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By: **Delegates Malone and Moe**  
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Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: February 26, 2002

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2                                   **Vehicle Laws - Commercial Drivers' Licenses - Special School Bus**  
3                                   **Endorsement**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring an operator of a school bus to obtain a special  
5 commercial driver's license endorsement from the Motor Vehicle Administration  
6 under certain circumstances; clarifying a certain requirement for driving a  
7 school bus; providing for the application of a special school bus endorsement as  
8 an endorsement for operating certain other vehicles; providing for the  
9 application of this Act; clarifying certain language; and generally relating to  
10 driver's license requirements for school bus drivers.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article - Transportation  
13 Section 16-815 and 16-816  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

18                                   **Article - Transportation**

19 16-815.

20       (a)       (1)       A Class A commercial driver's license authorizes the licensee to drive  
21 the following motor vehicles and combinations of motor vehicles:

1 (i) Any combinations of vehicles with a gross combination weight of  
2 26,001 or more pounds if the GVW of the vehicles being towed is in excess of 10,000  
3 pounds; and

4 (ii) Any vehicle or combination of vehicles that a Class B  
5 commercial driver's license authorizes its holder to drive.

6 (2) An individual who is issued a Class A commercial driver's license  
7 under this subsection may not drive or attempt to drive a motor vehicle on any  
8 highway in this State unless a Class A commercial driver's license or an appropriately  
9 endorsed Class A commercial driver's license authorizes the individual to drive a  
10 vehicle of the class that the individual is driving or attempting to drive.

11 (b) (1) A Class B commercial driver's license authorizes the licensee to drive  
12 the following motor vehicles and combinations of motor vehicles:

13 (i) Any single vehicle with a gross vehicle weight (GVW) of 26,001  
14 or more pounds;

15 (ii) Any such vehicle towing a vehicle not in excess of 10,000 pounds  
16 GVW; and

17 (iii) Any vehicle that a Class C commercial driver's license  
18 authorizes its holder to drive.

19 (2) An individual who is issued a Class B commercial driver's license  
20 under this subsection may not drive or attempt to drive a motor vehicle on any  
21 highway in this State unless a Class B commercial driver's license or an appropriately  
22 endorsed Class B commercial driver's license authorizes the individual to drive a  
23 vehicle of the class that the individual is driving or attempting to drive.

24 (c) (1) A Class C commercial driver's license authorizes the licensee to drive  
25 the following motor vehicles and combinations of motor vehicles:

26 (i) Any single vehicle less than 26,001 pounds gross vehicle weight  
27 (GVW);

28 (ii) Any such vehicle towing a vehicle not in excess of 10,000 pounds  
29 GVW; and

30 (iii) Any vehicle which a noncommercial Class C driver's license  
31 authorizes its holder to drive, except for motorcycles.

32 (2) An individual who is issued a Class C commercial driver's license  
33 under this subsection may not drive or attempt to drive a motor vehicle on any  
34 highway in this State unless a Class C commercial driver's license or an appropriately  
35 endorsed Class C commercial driver's license authorizes the individual to drive a  
36 vehicle of the class that the individual is driving or attempting to drive.

1 (d) (1) A commercial driver's instructional permit authorizes the holder to  
2 operate commercial motor vehicles of Class A, B, and C subject to the conditions of  
3 Subtitle 1 of this title.

4 (2) An instructional permit is not a license within the meaning of the  
5 single license restriction placed upon drivers of commercial motor vehicles.

6 (e) (1) In addition to the requirements contained in subsections (a), (b), and  
7 (c) of this section, an operator must obtain State-issued endorsements of an  
8 operator's commercial driver's license to operate commercial motor vehicles which  
9 are:

10 [(1)] (I) Double/triple trailers;

11 [(2)] (II) Vehicles designed to transport 16 or more passengers including  
12 the driver (passenger vehicles);

13 (III) SCHOOL BUSES;

14 [(3)] (IV) Tank vehicles; or

15 [(4)] (V) Required to be placarded for hazardous materials.

16 (2) A SCHOOL BUS ENDORSEMENT AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS  
17 SUBSECTION IS ALSO AN ENDORSEMENT FOR VEHICLES DESIGNED TO TRANSPORT  
18 16 OR MORE PASSENGERS INCLUDING THE DRIVER (PASSENGER VEHICLES).

19 16-816.

20 (a) An individual may not drive a school vehicle (~~school bus~~) on any highway  
21 in this State unless the individual:

22 (1) Passes an appropriate medical examination; and

23 (2) ~~Has~~ FOR DRIVING A SCHOOL BUS, HAS been issued a commercial  
24 driver's license endorsed [passenger vehicle] SCHOOL BUS.

25 (b) With the advice of the State Department of Education, the Administration  
26 may adopt regulations concerning the qualifications of school vehicle drivers.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be  
28 construed prospectively to apply only to individuals applying for a commercial driver's  
29 license to drive a school bus on or after the effective date of this Act.

30 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
31 effect October 1, 2002.

