

By the Committee on Budget; and Senator Hill

576-04690-11

20111974c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to driver's license examinations;
3 amending s. 322.12, F.S.; providing requirements for
4 examination questions pertaining to traffic
5 regulations relating to blind pedestrians; amending s.
6 318.1451, F.S.; requiring the curricula of driver
7 improvement schools to include instruction on the
8 dangers of driving while distracted; amending s.
9 322.095, F.S.; requiring the curricula of traffic law
10 and substance abuse education courses to include
11 instruction on the dangers of driving while
12 distracted; providing an effective date.

13
14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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16 Section 1. Subsection (6) is added to section 322.12,
17 Florida Statutes, to read:

18 322.12 Examination of applicants.—

19 (6) Each examination given for a Class E driver's license
20 or a commercial driver's license under this section must include
21 one question testing the applicant's knowledge of traffic
22 regulations to assist blind persons. To pass the examination,
23 the applicant must answer that question on the examination
24 correctly. In developing questions under this subsection, the
25 department shall emphasize pedestrian right of way when a driver
26 is making a right turn at an intersection.

27 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
28 318.1451, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

29 318.1451 Driver improvement schools.—

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30 (2) (a) In determining whether to approve the courses
31 referenced in this section, the department shall consider course
32 content designed to promote safety, driver awareness, crash
33 avoidance techniques, the dangers of driving while distracted,
34 which must specifically include the use of technology while
35 driving, and other factors or criteria to improve driver
36 performance from a safety viewpoint.

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

39 322.095 Traffic law and substance abuse education program
40 for driver's license applicants.—

41 (1) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
42 must approve traffic law and substance abuse education courses
43 that must be completed by applicants for a Florida driver's
44 license. The curricula for the courses must provide instruction
45 on the physiological and psychological consequences of the abuse
46 of alcohol and other drugs, the societal and economic costs of
47 alcohol and drug abuse, the effects of alcohol and drug abuse on
48 the driver of a motor vehicle, the dangers of driving while
49 distracted, which must specifically include the use of
50 technology while driving, and the laws of this state relating to
51 the operation of a motor vehicle. All instructors teaching the
52 courses shall be certified by the department.

53 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.