
By: Delegates W. Baker, McClenahan, Conway, Love, Bozman, Eckardt, and Walkup

Introduced and read first time: January 16, 1997

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 requiring a certain number of hours of nighttime driving laboratory
4 instruction under certain circumstances; altering the number of hours of classroom
5 instruction required to be offered by certain driver education programs; making
6 stylistic changes; and generally relating to requirements regarding nighttime driving
7 laboratory instruction and the number of hours of classroom instruction in driver
8 education programs.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Transportation
11 Section 16-103(b)(1) and (2) and 16-506
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Transportation**

17 16-103.

18 (b) (1) Except as provided under paragraph (3) of this subsection, the
19 Administration may issue a noncommercial Class B, C, or M license to an individual
20 under the age of 18, if [he] THE INDIVIDUAL is at least 16 years old and has completed
21 satisfactorily a driver's education course approved under Subtitle 5 of this title, and has
22 completed satisfactorily 6 hours of laboratory instruction, 2 HOURS OF WHICH SHALL
23 INCLUDE NIGHTTIME DRIVING 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

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

2

1 16-506.

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

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

8 (1) Curriculum, equipment, and facility standards for both classroom and
9 laboratory phases;

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

13 (3) Standards for the certification of schools, classroom instructors, and
14 laboratory instructors;

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

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

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

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