

TO: All Legislators
FROM: Representative David Crowley
Senator LaTonya Johnson
DATE: Wednesday, November 6, 2019
RE: Co-sponsorship of Driver License Expansion

Package

DEADLINE: Wednesday, November 20th at 12pm

The Driver License Expansion Package

In the State of Wisconsin, having a driver license is an essential part to gaining financial independence and achieving career success. The Driver License Expansion Package aims to increase the amount of Wisconsin residents that can obtain their driving privileges by decreasing the financial barriers to obtaining a license. The package also aims to increase the amount of residents that can keep their driving privileges by limiting the amount of crimes and forfeitures for which a license can be suspended or revoked. Finally, the package includes legislation that uses today's technology to simplify and expedite accessibility to driver licenses and state identification cards, and legislation to increase police accountability.

LRB-4482/1 – The Universal Driver Education Act – Some studies have shown that for young adults transitioning from high school to the workforce, having a valid driver license is a better predictor of obtaining full-time employment than having a high school diploma. This bill would require the Department of Public Instruction to reimburse an educational institution – whether a school district, an operator of an independent charter school, or a private school participating in a parental choice program – that chooses to provide a driver education course to pupils who are at least 16 years of age and have at least a 2.3 grade point average.

LRB-4484/1 – The Driver License Protection Act – In Wisconsin, 60% of all license suspensions come from failure to pay forfeitures. That percentage increases with the inclusion of suspensions for criminal convictions not involving a vehicle. The Driver License Protection Act eliminates a circuit court's authority to suspend a person's operating privilege upon conviction of an offense that is not related to the operation of a motor vehicle, or for failure to pay court surcharges.

LRB-4485/1 – The Electronic ID Act – It is only a matter of time before digital or electronic driver licenses replace physical copies. We already have the technology

to allow individuals to be just a click away from their identity while simultaneously increasing opportunities to use the digital identification for online authentication purposes. The Electronic ID Act would allow the Department of Motor Vehicles to begin issuing electronic copies of operators' licenses and identification cards.

LRB-4486/1 – The Police Data Collection Act –The Police Data Collection Act would require that DOT must record the race, ethnicity, zip code, and gender of a person whose DOT-maintained license, permit, or identification card is accessed by law enforcement officer for the purpose of a motor vehicle stop. This bill will provide a mechanism for greater accountability when it comes to fixing the racial disparities that we currently see in police stops.

If you would like to co-sponsor this package or any of these bills individually, please contact Representative Crowley's office at 6-5580 or Rep.Crowley@legis.wisconsin.gov by **12pm on Wednesday, November 20th**.