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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1244 Session of  
2021

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INTRODUCED BY QUINN, BURGOS, HILL-EVANS, ZIMMERMAN,  
R. MACKENZIE, KEEFER AND ROWE, APRIL 20, 2021

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, APRIL 20, 2021

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in licensing of drivers, providing for private  
3 driver education and training schools; and making a related  
4 repeal.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 1508.2. Private driver education and training schools.

10 (a) General rule.--The department shall establish:

11 (1) A program to license or permit private driver  
12 education schools and driver education instructors.

13 (2) The minimum standards for a driver education  
14 curriculum.

15 (b) Applicability.--Unless the person has been licensed or  
16 permitted by the department in accordance with subsection (a),  
17 no person shall operate as a:

18 (1) Private driver education school.

19 (2) Driver education instructor.

1 (c) Driver education curriculum and testing.--The department  
2 shall develop the driver education curriculum and standards for  
3 testing of driver education instructors, which may include, but  
4 shall not be limited to, provision for the following:

5 (1) An abbreviated license process for applicants who  
6 previously have been licensed under the act of January 18,  
7 1952 (1951 P.L.2128, No.605), referred to as the Private  
8 Driver Education or Training School Act.

9 (2) An abbreviated license process for licensure as a  
10 private driver education school or as a driver education  
11 instructor for applicants that have been authorized to  
12 administer third-party drivers' licensing exams, as permitted  
13 by section 1508.1 (relating to physical examinations).

14 (3) Multiple driver education instructor testing  
15 locations that strategically include all regions of this  
16 Commonwealth. At no point shall there be only one driver  
17 education instructor testing location within this  
18 Commonwealth.

19 (4) The development of an electronic version of the  
20 examination required for licensure as a driver education  
21 instructor.

22 (5) Prohibiting a driver education instructor from  
23 administering a third-party drivers' licensing exam, as  
24 permitted by section 1508.1, and the driver education  
25 curriculum to the same prospective licensed driver.

26 (6) Requiring an applicant for licensure as a driver  
27 education instructor to complete a private driver education  
28 school's training program before obtaining a department-  
29 issued license.

30 (7) Requiring a driver education instructor to pass a

1 physical driving examination to obtain a department-issued  
2 license when the individual has an excess number of points  
3 under section 1535 (relating to schedule of convictions and  
4 points).

5 (d) Penalty.--Any person violating subsection (b) commits a  
6 summary offense and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay  
7 a fine of \$500.

8 (e) Applicability.--This section shall not apply to:

9 (1) colleges or universities;

10 (2) schools maintained or classes conducted by employers  
11 for their own employees where no fee or tuition is charged;

12 (3) schools or classes owned and operated by or under  
13 the authority of bona fide religious institutions or by the  
14 Commonwealth or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth;

15 (4) schools accredited by accrediting associations  
16 approved by the Department of Education; or

17 (5) schools licensed by the State Board of Private  
18 Academic Schools.

19 (f) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
20 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
21 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

22 "Department-issued license." A verifiable document issued to  
23 a private driver education school or driver education instructor  
24 stating the department has certified the eligibility of the  
25 private driver education school or driver education instructor  
26 to administer the driver education curriculum to a prospective  
27 licensed driver.

28 "Driver education curriculum." A practical or theoretical  
29 experience needed to teach the knowledge how to operate a motor  
30 vehicle on a roadway requiring the motorist to navigate through

1 traffic or a trafficway.

2 "Driver education instructor." A person employed by or  
3 volunteering for a private driver education school and is tasked  
4 with teaching a prospective licensed driver how to lawfully,  
5 safely and properly operate a motor vehicle.

6 "Private driver education school." A person that administers  
7 schooling or training on how to operate a motor vehicle to a  
8 prospective licensed driver by the Commonwealth for profit.

9 "Prospective licensed driver." An individual who employs the  
10 services of a private driver education school for the purposes  
11 of learning to operate a motor vehicle.

12 Section 2. Repeals are as follows:

13 (1) The General Assembly declares that the repeal under  
14 paragraph (2) is necessary to effectuate the addition of 75  
15 Pa.C.S. § 1508.2.

16 (2) The act of January 18, 1952 (1951 P.L.2128, No.605),  
17 referred to as the Private Driver Education or Training  
18 School Act, is repealed.

19 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 180 days.