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**SENATE BILL 5603**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2023 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Valdez, Holy, Dozier, Hasegawa, Lovick, Nguyen, and C. Wilson

Read first time 01/27/23. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring driver training curriculum to  
2 include instruction on sharing the road with large vehicles,  
3 including commercial motor vehicles and buses; amending RCW  
4 46.82.420; and providing an effective date.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.82.420 and 2017 c 197 s 12 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (1) The department and the office of the superintendent of public  
9 instruction shall jointly develop and maintain a required curriculum  
10 as specified in RCW 28A.220.035. The department shall furnish to each  
11 qualifying applicant for an instructor's license or a driver training  
12 school license a copy of such curriculum.

13 (2) In addition to information on the safe, lawful, and  
14 responsible operation of motor vehicles on the state's highways, the  
15 required curriculum shall include information on:

16 (a) Intermediate driver's license issuance, passenger and driving  
17 restrictions and sanctions for violating the restrictions, and the  
18 effect of traffic violations and collisions on the driving  
19 privileges;

20 (b) The effects of alcohol and drug use on motor vehicle  
21 operators, including information on drug and alcohol related traffic

1 injury and mortality rates in the state of Washington and the current  
2 penalties for driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol;

3 (c) Motorcycle awareness, approved by the director, to ensure new  
4 operators of motor vehicles have been instructed in the importance of  
5 safely sharing the road with motorcyclists;

6 (d) Bicycle safety, to ensure that operators of motor vehicles  
7 have been instructed in the importance of safely sharing the road  
8 with bicyclists; (~~and~~)

9 (e) Pedestrian safety, to ensure that operators of motor vehicles  
10 have been instructed in the importance of safely sharing the road  
11 with pedestrians; and

12 (f) Commercial vehicle, bus, and other large vehicle awareness,  
13 to ensure new operators of motor vehicles have been instructed in the  
14 importance of sharing the road with large vehicles.

15 (3) Should the director be presented with acceptable proof that  
16 any licensed instructor or driver training school is not showing  
17 proper diligence in teaching the required curriculum, the instructor  
18 or school shall be required to appear before the director and show  
19 cause why the license of the instructor or school should not be  
20 revoked for such negligence. If the director does not accept such  
21 reasons as may be offered, the director may revoke the license of the  
22 instructor or school, or both.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect April 1, 2024.

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