as the abstract is obtained for employment purposes.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.