(2nd reading) HB 1938 Deshotel

SUBJECT: Extending expiration dates of commercial driver's licenses

COMMITTEE: Homeland Security and Public Safety — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 8 ayes — Nevárez, Paul, Burns, Clardy, Goodwin, Israel, Lang,

Tinderholt

0 nays

1 absent — Calanni

WITNESSES: For — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Bern Weatherford)

Against — None

On — Amanda Arriaga, Texas Department of Public Safety

BACKGROUND: Some have suggested extending the duration of a commercial driver's

license to benefit customers and help alleviate wait times at driver's

license offices.

DIGEST: HB 1938 would extend the expiration date of original and renewal

commercial driver's licenses (CDL) and increase associated fees.

Original. The bill would extend the expiration date of an original CDL from five to eight years. An optional expiration date for a non-domiciled

CDL would be extended from five to eight years.

The expiration date would be extended from five to eight years for a CDL

issued to a person holding a Class A, B, C, or M license that:

• would expire one year or more after the CDL issuance date;

• would expire less than one year after the CDL issuance date or that had been expired for less than one year; or

• had been expired for at least one year but not more than two years.

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The bill would set the expiration date of an original CDL with a hazardous materials endorsement at five years after the applicant's next birthday.

The expiration date would be set at five years for a CDL with a hazardous materials endorsement issued to a person holding a Class A, B, C, or M license that:

- would expire one year or more after the CDL issuance date;
- would expire less than one year after the CDL issuance date or that had been expired for less than one year; or
- had been expired for at least one year but not more than two years.

Renewal. The renewal of a CDL that had been expired for less than one year would be extended from five to eight years after its expiration. For a CDL that had been expired for at least one year but no more than two years, the bill would extend the expiration from six to seven years after the applicant's last birthday.

The bill would set at five years after the CDL's expiration the renewal of a CDL with a hazardous materials endorsement that had been expired for less than one year. If the CDL with endorsement had been expired for at least one year but no more than two years, the renewal would be set at five years after the applicant's last birthday.

Fee. The bill would increase the fee for a CDL from \$60 to \$96. The fee for a CDL with a hazardous materials endorsement would be set at \$60.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019, and would apply only to a commercial driver's license issued or renewed on or after June 1, 2020.