

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to driver education; creating s. 322.093,
 3 F.S.; providing that the Department of Highway Safety and
 4 Motor Vehicles may not issue a driver's license to a minor
 5 unless the minor has successfully completed a specified
 6 driver education course; providing for issuance of a
 7 certificate for successful course completion; amending s.
 8 1003.48, F.S.; providing requirements for a school
 9 district course of instruction in the operation of motor
 10 vehicles; authorizing a board of county commissioners to
 11 supplement funds for driver education programs; requiring
 12 the State Board of Education to prescribe standards and
 13 curriculum requirements; requiring certified instructors
 14 or commercial driving schools offering the course to meet
 15 the standards and requirements; providing for a restricted
 16 driver's permit under certain circumstances; providing an
 17 effective date.

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

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 21 Section 1. Section 322.093, Florida Statutes, is created
 22 to read:
 23 322.093 Driver education for minors.--The department may
 24 not issue a driver's license to a person who has not attained 18
 25 years of age unless the person has successfully completed a
 26 driver education course of instruction in the operation of motor
 27 vehicles given by a public secondary school in compliance with
 28 s. 1003.48, a nonpublic school meeting the standards prescribed

29 under s. 1003.48, or a commercial driving school licensed under
 30 chapter 488. The school shall issue a certificate to each
 31 student who successfully completes the driver education course.

32 Section 2. Section 1003.48, Florida Statutes, is amended
 33 to read:

34 1003.48 Instruction in operation of motor vehicles.--

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

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

49 (a) Utilize instructional personnel employed by the
 50 district school board.

51 (b) Contract with a commercial driving school licensed
 52 under the provisions of chapter 488.

53 (c) Contract with an instructor certified under the
 54 provisions of chapter 488.

55 (3)(a) District school boards shall earn funds on full-
 56 time equivalent students at the appropriate basic program cost

57 factor, regardless of the method by which such courses are
 58 offered.

59 (b) For the purpose of financing the driver education
 60 program in the secondary schools, there shall be levied an
 61 additional 50 cents per year to the driver's license fee
 62 required by s. 322.21. The additional fee shall be promptly
 63 remitted to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles,
 64 which shall transmit the fee to the Chief Financial Officer to
 65 be deposited in the General Revenue Fund.

66 (c) A board of county commissioners may use funds received
 67 pursuant to s. 318.1215 to supplement funds for driver education
 68 programs in public and nonpublic schools as provided in s.
 69 318.1215.

70 (4) The State Board of Education ~~district school board~~
 71 shall prescribe standards and curriculum requirements for the
 72 course required by this section and for instructional personnel
 73 directly employed by the district school board. Notwithstanding
 74 any other provision of law, any certified instructor or licensed
 75 commercial driving school offering the course pursuant to
 76 subsection (2) shall ~~be deemed sufficiently qualified and shall~~
 77 ~~not~~ be required to meet the State Board of Education standards
 78 and curriculum requirements prescribed for the course ~~any~~
 79 ~~standards in lieu of or~~ in addition to those prescribed under
 80 chapter 488.

81 (5) Any student under 18 years of age who has not
 82 satisfactorily completed the course required under this section
 83 shall have a restriction placed on his or her driver's permit.
 84 The student shall be restricted when operating a motor vehicle

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85 | to having one passenger in the motor vehicle unless the student
86 | is accompanied by a driver who holds a valid license to operate
87 | a motor vehicle and who is at least 21 years of age.

88 | Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.