
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO IDENTIFICATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that people with certain
2 disabilities, such as autism spectrum disorder, cognitive
3 impairments, and other neurological or developmental conditions,
4 may appear to be high functioning but may not react
5 appropriately in interactions with law enforcement. A routine
6 traffic stop or emergency could escalate if the law enforcement
7 officer or first responder is not aware of a hidden disability.
8 These circumstances may lead to misunderstandings or escalation
9 that could otherwise be avoided if the presence of a disability
10 were known.

11 The legislature further finds that other states have taken
12 steps to allow a special notation on an identification card to
13 voluntarily indicate the existence of a disability to promote
14 safer and more informed interactions. The legislature believes
15 that allowing individuals to voluntarily indicate the presence
16 of a disability on a form of identification can help promote



1 awareness, understanding, and appropriate responses during
2 interactions with law enforcement and first responders.

3 The purpose of this Act is to promote safer and
4 compassionate communication by:

5 (1) Allowing an applicant with a disability to request a
6 special notation on a driver's license, permit, or
7 identification card; and

8 (2) Require the department of transportation to establish
9 public outreach efforts and coordinate with state and
10 county law enforcement agencies regarding the
11 disability notation.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 286, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by adding a new section to part VI to be appropriately
14 designated and to read as follows:

15 "§286- Disability; identification. (a) Beginning
16 January 1, 2027, an applicant for an instruction permit,
17 provisional license, driver's license, limited purpose driver's
18 license, limited purpose provisional driver's license, or
19 limited purpose instruction permit, including any renewals, may
20 request a notation on the applicable permit, provisional



1 license, or driver's license that the individual has a
2 disability, at no additional cost.

3 (b) No applicant shall be required to submit proof of the
4 applicant's disability.

5 (c) The examiner of drivers shall not deny an application
6 for a permit or license because the disability selected by the
7 applicant does not match that indicated on any other document.

8 (d) The department of transportation shall adopt rules
9 pursuant to chapter 91 necessary for the purposes of this
10 section."

11 SECTION 3. Chapter 286, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
12 amended by adding a new section to part XVI to be appropriately
13 designated and to read as follows:

14 **"§286- Disability; identification.** (a) Beginning
15 January 1, 2027, an applicant for a civil identification card,
16 including any renewals, may request a notation on the civil
17 identification card that the individual has a disability, at no
18 additional cost.

19 (b) No applicant shall be required to submit proof of the
20 applicant's disability.



1 (c) The examiner of drivers shall not deny an application
2 for a civil identification card because the disability selected
3 by the applicant does not match that indicated on any other
4 document.

5 (d) The department of transportation shall adopt rules
6 pursuant to chapter 91 necessary for the purposes of this
7 section."

8 SECTION 4. The department of transportation shall:

9 (1) Establish public outreach efforts to educate the
10 general public on the availability of the disability
11 notation; and

12 (2) Coordinate with the department of law enforcement and
13 each county police department to ensure that annual
14 training for law enforcement officers includes
15 procedures for recognizing and appropriately
16 responding to individuals with disability notations on
17 their permit, driver's license, or civil
18 identification card.

19 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

20 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



Report Title:

DOT; Driver's License; Permit; Civil Identification Card;
Disability Notation

Description:

Allows applicants for driver's permit, driver's license, or civil identification cards to request a disability notation on their permit, license, or identification card. Requires the Department of Transportation to establish public outreach efforts and coordinate with state and county law enforcement agencies regarding the disability notation. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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