

ASSEMBLY, No. 1876

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:
Assemblywoman ANNETTE CHAPARRO
District 33 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Requires school bus drivers to retake certain knowledge and skills tests.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning school bus drivers and amending P.L.1990,
2 c.103.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 4 of P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.12) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 4. a. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
10 contrary, the chief administrator shall adopt and administer a
11 classified licensing system and a program for testing and ensuring
12 the fitness of persons to operate commercial motor vehicles in
13 accordance with the minimum federal standards established under
14 the federal "Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986," Pub.
15 L. 99-570 (49 U.S.C. s. 2701 et seq.) and the regulations
16 promulgated pursuant to that law. The chief administrator shall not
17 issue a commercial driver license to a person unless that person
18 passes a knowledge and skills test for the operation of a commercial
19 motor vehicle which complies with the federal standards. The chief
20 administrator may issue commercial driver examination or learner's
21 permits, subject to such conditions and restrictions as deemed
22 necessary, to carry out the provisions of **[this act]** P.L.1990, c.103
23 (C.39:3-10.9 et seq.).

24 b. A knowledge and skills test shall not be required by the chief
25 administrator for the renewal of a commercial driver license issued
26 pursuant to the provisions of **[this act]** P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-
27 10.9 et seq.). However, a knowledge and skills test may be required
28 for (1) the renewal of an endorsement permitting the operation of
29 vehicles required to be placarded for hazardous materials, (2) **[for]**
30 the renewal or reissuance of a commercial driver license if the
31 license was suspended or revoked under section 12 of **[this act]**
32 P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.20) during the last license period
33 preceding the renewal or reissuance, or (3) **[for]** the renewal or
34 reissuance of a license which had not been renewed for a period of
35 three or more years. A knowledge and skills test shall be required
36 to maintain a school bus endorsement as provided pursuant to this
37 subsection.

38 A person with a school bus endorsement shall pass a school bus
39 endorsement knowledge test and school bus endorsement skills test
40 every five years in order to maintain the school bus endorsement,
41 except that a person with a school bus endorsement who is 70 years
42 of age or older shall pass a school bus endorsement knowledge test
43 and school bus endorsement skills test every year in order to
44 maintain the school bus endorsement.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 c. Upon the request of an applicant for a commercial driver
2 license, the chief administrator shall administer to the applicant oral
3 knowledge tests for the commercial driver license and any
4 endorsements if the applicant supplies sufficient proof or otherwise
5 demonstrates to the satisfaction of the chief administrator **his** the
6 applicant's inability to comprehend a written test. The chief
7 administrator shall provide an English and Spanish version of the
8 knowledge tests for a commercial driver license and for any
9 endorsements and shall be authorized to provide versions in such
10 other languages as **he, in his discretion,** the chief administrator
11 may deem appropriate.

12 d. A person who satisfactorily completes the knowledge tests
13 required by **this act** P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.9 et seq.) for a
14 commercial driver license and any endorsement shall not be
15 required under R.S.39:3-10, R.S.39:3-10.1, or any other section in
16 Title 39 of the Revised Statutes to take any other knowledge test for
17 the operation of a commercial motor vehicle.

18 e. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2005, c.147)**[.]**

19 f. For the purposes of an application for a commercial driver
20 license by a person who has never held a license issued under the
21 provisions of **this act** P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.9 et seq.), a
22 person who satisfactorily completes the knowledge test for the
23 commercial driver license but not the test for an endorsement, or a
24 person who satisfactorily completes the knowledge test for an
25 endorsement but not the test for the commercial driver license, shall
26 not be required to retake that test which was satisfactorily
27 completed.

28 g. No provision in **this act** P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.9 et
29 seq.), or in any manual, test, or administrative procedure developed
30 to implement the provisions of **this act** P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-
31 10.9 et seq.), shall be deemed to expand the requirements for
32 commercial motor vehicle operators concerning pre-trip inspection,
33 after-trip inspection, and inspection during a trip as such
34 requirements are set forth in federal law or regulation. This
35 subsection, however, shall not be deemed to limit the authority of
36 the chief administrator, or the authority of any State department or
37 agency, to promulgate, pursuant to other provisions of State law,
38 standards and procedures on vehicle inspections which are
39 consistent with federal law and regulation.

40 h. Classified licensing of drivers of school buses shall be by
41 endorsement on the commercial driver licenses issued pursuant to
42 P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.9 et seq.).
43 (cf: P.L.2005, c.147, s.3)

44

45 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill requires a person with a school bus endorsement to retake the school bus endorsement knowledge test and the school bus endorsement skills test every five years in order to maintain the school bus endorsement. A person who is 70 years of age or older is required, under the bill, to retake the school bus endorsement knowledge test and school bus endorsement skills test every year in order to maintain the school bus endorsement.