



Department of the Secretary of State Bureau of Motor Vehicles

Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State

Catherine Curtis
Deputy Secretary of State

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

L.D. 275, An Act Making Unified Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, General Fund and Other Funds, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

Shenna Bellows, Secretary of State

Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles

Date 2/27/2025

Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, my name is Shenna Bellows. I am the Secretary of State, and I reside in Manchester. I am here today jointly with Deputy Secretary of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles Cathie Curtis to present testimony in support of those items presented in the Supplemental Budget for the Department Secretary of State.

As you know, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) was established to provide for better regulation of traffic through the administration of laws relating to the operation of motor vehicles. The Bureau has grown considerably over the years and has the responsibility of licensing and monitoring drivers, renewing licenses and IDs, registering and titling vehicles, licensing driver education schools and instructors, licensing vehicle and trailer dealers and managing all motor carrier programs. The Bureau provides services at the main office in Augusta, 13 branch office locations, 23 testing CDL locations, 16 non-commercial examination locations throughout the State, and through a suite of online services. Additionally, 516 municipalities and 12 non-governmental agents offer registration services to residents and non-residents of this State. In 2024, we issued 263,069 licenses and state IDs; administered 30,958 written and road examinations; managed 1.6 million registrations; and issued over 463,000 titles. In FY 2024, we collected revenue of \$117,535,043 for the Highway Fund.

There are 6 initiatives for the Department which begin on page ~~48~~^{A-1} of the Budget Document. Each of these initiatives also coincides with a 2026-2027 biennium budget.

Initiative 1 provides funding for increases in contract expenses for issuing driver license and state identification credentials. The All Other request is \$147,194 in FY2024-25. These costs reflect contractually obligated increases in credential manufacture and production through the vendor; increases in the number of credentials issued annually.

- implementing three federal mandates titled state to state, exclusive electronic exchange and drug and alcohol clearinghouse phase II.
- We modernized the International Registration Plan (IRP) computer system that is used to register vehicles for use throughout the US and Canada.

This initiative will ensure that we are able to continue our work to modernize the driver license system, which is on track to go live in 2026 and embark on modernization of our vehicle services system to follow.

This concludes my testimony. I would be happy to answer questions now or at the work session. Thank you for your time.