

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to driver education; creating s. 322.093,
 3 F.S.; requiring minors to complete a driver education
 4 course prior to issuance of a driver's license; providing
 5 that the course may be given by a public secondary school,
 6 nonpublic school, or commercial driving school meeting
 7 specified requirements; requiring the school to issue a
 8 certificate to a student who successfully completes the
 9 course; amending s. 1003.48, F.S.; providing instruction
 10 and training requirements for driver education courses;
 11 providing for the use of certain funds; providing an
 12 effective date.

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

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 16 Section 1. Section 322.093, Florida Statutes, is created
 17 to read:

18 322.093 Driver education for minors.--The department may
 19 not issue a driver's license to a person who has not attained 18
 20 years of age unless the person has successfully completed a
 21 driver education course of instruction in the operation of motor
 22 vehicles given by a public secondary school in compliance with
 23 s. 1003.48, a nonpublic school meeting the standards prescribed
 24 under s. 1003.48, or a commercial driving school licensed under
 25 chapter 488. The school shall issue a certificate to each
 26 student who successfully completes the driver education course.

27 Section 2. Section 1003.48, Florida Statutes, is amended
 28 to read:

HB 757

2007

29 | 1003.48 Instruction in operation of motor vehicles.--

30 | (1) A course of study and instruction in the safe and
31 | lawful operation of a motor vehicle shall be made available by
32 | each district school board to students in the secondary schools
33 | in the state. As used in this section, the term "motor vehicle"
34 | shall have the same meaning as in s. 320.01(1)(a) and shall
35 | include motorcycles and mopeds. The course must include
36 | classroom instruction and behind-the-wheel training, except that
37 | instruction in motorcycle or moped operation may be limited to
38 | classroom instruction. The course shall not be made a part of,
39 | or a substitute for, any of the minimum requirements for
40 | graduation.

41 | (2) In order to make such a course available to any
42 | secondary school student, the district school board may use any
43 | one of the following procedures or any combination thereof:

44 | (a) Utilize instructional personnel employed by the
45 | district school board.

46 | (b) Contract with a commercial driving school licensed
47 | under the provisions of chapter 488.

48 | (c) Contract with an instructor certified under the
49 | provisions of chapter 488.

50 | (3)(a) District school boards shall earn funds on full-
51 | time equivalent students at the appropriate basic program cost
52 | factor, regardless of the method by which such courses are
53 | offered.

54 | (b) For the purpose of financing the Driver Education
55 | Program in the secondary schools, there shall be levied an
56 | additional 50 cents per year to the driver's license fee

HB 757

2007

57 | required by s. 322.21. The additional fee shall be promptly
58 | remitted to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles,
59 | which shall transmit the fee to the Chief Financial Officer to
60 | be deposited in the General Revenue Fund.

61 | (c) A board of county commissioners may use funds received
62 | pursuant to s. 318.1215 to supplement funds for driver education
63 | courses in public and nonpublic schools as provided in s.
64 | 318.1215.

65 | (4) The district school board shall prescribe standards
66 | for the course required by this section and for instructional
67 | personnel directly employed by the district school board. Any
68 | certified instructor or licensed commercial driving school shall
69 | be deemed sufficiently qualified and shall not be required to
70 | meet any standards in lieu of or in addition to those prescribed
71 | under chapter 488.

72 | Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.