

Motor Vehicle Division Informational Memo # 20-14

2020 Legislation – Motor Vehicle Division Legislation Status List

DATE: June 16, 2020

FROM: Sara Siedsma, Compliance Officer, MVD

TO: All Motor Vehicle Division staff, Iowa County Treasurers and County Treasurer's staff

SUBJECT

This informational memo explains the status of legislation impacting the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) that has passed or is expected to pass during the 2020 legislative session.

SUMMARY

The 2020 legislative session was paused in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The legislature reconvened on June 3, 2020 and adjourned on June 14, 2020. This memo explains the status of the bills that have been passed by both chambers and were either sent or will be sent to the Governor for final sign-off. Some of the bills will have a July 1, 2020 effective date, while others will have a later effective date.

The purpose of this memo is to provide a brief status of each of the bills impacting MVD that have passed as of the date of issuance of this memo. *This memo is not meant to be a comprehensive explanation of each bill and its associated implementation requirements, rather, we will be sending out additional memos explaining each bill, required implementation steps and any needed communication in more detail as it gets closer to the implementation date for each respective bill.*

2020 MVD LEGISLATION STATUS LIST

DRIVER & IDENTIFICATION SERVICES (DIS)

- 1) [HF 2235](#) – Lifetime disqualification of CDL for Human Trafficking Conviction:
 - **Description:** This bill was a DOT proposal to comply with federal FMCSA regulations requiring us to disqualify a person's CDL for life if they are convicted of a human trafficking violation in connection with a CMV.
 - **DOT impact:** The bill will cause us to reprogram ARTS to add a new lifetime disqualification reason.
 - **Status:** This bill was signed by the Governor on March 12, 2020.
 - **Effective date:** The bill is effective July 1, 2020.

- 2) [HF 2360](#) – Extending driver's license expiration dates for persons 72 or older:
 - **Description:** This bill increases the upper age limit for full-term (eight-year) license issuance to age 72, rather than age 66 as provided by current law. Every year after 72 the person's license will be issued with an expiration date not to exceed their 80th birthday (i.e., a person age 73 receives a seven-year license; age 74, a six-year license, and so on). A person age 78 and older is only eligible for a two-year expiration date.
 - **DOT impact:** The bill will cause us to reprogram ARTS to allow for longer expiration date for a licensee that is age 72 or older.

- **Status:** This bill was passed by both chambers and will be sent to the Governor.
- **Effective date:** If signed by the Governor, the bill will have a September 1, 2020 effective date.

3) [HF 2411](#) – 24/7 sobriety program for OWI offenders:

- **Description:** This bill removes DOT’s role in the 24/7 program and removes participation in the 24/7 program as a condition of obtaining a temporary restricted license (TRL).
- **DOT impact:** We will no longer have to require a person to participate in the 24/7 program as a condition of obtaining a TRL if their eligible OWI offense occurred in a participating jurisdiction.
- **Status:** The bill was passed by both chambers and sent to the Governor for final sign-off. We are meeting internally to determine implementation steps.
- **Effective date:** If the Governor signs the bill, it will be effective July 1, 2020.

4) [HF 2589](#) – Medical cannabidiol card issuance:

- **Description:** This bill will remove DOT from having to issue medical cannabidiol (CBD) cards to patients and primary caregivers.
- **DOT impact:** By removing DOT’s duty to issue CBD cards, this bill will result in fewer in-person and remote issuance transactions and will result in less card production costs from the Road Use Tax Fund.
- **Status:** This bill was passed by both chambers and sent to the Governor for final sign-off. We have met with IDPH to discuss transition issues and timelines.
- **Effective date:** If signed by the Governor, the bill will be effective July 1, 2020, but it is yet to be determined on what date we will cease issuing CBD cards.

