

**THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
PUBLIC HEARING**

**Bill 18-891, the “Driver’s License Amendment Act of 2010”
and
Bill 18-765, the “Access to Selective Service Registration
Amendment Act of 2010”**



**Testimony of
Lucinda Babers, Director
Department of Motor Vehicles**

**Before the
Committee on Public Works and Transportation
Jim Graham, Chairperson**

**Monday, October 25, 2010
2:00 pm – Room 500
The Wilson Building
Washington, DC**

Good Afternoon, Chairperson Graham, members of the Committee and Council, and your staffs. My name is Lucinda Babers, and I am the Director of the District's Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). I am here to provide the Administration's perspective on Bill 18-891, the "Driver's License Amendment Act of 2010" and Bill 18-765, the "Access to Selective Service Registration Amendment Act of 2010."

Bill 18-891 would prohibit the Mayor from requiring a social security number of an applicant who does not have a social security number for an operator's permit. The DC Department of Motor Vehicles is a public safety motor vehicle agency, which like most DMVs in the country, has also become the defacto provider of a national identity for the purpose of verifying a person's identity (for both a driver license and identification card) against breeder documents. Currently, five jurisdictions (Alaska, Minnesota, Nevada, Ohio and Tennessee) have laws similar to this proposed bill.

Since a social security number is a crucial part of a person's identity (as stipulated in US Code), a law that allows an applicant to obtain a DC DMV credential without providing a social security number (or proof from the Social Security Administration that the applicant is not eligible to receive a social security number) is not supported by the Administration. Such a law compromises the integrity of the identification process, opens the door for fraud, is counter to upcoming federal law and compromises the security of the District by potentially providing credentials to those seeking to do us harm. As the Nation's Capital, DC should be at the forefront of promoting best practices which support national security and prevention of fraud.

Bill 18-765 would require all men between 18 and 25 years of age shall register with the Selective Service when they obtain or renew their driver's license. Although the Administration supports this bill, we would recommend that it also includes those individuals obtaining or renewing an identification card. Additionally, since this bill would require computer program changes, we would recommend including an implementation period of at least six months.

This concludes my testimony. I am available to respond to any questions. Thank you.