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## **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**REGULAR SESSION, 1995** 

# ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO
(By Senator Miller, ET AL)
PASSED1995 In EffectPassage

# ENROLLED Senate Bill No. 188

(By Senators Miller, Bailey and Love)

[Passed March 11, 1995; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections one, three-a, eight and twelve, article two, chapter seventeen-b of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended; and to amend and reenact section twelve, article one, chapter seventeen-e of said code, all relating to changing the driver's license, commercial driver's license and identification card renewal cycle to five years; causing such renewals to expire on the last day of the month in which the licensee's or identification cardholder's birth-day occurs; setting fees for original issuance and renewals thereof; and making provisions for operators, junior operators and commercial drivers's licenses.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That sections one, three-a, eight and twelve, article two, chapter seventeen-b of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended be amended and reenacted; and that section twelve, article one, chapter seventeen-e of said code be amended and reenacted, all to read as follows:

#### CHAPTER 17B. MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENSES.

ARTICLE 2. ISSUANCE OF LICENSE, EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL.

- §17B-2-1. Drivers must be licensed; types of licenses; licenses need not obtain local government license; motorcycle driver license; identification cards.
  - 1 (a) No person, except those hereinafter expressly
  - 2 exempted, may drive any motor vehicle upon a street or
  - 3 highway in this state or upon any subdivision street, as
  - 4 used in article twenty-four, chapter eight of this code,
  - 5 when the use of such subdivision street is generally used
  - 6 by the public unless the person has a valid driver's
  - 7 license under the provisions of this code for the type or
  - 8 class of vehicle being driven.
  - 9 Any person licensed to operate a motor vehicle as
- 10 provided in this code may exercise the privilege thereby
- 11 granted as provided in this code and, except as otherwise
- 12 provided by law, shall not be required to obtain any
- 13 other license to exercise such privilege by any county,
- 14 municipality or local board or body having authority to
- 15 adopt local police regulations.
- 16 (b) The division, upon issuing a driver's license, shall
- 17 indicate on the license the type or general class or classes
- 18 of vehicle or vehicles the licensee may operate in accor-
- 19 dance with the provisions of this code, federal law or
- 20 rule.
- 21 (c) Driver's licenses issued by the division shall be 22 classified in the following manner:
- 23 (1) Class A, B or C license shall be issued to those
- 24 persons eighteen years of age or older with two years
- 25 driving experience and who have qualified for the
- 26 commercial driver's license established by chapter
- 27 seventeen-e of this code and the federal Commercial
- 28 Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986, Title XII of public law
- 29 99870 and subsequent rules, and have paid the required
- 30 fee.
- 31 (2) Class D license shall be issued to those persons

eighteen years and older with one year driving experi-32 ence who operate motor vehicles other than those types 33 34 of vehicles which require the operator to be licensed 35 under the provisions of chapter seventeen-e of this code and federal law and rule and whose primary function or 36 37 employment is the transportation of persons or property 38 for compensation or wages and have paid the required fee. For the purposes of the regulation of the operation 39 of a motor vehicle, wherever the term chauffeur's license 40 41 is used in this code, it shall be construed to mean the 42 Class A, B, C or D license described in this section or 43 chapter seventeen-e of this code or federal law or rule: 44 *Provided*, That anyone who is not required to be licensed under the provisions of chapter seventeen-e of this code 45 and federal law or rule and who operates a motor vehicle 46 which is registered or which is required to be registered 48 as a Class A motor vehicle as that term is defined in section three, article ten, chapter seventeen-a of this 49 50 code with a gross vehicle weight rating of less than eight 51 thousand one pounds, is not required to obtain a Class D 52 license.

(3) Class E license shall be issued to those persons who have qualified under the provisions of this chapter and who are not required to obtain a Class A. B. C or D license and who have paid the required fee. The Class E license may be endorsed under the provisions of section seven-b, article two of this chapter for motorcycle operation.

