1 ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 3191 By: Newton and Echols of the 2 House 3 and Jech of the Senate 4 5 An Act relating to driver licenses; amending 47 O.S. 6 2021, Section 6-102, as amended by Section 39, 7 Chapter 282, O.S.L. 2022 (47 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 6-102), which relate to persons exempt; modifying certain age requirement; allowing certain resident 8 drivers to operate a vehicle without a license if 9 certain conditions are met; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 6-105, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 10 229, O.S.L. 2023 (47 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 6-105), which relates to graduated class D licenses; modifying certain age requirement; allowing certain 11 residents to receive driver education; defining term; deleting certain Class D license restrictions; 12 allowing for waiving of certain examination; deleting 1.3 certain farm permit restriction; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 6-105.2, as amended by Section 43, 14 Chapter 282, O.S.L. 2022 (47 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 6-105.2), which relates to instructor permit; 15 modifying certain age requirement; authorizing driver education instructors to instruct certain drivers; defining term; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section 801, 16 which relates to definitions; modifying definitions; 17 and providing an effective date. 18 19 20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: 21 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 6-102, as 22 amended by Section 39, Chapter 282, O.S.L. 2022 (47 O.S. Supp. 2023, 23 Section 6-102), is amended to read as follows:

- Section 6-102. A. A nonresident who is sixteen (16) years of age or older may operate a motor vehicle in this state as authorized by the class, restrictions, and endorsements specified on the license, if the nonresident is:
  - 1. Properly licensed in the home state or country to operate a commercial or noncommercial motor vehicle and who has immediate possession of a valid driver license issued by the home state or country; or
  - 2. A member of the Armed Forces of the United States or the spouse or dependent of such member who has been issued and is in possession of a valid driver license issued by an overseas component of the Armed Forces of the United States.
- B. A resident who is at least <u>fifteen (15)</u> <u>fourteen (14)</u> years of age may operate a vehicle in this state without a driver license, if the resident is:
  - Operating a vehicle pursuant to subsection B of Section 6 of this title; or
  - 2. Taking the driving skills examination as required by Section 6-110 of this title, when accompanied by a Driver License Examiner of Service Oklahoma or by a designated examiner approved and certified by Service Oklahoma.
- C. A legal resident who is at least thirteen and one-half (13)

  23 1/2) years of age may operate a vehicle in this state without a

  24 driver license if the resident either resides upon a farm in this

- 1 state or is employed for compensation upon a farm in this state and 2 the resident:
  - 1. Is operating a vehicle pursuant to subsection B of Section 6-105 of this title; or
  - 2. Is taking the driving skills examination as required by

    Sections 6-105 and 6-110 of this title when accompanied by a Driver

    License Examiner of Service Oklahoma or by a designated examiner

    approved and certified by Service Oklahoma.
  - For purposes of this subsection, the term "farm" means any parcel of land for which the owner has an agricultural exemption permit issued by the Oklahoma Tax Commission;
  - <u>D.</u> Any person, while in the performance of official duties, may operate any class of motor vehicle if the person possesses any class of valid Oklahoma driver license or a valid driver license issued by another state, if the person is:
  - 1. A member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is on active duty;
  - 2. A member of the military reserves, not including United States reserve technician;
- 3. A member of the National Guard who is on active duty, including National Guard military technicians;
- 4. A member of the National Guard who is on part-time National
  Guard training, including National Guard military technicians; or

- 5. A member of the United States Coast Guard who is on active duty.
  - $\frac{1}{2}$  E. The Director of Service Oklahoma is hereby authorized to adopt rules as may be necessary to enter into reciprocity agreements with foreign countries. The rules shall specify that the driver license standards of the foreign country shall be comparable to those of this state. The rules shall also require foreign drivers, who are operating a motor vehicle in Oklahoma under such a reciprocity agreement, to comply with the compulsory motor vehicle liability insurance and financial responsibility laws of this state.
- 11 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 6-105, as
  12 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 229, O.S.L. 2023 (47 O.S. Supp.
  13 2023, Section 6-105), is amended to read as follows:
  - Section 6-105. A. Unless a legal custodial parent or legal guardian has filed an objection to licensure pursuant to Section 6-103.1 of this title, any person under eighteen (18) years of age may be permitted to operate:
  - 1. A Class D motor vehicle under the graduated driver license provisions prescribed in subsections B through E of this section;
  - 2. A motorcycle under the provisions prescribed in subsection H of this section; or
- 3. A farm vehicle under the provisions prescribed in subsection

  I of this section.

