

**SHB 2417** - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Transportation

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature intends to help improve  
4 the skills of drivers by augmenting current driver's license  
5 requirements in an effort to prevent future fatalities or injuries  
6 due to motor vehicle collisions.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act may be known and cited as the  
8 better driver act.

9 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.20.075 and 2011 c 60 s 44 are each amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (1) An intermediate license authorizes the holder to drive a  
12 motor vehicle under the conditions specified in this section. An  
13 applicant for an intermediate license must be at least sixteen years  
14 of age and:

15 (a) Have possessed a valid instruction permit for a period of not  
16 less than six months;

17 (b) Have passed a driver licensing examination administered by  
18 the department following verification by the examination  
19 administrator that an intermediate license logbook was completed,  
20 where verification consists of visual confirmation that each logbook  
21 entry has been initialed and that the sum of the driving durations  
22 listed in the logbook meets or exceeds the minimum supervised driving  
23 experience requirements listed in (d) of this subsection;

24 (c) Have passed a course of driver's education in accordance with  
25 the standards established in RCW 46.20.100;

26 (d) Present certification by his or her parent, guardian, or  
27 employer to the department stating (i) that the applicant has had at  
28 least fifty hours of driving experience, ten of which were at night,  
29 during which the driver was supervised by a person at least twenty-

1 one years of age who has had a valid driver's license for at least  
2 three years, and (ii) that the applicant has not been issued a notice  
3 of traffic infraction or cited for a traffic violation that is  
4 pending at the time of the application for the intermediate license;

5 (e) Not have been convicted of or found to have committed a  
6 traffic violation within the last six months before the application  
7 for the intermediate license; and

8 (f) Not have been adjudicated for an offense involving the use of  
9 alcohol or drugs during the period the applicant held an instruction  
10 permit.

11 (2) For the first (~~six months~~) year after the issuance of an  
12 intermediate license or until the holder reaches eighteen years of  
13 age, whichever occurs first, the holder of the license may not  
14 operate a motor vehicle that is carrying any passengers under the age  
15 of twenty who are not members of the holder's immediate family as  
16 defined in RCW 42.17A.005. For the remaining period of the  
17 intermediate license, the holder may not operate a motor vehicle that  
18 is carrying more than three passengers who are under the age of  
19 twenty who are not members of the holder's immediate family.

20 (3) The holder of an intermediate license may not operate a motor  
21 vehicle between the hours of (~~1 a.m.~~) midnight and 5 a.m. except  
22 when the holder is accompanied by a parent, guardian, or a licensed  
23 driver who is at least twenty-five years of age.

24 (4) The holder of an intermediate license may not operate a  
25 moving motor vehicle while using a wireless communications device  
26 unless the holder is using the device to report illegal activity,  
27 summon medical or other emergency help, or prevent injury to a person  
28 or property.

29 (5) It is a traffic infraction for the holder of an intermediate  
30 license to operate a motor vehicle in violation of the restrictions  
31 imposed under this section.

32 (6) Except for a violation of subsection (4) of this section,  
33 enforcement of this section by law enforcement officers may be  
34 accomplished only as a secondary action when a driver of a motor  
35 vehicle has been detained for a suspected violation of this title or  
36 an equivalent local ordinance or some other offense.

37 (7) An intermediate licensee may drive at any hour without  
38 restrictions on the number of passengers in the vehicle if necessary  
39 for agricultural purposes.

1 (8) An intermediate licensee may drive at any hour without  
2 restrictions on the number of passengers in the vehicle if, for the  
3 twelve-month period following the issuance of the intermediate  
4 license, he or she:

5 (a) Has not been involved in an accident involving only one motor  
6 vehicle;

7 (b) Has not been involved in an accident where he or she was  
8 cited in connection with the accident or was found to have caused the  
9 accident;

10 (c) Has not been involved in an accident where no one was cited  
11 or was found to have caused the accident; and

12 (d) Has not been convicted of or found to have committed a  
13 traffic offense described in chapter 46.61 RCW or violated  
14 restrictions placed on an intermediate licensee under this section.

15 (9) It is a traffic infraction for a passenger under the age of  
16 twenty, who is not an immediate family member of the driver, to be  
17 found in a vehicle operated by the holder of an intermediate driver's  
18 license during the time period stated in subsection (2) of this  
19 section.

20 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. This act takes effect January 1, 2017."

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21 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "requirements;" strike the  
22 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 46.20.075; creating  
23 new sections; prescribing penalties; and providing an effective  
24 date."

EFFECT: Changes the time period that a holder of an intermediate  
driver's license must not transport passengers under the age of 20  
from six months to one year, and the hours that they must not operate  
a motor vehicle after from 1 a.m. to midnight. Makes it a traffic  
infraction for passengers under the age of 20, who are not immediate  
family members, to be in a vehicle operated by an intermediate  
driver's license holder during the restriction period.

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