

OREGON DRIVERS LICENSE FACT SHEET

Why ALL residents of Oregon should have access to obtain a driver's license, regardless of citizenship status.

Licensing drivers prevents accidents and insurance losses.

- ❖ Licensed drivers are tested, registered, and photographed and can get insurance.
- ❖ There are more than 40,000 traffic fatalities each year, and over 6.3 million motor-vehicle crashes, disproportionately caused by unlicensed drivers.
- ❖ An AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety report, Unlicensed to Kill, found that unlicensed drivers are almost five times more likely to be in a fatal crash than are validly licensed drivers.
- ❖ Unlicensed drivers can't get insurance and are less likely to stay on the scene after an accident. An average of 14 % of all accidents are caused by uninsured drivers.
- ❖ Nationally, uninsured motorists cause over \$4.1 billion in insurance losses per year.

Immigration enforcement via driver's license restrictions diverts state and local law enforcement from protecting public safety.

- ❖ Our immigration system is broken, but it won't be fixed by preventing immigrants from getting driver's licenses.
- ❖ State and local law enforcement officers can't do everything. Time spent enforcing immigrant driver's license restrictions means less time to catch criminals and protect public safety.

Verifying immigration status makes the job of Motor Vehicle Departments much harder.

- ❖ Our immigration system is disorderly, and not every legal immigrant has the same immigration document to prove status. Even costly training about complicated immigration laws won't change that.
- ❖ DMVs would have to spend their own state's money to figure out who is in the U.S. legally. That's money that would otherwise be available for real public safety priorities.

Immigrant driver's license restrictions don't deter terrorism – smarter security does.

- ❖ Most of the 9/11 hijackers were in the United States lawfully and would have been able to get licenses even without immigrant driver's license restrictions.
- ❖ Some of the 9/11 terrorists got licenses by falsely claiming that they were state residents. Sensible measures requiring applicants to prove state residence are a more effective approach to ensuring the integrity of a license.
- ❖ The real security lapses in this country are unfunded state and local homeland security efforts, unfunded public health departments, lack of security at ports and other critical infrastructure facilities, chaos at the Department of Homeland Security, and international intelligence-gathering failures.