

Date of Hearing: August 5, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

SB 1156 (Caballero) – As Amended June 24, 2026

Policy Committee: Transportation

Vote: 15 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: No

Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), upon appropriation, to include, as appropriate, in notifications of common DMV transactions a summary of existing statutory and administrative penalties, financial consequences, risk to public safety and other information related the driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs (DUI).

The bill requires the DMV to include the summary, as appropriate, in each vehicle registration renewal, transfer of registration, and driver's license or driver's license renewal. The bill further provides that, for digital registration systems, the DMV is to ensure that the summary information is displayed prominently before user interactions, such as a pop-up window and on any redirected internet website page.

FISCAL EFFECT:

The DMV reports it annually mails approximately 50 million documents for which this bill requires the DMV to include an additional sheet of paper that describes DUI penalties. The DMV estimates resulting costs of at least \$3.5 million annually (Motor Vehicle Account (MVA)). The DMV projects the MVA to have a structural deficit beginning in the 2027-28 fiscal year.

COMMENTS:

Existing law requires the DMV include certain printed notifications in specified correspondence with drivers, vehicle owners and others. For example, the DMV must include in any of the following—motor vehicle registration, registration renewal, transfer of registration, driver's license and license renewal—a printed summary of penalties for noncompliance with requirements regarding insurance, reporting of accidents and financial responsibility. The law suggests the DMV include specified information in the printed summary, including the all-capitals heading, "IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT ENFORCEMENT OF CALIFORNIA'S COMPULSORY FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY LAW."

Similarly, existing law requires the DMV include with each driver's license or certificate of renewal and each vehicle registration renewal mailed by the DMV information that shows with reasonable certainty the amount of alcohol consumption necessary for a person to reach a 0.08 percent blood alcohol concentration by weight.

This bill additionally requires DMV include information regarding DUI in specified communications, as described in the summary, above. The author notes "decades of public

awareness campaigns” regarding the illegality of DUI and the seriousness of its consequences and asserts many Californians “overlook” the risks of DUI. The author describes the notifications required by this bill as “a common-sense” addition that “turns a routine piece of mail into a consistent, life-saving reminder that demonstrates the safety and well-being of Californians remains our state's top priority.”

The bill is supported by the League of California Cities, the Association of California Highway Patrolmen and Streets are for Everyone. There is no opposition registered against this bill.

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