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- (4) Class F license shall be issued to those persons who successfully complete the motorcycle examination procedure provided for by this chapter and have paid the required fee, but who do not possess a Class A. B. C and D or E driver's license. 64
- (d) No person, except those hereinafter expressly exempted, shall drive any motorcycle upon a street or 66 67 highway in this state or upon any subdivision street, as used in article twenty-four, chapter eight of this code, when the use of such subdivision street is generally used

- by the public unless the person has a valid motorcycle
- 71 license or a valid license which has been endorsed under
- 72 section seven-b, article two of this chapter for motorcy-
- 73 cle operation or has a valid motorcycle instruction
- 74 permit.
- 75 (e) (1) A nonoperator identification card may be issued 76 to any person who:
- 77 (A) Is a resident of this state in accordance with the provisions of section one-a, article three, chapter seven-78 79 teen-a of this code;
- 80 (B) Does not have a valid driver's license;
- 81 (C) Has reached the age of sixteen years;
- 82 (D) Has paid the required fee of ten dollars: Provided, That such fee is not required if the applicant is sixty-five
- years or older or is legally blind; and
- 85 (E) Presents a birth certificate or other proof of age 86 and identity acceptable to the division with a completed application on a form furnished by the division. 87
- 88 (2) The nondriver identification card shall contain the same information as a driver's license except that such 89 90 identification card shall be clearly marked as identification card. The identification card shall expire every four years. It may be renewed on application and payment of 92
- the fee required by this section. 93
- 94 (A) After the thirtieth day of June, one thousand nine hundred ninety-six, every identification card issued to 96 persons who have attained their twenty-first birthday shall expire on the last day of the month in which the 97 98 applicant's birthday occurs in those years in which the 99 applicant's age is evenly divisible by five. Except as 100 provided in paragraph (B) of this subdivision, no identi-101 fication card may be issued for less than three years nor 102 more than seven years and such identification card shall
- be renewed in the month in which the applicant's 103
- 104 birthday occurs and shall be valid for a period of five
- 105 years expiring in the month in which the applicant's

- 106 birthday occurs and in a year in which the applicant's 107 age is evenly divisible by five.
- 108 (B) Every identification card issued to persons who 109 have not attained their twenty-first birthday shall expire 110 on the last day of the month in the year in which the 111 applicant attains the age of twenty-one years.
- 112 (3) The identification card shall be surrendered to the 113 division when the holder is issued a driver's license. The 114 division may issue an identification card to an applicant 115 whose privilege to operate a motor vehicle has been 116 refused, cancelled, suspended or revoked under the 117 provisions of this code.

### §17B-2-3a. Junior driver's license.

- (a) In accordance with rules established by the com-2 missioner and with the provisions hereinafter set forth in this section, a junior driver's license may be issued to 4 any person between the ages of sixteen and eighteen 5 years, if the person is in compliance with section eleven, article eight, chapter eighteen of this code and is not 7 otherwise disqualified by law. Application for a junior driver's license shall be on a form prescribed by the commissioner. A junior driver's license may be issued upon the applicant's successful completion of all exami-10 nations and driving tests required by law for the issu-11 12 ance of a driver's license to a person eighteen years of age or older. The commissioner may impose reasonable 13 conditions or restrictions on the operation of a motor 14 vehicle by a person holding a junior driver's license and 15 16 the conditions or restrictions shall be printed on the 17 license.
- 18 (b) In addition to all other provisions of this chapter 19 for which a driver's license may be revoked, suspended 20 or cancelled, whenever a person holding a junior driver's 21 license operates a motor vehicle in violation of the 22 conditions or restrictions set forth on the license, or has 23 a record of two convictions for moving violations of the 24 traffic regulations and laws of the road, which convic-

