

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2007 and 2008 HB5255

by Rep. Jim Sacia

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/27-24.2 625 ILCS 5/6-103 from Ch. 122, par. 27-24.2 from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 6-103

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Lowers the minimum age for issuance of an instruction permit to 14 years if the child (i) is enrolled in an approved driver education course or (ii) is enrolled in school, meets the educational requirements of the Driver Education Act, and has passed examinations prescribed by the Secretary of State. Makes conforming changes in driver education provisions of the School Code.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES ACT MAY REQUIRE REIMBURSEMENT

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1 AN ACT concerning driving.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section 5 27-24.2 as follows:
- 6 (105 ILCS 5/27-24.2) (from Ch. 122, par. 27-24.2)

Sec. 27-24.2. Driver education course. Any school district which maintains grades 9 through 12 shall offer a driver education course in any such school which it operates. Both the classroom instruction part and the practice driving part of such driver education course shall be open to a resident or non-resident pupil attending a non-public school in the district wherein the course is offered and to each resident of the district who acquires or holds a currently valid driver's license during the term of the course and who is at least 14 $\frac{15}{15}$ but has not reached 21 years of age, without regard to whether any such person is enrolled in any other course offered in any school that the district operates. Each student attending any public or non-public high school in the district must receive a passing grade in at least 8 courses during the previous 2 semesters prior to enrolling in a driver education course, or the student shall not be permitted to enroll in the course; provided that the local superintendent of schools (with respect

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to a student attending a public high school in the district) or chief school administrator (with respect to a student attending a non-public high school in the district) may waive the if the superintendent or chief requirement administrator, as the case may be, deems it to be in the best interest of the student. Any school district required to offer a driver education course or courses as provided in this Section also is authorized to offer either the classroom instruction part or the practice driving part or both such parts of a driver education course to any resident of the district who is over age 55; provided that any such school district which elects to offer either or both parts of such course to such residents shall be entitled to make either or both parts of such course available to such residents at any attendance center or centers within the district designated by the school board; and provided further that no part of any such driver education course shall be offered to any resident of the district over age 55 unless space therein remains available after all persons to whom such part of the driver education course is required to be open as provided in this Section and who have requested such course have registered therefor, and unless such resident of the district over age 55 is a person who has not previously been licensed as a driver under the laws of this or any other state or country. However, a student may be allowed to commence the classroom instruction part of such driver education course prior to reaching age 15 if

- 1 student then will be eligible to complete the entire course
- 2 within 12 months after being allowed to commence such classroom
- 3 instruction.
- 4 Such a driver education course shall include classroom
- 5 instruction on distracted driving as a major traffic safety
- 6 issue. Such a driver education course may include classroom
- 7 instruction on the safety rules and operation of motorcycles or
- 8 motor driven cycles.
- 9 Such a course may be commenced immediately after the
- 10 completion of a prior course. Teachers of such courses shall
- 11 meet the certification requirements of this Act and regulations
- of the State Board as to qualifications.
- 13 (Source: P.A. 95-339, eff. 8-21-07.)
- 14 Section 10. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by
- 15 changing Section 6-103 as follows:
- 16 (625 ILCS 5/6-103) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 6-103)
- 17 (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 95-337)
- 18 Sec. 6-103. What persons shall not be licensed as drivers
- or granted permits. The Secretary of State shall not issue,
- 20 renew, or allow the retention of any driver's license nor issue
- 21 any permit under this Code:
- 1. To any person, as a driver, who is under the age of
- 18 years except as provided in Section 6-107, and except
- that an instruction permit may be issued under Section

6-107.1 to a child who is not less than 14 15 years of age if the child is enrolled in an approved driver education course as defined in Section 1-103 of this Code and requires an instruction permit to participate therein, except that an instruction permit may be issued under the provisions of Section 6-107.1 to a child who is 17 years and 3 months of age without the child having enrolled in an approved driver education course and except that an instruction permit may be issued to a child who is at least 14 years 15 years and 6 months of age, is enrolled in school, meets the educational requirements of the Driver Education Act, and has passed examinations the Secretary of State in his or her discretion may prescribe;

- 2. To any person who is under the age of 18 as an operator of a motorcycle other than a motor driven cycle unless the person has, in addition to meeting the provisions of Section 6-107 of this Code, successfully completed a motorcycle training course approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation and successfully completes the required Secretary of State's motorcycle driver's examination;
- 3. To any person, as a driver, whose driver's license or permit has been suspended, during the suspension, nor to any person whose driver's license or permit has been revoked, except as provided in Sections 6-205, 6-206, and 6-208;

