



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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LEIN INFO: ADD HEIGHT, WEIGHT & EYE COLOR

House Bill 4999 with committee amendments
First Analysis (10-19-89)

Sponsor: Rep. Kirk A. Profit
Committee: Transportation

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H.B. 4999 (10-19-89)

THE APPARENT PROBLEM:

The vehicle code currently requires the secretary of state to include certain identifying information on an individual's driver's license such as name, address, date of birth, and the like. The secretary of state requires this information to be included on a driver's license application and transfers this information to its computer storage system. The identifying information is then made available to police agencies through the Law Enforcement Information Network, or LEIN, and helps police officers more accurately and efficiently identify a driver. Some people feel if additional identifying information were included on both the driver's license and the license application (for storage in the LEIN), police officers could better identify drivers in a timely fashion.

THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:

The bill would amend the vehicle code to require the secretary of state to include on a person's driver's license his or her height, among other required information (such as name, address, and signature). Also, the bill would require license applicants to include on an application, in addition to other information, their height, weight, and eye color. (The additional application information would be included in the department's computer system and made available to police agencies via the LEIN — Law Enforcement Information Network.)

MCL 257.307 and 257.310

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

According to the Department of State, the bill would not affect state expenditures. (10-18-89)

ARGUMENTS:

For:

The bill could help state and local law enforcement agencies make a quicker and more accurate ID check of a driver since more identifying information would be available on a person's driver's license and via the LEIN. Currently, a driver's license does not include any physical description of a driver, except perhaps a person's age. Adding a person's height to the driver's license would help an officer correlate the license description with what the person actually looks like. A driver's weight and eye color would also be available to police, but only through access to LEIN so that an individual need not fear having to show his or her weight at other times — for instance, when cashing checks or performing similar transactions requiring display of ID.

POSITIONS:

The Department of State supports the bill. (10-17-89)

The Department of State Police supports the bill. (10-17-89)

AAA Michigan is not opposed to the bill. (10-18-89)

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