

HOUSE BILL 303

R4

(91r0231)

ENROLLED BILL

—Environmental Matters/Judicial Proceedings—

Introduced by **The Speaker (By Request - Administration) and Delegates McIntosh, Malone, Bronrott, Ali, Frank, George, Hucker, Lafferty, Montgomery, ~~and Waldstreicher~~ Waldstreicher, Beidle, Cane, Glenn, Holmes, Niemann, Serafini, Shewell, Stein, and Stull**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this _____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - ~~Young Drivers - Driving Privileges~~ Teen Driver Safety**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the minimum ages at which an individual may obtain a
4 ~~learner's instructional permit, provisional license, and full~~ provisional driver's
5 license or original driver's license; ~~increasing the maximum age under which an~~
6 ~~applicant for a learner's instructional permit must provide to the Motor Vehicle~~
7 ~~Administration a school attendance record; increasing the maximum age of an~~
8 ~~applicant for a learner's instructional permit for purposes of a prohibition~~
9 ~~against issuance of the permit if the applicant's school attendance record~~
10 ~~indicates more than a certain number of absences; altering the period after~~
11 which the holder of a learner's instructional permit may take certain
12 examinations for a provisional license under certain circumstances; requiring

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber / conference committee amendments.



1 the Administration to cancel the driver's license of a minor if the cosigner on the
 2 minor's application for the license makes a certain request; altering the period
 3 after which the holder of a provisional license may be issued ~~a full~~ an original
 4 driver's license under certain circumstances; ~~altering the hours during which a~~
 5 ~~holder of a provisional driver's license under a certain age may drive~~
 6 ~~unsupervised~~ requiring the Administration to fingerprint an applicant for a
 7 driving instructor's license and apply for certain criminal history records
 8 information about the applicant in a certain manner; providing that certain
 9 criminal history records are confidential and available only for a certain
 10 purpose; authorizing the Administration to conduct a driver improvement
 11 program for young drivers; requiring ~~authorizing~~ the Administration to impose
 12 ~~certain restrictions~~ a certain restriction on a provisional driver's license and
 13 suspend or revoke the license under certain circumstances; ~~modifying a certain~~
 14 ~~license restriction prohibiting a holder of a provisional driver's license from~~
 15 ~~driving a vehicle carrying certain passengers under certain circumstances;~~
 16 defining a certain term; altering a certain definition; providing for the
 17 application of a certain provision of this Act; clarifying language; making
 18 conforming and stylistic changes; and generally relating to ~~driving privileges for~~
 19 ~~young drivers~~ teen driver safety.

20 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 21 Article – Transportation
 22 Section 15-804, 16-103, 16-105(a) and (d) 16-105(d), 16-108, 16-111(d),
 23 16-113(d), 16-212, 16-213, and 21-1123 and 16-213
 24 Annotated Code of Maryland
 25 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

26 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 27 Article – Transportation
 28 Section 15-102, 15-802, and 16-111(a), (b), and (c) and 16-113(d-1) and (i)
 29 Annotated Code of Maryland
 30 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

31 ~~BY adding to~~
 32 ~~Article – Transportation~~
 33 ~~Section 16-113(d-2)~~
 34 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
 35 ~~(2006 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)~~

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

38 **Article – Transportation**

39 16-103.

1 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the Administration
2 may not issue a driver's license to any individual who is not at least 18 years old.

3 (b) (1) Except as provided under paragraph (2) of this subsection, the
4 Administration may issue a noncommercial Class B, C, or M license to an individual
5 under the age of 18 if the individual otherwise qualifies for a driver's license under
6 this subtitle.

7 (2) The Administration may not issue a Class M license to an
8 individual under the age of 18 years unless the individual has also completed
9 satisfactorily a motorcycle safety course approved under Subtitle 6 of this title.

10 (c) The Administration may not issue:

11 (1) A learner's instructional permit to any individual who has not
12 reached the age of ~~15 years, 9 months~~ **16 YEARS**;

13 (2) A provisional license to any individual who has not reached the age
14 of 16 years, ~~[3] 6 months~~; or

15 (3) A license to any individual who has not reached the age of ~~[17~~
16 years, 9 months] **18 YEARS**.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland
18 read as follows:

19 **Article – Transportation**

20 15–102.

21 (a) Each application for a license under this title shall be made on the form
22 that the Administration requires.

