

LEGISLATIVE BILL 611

Approved by the Governor February 18, 1974

Introduced by Clark, 47

AN ACT to amend section 60-407, Revised Statutes Supplement, 1973, relating to motor vehicle operators' licenses; to provide for the taking of the examination prior to the sixteenth birthday; to repeal the original section; and to declare an emergency.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. That section 60-407, Revised Statutes Supplement, 1973, be amended to read as follows:

60-407. (1) No license or permit to operate a motor vehicle shall be granted to any applicant until such applicant satisfies the examiner that he possesses, with or without the aid of glasses, sufficient powers of eyesight to enable him to operate a motor vehicle on the highways of this state with a reasonable degree of safety. If, from the examination given any applicant, it appears that the applicant's powers of eyesight are such that he cannot operate a motor vehicle on the highways of this state with a reasonable degree of safety, the examiner shall require the applicant to present a doctor's or optometrist's certificate to the effect that the applicant has sufficient powers of eyesight for such purpose before issuing a license to such applicant. If it is indicated by such examination by the examiner or by the doctor's or optometrist's certificate that the applicant must wear glasses to meet the minimum visual standards set by the department, then the applicant shall have the use of any license issued to him restricted to wearing glasses while operating a motor vehicle. If the application to operate a motor vehicle required by this act discloses that the applicant for such license suffers from any other physical defect or defects of a character which may affect the safety of operation by such applicant of a motor vehicle, the examiner shall require such applicant to show cause why such license should be granted, and shall require such applicant, through such personal examination and demonstration as may be prescribed by the director, to show the necessary ability to safely operate a motor vehicle on the public highways. If the examiner is satisfied, after such demonstration, that such applicant has the ability to safely operate such motor vehicle, an operator's license may be issued to the applicant subject, at the discretion of the director, to a limitation to operate only such motor

vehicles at such time, for such purpose, and within such area as the license shall designate. The director may, at the request of a law enforcement officer, or when he has reason to believe that such person may be physically or mentally incompetent to operate a motor vehicle or whose driving record appears to the department to justify such examination, give notice to the holder of an operator's license to appear before an examiner for examination to operate a motor vehicle safely. A refusal to appear before an examiner for such examination shall be unlawful. If such license holder cannot qualify at such examination, his operator's license shall be immediately surrendered to such examiner and forwarded to the director who shall cancel his license and privilege to operate a motor vehicle; Provided, that a refusal to appear before an examiner for examination after notice to do so or to surrender an operator's license on demand, shall be unlawful and any person failing to surrender his operator's license as required by the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined in a sum not to exceed five hundred dollars, or imprisoned in the county jail not to exceed thirty days, or be both so fined and imprisoned. No operator's license referred to in this subsection shall, under any circumstances, be issued to any person who has not attained the age of sixteen years but, upon application therefor and proof of age in the manner provided in subsection (3) of this section, any such person may take the examination required by this subsection at any time within sixty days prior to his sixteenth birthday.

(2) A person who has not attained the age set forth in subsection (1) of this section but is over the age of fourteen years, except within metropolitan, primary, and first-class cities, may be issued, by the county treasurer, a limited permit to drive a motor vehicle to and from the school building where he attends school, by the nearest highway or street from his place of residence, if such child lives a distance of one and one half miles or more from such school. Such limited permit shall be used for the sole purpose of transporting such person to attend school, except that the holder of such a permit may drive under the personal supervision of his parents or guardian; Provided, such a permit shall not be issued until such person has appeared before an examiner to demonstrate that he is capable of successfully operating a motor vehicle and has in his possession an examiner's certificate authorizing the county treasurer to issue a school permit. Any such person desiring such limited permit may first obtain a learner's permit from the county treasurer, which permit shall be valid for a period of two months. While holding such a permit, the person may operate a motor vehicle on

the highways of this state if he has seated next to him and supervising his operation of the vehicle a person who is a licensed operator and who is also either a parent or guardian of the child or a person over the age of nineteen years who is authorized in writing by the child's parent or guardian to supervise the actions of the child in operating the vehicle. Prior to issuance of such learner's permit it shall be required that such person demonstrate that he has sufficient powers of eyesight to safely operate a motor vehicle.

(3) Each individual, under the age of nineteen years, who is making an application for his first operator's license or a limited or learner's permit, must furnish proof of age, either by birth certificate or written information signed by one of his parents or his guardian, to show that such applicant has attained the age, respectively, as required by subsection (1) or (2) of this section. All licenses and limited permits issued, as provided by subsection (2) of this section, shall be subject to revocation under the terms of section 60-427, and any person who shall violate the terms of such license or limited permit shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished as provided in section 39-7,127.

(4) Any person who shall have attained the age of fifteen years or more may obtain a learner's permit from the county treasurer which shall be valid for a period of twelve months and he may operate a motor vehicle on the highways of this state if he is accompanied at all times by a licensed operator who is at least nineteen years of age and who is actually occupying the seat beside the driver or, in the case of a motorcycle, immediately behind the driver. Any person who shall have attained the age of fourteen years may operate a motor vehicle over the highways of the state if he is accompanied at all times by a licensed operator who shall be a high school driver training instructor certified by the Commissioner of Education.

(5) Any person who is thirteen years of age or older and resides upon a farm in this state or who is fourteen years of age or older and who is employed for compensation upon a farm in this state may obtain a special permit authorizing the operation of farm tractors and other motorized implements of farm husbandry upon the public highways and roads of this state, if the applicant for such a restricted permit furnishes to a license examiner satisfactory proof of age and satisfactorily demonstrates to the examiner that he has knowledge of the operation of such equipment and of the rules of the road and laws respecting the operation of motor vehicles upon

the highways and public roads of this state. Any person under sixteen years of age but not less than thirteen years of age may obtain a temporary permit to operate such equipment for a six-month period after presentation to the Department of Motor Vehicles of a request for such temporary permit signed by such person's parent or guardian and payment of one dollar. After the expiration of such six-month period it shall be unlawful for any person under sixteen years of age to operate such equipment upon the public highways and roads of this state unless he has been issued a special permit under the provisions of this subsection. The fee for such special permit shall be two dollars, and such special permit shall be subject to revocation for cause.

(6) The county treasurer shall collect a fee of one dollar from each successful applicant for a school or learner's permit.

Sec. 2. That original section 60-407, Revised Statutes Supplement, 1973, is repealed.

Sec. 3. Since an emergency exists, this act shall be in full force and take effect, from and after its passage and approval, according to law.