

FISCAL NOTE
Requested by Legislative Council
12/22/2014

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1122

- 1 A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2013-2015 Biennium		2015-2017 Biennium		2017-2019 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						
Expenditures				\$46,860		\$4,000
Appropriations				\$46,860		\$4,000

- 1 B. **County, city, school district and township fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

	2013-2015 Biennium	2015-2017 Biennium	2017-2019 Biennium
Counties			
Cities			
School Districts			
Townships			

- 2 A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

Creating online renewal option, no net new revenue, costs for IT programming and mail. Number of licenses based on estimate.

- B. **Fiscal impact sections:** *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

ITD programming, 420 hours at \$83 per hour = \$34,860
 Testing with vendor to validate process 80 hours at \$100 per hour = \$8,000
 Mailing expected 3 – 4,000 per year at .50 each = \$4,000 per biennium

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

- A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

No new revenue.

- B. **Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

Expenditures based on data in 2B are IT related for programming and testing of the new online process and for mailing licenses

- C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation or a part of the appropriation is included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

Appropriations are for cost of expenditures only.

Name: Glenn Jackson

Agency: NDDOT

Telephone: 328-4792

Date Prepared: 01/07/2015

2015 HOUSE TRANSPORTATION

HB 1122

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee
Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

HB 1122

1/8/2015

21774

Subcommittee

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Jeanette Cook

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A bill relating to general operator's license requirements, substitute operator's licenses, and license renewal.

Minutes:

Attachment #1

The hearing on HB 1122 was called to order by **Chairman Dan Ruby**.

Glenn Jackson, Department of Transportation, Director, Driver's License Division, introduced the HB 1122. See attachment #1.

Representative Rick C. Becker: Can you give me an example of what some of the questions will be?

Glenn Jackson: It will be the same questions that we have today on the current application.

Chairman Dan Ruby: When someone normally gets a new license, you are supposed to turn in your old one. Will that change if you can do it online? Do you perceive any problems with that if done online?

Glenn Jackson: With a substitute license someone can walk in the door today and say they lost it. We have no way to verify, but a new one is reissued. For renewal the current license that they have expires at the birthdate on the card, the most they could have is 2 licenses, per se, for 10 months, if they renew online at the very earliest renewal point. At the end of that time there would be an expiration date on the old license. We don't see that as being a significant issue.

Vice Chairman Lisa Meier: What is the penalty for perjury?

Glenn Jackson: I believe it is a Class A Misdemeanor.

Representative Marvin Nelson: I was thinking about the mailing. My driver's license has my physical address on it, but that is not my mailing address. If I renewed this online, do

you mail this to my P.O. Box that is not on my license, or do you mail it to my physical address?

Glenn Jackson: We would have to identify the correct address during the process by using the information that is in the system.

Representative Gary Paur: In Subsection 6 of Section 1 you deleted lines 8-10 but reinserted them somewhere else. Lines 10-14 were deleted and not added anywhere else. Can you tell me why?

Glenn Jackson: The previous language dealt with Class D licenses. In Paragraph 6 we changed the reinsertion language so it allows us to do a renewal for **any type** of classification of license without retesting.

Representative Chris Olson: What are the current protocols for a citizen or license holder to register a new address for their identification?

Glenn Jackson: You can call, send a letter, come into the office, or make an address change online.

Representative Chris Olson: If I were someone attempting to commit fraud, could I just call in and tell you to change the address on someone else's license?

Glenn Jackson: It is not quite that simple, you have to answer certain questions and give us the information such as name, address, and Social Security number. We also have to verify that information. So, if you give us all the information that we protect, we would have no way of knowing that you are not that other person.

Representative Chris Olson: So, it would be theoretically possible to add such an address and register online to have a substitute license issued and mailed to that address?

Glenn Jackson: That is correct if you have all the personal information.

Chairman Dan Ruby: Glen, in your system do you have a physical address and a mailing address?

