

# **HB1 Driver's License Bill**

## **FAQ**

**Q: Does this affect who can obtain a driver's license?**

*A: No, HB1 does not have any effect on current DMV policies or regulations on applying for and receiving a driver's license.*

**Q: Does this affect how people obtain their driver's licenses?**

*A: No, HB1 does not have any effect on current DMV policies or regulations on applying for and receiving a driver's license.*

**Q: What, exactly, does the bill do?**

*A: HB1 simply allows for DMV to issue a driver's license with a duration of less than five years if the person is authorized to stay in the US for less than five years. For example, if a person has a student visa that expires in 6 months, their Alaska Driver's license will expire on the same date as their authorized stay documentation. Currently, the state is required to issue a driver's license for five years.*

**Q: What about those people whose status is "indefinite" or "pending?"**

*A: In the rare case that someone's status does not yet have an end date or specified duration, the DMV will issue a Driver's License for a period of one year.*

**Q: Will DMV post immigration status on a driver's license?**

*A: No. Nothing in HB1 even intimates this.*

**Q: What is the need for this bill?**

*A: This bill is about good governance. Representative Lynn does not believe the state of Alaska should be issuing official or legal documentation that outlasts or contradicts the documentation issued by the federal government.*

**Q: Will DMV be required to verify immigration status because of this bill?**

*A: HB1 does not change ANY of DMV's current verification procedures. When someone applies for a driver's license or state ID for the first time, they must prove their identity. For citizens, this means a birth certificate and social security number. Foreign nationals, and anyone else who doesn't have a SSN, must verify why they do not have one. This normally means they must present legal presence or immigration documents, but nothing current statute or HB1 requires anyone to show DMV immigration documentation or requires DMV to ask for it.*

**Q: How many other states have a policy that requires driver's licenses to expire at the same time as authorized stay documentation?**

*A: Thirty-six (36) and the District of Columbia. This is also recommended under the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators best practices.*

**Q: Is this legislation constitutional?**

*A: Absolutely. The fact that 36 states and the District of Columbia currently have these same provisions in statute, and that none of them have been successfully challenged, are proof that this legislation is constitutional. The Attorney General's office agrees with this.*

**Q: Will this bill force those affected to pay more in fees than regular citizens?**

*A: No. This bill allows for those people required to renew their driver's license more frequently to do so without fees for up to five years. This way they will pay the same amount as someone issued a full five year license.*