CHAPTER 84

DRIVER'S LICENSES AND NONOPERATOR'S IDENTIFICATION CARDS — DEAF OR HARD-OF-HEARING STATUS NOTATIONS

H F 643

AN ACT relating to driver's licenses and nonoperator's identification cards marked to reflect deaf or hard-of-hearing status.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Section 321.189, Code 2019, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 9. Deaf or hard-of-hearing status. A licensee who is a deaf person or a hard-of-hearing person, as those terms are defined in section 622B.1, may request that the licensee be marked to reflect the licensee's deaf or hard-of-hearing status on the face of the licensee when the licensee applies for the issuance or renewal of a license. The department may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A establishing criteria under which a licensee may be marked, including requiring the licensee to submit medical proof of the licensee's deaf or hard-of-hearing status. When a driver's license is so marked, the licensee's deaf or hard-of-hearing status shall be noted in the electronic database used by the department and law enforcement to access registration, titling, and driver's license information. The department, in consultation with the commission of deaf services, shall develop educational media to raise awareness of a licensee's ability to request the license be marked to reflect the licensee's deaf or hard-of-hearing status.

Sec. 2. Section 321.190, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code 2019, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (5) An applicant for a nonoperator's identification card who is a deaf person or a hard-of-hearing person, as those terms are defined in section 622B.1, may request that the card be marked to reflect the applicant's deaf or hard-of-hearing status on the face of the card when the applicant applies for the issuance or renewal of a card. The department may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A establishing criteria under which a card may be marked, including requiring the applicant to submit medical proof of the applicant's deaf or hard-of-hearing status. The department, in consultation with the commission of deaf services, shall develop educational media to raise awareness of an applicant's ability to request the card be marked to reflect the applicant's deaf or hard-of-hearing status.

Approved May 3, 2019