

MAR 2 2005
TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE FILE 535
BY DAVITT

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act extending the deadline for driver's license renewal for
2 peace corps volunteers.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 535

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 321.197 PEACE CORPS SERVICE
2 EXCEPTION.

3 1. The effective date of a valid driver's license issued
4 in this state, held by a person at the beginning of the
5 person's period of service as a volunteer in the federal peace
6 corps program established in 22 U.S.C. § 2501-2523,
7 notwithstanding the expiration of the license according to its
8 terms, shall be extended without fee until six months
9 following the date of the person's termination of service as a
10 volunteer in the peace corps, provided the person is not
11 suffering from physical disabilities which impair the person's
12 competency as an operator and provided further that the
13 licensee shall furnish a description of service document upon
14 demand of any peace officer. However, a person entitled to
15 the benefits of this section who is charged with operating a
16 motor vehicle without a driver's license shall not be
17 convicted if the person produces in court, within a reasonable
18 time, a valid driver's license previously issued to that
19 person along with the person's description of service
20 document.

21 2. The department is authorized to renew any driver's
22 license falling within the provisions and limitations of
23 subsection 1 without examination, upon application and payment
24 of fee made within six months following the person's
25 termination of service as a peace corps volunteer.

26 3. A person whose period of license validity is extended
27 under this section may file an application in accordance with
28 rules adopted by the department to have the person's record of
29 issuance of a driver's license retained in the department's
30 record system during the period for which the driver's license
31 remains valid. If the record of issuance of the person's
32 driver's license has been removed from the department's
33 records, the department shall reenter the person's record of
34 driver's license issuance upon request of the person if the
35 request is accompanied by the person's description of service

1 document.

2 4. As used in this section, "description of service
3 document" means the official written statement issued by the
4 peace corps, or an official copy of the statement, which
5 describes a person's peace corps service and includes the
6 dates of such service. The department may, in its discretion,
7 accept other evidence of a person's dates of service provided
8 by the peace corps office of return volunteer services in lieu
9 of the description of service document.

10

EXPLANATION

11 This bill extends to peace corps volunteers the same
12 exception to regulations for renewal of a driver's license
13 which currently applies to persons in military service.

14 The bill provides that a person who serves as a peace corps
15 volunteer is entitled to an extension on the expiration of a
16 driver's license, without fee, for six months after
17 termination from the peace corps, provided the person is
18 physically qualified to drive. The person is required to
19 furnish an official description of service document issued by
20 the peace corps, or an official copy, if requested by a peace
21 officer, and may not be convicted of operating a motor vehicle
22 without a driver's license if the description of service
23 document is produced for the court within a reasonable time.

24 The driver's license of a peace corps volunteer shall be
25 renewed within the prescribed period of time without
26 examination upon application and payment of required fees.
27 The person may request that the state department of
28 transportation retain a record of issuance of a driver's
29 license to the person during the extended period of validity.
30 If the department has removed the record of issuance, the
31 person may request that the record be reentered, upon
32 presentation of a description of service document. The state
33 department of transportation has the discretion to accept
34 other evidence of peace corps service issued by the peace
35 corps office of return volunteer services in lieu of the

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1 official description of service.

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