23 (b) In addition to any other information required by this title, each
24 application for a license under this title shall include:

25 (1) The name and address of the applicant;

26 (2) The address of the fixed location from which the licensed activity of
27 the applicant will be conducted;

28 (3) A statement of the maximum amount charged as a dealer
29 processing charge under § 15–311.1 of this title; and

30 (4) Any other information that the Administration requires.

1 (c) Each application for a license under this title shall:

2 (1) Contain a certification by the applicant that the information given
3 in it is true; and

4 (2) Be signed by:

5 (i) The applicant, if the applicant is an individual;

6 (ii) A partner or other authorized representative, if the
7 application is made for a partnership; or

8 (iii) An officer or other authorized representative, if the
9 application is made for a corporation or any other business entity.

10 (d) Except for an application for a drivers' school license, each application for
11 a license under this title shall be accompanied by the annual fee required for that
12 license.

13 15-802.

14 A person may not act as a driving instructor unless the person is licensed by the
15 Administration under this subtitle.

16 15-804.

17 (A) In addition to the information required under § 15-102 of this title, each
18 application for a license shall include:

19 (1) The name and business address of the drivers' school by whom the
20 applicant is or will be employed; or

21 (2) A statement that the applicant himself is licensed to conduct a
22 drivers' school.

23 (B) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "CENTRAL REPOSITORY" MEANS THE
24 CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM CENTRAL REPOSITORY OF THE
25 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES.

26 (2) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL APPLY TO THE CENTRAL
27 REPOSITORY FOR A STATE AND NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK
28 FOR EACH APPLICANT.

29 (3) AS PART OF THE APPLICATION FOR A CRIMINAL HISTORY
30 RECORDS CHECK, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL SUBMIT TO THE CENTRAL
31 REPOSITORY:

1 **(I) TWO COMPLETE SETS OF THE APPLICANT'S LEGIBLE**
2 **FINGERPRINTS TAKEN ON FORMS APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE**
3 **CENTRAL REPOSITORY AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF**
4 **INVESTIGATION;**

5 **(II) THE FEE AUTHORIZED UNDER § 10-221(B)(7) OF THE**
6 **CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE FOR ACCESS TO MARYLAND CRIMINAL**
7 **HISTORY RECORDS; AND**

8 **(III) THE MANDATORY PROCESSING FEE REQUIRED BY THE**
9 **FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOR A NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY**
10 **RECORDS CHECK.**

11 **(4) IN ACCORDANCE WITH §§ 10-201 THROUGH 10-234 OF THE**
12 **CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE, THE CENTRAL REPOSITORY SHALL FORWARD**
13 **TO THE APPLICANT AND THE ADMINISTRATION THE APPLICANT'S CRIMINAL**
14 **HISTORY RECORDS INFORMATION.**

15 **(5) INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE CENTRAL REPOSITORY**
16 **UNDER THIS SUBSECTION:**

17 **(I) IS CONFIDENTIAL AND MAY NOT BE REDISSEMINATED;**
18 **AND**

19 **(II) SHALL BE USED ONLY FOR THE LICENSING PURPOSE**
20 **AUTHORIZED BY THIS SUBSECTION.**

21 **(6) THE SUBJECT OF A CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK**
22 **UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MAY CONTEST THE CONTENTS OF THE PRINTED**
23 **STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE CENTRAL REPOSITORY AS PROVIDED IN § 10-223**
24 **OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE.**

25 16-105.

26 ~~(a) (1) Any individual who desires to obtain an original driver's license~~
27 ~~under this subtitle or to be licensed in a class for which the individual is not already~~
28 ~~licensed under this subtitle shall apply to the Administration for the desired driver's~~
29 ~~license.~~

30 ~~(2) (1) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, before~~
31 ~~issuing a driver's license, the Administration shall issue to each applicant a learner's~~
32 ~~instructional permit.~~

~~(H) The learner's instructional permit shall identify clearly the class of license for which the applicant has applied.~~

~~(3) (i) Each applicant for a learner's instructional permit who is under the age of 16 years, **3 MONTHS** shall present to the Administration a certified copy of the applicant's school attendance record.~~

~~(ii) The Administration may not issue a learner's instructional permit to an applicant under the age of 16 years, **3 MONTHS** if the applicant's school attendance record indicates more than 10 unexcused absences during the prior school semester.~~

(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 ~~6~~ **9** months **FOLLOWING THE LATER OF:**

1. [After the] **THE DATE THAT THE** individual first obtains the learner's instructional permit; or

