

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6418

As of January 22, 2002

Title: An act relating to requiring all applicants for a commercial driver's license to demonstrate a working knowledge of the English language.

Brief Description: Requiring commercial drivers to understand English.

Sponsors: Senator Hochstatter.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Transportation: 1/23/02.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Staff: Dean Carlson (786-7305)

Background: In order to obtain a commercial driver's license to drive a commercial vehicle, an applicant must pass a knowledge and skills test for driving a commercial motor vehicle. The test must meet certain minimum federal standards as established by federal regulations in 49 C.F.R. part 383, as well as other requirements imposed by state law or federal regulation.

Summary of Bill: Commercial driver's license tests must include a section requiring an applicant to demonstrate a sufficient working knowledge of the English language to enable the applicant to communicate with and understand directions from law enforcement.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 17, 2002.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.