- 25 tions have become final, the junior driver's license of the person shall be permanently revoked, with like effect as 26 27 if the person had never held a junior driver's license: 28 *Provided*, That a junior driver's license shall be revoked 29 upon one final conviction for any offense described in section five, article three of this chapter. Under no 30 31 circumstances shall such a license be revoked for convic-32 tions of offenses in violation of any regulation or law 33 governing the standing or parking of motor vehicles.
- 34 (c) A junior driver's license shall be suspended for 35 noncompliance with the provisions of section eleven, 36 article eight, chapter eighteen of this code, and may be 37 reinstated upon compliance.
- 38 (d) A person whose junior driver's license has been 39 revoked, or has been suspended without reinstatement, shall not thereafter receive a junior driver's license, but 41 the person, upon attaining the age of eighteen, shall be 42 eligible, unless otherwise disqualified by law, for exami-43 nation and driver testing for a regular driver's license. 44 If a person has had his or her junior driver's license 45 revoked for a violation pursuant to section one or two, 46 article five-a, chapter seventeen-c of this code or any 47 offense specified in subsection (6), section five, article 48 three of this chapter, or has been adjudicated delinquent 49 upon a charge which would be crime under the provi-50 sions of section two, article five, chapter seventeen-c of 51 this code if committed by an adult, the person shall be 52 disqualified for examination and driver testing for a 53 regular driver's license until that person: (1) Has at-54 tained the age of eighteen years; (2) has successfully 55 completed the safety and treatment program provided 56 for in section three, article five-a, chapter seventeen-c of 57 this code; and (3) has had his or her junior driver's 58 license revoked or suspended for the applicable statutory 59 period of revocation or suspension or a period of time 60 equal to the period of revocation or suspension which 61 would have been imposed pursuant to section two, 62 article five-a of said chapter if the person had a regular 63 driver's license at the time of the violation.

- 64 (e) No person shall receive a junior driver's license 65 unless the application therefor is accompanied by a writing, duly acknowledged, consenting to the issuance 66 67 of the junior driver's license and executed by the parents 68 of the applicant; or if only one parent is living, then by 69 such parent; or if the parents be living separate and 70 apart, by the one to whom the custody of the applicant 71 was awarded; or if there is a guardian entitled to the 72 custody of the applicant, then by the guardian.
- (f) Upon attaining the age of eighteen years, a person holding an unrevoked, unsuspended or reinstated junior driver's license shall be entitled to exercise all the privileges of a regular driver's license without further examination or driver testing.

### §17B-2-8. Issuance and contents of licenses; fees.

- (a) The division shall, upon payment of the required 2 fee, issue to every applicant qualifying therefor a driver's 3 license, which shall indicate the type or general class or 4 classes of vehicle or vehicles the licensee may operate in accordance with this chapter or chapter seventeen-e of this code, or motorcycle-only license. Each license shall 7 contain a coded number assigned to the licensee, the full name, date of birth, residence address, a brief description and a color photograph of the licensee and either a facsimile of the signature of the licensee or a space upon 10 11 which the signature of the licensee shall be written with 12 pen and ink immediately upon receipt of the license. No license shall be valid until it has been so signed by the 13 14 licensee: Provided, That the commissioner may issue a 15 valid without-photo license for applicants temporarily out of state. A driver's license which is valid for opera-16 17 tion of a motorcycle shall contain a motorcycle endorse-18 ment. The division shall use such process or processes in 19 the issuance of licenses that will, insofar as possible, 20 prevent any alteration, counterfeiting, duplication, 21 reproduction, forging or modification of, or the superim-22 position of a photograph on, such license.
- 23 (b) The fee for the issuance of a Class E driver's license

shall be ten dollars and fifty cents. The fee for issuance of a Class D driver's license shall be twenty-five dollars 26 and fifty cents. Fifty cents of each such fee shall be 27 deposited in the "combined voter registration and 28 driver's licensing fund", established pursuant to the 29 provisions of section twenty-two-a, article two, chapter 30 three of this code. The one-time only additional fee for 31 adding a motorcycle endorsement to a driver's license 32 shall be five dollars. The fee for issuance of a motorcy-33 cle-only license shall be ten dollars. The fees for the 34 motorcycle endorsement or motorcycle-only license shall 35 be paid into a special fund in the state treasury known as 36 the motorcycle safety fund as established in section 37 seven, article one-d of this chapter.