2. [After the] **THE** date [on which the individual committed a moving violation for which] the individual was convicted **OF, OR GRANTED PROBATION BEFORE JUDGMENT UNDER § 6-220 OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE FOR, A MOVING VIOLATION;**

(ii) Until after successful completion of:

1. The driver education program approved under Subtitle 5 of this title, consisting of at least 30 hours of classroom instruction and at least 6 hours of highway driving instruction; and

2. At least 60 hours, 10 hours of which must occur during the period beginning 30 minutes before sunset and ending 30 minutes after sunrise, of behind-the-wheel driving practice supervised by an individual who:

A. Holds a valid driver's license;

B. Is at least 21 years old; and

1 C. Has been licensed to drive for at least 3 years; and

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

4 1. Each supervising driver who certifies that the
5 individual has satisfactorily demonstrated a required skill and has completed the
6 driving practice requirements of item (ii)2 of this paragraph; and

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

10 (3) A learner's instructional permit issued to an individual described
11 in paragraph (1) of this subsection expires 2 years after the date of issuance.

12 16–108.

13 If, while the licensee is still a minor, the Administration receives from the
14 individual who cosigned the license application of the minor a written request that the
15 license of the minor be [~~suspended~~] **CANCELED**, the Administration:

16 (1) Shall [~~suspend~~] **CANCEL** the license; and

17 (2) May not [~~reinstate~~] **REISSUE** the license until:

18 (i) Another qualified adult cosigns and certifies an application
19 as required by § 16–107 of this subtitle; or

20 (ii) The minor becomes an adult.

21 16–111.

22 (a) This section applies to an applicant who:

23 (1) Holds a learner's instructional permit under § 16–105(d) of this
24 subtitle; or

25 (2) Qualifies for a provisional license under subsection (e) of this
26 section.

27 (b) An applicant is entitled to receive a provisional license if the applicant:

28 (1) Meets the minimum age required under § 16–103(c)(2) of this
29 subtitle;

1 (2) Satisfies the learner's instructional permit requirements under §
2 16-105(d)(2) of this subtitle;

3 (3) Passes a driver skills or driver road examination administered
4 under this subtitle;

5 (4) Surrenders any learner's instructional permit issued to the
6 applicant; and

7 (5) Pays the fee established under this subtitle.

8 (c) A provisional license shall be clearly identifiable as a provisional license.

9 (d) (1) An individual who holds a provisional license may not receive a
10 license sooner than 18 months following the later of:

11 (i) The date the individual first obtains the provisional license;

12 (ii) The date the individual [has been] **IS** convicted of [a], **OR**
13 **GRANTED PROBATION BEFORE JUDGMENT UNDER § 6-220 OF THE CRIMINAL**
14 **PROCEDURE ARTICLE FOR:**

15 1. **A** moving violation[, or of violating]; **OR**

16 2. **A VIOLATION OF** a provisional driver's license
17 restriction under [§ 16-113(d) or (d-1)] **§ 16-113(I)** of this subtitle; or

18 (iii) The date of restoration of an individual's provisional driver's
19 license or driving privilege that has been suspended ~~or revoked~~, **REVOKED, OR**
20 **CANCELLED** for any reason.

21 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the
22 Administration may issue a license to an individual who was otherwise eligible to
23 receive a license at the time a moving violation was committed.

24 ~~16-113.~~

25 ~~(d) (1) Notwithstanding the licensee's driving record, the Administration~~
26 ~~shall impose an hour restriction on a provisional driver's license issued to an applicant~~
27 ~~under the age of 18.~~

28 ~~(2) The restriction under this subsection shall limit the holder of a~~
29 ~~provisional license to driving unsupervised only between the hours of 5 a.m. and [12~~
30 ~~midnight] **11 P.M.**~~

1 ~~(3) This subsection does not preclude the holder of a provisional~~
2 ~~license from driving between the hours of [12 midnight] 11 P.M. and 5 a.m. the~~
3 ~~following day if the licensee is:~~

4 ~~(i) Accompanied and supervised by a licensed driver who is at~~
5 ~~least 21 years old;~~

6 ~~(ii) Driving to or from or in the course of the licensee's~~
7 ~~employment;~~

8 ~~(iii) Driving to or from a school class or official school activity;~~

9 ~~(iv) Driving to or from an organized volunteer program; or~~

10 ~~(v) Driving to or from an opportunity to participate in an~~
11 ~~athletic event or related training session.~~

