

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1608 Session of  
2001

INTRODUCED BY KENNEY, MAY 17, 2001

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, MAY 17, 2001

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, further providing for persons ineligible for  
3 licensing.

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

6 Section 1. Section 1503(b) and (c) of Title 75 of the  
7 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

8 § 1503. Persons ineligible for licensing; license issuance to  
9 minors; junior driver's license.

10 \* \* \*

11 (b) License issuance to minors.--The department shall issue  
12 a driver's license to a person 17 years of age who:

13 (1) has successfully completed a driver's training  
14 course in a public or private secondary school and approved  
15 by the department; and

16 (2) for a period of 12 months after passing the  
17 examination under section 1505(e) (relating to learners'  
18 permits) and receiving a junior driver's license:

1           (i) has not been involved in an accident reportable  
2           under section 3746(a) (relating to immediate notice of  
3           accident to police department) for which they are  
4           partially or fully responsible in the opinion of the  
5           department; or

6           (ii) has not been convicted of any violation of this  
7           title.

8       (c) Junior driver's license.--The department may issue a  
9       junior driver's license to a person 16 or 17 years of age under  
10      rules and regulations adopted by the department and subject to  
11      the provisions of this section. A junior driver's license shall  
12      automatically become a regular driver's license when the junior  
13      driver attains 18 years of age.

14       (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), no licensed  
15      junior driver shall drive a vehicle upon a public highway  
16      between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. unless accompanied by a spouse 18  
17      years of age or older, a parent or a person in loco parentis.

18       (2) A licensed junior driver conforming to the  
19      requirements of section 1507 (relating to application for  
20      driver's license or learner's permit by minor) may drive a  
21      vehicle upon a public highway between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m.  
22      between the junior driver's home and activity or employment  
23      or in the course of the junior driver's activity or  
24      employment if the junior driver is a member of a volunteer  
25      fire company authorized by the fire chief to engage in  
26      fighting fires, is engaged in public or charitable service or  
27      is employed and is carrying an affidavit or certificate of  
28      authorization signed by the junior driver's fire chief,  
29      supervisor or employer indicating the probable schedule of  
30      the junior driver's activities. Upon termination of the

1 junior driver's activity or employment, the junior driver  
2 shall surrender the affidavit or certificate to the fire  
3 chief, supervisor or employer. If the junior driver shall  
4 fail to surrender the affidavit or certificate, the employer,  
5 fire chief or supervisor shall immediately notify the  
6 Pennsylvania State Police.

7 (2.1) No junior driver's license shall be issued unless  
8 the person who applies for the license has completed a  
9 driver's training course in a public or private secondary  
10 school and presents a certificate from the instructor of the  
11 course stating that the person is able to drive defensively.

12 (3) In addition to the other provisions of this title  
13 relating to the suspension or revocation of operating  
14 privileges, in the event that a licensed junior driver is  
15 involved in an accident reportable under section 3746(a) for  
16 which the junior driver is partially or fully responsible in  
17 the opinion of the department or is convicted of any  
18 violation of this title, the department may suspend the  
19 operating privileges of the junior driver until the junior  
20 driver attains 18 years of age or for a period of time not  
21 exceeding 90 days.

22 (4) Any junior driver or other person violating any  
23 provision of this subsection is guilty of a summary offense.  
24 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.