

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 554

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCMAKIN

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

MTR VEHICLE/DRIVER LIC: Establishes a notice of voting restriction and a restriction code applicable to persons who are not United States citizens and aliens lawfully present in the United States but have not attained United States citizenship

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 32:414.6, relative to restriction codes on driver's licenses and identification
3 cards; to provide for a notice of voting restrictions for persons who are not citizens
4 of the United States and aliens who are lawfully present in the United States but have
5 not attained citizenship; to provide for delivery of the notice in the form of official
6 correspondence; to provide for penalties; to require the office of motor vehicles to
7 adopt rules and regulations necessary to comply with the restriction code and notice
8 requirements; to provide for severability; to require the office of motor vehicles to
9 include the applicable credentials upon a system upgrade; and to provide for related
10 matters.

11 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

12 Section 1. R.S. 32:414.6 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

13 §414.6. Office of motor vehicles issued credentials; qualifications of voters; notice;
14 restriction code

15 A. The office of motor vehicles shall not issue a state identification card or
16 driver's license, regardless of class, to any person who is not either a citizen of the
17 United States or an alien lawfully present in the United States. An alien who is
18 lawfully present in the United States, but has not attained citizenship, may be issued

1 a state identification card or driver's license, but the state identification card or
2 driver's license must contain a restriction code.

3 B.(1) In addition to the requirement contained in Subsection A of this
4 Section, the office of motor vehicles shall issue a notice in the form of official
5 correspondence to any person who is not a citizen of the United States, or an alien
6 who is lawfully present in the United States, but has not attained citizenship, that
7 reads as follows:

8 "(NOTICE OF VOTING RESTRICTIONS)

9 Under Article 1, Section 10 of the Constitution of Louisiana, persons who are
10 not citizens of the United States shall not be allowed to register and vote in this state.
11 Persons who are not citizens of the United States who attempt to register to vote or
12 attempt to vote in Louisiana violate Louisiana Revised Statute 14:133.1.1. This is
13 a felony offense punishable by a fine of up to \$2,000, imprisonment for up to two
14 years, or both."

15 (2) The notice shall include a French, Hindi, Mandarin, Spanish, Tagalog,
16 and Vietnamese translation, along with any other translation as may be required by
17 federal law.

18 B.(1) The office of motor vehicles shall adopt rules and regulations
19 necessary to implement the requirements of this Section, including mailing the notice
20 of voting restrictions and procedures for determining an individual's citizenship and
21 immigration status, along with a restriction code identifier, for the purpose of
22 assigning the restriction code.

23 (2) If the office of motor vehicles' system is unable to accommodate the
24 inclusion of the new restriction codes or credentials, any system upgrade shall
25 include the capability to comply with the requirements of this Section.

26 Section 2. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof is held invalid, such
27 invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act which can be given
28 effect without the invalid provisions or applications, and to this end the provisions of this
29 Act are hereby declared severable.

1 Section 3. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor
2 vehicles, is hereby directed to imprint the restriction code onto all applicable credentials
3 pursuant to this Act once its system is upgraded to comply with the requirements of this Act.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 554 Original

2025 Regular Session

McMakin

Abstract: Establishes a notice of voting restriction and a restriction code applicable to persons who are not United States citizens and aliens lawfully present in the United States but have not attained citizenship.

Proposed law prohibits the office of motor vehicles (OMV) from issuing a state identification card or driver's license of any class to persons who are not citizens of the U.S. and aliens who are lawfully present in the U.S. but have not attained citizenship, unless there is a restriction code on the credential.

Proposed law requires the OMV to issue a notice in the form of official correspondence to any person who is not a citizen of the U.S. or an alien who is lawfully present in the U.S. but has not attained citizenship.

Proposed law requires the notice read as follows:

"(NOTICE OF VOTING RESTRICTIONS)

Under present law, persons who are not citizens of the U.S. shall not be allowed to register and vote in this state. Persons who are not citizens of the U.S. who attempt to register to vote or attempt to vote in La. violate present law. This is a felony offense punishable by a fine of up to \$2,000, imprisonment for up to two years, or both."

Proposed law requires the notice include a French, Hindi, Mandarin, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese translation, along with any other translation as may be required by present law.

Proposed law requires the OMV to adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement the requirements of present law, including mailing the notice of voting restrictions and procedures for determining an individual's citizenship and immigration status, along with a restriction code identifier, for the purpose of assigning the restriction code.

Proposed law specifies that if the OMV system is unable to accommodate the inclusion of the new restriction codes or credentials, any system upgrade must include the capability to comply with the requirements of proposed law.

Provides for severability should any part of the Act become invalid.

Directs the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, OMV to imprint the restriction code on applicable credentials as soon as its system is updated.

(Adds R.S. 32:414.6)