

CAPITOL OFFICE
1021 O STREET
SUITE 6730
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 651-4036

DISTRICT OFFICE
301 MAIN STREET
SUITE 212
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92648
TEL (714) 374-4000

SENATOR.STRICKLAND@SENATE.CA.GOV

California State Senate

SENATOR
TONY STRICKLAND
THIRTY-SIXTH SENATE DISTRICT



COMMITTEES
BANKING AND FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS
ENERGY, UTILITIES
AND COMMUNICATIONS
LABOR, PUBLIC
EMPLOYMENT AND
RETIREMENT
VICE CHAIR
TRANSPORTATION
VICE CHAIR
SUBCOMMITTEES
LOSSAN RAIL CORRIDOR
RESILIENCY

July 10, 2026

Steve Gordon, Director
California Department of Motor Vehicles
2415 1st Ave., Mail Station F101
Sacramento, CA 95818-2606

Dear Director Gordon:

I am writing regarding the approximately 11,000 Californians who recently received notices from the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) informing them that their driver's licenses will be revoked in 30 days unless they retake the written examination.

Understandably, these notices have caused confusion and concern among individuals who believe they followed the rules and properly completed the testing process. As Vice Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, I have concerns regarding both the reported circumstances and the language used in the notices sent to these individuals. From [a Los Angeles Times report](#), the DMV letter states that the recipient's "driver's license test results indicate non-compliance with the driver testing criteria required by state law."

I have heard from Californians who believe this language suggests the DMV is accusing them of cheating or engaging in misconduct during the examination process. Whether that is the Department's intent or not, the wording of the notice has created confusion and unnecessary anxiety.

The DMV serves the people of California. When 11,000 Californians receive a letter telling them they could lose their driver's license, they deserve clear communication. Whether the issue stems from the testing system, a vendor, an administrative error, or another cause, affected Californians deserve transparency when so many people's driving privileges are at stake.

Californians deserve to understand why they are being required to retake the examination, what specific issues were identified, whether the concern relates to the testing system or individual conduct, and what process was used to determine that their original test results are no longer considered valid.

To better understand this situation and ensure accountability, I respectfully request answers to the following questions within the next 30 days:

1. What specific "irregularities" or "anomalies" prompted the DMV to invalidate these written examination results?
2. How were the approximately 11,000 affected individuals identified, and what criteria was used to determine that their test results required further review?
3. Does the DMV believe any of the affected individuals engaged in cheating, fraud, or other misconduct? If not, why does the notice reference "non-compliance with the driver testing criteria required by state law" without further explanation?
4. If the issue resulted from a problem with the testing system, vendor, or administrative process, why are affected Californians being required to retake the examination? Additionally, what steps are being taken by the DMV to address these problems?
5. What appeal, review, or reconsideration process is available for individuals who believe they were incorrectly identified?
6. Will the DMV consider extending the 30-day deadline while affected individuals seek clarification or while the Department completes its review?
7. What steps is the DMV taking to ensure future communications involving a person's driving privileges are clear, accurate, and understandable?

Public confidence in the DMV depends on transparency, fairness, and clear communication. When thousands of Californians receive a notice that could impact their ability to drive, they deserve to know why and have confidence that the process is fair.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to working with the Department to ensure transparency, accountability, and fairness for every Californian affected by this issue. Should you have any questions, you can reach my Chief of Staff at this email: Jennifer.Carey@sen.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Tony Strickland
California State Senator
Senate District 36

CC: Barry Steinhart, Deputy Director of Legislation