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**THE SENATE
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UNIFORM STATE LAWS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate Transportation Committee Members
FROM: Senator Steve Bieda
DATE: May 25, 2016
SUBJECT: Senate Bills 977 and 978

I just wanted to give you some background information in regards to Senate Bills 977 and 978 which is on the Transportation Committee agenda.

Currently, Michigan does not offer commercial license permit (CLP) skills testing for individuals who hold valid CLPs that are issued by another state. This puts truck driving schools who operate in Michigan at a competitive disadvantage from neighboring states who offer these services. According to Dave Richmond of MDOS, reasoning behind this delay are due to awaiting federal standards to be accepted in order to adopt a state CLP curriculum that is robust and dissuades any school from just teaching to the testing questions exclusively.

These bills will give Michigan truck driving schools, under this temporary pilot program, the ability to educate and test out-of-state drivers and sunsets when MDOS adopts their final curriculum.

The house versions of these bills were passed unanimously on Tuesday with no opposition.