

Toplines:

Will increase public safety across communities

- Georgians with limited documentation risk arrest on a daily basis when they are forced, out of necessity, to travel for work or take children to school and appointments or the doctor. We can offer a pathway for them to drive legally and continue their contributions to local economies and communities.
- Drivers' licenses for people living in Georgia is not an immigrant issue. This legislation can help other groups with limited access to identification documents — including survivors of domestic violence, homeless people and formerly incarcerated individuals.

Sources:

¹ <https://lcfga.info/3VYNhS0>

² <https://lcfga.info/4cUdbfs>

³ <https://lcfga.info/3vPzOkz>

⁴ <https://lcfga.info/3Jj7H0u>

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Policy Priority:

Drivers' Licenses for Georgia's Undocumented Immigrants

Nineteen states and the District of Columbia have enacted laws¹ to allow undocumented immigrants to obtain Drivers' Licenses as a safety and economic development measure.



The states are as follows

California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota (2023), Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

Key Message:

Immigrants lacking legal status in Georgia are one of the groups currently denied the possibility of obtaining a Georgia driver's license, preventing them from performing everyday tasks like driving to work, going to church and dropping children off at school. As a state with extremely limited public transportation service and therefore relying on private transportation, this policy has vast repercussions. Individuals must drive to live, however they are doing it without passing a driving test and without insurance. When something goes wrong, it is all of us who pay the steep price, compromising the safety of our roads and therefore paying higher insurance policies. Individuals driving without licenses are also deeply affected as they lack any protections when they are

victims of accidents or traffic violations, with some consequences as extreme as going to detention and eventually deportation, separating families - oftentimes, mixed status families which include American children.

Making drivers licenses available to all Georgians is not only a humane policy supporting self-sufficiency, but one that will result in public safety and economic benefits for our state. The current legislative framework acts as a barrier between hardworking Georgians and the goods and services that they require to thrive. When all Georgia drivers have a license, can register their vehicles, and purchase insurance coverage, we will be making our roads and communities safer.



Toplines:

Allowing all people who live in Georgia the ability to apply and receive driver's licenses is an economic booster

- GBPI² projects that approximately 165,000 Georgia immigrants could benefit from expanded access to driving privileges. These new driving privileges would be an economic multiplier for all sectors of the economy as people spend more time engaging outside of their home.
- During the first three years of implementation, the state could gain almost \$17 million in revenue from driver's card fees, motor fuel taxes, vehicle registration, vehicle title and standard license plate fees.
- Workforce development is a key priority for Georgia and its continued economic success. Georgia can provide greater prosperity for all by maximizing the skills and talents of its global workforce.
- Georgia is experiencing a labor shortage³ in key industries like education, health care, and information technology. We cannot afford to further push away workforce eligible populations willing to live, work, and thrive in Georgia.

Is expected to lower insurance premiums for all Georgians

- When more Georgians are insured, all drivers could see a decrease in annual car insurance premiums. One recent study shows that expanding access to driver's licenses to undocumented residents decreases insurance premiums by nearly \$20 - GBPI⁴

