

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to persons with disabilities; requiring
 3 law enforcement agencies to report certain criminal
 4 activity and enforcement of certain regulations to the
 5 Department of Law Enforcement and the Department of
 6 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; amending s. 322.12,
 7 F.S.; providing requirements for examination questions
 8 pertaining to traffic regulations relating to blind
 9 pedestrians; amending s. 322.095, F.S.; requiring certain
 10 traffic law education programs to include the study of
 11 traffic laws to assist blind persons; amending s. 943.17,
 12 F.S.; requiring the basic skills course required in order
 13 for law enforcement officers to obtain certification to
 14 include the study of traffic laws to assist blind persons;
 15 amending s. 1003.48, F.S.; requiring driver education
 16 programs to include study of traffic laws to assist blind
 17 persons; providing an 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. Law enforcement reports.—Each month, each law
 22 enforcement agency in the state shall report crimes affecting
 23 persons with disabilities to the Department of Law Enforcement
 24 and report its enforcement of traffic regulations to assist
 25 blind persons to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
 26 Vehicles. The report to the Department of Highway Safety and
 27 Motor Vehicles shall include incidents of crashes involving
 28 blind persons. The Department of Law Enforcement and the

HB 1217

2011

29 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall each
30 provide procedures for the collection and maintenance of the
31 reports in the same manner as other criminal activity and
32 enforcement reports are collected and maintained by that
33 department.

34 Section 2. Subsection (6) is added to section 322.12,
35 Florida Statutes, to read:

36 322.12 Examination of applicants.—

37 (6) Each examination given for a Class E driver's license
38 or a commercial driver's license under this section must include
39 one question testing the applicant's knowledge of traffic
40 regulations to assist blind persons. To pass the examination,
41 the applicant must answer that question on the examination
42 correctly. In developing questions under this subsection, the
43 department shall emphasize pedestrian right of way when a driver
44 is making a right turn at an intersection.

45 Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 322.095, Florida
46 Statutes, is amended to read:

47 322.095 Traffic law and substance abuse education program
48 for driver's license applicants.—

49 (1) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
50 must approve traffic law and substance abuse education courses
51 that must be completed by applicants for a Florida driver's
52 license. The curricula for the courses must provide instruction
53 on the physiological and psychological consequences of the abuse
54 of alcohol and other drugs, the societal and economic costs of
55 alcohol and drug abuse, the effects of alcohol and drug abuse on
56 the driver of a motor vehicle, and the laws of this state

HB 1217

2011

57 relating to the operation of a motor vehicle. The curricula must
58 also include the study of traffic laws to assist blind persons.
59 All instructors teaching the courses shall be certified by the
60 department.

61 Section 4. Subsection (5) of section 943.17, Florida
62 Statutes, is amended to read:

63 943.17 Basic recruit, advanced, and career development
64 training programs; participation; cost; evaluation.—The
65 commission shall, by rule, design, implement, maintain,
66 evaluate, and revise entry requirements and job-related
67 curricula and performance standards for basic recruit, advanced,
68 and career development training programs and courses. The rules
69 shall include, but are not limited to, a methodology to assess
70 relevance of the subject matter to the job, student performance,
71 and instructor competency.

72 (5) The commission, in consultation with the Florida
73 Violent Crime and Drug Control Council, shall establish
74 standards for basic and advanced training programs for law
75 enforcement officers in the subjects of investigating and
76 preventing violent crime. The curricula of every basic skills
77 course required in order for law enforcement officers to obtain
78 initial certification must include the study of traffic laws to
79 assist blind persons. After January 1, 1995, every basic skills
80 course required in order for law enforcement officers to obtain
81 initial certification must include training on violent crime
82 prevention and investigations.

83 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 1003.48, Florida
84 Statutes, is amended to read:

HB 1217

2011

85 | 1003.48 Instruction in operation of motor vehicles.-
86 | (1) A course of study and instruction in the safe and
87 | lawful operation of a motor vehicle shall be made available by
88 | each district school board to students in the secondary schools
89 | in the state. As used in this section, the term "motor vehicle"
90 | shall have the same meaning as in s. 320.01(1)(a) and shall
91 | include motorcycles and mopeds. Instruction in motorcycle or
92 | moped operation may be limited to classroom instruction. The
93 | curricula of every course must include the study of traffic laws
94 | to assist blind persons. The course shall not be made a part of,
95 | or a substitute for, any of the minimum requirements for
96 | graduation.

97 | Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.