38 (c) After the thirtieth day of June, one thousand nine 39 hundred ninety-six, the fee for the issuance of a Class E 40 driver's license shall be two dollars and fifty cents per 41 year for each year such license is issued to be valid. The 42 fee for issuance of a Class D driver's license shall be six 43 dollars and twenty-five cents per year for each year such license is issued to be valid. An additional fee of fifty 45 cents shall be collected from the applicant at the time of 46 original issuance or each renewal and such additional fee 47 shall be deposited in the "combined voter registration and driver's licensing fund", established pursuant to the 48 49 provisions of section twenty-two-a, article two, chapter 50 three of this code. The one-time only additional fee for 51 adding a motorcycle endorsement to a driver's license 52 shall be five dollars.

53 The fee for issuance of a motorcycle-only license shall 54 be two dollars and fifty cents for each year for which the 55 motorcycle license is to be valid. The fees for the motor-56 cycle endorsement or motorcycle-only license shall be 57 paid into a special fund in the state treasury known as 58 the motorcycle safety fund as established in section 59 seven, article one-d of this chapter.

### §17B-2-12. Expiration of licenses; renewal; renewal fees.

1 (a) Every driver's license shall expire four years from

- the date of its issuance, except that the driver's license of any person in the armed forces shall be extended for a period of six months from the date the person is separated under honorable circumstances from active duty in the armed forces.
  - (b) After the thirtieth day of June, one thousand nine hundred ninety-six, the following shall apply:

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- (1) Every driver's license issued to persons who have 9 attained their twenty-first birthday shall expire on the 10 last day of the month in which the applicant's birthday 12 occurs in those years in which the applicant's age is 13 evenly divisible by five. Except as provided in the following subdivisions, no driver's license may be issued for less than three years nor more than seven years and 16 such driver's license shall be renewed in the month in which the applicant's birthday occurs and shall be valid 17 18 for a period of five years, expiring in the month in which 19 the applicant's birthday occurs and in a year in which 20 the applicant's age is evenly divisible by five.
- 21 (2) Every driver's license issued to persons who have 22 not attained their twenty-first birthday shall expire on 23 the last day of the month in the year in which the 24 applicant attains the age of twenty-one years.
  - (3) The driver's license of any person in the armed forces shall be extended for a period of six months from the date the person is separated under honorable circumstances from active duty in the armed forces.
- 29 (c) A person who allows his or her driver's license to 30 expire may apply to the division for renewal thereof. 31 Application shall be made upon a form furnished by the 32 division and shall be accompanied by payment of the fee 33 required by section eight of this article plus an additional fee of five dollars. The commissioner shall deter-34 35 mine whether such person qualifies for a renewed license 36 and may, in the commissioner's discretion, renew any 37 expired license without examination of the applicant.
  - (d) Each renewal of a driver's license shall contain a

- 39 new color photograph of the licensee. By first class mail
- 40 to the address last known to the division, the commis-
- 41 sioner shall notify each person who holds a valid driver's
- 42 license of the expiration date of the license. The notice
- 43 shall be mailed at least thirty days prior to the expira-
- 44 tion date of the license and shall include a renewal
- 45 application form.