- B. 1. Any person who is at least fifteen (15) fourteen (14) years of age, or who is at least thirteen and one-half (13 1/2) years of age and either resides upon a farm in this state or is employed for compensation upon a farm in this state, may drive during a session in which the driver is being instructed in a driver education course, as set out in subparagraphs a, b, c, d and e of paragraph 1 of subsection C of this section, by a certified driver education instructor who is seated in the right front seat of the motor vehicle.
  - 2. For purposes of this subsection, the term "farm" means any parcel of land for which the owner has an agricultural exemption permit issued by the Oklahoma Tax Commission.
    - C. Any person:
  - 1. Who is at least fifteen and one-half (15 1/2) years of age and is currently receiving instruction in or has successfully completed driver education. For purposes of this section, the term "driver education" shall mean:
    - a. a prescribed secondary school driver education course, as provided for in Sections 19-113 through 19-121 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
    - b. a driver education course, certified by the Department of Public Safety, from a parochial, private, or other nonpublic secondary school,

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- c. a commercial driver training course, as defined by Sections 801 through 808 of this title,
  - d. a parent-taught driver education course, certified by the Department of Public Safety. The Department shall promulgate rules for any parent-taught driver education course, or
  - e. a driver education course certified by a state other than Oklahoma; or
- 2. Who is at least sixteen (16) years of age,
  may, upon successfully passing all parts of the driver license
  examination administered by Service Oklahoma, or an approved written
  examination proctor, except the driving examination, be issued a
  learner permit which will grant the permittee the privilege to
  operate a Class D motor vehicle upon the public highways only
  between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. and while accompanied
  by a licensed driver who is at least twenty-one (21) years of age
  and who is actually occupying a seat beside the permittee; provided,
  the written examination for a learner permit may be waived by
  Service Oklahoma upon verification that the person has successfully
  completed driver education.
  - D. 1. Any person:
    - a. who has applied for, been issued, and has possessed a learner permit for a minimum of six (6) months, and

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b. whose custodial legal parent or legal guardian certifies to Service Oklahoma by sworn affidavit that the person has received a minimum of fifty (50) hours of actual behind-the-wheel training, of which at least ten (10) hours of such training was at night, from a licensed driver who was at least twenty-one (21) years of age and who was properly licensed to operate a Class D motor vehicle for a minimum of two (2) years,

may be issued an intermediate Class D license upon successfully passing all parts of the driver license examinations administered by Service Oklahoma; provided, the written examination, if it has not previously been administered or waived, may be waived by Service Oklahoma upon verification that the person has successfully completed driver education or the driving examination may be waived by Service Oklahoma upon successful passage of the examination administered by a certified designated examiner, as provided for in Section 6-110 of this title. However, notwithstanding the date of issuance of the learner permit, if the person has been convicted of a traffic offense which is reported on the driving record of that person, the time period specified in subparagraph a of this paragraph shall be recalculated to begin from the date of conviction for the traffic offense, and must elapse before that person may be issued an intermediate Class D license. If the person has been convicted of more than one traffic offense which is reported on the

driving record of that person, the time period specified in

subparagraph a of this paragraph shall be recalculated to begin from

the most recent date of conviction, and must elapse before that

person may be issued an intermediate Class D license.

