

No. 95. An act relating to a study on access to driving privileges in Vermont.

(S.238)

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. STUDY COMMITTEE ON MIGRANT WORKER ACCESS TO
DRIVER'S LICENSES AND NON-DRIVER IDENTIFICATION
CARDS

(a) Findings. The general assembly finds that migrant workers in Vermont face significant challenges based on their current inability to apply for Vermont driver's licenses and non-driver identification cards, including the inability to travel and access services, medical care, and purchase basic necessities, to officially identify themselves or be identified, and to fulfill typical responsibilities of their employment that require them to legally drive.

(b) Creation of committee; composition. There is created a study committee on migrant worker access to driver's licenses and non-driver identification cards, composed of the following members:

(1) One member of the senate, who shall serve as chair, appointed by the senate committee on committees.

(2) One member of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker.

(3) The commissioner of motor vehicles or designee.

(4) The secretary of agriculture, food and markets or designee.

(5) The commissioner of public safety or designee.

(6) One member appointed by Migrant Justice.

(7) One member appointed by the Vermont human rights commission.

(8) One member appointed by the Addison County Economic
Development Corporation.

(9) One member appointed by the Vermont Farm Bureau.

(c) Powers and duties.

(1) The committee shall review current procedures of the department of
motor vehicles and may recommend legislation that would enable access to
Vermont driver's licenses and non-driver identification cards for Vermont
residents without Social Security numbers. The committee shall specifically
consider the following:

(A) The statutory language proposed by the senate committee on
agriculture amending 23 V.S.A. § 603 and creating a contingent repeal based
on the implementation of the federal REAL ID Act.

(B) The current licensing and identification framework and
procedures utilized in other states.

(C) The comparative costs and benefits, including potential conflicts
with federal law, of adopting one or more licensing and identification
frameworks in Vermont.

(2) On or before January 15, 2013, the committee shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the house and senate committees on transportation and on agriculture.

(d) Number of meetings; term of committee; reimbursement. The committee may meet no more than four times, and shall cease to exist on January 15, 2013.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

Approved: May 1, 2012