

By the Committee on Transportation; and Senator Crist

596-2423-06

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to driver licenses; amending s.

3 322.18, F.S.; limiting the duration of licenses

4 issued to certain applicants; providing

5 expiration, examination, and renewal

6 requirements for driver's licenses issued to

7 persons over a specified age; providing renewal

8 fee waivers for certain licenses; eliminating

9 an age requirement relating to vision tests;

10 requiring a vision test for all renewals of a

11 license; providing for submission of test

12 results by a physician, ophthalmologist, or

13 optometrist; requiring such submission prior to

14 a licensee using certain renewal procedures;

15 providing an effective date.

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

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19 Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2)

20 and paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (5) of section

21 322.18, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (f) is

22 added to subsection (2) of that section, to read:

23 322.18 Original applications, licenses, and renewals;

24 expiration of licenses; delinquent licenses.--

25 (2) Each applicant who is entitled to the issuance of

26 a driver's license, as provided in this section, shall be

27 issued a driver's license, as follows:

28 (a) An applicant applying for an original issuance

29 shall be issued a driver's license which expires at midnight

30 on the licensee's birthday which next occurs on or after the

31 sixth anniversary of the date of issue. However, a driver's

1 license may not be issued for a period that exceeds an
2 applicant's 80th birthday, except as provided in paragraph
3 (f).

4 (b) An applicant applying for a renewal issuance or
5 renewal extension shall be issued a driver's license or
6 renewal extension sticker which expires at midnight on the
7 licensee's birthday which next occurs 4 years after the month
8 of expiration of the license being renewed, except that a
9 driver whose driving record reflects no convictions for the
10 preceding 3 years shall be issued a driver's license or
11 renewal extension sticker which expires at midnight on the
12 licensee's birthday which next occurs 6 years after the month
13 of expiration of the license being renewed. However, a
14 driver's license may not be issued for a period that exceeds
15 an applicant's 80th birthday, except as provided in paragraph
16 (f).

17 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
18 chapter, the driver's license of any person expires at
19 midnight on the licensee's 80th birthday. A license issued to
20 a person after that person's 80th birthday shall expire at
21 midnight on the licensee's birthday that next occurs 4 years
22 after the month of expiration of the license being renewed. A
23 driver's license that expires pursuant to this paragraph may
24 be renewed up to 12 months before the 80th birthday if the
25 applicant applying for renewal passes an eye and hearing
26 examination as provided in s. 322.121. Renewal fees for all
27 driver's licenses that expire pursuant to this paragraph are
28 waived if the applicant has a valid driver's license held for
29 fewer than 4 years.

1 (5) All renewal driver's licenses may be issued after
2 the applicant licensee has been determined to be eligible by
3 the department.

4 (a) A licensee who is otherwise eligible for renewal
5 ~~and who is over 79 years of age:~~

6 1. Must submit to and pass a vision test administered
7 at any driver's license office; or

8 2. Must, if the licensee applies for an extension by
9 mail as provided in subsection (8), ~~must~~ submit to a vision
10 test administered by a physician or ophthalmologist licensed
11 under chapter 458 or chapter 459, or an optometrist licensed
12 under chapter 463, no more than 12 months prior to the date of
13 the application for extension, must send the results of that
14 test to the department on a form obtained from the department
15 and signed by such health care practitioner, and must meet
16 vision standards that are equivalent to the standards for
17 passing the departmental vision test. The physician,
18 ophthalmologist, or optometrist may submit the results of a
19 vision test by a department-approved electronic means.

20 (b) A licensee ~~who is over 79 years of age~~ may not
21 submit an application for extension under subsection (8) by
22 electronic or telephonic means, unless the results of a vision
23 test have been electronically submitted in advance by the
24 physician, ophthalmologist, or optometrist.

25 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.
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1 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
2 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
3 Senate Bill 2672
4 This CS provides the following changes:
5 -- Eliminates the age-based schedule for licensees;
6 -- Provides a driver's license expires on a licensee's 80th
7 birthday;
8 -- Provides for a 4-year license renewal period (with
9 examination) for persons over 80 years of age;
10 -- Waives renewal fees for drivers having a license held for
11 less than 4 years prior to their 80th birthday; and
12 -- Allows the results of a vision exam done up to 12 months
13 prior to the date of the renewal application to be
14 submitted.
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