- 2. A person who has been issued an intermediate Class D license under the provisions of this subsection:

  - a. only between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., except for driving to and from work, school, school activities, and church activities, or
  - b. at any time, if a licensed driver who is at least twenty-one (21) years of age is actually occupying a seat beside the intermediate Class D licensee, or if the intermediate Class D licensee is a farm or ranch resident, and is operating a motor vehicle while engaged in farming or ranching operations outside the limits of a municipality, or driving to and from work, school, school activities, or church activities, and
  - b. shall not operate a motor vehicle with more than one
    passenger unless:

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- 1 (1) all passengers live in the same household as the custodial legal parent or legal quardian, or
  - (2) a licensed driver at least twenty-one (21) years
    of age is actually occupying a seat beside the
    intermediate Class D licensee.

Six (6) months, if the person has completed both the driver

- E. Any person who has been issued an intermediate Class D license for a minimum of:
  - 1. One (1) year; or

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education and the parent-certified behind-the-wheel training provisions of subparagraph b of paragraph 1 of subsection D of this section,

may be issued a Class D license. However, notwithstanding the date of issuance of the Class D license, if the person has been convicted of a traffic offense which is reported on the driving record of that person, the time periods specified in paragraph 1 or 2 of this subsection, as applicable, shall be recalculated to begin from the date of conviction for the traffic offense, and must elapse before

convicted of more than one traffic offense which is reported on the driving record of that person, the time periods specified in paragraph 1 or 2 of this subsection, as applicable, shall be recalculated to begin from the most recent date of conviction, and

that person may be issued a Class D license. If the person has been

must elapse before that person may be issued a Class D license.

- F. Learner permits and intermediate Class D licenses shall be issued for the same period as all other driver licenses. The licenses may be suspended or canceled at the discretion of the Department for violation of restrictions, for failing to give the required or correct information on the application, for knowingly giving false or inaccurate information on the application or any subsequent documentation related to the granting of driving privileges, for using a hand-held electronic device while operating a motor vehicle for non-life-threatening emergency purposes or for violation of any traffic laws of this state pertaining to the operation of a motor vehicle.
- G. Service Oklahoma shall promulgate rules establishing procedures for removal of learner permit and intermediate Class D license restrictions from the permit or license upon the permittee or licensee qualifying for a less restricted or an unrestricted license.
- H. Any person fourteen (14) years of age or older may apply for a restricted Class D license with a motorcycle-only restriction.

  After the person has successfully passed all parts of the motorcycle examination other than the driving examination, has successfully completed a certified state-approved motorcycle basic rider course approved by the Department of Public Safety, in conjunction with Service Oklahoma, and has met all requirements provided for in the rules of the Department and Service Oklahoma, Service Oklahoma shall

- issue to the person a restricted Class D license with a motorcycleonly restriction which shall grant to the person, while having the
  license in the person's immediate possession, the privilege to
  operate a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle:
  - 1. With a piston displacement not to exceed three hundred (300) cubic centimeters;
    - 2. Between the hours of 4:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. only;
    - 3. While wearing approved protective headgear; and
  - 4. While accompanied by and receiving instruction from any person who is at least twenty-one (21) years of age and who is properly licensed pursuant to the laws of this state to operate a motorcycle or motor-driven cycle, and who has visual contact with the restricted licensee.

The restricted licensee may apply on or after thirty (30) days from date of issuance of the restricted Class D license with a motorcycle-only restriction to have the restriction of being accompanied by a licensed driver removed by successfully completing the driving portion of an examination.

The written examination and driving examination for a restricted Class D license with a motorcycle-only endorsement shall be waived by Service Oklahoma upon verification that the person has successfully completed a certified state-approved motorcycle basic rider course approved by the Department and Service Oklahoma.

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- I. 1. Any person who is less than seventeen (17) years of age but is at least fourteen (14) years of age and who resides upon a farm in this state or is employed for compensation upon a farm in this state may apply to Service Oklahoma for a farm permit authorizing such person, while possessing the permit, to operate any Class D motor vehicle.
  - 2. a. A farm permit shall entitle the licensee, who is at least fourteen (14) years of age but less than sixteen (16) years of age, to operate the appropriate motor vehicles at any time:
    - (1) while going to or from or in connection with any farm job, employment, or other farm-related work,
    - (2) on days while school is in session, over the most direct and accessible route between the licensee's residence and school of enrollment for the purpose of school attendance; provided, that the privilege shall only extend to those licensees who reside on a farm and commute directly from their place of residence to the school in which they are enrolled, or
    - (3) when the licensee is operating a passenger car at any time when accompanied by an adult who is the holder of a valid commercial driver license,

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Class A, B, C, or D driver license and who is actually occupying a seat beside the driver.

