

HCS HB 245 -- COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE TESTS

SPONSOR: St. Onge

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Transportation by a vote of 9 to 1.

This substitute requires the commercial driver's license written test to only be given in English. Applicants for a commercial driver's license must be able to read and speak the English language sufficiently to converse with the general public, understand highway traffic signs and signals, respond to official inquiries, and make entries on reports and records. Applicants will be prohibited from using an interpreter or translator while testing.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that it is a major safety issue if a person operating a semi-truck cannot read and understand English.

Testifying for the bill was Representative St. Onge.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.