

By: Martinson

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 119

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-1-47, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 REQUIRE EVERY PERSON, UPON EACH RENEWAL OF A DRIVER'S LICENSE, TO  
3 TAKE AND PASS A VISION SCREENING EXAMINATION TO BE ADMINISTERED BY  
4 THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

6 SECTION 1. Section 63-1-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 63-1-47. (1) Each applicant for an original license issued  
9 pursuant to this article, who is entitled to issuance of same, and  
10 who is eighteen (18) years of age or older, shall be issued a  
11 four-year license. Each license will expire at midnight on the  
12 licensee's birthday.

13 (a) All renewal licenses of operators eighteen (18)  
14 years of age or older shall be for four-year periods and may be  
15 renewed any time within six (6) months before the expiration of  
16 the license upon application and payment of the required fee,  
17 unless required to be reexamined.

18 (b) Every person, upon each renewal of a driver's  
19 license, and in addition to complying with all other requirements  
20 for the renewal of a driver's license, must take and pass a vision  
21 screening examination to be administered by the Department of  
22 Public Safety. No additional fee shall be charged by the

23 department for administering such examination.

24           (c) From and after January 1, 1990, no commercial  
25 driver's license shall be issued under the provisions of this  
26 article for any commercial motor vehicle, the lawful operation of  
27 which requires the driver to obtain a Class A, B or C commercial  
28 driver's license under Article 2 of this chapter; however, from  
29 time to time, the holder of a commercial license may apply for a  
30 commercial driver's license under Article 2 of this chapter; and,  
31 if he fails to pass the required test for such license, he shall  
32 be entitled to an extension of his license that shall be valid for  
33 one hundred twenty (120) days or until he again is tested under  
34 Article 2 of this chapter, whichever occurs first. The extension  
35 shall entitle the license holder to operate all vehicles which  
36 such license authorized him to operate prior to taking the  
37 required test. The first extension shall be without charge;  
38 however, a fee of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) shall be imposed for  
39 any subsequent extension. No extension shall be valid past March  
40 31, 1992.

41 \* \* \*

42           (2) Any commercial driver's license issued under this  
43 article before January 1, 1990, which expires after March 31,  
44 1992, shall be void on April 1, 1992, for the operation of any  
45 commercial vehicle requiring a commercial license to be issued  
46 under Article 2 of this chapter; however, if the holder of any  
47 such license applies for a commercial driver's license under  
48 Article 2 of this chapter, passes the required tests for such  
49 license, pays all applicable fees under Article 2 of this chapter  
50 except the Forty Dollars (\$40.00) license fee and otherwise meets  
51 all requirements for the issuance of such license, then such  
52 person shall be issued a license under Article 2 of this chapter  
53 which shall expire on the expiration date of the commercial

54 driver's license being replaced.

55 \* \* \*

56 (3) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall notify, by  
57 United States mail addressed to the last known address of record  
58 with the Department of Public Safety, all holders of commercial  
59 driver's licenses issued under this article before January 1,  
60 1990, and which expire after March 31, 1992, that such licenses  
61 will be void on and after April 1, 1992, for the operation of any  
62 vehicle for which a commercial driver's license is required to be  
63 issued under Article 2 of this chapter.

64 (4) Any person holding a valid commercial driver's license  
65 issued under this article before January 1, 1990, shall continue  
66 thereafter, until expiration of such license, to be entitled to  
67 operate all vehicles which such license authorized him to operate  
68 immediately before January 1, 1990, except that from and after  
69 April 1, 1992, such license shall not entitle the licensee to  
70 operate a commercial motor vehicle the lawful operation of which  
71 requires a commercial driver's license under Article 2 of this  
72 chapter.

73 (5) Each applicant for an original license issued pursuant  
74 to this article, who is entitled to issuance of same, being under  
75 eighteen (18) years of age, shall be issued a one-year license.  
76 Each license will expire at midnight on the licensee's birthday.  
77 Renewal licenses of operators under the age of eighteen (18) shall  
78 be for one-year periods and may be renewed any time within two (2)  
79 months before the expiration of the license upon application and  
80 payment of the required fee, unless required to be reexamined. The  
81 application for renewal by an operator under the age of eighteen

82 (18) must be accompanied by documentation that the applicant is in  
83 compliance with the education requirements of Section 63-1-9(g);  
84 the documentation must be dated no more than thirty (30) days  
85 prior to the date of application.

86 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
87 and after July 1, 2000.