

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: February 23, 2011
POSITION: Neutral

BILL NUMBER: AB 82
AUTHOR: K. Jeffries

BILL SUMMARY: Vehicles: Firefighting Equipment

This bill would clarify requirements for issuance of a license endorsement for firefighters that operate firefighting equipment.

FISCAL SUMMARY

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) estimates no costs associated with this bill.

COMMENTS

Finance is neutral because the bill clarifies the new license requirements for fire fighters that were modified by Chapter 360, Statutes of 2010. Chapter 360 exempted fire fighters from commercial license requirements by establishing a new category of license endorsements upon completion of specified training and passage of a written examination. The purpose was to relieve fire departments from complying with costly federal requirements to administer commercial drive examinations that comply with revised federal requirements. However, a drafting error requires DMV to issue a firefighting endorsement to a commercial license even though it is unnecessary.

Under current law, a firefighter must present evidence of successful completion of Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator 1A training taught by an instructor registered with the Office of the State Fire Marshal or fire department driver training, pass a written examination and provide proof of employment as a firefighter. The training includes 16 hours of classroom and 14 hours of supervised driver training. Upon meeting these requirements, the firefighter receives an endorsement to a commercial or non-commercial license authorizing that person to operate firefighting equipment.

This bill clarifies these requirements by providing that the firefighter can either obtain a commercial license without an endorsement, or a non-commercial license with an endorsement to allow operation of fire fighter equipment. As written, Chapter 360, Statutes of 2010, requires DMV to issue license endorsements for all classes of licenses, even though the commercial license already authorizes the holder to operate firefighting equipment. This bill would remove the endorsement requirement for those who already hold a commercial license.

Analyst/Principal (0744) J. Gregg	Date	Program Budget Manager Mark Hill	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

BILL ANALYSIS Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)

BILL ANALYSIS/ENROLLED BILL REPORT--(CONTINUED)

AUTHOR

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Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)							Fund Code
	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)							
	CO	PROP							
	RV	98	FC	2010-2011	FC	2011-2012	FC	2012-2013	
2740/DMV	SO	No		-----	No/Minor	Fiscal Impact	-----		0044
<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Title</u>								
0044	Motor Vehicle Account, STF								