

REINTEGRATION DRIVER'S LICENSE BILL

HOUSE FILE 4571 (Pinto) | SENATE FILE 4458 (Osmek)

THE PROBLEM

Many people recently released from incarceration find themselves without a driver's license because it was suspended or revoked for violations committed prior to incarceration. This makes it more difficult, and sometimes impossible, to fulfill the requirements of their supervision and rebuild their lives. Having a driver's license can be a fundamental building block to successful reintegration.

A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE SUPPORTS SUCCESSFUL REENTRY OUTCOMES



**FINDING AND
KEEPING EMPLOYMENT**



**OBTAINING STABLE
HOUSING**



**REUNIFICATION WITH
FAMILY AND CHILDREN**



**FULFILLING COMMUNITY
SUPERVISION
REQUIREMENTS**

BILL SUMMARY

This bill establishes a Reintegration Driver's License, which is a temporary driver's license available to people recently released from incarceration whose license is suspended or revoked for unpaid fines or minor traffic violations committed prior to incarceration.

- Available to individuals who have spent at least 180 days incarcerated.
- Applicants must apply within 365 days of release.
- Expires 15 months after issuance.
- Cancelled if the driver commits any new violations that would cause a suspension or revocation of a driver's license.

ELIGIBLE

- Unpaid fines for traffic violations
- Insurance-related violations
- Unpaid reinstatement fee
- Habitual violation (> 3 moving violations)

INELIGIBLE

- Required to use ignition interlock
- Canceled as inimical to public safety
- Criminal vehicular operation conviction
- Unresolved hold for child support

BENEFITS OF THE REFORM

This bill recognizes the unique challenges faced by individuals striving to reintegrate into their community upon release from incarceration.

Resolving a driver's license suspension or revocation requires financial resources:

- Court fines and reinstatement fees can add up to hundreds or even thousands of dollars.
- Paying the court debt and reinstatement fees is impossible, for most, without a job.
- Without a valid driver's license, it may be impossible to find and keep a job, especially considering that both housing and job opportunities may already be limited by their criminal conviction.

We must hold people accountable, but we also need to make sure accountability is possible for those willing to work for it.



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