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HOUSE BILL NO. 920

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-1-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REQUIRE THAT EACH APPLICANT FOR A MISSISSIPPI DRIVER'S LICENSE
3 SHALL SIGN ON THE APPLICATION FORM THAT HE UNDERSTANDS THE
4 MISSISSIPPI MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY-RESPONSIBILITY LAW AND THAT HE
5 SHALL MAINTAIN LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR HIS MOTOR VEHICLE
6 IN THE AMOUNTS REQUIRED BY SUCH LAW; TO AMEND SECTION 63-1-33,
7 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE DRIVER'S LICENSE EXAMINER
8 TO TEST THE APPLICANT'S KNOWLEDGE OF THE MISSISSIPPI MOTOR VEHICLE
9 SAFETY-RESPONSIBILITY LAW; TO REQUIRE THAT ANY INSTRUCTIONAL
10 MATERIALS DESIGNED FOR SUCH APPLICANTS SHALL INCLUDE AN
11 EXPLANATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY-RESPONSIBILITY
12 LAW; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

14 SECTION 1. Section 63-1-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
15 amended as follows:

16 63-1-19. Every applicant for a license issued pursuant to
17 this article shall file an application for such license, on a form
18 provided by the Department of Public Safety, with the commissioner
19 or an official license examiner of the department. All persons
20 not holding valid, unexpired licenses issued in this state shall
21 be required to secure an original license, except those
22 specifically exempted from licensing under Section 63-1-7. The
23 application shall state the name, date of birth, sex, race, color
24 of eyes, color of hair, weight, height and residence address, and
25 whether or not the applicant's privilege to drive has been
26 suspended or revoked at any time, and, if so, when, by whom, and

27 for what cause, and whether any previous application by him has
28 been denied, and whether he has any physical defects which would
29 interfere with his operating a motor vehicle safely upon the
30 highways.

31 Every applicant for an original license shall show proof of
32 domicile in this state. The commissioner shall promulgate any
33 rules and regulations necessary to enforce this requirement and
34 shall prescribe the means by which an applicant for an original
35 license may show domicile in this state. Proof of domicile shall
36 not be required of applicants under eighteen (18) years of age.

37 Each application or filing made under this section shall
38 include the Social Security number(s) of the applicant in
39 accordance with Section 93-11-64, Mississippi Code of 1972.

40 Every applicant shall sign on the application form that he
41 understands the Mississippi Motor Vehicle Safety-Responsibility
42 Law and that he shall maintain liability insurance coverage for
43 his motor vehicle in the amounts required in Section 63-15-3(j).

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

46 63-1-33. It shall be the duty of the license examiner, when
47 application is made for an operator's license or temporary driving
48 permit, to test the applicant's ability to read and understand
49 road signs and to give the required signals as adopted by the
50 National Advisory Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and
51 the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators and to
52 test the applicant's knowledge and understanding of the
53 Mississippi Motor Vehicle Safety-Responsibility Law provided in
54 Section 63-15-1 et seq.

55 The commissioner shall have prepared and administer a test
56 composed of at least ten (10) questions relating to the safe
57 operation of a motor vehicle and testing the applicant's knowledge

58 of the proper operation of a motor vehicle and testing the
59 applicant's knowledge of the Mississippi Motor Vehicle
60 Safety-Responsibility Law.

61 Prior to the administration of the test the license examiner
62 shall inspect the horn, lights, brakes, inspection certificate and
63 vehicle registration of the motor vehicle which the applicant
64 expects to operate while being tested, and if he finds that any of
65 the aforementioned items are deficient, no license or endorsement
66 shall be issued to the applicant until same have been repaired.

67 Except as otherwise provided by Section 63-1-6, when
68 application is made for an original motorcycle endorsement or a
69 restricted motorcycle operator's license, the applicant shall be
70 required to pass a written test which consists of questions
71 relating to the safe operation of a motorcycle and a skill test
72 similar to the "Motorcycle Operator Skill Test," which is endorsed
73 by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators. The
74 commissioner may exempt any applicant from the skill test if the
75 applicant presents a certificate showing successful completion of
76 a course approved by the commissioner, which includes a similar
77 examination of skills needed in the safe operation of a
78 motorcycle.

79 Any instructional materials designed for applicants under
80 this chapter shall include an explanation of the Mississippi Motor
81 Vehicle Safety-Responsibility Law.

82 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
83 and after July 1, 2000.