

SENATE BILL REPORT

ESSB 5364

As Passed Senate, March 9, 2001

Title: An act relating to drivers' licenses and identicards.

Brief Description: Modifying drivers' license and identicard provisions.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Horn, Haugen and Benton).

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Transportation: 2/7/01, 2/20/01 [DPS].

Passed Senate: 3/9/01, 49-0.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Majority Report: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5364 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Haugen, Chair; Eide, Finkbeiner, Horn, Jacobsen, Johnson, Kastama, McAuliffe, McDonald, Oke, Patterson, T. Sheldon and Shin.

Staff: Dean Carlson (786-7305)

Background: The federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (welfare reform) made significant changes to the child support enforcement system, including increasing the use of Social Security numbers on license applications to improve tracking of obligors.

In 1998, the Washington State Legislature passed ESSB 6418 to conform with federal requirements. Subsequently Congress postponed the deadline for implementation of state collection of Social Security numbers on noncommercial drivers' licenses until October 1, 2000, or such earlier date as the state may select. In 1999, ESSB 6020 was passed eliminating the requirement to collect Social Security numbers on noncommercial drivers licenses until required to do so by federal legislation (October 1, 2000).

RCW 23.23.150 states that licensing agencies can not display a Social Security number on a licensing document.

Summary of Bill: The collection of Social Security numbers by licensing agencies for applicants of noncommercial drivers licenses is required.

The contract for a vendor contracting with the Department of Licensing to provide drivers license and identicard services must contain the following language: Drivers' licenses and identicards must not contain: (1) Driver Social Security number in either visible or machine readable form; or (2) driver fingerprints or thumbprints.-

The state must seek a waiver from the federal government of the requirement to collect Social Security numbers.

Technical changes are made, eliminating the language extending the time period for the requirement to collect Social Security numbers on noncommercial driver's license applications.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on February 6, 2001.

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

Testimony For: This bill puts us in compliance with federal requirements. Vendors need to be aware of the sensitivity in regard to Social Security numbers.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: Senator Horn, prime sponsor.