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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/26/2007

SPONSOR Chavez LAST UPDATED _____ HB 1082

SHORT TITLE Drivers License Renewal by Mail SB _____

ANALYST Schuss

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 1082 amends the Motor Vehicle Code and requires the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) to provide for renewal of a driver's license by mail, unless an examination or an eyesight test is required.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Currently, renewal of a driver's license requires that the driver appear at an MVD field office, take an eye test and have a new picture taken.

TRD notes that this bill would remove the division's ability to confirm the driver's identity and that their eyesight is still sufficient enough to qualify for a New Mexico driver's license.

According to TRD, there would be some administrative saving by processing renewals through the mail. License renewals could be processed through a centralized location dedicated to license renewals resulting in some cost savings for the division. This would provide some relief for field office clerks allowing them to perform other transactions and duties.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

Current statute already allows TRD to provide renewals by mail, but TRD has not developed a driver's license renewal by mail program due to the inability to confirm a person's identity.

According to TRD, HB 1082 would violate provisions of the Federal Real Identification Act.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Identity theft is a major concern in New Mexico and nationally. TRD is concerned that any requirement that driver's licenses be renewed by mail would eliminate their ability to prevent identify theft.

BS/nt