

# HOUSE BILL 730

R4

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CF SB 569

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By: **The Speaker (By Request – Administration)**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 28, 2021

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Driver’s Licenses, Learner’s Instructional Permits, and Identification Cards –**  
3 **Applications and Renewals**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administration to extend the period of  
5 time that an identification card remains effective by a certain amount under certain  
6 circumstances; altering the documentation that certain applicants for a learner’s  
7 instructional permit are required to present to the Administration; altering the time  
8 period before expiration within which a driver’s license is renewable; altering the  
9 standards for determining whether an individual is required to appear in person to  
10 renew the individual’s driver’s license; altering the time period within which a  
11 certain visual test is required to take place before application for driver’s license  
12 renewal; and generally relating to applications and renewals for driver’s licenses,  
13 learner’s instructional permits, and identification cards.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
15 Article – Transportation  
16 Section 12–301(a) and 16–115(a)(1) and (2) and (i)(1)  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2020 Replacement Volume)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
20 Article – Transportation  
21 Section 12–301(i), 16–105(a), and 16–115(a)(3) and (4) and (i)(2)  
22 Annotated Code of Maryland  
23 (2020 Replacement Volume)

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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.



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

3 **Article – Transportation**

4 12–301.

5 (a) On application, the Administration shall issue an identification card to any  
6 applicant who:

7 (1) Is a resident of this State;

8 (2) Does not have a driver’s license;

9 (3) Presents a birth certificate or other proof of age and identity acceptable  
10 to the Administration;

11 (4) Provides satisfactory documentary evidence that the applicant has  
12 lawful status;

13 (5) (i) Provides satisfactory documentary evidence that the applicant  
14 has a valid Social Security number by presenting the applicant’s Social Security  
15 Administration account card or, if the Social Security Administration account card is not  
16 available, any of the following documents bearing the applicant’s Social Security number:

17 1. A current W–2 form;

18 2. A current SSA–1099 form;

19 3. A current non–SSA–1099 form; or

20 4. A current pay stub with the applicant’s name and Social  
21 Security number on it; or

22 (ii) Provides satisfactory documentary evidence that the applicant is  
23 not eligible for a Social Security number; and

24 (6) Presents a completed application for an identification card on a form  
25 furnished by the Administration.

26 (i) (1) Subject to [paragraph] PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3) of this subsection,  
27 an identification card issued to an applicant expires at the end of a period of not more than  
28 8 years determined in regulations adopted by the Administration.

29 **(2) BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF AN IDENTIFICATION CARD, IF AN**  
30 **INDIVIDUAL DOES NOT POSSESS ALL OF THE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR RENEWAL,**

1 **THE ADMINISTRATION MAY EXTEND THE INDIVIDUAL'S IDENTIFICATION CARD FOR**  
2 **A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 90 DAYS.**

3 ~~[(2)]~~ **(3)** (i) If an applicant has temporary lawful status, the  
4 Administration may not issue an identification card to the applicant for a period that  
5 extends beyond the expiration date of the applicant's authorized stay in the United States  
6 or, if there is no expiration date, for a period longer than 1 year.

7 (ii) Nothing contained in this paragraph may be construed to allow  
8 the issuance of an identification card for a period longer than the period described in  
9 paragraph (1) of this subsection.

10 (iii) The Administration shall indicate on the face and in the  
11 machine-readable zone of a temporary identification card issued under this paragraph that  
12 the card is a temporary identification card.

13 ~~[(3)]~~ **(4)** An identification card may be renewed on application and  
14 payment of the fee required by this section.

15 16-105.

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

19 (2) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, before issuing a  
20 driver's license, the Administration shall issue to each applicant a learner's instructional  
21 permit. The learner's instructional permit shall identify clearly the class of license for which  
22 the applicant has applied.

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

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

29 16-115.

30 (a) (1) Subject to paragraph (5) of this subsection, a license issued under this  
31 title to a driver at least 21 years old shall expire on the birth date of the licensee at the end  
32 of a period of not more than 8 years determined in regulations adopted by the  
33 Administration following the issuance of the license.

34 (2) Subject to paragraph (5) of this subsection, a license issued under this  
35 title to a driver under the age of 21 years shall expire not later than 60 days after the

1 driver's 21st birthday.

2 (3) A license is renewable on the presentation of an application, the  
3 payment of the renewal fee required by Section 16.111.1 of this subtitle, and satisfactory  
4 completion of the examination required or authorized by subsection (i) of this section:

5 (i) Within ~~[6]~~ **12** months before its expiration; or

6 (ii) When a driver qualifies for a corrected license issued under  
7 Section 16-114.1(c) of this subtitle.

8 (4) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, the Administration  
9 may ~~[not]~~ renew an individual's license ~~[for more than one consecutive term]~~ without  
10 requiring the individual to appear in person ~~[at an office of the Administration]~~ **IF THE**  
11 **PHOTOGRAPH FOR THE INDIVIDUAL WAS TAKEN LESS THAN 16 YEARS BEFORE THE**  
12 **RENEWAL.**

13 (i) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, the  
14 Administration shall require every individual applying for a renewal of a driver's license to  
15 pass a vision test as prescribed by the Administration.

16 (2) (i) The Administration shall accept a certification of acceptable  
17 visual acuity from a licensed physician or optometrist instead of requiring the actual test  
18 provided for in this subsection.

19 (ii) The examination for which certification is made shall take place  
20 within ~~[12 months]~~ **2 YEARS** of the date of application for renewal.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
22 1, 2021.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.