

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2020 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4133

BY DELEGATES CRISS, HAMRICK, ATKINSON, FOSTER,

KUMP, PACK, LITTLE, BARNHART AND MANDT

[Introduced January 13, 2020; Referred to the
Committee on Technology and Infrastructure then
Government Organization]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §17B-2-8 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
 2 to clarifying display of the name on the face of a driver’s license, and to clarify that all
 3 documents acceptable under federal law for proof of identity, lawful presence and
 4 residency are acceptable for licensing purposes in West Virginia.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. ISSUANCE OF LICENSE, EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL.

§17B-2-8. Issuance and contents of licenses; fees.

1 (a) The division shall, upon payment of the required fee, issue to every applicant qualifying
 2 therefor a driver’s license, which shall indicate the type or general class or classes of vehicle or
 3 vehicles the licensee may operate in accordance with this chapter or chapter 17E of this code, or
 4 motorcycle-only license. Each license shall contain a coded number assigned to the licensee, the
 5 full legal name, to be displayed in a manner selected by the applicant when supported by
 6 appropriate documentation and consistent with federal law, subsection (c) of this section and
 7 otherwise approved by the division, date of birth, residence address, a brief description and a
 8 color photograph of the licensee and either a facsimile of the signature of the licensee or a space
 9 upon which the signature of the licensee is written with pen and ink immediately upon receipt of
 10 the license. No license is valid until it has been so signed by the licensee.

11 (b) A driver’s license which is valid for operation of a motorcycle shall contain a motorcycle
 12 endorsement. A driver’s license which is valid for the operation of a commercial motor vehicle
 13 shall be issued in accordance with chapter 17E of this code.

14 (c) The division shall use such process or processes in the issuance of licenses that will,
 15 insofar as possible, prevent any identity theft, alteration, counterfeiting, duplication, reproduction,
 16 forging or modification of, or the superimposition of a photograph on, the license.

17 (d) The fee for the issuance of a Class E driver’s license is \$5 per year for each year the
 18 license is valid. The Division of Motor Vehicles may adjust this fee every five years on September
 19 1, based on the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics most current Consumer

20 Price Index: *Provided*, That an increase in ~~such~~ the fee may not exceed 10 percent of the total
21 fee amount in a single year. The fee for issuance of a Class D driver's license is \$6.25 per year
22 for each year the license is valid. An additional fee of 50 cents shall be collected from the applicant
23 at the time of original issuance or each renewal and the additional fee shall be deposited in the
24 Combined Voter Registration and Driver's Licensing Fund established pursuant to the provisions
25 of §3-2-12 of this code. The additional fee for adding a motorcycle endorsement to a driver's
26 license is \$1 per year for each year the license is issued.

27 (e) The fee for issuance of a motorcycle-only license is \$2.50 for each year for which the
28 motorcycle license is valid. The fees for the motorcycle endorsement or motorcycle-only license
29 shall be paid into a special fund in the State Treasury known as the Motorcycle Safety Fund as
30 established in §17B-1D-7 of this code.

31 (f) The fee for the issuance of either the level one or level two graduated driver's license
32 as prescribed in §17B-2-3a of this code is \$5.

33 (g) The fee for issuance of a federally compliant driver's license or identification card for
34 federal use is \$10 in addition to any other fee required by this chapter. Any fees collected under
35 the provisions of this subsection shall be deposited into the Motor Vehicle Fees Fund established
36 in accordance with §17A-2-21 of this code.

37 (h) The division may use an address on the face of the license other than the applicant's
38 address of residence if:

39 (1) The applicant has a physical address or location that is not recognized by the post
40 office for the purpose of receiving mail;

41 (2) The applicant is enrolled in a state address confidentiality program or the alcohol test
42 and lock program;

43 (3) The applicant's address is entitled to be suppressed under a state or federal law or
44 suppressed by a court order; or

45 (4) At the discretion of the commissioner, the applicant's address may be suppressed to

46 provide security for classes of applicants such as law-enforcement officials, protected witnesses
47 and members of the state and federal judicial systems.

48 (i) Notwithstanding any provision in this article to the contrary, a valid military identification
49 card with an expiration date issued by the United States Department of Defense for active duty,
50 reserve or retired military personnel containing a digitized photo and the holder's full legal name
51 may be used to establish current full legal name and legal presence. The commissioner may at
52 his or her discretion expand the use of military identification cards for other uses as permitted
53 under this code or federal rule.

54 (i) The division may accept any document as proof of identity, residency and lawful
55 presence that is acceptable under the Real ID Act of 2005, Pub. L. No. 109-13, 119 Stat. 302
56 (May 11, 2005) or subsequent act established for federally compliant driver's licenses.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to address Real ID compliance concerns and to allow expansion of acceptable documents for licensing purposes.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.