

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5610

As Reported by Senate Committee On:
Transportation, February 16, 2009

Title: An act relating to the release of driving record abstracts for employment and risk management purposes.

Brief Description: Authorizing the release of driving record abstracts for employment and risk management purposes.

Sponsors: Senators Haugen, Delvin, Sheldon, Berkey, Jarrett and Shin.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Transportation: 2/03/09, 2/16/09 [DPS, DNP].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Majority Report: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5610 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Haugen, Chair; Marr, Vice Chair; Swecker, Ranking Minority Member; Becker, Berkey, Delvin, Eide, Jarrett, Kilmer, King, Ranker and Sheldon.

Minority Report: Do not pass.

Signed by Senators Kastama and Kauffman.

Staff: Janice Baumgardt (786-7319)

Background: The Department of Licensing (DOL) maintains a case record on every person licensed to operate a motor vehicle in Washington. These case records, or abstracts, contain information relating to a person's driving record. Current law restricts the distribution of abstracts to certain persons and uses.

Summary of Bill (Recommended Substitute): The list of those who may receive abstracts is expanded to include an employer or prospective employer or volunteer organization, or an agent acting on their behalf, for employment and risk management purposes.

EFFECT OF CHANGES MADE BY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (Recommended Substitute): The proposed substitute removes risk management purposes

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as a valid purpose of using the abstract, requires the licensee to sign a release, and requires the requestor to sign an attestation as to the use of the abstract.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

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

Staff Summary of Public Testimony on Original Bill: PRO: State law is currently crafted more narrowly than federal law and most state laws. This is critical for employers to make employment decisions.

OTHER: Technical corrections are needed.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Terry Jennings, Reed Elsevier, Inc.

OTHER: Clark Holloway, DOL.