

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 77(STA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/7/15

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES THOMPSON, Gara, Kawasaki, Kito, Saddler, Vazquez, Lynn, Stutes, Wilson, Wool, Keller, Millett, Neuman, Guttenberg, Gattis, Tarr, Tilton, Spohnholz, Herron, LeDoux, Josephson, Hughes, Drummond, Muñoz

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to guidelines for drivers when encountering or being stopped by a
2 peace officer; relating to driver's license examinations; and relating to a voluntary
3 disability designation on a state identification card and a driver's license."

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 * **Section 1.** AS 18.65.310 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (m) The department shall provide a method for a person to designate
7 voluntarily on an identification card that the person has a disability, including a
8 cognitive, mental, neurological, or physical disability, or a combination of them. The
9 department shall create a discreet symbol to place on the identification card of a
10 person requesting the designation. The method must provide a means by which the
11 person may cancel the designation. The department may not charge a fee solely for the
12 designation. To receive the designation, the person shall provide proof of the disability
13 from a person licensed as a physician or physician assistant under AS 08.64, as an
14 advanced nurse practitioner under AS 08.68, or as a licensed psychologist under

1 AS 08.86. Notwithstanding (a) of this section, the department may charge a fee of \$5
2 for replacement of a valid identification card with a new identification card with a
3 disability designation and may charge a fee of \$5 for replacement of an identification
4 card with a disability designation with a new identification card without a disability
5 designation.

6 * **Sec. 2.** AS 28.05.011 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

7 (c) If the department publishes a manual related to the safe and lawful
8 operation of a motor vehicle, the manual must include the duties and responsibilities
9 of drivers when encountering or being stopped by a peace officer.

10 * **Sec. 3.** AS 28.15.081(a) is amended to read:

11 (a) The department shall examine every applicant for a driver's license. The
12 examination must include a test of the applicant's (1) eyesight, (2) ability to read and
13 understand official traffic control devices, (3) knowledge of safe driving practices, (4)
14 knowledge of the effects of alcohol and drugs on drivers and the dangers of driving
15 under the influence of alcohol or drugs, (5) knowledge of the laws on driving while
16 under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, inhalant, or controlled substance, (6)
17 knowledge of the laws on financial responsibility and mandatory motor vehicle
18 liability insurance, [AND] (7) knowledge of the traffic laws and regulations of the
19 state, **and (8) knowledge of the duties and responsibilities of drivers when**
20 **encountering or being stopped by a peace officer**. The examination may include a
21 demonstration of ability to exercise ordinary and reasonable control in the driving of a
22 motor vehicle of the type and general class of vehicles for which the applicant seeks a
23 license. However, an applicant who has not been previously issued a driver's license
24 by this or another jurisdiction shall demonstrate ability and shall present medical
25 information that the department reasonably requires to determine fitness to safely
26 drive a motor vehicle of the type and general class of vehicles for which the applicant
27 seeks a license.

28 * **Sec. 4.** AS 28.15.111 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

29 (d) The department shall provide a method, at the time that a driver's license is
30 issued, by which the owner of a license may voluntarily designate on the license that
31 the owner has a disability, including a cognitive, mental, neurological, or physical

1 disability, or a combination of them. The department shall create a discreet symbol to
2 place on the driver's license of a person requesting the designation. The method must
3 provide a means by which the owner may cancel the designation. The department may
4 not charge a fee solely for the designation. To receive the designation, the person shall
5 provide proof of the disability from a person licensed as a physician or physician
6 assistant under AS 08.64, as an advanced nurse practitioner under AS 08.68, or as a
7 licensed psychologist under AS 08.86. The department may charge a fee of \$5 for
8 replacement of a valid driver's license with a new driver's license with a disability
9 designation and may charge a fee of \$5 for replacement of a driver's license with a
10 disability designation with a new driver's license without a disability designation.