

By: Senator(s) Mettetal

To: Judiciary

SENATE BILL NO. 2504  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO  
2 ISSUE A LIMITED DRIVER'S LICENSE FOR PERSONS USING BIOPTIC  
3 TELESCOPIC LENSES OR A DRIVING REHABILITATION PERMIT; TO PROVIDE A  
4 FEE AND PLACE RESTRICTIONS ON SUCH LICENSES AND PERMITS; TO  
5 AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO ISSUE REGULATIONS  
6 GOVERNING SUCH LICENSES AND PERMITS; TO AMEND SECTION 63-1-33,  
7 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:  
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10 SECTION 1. (1) The Commissioner of Public Safety may issue  
11 a limited driver's license for persons using bioptic telescopic  
12 lenses. The license shall be valid for one (1) year from the date  
13 of issuance. The commissioner may require the reevaluation of a  
14 licensee before the reissuance of a limited driver's license.

15 (2) The commissioner shall prepare and administer a test for  
16 the central and peripheral vision of persons using bioptic  
17 telescopic lenses. If the person passes the test and is otherwise  
18 qualified, the person may receive a license under this section.

19 (3) The commissioner may issue a one-year driving  
20 rehabilitation permit subject to such restrictions as the  
21 commissioner may require.

22 (4) The fee for a license or permit issued under this  
23 section shall be the fee required for one-year licenses under  
24 Section 63-1-43, Mississippi Code of 1972.

25 (5) The commissioner may impose restrictions on any license  
26 or permit issued under this section and may issue rules and  
27 regulations governing such licenses and permits.

28 SECTION 2. Section 63-1-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
29 amended as follows:

30           63-1-33. It shall be the duty of the license examiner, when  
31 application is made for an operator's license or temporary driving  
32 permit, to test the applicant's ability to read and understand  
33 road signs and to give the required signals as adopted by the  
34 National Advisory Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and  
35 the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators.

36           The commissioner shall have prepared and administer a test  
37 composed of at least ten (10) questions relating to the safe  
38 operation of a motor vehicle and testing the applicant's knowledge  
39 of the proper operation of a motor vehicle.

40           \* \* \*

41           Prior to the administration of the test the license examiner  
42 shall inspect the horn, lights, brakes, inspection certificate and  
43 vehicle registration of the motor vehicle which the applicant  
44 expects to operate while being tested, and if he finds that any of  
45 the aforementioned items are deficient, no license or endorsement  
46 shall be issued to the applicant until same have been repaired.

47           Except as otherwise provided by Section 63-1-6, when  
48 application is made for an original motorcycle endorsement or a  
49 restricted motorcycle operator's license, the applicant shall be  
50 required to pass a written test which consists of questions  
51 relating to the safe operation of a motorcycle and a skill test  
52 similar to the "Motorcycle Operator Skill Test," which is endorsed  
53 by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators. The  
54 commissioner may exempt any applicant from the skill test if the  
55 applicant presents a certificate showing successful completion of  
56 a course approved by the commissioner, which includes a similar  
57 examination of skills needed in the safe operation of a  
58 motorcycle.

59           SECTION 3. Section 1 shall be codified in Chapter 1 of Title  
60 63, Mississippi Code of 1972.

61           SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
62 and after July 1, 1999.