

SB 251: The Colorado Road & Community Safety Act

We should all feel safe driving on our roads. But in 1999, the law changed to bar some of our taxpaying immigrant neighbors from getting driver's licenses, leaving them without the ability to take the driver's test, get a license, register their car and buy insurance. This is not safe. And the police have a hard time verifying their identities, too.

The Colorado Road and Community Safety Act will make us safer by allowing immigrants who pay taxes, can prove their identity, pass the driver safety test and pay a \$41 fee to get a driver's license, register cars and buy car insurance. When the police can check the identity of residents they contact, that makes our community safer, too.

Immigrants move to Colorado to improve their lives, raise families and contribute to our shared prosperity. Having everyone be a licensed, trained, insured driver makes us all safer.

BILL DETAILS

SB13-251: The Colorado Road and Community Safety Act does the following:

- Reinstates an immigrant Coloradoan's ability to obtain a Colorado driver's license, temporary driver's license or Colorado identification card.
- Requires the applicant to prove payment of taxes, and provide identifying documents from the applicant's country of origin such as a valid passport, consular identification card, or military identification.
- Allows for substitution of an individual taxpayer identification number instead of a social security number for purposes of proof of identification.
- Requires the modified licenses issued under SB13-251 to be clearly marked as "not REAL ID compliant." All other standard licenses issued by the Department of Revenue will continue to be compliant with REAL ID.

BENEFITS

Safer Roads

- Drivers who are trained, know rules of the road, register their cars and are insured are safer
 - A 2012 CA study: Unlicensed drivers are three times more likely to cause a fatal crash
- Drivers likely to stay at an accident scene to help police/EMTs, exchange insurance info

Safer Communities

- Officers will be able to check identity, traffic/other records of people they contact
- Immigrant crime witnesses and victims will be more likely to trust police and report crimes

Financial Benefits

- Save public resources in court time for driving without license/insurance
- Decreased insurance rates due to fewer uninsured motorist costs
 - Up to 60,000 more Colorado drivers could join the insurance pool, bring costs down

Driver's Licenses for All is a grassroots group that grew out of the Initiative 52 ballot campaign that collected more than 30,000 signatures with 1,200 volunteers and less than \$12,000.