Glenn Jackson: Yes.

Representative Robert Frantzvog: Doesn't your driver's license have to have your physical address on it?

Glenn Jackson: Yes, it may be mailed to a P.O. Box, but the address on the license will be an actual physical address.

Rep. Mark Owens: Can someone renew a license before it expires or after it expires?

Glenn Jackson: It can be done before or after it expires within a year.

Chairman Dan Ruby: You are eliminating the eye exam every other time if the renewal is done online. Are you also doing that when you come into the office?

Glenn Jackson: We won't be able to give the eye exam online. We will continue to do the eye exam in the office. We are waving the eye exam, every other renewal, online. Other states are doing this. We assume that someone that really needs glasses will go and get them. If they fill out the application online and say that their vision is okay, and then something happens. It will be their responsibility.

Chairman Dan Ruby: A person would not be able to renew online 2 years in a row?

Glenn Jackson: That is correct, and we want to get the photo updated.

Chairman Dan Ruby: Could you explain the Fiscal Note?

Glenn Jackson: I asked our IT department to tell me how much it would cost to do this. For programming and for us to do the testing, it came out to be about \$42,000. The estimate of \$4000 is based on the amount of mail. We are estimating 3000 to 4000 people a year, there could be more or less. We have no idea how many people will choose to do this. If there are more, it will cost more in mailing costs. At first we are expecting the numbers to be low. They should increase as time goes on, and then the cost figures will have to be adjusted. This is just for Class D licenses.

There was no further support for HB 1122.
There was no opposition to HB 1122.

The hearing on HB 1122 was closed.

**Vice Chairman Lisa Meier moved a Do Pass on HB 1122.
Representative Lois Delmore seconded the motion.**

A roll call vote was taken. Aye 13 Nay 0 Absent 1

Representative Chris Olson will carry HB 1122.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1122: Transportation Committee (Rep. Ruby, Chairman) recommends DO PASS
(13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1122 was placed on the
Eleventh order on the calendar.

2015 SENATE TRANSPORTATION

HB 1122

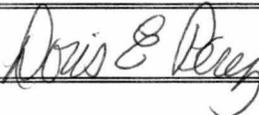
2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee
Lewis and Clark Room, State Capitol

HB 1122
2/19/2015
Recording job number 24159

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution: to amend and reenact sections 39-06-14, 39-06-18, and 39-06-19 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to general operator's license requirements, substitute operator's licenses, and license renewals.

Minutes:

Attachments: 8

Glen Jackson, Director, Drivers' License Division, North Dakota Department of Transportation (DOT), attached testimony #1; this bill will allow individuals who qualify, to complete license renewals outside the office, thus providing greater flexibility for the public. The department will offer the option of renewing licenses online every other renewal; this requires waving the vision examination.

Vice Chairman Casper: Why this bill?

Glen Jackson: The number of walk-ins has increased. This will be a cost saving measure; we project 20% on-line use, therefore reducing the number of walk-ins, which will leave more employees available to deal with the people who still want to go to the office.

Senator Rust: every other renewal would be 12 yrs., isn't that too long?

Glen Jackson: As far as we know there have been no problems created anywhere.

No additional testimony in favor.

Nancy Kopp, ND Optometric Association, opposing this bill, 12 yrs. is too long to go without an eye exam, many people may have developed conditions they might not be aware of and are limiting their eyesight. Provided attached testimony: #2 from **Dr. Tom Deis**, opposing this bill and document entitled Is Vision Screening Required upon Regular Driver's License Renewal? (attachment #3), showing which states require vision screening and how often

Dr. Paul Dunderland, optometrist, in opposition, attached testimony #4

Senator Axness asked what the process is if person failed the DOT visual test

Dr. Dunderland: We can use the results of the last visual exam if it was within the last 6 months, if longer a new exam is done. There is a form we fill out for them to take to DOT. Attachment #5: Certificate of Vision Examination, ND DOT form SFN 2342

Dr. Taya Patzman, optometrist, in opposition see attachment #6

Courtney Koebele, Executive Director ND Medical Association, opposes provision number 10, page 5; she does not recommend reducing the frequency of the eye exam requirements, attachment #7

Dr. Mark A Moen, Devils Lake, ND Optometrist in opposition of this bill

Attachment #8, e-mailed testimony from **Dr. Kyle Krein**, OD

No additional testimony.

