

By: Representative Karriem

To: Transportation;  
Judiciary B

## HOUSE BILL NO. 63

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 63-1-13 AND 63-1-15, MISSISSIPPI  
2 CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE ADDITIONAL TRAINING OF DRIVER'S LICENSE  
3 PERSONNEL; TO AMEND SECTION 63-1-35, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
4 PROVIDE THAT THE REQUIREMENT THAT AN APPLICANT FOR A DRIVER'S  
5 LICENSE PRESENT THEIR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
6 PUBLIC SAFETY SHALL NOT BE APPLICABLE TO A PERSON WHO FILES AN  
7 AFFIDAVIT WITH THE DEPARTMENT AFFIRMING THAT THEY HAVE NEVER BEEN  
8 ISSUED A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER; TO AMEND SECTION 63-1-19,  
9 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PRESCRIBE THE TYPES OF DOCUMENTS THAT  
10 AN APPLICANT FOR A MISSISSIPPI DRIVER'S LICENSE MAY PROVIDE TO THE  
11 DRIVER'S LICENSE EXAMINER IN ORDER TO SHOW PROOF OF RESIDENCE; TO  
12 CREATE NEW SECTION 63-1-20, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE  
13 A CERTIFICATE FOR DRIVING; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

15 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-1-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
16 amended as follows:

17 63-1-13. (1) The commissioner is hereby authorized and  
18 empowered to appoint a Director of the Driver Services Division  
19 who is a qualified elector of the State of Mississippi and who  
20 meets the qualifications set by the State Personnel Board for the  
21 position. Such director shall execute and furnish a bond in the  
22 amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) with a surety company  
23 authorized to do business in this state. The bond shall be



24 conditioned on the faithful performance of his duties and be  
25 subject to the approval of the commissioner. The director shall  
26 have control and supervision of the Driver Services Division and  
27 shall be answerable to the commissioner in the performance of his  
28 duties.

29 (2) The commissioner shall employ such other technical,  
30 professional and clerical assistants as may be needed to conduct  
31 the work of the division. The commissioner is also authorized to  
32 employ a Director of the Driver License Examining Bureau, who  
33 meets the qualifications set by the State Personnel Board for the  
34 position, and the necessary supervising examiners, who meet the  
35 qualifications set by the State Personnel Board for the position,  
36 to assist the Director of the Driver License Examining Bureau in  
37 the supervision of the license personnel. The commissioner is  
38 also authorized to employ the necessary additional personnel to  
39 serve and be designated as "license examiners." The commissioner  
40 shall employ such other technical, professional and clerical  
41 assistants as may be needed to conduct the work of the bureau.  
42 However, not later than July 1, 2021, the commissioner shall not  
43 employ an active-service Highway Patrol Officer in the bureau.

44 (3) From and after July 1, 2024, the commissioner shall  
45 ensure that each staff person employed under the authority of this  
46 section be retrained to accept civil rights complaints.

47 **SECTION 2.** Section 63-1-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
48 amended as follows:



63-1-15. (1) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall be authorized to designate persons who may act as examiners for license or instruction permits, and all such persons shall be trained in compliance with the provisions of House Bill No. , 2024 Regular Session.

(2) It shall be the duty of the license examiners to forward to the commissioner all applications rejected or approved in accordance with such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the commissioner.

**SECTION 3.** Section 63-1-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

63-1-35. (1) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall prescribe the form of license issued pursuant to this article which shall, among other features, include a driver's license number assigned by the Department of Public Safety. A licensee shall list his social security number with the department which shall cross reference the social security number with the driver's license number for purposes of identification. Additionally, each license shall bear a full-face color photograph of the licensee in such form that the license and the photograph cannot be separated. The photograph shall be taken so that one (1) exposure will photograph the applicant and the application simultaneously on the same film. The department shall use a process in the issuance of a license with a color photograph that shall prevent as nearly as possible any alteration, counterfeiting, duplication,



74 reproduction, forging or modification of the license or the  
75 superimposition of a photograph without ready detection. The  
76 photograph shall be replaced by the department at the time of  
77 renewal. Drivers' licenses, including photographs appearing  
78 thereon, may be renewed by electronic means according to rules and  
79 regulations promulgated by the commissioner in conformity to  
80 Section 27-104-33.

81 (2) The commissioner shall prescribe the form of license  
82 issued pursuant to this article to licensees who are not United  
83 States citizens and who do not possess a social security number  
84 issued by the United States government. The license of such  
85 persons shall include a number and/or other identifying features.