# CHAPTER 17E. UNIFORM COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE ACT.

#### ARTICLE 1. COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE.

#### §17E-1-12. Classifications, endorsements and restrictions.

- 1 Commercial driver's licenses may be issued, with the
- 2 following classifications, endorsements and restrictions;
- 3 the holder of a valid commercial driver's license may
- 4 drive all vehicles in the class for which that license is
- 5 issued, and all lesser classes of vehicles and vehicles
- 6 which require an endorsement, unless the proper en-
- 7 dorsement appears on the license:
- 8 (a) Classifications:
- 9 (1) Class A Any combination of vehicles with a gross
- 10 combined vehicle weight rating of twenty-six thousand
- 11 one pounds or more, provided the gross vehicle weight
- 12 rating of the vehicle(s) being towed is in excess of ten
- 13 thousand pounds.
- 14 (2) Class B Any single vehicle with a gross vehicle
- 15 weight rating of twenty-six thousand one pounds or
- 16 more, and any such vehicle towing a vehicle not in excess
- 17 of ten thousand pounds.
- 18 (3) Class C Any single vehicle or combination vehicle
- 19 with a gross vehicle weight rating of less than twenty-six
- 20 thousand one pounds or any such vehicle towing a
- 21 vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating not in excess
- 22 of ten thousand pounds comprising:
- 23 (A) Vehicles designed to transport sixteen or more
- 24 passengers, including the driver; and

- 25 (B) Vehicles used in the transportation of hazardous 26 materials which requires the vehicle to be placarded 27 under 49 C.F.R., part 172, sub-part F.
  - (b) Endorsements and restrictions:

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- The commissioner upon issuing a commercial driver's license shall have the authority to impose such endorsements or restrictions as the commissioner may determine to be appropriate to assure the safe operation of a motor vehicle, and to comply with the federal Motor Vehicle Act of 1986 and federal rules implementing such act.
- 35 (c) Applicant record check. Before issuing a com-36 mercial driver's license, the commissioner must obtain 37 driving record information through the commercial 38 driver's license information system, the national driver 39 register and from each state in which the person has 40 been commercially licensed.
- 41 (d) Notification of license issuance. Within ten days 42 after issuing a commercial driver's license, the commis-43 sioner shall notify the commercial driver's license 44 information system of that fact, providing all informa-45 tion required to ensure identification of the person.
- 46 (e) Expiration of license. —
- 47 (1) The commercial driver's license shall expire four 48 years from date of issuance.
- 49 (2) After the thirtieth day of June, one thousand nine 50 hundred ninety-six, the following shall apply:
- 51 (A) Every commercial driver's license issued to persons 52 who have attained their twenty-first birthday shall 53 expire on the last day of the month in which the appli-54 cant's birthday occurs in those years in which the appli-55 cant's age is evenly divisible by five. Except as provided 56 in paragraph (B) of this subdivision, no commercial 57 driver's license may be issued for less than three years 58 nor more than seven years and such commercial driver's 59 license shall be renewed in the month in which the applicant's birthday occurs and shall be valid for a

- 61 period of five years, expiring in the month in which the 62 applicant's birthday occurs and in a year in which the 63 applicant's age is evenly divisible by five.
- 64 (B) Every commercial driver's license issued to persons 65 who have not attained their twenty-first birthday shall 66 expire on the last day of the month in the year in which 67 the applicant attains the age of twenty-one years.
- 68 (3) Commercial driver's licenses held by any person in 69 the armed forces which expire while that person is on 70 active duty shall remain valid for thirty days from the 71 date on which that person reestablishes residence in 72 West Virginia.
- 73 (4) Any person applying to renew a commercial driver's 74 license which has been expired for two years or more 75 must follow the procedures for an initial issuance of a 76 commercial driver's license, including the testing provi-77 sions.
- 78 (f) License renewal procedures. When applying for 79 renewal of a commercial driver's license, the applicant 80 must complete the application form and provide updated 81 information and required certifications. If the applicant 82 wishes to retain a hazardous materials endorsement, the 83 written test for a hazardous materials endorsement must 84 be taken and passed.

That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.
Chairman Senate Committee
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Chairman House Committee
Originated in the Senate.
In effect from passage.
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