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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE LAST UPDATED	02/25/11 HB	
ailing Address on Driver's Licenses	SB	526
	ANALYST	Haug
r M		

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY09	FY10	FY11	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		Minimal*			Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 526 proposes to amend Section 66-5-9 NMSA 1978, to require an applicant for a driver's license to include on the application the applicant's mailing address as well as the physical address if they differ. The face of the driver's license would also be required to display both addresses.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There may be a minimal non-recurring cost to redesign the face of the driver's license, update license application forms, and update the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) information technology system.

There may be some benefit from this bill because there will be a secondary address available for service of summons and other purposes. The more parties to court proceedings that can be found, the more likely it is that the courts will collect more revenue in fines and fees. This could, in turn, potentially improve the fiscal status of various programs.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

By enacting this bill it will require all driver license applicants to list their mailing address if it is different than their home address. Currently, there are numerous drivers who are unable to receive mail from the motor vehicle division because their mailing address is not available.

^{*}See Narrative

Senate Bill 526 – Page 2

Due to increased processing and verification requirements, MVD has stopped issuing plastic driver license, driver permit, and identification cards over-the-counter from field offices and moved to a centralized issuance based solution. A paper interim driver license, driver permit, or identification card is provided to the applicant in the field office, then later, after processing and verification has been completed, a plastic or permanent card is mailed from a separate, centralized location.

Because the central issuance (beginning in 2008) of licenses and IDs is necessary, MVD already requires the mailing address of every applicant for a New Mexico instruction permit, provisional license or driver's license, as well as the applicant's New Mexico residence address. Both residence and mailing addresses are required entries on the current driver's license application form.

An exception may be required for participants in the state's Confidential Address Program (CAP). MVD has developed policies and procedures for how to process applications from CAP participants.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Addresses listed on drivers' license applications often prove to be unreliable for the purpose of finding the license holder. Though the information can get quite stale over time, courts must rely on that address to make contact with cited drivers. Much of the courts' correspondence comes back undeliverable. A secondary address would allow the courts to successfully contact cited drivers more often. The drivers would be able to resolve their business more quickly with the courts. The cited drivers would thus avoid the issuance of warrants and the courts would be able to close out their outstanding cases more efficiently.

GH/svb