

By the Committee on Transportation and Senator Saunders

306-1756-01

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to driver improvement schools;
3 amending s. 318.1451, F.S.; authorizing
4 governmental entities to maintain and provide
5 certain information regarding driver
6 improvement schools and course providers;
7 revising the duties of the Department of
8 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; amending s.
9 322.0261, F.S.; requiring the department to
10 approve and regulate certain courses for driver
11 improvement schools; amending s. 322.095, F.S.;
12 requiring the department to approve and
13 regulate certain courses for driver improvement
14 schools; providing an effective date.

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

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18 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 318.1451, Florida
19 Statutes, is amended to read:

20 318.1451 Driver improvement schools.--

21 (5)(a) Each ~~No~~ governmental entity and ~~or~~ court may
22 ~~shall~~ provide, issue, or maintain ~~any~~ information or orders
23 regarding driver improvement schools, including a list of ~~or~~
24 course providers who provide curriculum to driver improvement
25 schools within the geographic area of the governmental entity
26 or court, together with a single telephone number for each
27 such provider as provided by the court provider. ~~, with the~~
28 ~~exception of directing inquiries or requests to the local~~
29 ~~telephone directory heading of driving instruction or the~~
30 ~~traffic school reference guide. However, the department is~~
31 ~~authorized to maintain the information and records necessary~~

1 ~~to administer its duties and responsibilities for driver~~
2 ~~improvement courses. Where such information is a public record~~
3 ~~as defined in chapter 119, it shall be made available to the~~
4 ~~public upon request pursuant to s. 119.07(1).~~

5 (b) The department shall prepare for governmental
6 entities and courts, any governmental entity to distribute a
7 traffic school course provider list that reference guide which
8 shall list the benefits of attending a driver improvement
9 school and the names of the course providers, together with a
10 single telephone number for each such provider as provided by
11 the course provider, but under no circumstance may any list of
12 course providers or schools be included, and shall refer
13 further inquiries to the telephone directory under driving
14 instruction.

15 Section 2. Subsections (4) and (5) are added to
16 section 322.0261, Florida Statutes, to read:

17 322.0261 Mandatory driver improvement course; certain
18 crashes.--

19 (4) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor
20 Vehicles shall approve and regulate courses that use
21 technology as the delivery method of all driver improvement
22 schools as the courses relate to this section.

23 (5) In determining whether to approve courses of
24 driver improvement schools that use technology as the delivery
25 method as the courses relate to this section, the department
26 shall consider only those courses submitted by a person,
27 business, or entity which receive:

28 (a) Approval for statewide delivery.

29 (b) Independent scientific research evidence of course
30 effectiveness.

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1 Section 3. Present subsections (2) through (7) of
2 section 322.095, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
3 subsections (4) through (9), respectively, and new subsections
4 (2) and (3) are added to that section, to read:

5 322.095 Traffic law and substance abuse education
6 program for driver's license applicants.--

7 (2) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor
8 Vehicles shall approve and regulate courses that use
9 technology as the delivery method of all driver improvement
10 schools as the courses relate to this section.

11 (3) In determining whether to approve courses of
12 driver improvement schools that use technology as the delivery
13 method as the courses relate to this section, the department
14 shall consider only those courses submitted by a person,
15 business, or entity which receive:

16 (a) Approval for statewide delivery.

17 (b) Independent scientific research evidence of course
18 effectiveness.

19 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.
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STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SB 626

The CS provides a governmental entity or court may maintain and provide information regarding driver improvement schools, including a list of course providers who provide curriculum to driver improvement schools within the geographical area of the governmental entity or court, and a corresponding telephone number for the course provider.

This CS directs the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to prepare for governmental entities and courts a traffic school course provider list that includes the benefits of attending a driver improvement school and the names of approved course providers together with a single telephone number for each provider.

The CS also authorizes the Department to review and approve certain driver improvement courses that use technology as the delivery method.