



# MEMORANDUM

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## LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

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**To:** Ald. Michael J. Murphy  
**From:** Tea Norfolk, Legislative Fiscal Analyst – Lead  
**Date:** November 11, 2019  
**Subject:** Carjacking and Reckless Driving: Buying a Car without a Driver's License

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This memo is in response to your request for information regarding the pros and cons of requiring a driver's license to purchase a vehicle.

Although there is no law prohibiting a person from buying a vehicle without a driver's license, there are other barriers making it very difficult to operate a vehicle one has purchased without a driver's license, such as registering the vehicle and insuring it – both of which often require a driver's license. Given the lack of legislation requiring a driver's license to purchase a vehicle, the Legislative Reference Bureau is unable to provide research showing either positive or negative outcomes from such a law.

However, there are some circumstances that may lead a person to purchase a vehicle without a driver's license, including the following examples:

1. A disabled person needs a car for a caregiver to drive, but wants full ownership of the vehicle.
2. A business owner needs a vehicle for licensed employees to drive.
3. A person wants to buy a gift for a loved one who has a driver's license.
4. A parent or guardian has an underage child or dependent who is licensed but cannot legally finance the vehicle.
5. A person wants a collectible automobile he or she has no intentions of driving.
6. A person has a driver or chauffeur who will operate the vehicle for him or her.

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