

Legislative and Political Action Department

CSEA, LOCAL 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO

Mary E. Sullivan, President

SUPPORT

MEMORANDUM IN

SUPPORT

OF

Protecting DMV Workers

CSEA strongly supports proposals to improve the workplace safety of Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) employees.

Workers at the DMV, whether working for the State or a county clerk performing duties on behalf of the DMV, have a tough job. These workers are often tasked with delivering bad news to the public that they serve, whether it be a failed road test or the cost of a transaction / penalty. As a result of their public-facing role, it is not uncommon for DMV employees to be threatened, harassed, or even attacked.

The budget proposes to increase the penalty for assaulting a DMV employee. This is a good step in recognizing the dangers that these workers face.

In addition, the budget proposes a new \$1 per transaction fee on DMV transactions to fund technology updates for the agency. These funds should be used in a way that will improve the safety of the workforce.

Currently, road test results are delivered in-person, after the test. Motor Vehicle License Examiners (MVLEs), who give the road tests, sometimes face severe threats when delivering the bad news that a road test was failed. If enacted, revenue raised from this transaction fee should be used to implement a system of electronic notification of road test results. This simple change of switching to an email or text message to deliver test results would drastically improve the safety of our MVLEs.

No worker should have to fear for their safety while on the job, and these proposals would have a great impact on the DMV workforce.

On behalf of 300,000 active and retired, public and private sector employees, CSEA urges the passage of this proposal.

Respectfully submitted, Fran Turner Director