

House Study Bill 194 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON HINSON)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to driver's licenses marked to reflect deaf or
2 hard-of-hearing status.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 216A.114, Code 2019, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 6. Create an informational video, in
4 consultation with the state department of transportation,
5 notifying the public of the availability of and requirements
6 for a driver's license marked to reflect deaf or
7 hard-of-hearing status as described in section 321.189,
8 subsection 9. The video shall be in American sign language and
9 captioned in English.

10 Sec. 2. Section 321.189, Code 2019, is amended by adding the
11 following new subsection:

12 NEW SUBSECTION. 9. *Deaf or hard-of-hearing status.* A
13 licensee who is a deaf person or a hard-of-hearing person,
14 as those terms are defined in section 622B.1, may request
15 that the license be marked to reflect the licensee's deaf
16 or hard-of-hearing status when the licensee applies for the
17 issuance or renewal of a license. Upon such a request, the
18 designation "DHH" or the phrase "deaf or hard-of-hearing" shall
19 be marked prominently on the face of the license, as determined
20 by the department. The department may adopt rules pursuant
21 to chapter 17A establishing criteria under which a license
22 may be marked, including requiring the licensee to submit
23 medical proof of deafness or hearing loss. When a driver's
24 license is so marked, the licensee's deaf or hard-of-hearing
25 status shall be noted in the electronic database used by the
26 department and law enforcement to access registration, titling,
27 and driver's license information. The department shall make
28 available the informational video created pursuant to section
29 216A.114, subsection 6, in a conspicuous place in each of the
30 department's driver's license issuance facilities in a manner
31 determined by the department, which may include posting a
32 machine-readable barcode linked to the video.

33 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 321M.8 **Deaf or hard-of-hearing status**
34 **informational video.**

35 A county authorized to issue driver's licenses shall

1 make available the informational video created pursuant to
2 section 216A.114, subsection 6, in a conspicuous place in each
3 of the county's driver's license issuance facilities in a
4 manner determined by the county, which may include posting a
5 machine-readable barcode linked to the video.

6 EXPLANATION

7 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
8 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

9 This bill requires the commission of deaf services to create
10 an informational video, in consultation with the department of
11 transportation (DOT), notifying the public of the availability
12 of and requirements for a driver's license marked to reflect
13 deaf or hard-of-hearing status. The video must be in American
14 sign language and captioned in English.

15 The bill allows a person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing
16 to request that the person's driver's license be marked to
17 reflect the person's deaf or hard-of-hearing status when the
18 person applies for the issuance or renewal of a license. Upon
19 such a request, the designation "DHH" or the phrase "deaf or
20 hard-of-hearing" must be marked prominently on the face of
21 the license, as determined by the DOT. The bill authorizes
22 the DOT to adopt rules establishing criteria under which a
23 license may be marked in this manner, including requiring the
24 person to submit medical proof of deafness or hearing loss.
25 When a driver's license is so marked, the licensee's deaf or
26 hard-of-hearing status must be noted in the electronic database
27 used by the DOT and law enforcement to access registration,
28 titling, and driver's license information.

29 The bill requires the DOT and counties to make available the
30 informational video in a conspicuous place in each of the DOT's
31 or county's driver's license issuance facilities in a manner
32 determined by the DOT or county, as applicable, which may
33 include posting a machine-readable barcode linked to the video.