

HOUSE BILL 1265

By Faulkner

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 50, Part 3, relative to driver license issuance.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-50-321(c), is amended in subdivision (1) by adding the following language as new subdivision (E):

(E) The department shall verify each applicant's citizenship or lawful permanent resident status using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program under the jurisdiction of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-50-321, is amended by deleting subsection (h) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(h) Any applicant applying for a temporary driver license, temporary learner permit, temporary intermediate driver license or temporary photo identification license, upon initial issuance, renewal and reinstatement, shall provide proof acceptable to the department relative to the applicant's identity, Tennessee residency, and authorized period of stay in the United States. The department shall verify each applicant's immigration status using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program under the jurisdiction of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

SECTION 3. The department of safety is directed to implement necessary action with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to facilitate the state's use of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program for applicants' citizenship or immigration status.

SECTION 4. The commissioner of safety shall promulgate rules for the purposes of this act, including, but not limited to, the use of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program for applicants' citizenship or immigration status to ensure that an applicant's initial citizenship status will be electronically stored for future driver license renewals. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009, the public welfare requiring it.