

May 3, 2013

To: The Honorable Mike Gatto, Chair
The Honorable Diane L. Harkey, Vice Chair
Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee

From: Rex D. Frazier, President
Michael A. Gunning, Vice President
Kara Cross, General Counsel
Manolo P. Platin, Legislative Advocate

Re: AB 60 (Alejo) Drivers Licenses: Eligibility: Required Documentation
As Amended April 16, 2013



STATE FARM

FARMERS

LIBERTY MUTUAL
INSURANCE

PROGRESSIVE

ALLSTATE

MERCURY

Assembly Appropriations Committee Hearing, May 8, 2013
PIFC Position: Support

The Personal Insurance Federation of California, representing six of the nation's largest insurance companies (State Farm, Farmers, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Progressive, Allstate and Mercury) who collectively write a majority of the personal line auto and home insurance in California, **supports AB 60 Drivers Licenses: Eligibility: Required Documentation by Assemblymember Luis Alejo.**

PIFC and its member companies have a long history of support for sound measures that serve to reduce injuries and enhance public safety. Current law prevents many immigrants from receiving the proper training and testing to be safe, licensed and insured drivers. AB 60 would help make California roads safer by allowing all California drivers to obtain drivers' licenses on the basis of ability to pass the certification requirements of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

In September of 2012, the DMV released a study, *Fatal Crash Rates for Suspended/Revoked and Unlicensed Drivers*, which found unlicensed drivers are much more hazardous on the road than are validly licensed drivers. Compared to licensed drivers, those who drive without a valid license are three times more likely to cause a fatal crash.

Current law requires each form prescribed by the DMV for use by an applicant for the issuance or renewal of a driver's license or identification card to contain a section for the applicant's social security number. AB 60 would allow the DMV to also include in that section an applicant's federal individual taxpayer identification number or a number associated with any document that the department finds clearly establishes the identity of the applicant.

California issues driving licenses to ensure that drivers have a demonstrated basic understanding and necessary competence of the rules of the road, both for their safety and for the safety of other drivers. For 65 years, until 1994, California licensed all drivers that met these requirements without regard to immigration status. AB 60 will allow all Californians who drive to be tested for their competency.

PIFC supports AB 60 for these pertinent reasons:

- Trained, tested, and insured drivers enhance public safety for everyone. By allowing all California residents to apply for a driver's license and learn the rules of the road, AB 60 will improve highway safety and protect the lives of all Californians.
- Ensuring all California drivers have access to auto insurance will help reduce costs for all motorists. Unlicensed drivers are unable to obtain auto insurance and are more likely to pass the costs associated with an accident on to insured drivers, driving up insurance costs.

For these reasons, PIFC **supports AB 60 Drivers Licenses: Eligibility: Required Documentation by Assemblymember Alejo, and urges your "aye" vote.** If you have any questions regarding PIFC's position, please contact Michael A. Gunning at (916) 442-6646.

cc: Assemblymember Luis Alejo, Author
Chuck Nicol, Principal Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Gregson Porteous, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
Gareth Elliot, Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Governor