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**SENATE BILL 5707**

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**State of Washington**

**55th Legislature**

**1997 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Patterson, McCaslin, Goings, Kline, Anderson, Hale and Haugen

Read first time 02/07/97. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring compliance with school attendance laws  
2 for minors to earn the privilege to drive; amending RCW 46.20.100;  
3 adding new sections to chapter 28A.225 RCW; adding a new section to  
4 chapter 46.82 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 46.20 RCW; and  
5 creating a new section.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.225  
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 (1) When a school district files a petition under RCW 28A.225.030,  
10 the school district shall notify the department of licensing. The  
11 school district may notify the department of licensing immediately or  
12 at the end of the academic semester or quarter.

13 (2) A school district shall notify the department of licensing at  
14 the end of each academic semester or quarter about any minor who has  
15 dropped out of school.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.225  
17 RCW to read as follows:

1 A minor shall not be permitted to enroll in a traffic safety  
2 education course unless the minor can demonstrate compliance with the  
3 school attendance laws under RCW 28A.225.010.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 46.82 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 A driver training school may not provide instruction in the  
7 operation of an automobile to a minor unless the minor demonstrates  
8 compliance with the school attendance laws under RCW 28A.225.010.

9 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.20.100 and 1990 c 250 s 36 are each amended to read  
10 as follows:

11 The department of licensing shall not consider an application of  
12 any minor under the age of eighteen years for a driver's license or the  
13 issuance of a motorcycle endorsement for a particular category unless:

14 (1) The application is also signed by a parent or guardian having  
15 the custody of such minor, or in the event a minor under the age of  
16 eighteen has no father, mother, or guardian, then a driver's license  
17 shall not be issued to the minor unless his or her application is also  
18 signed by the minor's employer; ((and))

19 (2) The application contains a proof of compliance with the  
20 compulsory attendance laws under RCW 28A.225.010; and

21 (3) The applicant has satisfactorily completed a traffic safety  
22 education course as defined in RCW 28A.220.020, conducted by a  
23 recognized secondary school, that meets the standards established by  
24 the office of the state superintendent of public instruction or the  
25 applicant has satisfactorily completed a traffic safety education  
26 course, conducted by a commercial driving instruction enterprise, that  
27 meets the standards established by the office of the superintendent of  
28 public instruction and is officially approved by that office on an  
29 annual basis: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the director may upon a showing  
30 that an applicant was unable to take or complete a driver education  
31 course waive that requirement if the applicant shows to the  
32 satisfaction of the department that a need exists for the applicant to  
33 operate a motor vehicle and he or she has the ability to operate a  
34 motor vehicle in such a manner as not to jeopardize the safety of  
35 persons or property, under rules to be promulgated by the department in  
36 concert with the supervisor of the traffic safety education section,  
37 office of the superintendent of public instruction. For a person under

1 the age of eighteen years to obtain a motorcycle endorsement, he or she  
2 must successfully complete a motorcycle safety education course that  
3 meets the standards established by the department of licensing.

4 The department may waive any education requirement under this  
5 subsection for an applicant previously licensed to drive a motor  
6 vehicle or motorcycle outside this state if the applicant provides  
7 proof satisfactory to the department that he or she has had education  
8 equivalent to that required under this subsection.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 46.20 RCW  
10 to read as follows:

11 Upon receipt of a notice from a school district that a truancy  
12 petition has been filed under RCW 28A.225.030 or that the minor has  
13 dropped out of school, the department shall suspend the driving  
14 privileges of the minor until the minor can demonstrate compliance with  
15 RCW 28A.225.010. The department shall adopt rules to implement this  
16 section.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The superintendent of public instruction, in  
18 consultation with school districts and the department of licensing,  
19 shall develop necessary forms and procedures for minors to demonstrate  
20 compliance with RCW 28A.225.010 and for school districts to notify the  
21 department of licensing when truancy petitions are filed or minors drop  
22 out of school. The procedures shall be established and available for  
23 use not later than August 15, 1998.

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