

ASSEMBLY, No. 4465

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JULY 30, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANGELICA M. JIMENEZ

District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman PEDRO MEJIA

District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Chiaravalloti

SYNOPSIS

Requires driver education courses to include instruction on appropriate actions for driver to take when stopped by law enforcement officer.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/30/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning driver education and amending P.L.1998,
2 c.108.

3

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

6

7 1. Section 8 of P.L.1998, c.108 (C.27:5F-41) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 8. a. The Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in
10 the Department of Law and Public Safety, after consultation with
11 the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle
12 Commission, shall develop curriculum guidelines for use by
13 teachers of approved classroom driver education courses. The
14 course of instruction for approved courses shall be no less than 30
15 hours in length and be designed to develop and instill the
16 knowledge and attitudes necessary for the safe operation and
17 driving of motor vehicles. Defensive driving; highway courtesy;
18 dangers of driving a vehicle in an aggressive manner, which shall
19 include, but not be limited to, unexpectedly altering the speed of a
20 vehicle, making improper or erratic traffic lane changes,
21 disregarding traffic control devices, failing to yield the right of way,
22 and following another vehicle too closely; accident avoidance;
23 understanding and respect for the State's motor vehicle laws;
24 techniques for the safe operation and proper maintenance of a
25 vehicle, which shall include, but not be limited to, safety tips to
26 avoid carbon monoxide poisoning from motor vehicles; insurance
27 fraud; operating a motor vehicle in a manner that safely shares the
28 roadway with pedestrians, cyclists, skaters, riders of motorized-
29 scooters, and other non-motorized vehicles, which shall include, but
30 not be limited to, passing a cyclist on the roadway, recognizing
31 bicycle lanes, navigating intersections with pedestrians and cyclists,
32 and exiting a vehicle without endangering pedestrians and cyclists;
33 appropriate actions for a driver to take when stopped by a law
34 enforcement officer; and State requirements for and benefits of
35 maintaining automobile insurance shall be emphasized. The
36 incorporation of these curriculum guidelines in these classroom
37 courses and the use of related instructional materials shall be a
38 requirement for approval of the course by the chief administrator.

39 b. The Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety, in
40 consultation with the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor
41 Vehicle Commission, shall produce an informational brochure for
42 parents and guardians of beginning drivers under the age of 18
43 years. The commission shall ensure that the parents or guardians of
44 a permit holder receive these brochures at the time a permit is

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 issued to a beginning driver. The brochures shall include, but not be
2 limited to, the following information:

- 3 (1) Setting an example for the beginning driver;
- 4 (2) Accident and fatality statistics about beginning drivers;
- 5 (3) Causes of accidents among beginning drivers;
- 6 (4) The need to supervise vehicle operation by a beginning
7 driver;
- 8 (5) Methods to coach a beginning driver on how to reduce
9 accidents;
- 10 (6) A description of the graduated driver's license program;
- 11 (7) Benefits of classroom and behind-the-wheel driver education
12 under the direction of State certified or licensed driving instructors,
13 as the case may be;
- 14 (8) The dangers of driving a vehicle in an aggressive manner,
15 which shall include, but not be limited to, unexpectedly altering the
16 speed of a vehicle, making improper or erratic traffic lane changes,
17 disregarding traffic control devices, failing to yield the right of way,
18 and following another vehicle too closely;
- 19 (9) The dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning from motor
20 vehicles and techniques for the safe operation and proper
21 maintenance of a vehicle, which shall include, but not be limited to,
22 safety tips to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning from motor
23 vehicles; and
- 24 (10) Maintaining an awareness of operating a motor vehicle in a
25 manner that safely shares the roadway with pedestrians, cyclists,
26 skaters, riders of motorized-scooters, and other non-motorized
27 vehicles, which shall include, but not be limited to, passing a cyclist
28 on the roadway, recognizing bicycle lanes, navigating intersections
29 with pedestrians and cyclists, and exiting a vehicle without
30 endangering pedestrians and cyclists.

31 (cf: P.L.2017, c.374, s.2)

32

33 2. Section 10 of P.L.1998, c.108 (C.27:5F-43) is amended to
34 read as follows:

35 10. a. The Director of the **【Office】** Division of Highway Traffic
36 Safety shall make recommendations to the Chief Administrator of
37 the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission with respect to rules
38 and regulations promulgated under P.L.1998, c.108 including, but
39 not limited to, the development of uniform curriculum guidelines
40 for approved classroom and behind-the-wheel driver education.

41 b. The course of instruction for behind-the-wheel driver
42 education shall be designed to develop the skills necessary for the
43 safe and lawful operation of a motor vehicle. Defensive driving,
44 highway courtesy, appropriate driving behavior and attitudes,
45 accident avoidance, safe passing and lane changing, appropriate
46 actions for a driver to take when stopped by a law enforcement

1 officer, and a general understanding of and respect for the State's
2 motor vehicle laws shall be emphasized.
3 (cf: P.L.2010, c.87, s.22)

4

5 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh
6 month after enactment.

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STATEMENT

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11 This bill requires behind-the-wheel driver education courses and
12 the curriculum for approved classroom driver education courses to
13 include and emphasize instruction on the appropriate actions for a
14 driver to take when stopped by a law enforcement officer.