SENATE BILL 671

R4 5lr2163
CF 5lr2197

By: **Senators Young, Montgomery, and Rosapepe**
Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2015
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Motor Vehicle Administration – Commercial Driver's License – Program for Veterans and Service Members (Troops to Trucks)

FOR the purpose of requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to establish a program to assist veterans and members of the military transitioning out of military service to obtain a commercial driver's license and find employment; requiring the Administration, as part of the program, to waive a certain skills test for certain program participants, coordinate with certain persons to provide certain education courses on military bases, and establish a certain process; requiring the Administration to adopt certain regulations; making a conforming change; and generally relating to commercial drivers' licenses.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Transportation
Section 16–807(b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Transportation
Section 16–807.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Transportation

16–807.

EXPLANATION: **CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**
[Brackets**]** indicate matter deleted from existing law.

(b) (1) **[**An**] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 16–807.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, AN** individual may not be issued a commercial driver's license until the individual has passed the knowledge and skill tests for driving a commercial motor vehicle which complies with the minimum federal standards established by the federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986 (Title XII of Public Law 99–570), and has satisfied all other requirements of that act as well as any other requirements of this title.

(2) The tests shall be prescribed and conducted at the direction of the Administration.

(3) The Administration shall adopt regulations to waive the skill test required under paragraph (1) of this subsection in a manner consistent with 49 C.F.R. § 383.77.

16–807.1.

(A) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO ASSIST VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY WHO ARE TRANSITIONING OUT OF MILITARY SERVICE TO OBTAIN A COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE AND FIND EMPLOYMENT.

(B) AS PART OF THE PROGRAM, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL:

(1) WAIVE THE SKILLS TEST REQUIRED UNDER § 16–807(B) OF THIS SUBTITLE FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS WHO MEET ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE ADMINISTRATION, CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL LAW;

(2) COORDINATE WITH MILITARY BASES, COMMUNITY COLLEGES THAT OFFER COMMERCIAL DRIVER EDUCATION COURSES, THE MARYLAND MOTOR TRUCK ASSOCIATION, INC., AND ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE PARTY TO PROVIDE COMMERCIAL DRIVER EDUCATION COURSES ON MILITARY BASES; AND

(3) ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO ASSIST PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS TO FIND EMPLOYMENT.

(C) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2015.