

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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

4 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)

7 Sec. 27-24.2. Safety education; driver education course.
8 Instruction shall be given in safety education in each of
9 grades one through 8, equivalent to one class period each week,
10 and any school district which maintains grades 9 through 12
11 shall offer a driver education course in any such school which
12 it operates. Its curriculum shall include content dealing with
13 Chapters 11, 12, 13, 15, and 16 of the Illinois Vehicle Code,
14 the rules adopted pursuant to those Chapters insofar as they
15 pertain to the operation of motor vehicles, and the portions of
16 the Litter Control Act relating to the operation of motor
17 vehicles. The course of instruction given in grades 10 through
18 12 shall include an emphasis on the development of knowledge,
19 attitudes, habits, and skills necessary for the safe operation
20 of motor vehicles, including motorcycles insofar as they can be
21 taught in the classroom, and instruction on distracted driving
22 as a major traffic safety issue. In addition, the course shall
23 include instruction on special hazards existing at and required

1 safety and driving precautions that must be observed at
2 emergency situations, highway construction and maintenance
3 zones, and railroad crossings and the approaches thereto. The
4 course of instruction required of each eligible student at the
5 high school level shall consist of a minimum of 30 clock hours
6 of classroom instruction and a minimum of 6 clock hours of
7 individual behind-the-wheel instruction in a dual control car
8 on public roadways taught by a driver education instructor
9 endorsed by the State Board of Education. Both the classroom
10 instruction part and the practice driving part of such driver
11 education course shall be open to a resident or non-resident
12 student attending a non-public school in the district wherein
13 the course is offered. Each student attending any public or
14 non-public high school in the district must receive a passing
15 grade in at least 8 courses during the previous 2 semesters
16 prior to enrolling in a driver education course, or the student
17 shall not be permitted to enroll in the course; provided that
18 the local superintendent of schools (with respect to a student
19 attending a public high school in the district) or chief school
20 administrator (with respect to a student attending a non-public
21 high school in the district) may waive the requirement if the
22 superintendent or chief school administrator, as the case may
23 be, deems it to be in the best interest of the student. A
24 student may be allowed to commence the classroom instruction
25 part of such driver education course prior to reaching age 15
26 if such student then will be eligible to complete the entire

1 course within 12 months after being allowed to commence such
2 classroom instruction.

3 Such a course may be commenced immediately after the
4 completion of a prior course. Teachers of such courses shall
5 meet the certification requirements of this Act and regulations
6 of the State Board as to qualifications.

7 Subject to rules of the State Board of Education, the
8 school district may charge a reasonable fee, not to exceed \$50,
9 to students who participate in the course, unless a student is
10 unable to pay for such a course, in which event the fee for
11 such a student must be waived. However, the district may
12 increase this fee to an amount not to exceed \$250 by school
13 board resolution following a public hearing on the increase,
14 which increased fee must be waived for students who participate
15 in the course and are unable to pay for the course. The total
16 amount from driver education fees and reimbursement from the
17 State for driver education must not exceed the total cost of
18 the driver education program in any year and must be deposited
19 into the school district's driver education fund as a separate
20 line item budget entry. All moneys deposited into the school
21 district's driver education fund must be used solely for the
22 funding of a high school driver education program approved by
23 the State Board of Education that uses driver education
24 instructors endorsed by the State Board of Education.

25 (Source: P.A. 95-339, eff. 8-21-07; 96-734, eff. 8-25-09.)

26 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

1 becoming law.