Committee members discussed the possibility of a PDF visual exam form that could be attached to the online renewal.

Glen Jackson said the DOT has no evidence that 12 yrs. is too long a time. He said online forms are handled by the central office, licenses are batch printed. A medical form attachment would need to be separated and verified manually which is time consuming. This is what we are trying to avoid: manual steps that take much needed employee time. We can consider optometrist submitting on line visual test results, it would be time consuming for them.

Senator Campbell at first reading this bill sounds like a great idea. After listening to the testimony it makes me think of safety issues that might be involved. Maybe a simpler online form could be designed

Glen Jackson: There are no measurable safety concerns I am aware of, we have no supporting data, and other states have already implemented this.

No additional testimony. Hearing closed.

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee
Lewis and Clark Room, State Capitol

HB 1122
3/12/2015
Recording job number 24717

Subcommittee Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

To amend and reenact sections 39-06-14, 39-06-18, and 39-06-19 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to general operator's license requirements, substitute operators licenses, and license renewals.

Minutes:

Attachments: 0

Chairman Oehlke opened the discussion on HB 1122, Senator Campbell was absent.

Chairman Oehlke peace officers originally concerned because of the length of time between photos taken for purposes of identification, twelve years.

Bruce Burkett, ND Peace Officers Association, the concern came to us after the House Bill passed, from the optometrists. At the present time, after DOT explained the screening process, if it works as they say, and it should, most of those concerns went away. The only thing left would be the age 65 in the bill, to come back for the eye test. Age 65 came because they didn't know what age limits to put. Personally my vision changed most after age 40. If you got groups that don't get tested in 12 years you could get people that need the test get by, such as those who develop visual conditions or have conditions that may affect vision. Passports are good with photos every 10 yrs. The group between 21-45 yrs. would get maybe one test and get renewal online. The percent of people expected to go online would be 10-15% of total applicants. Most people want to get eye exams when they renew their licenses. Officially we are neutral; whatever you guys end up doing we will enforce it that way.

Chairman Oehlke: after age 65 it would be every 6 yrs.? Was told yes.

Senator Sinner the original concern was the photograph; would you be more amenable to age 45 instead of 65? Just one fatality because of this would cause great consternation to all of us.

Senator Rust shared with the committee his eyes problems since his early 40s.

Senator Axness: I was trying to find a way you can prove you had a test; the DOT wants to ease burden on employees. I don't want to risk safety to do that.

Senate Transportation Committee

HB 1122

3/12/2015

Page 2

Chairman Oehlke shall we leave it as it is? We will wait for Nancy Kopp who is visiting with DOT to report back to us. They are very concerned about the vision test.

2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Transportation Committee
Lewis and Clark Room, State Capitol

HB 1122
3/13/2015
Recording job number 24812

Subcommittee Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature	<i>Doris E. Blaz</i>
---------------------------	----------------------

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

To amend and reenact sections 39-06-14, 39-06-18, and 39-06-19 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to general operator's license requirements, substitute operators licenses and license renewals.

Minutes:

Attachments: 0

Chairman Oehlke opened the discussion on HB 1122. All committee members were present.

