

1 **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

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

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

27 **53-3-237 . Driver license notation of tribal membership.**

28 (1) As used in this section:

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

- (i) the individual's name;
 - (ii) the individual's date of birth; and
 - (iii) other identifying information.
- (b) "Enhanced tribal card" means a tribal identification card that:
 - (i) is issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe;
 - (ii) meets the requirements established by the United States Department of Homeland Security for use as an acceptable document to denote identity and citizenship; and
 - (iii) includes enhanced security features.
- (c) "Tribal certificate of Indian blood" means a certificate issued by the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs that:
 - (i) certifies the degree of Indian blood of an individual; and
 - (ii) verifies the individual's enrollment or eligibility for enrollment in a federally recognized Indian tribe.
- (d) "Tribal identification card" means an identification card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe that includes:
 - (i) the individual's name;
 - (ii) the individual's date of birth;
 - (iii) a photograph of the individual; and
 - (iv) the name of the issuing tribe.

An applicant may, as part of the application process described in Section 53-3-205 or 53-3-804, request a notation on the applicant's individual license certificate or identification card indicating that the individual is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe.

The division shall accept the following as satisfactory proof that the applicant is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe:

- (a) an enhanced tribal card;
- (b) a tribal identification card;
- (c) a tribal certificate of Indian blood; or
- (d) a tribal or Bureau of Indian Affairs affidavit of birth.

- (a) If the applicant provides satisfactory proof as described in Subsection (3), the division shall include on the individual's license certificate or identification card a notation of "Native American."
- (b) The notation may not identify a specific Indian tribe or other specific personal 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.