- 4. To any person, as a driver, who is a user of alcohol
 or any other drug to a degree that renders the person
 incapable of safely driving a motor vehicle;
 - 5. To any person, as a driver, who has previously been adjudged to be afflicted with or suffering from any mental or physical disability or disease and who has not at the time of application been restored to competency by the methods provided by law;
 - 6. To any person, as a driver, who is required by the Secretary of State to submit an alcohol and drug evaluation or take an examination provided for in this Code unless the person has successfully passed the examination and submitted any required evaluation;
 - 7. To any person who is required under the provisions of the laws of this State to deposit security or proof of financial responsibility and who has not deposited the security or proof;
 - 8. To any person when the Secretary of State has good cause to believe that the person by reason of physical or mental disability would not be able to safely operate a motor vehicle upon the highways, unless the person shall furnish to the Secretary of State a verified written statement, acceptable to the Secretary of State, from a competent medical specialist to the effect that the operation of a motor vehicle by the person would not be inimical to the public safety;

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- 9. To any person, as a driver, who is 69 years of age or older, unless the person has successfully complied with the provisions of Section 6-109;
 - 10. To any person convicted, within 12 months of application for a license, of any of the sexual offenses enumerated in paragraph 2 of subsection (b) of Section 6-205;
 - 11. To any person who is under the age of 21 years with a classification prohibited in paragraph (b) of Section 6-104 and to any person who is under the age of 18 years with a classification prohibited in paragraph (c) of Section 6-104;
 - 12. To any person who has been either convicted of or adjudicated under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 based upon a violation of the Cannabis Control Act, the Illinois Controlled Substances Act, or the Methamphetamine Control and Community Protection Act while that person was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle. For purposes of this Section, any person placed on probation under Section 10 of the Cannabis Control Act, Section 410 of the Illinois Controlled Substances Act, or Section 70 of the Methamphetamine Control and Community Protection Act shall not be considered convicted. Any person found guilty of this offense, while in actual physical control of a motor vehicle, shall have an entry made in the court record by the judge that this offense did occur while the person was

in actual physical control of a motor vehicle and order the clerk of the court to report the violation to the Secretary of State as such. The Secretary of State shall not issue a new license or permit for a period of one year;

- 13. To any person who is under the age of 18 years and who has committed the offense of operating a motor vehicle without a valid license or permit in violation of Section 6-101;
- 14. To any person who is 90 days or more delinquent in court ordered child support payments or has been adjudicated in arrears in an amount equal to 90 days' obligation or more and who has been found in contempt of court for failure to pay the support, subject to the requirements and procedures of Article VII of Chapter 7 of the Illinois Vehicle Code;
- 14.5. To any person certified by the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services as being 90 days or more delinquent in payment of support under an order of support entered by a court or administrative body of this or any other State, subject to the requirements and procedures of Article VII of Chapter 7 of this Code regarding those certifications;
- 15. To any person released from a term of imprisonment for violating Section 9-3 of the Criminal Code of 1961 or a similar provision of a law of another state relating to reckless homicide or for violating subparagraph (F) of

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paragraph (1) of subsection (d) of Section 11-501 of this Code relating to aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol, other drug or drugs, intoxicating compound or compounds, or any combination thereof, if the violation was the proximate cause of a death, within 24 months of release from a term of imprisonment;

16. To any person who, with intent to influence any act related to the issuance of any driver's license or permit, by an employee of the Secretary of State's Office, or the owner or employee of any commercial driver training school licensed by the Secretary of State, or any other individual authorized by the laws of this State to give driving instructions or administer all or part of a driver's license examination, promises or tenders to that person any property or personal advantage which that person is not authorized by law to accept. Any persons promising or tendering such property or personal advantage shall be disqualified from holding any class of driver's license or permit for 120 consecutive days. The Secretary of State shall establish by rule the procedures for implementing this period of disqualification and the procedures by which persons so disqualified may obtain administrative review of the decision to disqualify;

17. To any person for whom the Secretary of State cannot verify the accuracy of any information or documentation submitted in application for a driver's

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1 license; or

18. To any person who has been adjudicated under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 based upon an offense that is determined by the court to have been committed in furtherance of the criminal activities of an organized gang, as provided in Section 5-710 of that Act, and that involved the operation or use of a motor vehicle or the use of a driver's license or permit. The person shall be denied a license or permit for the period determined by the court.

The Secretary of State shall retain all conviction information, if the information is required to be held confidential under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

13 (Source: P.A. 94-556, eff. 9-11-05; 95-310, eff. 1-1-08;

95-337, eff. 6-1-08; 95-685, eff. 6-23-07; revised 11-16-07.)