

HOUSE BILL ANALYSIS

ESSB 6020

Title: An act relating to recording of social security numbers on applications for licenses to assist in child support enforcement.

Brief Description: Delaying implementation of the requirement to record social security numbers on license applications to assist in child support enforcement.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Labor & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senators Hargrove, Fairley, Benton, Kohl-Welles, Zarelli, Swecker, Roach, McDonald, Rossi, Morton, Spanel, Thibaudeau, Hochstatter, T. Sheldon, Sheahan, Johnson, Prentice, Brown, Heavey, Stevens and Costa).

Brief Summary of Bill

- Postpones the requirement that the Department of Licensing collect Social Security numbers of applicants for driver's licenses until the date specified under federal law.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Staff: Trudes Hutcheson (786-7384).

Background:

Generally, federal law prohibits federal and state agencies from denying any right, benefit, or privilege to a person because of the person's refusal to disclose his or her Social Security number, unless disclosure is required by federal statute. Federal law does not prohibit an agency from requesting a person's Social Security number.

In order to receive federal funds for child support and temporary aid to needy families, states must adopt a child support enforcement program that complies with federal law. To comply with federal law, Washington passed ESSB 6418 in 1998, which required the state to collect the Social Security numbers of applicants for professional, driver's, occupational, and recreational licenses. Subsequently, Congress postponed the deadline for implementing the state collection of Social Security numbers on noncommercial driver's licenses until October 1, 2000.

Summary of Bill:

A change is made to the statute regarding the collection of Social Security numbers of applicants for certain licenses. A person is not required to furnish his or her Social

Security number when applying for an original, replacement, or renewal of a noncommercial driver's license until the date specified under federal law.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Office of Program Research