





HB23-1147: Driver's License Examination Reimbursement

Representative Cathy Kipp and Senator Faith Winter

In April 2020, partially due to pandemic-related staffing shortages, the Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles stopped providing free driving tests, and instead shifted to relying on third-party providers. These providers fees are at the discretion of the individual companies and range in cost. To obtain a license, Coloradans must go to the DMV to take the written permit test, find a separate third-party provider to pay to take the road test, and then return to the DMV to be issued the license. This has also disrupted test access for non-English language speakers and rural Coloradans who do not have third-party providers in their area.

Why this matters:

 <p>Relying only on the third party providers has resulted in high testing costs (\$70-\$115 per test).</p>	 <p>This creates an inequitable cost barrier to accessing a driver's license for low-income folks, college students, and people that need to retake the test.</p>
 <p>Transportation has significant impacts on one's ability to access a job, childcare, education, food, healthcare, and maintain other basic needs.</p>	 <p>It is unsafe to have unlicensed, uninsured driver's on the road, so important to ensure access to this public good.</p>

The Solution:

The Affordable Driver Education Program Testing Enterprise (ADEPT)

- To maintain the existing level of service to Coloradans, third-party providers shall continue to conduct the driving tests. The Division of Motor Vehicles will subsidize the cost of driving tests, in order to decrease the financial impact on the consumer. The funds for subsidization will come from raising driver's license fees by a few dollars to create the ADEPT Enterprise.
- The cost of the first driving test will be \$25, and each subsequent retest will cost an additional \$50. The bill will set the permit and licensing fees for 2024, and give rule-making authority to DOR for subsequent years.
- Other key policy components:
 - ADEPT will work to increase access to driver training and driving examination in underserved areas, specifically in areas that have no third-party providers within 60 mi.,
 - Provide language accessibility for non-English speakers at third-party testing facilities.

****ADDITIONAL COST SAVER****

This bill creates a free online driver training program in English and Spanish!!

HB23-1147: Endorsements

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