5) [HF 2372](#) – Chauffeur exemption:

- **Description:** This bill will exempt a farmer or a farmer’s hired help who is at least 18 years old from having to obtain a Class D-1 chauffeur’s license when operating a special truck (such as a truck-tractor semitrailer combination) transporting the farmer’s products within 100 miles of the farmland. The bill was also amended to require the DOT to add an autism indicator to the driver’s license or identification card upon request of the applicant. The autism indicator will also be transmitted to the database law enforcement uses when making a traffic stop.
- **DOT impact:** This bill will result in us issuing fewer Class D-1 Chauffeur’s licenses and will require us to implement programming to add the autism indicator to the card, the application for the card and the law enforcement database.
- **Status:** This bill was passed by both chambers and will be sent to the Governor. We are in discussions regarding the implementation steps to add the autism indicator to the card.
- **Effective date:** If signed by the Governor, the bill will be effective July 1, 2020. However, it will take several months before all of the programming changes are completed to add the autism indicator to the card.

- 6) [SF 457](#) – Criminal fines reform and civil penalties for non-OWI offenses:
- **Description:** This bill eliminates the civil penalty we currently assess when a person’s driver’s license is sanctioned for a non-OWI offense. The bill also changes the payment plan provisions in the code for unpaid court fines to require the clerk of court to work with the Department of Revenue rather than the court’s debt collection vendor. A payment plan for non-payment of court fines may still be entered into with the county attorney.
 - **DOT impact:** We will no longer assess a civil penalty when a person’s driver’s license is sanctioned under any code section other than chapter 321J (OWI). As of the effective date of the bill, we will also no longer refuse to issue a TRL or prevent someone from reinstating their driver’s license if they still owe civil penalties for non-OWI offenses.
 - **Status:** The bill was passed by both chambers and sent to the Governor for final sign-off. We are meeting internally to determine implementation steps.
 - **Effective date:** If the Governor signs the bill, the section of the bill eliminating non-OWI civil penalties will be effective July 15, 2020.
- 7) [SF 2268](#) – Unlawful use of a license-tobacco products:
- **Description:** As related to MVD, this bill increases the age limit upon which a person can be charged for using a fake ID to obtain tobacco products from 18 to 21 years old. When we receive a conviction under this code section, we will initiate a driver’s license sanction.
 - **DOT impact:** Because the age limit for this offense was raised to 21, we may see more convictions for this offense, and thus may issue more driver’s license sanctions. This should not be a significant impact on our processes, however, since we already issue a driver’s license sanction when we receive this type of conviction.
 - **Status:** The bill was passed by both chambers and sent to the Governor for final sign-off.
 - **Effective date:** If the Governor signs the bill, the bill will be effective upon her signing the bill.

VEHICLE & MOTOR CARRIER SERVICES (VMCS)

- 1) [SF 2091](#) – Odometer disclosure requirements:
- **Description:** This bill was a DOT proposal to conform with federal NHTSA regulations related to odometer disclosure requirements.
 - **DOT impact:** This bill does not substantially impact the DOT but there will be an education component for customers. Please refer to [PM 19-10](#) for more information about the basis for the new requirements.
 - **Status:** This bill was signed by the Governor on March 12, 2020.
 - **Effective date:** The bill is effective January 1, 2021.
- 2) [HF 2641](#) – “Flying our colors” license plate:
- **Description:** Amendment [H-8319](#) to this bill requires the DOT to issue a new “flying our colors” license plate modeled after the second-place finisher in the 2017 license plate contest.
 - **DOT impact:** This bill will cause DOT to have to reprogram ARTS to add a new flying our colors license plate.

- **Status:** This bill was passed by both chambers and will be sent to the Governor.
- **Effective date:** If the Governor signs the bill, it will be effective July 1, 2020. However, it will take several months before all of the programming changes are completed to be able to issue this new license plate.

3) [HF 2310](#) – Eliminate over-dimensional permits for hay, straw, stover, or bagged livestock bedding:

- **Description:** This bill repeals Iowa Code section 321E.29(2), which created an annual permit to exceed legal dimensions for divisible loads of hay, straw, stover, or bagged livestock bedding.
- **DOT impact:** This bill will no longer require the DOT to issue permits for these loads.
- **Status:** This bill has passed both chambers and will be sent to the Governor for final sign-off.
- **Effective date:** If the Governor signs the bill, it will be effective July 1, 2020.