- b. For a period of six (6) months, a farm permit shall entitle the licensee who is at least sixteen (16) years of age to operate the appropriate motor vehicles at any time:
  - (1) from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.,
  - (2) while going to or from or in connection with any farm job, employment, or other farm-related work,
  - (3) while going to or from authorized school activities,
  - (4) while going directly to or from any religious worship service held by a religious organization, or
  - (5) while the licensee is operating a passenger car at any time while accompanied by an adult who is the holder of a valid commercial driver license, Class A, B, or C driver license, and who is actually occupying a seat beside the driver.

After such six-month period, if the licensee has complied with the provisions of this subsection, such farm permit shall entitle the licensee to operate the appropriate motor vehicles at any time without the restrictions required by this subsection.

3. A farm permit shall be issued only if:

- 1 the applicant can prove that such applicant resides or works on a farm by submitting the signed affidavit of either a parent or guardian stating that the applicant 3 lives on a farm, 4 5 b. the applicant has successfully completed the examination requirements in Section 6-110 of this 6 7 title. The written examination for a farm permit may be waived by Service Oklahoma upon verification that 8 9 the person has successfully completed driver 10 education, and 11 the applicant does not live on a farm but works on a C. 12 farm and the applicant submits the signed affidavit of 1.3 the applicant's employer and parent or guardian 14 attesting to such employment. 15
  - Any licensee issued a farm permit under this subsection:
    - who is less than sixteen (16) years of age shall not a. operate any motor vehicle with nonsibling minor passengers, or
    - who is at least sixteen (16) years of age, for a b. period of six (6) months after reaching sixteen (16) years of age, shall not operate any motor vehicle with more than one passenger who is less than eighteen (18) years of age and who is not a member of the licensee's immediate family, or

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who is at least fourteen (14) years of age, but less than sixteen (16) years of age, shall not operate any motor vehicle on interstate or turnpike highway systems, nor shall a licensee operate a motor vehicle within the limits of a city with a population in excess of one hundred thousand (100,000) persons according to the latest Federal Decennial Census.

Any conviction for violating this paragraph shall be construed as a moving traffic violation. Service Oklahoma may, in its discretion, suspend the permit of an individual for violation of this paragraph.

- 5. Any licensee issued a farm permit under this subsection shall not operate a wireless communication device while driving a motor vehicle, except that a licensee may operate a wireless communication device while driving a motor vehicle to report illegal activity or to summon medical or other emergency help.
- 6. As used in this subsection, "farm" means any parcel of land for which the owner has an agricultural exemption permit issued by the Oklahoma Tax Commission.
  - 7. a. A farm permit issued under this subsection is subject to suspension or revocation in the same manner as any other driver license.
    - b. A farm permit may be suspended in accordance with Section 6-113 of this title for any violation of restrictions under this subsection.

- c. Service Oklahoma shall suspend the farm permit upon receiving satisfactory evidence that the licensee has been involved in two or more accidents chargeable to the licensee and such suspended license shall not be reinstated for one (1) year.
- 8. Any licensee issued a farm permit under this subsection shall provide, prior to reaching sixteen (16) years of age, a signed affidavit of either a parent or guardian stating that the applicant has completed at least fifty (50) hours of adult-supervised driving with at least ten (10) of those hours being at night. The adult-supervised driving required by this paragraph shall be conducted by an adult who is at least twenty-one (21) years of age and is the holder of a valid commercial driver license, Class A, B, C, or D driver license. Evidence of failure of any licensee who was required to complete the fifty (50) hours of adult-supervised driving under this subsection shall not be admissible in any action for the purpose of determining any aspect of comparative negligence or mitigation of damages.
  - 9. Any licensee issued a farm permit under this subsection who:
    - a. is under sixteen (16) years of age and is convicted of two or more moving traffic violations committed on separate occasions shall not be eligible to receive a driver license which is not restricted, in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph a of paragraph 2

