

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1654**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member DeMaio**

January 29, 2026

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An act to add Section 15250.2 to the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1654, as introduced, DeMaio. Vehicles: commercial driver's licenses.

Existing law prohibits a person from operating a commercial motor vehicle unless that person has in their immediate possession a valid commercial driver's license of the appropriate class. Existing law requires a person to pass a knowledge test and driving test for the operation of a commercial motor vehicle that complies with minimum federal standards, as specified, before being issued a commercial driver's license.

This bill would require the Department of Motor Vehicles, before issuing or renewing a commercial driver's license, to verify the applicant's lawful presence in the United States, as specified. The bill would require the department to revoke any commercial driver's license issued to a person subsequently determined to be unlawfully present in the United States, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 15250.2 is added to the Vehicle Code,  
2 to read:  
3 15250.2. (a) (1) Before issuing or renewing any commercial  
4 driver’s license, the department shall verify the applicant’s lawful  
5 presence in the United States through the Systematic Alien  
6 Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program or any successor  
7 program administered by the United States Department of  
8 Homeland Security.  
9 (2) If the department is unable to confirm lawful presence, the  
10 application shall be denied.  
11 (b) The department shall revoke any commercial driver’s license  
12 issued to a person subsequently determined to be unlawfully  
13 present in the United States, following notice and an opportunity  
14 to be heard consistent with Article 3 (commencing with Section  
15 14100) of Chapter 3.  
16 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to conflict with  
17 or preempt federal law or regulation, including the issuance of  
18 temporary commercial driver’s licenses to lawfully present  
19 nondomiciled individuals authorized under federal law.