Senator Campbell moved do not pass

Vice Chairman Casper seconded

No additional discussion

Roll call vote was taken: Yes 6 No 0 Absent 0

Carrier Chairman Oehlke

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1122: Transportation Committee (Sen. Oehlke, Chairman) recommends **DO NOT PASS** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1122 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2015 TESTIMONY

HB 1122

HB1122
1-8-15
#1-

HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
January 8, 2015; 10:45 AM, Ft. Totten Room

North Dakota Department of Transportation
Glenn Jackson, Director, Driver's License Division
HB1122

Good Morning Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, I am Glenn Jackson, Director of the Driver's License Division at the North Dakota Department of Transportation (DOT). Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address you today.

HB1122 provides the DOT the authority to issue substitute licenses online, and renew Class D licenses online. As you know, today all license issuance occurs in a driver license office. This change will enable individuals who qualify, to complete these transactions outside the office and provides greater flexibility for the public.

For substitute issuance, the individual must not have any changes to information on the license. For example, an individual could not complete a change of address and be issued a substitute license online. This prevents attempted fraud, as the license will only be mailed to the current address on record. An individual wishing to make changes would be required to take that action separately.

For renewals, the department will offer the individual the option of renewing their license online every other renewal. This requires waiving the vision examination for this online renewal. For this reason and to keep a fairly updated photo on the record, the individual will be required to come into an office every other renewal to complete the vision test and update the photo. This process continues until age sixty-five, at which time the individual will be required to visit an office for all renewals.

The online process will process through several questions. Initially, the applicant must enter all identity information to gain a match with their driving record. The next section will ask questions based upon the current application form. Some responses will prevent the completion of an on-line renewal. For example, the applicant will be asked if there have been any significant health changes (with a list and explanation of potential items provided). If the response is yes, the process ends and the individual will be instructed to go to a driver's license office. This same process will include all items currently listed on the application form. At the end of the process the applicant must certify under penalty of perjury that all the responses provided are true and correct.

Thank you Mr. Chairman, I would be happy to answer any questions.

#1-1

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
February 19, 2015; 11:00 AM, Lewis & Clark Room

North Dakota Department of Transportation
Glenn Jackson, Director, Driver's License Division
HB1122

Good Morning Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, I am Glenn Jackson, Director of the Driver's License Division at the North Dakota Department of Transportation (DOT). Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address you today.

HB1122 provides the DOT the authority to issue substitute licenses online, and renew Class D licenses online. As you know, today all license issuance occurs in a driver license office. This change will enable individuals who qualify, to complete these transactions outside the office and provides greater flexibility for the public.

For substitute issuance, the individual must not have any changes to information on the license. For example, an individual could not complete a change of address and be issued a substitute license online. This prevents attempted fraud, as the license will only be mailed to the current address on record. An individual wishing to make changes would be required to take that action separately.

For renewals, the department will offer the individual the option of renewing their license online every other renewal. This requires waiving the vision examination for this online renewal. For this reason and to keep a fairly updated photo on the record, the individual will be required to come into an office every other renewal to complete the vision test and update the photo. This process continues until age sixty-five, at which time the individual will be required to visit an office for all renewals.

The online process will proceed through several questions. Initially, the applicant must enter all identity information to gain a match with their driving record. The next section will ask questions based upon the current application form. Some responses will prevent the completion of an on-line renewal. For example, the applicant will be asked if there have been any significant health changes (with a list and explanation of potential items provided). If the response is yes, the process ends and the individual will be instructed to go to a driver's license office. This same process will include all items currently listed on the application form. At the end of the process the applicant must certify under penalty of perjury that all the responses provided are true and correct.

Thank you Mr. Chairman, I would be happy to answer any questions.

HB 1122 Section 10
Senate Transportation Committee
February 19, 2015

Chairman Dave Oehlke and members of the Senate Transportation Committee:

I am Dr. Tom Deis and I've been a practicing ND eye doctor for 22 years and I also serve as a vision liaison for the medical advisory board for the Department of Transportation.

