
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2417

State of Washington **64th Legislature** **2016 Regular Session**

By House Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Pike, Moeller, and Wylie)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/16.

1 AN ACT Relating to modifying certain driver's license
2 requirements; amending RCW 46.20.075; creating new sections; and
3 providing an effective date.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 (b) Have passed a driver licensing examination administered by
2 the department following verification by the examination
3 administrator that an intermediate license logbook was completed,
4 where verification consists of visual confirmation that each logbook
5 entry has been initialed and that the sum of the driving durations
6 listed in the logbook meets or exceeds the minimum supervised driving
7 experience requirements listed in (d) of this subsection;

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

10 (d) Present certification by his or her parent, guardian, or
11 employer to the department stating (i) that the applicant has had at
12 least fifty hours of driving experience, ten of which were at night,
13 during which the driver was supervised by a person at least twenty-
14 one years of age who has had a valid driver's license for at least
15 three years, and (ii) that the applicant has not been issued a notice
16 of traffic infraction or cited for a traffic violation that is
17 pending at the time of the application for the intermediate license;

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

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

24 (2) For the first six months after the issuance of an
25 intermediate license or until the holder reaches eighteen years of
26 age, whichever occurs first, the holder of the license may not
27 operate a motor vehicle that is carrying any passengers under the age
28 of twenty who are not members of the holder's immediate family as
29 defined in RCW 42.17A.005. For the remaining period of the
30 intermediate license, the holder may not operate a motor vehicle that
31 is carrying more than three passengers who are under the age of
32 twenty who are not members of the holder's immediate family.

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

37 (4) The holder of an intermediate license may not operate a
38 moving motor vehicle while using a wireless communications device
39 unless the holder is using the device to report illegal activity,

1 summon medical or other emergency help, or prevent injury to a person
2 or property.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act takes effect January 1, 2017.

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