

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1640 Session of  
2005

INTRODUCED BY MUSTIO, JUNE 6, 2005

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, JUNE 6, 2005

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, further providing for examination of applicant for  
3 driver's license.

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

6 Section 1. Section 1508 of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 1508. Examination of applicant for driver's license.

9 (a) General rule.--Every applicant for a driver's license  
10 shall be examined for the type or class of vehicles that the  
11 applicant desires to drive, and each driver who seeks renewal of  
12 a driver's license shall be examined every tenth year for the  
13 type of class of vehicles that the applicant desires to drive.

14 The examination shall include a physical examination, a  
15 screening test of the applicant's eyesight and a test of the  
16 applicant's ability to read and understand official traffic-  
17 control devices, knowledge of safe driving practices and the  
18 traffic laws of this Commonwealth, and shall include an actual

1 demonstration of ability to exercise ordinary and reasonable  
2 control in the operation of a motor vehicle of the type or class  
3 of vehicles for which the applicant desires a license to drive.  
4 If the department finds it necessary to further determine an  
5 applicant's fitness to operate a motor vehicle safely upon the  
6 highways the department may require one or more of the following  
7 types of examinations:

8           (1) A vision examination by an optometrist or  
9           ophthalmologist.

10           (2) A physical examination pursuant to section 1508.1  
11           (relating to physical examinations).

12           (3) A mental examination.

13           (b) Issuance of license to licensed nonresident.--A driver's  
14 license may be issued to a person who has not had a learner's  
15 permit but who at the time of application is of sufficient age  
16 and has either a valid driver's license issued by another state  
17 or a license issued by another state which has expired within  
18 six months of the date of application under a law of that state  
19 requiring the examination and licensing of drivers, providing  
20 that the applicant demonstrates visual fitness. Also, the  
21 department must be satisfied that the applicant's experience in  
22 driving vehicles which may be driven by holders of the classes  
23 of licenses sought by the applicant is sufficient to justify the  
24 issuance of the license without further behind-the-wheel  
25 training.

26           (c) Alcohol and drug use information.--The traffic laws  
27 examination shall contain at least one question relating to the  
28 driver's ability to understand the effects of alcohol and drug  
29 use on highway safety or the provisions of section 1547  
30 (relating to chemical testing to determine amount of alcohol or

1 controlled substance). The driver's manual shall include a  
2 section relating to the effects of alcohol and drug use on  
3 highway safety, along with the related penalties.

4 (d) Police pursuit awareness.--The driver's manual shall  
5 include a section summarizing the risks involved in fleeing or  
6 attempting to elude a police officer. The section shall also  
7 summarize the related penalties for a violation of section 3733  
8 (relating to fleeing or attempting to elude police officer).

9 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.