Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Transportation Committee

HB 2272

Brief Description: Providing for a designation on driver's licenses for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Sponsors: Representatives Orwall, Irwin, Kilduff, Leavitt, Thai, Appleton, Wylie, Doglio and Goodman.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Provides a designation on a driver's license that the driver is deaf or hard of hearing, if applicable.
- Allows any person to apply to obtain a voluntary deaf or hard of hearing designation.

Hearing Date: 2/3/20

Staff: Christine Thomas (786-7142).

Background:

For a fee, the Department of Licensing (DOL) issues driver's licenses that are valid for up to six years to every qualifying applicant. The license must include a distinguishing number assigned to the licensee; the name of record; date of birth; photograph; a signature; and if applicable, a veteran's designation.

Summary of Bill:

The DOL must include a designation on a driver's license that the driver is deaf or hard of hearing, if applicable. Any person may apply to obtain a voluntary deaf or hard of hearing designation on their driver's license.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

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.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect on July 1, 2020.