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HOUSE BILL 1997

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Haler and Hayes

Read first time 02/06/17. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to a driver training instructor advisory  
2 committee; amending RCW 46.20.100; and adding a new section to  
3 chapter 46.82 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 46.82  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The driver training instructor advisory committee is created  
8 to assist the director in the director's duties and responsibilities  
9 under this chapter. Each member of the advisory committee must be  
10 appointed by the director for a two-year term. The advisory committee  
11 must consist of the following ten members, two of which must reside  
12 east of the crest of the Cascade mountains:

13 (a) A volunteer representative from the board of directors of a  
14 state organization representing the private driver training school  
15 industry;

16 (b) A volunteer representative from the board of directors of a  
17 state organization representing public school traffic safety  
18 education teachers;

19 (c) Three volunteer representatives of the private driver  
20 training schools actively licensed to conduct driver licensing  
21 examinations, with an attempt to represent the variations of company

1 size, geographic influence, and socioeconomic factors within the  
2 state;

3 (d) A volunteer public school traffic safety education teacher  
4 actively licensed to conduct driver licensing examinations;

5 (e) A volunteer independent citizen advocate for traffic safety;

6 (f) A representative of the office of the superintendent of  
7 public instruction;

8 (g) A representative of the department of licensing; and

9 (h) A representative from the Washington state traffic safety  
10 commission.

11 (2) The driver training instructor advisory committee must meet  
12 at least three times annually and have additional meetings as called  
13 by the director. The director or the director's representative must  
14 attend all meetings of the advisory committee and serve as chair. All  
15 committee meetings must be held at a location in or near the building  
16 of the director's primary office.

17 (3) The driver training instructor advisory committee must:

18 (a) Advise and confer on department-proposed policy with the  
19 director or the director's representative on matters pertaining to  
20 the establishment of rules necessary to carry out this chapter;

21 (b) Review and update, when necessary, curriculum consisting of a  
22 list of items of knowledge and the processes of driving a motor  
23 vehicle, specifying the minimum requirements determined as necessary  
24 to teach a proper and adequate driver training education course;

25 (c) Review and update, when necessary, driver training instructor  
26 certification standards to be consistent with RCW 46.82.330 and  
27 consider those standards required to be met by traffic safety  
28 education teachers under RCW 28A.220.020(3);

29 (d) Review and update, when necessary, the training and  
30 examination standards for a driver training instructor's initial  
31 license and renewal; and

32 (e) Review and update, when necessary, driver licensing  
33 examination standards to be consistent with RCW 46.82.450.

34 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.20.100 and 2010 1st sp.s. c 7 s 18 are each  
35 amended to read as follows:

36 (1) **Application.** The application of a person under the age of  
37 eighteen years for a driver's license or a motorcycle endorsement  
38 must be signed by a parent or guardian with custody of the minor. If  
39 the person under the age of eighteen has no father, mother, or

1 guardian, then the application must be signed by the minor's  
2 employer.

3 (2) **Traffic safety education requirement.** For a person under the  
4 age of eighteen years to obtain a driver's license he or she must  
5 meet the traffic safety education requirements of this subsection.

6 (a) To meet the traffic safety education requirement for a  
7 driver's license the applicant must satisfactorily complete a traffic  
8 safety education course as defined in RCW 28A.220.020 for a course  
9 offered by a school district, or as defined by the department of  
10 licensing for a course offered by a driver training school licensed  
11 under chapter 46.82 RCW. The course offered by a school district or  
12 an approved private school must meet the standards established by the  
13 office of the state superintendent of public instruction. The course  
14 offered by a driver training school must meet the standards  
15 established by the department of licensing with the advice of the  
16 driver training instructor advisory committee pursuant to section 1  
17 of this act. The traffic safety education course may be provided by:

- 18 (i) A recognized secondary school; or  
19 (ii) A driver training school licensed under chapter 46.82 RCW  
20 that is annually approved by the department of licensing.

21 (b) To meet the traffic safety education requirement for a  
22 motorcycle endorsement, the applicant must successfully complete a  
23 motorcycle safety education course that meets the standards  
24 established by the department of licensing.

25 (c) The department may waive the traffic safety education  
26 requirement for a driver's license if the applicant demonstrates to  
27 the department's satisfaction that:

- 28 (i) He or she was unable to take or complete a traffic safety  
29 education course;  
30 (ii) A need exists for the applicant to operate a motor vehicle;  
31 and

32 (iii) He or she has the ability to operate a motor vehicle in  
33 such a manner as not to jeopardize the safety of persons or property.  
34 The department may adopt rules to implement this subsection (2)(c) in  
35 concert with the supervisor of the traffic safety education section  
36 of the office of the superintendent of public instruction.

37 (d) The department may waive the traffic safety education  
38 requirement if the applicant was licensed to drive a motor vehicle or

1 motorcycle outside this state and provides proof that he or she has  
2 had education equivalent to that required under this subsection.

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