

S.F. No. 3581 – Access to driver and vehicle records

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S.F. 3581 requires full-service providers to provide copies of certain driver and vehicle records.

Section 1 [§168.002; Full-service provider] provides a definition of “full-service provider” in **chapter 168** (vehicle registration). A full-service provider is a person who performs the functions of both a deputy registrar and a full-service driver’s license agent.

Section 2 [§168.327; Records and fees] allows a full-service provider to provide copies of driver's license records, instruction permit records, Minnesota identification card records, vehicle registration records, vehicle title records, or accident records. The full-service provider collects a fee for the request and retains the majority of the fee but must submit a portion of the fee to the commissioner of public safety (“commissioner”) to be deposited into the general fund.

Section 3 [§168.327; Requests for information; surcharge on fee] requires a full-service provider to impose a surcharge on certain requests. The full-service provider must submit the fee to the commissioner to be deposited into the general fund.

Section 4 [§168.327; exception to fee and surcharge] prohibits a full-service provider from collecting the surcharge referenced in **section 3** in certain situations.

Section 5 [§169.09, subd. 13; Reports confidential; evidence, fee, penalty, appropriation] allows a full-service provider to provide copies of accident reports and to collect a fee. The full-service provider collects a fee for the request and retains the majority of the fee but must submit a portion of the fee to the commissioner to be deposited into the general fund. Obsolete language is stricken.

Section 6 [§171.01; Full-service provider] provides a definition of “full-service provider” in **chapter 171** (drivers’ licenses and training schools). A full-service provider is a person who performs the functions of both a deputy registrar and a full-service driver’s license agent. This corresponds to the term “full-service deputy registrar” used in the report.

Background. On January 12, 2022, an independent expert review was released and made several recommendations on how to improve driver and vehicle services in Minnesota. One recommendation was that state law should be amended to allow full-service providers to fulfill requests and receive fees for providing copies of driving records, crash reports, and vehicle records. This bill is in response to this recommendation. The full report is available here:

https://www.senate.mn/committees/2021-2022/3102_Committee_on_Transportation_Finance_and_Policy/IER%20Final%20Report%20-%20Jan%2012%202022.pdf