

By Representative Greenstein

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to driver's licenses; amending  
3           s. 322.18, F.S.; revising provisions relating  
4           to issuance and renewal of driver's licenses  
5           with regard to applicants over a certain age;  
6           providing an effective date.

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8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10           Section 1. Subsections (2), (4), and (8) of section  
11 322.18, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

12           322.18 Original applications, licenses, and renewals;  
13 expiration of licenses; delinquent licenses.--

14           (1)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), the  
15 department may issue an original driver's license only after  
16 the applicant successfully passes the required examinations  
17 and presents the application to the department.

18           (b) The department may waive the driver's license  
19 examination requirement if the applicant is otherwise  
20 qualified and surrenders a valid license issued by another  
21 state, a province of Canada, or the United States Armed Forces  
22 which is of an equal or lesser classification as provided in  
23 s. 322.12.

24           (2) Each applicant who is entitled to the issuance of  
25 a driver's license, as provided in this section, shall be  
26 issued a driver's license, as follows:

27           (a)1. An applicant under 75 years of age applying for  
28 an original issuance shall be issued a driver's license which  
29 expires at midnight on the licensee's birthday which next  
30 occurs on or after the sixth anniversary of the date of issue.

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1           2. An applicant 75 years of age or older, but less  
2 than 85 years of age, applying for an original issuance shall  
3 be issued a driver's license which expires at midnight on the  
4 licensee's birthday which next occurs on or after the fourth  
5 anniversary of the date of issue.

6           3. An applicant 85 years of age or older applying for  
7 an original issuance shall be issued a driver's license which  
8 expires at midnight on the licensee's birthday which next  
9 occurs on or after the second anniversary of the date of  
10 issue.

11           (b) An applicant under 75 years of age applying for a  
12 renewal issuance or renewal extension shall be issued a  
13 driver's license or renewal extension sticker which expires at  
14 midnight on the licensee's birthday which next occurs 4 years  
15 after the month of expiration of the license being renewed,  
16 except that a driver under 75 years of age whose driving  
17 record reflects no convictions for the preceding 3 years shall  
18 be issued a driver's license or renewal extension sticker  
19 which expires at midnight on the licensee's birthday which  
20 next occurs 6 years after the month of expiration of the  
21 license being renewed.

22           (c) An applicant 75 years of age or older, but less  
23 than 85 years of age, applying for a renewal issuance or  
24 renewal extension shall be issued a driver's license or  
25 renewal extension sticker which expires at midnight on the  
26 licensee's birthday which next occurs 4 years after the month  
27 of expiration of the license being renewed.

28           (d) An applicant 85 years of age or older applying for  
29 a renewal issuance or renewal extension shall be issued a  
30 driver's license or renewal extension sticker which expires at  
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1 midnight on the licensee's birthday which next occurs 2 years  
2 after the month of expiration of the license being renewed.

3 (4) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, all  
4 licenses shall be renewable every 2 years, 4 years, or 6  
5 years, depending upon the terms of issuance and shall be  
6 issued or extended upon application, payment of the fees  
7 required by s. 322.21, and successful passage of any required  
8 examination, unless the department has reason to believe that  
9 the licensee is no longer qualified to receive a license.

10 (8) The department shall issue 4-year and 6-year  
11 license extensions to drivers under 75 years of age by mail,  
12 electronic, or telephonic means without reexamination.

13 (a) If the department determines from its records that  
14 the holder of a license about to expire is eligible for  
15 renewal, the department shall mail a renewal notice to the  
16 licensee at his or her last known address, not less than 30  
17 days prior to the licensee's birthday. The renewal notice  
18 shall direct the licensee to appear at a driver license office  
19 for in-person renewal or to transmit the completed renewal  
20 notice and the fees required by s. 322.21 to the department by  
21 mail, electronically, or telephonically within the 30 days  
22 preceding the licensee's birthday for a license extension.  
23 License extensions shall not be available to drivers directed  
24 to appear for in-person renewal.

25 (b) Upon receipt of a properly completed renewal  
26 notice, payment of the required fees, and upon determining  
27 that the licensee is still eligible for renewal, the  
28 department shall send a license extension sticker to the  
29 licensee to affix to the expiring license as evidence that the  
30 license term has been extended.

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1           (c) The department shall issue license extensions for  
2 two consecutive license expirations only. Upon expiration of  
3 two consecutive license extension periods, in-person renewal  
4 with reexamination as provided in s. 322.121 shall be  
5 required. A person who is out of this state when his or her  
6 license expires may be issued a 90-day temporary driving  
7 permit without reexamination. At the end of the 90-day period,  
8 the person must either return to this state or apply for a  
9 license where the person is located, except for a member of  
10 the Armed Forces as provided in s. 322.121(6).

11           (d) In-person renewal at a driver license office shall  
12 not be available to drivers whose records indicate they were  
13 directed to apply for a license extension.

14           (e) Any person who knowingly possesses any forged,  
15 stolen, fictitious, counterfeit, or unlawfully issued license  
16 extension sticker, unless possession by such person has been  
17 duly authorized by the department, commits a misdemeanor of  
18 the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.  
19 775.083.

20           (f) The department shall develop a plan for the  
21 equitable distribution of license extensions and renewals and  
22 the orderly implementation of this section.

23           Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

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26           HOUSE SUMMARY

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28           Revises provisions relating to issuance and renewal of  
29 driver's licenses with regard to applicants 75 years of  
30 age and over. Eliminates the issuance of license  
31 extensions by mail for drivers 75 years of age and over.

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