

April 6, 1992

LB 1092

LR 113

description of what this amendment is. For an individual to receive a medical hardship permit, the following needs would have to occur. The applicant would need to submit to the Department of Motor Vehicles a form, including proof of birth date and identity, and a certificate that no other means of...that no other viable means of transportation exists, along with a signed notarized affidavit from a physician attesting to the applicant's needs. The Department of Motor Vehicles would need to determine by investigation that the information submitted by the applicant was valid and verify that no other viable means of transportation existed, and that application would need to take and pass all required examinations for a motor vehicle operators' license. Any medical hardship permit issued would be restricted to the most direct route necessary to meet the permit holder's need within 50 miles of his or her residence, and outside the corporate limits of a city of metropolitan or primary class. The fee for the medical hardship permit would be \$5. Any person violating the terms of the medical hardship permit would be guilty of a Class III misdemeanor and ineligible to receive other special permits. I would like to give you an example of some situation that could be addressed by this bill. Let's say a 15-year-old boy needs a shot every other Thursday that must be given by a doctor. The family lives in one community where the boy goes to school and each parent works at a different community. This boy can't drive to school because he lives in a town, so he can't get a school permit. If he lived out in the country, he could get a school permit, but he lives in town so he can't get a school permit, and yet somehow in the middle of the day he must go from the school to the hospital and back. And he has no family in town and there is no form of public or private transportation available to him. He could apply for a medical hardship permit so that he could get back from home to school, from the school to the hospital and back, and back home from school. And this is just one of the different types of similar situations that would justify a medical hardship driving permit. I got involved in this issue when a constituent of mine had a legitimate medical need, found that he had nowhere he could apply for a specialized permit. All he wanted for his oldest son, who was 15 1/2 years old but not eligible for a school permit, to be able to drive a younger asthmatic brother to school and back home again. Then I found that Senator Hillman had a related situation involving a family in her district. We introduced LR 113. In researching LR 113, we found that ten other states provide for medical needs through hardship driving permits in