

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## ESSB 5262

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**C 366 L 09**  
Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Allowing law enforcement access to driver's license photographs for the purposes of identity verification.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Judiciary (originally sponsored by Senators Kline, Brandland and Shin).

**Senate Committee on Judiciary**  
**House Committee on Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness**  
**House Committee on General Government Appropriations**

**Background:** The Department of Licensing (DOL) maintains a negative database that contains the negatives of all pictures taken by DOL. The negatives are not available for public inspection.

Currently, DOL is only authorized to make the negatives available to:

- the Secretary of State for purposes of maintaining the state voter registration database;
- government enforcement agencies to assist in the investigation of criminal activity; and
- a driver's next of kin in the event that the driver is deceased.

**Summary:** DOL may make negative files of pictures available to official governmental enforcement agencies for the purpose of verifying identity when the officer is authorized by law to request identification from an individual.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	44	0	
House	97	0	(House amended)
Senate	45	0	(Senate concurred)

**Effective:** July 26, 2009

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*