86 (3) Any new, renewal or duplicate driver's license,  
87 temporary driving permit or commercial driver's license issued to  
88 a person required to register as a sex offender pursuant to  
89 Section 45-33-25 shall bear a designation identifying the licensee  
90 or permittee as a sex offender.

91 (4) The commissioner is authorized to provide the new,  
92 renewal or duplicate driver's license, temporary driving permit or  
93 commercial driver's license to any honorably discharged veteran as  
94 defined in Title 38 of the United States Code, and such license or  
95 permit shall exhibit the letters "Vet" or any other mark  
96 identifying the person as a veteran. The veteran requesting the  
97 "Vet" designation shall present his DD-214, Military Retiree  
98 Identification Card, United States Department of Veterans Affairs



99 Medical Identification Card, United States Department of Veterans  
100 Affairs Identification Card or National Guard Form NGB 22. The  
101 veteran requesting the "Vet" designation may present his DD-214,  
102 Military Retiree Identification Card, United States Department of  
103 Veterans Affairs Medical Identification Card, United States  
104 Department of Veterans Affairs Identification Card or National  
105 Guard Form NGB 22 in person at the Mississippi Department of  
106 Public Safety Driver's License Station.

107 (5) Not later than July 1, 2021, the commissioner shall  
108 develop and implement a driver's license or driving permit in  
109 electronic format as an additional option for license or permit  
110 holders. Acceptable electronic formats include display of  
111 electronic images on a cellular phone or any other type of  
112 electronic device.

113 (6) If false documents are provided by an individual for  
114 purposes of obtaining a veteran driver's license, such action  
115 shall be considered fraudulent use of identity under Section  
116 97-19-85, Mississippi Code of 1972, and shall be punishable, upon  
117 conviction, as a felony pursuant to the provisions of that  
118 section.

119 (7) An applicant who does not have, or who states that he or  
120 she has never been issued, a social security number as required  
121 under subsection (1) of this section, shall complete an affidavit,  
122 under penalty of perjury, affirming that he or she has never been  
123 issued a social security number.



124       **SECTION 4.** Section 63-1-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
125 amended as follows:

126       63-1-19. (1) \* \* \* Every applicant for a license or permit  
127 issued pursuant to this article, or for renewal of such license or  
128 permit, shall file an application for such license, permit or  
129 renewal, on a form provided by the Department of Public Safety,  
130 with the commissioner or an official license examiner of the  
131 department. All persons not holding valid, unexpired licenses  
132 issued in this state shall be required to secure an original  
133 license, except those specifically exempted from licensing under  
134 Section 63-1-7. The application shall state the name, date of  
135 birth, the social security number of the applicant unless the  
136 applicant is not a United States citizen and does not possess a  
137 social security number issued by the United States government,  
138 sex, race, color of eyes, color of hair, weight, height and  
139 residence address, and whether or not the applicant's privilege to  
140 drive has been suspended or revoked at any time, and, if so, when,  
141 by whom, and for what cause, and whether any previous application  
142 by him has been denied, and whether he has any physical defects  
143 which would interfere with his operating a motor vehicle safely  
144 upon the highways.

145       ( \* \* \*2) Every applicant for an original license shall  
146 show proof of \* \* \* residence in this state. \* \* \* An applicant  
147 for an original license may show proof of residence in this state



by presenting to the license examiner at least two (2) of the  
following documents:

(a) A utility bill, including telephone service,  
showing a valid residential address;

(b) A bank statement showing a valid Mississippi  
address;

(c) An acceptable employer verification, such as an  
employment identification card, a letter from the employer on its  
official letterhead or a payroll check or payroll check stub;

(d) An automobile, life or health insurance policy  
showing a valid Mississippi address;

(e) A driver's license issued by the State of  
Mississippi to a parent, legal guardian or spouse;

(f) A Mississippi motor vehicle registration showing a  
valid Mississippi address;

(g) An Internal Revenue Service Tax Reporting W-2 Form;

(h) A receipt for personal or real estate taxes paid  
within the last year showing a valid Mississippi address;

(i) A copy of a residential lease showing a valid  
Mississippi address;

(j) If the applicant is a student enrolled in a public  
or private school in Mississippi, a photo student identification  
card and acceptable documentation that the student resides on  
campus; or



172           (k) A photo identification card issued by the  
173 government of the applicant's country of origin.

