

By: Nixon

H.B. No. 1300

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to requiring that a driver's license or personal  
3 identification certificate issued by the Department of Public  
4 Safety state whether the holder is a citizen of the United States.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Section 521.101, Transportation Code, is amended  
7 by adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

8 (c-1) The department shall include on the face of a personal  
9 identification certificate a statement as to whether the holder is  
10 a citizen of the United States.

11 SECTION 2. Section 521.121(a), Transportation Code, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 (a) The driver's license must include:

14 (1) a distinguishing number assigned by the department  
15 to the license holder;

16 (2) a color photograph of the entire face of the  
17 holder;

18 (3) the full name, date of birth, and residence  
19 address of the holder; ~~and~~

20 (4) a brief description of the holder; and

21 (5) a statement as to whether the holder is a citizen  
22 of the United States.

23 SECTION 3. Section 521.142, Transportation Code, is amended  
24 by adding Subsections (i) and (j) to read as follows:

1       (i) The department shall accept as proof of an applicant's  
2 United States citizenship any of the following:

3           (1) a driver's license or personal identification  
4 certificate, or a comparable document, issued by an agency or  
5 department of another state that states on its face that the holder  
6 of the driver's license, personal identification certificate, or  
7 comparable document is a United States citizen;

8           (2) a legible photocopy of the applicant's birth  
9 certificate that verifies United States citizenship to the  
10 satisfaction of the department;

11           (3) a valid United States passport issued to the  
12 applicant or a legible photocopy of the pertinent pages of a valid  
13 United States passport issued to the applicant that identify the  
14 applicant and show the passport number;

15           (4) the originals of the applicant's United States  
16 naturalization documents or the number of the certificate of  
17 naturalization issued to the applicant; or

18           (5) any other document or method of proof established  
19 under the federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (Pub.  
20 L. No. 99-603).

21       (j) If under Subsection (i)(4) an applicant provides only  
22 the number of the applicant's certificate of naturalization, the  
23 department shall request the United States Citizenship and  
24 Immigration Services to verify that the certificate of  
25 naturalization was issued to the applicant. The department may  
26 issue a driver's license to the applicant only if the United States  
27 Citizenship and Immigration Services provides the verification.

1           SECTION 4. (a) The change in law made by this Act applies  
2 only to a personal identification certificate or driver's license  
3 that is applied for on or after September 1, 2005.

4           (b) A personal identification certificate or driver's  
5 license that was applied for before September 1, 2005, is covered by  
6 the law in effect on the date of the application, and the former law  
7 is continued in effect for that purpose.

8           SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.