12 ~~(4) The hour restriction and the supervision requirement under this~~
13 ~~subsection expire on the date the holder of the provisional license turns 18 years of~~
14 ~~age.~~

15 ~~(d-1) (1) Notwithstanding the licensee's driving record, and subject to~~
16 ~~paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Administration shall impose a restriction on each~~
17 ~~provisional driver's license prohibiting the licensee from operating a motor vehicle if~~
18 ~~the driver and each passenger in the motor vehicle are not restrained by a seat belt or,~~
19 ~~in accordance with § 22-412.2 of this article, by a child safety seat.~~

20 ~~(2) It is not a violation of the restriction under paragraph (1) of this~~
21 ~~subsection if an individual covered by a medical exception under § 22-412.2(f) or §~~
22 ~~22-412.3(d) and (e) of this article is not restrained.~~

23 ~~(3) The restrictions under paragraph (1) of this subsection expire on~~
24 ~~the date that the holder of a provisional license turns 18 years of age.~~

25 ~~(D-2) (1) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL IMPOSE AN "EDUCATION AND~~
26 ~~EMPLOYMENT ONLY" RESTRICTION ON A PROVISIONAL DRIVER'S LICENSE IF~~
27 ~~THE LICENSEE IS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 AND IS CONVICTED OF OR IS GRANTED~~
28 ~~PROBATION BEFORE JUDGMENT FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT MOVING~~
29 ~~VIOLATION.~~

30 ~~(2) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY NOT REMOVE THE RESTRICTION~~
31 ~~IMPOSED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION UNTIL THE LICENSEE~~
32 ~~OBTAINS A DRIVER'S LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 16-111.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

33 ~~(i) An individual may not drive a vehicle in any manner that violates any~~
34 ~~restriction imposed in a provisional license issued to the individual.~~

1 16-212.

2 (a) The Administration may conduct:

3 (1) A driver improvement program, **INCLUDING A DRIVER**
4 **IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUNG DRIVERS;**

5 (2) An alcohol education program; and

6 (3) Point system conferences.

7 (b) (1) The purpose of the programs and conferences authorized under
8 this section is to provide driver rehabilitation.

9 (2) The Administration shall determine the content of the programs
10 and conferences.

11 (c) If an individual is convicted of [1] **ONE** or more moving violations:

12 (1) After a conference or a hearing as provided in Title 12, Subtitle 2 of
13 this article, as a condition of reinstatement of a driver's license, or if an individual fails
14 to attend a conference as required by § 16-404(a)(2) of this title, the Administration
15 may require an individual to attend a driver improvement program or alcohol
16 education program; or

17 (2) A court may require an individual to attend a driver improvement
18 program or alcohol education program.

19 (d) In carrying out an order of the court, a probation officer or health
20 department officer may assign an individual to attend a driver improvement program
21 or alcohol education program.

22 (e) (1) An individual who attends a program or conference under this
23 section shall pay, in advance, a fee as provided in this subsection.

24 (2) The Administration shall set a reasonable fee based on the costs of
25 operating the programs and conferences authorized by this section.

26 (3) The funds collected by the Administration under this subsection
27 may not be credited to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account for
28 distribution under § 8-403 or § 8-404 of this article.

29 (f) (1) The Administration may waive attendance at an alcohol education
30 program conducted by the Administration if an individual attends a private alcohol
31 education program or an alcohol education program provided by a political subdivision

1 of the State that is approved by the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration and the
2 Administration.

3 (2) The Administration may waive attendance at a driver
4 improvement program conducted by the Administration if an individual attends a
5 private driver improvement program or a driver improvement program provided by a
6 political subdivision of the State that is approved by the Administration.

7 (3) The Administration may waive attendance at a point system
8 conference conducted by the Administration if an individual attends a point system
9 conference conducted by a private provider that is approved by the Administration.

10 (4) The Administration shall establish criteria for approving private
11 providers of point system conferences and alcohol education or driver improvement
12 programs and alcohol education or driver improvement programs provided by a
13 political subdivision of the State.

14 (5) Upon application for approval to provide the programs and
15 conferences allowed under this section, a private provider shall pay an application fee
16 established by the Administration.

17 16-213.

