



# Legislative Council Staff

## Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 5/18/2017

### Bill Number

House Bill 17-1206

### Sponsors

*Representatives Singer & Arndt  
Senators Moreno & Coram*

### Short Title

*Eligibility Colorado Road and  
Community Safety Act*

### Research Analyst

Juliann Jenson (x3264)

### Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill, which was postponed indefinitely by the Senate Transportation Committee on April 25, 2017.

### Background

Senate Bill 13-251, also known as the Colorado Road and Community Safety Act (CO-RCSA) authorizes the issuance of a Colorado driver's license, instruction permit, or identification (ID) card to those who cannot demonstrate lawful presence in the United States, and to those who can demonstrate *temporary* lawful presence in the United States if certain documentary requirements are met. The licenses are intended to promote safety by ensuring that applicants know how to drive and are aware of Colorado law. They are distinct from citizens' licenses in that they contain the words "Not valid for federal identification, voting, or public benefit purposes," and are only valid for three years.

One of the documentary requirements to obtain a license or ID card is an individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN). An ITIN is a tax processing number issued by the Internal Revenue Service regardless of immigration status. The ITIN is commonly used as a substitute for a Social Security Number (SSN). An undocumented individual cannot have both an ITIN and SSN, and the ITIN must be rescinded upon receiving a SSN. Therefore, undocumented individuals with a SSN (i.e. Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) do not possess the required documentation to obtain a driver license in Colorado.

The CO-RCSA also addresses renewals and the reissuing of licenses or ID cards. Unlike standard licenses that allow for on-line renewals, the CO-RCSA licenses require individuals to

*This research note was prepared by Legislative Council Staff, the nonpartisan research staff for the Colorado General Assembly. The research note is provided for informational purposes only and should not be relied upon as an official record of action by the General Assembly. Legislative Council Staff are not attorneys, and the research note is not a legal opinion. If you have legal questions about the bill, including questions about the meaning of the bill language or amendments, please contact the drafter.*

make an in-person appointment at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and to resubmit all related documentation. There are currently three DMV offices across the state where these appointments can be made, and this may decrease to one office by November 2017.

## House Action

**House Local Government Committee (March 15, 2017).** At the hearing, the committee heard testimony in favor of the bill from representatives of Together Colorado, Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition, the Colorado's People Alliance, and Mi Familia Vota. Supporting testimony was also given by a local immigration attorney and a number of undocumented individuals representing themselves. A representative from the DMV provided a neutral position on the bill and answered questions. The committee adopted Amendment L.001, and referred the bill, as amended to the House Committee on Appropriations. Amendment L.001 adds an effective date and a safety clause.

**House Appropriations Committee (March 31, 2017):** The committee referred the bill, as amended, to the House Committee of the Whole.

**House Second Reading (March 31, 2017).** The House adopted the House Local Government Committee report. The House passed the bill on second reading with no additional amendments.

**House Third Reading (April 3, 2017).** The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

## Senate Action

**Senate Transportation Committee (April 25, 2017).** At the hearing, a representative from I Drive Colorado spoke in favor of the bill. The committee voted to postpone the bill indefinitely.

## Relevant Research

Colorado Road and Community Safety Act, Colorado Department of Revenue:  
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/sites/default/files/SB251Presentation.pdf>