

By: Representative Bailey

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 1047

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

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

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

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

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

20 (b) Every person seventy (70) years of age or older,
21 upon each renewal of a driver's license, except upon renewal of a
22 driver's license by electronic means as authorized under Section
23 63-1-35, in addition to complying with all other requirements for
24 the renewal of a driver's license, must take and pass a vision
25 screening examination to be administered by the Department of
26 Public Safety. No additional fee shall be charged by the
27 department for administering such examination.

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



30 article for any commercial motor vehicle, the lawful operation of
31 which requires the driver to obtain a Class A, B or C commercial
32 driver's license under Article 2 of this chapter; however, from
33 time to time, the holder of a commercial license may apply for a
34 commercial driver's license under Article 2 of this chapter; and,
35 if he fails to pass the required test for such license, he shall
36 be entitled to an extension of his license that shall be valid for
37 one hundred twenty (120) days or until he again is tested under
38 Article 2 of this chapter, whichever occurs first. The extension
39 shall entitle the license holder to operate all vehicles which
40 such license authorized him to operate prior to taking the
41 required test. The first extension shall be without charge;
42 however, a fee of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) shall be imposed for
43 any subsequent extension. No extension shall be valid past March
44 31, 1992.

45 * * *

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

59 * * *

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



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

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

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

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

