
SENATE BILL 5603

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Senators Valdez and Holy

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring driver training curriculum to
2 include instruction on sharing the road with large vehicles,
3 including commercial motor vehicles and buses; amending RCW
4 46.82.420; and providing an effective date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.82.420 and 2017 c 197 s 12 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (1) The department and the office of the superintendent of public
9 instruction shall jointly develop and maintain a required curriculum
10 as specified in RCW 28A.220.035. The department shall furnish to each
11 qualifying applicant for an instructor's license or a driver training
12 school license a copy of such curriculum.

13 (2) In addition to information on the safe, lawful, and
14 responsible operation of motor vehicles on the state's highways, the
15 required curriculum shall include information on:

16 (a) Intermediate driver's license issuance, passenger and driving
17 restrictions and sanctions for violating the restrictions, and the
18 effect of traffic violations and collisions on the driving
19 privileges;

20 (b) The effects of alcohol and drug use on motor vehicle
21 operators, including information on drug and alcohol related traffic

1 injury and mortality rates in the state of Washington and the current
2 penalties for driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol;

3 (c) Motorcycle awareness, approved by the director, to ensure new
4 operators of motor vehicles have been instructed in the importance of
5 safely sharing the road with motorcyclists;

6 (d) Bicycle safety, to ensure that operators of motor vehicles
7 have been instructed in the importance of safely sharing the road
8 with bicyclists; (~~and~~)

9 (e) Pedestrian safety, to ensure that operators of motor vehicles
10 have been instructed in the importance of safely sharing the road
11 with pedestrians; and

12 (f) Commercial vehicle, bus, and other large vehicle awareness,
13 to ensure new operators of motor vehicles have been instructed in the
14 importance of sharing the road with large vehicles.

15 (3) Should the director be presented with acceptable proof that
16 any licensed instructor or driver training school is not showing
17 proper diligence in teaching the required curriculum, the instructor
18 or school shall be required to appear before the director and show
19 cause why the license of the instructor or school should not be
20 revoked for such negligence. If the director does not accept such
21 reasons as may be offered, the director may revoke the license of the
22 instructor or school, or both.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect April 1, 2024.

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