



Testimony in support of
H.3012/S.2061 An Act relative to work and family mobility
Submitted to the Joint Committee on Transportation
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September 4, 2019

Implementing driver's licenses for all, regardless of immigration status, would benefit the Massachusetts economy and increase the safety of all drivers.

In 2016, undocumented workers contributed \$8.8 billion to the Massachusetts economy, and they paid an estimated \$184.6 million in state and local taxes. To have access to employment to support themselves, folks need to drive to work. We expect them to arrive there safely, causing no harm to themselves or others. In Massachusetts, 78% of workers age 16+ get to work by motor vehicle.

Driver's licenses for all would also increase public safety. A 2017 Stanford University study determined that implementing driver's licenses for all reduced the number of hit-and-run accidents.

Thirteen states and the District of Columbia have already enacted driver's licenses for all. Nine more have introduced legislation this session, and of those nine, Oregon already passed the bill in one chamber.

The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts believes that the Commonwealth should provide driving certificates or some other form of proof of driving validation to undocumented drivers, allowing those drivers to drive legally and ensuring that they have passed a state driving test. The Commonwealth should permit and encourage auto insurance providers to issue insurance coverage to holders of such driving certificates.

The LWVMA, representing 47 local Leagues from Cape Cod to the Berkshires, believes that all levels of government have the responsibility to provide equality of opportunity for education, employment, and housing for all persons in the United States regardless of their race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability. The LWV stands with immigrants in solidarity for their rights and with our partners in the immigrant rights community.

For all these reasons, the LWVMA supports this bill and asks that you favorably report this bill out of committee. Thank you for your consideration.