

DRIVER'S LICENSES

FOR ALL (HB 2015)



Immigrants living in Oregon are part of our families, communities, workplaces, and places of worship. Right now, if an immigrant without legal status is pulled over and is driving without a license, they can be arrested and put on a pathway to deportation—even if they have no other criminal record and have lived here for years.

Meanwhile, our communities are safer because police officers can use our limited resources on the most important public safety priorities.

The ability to drive legally is vital for many Oregonians as they take their kids to school, commute to work, and contribute to their communities. Without the ability to apply for a license to drive, parents are forced to make an impossible choice between risking arrest and deportation or choosing not to drive and being unable to care for their families.

In the past two years, the number of immigrants deported as a result of traffic violations alone increased 138%. Here in Oregon, we can't fix the broken immigration system, but we can make sure that those living here are driving safely and legally and ensure that our immigrant friends and neighbors won't be separated from their families over a traffic stop.

The 2005 Real ID Act: The federal government is forcing states to comply with the 2005 Real ID Act. Starting in 2020, the State of Oregon is required to implement new stricter standards for issuing drivers' licenses. Under these new standards, the state will offer two different kinds of driver's licenses: an enhanced license, which is Real ID-compliant, and a standard license, similar to what Oregon drivers have now.

BACKGROUND

Access to driver's licenses has been a top priority within the immigrant community for over a decade. The time has come to ensure that all Oregonians have access to the critical ability to drive.

2005: Congress approves the federal Real ID program.

2017: The Oregon legislature passes a Real ID bill, which created 2 different types of driver's licenses: a standard driver's license and a Real ID enhanced license.

2021: HB 2015 implementation would begin on January 1, 2021.

2008: The Oregon legislature requires proof of legal presence to apply for a license to comply with Real ID.

2020: Real ID law goes into effect in Oregon on October 1, 2020.

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HB 2015 would expand eligibility for a standard driver's license to all Oregon residents regardless of citizenship status by returning the standard Oregon Driver License to a pre-2008 set of application requirements. The proposed bill:

- ✓ **Allows all Oregon residents who pass written and driving tests, pay the fees, and provide proof of identity and residency to receive a standard driver license, regardless of citizenship status.**
- ✓ **Provides protection to ensure a person's information is secured and not shared with the federal government**
- ✓ **Provides anti-discrimination language to ensure a person isn't targeted for having a standard license.**

COALITION

HB 2015 is endorsed by business, labor, immigrant rights and social justice groups all over the state. If your organization would like to endorse, visit our webpage: causaoregon.org/driverslicenses

Between 80,000-100,000 Oregon residents could benefit from driver license expansion.

The new requirements for Real ID will create barriers for many. The most impacted communities include Oregon's immigrant population, seniors, homeless/houseless folks, domestic violence victims, and other Oregonians who have difficulty accessing their birth certificate and other paperwork necessary to prove their citizenship status.

TAKE ACTION



SIGN THE PLEDGE



VOLUNTEER



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