

By Senator Sebesta

16-1472A-03

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to a basic driver improvement  
3           course; amending s. 322.025, F.S; authorizing  
4           the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
5           Vehicles to offer a once-in-a-lifetime  
6           opportunity to attend a basic driver  
7           improvement course for drivers who meet certain  
8           criteria; providing that the department shall  
9           deduct points from a driver's record upon proof  
10          of completion of the basic driver improvement  
11          course; providing that the department shall  
12          annotate the driver's record that the  
13          improvement course had been accepted and used;  
14          amending s. 318.1451, F.S.; conforming  
15          provisions to changes made by the act;  
16          providing an effective date.

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

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20           Section 1. Section 322.025, Florida Statutes, is  
21 amended to read:

22           322.025 Driver improvement.--

23           (1) The department may implement programs to improve  
24 the driving ability of the drivers of this state. Such  
25 programs may include, but shall not be limited to, safety  
26 awareness campaigns, driver training, and licensing  
27 improvement. Motorcycle driver improvement programs  
28 implemented pursuant to this section or s. 322.0255 shall be  
29 funded by the motorcycle safety education fee collected  
30 pursuant to s. 320.08(1)(c), which shall be deposited in the

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1 Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund of the department and  
2 appropriated for that purpose.

3 (2) The department may offer once during a driver's  
4 lifetime to each driver who receives a points warning letter  
5 pursuant to s. 322.27(3)(f) or a restriction letter pursuant  
6 to s. 322.161, the opportunity to attend a basic driver  
7 improvement course approved by the Department of Highway  
8 Safety and Motor Vehicles. If the driver completes an  
9 approved course and presents proof of completion to the  
10 department, the department shall deduct three points from the  
11 citation that causes the action from the driver's record and  
12 permanently annotate the driver's record that the one-time  
13 offer had been accepted and used.

14 Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 318.1451, Florida  
15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 318.1451 Driver improvement schools.--

17 (4) In addition to a regular course fee, an assessment  
18 fee in the amount of \$2.50 shall be collected by the school  
19 from each person who elects to attend a course, as it relates  
20 to ss. 318.14(9), 322.025(2), 322.0261, 322.291, and  
21 627.06501, which shall be remitted to the Department of  
22 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and deposited in the Highway  
23 Safety Operating Trust Fund to administer this program and to  
24 fund the general operations of the department.

25 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
26 law.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Provides that the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles may offer a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend a basic driver improvement course for those drivers who have received a points warning letter or a restriction letter. Provides that the department shall deduct points from the driver's citation that causes the action upon proof of completion of the basic driver improvement course. Provides that the department shall permanently annotate on the driver's record that the offer of the basic driver improvement course had been accepted and used.