

SENATE BILL 3423

By Ford, O.

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 30 and Title 55, Chapter 50, relative to denial of motor vehicle license and permit.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3017(a), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(a) To ensure that Tennessee students remain in school, and to discourage students from dropping out before graduation or completing a GED, the following provisions apply. In accordance with title 55, chapter 50, the department of safety shall deny a license or instruction permit for the operation of a motor vehicle to any person under twenty one (21) years of age who does not at the time of application for a driver license present a diploma or other certificate of graduation issued to the person from a secondary high school of this state or any other state, or documentation that the person is:

(1) Enrolled and making satisfactory progress in a course leading to a general educational development certificate (GED) from a state-approved institution or organization, or has obtained such certificate;

(2) Enrolled and making satisfactory academic progress in a secondary school of this state or any other state; or

(3) Excused from such requirement due to circumstances beyond the applicant's control.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3017(b), is amended by deleting the language "eighteen (18) years of age" wherever such language appears and by substituting instead the language "twenty-one (21) years of age".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3017(f), is amended by deleting the language "eighteen (18) years of age" wherever such language appears and by substituting instead the language "twenty-one (21) years of age".

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009, the public welfare requiring it.