

By Senator Sebesta

16-1112B-06

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to driver's licenses; amending
3 s. 322.051, F.S.; providing for a person to be
4 issued an identification card at no cost
5 following voluntary surrender of a driver's
6 license or suspension or revocation of a
7 driver's license under certain conditions;
8 authorizing issuance of an identification card
9 having a gold marking; amending s. 322.126,
10 F.S.; revising the requirement that a physician
11 report to the Department of Highway Safety and
12 Motor Vehicles any patient diagnosed by the
13 physician as having a disability that could
14 affect the patient's driving ability; providing
15 that a physician making such a report is not
16 civilly or criminally liable to the patient;
17 amending s. 322.18, F.S.; requiring that the
18 department issue a license that expires within
19 a specified period, notwithstanding other
20 provisions to the contrary, if the person
21 applying for the license is older than a
22 specified age; creating s. 322.182, F.S.;
23 requiring that the department establish the
24 Florida Safety Resource Center Program;
25 requiring that the program establish assessment
26 centers for drivers who are referred by a
27 medical professional, a law enforcement agency,
28 a court, or the department; specifying
29 additional duties of the centers; providing an
30 effective date.
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1 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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3 Section 1. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (1) of
4 section 322.051, Florida Statutes, to read:

5 322.051 Identification cards.--

6 (1) Any person who is 12 years of age or older, or any
7 person who has a disability, regardless of age, who applies
8 for a disabled parking permit under s. 320.0848, may be issued
9 an identification card by the department upon completion of an
10 application and payment of an application fee.

11 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
12 chapter, an applicant for an original or a renewal of an
13 identification card who has voluntarily surrendered his or her
14 driver's license or has had his or her license suspended or
15 revoked pursuant to s. 322.221 or s. 322.27(1)(c) shall be
16 issued the identification card at no cost. In accordance with
17 this subsection, a person who voluntarily surrendered his or
18 her license may be issued at his or her option an
19 identification card that has a distinctive gold marking.

20 Section 2. Section 322.126, Florida Statutes, is
21 amended to read:

22 322.126 Report of disability to department; content;
23 use.--

24 (1) For the purpose of the reports authorized by this
25 section, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles,
26 assisted by the Medical Advisory Board, shall:

27 (a) Define mental or physical disabilities affecting
28 the ability of a person to safely operate a motor vehicle.

29 (b) Develop and keep current coded restrictions to be
30 placed upon drivers' licenses of persons who are required to
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1 wear medical identification bracelets when operating a motor
2 vehicle.

3 (2) Any ~~physician,~~ person, or agency having knowledge
4 of any licensed driver's or applicant's mental or physical
5 disability to drive or need to obtain or to wear a medical
6 identification bracelet is authorized to report such knowledge
7 to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. The
8 report should be made in writing giving the full name, date of
9 birth, address, and a description of the alleged disability of
10 any person over 15 years of age having mental or physical
11 disorders that could affect his or her driving ability.

12 (3) A physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter
13 459 shall report immediately to the department in writing the
14 full name, date of birth, and address of each patient older
15 than 15 years of age whom the physician has diagnosed as
16 having a mental or physical disability that could affect the
17 patient's driving ability. A physician who makes a report to
18 the department as required by this subsection is not civilly
19 or criminally liable to the patient for making the report.

20 ~~(4)(3)~~ The reports authorized by this section shall be
21 confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1)
22 and shall be used solely for the purpose of determining the
23 qualifications of any person to operate a motor vehicle on the
24 highways of this state. No civil or criminal action may be
25 brought against any physician, person, or agency who provides
26 the information required herein.

27 ~~(5)(4)~~ No report forwarded under the provisions of
28 this section shall be used as evidence in any civil or
29 criminal trial or in any court proceeding.

30 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 322.18, Florida
31 Statutes, is amended to read:

1 322.18 Original applications, licenses, and renewals;
2 expiration of licenses; delinquent licenses.--

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

6 (a) An applicant applying for an original issuance
7 shall be issued a driver's license which expires at midnight
8 on the licensee's birthday which next occurs on or after the
9 sixth anniversary of the date of issue.

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

20 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
21 chapter, if an applicant establishes his or her identity for a
22 driver's license using a document authorized under s.
23 322.08(2)(c)5., the driver's license shall expire in
24 accordance with paragraph (b). After an initial showing of
25 such documentation, he or she is exempted from having to renew
26 or obtain a duplicate in person.

27 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
28 chapter, if an applicant establishes his or her identity for a
29 driver's license using a document authorized in s.
30 322.08(2)(c)6. or 7., the driver's license shall expire 2
31 years after the date of issuance or upon the expiration date

1 | cited on the United States Department of Homeland Security
2 | documents, whichever date first occurs.

3 | (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
4 | chapter, an applicant applying for an original or renewal
5 | issuance of a commercial driver's license as defined in s.
6 | 322.01(7), with a hazardous-materials endorsement, pursuant to
7 | s. 322.57(1)(e), shall be issued a driver's license that
8 | expires at midnight on the licensee's birthday that next
9 | occurs 4 years after the month of expiration of the license
10 | being issued or renewed.

11 | (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
12 | chapter, an applicant applying for a renewal of a driver's
13 | license who is over 74 years of age shall be issued a license
14 | that expires at midnight on the licensee's birthday that next
15 | occurs 4 years after the month of expiration of the license
16 | being renewed.

17 | Section 4. Section 322.182, Florida Statutes, is
18 | created to read:

19 | 322.182 Florida Safety Resource Center Program.--

20 | (1) The department shall establish the Florida Safety
21 | Resource Center Program. Assessment centers shall be
22 | strategically located throughout the state and shall provide
23 | services to drivers who are referred to the center by a
24 | medical professional, a law enforcement agency, a court, or
25 | the department. A driver may also obtain services from the
26 | center for the purpose of determining his or her driving
27 | capabilities.

28 | (2) A centralized office shall coordinate the
29 | activities of the centers in order to ensure quality control,
30 | provide technical assistance and direction, and maintain
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1 statistical data for research purposes. Each individual center
2 shall:
3 (a) Conduct outreach efforts to promote the center's
4 services;
5 (b) Conduct mobility counseling;
6 (c) Conduct driving assessments;
7 (d) Provide referrals for outside services; and
8 (e) Conduct driver reexaminations as needed.

9 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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12 SENATE SUMMARY

13 Revises various provisions governing the issuance and
14 renewal of driver's licenses. Provides for a person to be
15 issued an identification card at no cost upon surrender,
16 suspension, or revocation of his or her driver's license.
17 Provides for a driver's license issued to a person older
18 than 74 years to expire in 4 years. Establishes the
19 Florida Safety Resource Center Program for the purpose of
20 assessing drivers who are referred by a medical
21 professional, a law enforcement agency, a court, or the
22 department. (See bill for details.)
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