

HB 405

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2012

1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to persons with disabilities;  
3 requiring law enforcement agencies to report certain  
4 criminal activity and enforcement of certain laws to  
5 the Department of Law Enforcement and the Department  
6 of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; amending s.  
7 322.12, F.S.; providing requirements for examination  
8 questions pertaining to traffic laws relating to  
9 legally blind and mobility impaired persons; amending  
10 s. 322.095, F.S.; requiring certain traffic law  
11 education programs to include the study of traffic  
12 laws to assist legally blind and mobility impaired  
13 persons; amending s. 943.17, F.S.; requiring the basic  
14 skills course required in order for law enforcement  
15 officers to obtain certification to include the study  
16 of traffic laws to assist legally blind and mobility  
17 impaired persons; amending s. 1003.48, F.S.; requiring  
18 driver education programs to include study of traffic  
19 laws to assist legally blind and mobility impaired  
20 persons; providing an effective date.

21  
22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
23

24 Section 1. Law enforcement reports.—Each month, each law  
25 enforcement agency in the state shall report crimes affecting  
26 persons with disabilities, legally blind persons, and persons  
27 who are mobility impaired to the Department of Law Enforcement  
28 and report its enforcement of s. 316.1301, Florida Statutes, and

29 traffic laws to assist legally blind and mobility impaired  
 30 persons to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.  
 31 The report to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
 32 Vehicles shall include incidents of crashes involving legally  
 33 blind persons and crashes involving mobility impaired persons.  
 34 The Department of Law Enforcement and the Department of Highway  
 35 Safety and Motor Vehicles shall each provide procedures for the  
 36 collection and maintenance of the reports in the same manner as  
 37 other criminal activity and enforcement reports are collected  
 38 and maintained by that department.

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

41 322.12 Examination of applicants.—

42 (6) Each examination given for a Class E driver license or  
 43 a commercial driver license under this section must include one  
 44 question testing the applicant's knowledge of s. 316.1301 and  
 45 traffic laws to assist legally blind and mobility impaired  
 46 persons. In developing questions under this subsection, the  
 47 department shall emphasize pedestrian right of way when a driver  
 48 is making a right turn at an intersection.

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

51 322.095 Traffic law and substance abuse education program  
 52 for driver ~~driver's~~ license applicants.—

53 (1) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles  
 54 must approve traffic law and substance abuse education courses  
 55 that must be completed by applicants for a Florida driver  
 56 ~~driver's~~ license. The curricula for the courses must provide

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57 instruction on the physiological and psychological consequences  
58 of the abuse of alcohol and other drugs, the societal and  
59 economic costs of alcohol and drug abuse, the effects of alcohol  
60 and drug abuse on the driver of a motor vehicle, and the laws of  
61 this state relating to the operation of a motor vehicle. The  
62 curricula must also include the study of s. 316.1301 and traffic  
63 laws to assist legally blind and mobility impaired persons. All  
64 instructors teaching the courses shall be certified by the  
65 department.

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

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

77 (5) The commission, in consultation with the Florida  
78 Violent Crime and Drug Control Council, shall establish  
79 standards for basic and advanced training programs for law  
80 enforcement officers in the subjects of investigating and  
81 preventing violent crime. The curricula of every basic skills  
82 course required in order for law enforcement officers to obtain  
83 initial certification must include the study of s. 316.1301 and  
84 traffic laws to assist legally blind and mobility impaired

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85 persons. After January 1, 1995, every basic skills course  
86 required in order for law enforcement officers to obtain initial  
87 certification must include training on violent crime prevention  
88 and investigations.

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

91 1003.48 Instruction in operation of motor vehicles.—

92 (1) A course of study and instruction in the safe and  
93 lawful operation of a motor vehicle shall be made available by  
94 each district school board to students in the secondary schools  
95 in the state. As used in this section, the term "motor vehicle"  
96 shall have the same meaning as in s. 320.01(1)(a) and shall  
97 include motorcycles and mopeds. Instruction in motorcycle or  
98 moped operation may be limited to classroom instruction. The  
99 curricula of every course must include the study of s. 316.1301  
100 and traffic laws to assist legally blind and mobility impaired  
101 persons. The course shall not be made a part of, or a substitute  
102 for, any of the minimum requirements for graduation.

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