

HB 140-FN - VERSION ADOPTED BY BOTH BODIES

6Feb2025... 0129h

2025 SESSION

25-0286

11/06

HOUSE BILL

140-FN

AN ACT establishing a voluntary "blue envelope" program for drivers with autism spectrum disorders and trauma and stressor-related disorders.

SPONSORS: Rep. Newell, Ches. 4; Rep. Jacobs, Ches. 15; Rep. A. Murray, Hills. 20; Rep. Roy, Rock. 31; Rep. Selig, Straf. 10; Rep. H. Howard, Straf. 4; Rep. Tenczar, Hills. 1; Rep. Wheeler, Hills. 33; Rep. Harriott-Gathright, Hills. 10; Rep. Parshall, Ches. 8; Sen. Fenton, Dist 10; Sen. Lang, Dist 2; Sen. Watters, Dist 4

COMMITTEE: Transportation

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a program, named the blue envelope program, where a motor vehicle driver with an autism spectrum disorder or trauma and stressor-related disorder may carry and present to law enforcement a blue envelope containing written information and guidance on effective communication with the driver.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT establishing a voluntary "blue envelope" program for drivers with autism spectrum disorders and trauma and stressor-related disorders.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Section; Blue Envelope Program for Drivers with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Amend
2 RSA 265 by inserting after section 3-b the following new section:

3 265:3-c Blue Envelope Program for Drivers with Autism Spectrum and Trauma and Stressor-
4 Related Disorders.

5 I. There is hereby established the Blue Envelope Program to enhance and facilitate
6 communication between members of law enforcement and drivers with autism spectrum and trauma
7 and stressor-related disorders.

8 II. The division of motor vehicles, in consultation with the New Hampshire council on
9 autism spectrum and trauma and stressor-related disorders, shall design and make available at no
10 cost blue envelopes that:

11 (a) Provide written information and guidance on the outside of the envelopes regarding
12 ways to enhance effective communication between a police officer and a person with an autism
13 spectrum or trauma and stressor-related disorder;

14 (b) Provide a designated space for written emergency contact information; and

15 (c) Are capable of holding a person's driver's license, vehicle registration, and any
16 relevant information from a health care provider, should the driver, or, if the driver is a minor, the
17 parent or guardian, choose to include it.

18 III. Upon request by a person with an autism spectrum or trauma and stressor-related
19 disorder, or if such person is a minor, the person's parent or guardian, accompanied by proof of such
20 disorder, the division shall provide a blue envelope designed pursuant to this section to such person,
21 parent or guardian.

22 IV. The guidance on the outside of the blue envelope shall include an instruction to attach
23 the envelope to the driver's visor on the side facing the driver in the down position for easy and safe
24 access.

25 V. The commissioner of safety may adopt rules, under RSA 541-A, relative to:

26 (a) Content and format of the blue envelopes necessary under paragraph II of this
27 section.

28 (b) Acceptable forms of proof of an autism spectrum or trauma and stressor-related
29 disorders to obtain a blue envelope and the handling of confidential medical information.

30 (c) Requirements for blue envelope attachment to the visor.

1 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2026.

LBA
25-0286
2/20/25

HB 140-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE (AMENDMENT #2025-0129h)

AN ACT establishing a voluntary "blue envelope" program for drivers with autism spectrum disorders and trauma and stressor-related disorders.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Legislative Budget Assistant has determined that this legislation has a total fiscal impact of less than \$10,000 in each of the fiscal years 2025 through 2028.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Safety