18 (a) ~~(1)~~ In this ~~section, "offense" means a moving violation committed by~~
19 ~~an individual~~ **SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
20 **INDICATED.**

21 **(2) "EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ONLY RESTRICTION" MEANS**
22 **A RESTRICTION THAT ALLOWS A LICENSED DRIVER TO DRIVE ONLY:**

23 **(I) TO OR FROM A SCHOOL CLASS OR AN OFFICIAL SCHOOL**
24 **ACTIVITY; OR**

25 **(II) TO OR FROM, OR IN THE COURSE OF, THE LICENSEE'S**
26 **EMPLOYMENT.**

27 **(3) "OFFENSE" MEANS A MOVING VIOLATION COMMITTED BY AN**
28 **INDIVIDUAL** who:

29 ~~(1)~~ **(I)** [Holds] **HELD** a provisional license under § 16-111 of this
30 title **ON THE DATE THE VIOLATION WAS COMMITTED;**

31 ~~(2)~~ **(II)** Was convicted of, or granted a probation before judgment
32 under § 6-220 of the Criminal Procedure Article for, the violation; and

~~DRIVER'S LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 16-111.1 OF THIS TITLE IMPOSE, ON COMPLETION OF THE SUSPENSION, AN EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ONLY RESTRICTION ON THE OFFENDER'S LICENSE EFFECTIVE FOR 180 DAYS; AND~~

(4) FOR A FOURTH OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE:

(I) FOR AN ADULT, MAY SUSPEND OR REVOKE THE OFFENDER'S LICENSE FOR UP TO 180 DAYS; AND

(II) FOR AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS, ~~SHALL~~ MAY:

1. REVOKE THE OFFENDER'S LICENSE FOR NOT LESS THAN 180 DAYS; AND

2. REQUIRE THE OFFENDER, IN ADDITION TO APPLYING FOR REINSTATEMENT AS REQUIRED UNDER § 16-208(B) OF THIS SUBTITLE, TO PASS THE EXAMINATIONS REQUIRED UNDER § 16-110 OF THIS TITLE.

~~21-1123.~~

(a) (1) ~~The provisions of this subsection do not apply if the holder of the provisional driver's license is driving while accompanied by and under the immediate supervision of an individual who:~~

(i) ~~Is at least 21 years old;~~

(ii) ~~Has been licensed for at least 3 years in this State or in another state to drive vehicles of the class then being driven by the holder of the provisional driver's license; and~~

(iii) ~~Is seated beside the holder of the provisional driver's license.~~

(2) ~~Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection, a holder of a provisional driver's license who is under the age of 18 years may not drive a motor vehicle with a passenger;~~

~~(I) FOR THE FIRST 9 MONTHS AFTER THE PROVISIONAL LICENSE IS ISSUED, A PASSENGER WHO IS under the age of 18 years; AND~~

~~(II) AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE 9 MONTH PERIOD, MORE THAN ONE PASSENGER WHO IS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS.~~

1 ~~(3) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 16-213 OF THIS ARTICLE,~~
 2 ~~THE prohibition under paragraph (2) of this subsection:~~

3 ~~(i) Shall be in effect from the date the provisional license is~~
 4 ~~originally issued until [the 151st day] 1 YEAR after the provisional license was issued,~~
 5 ~~OR THE HOLDER OF THE PROVISIONAL LICENSE REACHES THE AGE OF 18~~
 6 ~~YEARS, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST; and~~

7 ~~(ii) Does DOES not apply to a passenger who is:~~

8 ~~1. (I) A spouse, daughter, son, stepdaughter, stepson, sister,~~
 9 ~~brother, stepsister, or stepbrother of the licensee; or~~

10 ~~2. (II) A relative of the licensee who resides at the same~~
 11 ~~address as the licensee.~~

12 ~~(b) A police officer may enforce this section only as a secondary action when~~
 13 ~~the police officer detains a driver for a suspected violation of another provision of the~~
 14 ~~Code.~~

15 ~~(c) A violation of this section is a moving violation for the purposes of §~~
 16 ~~16-402 of this article.~~

17 ~~(d) (1) If the Administration receives satisfactory evidence that an~~
 18 ~~individual has violated this section, the Administration may suspend or revoke the~~
 19 ~~individual's driver's license.~~

20 ~~(2) An individual may request a hearing as provided for a suspension~~
 21 ~~or revocation under Title [16] 12, Subtitle 2 of this article.~~

22 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 1 of this Act shall
 23 be construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have
 24 any effect on or application to any individual ~~under the age of 16 years~~ who obtained a
 25 provisional or an original driver's license before the effective date of this Act.

26 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 27 October 1, 2009.