I am in opposition to section 10 of House Bill 1122. I was unaware that this was being proposed to this legislature, but the language of section 10 would allow drivers to renew their license without a vision assessment for 12 years. Many people do get an eye exam, but many use the vision screening at the Department of Transportation as their only source for a vision exam. Literally, eyesight can change overnight and with such potential vision changes, I feel this leaves drivers on ND roads at a high risk which could potentially affect lives. Would you want to be on the road or would you want your children to be on the road with drivers who haven't had their vision assessed for 12 years?

Thank you for your consideration to amend section 10 of this bill.

Respectfully,

Dr. Thomas Deis

#B 1122
2-19-15
#3-1

Is Vision Screening Required Upon Regular¹ Driver's License Renewal?²

STATE:	Vision Screening Required Upon Renewal?	NOTES:
Alabama	no	
Alaska	yes	
Arizona	yes	Vision screening required every 12 years.
Arkansas	yes	Renewal is every four years.
California	[see note]	Vision screening required for those not eligible to renew license by mail.
Colorado	[see note]	<p>As of July 2, 2001, regular driver's licenses must be renewed once every ten years. Vision screening is required if the license is renewed in person. Every other cycle a driver may renew by mail. The result – a driver can conceivably go 20 years without a vision screening.</p> <p>As of April 25, 2008, Persons age 66 and older may continue to renew their driver's license through the mail if they submit with their renewal application a signed form from an optometrist or ophthalmologist attesting that the applicant has had an eye examination within the last six months and stating the results of the applicant's eye examination. In addition, drivers 21 through 66 years of age may now only renew their license electronically every other renewal period and when doing so must attest that they have had an eye examination from an optometrist or ophthalmologist within three years before the renewal and state their prescription for vision correction, if one is necessary.</p>
Connecticut	NO [see note]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB8006 was enacted in 2007. This Act restored the vision screening requirement for drivers repealed earlier in 2007 (although that requirement hadn't gone into effect yet). • After July 1, 2009, drivers will be required to have their vision screened prior to every other license renewal. Drivers will be allowed to submit the results of a vision screening on a form prescribed by the Commissioner conducted during the preceding 12 months by a health care professional qualified to conduct such screenings. • HB6651 Enacted in 2011 repealed the requirement for drivers to complete a vision screening at every other renewal.
Delaware	yes	
D.C.	yes	
Florida	yes	
Georgia	yes	
Hawaii	yes	
Idaho	yes	<p>Renewal is for four years or for additional fee eight years – choice of driver. It is possible the vision screening could occur only every eight years.</p> <p>In March 2012 legislation was enacted changing the reference</p>

HB 1122
 2-19-15
 #3-2

STATE:	Vision Screening Required Upon Renewal?	NOTES:
		to "examination" of a driver's eyesight or "eye test" to "vision screening."
Illinois	yes	Illinois law requires renewal for 18-75 every four years. A driver can renew once online without a vision test for an additional 4 years, if they meet safe driver requirements (no accidents, tickets etc.). They can go no more than 8 years without a vision test. 75 up must take a road test in addition and the time frame is reduced to 2 years for 81-86 and one year for 87 and over.
Indiana	yes	Per legislation enacted May 13, 2009, establishes electronic renewal of driver's licenses every other renewal for those drivers less than 70 years of age at the time of renewal. The vision screening requirement would not apply if license is renewed electronically.
Iowa	yes	
Kansas	yes	KS ODs are allowed to limit the length of renewals to annually or every two years based on a medical condition. Local officials have fought hard to eliminate the vision requirement so it can be done totally online
Kentucky	no	Renewal is four years for everyone. And other than initial vision test at age 16, KY does not require any vision testing regardless of age, etc.
Louisiana	yes	
Maine	yes	
Maryland	yes	
Massachusetts	yes	
Michigan	yes	
Minnesota	yes	
Mississippi	no	
Missouri	yes	Ages 18 - 20 Drivers who are 18-20 years of age receive a 3-year* driver license that expires on the applicant's date of birth in the third year after date of issuance. Ages 21 - 69 Drivers who are 21-69 years of age receive a 6-year* driver license that expires on the applicant's date of birth in the sixth year after the date of issuance. Ages 70 and over Drivers who are ages 70 and over receive a 3-year* driver license that expires on the applicant's date of birth in the third year after date of issuance. Note: Renewal applicants are required to take a road sign recognition test in addition to the vision test.
Montana	yes	
Nebraska	yes	
Nevada	yes	
New Hampshire	[see note]	Licenses are renewed every 5 years and every other renewal requires a vision screening either at the eye doctor or the DMV. Every other renewal can be done

