



House Bill 115

Communication Disability Self-Identification

Purpose

Allows for individuals with a medically diagnosed communication disability who drive or regularly have someone with a communication disability in their vehicle to voluntarily identify themselves to law enforcement. Officers approaching a vehicle will be notified that there may be someone with a communication disability in the vehicle prior to approach in order to reduce any potential misunderstandings or communication problems.

FAQ

Am I required to identify as a person with a communication disability? **No, inclusion in the database is voluntary.**

How will law enforcement know I have a communication disability? **If pulled over, police officers will be notified that you have a communication disability when they enter your license plate number into their computer system.**

Will police officers know what type of communication disability I have? **No, police officers will not have that information about you. They will only know that the person who has registered, or someone who frequently travels in the vehicle has a communication disability.**

Do I have to disclose personal medical information in order to identify as someone with a communication disability? **No, you do not have to disclose personal medical information. However, a medical provider must sign your communication disability verification form to acknowledge that you have a medically diagnosed condition.**

Does Type I Diabetes (or other specific diagnosis) qualify as a communication disability? It is up to your physician, psychiatrist or psychologist to determine if the diagnosis can create a communication impairment when deciding to sign the verification form.

How do I identify as a person with a communication disability to be entered into the database? You may download the verification form from the OOD Website: <http://www.ood.ohio.gov/Information/Communication-Disability-Law-FAQ> and ask your physician to sign it.

How and where do I send my completed verification form?

By regular mail to:
The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles
Attn: Remittance/DPU
P.O. Box 16521
Columbus, Ohio 43216-6521

By electronic mail to:
VIS-Administration@dps.ohio.gov

Completed verification forms can also be dropped off in-person at any Deputy Registrar/Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles locations.

How will I know that my communication disability verification form has been received? You will receive a confirmation receipt sent to the email address you provide on your verification form.

Is the information on the verification form I submit available to the public? No, information in the database is not a public record.

For additional questions, please contact:

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities
150 E. Campus View Blvd., Suite 300
Columbus, Ohio 43235
Contact Phone: 614-438-1203

Contact Website:
<http://www.ood.ohio.gov/Information/Communication-Disability-Law>