

Subject Prohibits driver's license suspensions under certain circumstances

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Overview

Under current law, a person's driver's license must be suspended if the person fails to appear in response to a traffic citation, fails to pay a fine following a traffic violation, or is convicted of driving after suspension or revocation. This bill prohibits the suspension of a person's driver's license under several specific situations and requires the Department of Public Safety and court administrator to report data related to driver's license suspensions and related fines.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Suspension of driver's license. Prohibits the commissioner from re-suspending a person's driver's license based on the failure to appear in court after receiving a citation for a petty misdemeanor or driving after suspension. Under current law, failure to appear in court in compliance with the terms of a citation is grounds for a license suspension.
2	Commissioner shall suspend. Prohibits the suspension of a person's driver's license following a conviction for driving after suspension or driving after revocation.
3	Failure to pay fine. Forbids suspension of a person's driver's license based solely on the fact that the person failed to pay a traffic ticket, parking fine, or surcharge.
4	Offenses. Reiterates the prohibition on suspending a person's driver's license following a conviction for driving after suspension or driving after revocation.
5	Driver's license suspensions and revocations; reports. Requires the commissioner of public safety to provide an annual report identifying the number of driver's licenses issued, suspended, and revoked each year in each county; the total number of licenses suspended and reinstated in the previous eight years; and the

Section	Description
6	<p>total number of licenses revoked and reinstate in the previous eight years. Also requires the state court administrator to report on the number of charges and convictions for driving after suspension or revocation in the previous eight years and information on the payment of fines for all motor vehicle violations listed on the uniform fine schedule. Both reports are due by February 15.</p> <p>Motor vehicle charges and conviction data; report.</p> <p>Requires the court administrator to collect, compile, and report data on charges and convictions for driving after suspension or revocation, and payment of fines for violations related to the operation of a motor vehicle.</p>
7	<p>Retroactive license reinstatement.</p> <p>Requires the commissioner of public safety to make an individual's driver's license eligible for reinstatement if that license is suspended based on (1) a conviction for driving after suspension or revocation, (2) the failure to pay a fee or fine, or (3) both (1) and (2). Directs the commissioner to send notice by December 1, 2019, to individuals whose licenses are eligible for reinstatement. Requires individuals eligible for reinstatement to pay a \$20 reinstatement fee. Clarifies that suspensions, revocations, or cancellations for any other reason remain in effect.</p>



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