

Department of Finance and Administration

Legislative Impact Statement

Bill: HB1406

Bill Subtitle: TO CLARIFY THE LAW CONCERNING THE EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL OF A DRIVER'S LICENSE; AND TO ALLOW FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A REGULAR DRIVER'S LICENSE BEFORE THE EIGHTEENTH BIRTHDAY OF THE HOLDER OF AN INTERMEDIATE DRIVER'S LICENSE.

Basic Change :

Sponsors: Reps. Hawks and C. Fite

HB1406 will amend § 27-16-901(a)(1)(C), concerning the expiration and renewal of an intermediate driver's license. Currently when a driver is 16 years of age, they are placed in an intermediate driving status until reaching their 18th birthday. DFA has a policy to add an extra 30 days after the driver's birthday for drivers between the age of 15 years of age to 21 years of age. This was put into place so drivers between these ages would not be caught with expiring licenses on weekends, during out of state school, or family functions.

This amendment would allow drivers that are 17 years of age and are in an intermediate status to renew on or before their 18th birthday as authorized under subsection (b) of § 27-16-901, a regular driver's license for eight (8) years so long as the intermediate driver has been free of a serious accident and conviction of a serious traffic violation for at least twelve (12) months before arriving at his or her eighteenth birthday

Revenue Impact :

None.

Taxpayer Impact :

This bill will allow a driver in the intermediate status to renew on or before their 18th birthday , so long as the intermediate driver has been free of a serious accident and conviction of a serious traffic violation for at least twelve (12) months before arriving at his or her eighteenth birthday. This renewal would be for an eight year period.

Resources Required :

Programming cost estimated at \$9,000.00 to make this change.

Time Required :

Implementation date of October 1, 2019 is requested.

Procedural Changes :

This change would require training for Driver Services and state Revenue Office employees as well as updating all procedure manuals.

Other Comments :

None.

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Legal Analysis :

Current law permits the Office of Driver Services to issue for a maximum of two years an intermediate driver's license to persons under 18 years of age. An intermediate driver's license is more restricted than a regular driver's license. The intermediate driver's license expires when the person turns 18 years old. If the person has for 12 months been free of a serious accident or conviction of a serious traffic violation before turning 18 years old, the person may renew their license as a regular driver's license. However, the law does not allow the person to obtain a regular driver's license before the person reaches 18 years of age.

HB1406 would allow a person with an intermediate driver's license who has for 12 months been free of a serious accident or conviction of a serious traffic violation to obtain a regular driver's license.