

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

S.B. 602  
By: Armbrister  
State Affairs  
4-21-97  
Committee Report (Amended)

### **DIGEST**

Currently, a driver's license or personal identification certificate expires on the first birthday of the license or certificate holder occurring after the fourth anniversary of the date of the application. Modern technology has virtually eliminated the need for regularly updated driver's licenses. For example, the Texas Department of Public Safety now uses computers to verify the validity of each license issued. This bill provides for the issuance of extended driver's licenses.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, S.B. 602 amends the period of validity of and fees for a driver's license or personal identification certificate.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

Rulemaking authority is granted to the Department of Public Safety in SECTION 8, Transportation Code, of this bill.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 521.271, Transportation Code, as follows:

Sec. 521.271. New heading: LICENSE AND PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION CERTIFICATE EXPIRATION. Provides that each original driver's license, personal identification certificate, and provisional license expires on the 60th birthday of the license or certificate holder, rather than on the first birthday occurring after the fourth anniversary of the date of the application, among other provisions. Requires the Department of Public Safety (department) to reissue the license or certificate of a holder who is under 60 years of age without charge at six-year intervals to include changes in the pertinent information shown on the license or certificate. Authorizes the department to require a holder to furnish certain information for an application for an original license under Section 521.142, Transportation Code. Provides that a driver's license or personal identification certificate expires on a certain date under certain conditions. Provides that this subsection does not affect the right of a person to obtain a duplicate or corrected license or certificate at another time or the obligation of the person to pay the fee required for a duplicate license or certificate obtained at another time. Prohibits a driver's license or personal identification certificate from being reissued. Requires the person who held the expired license or certificate to apply for an original license or certificate and meet all of the requirements for obtaining an original license or certificate.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 521.421, Transportation Code, as follows:

Sec. 521.421. New heading: LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE FEES; EXAMINATION FEES. Provides that the fee for issuance, rather than issuance or renewal, of a license, or personal identification certificate not otherwise provided for by this section is a certain amount. Provides that the fee for renewal of a license, rather than a Class M license, not otherwise provided for by this section is \$16, rather than \$21.

SECTION 3. Amends Section 521.421, Transportation Code, by adding Subsection (f), to require

the fee for a driver's license to be increased by \$8 under certain conditions.

SECTION 4. Amends Section 521.421, Transportation Code, by adding Subsection (g), to set forth the fees for a license authorizing the operation of a motorcycle or moped.

SECTION 5. Amends Section 521.422, Transportation Code, as follows:

Sec. 521.422. New heading: PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION CERTIFICATE RENEWAL FEE. Deletes a provision providing that the fee for a renewal of a personal identification certificate is \$10 for a person under 65 years of age. Provides that the fee for a renewal of a personal identification certificate is \$5 for a person 60, rather than 65, years of age or older.

SECTION 6. Amends Section 521.123, Transportation Code, to require the department to remove an "UNDER 21" indication from the holder's license without charge on request of a license holder who is at least 21 years of age.

SECTION 7. Amends Section 521.101(f), Transportation Code, to delete text that provides that a certificate expires on a date specified by the department. Makes a conforming change.

SECTION 8. Amends Sections 522.029(a) and (b), Transportation Code, to provide that the fee for a commercial driver's license or commercial driver learner's permit issued by the department is \$60, rather than \$40. Provides that the fee for issuance or renewal of certain licenses is \$8, under certain conditions.

SECTION 9. Amends Section 522.051, Transportation Code, to provide that an original commercial driver's license or commercial driver learner's permit expires six, rather than four, years after the applicant's next birthday. Deletes the definition of "last birthday." Deletes existing Subsections (b)-(d). Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 10. Amends Sections 522.052(b) and (c), Transportation Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 11. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 12. Authorizes the Department of Public Safety, by rule, to provide for the staggered expiration of licenses and certificates under Chapter 521, Transportation Code, so the proportionate number of licenses and certificates expire each year. Requires the fee for a license or certificate issued for a period other than the period provided by that chapter to be prorated accordingly.

SECTION 13. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 14. Emergency clause.

## **SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES**

### Amendment 1.

(1) Page 2, lines 2-9, amends Section 251.271, Transportation Code, by replacing Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (d), to set forth requirements for the department regarding reissuing a license or certificate.

(2) Page 3, lines 4-8, strike SECTION 3, replace it with Section 521.421, Transportation Code, which adds Subsection (f) to require a fee for a driver's license to be increased by \$8 under certain conditions.

(3) Page 4, line 13, insert new SECTION 8 regarding rules provided by the Department of

Public Safety for the staggered expiration of licenses and certificates. Renumbers subsequent sections accordingly.

Amendment 2.

(1) Page 2, lines 17-18, strike Section 521.421(a)(1), Transportation Code, and replace with the following:

"\$85 if on the date of application the applicant is:

(A) at least 18 years of age but younger than 25 years of age, if the application is for a license; or

(B) younger than 25 years of age, if the application is for a personal identification certificate".

(2) Adds new SECTION 4 to amend Section 521.421, Transportation Code, by adding Subsection (g), relating to certain licensing authorization.

(3) Adds new SECTION 8 to amend Sections 522.029(a) and (b), to provide certain fees for commercial driver's license or commercial driver learner's permit.

(4) Adds new SECTION 9 to amend Section 522.051, Transportation Code, to amend the period in which a commercial driver's license or commercial driver learner's permit expires.

(5) Adds new SECTION 10 to amend Sections 522.052(b) and (c), to make conforming changes.