

Tribal Endorsement of Utah Driver License Amendments

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor:

Sponsor:

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This bill allows an applicant for a driver license to request a notation on the driver license or identification card indicating that the individual is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- defines terms;
- allows an applicant to request a notation of "Native American" on the driver license or identification card indicating that the individual is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe;
- instructs the Driver License Division regarding satisfactory proof that an applicant is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe; and
- prohibits the notation from identifying a specific Indian tribe.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

53-3-237, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53-3-237** is enacted to read:

53-3-237 . Driver license notation of tribal membership.

(1) As used in this section:

- (a) "Bureau of Indian Affairs affidavit of birth" or "tribal affidavit of birth" means an affidavit of birth issued by the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs that includes:

- 31 (i) the individual's name;
32 (ii) the individual's date of birth; and
33 (iii) other identifying information.
34 **(b) "Enhanced tribal card" means a tribal identification card that:**
35 (i) is issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe;
36 (ii) meets the requirements established by the United States Department of Homeland
37 Security for use as an acceptable document to denote identity and citizenship; and
38 (iii) includes enhanced security features.
39 **(c) "Tribal certificate of Indian blood" means a certificate issued by the United States**
40 **Bureau of Indian Affairs that:**
41 (i) certifies the degree of Indian blood of an individual; and
42 (ii) verifies the individual's enrollment or eligibility for enrollment in a federally
43 recognized Indian tribe.
44 **(d) "Tribal identification card" means an identification card issued by a federally**
45 **recognized Indian tribe that includes:**
46 (i) the individual's name;
47 (ii) the individual's date of birth;
48 (iii) a photograph of the individual; and
49 (iv) the name of the issuing tribe.
50 **(2) An applicant may, as part of the application process described in Section 53-3-205 or**
51 **53-3-804, request a notation on the applicant's individual license certificate or**
52 **identification card indicating that the individual is an enrolled member of a federally**
53 **recognized Indian tribe.**
54 **(3) The division shall accept the following as satisfactory proof that the applicant is an**
55 **enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe:**
56 (a) an enhanced tribal card;
57 (b) a tribal identification card;
58 (c) a tribal certificate of Indian blood; or
59 (d) a tribal or Bureau of Indian Affairs affidavit of birth.
60 **(4)(a) If the applicant provides satisfactory proof as described in Subsection (3), the**
61 **division shall include on the individual's license certificate or identification card a**
62 **notation of "Native American."**
63 **(b) The notation may not identify a specific Indian tribe or other specific personal**
64 **information that is submitted on the documents that provide satisfactory proof that**

65 the person is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe.

66 Section 2. **Effective Date.**

67 This bill takes effect on July 1, 2026.