

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 ss.  
7           318.1451 and 322.0261, F.S.; requiring the Department  
8           of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to consider  
9           course content relating to traffic laws to assist  
10          legally blind and mobility-impaired persons; amending  
11          s. 322.095, F.S.; requiring certain traffic law  
12          education programs to include the study of traffic  
13          laws to assist legally blind and mobility-impaired  
14          persons; amending s. 322.12, F.S.; providing  
15          requirements for examination questions pertaining to  
16          traffic laws relating to legally blind and mobility-  
17          impaired persons; amending s. 943.17, F.S.; requiring  
18          the basic skills course required in order for law  
19          enforcement officers to obtain certification to  
20          include the study of traffic laws to assist legally  
21          blind and mobility-impaired persons; amending s.  
22          1003.48, F.S.; requiring driver education programs to  
23          include study of traffic laws to assist legally blind  
24          and mobility-impaired persons; providing an effective  
25          date.  
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27 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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29       Section 1. Law enforcement reports.—Each month, each law  
30 enforcement agency in the state shall report crimes affecting  
31 persons with disabilities, persons who are legally blind, and  
32 persons who are mobility impaired to the Department of Law  
33 Enforcement and report its enforcement of s. 316.1301, Florida  
34 Statutes, and traffic laws to assist legally blind and mobility-  
35 impaired persons to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
36 Vehicles. The report to the Department of Highway Safety and  
37 Motor Vehicles shall include incidents of crashes involving  
38 legally blind persons and crashes involving mobility-impaired  
39 persons. The Department of Law Enforcement and the Department of  
40 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall each provide procedures  
41 for the collection and maintenance of the reports in the same  
42 manner as other criminal activity and enforcement reports are  
43 collected and maintained by that department.

44       Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
45 318.1451, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

46       318.1451 Driver improvement schools.—

47       (2) (a) In determining whether to approve the courses  
48 referenced in this section, the department shall consider course  
49 content designed to promote safety, driver awareness, crash  
50 avoidance techniques, and other factors or criteria to improve  
51 driver performance from a safety viewpoint, including promoting  
52 motorcyclist, bicyclist, and pedestrian safety and risk factors

53 resulting from driver attitude and irresponsible driver  
54 behaviors, such as speeding, running red lights and stop signs,  
55 and using electronic devices while driving. The department shall  
56 also consider course content that includes the study of s.  
57 316.1301 and traffic laws to assist legally blind and mobility-  
58 impaired persons. Initial approval of the courses shall also be  
59 based on the department's review of all course materials, course  
60 presentation to the department by the provider, and the  
61 provider's plan for effective oversight of the course by those  
62 who deliver the course in the state. New courses shall be  
63 provisionally approved and limited to the judicial circuit  
64 originally approved for pilot testing until the course is fully  
65 approved by the department for statewide delivery.

66 Section 3. Subsection (5) of section 322.0261, Florida  
67 Statutes, is amended to read:

68 322.0261 Driver improvement course; requirement to  
69 maintain driving privileges; failure to complete; department  
70 approval of course.—

71 (5) In determining whether to approve a driver improvement  
72 course for the purposes of this section, the department shall  
73 consider course content designed to promote safety, driver  
74 awareness, crash avoidance techniques, and other factors or  
75 criteria to improve driver performance from a safety viewpoint.  
76 The department shall also consider course content that includes  
77 the study of s. 316.1301 and traffic laws to assist legally  
78 blind and mobility-impaired persons.

79 Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section  
80 322.095, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

81 322.095 Traffic law and substance abuse education program  
82 for driver license applicants.—

83 (2) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles  
84 must approve traffic law and substance abuse education courses,  
85 including courses that use communications technology as the  
86 delivery method.

87 (b) Each course provider seeking approval of a traffic law  
88 and substance abuse education course must submit:

89 1. Proof of ownership, copyright, or written permission  
90 from the course owner to use the course in the state.

91 2. The curriculum for the courses which must promote  
92 motorcyclist, bicyclist, and pedestrian safety and provide  
93 instruction on the physiological and psychological consequences  
94 of the abuse of alcohol and other drugs; the societal and  
95 economic costs of alcohol and drug abuse; the effects of alcohol  
96 and drug abuse on the driver of a motor vehicle; the laws of  
97 this state relating to the operation of a motor vehicle; the  
98 risk factors involved in driver attitude and irresponsible  
99 driver behaviors, such as speeding, reckless driving, and  
100 running red lights and stop signs; and the results of the use of  
101 electronic devices while driving. The curricula must also  
102 include the study of s. 316.1301 and traffic laws to assist  
103 legally blind and mobility-impaired persons.

104 Section 5. Subsection (6) is added to section 322.12,

105 Florida Statutes, to read:

106 322.12 Examination of applicants.—

107 (6) Each examination given for a Class E driver license or  
 108 a commercial driver license under this section must include one  
 109 question testing the applicant's knowledge of s. 316.1301 and  
 110 traffic laws to assist legally blind and mobility-impaired  
 111 persons. In developing questions under this subsection, the  
 112 department shall emphasize pedestrian right of way when a driver  
 113 is making a right turn at an intersection.

114 Section 6. Subsection (5) of section 943.17, Florida  
 115 Statutes, is amended to read:

116 943.17 Basic recruit, advanced, and career development  
 117 training programs; participation; cost; evaluation.—The  
 118 commission shall, by rule, design, implement, maintain,  
 119 evaluate, and revise entry requirements and job-related  
 120 curricula and performance standards for basic recruit, advanced,  
 121 and career development training programs and courses. The rules  
 122 shall include, but are not limited to, a methodology to assess  
 123 relevance of the subject matter to the job, student performance,  
 124 and instructor competency.

125 (5) The commission, in consultation with the Florida  
 126 Violent Crime and Drug Control Council, shall establish  
 127 standards for basic and advanced training programs for law  
 128 enforcement officers in the subjects of investigating and  
 129 preventing violent crime. The curricula of every basic skills  
 130 course required in order for law enforcement officers to obtain

131 initial certification must include the study of s. 316.1301 and  
132 traffic laws to assist legally blind and mobility-impaired  
133 persons. After January 1, 1995, every basic skills course  
134 required in order for law enforcement officers to obtain initial  
135 certification must include training on violent crime prevention  
136 and investigations.

137 Section 7. Subsection (1) of section 1003.48, Florida  
138 Statutes, is amended to read:

139 1003.48 Instruction in operation of motor vehicles.—

140 (1) A course of study and instruction in the safe and  
141 lawful operation of a motor vehicle shall be made available by  
142 each district school board to students in the secondary schools  
143 in the state. The secondary school shall provide preferential  
144 enrollment to a student who is in the custody of the Department  
145 of Children and Families if the student maintains appropriate  
146 progress as required by the school. As used in this section, the  
147 term "motor vehicle" has the same meaning as in s. 320.01(1)(a)  
148 and includes motorcycles and mopeds. Instruction in motorcycle  
149 or moped operation may be limited to classroom instruction. The  
150 curricula of every course must include the study of s. 316.1301  
151 and traffic laws to assist legally blind and mobility-impaired  
152 persons. The course may not be made a part of, or a substitute  
153 for, any of the minimum requirements for graduation.

154 Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.