

---

**By: Delegates Mandel, Dypski, DeCarlo, and W. Baker**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 1997

Assigned to: Ways and Means

---

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Driver Education - Standardized Classroom Phase Curriculum and Increased Hours of**  
3 **Laboratory Instruction**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the number of hours of laboratory instruction in a driver  
5 education course that an individual under a certain age must complete before the  
6 individual qualifies for a driver's license; requiring a certain number of hours of  
7 nighttime driving laboratory instructio nunder certain circumstances; requiring the  
8 curriculum in the classroom phase of all driver education courses to be standardized  
9 and based on a certain curriculum; making stylistic changes; and generally relating  
10 to requirements regarding the number of hours of laboratory instruction and a  
11 standardized curriculum in driver education programs.

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

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

19 **Article - Transportation**

20 16-103.

21 (b) (1) Except as provided under paragraph (3) of this subsection, the  
22 Administration may issue a noncommercial Class B, C, or M license to an individual  
23 under the age of 18, if he is at least 16 years old and has completed satisfactorily a driver's  
24 education course approved under Subtitle 5 of this title, and has completed satisfactorily  
25 [6] 8 hours of laboratory instruction, 2 HOURS OF WHICH SHALL INCLUDE NIGHTTIME  
26 DRIVING INSTRUCTION.

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

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

2

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) (I) A STANDARDIZED CURRICULUM REQUIRED FOR THE  
12 CLASSROOM PHASE OF ALL DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAMS BASED ON THE  
13 "NOVICE DRIVER EDUCATION MODEL CURRICULUM OUTLINE" PREPARED FOR THE  
14 AAA FOUNDATION FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY; AND

15 (II) CURRICULUM STANDARDS FOR THE LABORATORY PHASE;

16 (2) [Curriculum, equipment,] EQUIPMENT and facility standards for both  
17 classroom and laboratory phases;

18 [(2)] (3) Minimum student performance standards for successful  
19 completion of an approved driver education program, consisting of at least 30 hours of  
20 classroom instruction;

21 [(3)] (4) Standards for the certification of schools, classroom instructors,  
22 and laboratory instructors;

23 [(4)] (5) A system to evaluate the effectiveness of the driver education  
24 program;

25 [(5)] (6) Standards governing the required offering of the driver education  
26 program, based on the capacity, enrollment, staff, and facilities of the schools; and

27 [(6)] (7) Standards for the eligibility of individuals to enroll in the program.

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