# Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

## **Transportation Committee**

### **ESB 5689**

**Brief Description:** Adding blood type information to drivers' licenses and identicards.

**Sponsors:** Senators Harris, Nobles, Riccelli and Short.

#### **Brief Summary of Engrossed Bill**

• Allows individuals to apply for the inclusion of blood type on a driver's license or identicard.

**Hearing Date:** 3/19/25

**Staff:** Sandy Myer (786-7140).

#### **Background:**

The Department of Licensing (DOL) issues driver's licenses and identicards that are valid for up to eight years. The fee is \$72 for an eight-year driver's license or identicard, and \$54 for a six-year driver's license or identicard. An additional \$1 fee is imposed on each issuance or renewal of a driver's license or identicard.

Any person may apply to obtain a medical alert designation, a developmentally disabled designation, or a deafness designation on a driver's license or identicard based on specific self-attestation and verification requirements. The self-attestation is not disclosable and is for the confidential use by the DOL, the Washington State Patrol, law enforcement, and emergency medical service providers.

#### **Summary of Bill:**

At the option of the applicant, a driver's license and identicard may include the individual's blood

House Bill Analysis - 1 - ESB 5689

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

type if the applicant has provided documentation verifying the blood type from a licensed physician, medical facility, or blood donation organization.

The DOL is given rulemaking authority and direction to develop processes and documentation requirements for individuals to submit blood type information. The DOL is given authority to impose a one-time administrative fee not to exceed \$2 for processing the initial blood type designation request.

The DOL must coordinate with health care providers, emergency responders, and blood donation organizations to educate the public about the availability and potential benefits of including blood type information on state-issued identification.

**Appropriation:** None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect on January 1, 2026.

House Bill Analysis - 2 - ESB 5689