
By: Chairman, Commerce and Government Matters Committee (Departmental - Transportation)

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 1997

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Drivers' Licenses - Testing for Motorcycle Permits and Licenses - Waiver

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administration to waive certain
4 learner's permit and licensing examination requirements for any individual who
5 successfully completes a certain motorcycle safety course; providing that the
6 successful completion of a certain motorcycle safety course shall be the equivalent
7 of passing certain tests required by the Administration; and generally relating to
8 motorcycle licensing and permit requirements.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Transportation
11 Section 16-105(f), 16-110(g), and 16-603
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
15 Article - Transportation
16 Section 16-110(h)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

21 Article - Transportation

22 16-105.

23 (f) (1) The Administration may issue a driver's license, without first issuing a
24 learner's instructional permit and without a waiting period, to any individual who:

25 (I) [has] HAS been licensed regularly to drive in this State, in another
26 state or country, or by the armed forces of the United States, if the Administration is
27 satisfied that the applicant's experience in driving vehicles of the type that would be
28 authorized by the license class applied for is sufficient to justify issuance of the license
29 without further training; OR

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1 (II) HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE ADMINISTRATION
2 APPROVED BASIC MOTORCYCLE SAFETY COURSE.

3 (2) The Administration may examine the applicant's driving as provided in §
4 16-110 of this title.

5 16-110.

6 (g) Except as provided in subsection (h) of this section, the Administration may
7 waive any driver's license examination provided for under this title if the applicant:

8 (1) Holds a valid driver's license issued under this subtitle; [or]

9 (2) IS APPLYING FOR A CLASS M LICENSE AND HAS SUCCESSFULLY
10 COMPLETED THE ADMINISTRATION APPROVED BASIC MOTORCYCLE SAFETY
11 COURSE; OR

12 [(2)] (3) Holds a valid license from:

13 (i) Another State;

14 (ii) A territory or possession of the United States, the District of
15 Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; or

16 (iii) A province or territory of Canada.

17 (h) The Administration may not waive a vision examination required under this
18 section.

19 16-603.

20 (a) The Department and the Administration shall administer the Motorcycle
21 Safety Program.

22 (b) The Administration, a State or community college, State university, an agency
23 of a political subdivision or any other person approved and designated by the
24 Administration may organize and manage a motorcycle safety training center and may
25 offer motorcycle safety courses at those centers that it operates.

26 (c) The Administration may operate a mobile training center to provide courses
27 at various locations in the State.

28 (d) (1) Subject to the regulations adopted under this subtitle, any resident of
29 this State who possesses a valid Class E or Class M driver's license, a Class E or Class M
30 learner's instructional permit, or is eligible for a Class M learner's instructional permit,
31 may enroll in a course.

32 (2) A nonresident may apply for and be accepted for enrollment in courses
33 authorized under this subtitle; however, the reimbursement provided under § 16-605(b)
34 may not be made for a nonresident trainee.

35 (3) An eligible individual may take a course more than one time, but the
36 reimbursement provided in § 16-605(b) of this subtitle may only be paid one time for any
37 individual.

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1 (4) For a course that is to be reimbursed under this subtitle, a training
2 center may charge a trainee a reasonable course registration fee.

3 (5) For a course offered at a training center operated by the Administration,
4 the Administration may collect a reasonable course registration fee established by the
5 Administration.

6 (e) The courses may be offered throughout the calendar year.

7 (F) THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE ADMINISTRATION APPROVED
8 BASIC MOTORCYCLE SAFETY COURSE SHALL BE CONSIDERED THE EQUIVALENT OF
9 PASSING THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TEST REQUIRED UNDER §§ 16-105 AND 16-110
10 OF THIS TITLE FOR OBTAINING A CLASS M DRIVER'S LICENSE.

11 [(f)] (G) (1) The Department shall provide a program coordinator to organize
12 and administer all tasks related to the achievement of the purpose of the Motorcycle
13 Safety Program as provided under this subtitle.

14 (2) The program coordinator shall be experienced in the motorcycle safety
15 field and shall possess those qualifications as may be specified by the Secretary.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 October 1, 1997.