
Transportation Committee

HB 1360

Brief Description: Concerning abstracts of driving records.

Sponsors: Representatives Irwin and Fey.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Permits the Department of Licensing (DOL) to release driver abstracts of existing volunteer vanpool drivers to transit authorities.
- Permits the DOL to enter into contractual agreements with a transit authority or a unit of local government, or a self-insurance pool of which either is a member, for the purpose of reviewing the driving records of existing vanpool drivers or employees for changes to the record during specified periods of time.

Hearing Date: 1/31/19

Staff: Beth Redfield (786-7140).

Background:

The Department of Licensing (DOL) maintains a driving record on every person licensed to operate a motor vehicle in Washington. These records or driver abstracts, contain information relating to a person's driving record which include: (1) accident information; (2) driving status; and (3) information about traffic citations.

The DOL may only release an abstract of a driver's record to the following persons and uses: (1) the individual named in the abstract; (2) employers or prospective employers relating to driving as a condition of employment; (3) volunteer organizations where driving is required; (4) transit authorities for prospective volunteer vanpool drivers; (5) insurance carriers for an individual covering the period of not more than the last three years; (6) state colleges, universities, agencies or units of local government authorized to self-insure for employment and risk management purposes; (7) the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction for school bus drivers; and (8) city attorneys, county prosecuting attorneys and defendant attorneys.

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.

For employers and volunteer organizations only, release of the abstract requires a statement signed by the prospective employee or volunteer.

For individual abstracts furnished by the DOL, a fee of \$13 is collected.

For employers and insurance companies, the DOL may enter into contractual agreements for the purpose of reviewing driving records of existing employees or policy holders for changes to the record during specified periods of time. The DOL is required to establish a fee for this service which does not result in a net revenue loss to the state.

Summary of Bill:

The permission to release driver abstracts to transit authorities is expanded to include existing volunteer vanpool drivers.

The DOL Director is permitted to enter into a contractual agreement with a transit authority, or a self-insurance pool of which it is a member, for the purpose of reviewing the driving records of existing vanpool drivers for changes to the record during specified periods of time.

The DOL Director is permitted to enter into a contractual agreement with a unit of local government, or a self-insurance pool of which it is a member, for the purpose of reviewing the driving records of existing employees for changes to the record during specified periods of time.

Transit authorities and units of local government are explicitly not required to obtain a driver signature for the release of the driver abstract.

For both types of contractual agreements, the DOL is required to establish a fee for the service which does not result in a net revenue loss to the state.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Fiscal Note requested January 21, 2019.

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