

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to driver's licenses; providing a
 3 short title; amending s. 322.05, F.S.; revising age
 4 requirements for issuance of driver's licenses;
 5 amending ss. 322.126 and 322.161, F.S., relating to
 6 reporting of licensed driver's or applicant's mental
 7 or physical disability to drive or need to obtain or
 8 wear a medical identification bracelet and restriction
 9 of the driving privilege of a person who has
 10 accumulated six or more points within a 12-month
 11 period; conforming provisions to changes made by the
 12 act; amending s. 322.1615, F.S.; revising age
 13 requirements for issuance of learner's driver's
 14 licenses; providing an effective date.

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

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 18 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Mature Drivers
 19 Act."

20 Section 2. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section
 21 322.05, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

22 322.05 Persons not to be licensed.—The department may not
 23 issue a license:

24 (1) To a person who has not attained 17 years of age ~~is~~
 25 ~~under the age of 16 years~~, except that the department may issue
 26 a learner's driver's license to a person who is at least 16 ~~15~~
 27 years of age and who meets the requirements of ss. 322.091 and
 28 322.1615 and of any other applicable law or rule.

29 (2) To a person who is at least 17 ~~16~~ years of age but who
 30 has not attained ~~is under~~ 18 years of age unless the person
 31 meets the requirements of s. 322.091 and holds a valid:

32 (a) Learner's driver's license for at least 12 months,
 33 with no moving traffic convictions, before applying for a
 34 license;

35 (b) Learner's driver's license for at least 12 months and
 36 who has a moving traffic conviction but elects to attend a
 37 traffic driving school for which adjudication must be withheld
 38 pursuant to s. 318.14; or

39 (c) License that was issued in another state or in a
 40 foreign jurisdiction and that would not be subject to suspension
 41 or revocation under the laws of this state.

42 (3) To a person who is at least 17 ~~16~~ years of age but who
 43 has not attained ~~is under~~ 18 years of age, unless the parent,
 44 guardian, or other responsible adult meeting the requirements of
 45 s. 322.09 certifies that he or she, or another licensed driver
 46 21 years of age or older, has accompanied the applicant for a
 47 total of not less than 50 hours of ~~hours~~ behind-the-wheel
 48 experience, of which not less than 10 hours must be at night.
 49 This subsection is not intended to create a private cause of
 50 action as a result of the certification. The certification is
 51 inadmissible for any purpose in any civil proceeding.

52 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 322.126, Florida
 53 Statutes, is amended to read:

54 322.126 Report of disability to department; content; use.—

55 (2) Any physician, person, or agency having knowledge of
 56 any licensed driver's or applicant's mental or physical

HB 1133

2012

57 | disability to drive or need to obtain or to wear a medical
58 | identification bracelet is authorized to report such knowledge
59 | to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. The
60 | report should be made in writing giving the full name, date of
61 | birth, address, and a description of the alleged disability of
62 | any person who is 16 ~~ever 15~~ years of age or older having mental
63 | or physical disorders that could affect his or her driving
64 | ability.

65 | Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 322.161, Florida
66 | Statutes, is amended to read:

67 | 322.161 High-risk drivers; restricted licenses.—

68 | (1) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the
69 | contrary, the department shall restrict the driving privilege of
70 | any Class E licensee who has not attained 18 years of age ~~is age~~
71 | ~~15 through 17~~ and who has accumulated six or more points
72 | pursuant to s. 318.14, excluding parking violations, within a
73 | 12-month period.

74 | (b) Upon determination that any person has accumulated six
75 | or more points, the department shall notify the licensee and
76 | issue the licensee a restricted license for business purposes
77 | only. The licensee must appear before the department within 10
78 | days after notification to have this restriction applied. The
79 | period of restriction shall be for a period of no less than 1
80 | year beginning on the date it is applied by the department.

81 | (c) The restriction shall be automatically withdrawn by
82 | the department after 1 year if the licensee does not accumulate
83 | any additional points. If the licensee accumulates any
84 | additional points, then the period of restriction shall be

HB 1133

2012

85 extended 90 days for each point. The restriction shall also be
86 automatically withdrawn upon the licensee's 18th birthday if no
87 other grounds for restriction exist. The licensee must appear
88 before the department to have the restriction removed and a
89 duplicate license issued.

90 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 322.1615, Florida
91 Statutes, is amended to read:

92 322.1615 Learner's driver's license.—

93 (1) The department may issue a learner's driver's license
94 to a person who is at least 16 ~~15~~ years of age and who:

95 (a) Has passed the written examination for a learner's
96 driver's license;

97 (b) Has passed the vision and hearing examination
98 administered under s. 322.12;

99 (c) Has completed the traffic law and substance abuse
100 education course prescribed in s. 322.095; and

101 (d) Meets all other requirements set forth in law and by
102 rule of the department.

103 Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.