174           (3) If an applicant is unable to provide at least two (2) of  
175 the documents described in subsection (2) of this section, he or  
176 she may provide one (1) of the documents described in subsection  
177 (2) of this section and one (1) of the following documents:

178           (a) The Individual Taxpayer Identification Number  
179 (ITIN) issued by the Internal Revenue Service;

180           (b) Form I-94 issued to the applicant by the United  
181 States Immigration and Naturalization Service;

182           (c) An Employment Authorization Card (EAC) issued to  
183 the applicant by the United States Immigration and Naturalization  
184 Service;

185           (d) A permanent Residence Card issued to the applicant  
186 by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service; or

187           (e) A stamp in a foreign passport issued by the United  
188 States Immigration and Naturalization Service showing evidence of  
189 lawful admission for permanent residence.

190           (4) The documents described in subsections (1) and (2) of  
191 this section must include the applicant's name; if the applicant  
192 has a spouse; the name of the applicant's spouse, or if the  
193 applicant is a minor, the name of a parent or legal guardian.  
194 These documents must also show the applicant's valid residence  
195 address used on the application for the Mississippi driver's  
196 license.





197       Each application or filing made under this section, except as  
198 otherwise provided under Section 63-1-35(2), shall include the  
199 social security number(s) of the application in accordance with  
200 Section 93-11-64.

201       ( \* \* \*5) Whenever a person who has applied for or who has  
202 been issued a license or permit under this article moves from the  
203 address listed in the application or on the permit or license, or  
204 whenever the name of a licensee changes by marriage or otherwise,  
205 such person, within thirty (30) days thereafter, shall notify, in  
206 writing, the Department of Public Safety, Driver Services  
207 Division, and inform the department of his or her previous address  
208 and new address and of his or her former name and new name. The  
209 department shall not change the name of a licensee or permittee on  
210 his or her license or permit unless the applicant appears in  
211 person at an office of the department and provides a certified  
212 copy of his or her marriage license, court order, birth  
213 certificate or divorce decree changing the licensee's or  
214 permittee's name.

215       ( \* \* \*6) (a) Any male who is at least eighteen (18) years  
216 of age but less than twenty-six (26) years of age and who applies  
217 for a permit or license or a renewal of a permit or license under  
218 this chapter shall be registered in compliance with the  
219 requirements of Section 3 of the Military Selective Service Act,  
220 50 USCS Section 3802, as amended.



221 (b) The department shall forward in an electronic  
222 format the necessary personal information of the applicant to the  
223 Selective Service System. The applicant's submission of the  
224 application shall serve as an indication that the applicant either  
225 has already registered with the Selective Service System or that  
226 he is authorizing the department to forward to the Selective  
227 Service System the necessary information for registration. The  
228 commissioner shall notify the applicant on, or as a part of, the  
229 application that his submission of the application will serve as  
230 his consent to registration with the Selective Service System, if  
231 so required. The commissioner also shall notify any male  
232 applicant under the age of eighteen (18) that he will be  
233 registered upon turning age eighteen (18) as required by federal  
234 law.

235 **SECTION 5.** The following shall be codified as Section  
236 63-1-20, Mississippi Code of 1972:

237 63-1-20. (1) The Department of Public Safety may issue a  
238 certificate for driving to persons whose presence in the United  
239 States has been authorized by the federal government for a  
240 specific purpose and for a specified period of authorized stay.  
241 This certificate of driving shall be valid only during the period  
242 of time of the applicant's authorized stay in the United States.  
243 No certificate shall be issued for a period of less than one (1)  
244 year or longer than five (5) years.



(2) In addition to the purpose set out under subsection (1) of this section, the Department of Public Safety may issue a certificate for driving to persons with a disability. For a person to obtain a certificate of driving under this subsection (2), the person shall complete the driving test but shall not have to complete the written test. A certificate of driving under this subsection (2) shall only be valid for travel to and from the person's work. Such certificate shall be issued for a period of four (4) years.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in this section, all laws applicable to driver's licenses and financial responsibility shall also apply to certificates for driving. All laws applicable to convictions, suspensions, cancellations and revocations of driver's licenses shall also apply to certificates for driving.

(4) Any applicant applying for a certificate for driving, upon initial issuance, renewal or reinstatement, shall meet the requirements of this section.

(5) For the purposes of this section, "certificate for driving" means a certificate issued by the department to an individual who does not satisfy the requirements of Section 63-1-35 to obtain a driver's license. A certificate for driving shall be clearly distinguishable from a driver's license and shall clearly display on its face a phrase substantially similar to: "FOR DRIVING PURPOSES ONLY - NOT VALID FOR IDENTIFICATION."



269           **SECTION 6.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
270 and after July 1, 2024.

