

## Chapter 292

(Senate Bill 741)

AN ACT concerning

### **Vehicle Laws – U.S. Foreign Service Members Absent from State – Effective Period of Driver's License**

FOR the purpose of establishing that a Maryland driver's license held by a member of the Foreign Service of the United States residing outside the State, or the spouse or dependent of the Foreign Service member residing outside the State with the Foreign Service member, shall remain in full force and effect during the absence; authorizing an extension for a certain period of time of the effective period of a Maryland driver's license after the return to the State of a member of the Foreign Service, or the spouse or dependent of a member of the Foreign Service, under certain circumstances and subject to certain requirements; and generally relating to the effective period of drivers' licenses of Foreign Service members.

BY renumbering

Article – Transportation  
Section 16–115(e) through (j), respectively  
to be Section 16–115(f) through (k), respectively  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Transportation  
Section 16–115(a)(1) through (3)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Transportation  
Section 16–115(a)(4)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Transportation  
Section 16–115(e)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 16–115(e) through (j), respectively, of Article – Transportation of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 16–115(f) through (k), respectively.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

### **Article – Transportation**

16–115.

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

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

(3) A license is renewable on the presentation of an application, the payment of the renewal fee required by § 16–111.1 of this subtitle, and satisfactory completion of the examination required or authorized by subsection (h) of this section:

(i) Within 6 months before its expiration; or

(ii) When a driver qualifies for a corrected license issued under § 16–114.1(c) of this subtitle.

(4) Except as provided in subsection [(e)] (F) of this section, the Administration may not renew an individual’s license for more than one consecutive term without requiring the individual to appear in person at an office of the Administration.

**(E) (1) A LICENSE HELD BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES AND IS ABSENT FROM THE STATE DUE TO EMPLOYMENT IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE, OR A LICENSE HELD BY THE SPOUSE OR A DEPENDENT OF THE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS RESIDING WITH THE INDIVIDUAL OUTSIDE THE STATE, SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT DURING THE ABSENCE.**

**(2) A LICENSE HELD BY AN INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL ALSO REMAIN IN EFFECT, IF IT WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE EXPIRED UNDER THIS SECTION, FOR A PERIOD OF 30**

**DAYS FOLLOWING THE DATE OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S RETURN TO THE STATE, OR THE INDIVIDUAL'S SEPARATION FROM EMPLOYMENT IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES IF:**

**(I) THE INDIVIDUAL HAS IN THE INDIVIDUAL'S IMMEDIATE POSSESSION, TOGETHER WITH THE INDIVIDUAL'S DRIVER'S LICENSE, DOCUMENTATION ACCEPTABLE TO THE ADMINISTRATION INDICATING THAT:**

**1. THE INDIVIDUAL IS A MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES, OR THE SPOUSE OR A DEPENDENT OF A MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES AND RESIDES OUTSIDE THE STATE; OR**

**2. THE INDIVIDUAL WAS FORMERLY A MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES, OR THE SPOUSE OR A DEPENDENT OF A FORMER MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE, AND HAS RETURNED TO THE STATE ON SEPARATION OF THE MEMBER FROM EMPLOYMENT WITH THE FOREIGN SERVICE; AND**

**(II) THE LICENSE IS NOT OTHERWISE SUSPENDED, REVOKED, OR CANCELED UNDER THIS TITLE DURING THE 30-DAY PERIOD.**

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2012.

**Approved by the Governor, May 2, 2012.**