

**By: Delegate W. Baker**

Requested: October 12, 1995

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

**2 Driver's Education - Laboratory and Classroom Instruction - Required Hours**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the number of hours of laboratory instruction in a driver's  
4 education course that an individual who is under a certain age must complete before  
5 the individual qualifies for a driver's license, subject to certain exemptions; altering  
6 the number of hours of classroom instruction required to be offered by certain  
7 drivers' education programs; making stylistic changes; and generally relating to  
8 requirements regarding the number of hours of laboratory and classroom  
9 instruction in driver's education programs.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article - Transportation  
12 Section 16-103(b)(1) and (2) and 16-506  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

**17 Article - Transportation**

18 16-103.

19 (b) (1) Except as provided under paragraph (3) of this subsection, the  
20 Administration may issue a noncommercial Class B, C, or M license to an individual  
21 under the age of 18, if [he] THE INDIVIDUAL is at least 16 years old and has completed  
22 satisfactorily a driver's education course approved under Subtitle 5 of this title, and has  
23 completed satisfactorily [6] 10 hours of laboratory instruction.

24 (2) The individual shall be exempt from the laboratory instruction required  
25 by this subsection, though not the required classroom instruction, if:

26 (i) [He] THE INDIVIDUAL has been licensed regularly to drive in  
27 another state for at least 6 months; and

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1                   (ii) [He] THE INDIVIDUAL establishes to the satisfaction of a  
2 classroom instructor certified under Subtitle 5 of this title that [his] THE INDIVIDUAL'S  
3 driving experience is sufficient to justify the exemption.

4 16-506.

5           (a) Subject to the prior endorsement of the regulations by the State  
6 Superintendent of Schools, the Administration shall adopt and enforce regulations not  
7 inconsistent with this subtitle to implement driver education programs conducted by  
8 licensed drivers' schools under its jurisdiction.

9           (b) Regulations adopted under this section shall be administered by the  
10 Administration and shall include:

11                   (1) Curriculum, equipment, and facility standards for both classroom and  
12 laboratory phases;

13                   (2) Minimum student performance standards for successful completion of  
14 an approved driver education program, consisting of at least [30] 20 hours of classroom  
15 instruction;

16                   (3) Standards for the certification of schools, classroom instructors, and  
17 laboratory instructors;

18                   (4) A system to evaluate the effectiveness of the driver education program;

19                   (5) Standards governing the required offering of the driver education  
20 program, based on the capacity, enrollment, staff, and facilities of the schools; and

21                   (6) Standards for the eligibility of individuals to enroll in the program.

22           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
23 October 1, 1996.