

## Department of Planning and Budget 2007 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB1704

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
<b>Second House</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Lingamfelter

3. **Committee:** Transportation

4. **Title:** Driver's licenses; extension of period of validity

5. **Summary/Purpose:** This bill grants to employees of the United States Department of Defense and contractors with the Department of Defense, the armed services, and the United States diplomatic services extensions of the period of validity of their driver's licenses while serving or providing services under contract outside the Commonwealth. The bill also requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to enable persons who would qualify for these extensions to notify DMV through DMV's website of their likely period of service outside the Commonwealth.

6. **Fiscal impact estimates are indeterminate.**

7. **Budget amendment necessary:** No.

8. **Fiscal implications:** Under the current process for issuing a driver's license extension, military and diplomatic personnel (and their spouses and dependents) are able to request a driver's license extension package on-line, which is then mailed by DMV to the applicant. Upon receipt of the package, the applicant returns the required forms and the documentation necessary to verify the status of the individual. Following DMV approval, the agency issues and mails the applicant an extension card to be carried with the expired license.

The language of the legislation would allow the extension for contractors even if they only work outside of the Commonwealth of Virginia (i.e., in another state). Data on the number of contractors who may apply for this extension is unavailable and the impact on DMV operations is indeterminate.

This legislation would also require the contractor to be a United States citizen. DMV does not currently determine citizenship. If the agency were required to determine citizenship for contractors working outside of the Commonwealth, it would need to be done based on faxed, mailed, or scanned documents. At the present time, applicants for a driver's license must provide proof of legal presence, but such proof is only accepted in person. The bill does not require that the spouse or dependant of the contractor be a United States citizen.

The bill also provides for exceptions to the three year limit on the extension of the driver's license (officially listed as a prisoner of war, missing in action, detained unlawfully). No

mechanism exists to determine that an individual is a prisoner of war, is missing in action, or is being detained unlawfully. Since such an individual would not be in a position to contact DMV, a military or family representative would need to notify DMV of the situation. In addition, it is not clear what "officially listed" signifies, nor if there is a federal repository of information that would be accessible for corroboration of the status of the individual.

The bill also provides for establishment of a web-based voluntary registration system to notify the agency of the expected duration of service outside of the Commonwealth. The agency would have no mechanism to verify that individuals registering on the system are actually eligible for the extension and the system would not include eligible individuals who opt not to register.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Department of Motor Vehicles.

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No.

**11. Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 1/16/07/jlv

**Document:** G:\06-08\07 Budget Development\FIS\HB1704.Doc Janet Vogelgesang

cc: Secretary of Transportation