HB 1122
2-19-15
#3-3

STATE:	Vision Screening Required Upon Renewal?	NOTES:
		online and the person is simply asked if there have been any changes in their vision since the last renewal
New Jersey	[see note]	There is a statutory requirement for a vision screening once every ten years upon renewal. However, the requirement is not enforced because the legislature does not provide any funding for that line item.
New Mexico	yes	Per legislation enacted March 8, 2010, drivers who renew their license by mail or electronic means are exempt from the vision screening requirement.
New York	yes	
North Carolina	[see note]	Vision screening required on renewal if there is evidence of health problems.
North Dakota	yes	
Ohio	yes	
Oklahoma	no	
Oregon	[see note]	The Department of Motor Vehicles has total discretion when and if to retest. Previously no driver was required to have their vision screened upon renewal. A rule was adopted by the Department, effective March 2010, that now requires driver's over age 50 to have their eyesight tested when their license is renewed.
Pennsylvania	no	
Rhode Island	no	Driver's license renewals are available online per May 2012 regulation of the Department of Motor Vehicles. Online users must attest that vision is at least 20/40 and that his/her vision has been checked in previous 5 years.
South Carolina	yes	
South Dakota	yes	An amendment enacted in 2013 allows any person who holds a South Dakota operator's license, motorcycle operator's license, or non-driver identification card to now apply for renewal by mail or electronic renewal once in any ten year period if the meet certain requirements, including the submission of an affidavit signed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist that supplies proof that the applicant has adequate eyesight.
Tennessee	no	
Texas	[see note]	Can renew online without an eye exam but can only be done once.
Utah	yes	
Vermont	no	
Virginia	[see note]	Regular driver's license renewal includes a vision screening which is waived for mail, phone, fax, or internet renewal providing the applicant signs a statement indicating their vision has not changed.
Washington	yes	
West Virginia	yes	Vision screening requirement for renewals enacted March 13, 2008 to become effective January 1, 2009.
Wisconsin	yes	Renewal is every eight years.

HB 1122
2-19-15
#3-4

STATE:	Vision Screening Required Upon Renewal?	NOTES:
Wyoming	[see note]	Regular driver's license renewal includes a vision screening once every eight years (licenses are renewed every four years) at the discretion of the examiner.

Last revised April 9, 2013

- ¹ The information included in this chart is for regular and **NOT** for commercial or other classes of driver's licenses.
- ² Summarized from the 2001 Digest of Motors Laws, 67th Edition, AAA. In addition information for some jurisdictions was provided by the state's optometric association.

Highlighted States: These state optometric associations responded to my request to verify the information for their state. The information was either verified as correct or, in some cases, expanded upon.

SGRC/G:Charts/Driver'sLicenseRenewalVisionScreeningRequirements

CERTIFICATE OF VISION EXAMINATION

North Dakota Department of Transportation, Drivers License Division
SFN 2342 (Rev. 05-2013)

HB 1122
2.19.15
#5 p1-2



CONFIDENTIAL

Name	Date of Birth
Address	City

DLN

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

The examination must be completed by a physician or optometrist and include the following: uncorrected and corrected vision, field of vision, and whether colors can be distinguished. These results must be within six months of driver's license application.

