

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 161—ASSEMBLYMEN C.H. MILLER AND
BILBRAY-AXELROD

FEBRUARY 14, 2023

Referred to Committee on Growth and Infrastructure

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the identification of persons. (BDR 43-635)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to governmental administration; requiring, under certain circumstances, that the Department of Motor Vehicles place a designation on a vehicle registration, driver’s license or identification card for a person with a communication need; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law authorizes the Department of Motor Vehicles to adopt regulations
2 establishing a program for the imprinting of a symbol or other indicator of a
3 medical condition on a driver’s license or identification card. (NRS 483.3485,
4 483.863) Existing law further requires, upon the application of a person with a
5 disability which limits or impairs the ability to walk, that the Department place a
6 designation on any driver’s license or identification card issued to the person
7 indicating that the person is a person with such disability. (NRS 483.349, 483.865)
8 Existing law: (1) authorizes the Director of the Department to adopt and enforce
9 certain regulations relating to the registration of motor vehicles; and (2) requires,
10 with certain exceptions, every owner of a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer to
11 apply to the Department or a registered dealer for registration thereof. (NRS
12 482.160, 482.205) Effective January 1, 2024, **sections 1.5 and 1.7** of this bill
13 require, upon the application of a person with a communication need, that the
14 Department place on any driver’s license or identification card issued to the person
15 a designation indicating that the person is a person with a communication need.
16 Effective January 1, 2026, **section 3.5** of this bill requires, upon the application of a
17 person with a communication need, that the Department place on any vehicle
18 registration issued to the person a designation indicating that the person is a person
19 with a communication need.

20 **Sections 1, 1.5 and 1.7** prohibit the Department from requiring any person to
21 disclose that the person is a person with a communication need. For the purposes of
22 **sections 1, 1.5 and 1.7**, the term “a person with a communication need” means a



23 person who: (1) is deaf; (2) has a speech disorder; (3) has a language disorder; (4)
24 has an auditory processing disorder; (5) is neurodivergent; or (6) has any other
25 condition that impairs the ability of the person to comprehend language.

26 **Sections 2 and 3** of this bill make conforming changes to indicate the proper
27 placement of **section 1.5** in the Nevada Revised Statutes.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 482 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:

3 *1. The Department shall not require any person to disclose*
4 *that the person is a person with a communication need.*

5 *2. As used in this section, "a person with a communication*
6 *need" means a person who:*

7 *(a) Is deaf, as defined in NRS 426.084;*

8 *(b) Has a speech disorder that impairs the ability of the person*
9 *to articulate speech sounds, speak fluently or use the person's*
10 *voice;*

11 *(c) Has a language disorder that impairs the ability of the*
12 *person to comprehend language;*

13 *(d) Has an auditory processing disorder that impairs the ability*
14 *of the person to comprehend language;*

15 *(e) Is neurodivergent; or*

16 *(f) Has any other condition that impairs the ability of the*
17 *person to comprehend language.*

18 **Sec. 1.3.** Chapter 483 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
19 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 1.5 and 1.7 of this act.

20 **Sec. 1.5. 1.** *Upon the application of a person with a*
21 *communication need, the Department shall place on any driver's*
22 *license issued to the person pursuant to the provisions of this*
23 *chapter a designation that the person is a person with a*
24 *communication need.*

25 *2. The Department shall not require any person to disclose*
26 *that the person is a person with a communication need.*

27 *3. As used in this section, "a person with a communication*
28 *need" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 1 of this act.*

29 **Sec. 1.7. 1.** *Upon the application of a person with a*
30 *communication need, the Department shall place on any*
31 *identification card issued to the person pursuant to the provisions*
32 *of NRS 483.810 to 483.890, inclusive, a designation that the*
33 *person is a person with a communication need.*

34 *2. The Department shall not require any person to disclose*
35 *that the person is a person with a communication need.*



1 **3.** *As used in this section, “a person with a communication*
2 *need” has the meaning ascribed to it in section 1 of this act.*

3 **Sec. 2.** NRS 483.015 is hereby amended to read as follows:
4 483.015 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 483.330, the
5 provisions of NRS 483.010 to 483.630, inclusive, *and section 1.5 of*
6 *this act* apply only with respect to noncommercial drivers’ licenses.

7 **Sec. 3.** NRS 483.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:
8 483.020 As used in NRS 483.010 to 483.630, inclusive, *and*
9 *section 1.5 of this act*, unless the context otherwise requires, the
10 words and terms defined in NRS 483.030 to 483.190, inclusive,
11 have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

12 **Sec. 3.5.** Section 1 of this act is hereby amended to read as
13 follows:

14 1. *Upon the application of a person with a communication*
15 *need, the Department shall place on any vehicle registration*
16 *issued to the person pursuant to the provisions of this chapter a*
17 *designation that the person is a person with a communication*
18 *need.*

19 2. The Department shall not require any person to disclose that
20 the person is a person with a communication need.

21 ~~2.1~~ **3.** As used in this section, “a person with a communication
22 need” means a person who:

- 23 (a) Is deaf, as defined in NRS 426.084;
24 (b) Has a speech disorder that impairs the ability of the person to
25 articulate speech sounds, speak fluently or use the person’s voice;
26 (c) Has a language disorder that impairs the ability of the person
27 to comprehend language;
28 (d) Has an auditory processing disorder that impairs the ability
29 of the person to comprehend language;
30 (e) Is neurodivergent; or
31 (f) Has any other condition that impairs the ability of the person
32 to comprehend language.

33 **Sec. 4.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and
34 approval.

35 2. Sections 1 to 3, inclusive, of this act become effective:
36 (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any
37 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative
38 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

39 (b) On January 1, 2024, for all other purposes.

40 3. Section 3.5 of this act becomes effective:
41 (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any
42 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative
43 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and



1 (b) On January 1, 2026, for all other purposes.

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