

By: Representative Bailey

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 146

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) Except as otherwise provided in this section,
11 each applicant for an original license issued pursuant to this
12 article, who is entitled to issuance of same, and who is eighteen
13 (18) years of age or older, shall be issued a four-year license
14 which will expire at midnight on the licensee's birthday.

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

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

29 (c) From and after January 1, 1990, no commercial
30 driver's license shall be issued under the provisions of this
31 article for any commercial motor vehicle, the lawful operation of
32 which requires the driver to obtain a Class A, B or C commercial
33 driver's license under Article 2 of this chapter; however, from
34 time to time, the holder of a commercial license may apply for a
35 commercial driver's license under Article 2 of this chapter; and,
36 if he fails to pass the required test for such license, he shall
37 be entitled to an extension of his license that shall be valid for
38 one hundred twenty (120) days or until he again is tested under
39 Article 2 of this chapter, whichever occurs first. The extension
40 shall entitle the license holder to operate all vehicles which
41 such license authorized him to operate prior to taking the
42 required test. The first extension shall be without charge;
43 however, a fee of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) shall be imposed for
44 any subsequent extension. No extension shall be valid past March
45 31, 1992.

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 (3) The fee for the issuance of an original and renewals of
60 a Class D commercial driver's license under this article to an
61 applicant who is not a United States citizen and who does not

62 possess a social security number issued by the United States
63 government and the period for which such license will be valid and
64 expire shall be as prescribed in Section 63-1-43.

65 (4) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall notify, by
66 United States mail addressed to the last known address of record
67 with the Department of Public Safety, all holders of a commercial
68 driver's license issued under this article before January 1, 1990,
69 and which expire after March 31, 1992, that such license will be
70 void on and after April 1, 1992, for the operation of any vehicle
71 for which a commercial driver's license is required to be issued
72 under Article 2 of this chapter.

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

82 (6) Except as otherwise provided in this article, each
83 applicant for an original driver's license issued pursuant to this
84 article, who is entitled to issuance of same, being under eighteen
85 (18) years of age, shall be issued a one-year license which will
86 expire at midnight on the licensee's birthday. Renewal drivers'
87 licenses of operators under the age of eighteen (18) shall be for
88 one-year periods and may be renewed any time within two (2) months
89 before the expiration of the license upon application and payment
90 of the required fee, unless required to be reexamined. An
91 intermediate license shall be valid for one (1) year from its date
92 of issue and may be renewed any time within fourteen (14) days
93 before expiration of the license. All applications by an operator
94 under the age of eighteen (18) must be accompanied by

95 documentation that the applicant is in compliance with the
96 education requirements of Section 63-1-9(1)(g), and the
97 documentation must be dated no more than thirty (30) days prior to
98 the date of application.

99 (7) Any license issued under this article to a person who is
100 not a United States citizen and who does not possess a social
101 security number issued by the United States government shall
102 expire one (1) year from the date of issuance and may be renewed,
103 if such person is otherwise qualified to renew such license,
104 within thirty (30) days of expiration. The fee for any such
105 license and for renewal shall be as prescribed in Section 63-1-43.

106 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
107 and after July 1, 2004.