DISTANT VISION	RIGHT EYE	LEFT EYE	BOTH EYES	Field of Vision in Degrees (Requires Numbers):	
Without Correction	20/	20/	20/	Right Eye	Left Eye
With Present Correction	20/	20/	20/	Temporal _____	Temporal _____
Best Possible Correction	20/	20/	20/	Nasal _____	Nasal _____

Does the applicant have the ability to distinguish the colors red, green, and amber? Yes No

Is there evidence of eye disease or injury? Yes No
If so, describe:

Have corrective lenses been ordered? Yes No

Comments

Date of Examination	Business Address	Business Phone Number
---------------------	------------------	-----------------------

Signature of Eye Specialist/Examiner

(see reverse side)

HB 1122
2-19-15
#5 P2-2



INSTRUCTIONS TO THE APPLICANT OR DRIVER

Driver license examiners only administer vision screenings that indicate you may be a safer driver if your vision were improved. Therefore, you are being referred to an eye specialist for a vision examination to determine whether your vision can be improved by corrective lenses or treatment. If corrective lenses will improve your vision and make you a safer driver, your permit or license will require you to obtain and wear the corrective lenses.

EXPLANATION FOR VISION SPECIALIST

Thank you for taking the time to complete the vision certificate. The driver license examiners do not make recommendations as to which vision specialist the applicant or driver should visit.

Individuals applying for driving privileges are given a vision screening by the driver license examiners. When more accurate measurements are needed, or when visual deficits are suspected, the individual is asked to visit a vision specialist. A report from such a specialist is particularly valuable when the fitness of the driver is questioned following a traffic incident or as a result of court action. In some cases, examinations by more than one specialist are required.

Return to applicant or mail to: **DRIVERS LICENSE DIVISION
NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
608 E BOULEVARD AVE
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0750**

Any physician or optometrist providing medical advice as requested by the Department pursuant to NDCC 39-06-07.2 shall incur no liability for any opinion, recommendation, or advice provided. The individual being examined grants permission for the release of medical information as requested on this form.

House Bill 1122
Senate Transportation Committee
February 19, 2015

Good Morning Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Dr. Taya Patzman, an optometrist with practices in Bismarck and Jamestown. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address this committee today.

I appear before you today, in opposition of Section 10 of House Bill 1122.

House Bill 1122 which would allow licensees to renew their Class D license online has omitted the required vision test and imposes a public safety risk to themselves as drivers, fellow drivers on the road, and pedestrians. At this present time, to renew a Class D license, a driver has to renew at a DMV office and pass a vision screening. This is required every 6 years. This bill is allowing for online renewal, which will waive the required vision screening for every other renewal cycle. I understand the convenience this will bring to some people, especially in rural communities who don't have a DMV office nearby. However, due to the safety risk it imposes for the public, I do not feel this is appropriate. This bill would be modified, so a driver would only be tested to have the minimum visual acuity to operate a motor vehicle safely every 12 years!

As an optometrist, I see patients of all ages in my practice. I can assure you that people who have changes in their vision and the start of eye disease are all ages and not just over the age of 65. Often, students get their driver's license at about the age of 16. At that age, most students are still going through puberty. At this age, their refractive condition can change quite significantly from year to year. According to Mr. Glenn Jackson's previous testimony, he states that "We assume that someone that really needs glasses will go and get them." I can assure you that this is not always the case. I typically have at least one patient a week in my practice, who is referred for a re-evaluation of their vision from the DMV office. These patients are not all over the age of 65. Often, parents of younger patients are oblivious to their teenager's decreased visual acuity. If the teen isn't complaining, they are not always brought in for a yearly routine vision exam. Sometimes the reason for this is financial hardship and if there is no complaint, they don't see a need. Since these same young drivers share the road with me, I find it necessary

#6-2

that they are having a vision screening before they are allowed to operate a vehicle, as well as upon renewal. If a student is given their driver's license at the age of 16, the next time they would be required to show proof of adequate vision would be at 28. That is a long period of time in which their vision can change.

