

By: Representatives Martinson, Whittington

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 6

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,  
3 EXCEPT UPON RENEWAL OF A DRIVER'S LICENSE BY ELECTRONIC MEANS, TO  
4 TAKE AND PASS A VISION SCREENING EXAMINATION TO BE ADMINISTERED BY  
5 THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

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

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

19 (b) Every person, upon each renewal of a driver's  
20 license, except upon renewal of a driver's license by electronic  
21 means as authorized under Section 63-1-35, in addition to  
22 complying with all other requirements for the renewal of a  
23 driver's license, must take and pass a vision screening  
24 examination to be administered by the Department of Public Safety.  
25 No additional fee shall be charged by the department for  
26 administering such examination.

27 (c) From and after January 1, 1990, no commercial  
28 driver's license shall be issued under the provisions of this



29 article for any commercial motor vehicle, the lawful operation of  
30 which requires the driver to obtain a Class A, B or C commercial  
31 driver's license under Article 2 of this chapter; however, from  
32 time to time, the holder of a commercial license may apply for a  
33 commercial driver's license under Article 2 of this chapter; and,  
34 if he fails to pass the required test for such license, he shall  
35 be entitled to an extension of his license that shall be valid for  
36 one hundred twenty (120) days or until he again is tested under  
37 Article 2 of this chapter, whichever occurs first. The extension  
38 shall entitle the license holder to operate all vehicles which  
39 such license authorized him to operate prior to taking the  
40 required test. The first extension shall be without charge;  
41 however, a fee of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) shall be imposed for  
42 any subsequent extension. No extension shall be valid past March  
43 31, 1992.

44 \* \* \*

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

58 \* \* \*

59 (3) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall notify, by  
60 United States mail addressed to the last known address of record  
61 with the Department of Public Safety, all holders of commercial



62 driver's licenses issued under this article before January 1,  
63 1990, and which expire after March 31, 1992, that such licenses  
64 will be void on and after April 1, 1992, for the operation of any  
65 vehicle for which a commercial driver's license is required to be  
66 issued under Article 2 of this chapter.

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

76 (5) Except as otherwise provided in this article, each  
77 applicant for an original driver's license issued pursuant to this  
78 article, who is entitled to issuance of same, being under eighteen  
79 (18) years of age, shall be issued a one-year license which will  
80 expire at midnight on the licensee's birthday. Renewal driver's  
81 licenses of operators under the age of eighteen (18) shall be for  
82 one-year periods and may be renewed any time within two (2) months  
83 before the expiration of the license upon application and payment  
84 of the required fee, unless required to be reexamined. An  
85 intermediate license shall be valid for one (1) year from its date  
86 of issue and may be renewed any time within fourteen (14) days  
87 before expiration of the license. All applications by an operator  
88 under the age of eighteen (18) must be accompanied by  
89 documentation that the applicant is in compliance with the  
90 education requirements of Section 63-1-9(1)(g); the documentation  
91 must be dated no more than thirty (30) days prior to the date of  
92 application.

93 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
94 and after July 1, 2002.

