

2016 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 445

BY SENATOR HEWITT

MOTOR VEHICLES. Provides relative to driver education. (8/1/16)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 32:402.1(A) and to enact R.S. 32:402.1(B), relative to motor vehicles; to provide relative to the requirements for driver education; to provide for an online course to complete the classroom instruction component; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 32:402.1(A) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 32:402.1(B) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§402.1. Driver education; required

A. No application for a license for the operation of a motor vehicle shall be received from any person making application for the first time unless there is also submitted with the application, on a form approved by the secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services, written evidence of the successful completion by the applicant of one of the following:

(1)(a) A "driver education course" for any person under the age of eighteen, which shall consist of not less than ~~eight~~ twelve hours of actual driving instruction ~~and thirty,~~ ten hours of classroom instruction, and completion of an online driver

1 education class to be established by the Department of Public Safety and
2 Corrections, public safety services. A person shall not be allowed to receive more
3 than four hours of actual driving instruction on any single calendar day. The
4 Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services, shall establish
5 rules and regulations to administer and define the requirements of the course. The
6 rules and regulations established by the Department of Public Safety and
7 Corrections, public safety services, shall provide for instruction relative to the
8 economic effects of littering. Oversight review of these rules shall be conducted by
9 the House and Senate committees on transportation, highways and public works in
10 accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

11 (b) Upon completion of the required supervised driving practice pursuant to
12 R.S. 32:405.1 and 407, a properly licensed and contracted third-party tester may
13 administer the on-road driving skills test to the student. Upon successful completion,
14 such third-party tester shall provide the student with a department approved
15 certificate of successful completion in a sealed envelope to be delivered to the
16 department.

17 (2) A "prelicensing training course" from any person eighteen years or older
18 if a driver education course is not completed. The prelicensing training course shall
19 consist of a minimum of ~~six~~ ten hours of classroom instruction, completion of an
20 online driver education class to be established by the Department of Public
21 Safety and Corrections, public safety services, and a minimum of ~~eight~~ twelve
22 hours of actual driving instruction. A person shall not be allowed to receive more
23 than four hours of actual driving instruction on any single calendar day. The
24 Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services, shall establish
25 rules and regulations to administer and define the requirements of the course.
26 Oversight review of these rules shall be conducted by the House and Senate
27 committees on transportation, highways and public works in accordance with the
28 Administrative Procedure Act. The rules shall provide for:

29 (a) Licensing or contractual requirements for third-party training schools and

1 high school instructors.

2 (b) Course content and presentation, including content relative to the
3 economic effects of littering.

4 (c) Instructor qualifications and certification.

5 (d) Classroom size and facilities.

6 (e) Certificates of completion.

7 (f) Required records and reporting.

8 (g) Penalties for noncompliance of the mandatory instructional and driving
9 requirements and penalties for the falsification of documents and certificates.

10 ~~(h) Repealed by Acts 2011, No. 294, §6, eff. August 15, 2011.~~

11 ~~(3)(a) Repealed by Acts 2011, No. 294, §6, eff. August 15, 2011.~~

12 ~~(b) Repealed by Acts 2011, No. 294, §6, eff. August 15, 2011.~~

13 ~~(c) The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services,~~
14 ~~shall establish the portion of the "driver education course" or "prelicensing training~~
15 ~~course" relative to the economic effects of littering in conjunction with Keep~~
16 ~~Louisiana Beautiful, Inc.~~

17 **B. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety**
18 **services, shall establish an approved online course for the classroom instruction**
19 **component required for the "driver education course" and the "prelicensing**
20 **training course".**

21 * * *

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Sharon F. Lyles.

SB 445 Original DIGEST 2016 Regular Session Hewitt

Present law requires applicants for a driver's license who are under 18 years of age to complete a "driver education course" consisting of not less than eight hours of actual driving instruction and 30 hours of classroom instruction.

Proposed law increases the duration of actual driving instruction to 12 hours, decreases the classroom instruction to ten hours, and adds a requirement to complete an online driver education course to be established by the DPSC, public safety services.

Present law requires applicants for a driver's license who are 18 years of age or older to

complete a "prelicensing training course" consisting of not less than eight hours of actual driving instruction and six hours of classroom instruction.

Proposed law increases the duration of actual driving instruction to 12 hours, increases the classroom instruction to ten hours, and adds a requirement to complete an online driver education course to be established by the DPSC, public safety services.

Proposed law requires the DPSC, public safety services, to establish an approved online course for the classroom instruction component required for the "driver education course" and the "prelicensing training course".

Effective August 1, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 32:402.1(A); adds R.S. 32:402.1(B))