There are conditions which can affect visual acuity in every decade of life. In the teens to 30's, the refraction is still changing due to physical growth, pregnancy changes, diabetes, and near point demand from working on a computer and or intense schooling, like college or graduate school. Often a recommended eye exam every two years is not conducted, due to finances spent on other priorities. In the 40's to 50's, early cataracts are often diagnosed along with diabetic changes worsening, high blood pressure changes, and refraction changing. In a perfect world, we would be able to trust that all drivers would do the responsible thing and verify that their vision hasn't changed, if they marked that box on the renewal. However, I think you know that this is not a perfect world and some of the general population cannot be trusted to be truthful and forthcoming therefore, putting the other drivers and pedestrians in jeopardy. I urge you to vote no on HB 1122.

Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.



**Senate Transportation Committee
HB 1122
February 19, 2015**

Chairman Oehlke and Committee Members, I am Courtney Koebele and I serve as Executive Director for the North Dakota Medical Association. The North Dakota Medical Association is the professional membership organization for North Dakota physicians, residents, and medical students.

The North Dakota Medical Association opposes provision number 10 on page 5 of HB 1122. Our ophthalmologists have reviewed the bill and they would not recommend reducing the frequency of the eye exam requirements.

From a public safety point of view, people should be able to prove they can see more than every 12 years. License renewals were recently lengthened from 4 to 6 years. This bill then extends that eye exam requirement from 6 to 12 years. Many serious vision problems develop prior to age 65, such as cataracts, which is the most common, macular degeneration, glaucoma.

Vision requirements can and do change throughout the lifetime of every individual. Even people under the age of 30 can have drastic changes in vision correction requirements.

Therefore, the North Dakota Medical Association requests that subdivision 10 be stricken from the bill. Thank you.

I would be happy to answer any questions.

#8

NDLA, Intern 02 - Derks, Cole

From: Oehlke, H. Dave
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2015 6:34 AM
To: NDLA, Intern 02 - Derks, Cole
Subject: FW: HB 1122

Cole,

Would you please make copies of this communication for our hearing on 1122?

Thanks!

Dave

From: Dr. Kyle Krein [<mailto:eckrein@gondtc.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2015 10:48 AM
To: Oehlke, H. Dave
Subject: HB 1122

Senator Oehlke,

HB 1122 is scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Transportation Committee on 2-19 15 at 11:00 AM. I was unaware of the bill before it was passed in the House but have had a chance to look at it and I have some serious concerns about what it proposes to do. My first concern is that in section 8 there is no mention of peripheral vision testing (which is currently required for licensure). As you are well aware, side vision is essential for safe driving and is totally different than corrected or uncorrected vision. Without peripheral vision testing, people with end stage glaucoma or people who have partially recovered from stroke will qualify to drive since they can see well straight ahead. They may feel that they are able to do so safely even though they have no peripheral vision without completely turning their head. Of even greater concern is section 10, which allows for the director to waive the vision requirements for renewal to every other cycle. This means drivers will be able to go for 12 years without any vision testing. I had some concern when the renewal term went from 4 to 6 years but to go to 12 years is simply dangerous. With diabetes, cataracts, glaucoma, macular degeneration, and other visual health concerns this would create a situation where many drivers would be on the road with vision that does not allow them to be safe drivers. As an example, a 58 year old who passes the vision test requirements would not be required to do so again until age 70 (they would renew online at age 64 and be "waived" from vision testing). Any of the above mentioned diseases (and many others) could greatly diminish their vision capacity and driving safety over that period of time. Think about how much WE have "aged" in the past 12 years and what could happen in the next 12. The safety of all drivers on the road should be paramount. This bill in its current form can only result in greater risk to all North Dakotans. I ask that you vote "DO NOT PASS" on this bill and encourage the other members of your committee to do the same.

Thank you for your time.

I will be at the Committee Hearing tomorrow and look forward to visiting with you at Carrot Cake Day.

Kyle Krein, O.D.