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- of this subsection, until the person reaches seventeen (17) years of age,
  - b. is at least sixteen (16) years of age but less than seventeen (17) years of age and is convicted of two or more moving traffic violations committed on separate occasions shall not be eligible to receive a driver license which is not restricted, in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph b of paragraph 2 of this subsection, until the person reaches eighteen (18) years of age, or
  - c. fails to provide the affidavit required under paragraph 8 of this subsection shall not be eligible to receive a driver license which is not restricted, in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph a of paragraph 2 of this subsection, until the person provides such affidavit to Service Oklahoma or the person reaches seventeen (17) years of age, whichever occurs first.
  - J. As used in this section:
- 1. "Hand-held electronic device" means a mobile telephone or electronic device with which a user engages in a telephone call, plays or stores media, including but not limited to music and video, or sends or reads a text message while requiring the use of at least one hand; and

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- 2. "Using a hand-held electronic device" means engaging any function on an electronic device.
- K. All driver education courses provided for in paragraph 1 of subsection C of this section shall include education regarding the dangers of texting while driving and the effects of being under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substance while driving.
- SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 6-105.2, as amended by Section 43, Chapter 282, O.S.L. 2022 (47 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 6-105.2), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-105.2 Service Oklahoma may issue an instructor permit to any qualified secondary school driver education instructor as defined by the State Board of Education Rules and Regulations for Oklahoma High School Driver and Traffic Safety Education or any driver education instructor, certified by Service Oklahoma, of a parochial, private, or other nonpublic secondary school upon a proper application to the State Board of Education or the Department of Public Safety in the case of secondary schools that are not regulated by the State Board of Education or a commercial driver training course instructor, as provided for in Sections 801 through 808 of this title. Service Oklahoma shall promulgate rules for the issuance of the permits. Any instructor as defined in this subsection who has been issued a permit may instruct any person who is at least fifteen:

- 1. Fifteen and one-half (15 1/2) years of age or who is at
  least fifteen (15);
- 2. Fourteen (14) years of age and of secondary school or higher educational standing while regularly enrolled and certified by the instructor as a student taking a prescribed course of secondary school driver education or a driver education course, certified by Service Oklahoma, from a parochial, private, or other nonpublic secondary school or a commercial driver training course, as defined by Sections 801 through 808 of this title, to operate a motor vehicle while accompanied by and receiving instruction from the instructor who is actually occupying a seat beside the driver; or
- 3. Thirteen and one-half (13 1/2) years of age and either resides upon a farm in this state or is employed for compensation upon a farm in this state. For purposes of this section, the term "farm" means any parcel of land for which the owner has an agricultural exemption permit issued by the Oklahoma Tax Commission.
- SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 801, is amended to read as follows:
- 19 Section 801. As used in Section 801 et seq. of this title:
  - (A) "Commercial driver training school" or "school" means a business enterprise conducted by an individual, association, partnership, or corporation, for the education and training of persons, either practically or theoretically, or both, to operate or drive motor vehicles and/or to prepare an applicant for an

examination given by the state for a driver license including a

restricted Class D license for persons fifteen and one-half (15 1/2)

years old and a farm permit for persons thirteen and one-half (13

1/2) years of age as defined in Section 6-105 of this title, and

charging a consideration or tuition for such services.

- (B) "Instructor" means any person, whether acting for himself as operator of a commercial driver training school or for any such school for compensation, who teaches, conducts classes of, gives demonstrations to, or supervises practice of persons learning to operate or drive motor vehicles or preparing to take an examination for a driver license including a restricted Class D license for persons fifteen and one-half (15 1/2) years of age and a farm permit for persons thirteen and one-half (13 1/2) years of age as defined in Section 6-105 of this title, and any person who supervises the work of any other such instructor.
  - (C) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Safety.

    SECTION 5. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

1	Passed the House of Representatives the 13th day of March, 2024.
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4	Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives
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6	Passed the Senate the day of, 2024.
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