HOUSE BILL 539

Unofficial Copy 2000 Regular Session
R4 0lr1770
CF 0lr1771

By: **Delegate DeCarlo**
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2000
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Vehicle Laws - Driver Education - Increased Hours of Highway Driving Instruction

FOR the purpose of increasing the number of hours of highway driving instruction that an individual must complete before the individual qualifies to take certain examinations for a provisional driver's license; altering a provision of law to require certain regulations to include the increased number of hours of highway driving instruction as a minimum standard for driver education programs; and generally relating to requirements regarding highway driving instruction.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article - Transportation
Section 16-105(d) and 16-505(b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

Article - Transportation

16-105.

(d) (1) This subsection applies to an individual who:

(i) Seeks to obtain an original driver's license under this subtitle; and

(ii) Does not qualify for a learner's instructional permit under subsection (e) of this section.

(2) An individual who holds a learner's instructional permit may not take a driver skills examination or driver road examination for a provisional license:

(i) Sooner than 4 months:

1. After the individual first obtains the learner's instructional permit; or

2. After the date on which the individual committed a moving violation for which the individual was convicted;

(ii) Until after successful completion of a driver education course approved under Subtitle 5 of this title, consisting of at least 30 hours of classroom instruction and at least [6] 8 hours of highway driving instruction; or

(iii) Unless the individual submits, in accordance with the Administration's regulations, a completed skills log book signed by:

1. Each supervising driver who certifies that the individual has satisfactorily demonstrated a required skill; and

2. If a signature of a parent, guardian, or other person is required under § 16-107 of this subtitle, the parent, guardian, or other person who signs the individual's application under that section.

(3) A learner's instructional permit issued to an individual described in paragraph (1) of this subsection expires one year after the date of issuance.

16-505.

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

(1) Curriculum, equipment, and facility standards for classroom, laboratory, and on-road instruction phases;

(2) Minimum student performance standards for an approved driver education program, consisting of at least 30 hours of classroom instruction and at least [6] 8 hours of highway driving instruction;

(3) Standards for the certification of schools and instructors;

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

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

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

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2000.