

SESSION OF 2016

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2522**

As Amended by Senate Committee of the Whole

**Brief\***

HB 2522, as amended, would amend law related to driver's licenses.

The bill would authorize a laser engraved photograph to be placed on a Kansas driver's license, instruction permit, or nondriver identification card. Current law requires a digital image in color; that option would be retained. The bill also would specify the image be displayed on the front of the driver's license or nondriver identification card.

The bill would authorize electronic online renewal of a driver's license if permitted by the Director of Vehicles or the Director's designee. Electronic online renewal would not be allowed if the license previously had been renewed through an electronic online application in the immediately preceding driver's license period or if the person is younger than 30 days from turning 21, 65 or older, a registered offender under the Kansas Offender Registration Act, or licensed only for the period of time the holder is authorized to be present in the United States. The bill would allow the Division to rely on the Division's most recent color digital image and signature image for the class C or M driver's license if the Division has the information on file. The bill would authorize the Secretary of Revenue to adopt and administer rules and regulations to implement a program to permit an electronic online renewal of a driver's license.

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\*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

The bill also would make technical changes.

## **Background**

The Director of the Office of Special Investigations, Kansas Department of Revenue, provided proponent testimony to the House Committee on Transportation and to the Senate Committee on Transportation. He testified a printing process known as laser etched engraving would allow higher resolution images that are very difficult to counterfeit or alter to be used on Kansas driver's licenses and identification cards, and the laser etched engraving process that produces black and white images is less expensive than the color version but produces high-resolution, distinctive images. He stated there are no costs associated with the bill because the Department has not yet decided whether or when to add this feature to the licenses and identification cards. There was no other testimony.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to remove a requirement the laser engraved photograph be in black and white and to make technical changes.

The Senate Committee of the Whole amended the bill to add provisions related to electronic online renewal of a driver's license.

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, as introduced, the bill would have no effect on state revenues and has the potential to increase expenditures. However, the Department is unable to estimate the additional costs until a credential printing vendor is obtained. Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2017 Governor's Budget Report*.