

1 H.569

2 Introduced by Representative Heath of Westford

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Motor vehicles; foreign citizen residents; licensing; driver
6 examinations; reciprocal arrangement

7 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to:

- 8 (1) authorize the commissioner of motor vehicles to enter into
9 arrangements with other jurisdictions for reciprocal recognition of driver
10 examinations required for the issuance of licenses;
- 11 (2) require the commissioner to attempt to reach a reciprocal
12 arrangement with France concerning driver examinations if the driver
13 examination in France is similar to the examination in Vermont; and
- 14 (3) make various conforming and technical corrections.

15 An act relating to reciprocal recognition of driver examinations

16 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

17 Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 601 is amended to read:

18 § 601. LICENSE REQUIRED; NEW RESIDENTS; LICENSE
19 EXPIRATION; LICENSE RENEWAL; CLASSES OF LICENSES;
20 RULEMAKING AND RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENTS;

1 MOTOR-DRIVEN CYCLES

2 (a) A resident who intends to operate motor vehicles shall procure a proper
3 license. A resident who has moved into the state from another jurisdiction
4 with a valid license to operate motor vehicles under section 411 of this title
5 shall procure a license within 60 days of moving into the state. Operators'
6 licenses shall not be issued to nonresidents. A person shall not operate a motor
7 vehicle unless properly licensed.

8 (b) All ~~operator~~ operators' licenses issued under this chapter shall expire
9 ~~every four years~~ at midnight on the eve of the ~~anniversary of the date of birth~~
10 ~~of the applicant at the end of the term for which they were issued~~ second
11 birthday of the applicant following the date of issue in the case of two-year
12 licenses, or the fourth birthday of the applicant following the date of issue in
13 the case of four-year licenses. All junior ~~operator~~ operators' licenses shall
14 expire at midnight on the eve of the ~~anniversary of the date of birth~~ second
15 birthday of the applicant ~~at the end of the term for which they were issued~~
16 following the date of issue. A person born on February 29 shall, for the
17 purposes of this section, be considered as born on March 1.

18 (b) The commissioner shall, at least 30 days before ~~the birth anniversary of~~
19 ~~each operator licenseholder on which the~~ a license is scheduled to expire ~~and~~
20 ~~biennially for each junior operator licenseholder,~~ mail first class, to the

1 licensee an application for renewal of the license. ~~A person shall not operate a~~
2 ~~motor vehicle unless properly licensed.~~

3 (c) ~~Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a~~ An operator's licensee
4 may request a two-year or four-year license renewal.

5 (d) The commissioner may, in his or her discretion, determine that certain
6 types of motor vehicles require that an operator possess specialized skill or
7 knowledge to operate those vehicles so that the public safety may not be
8 endangered. If the commissioner so determines, he or she may prescribe
9 different classes of licenses for the operation of particular types of vehicles.

10 (e) The commissioner is authorized to make rules prescribing forms and
11 procedures for applications, license classifications, restrictions, endorsements,
12 examinations, driver training requirements, and disqualifications consistent
13 with this title as necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. The
14 commissioner also may enter into arrangements with the authorized
15 representative of another state or a foreign jurisdiction for a reciprocal waiver
16 of driver examination requirements in accordance with section 632 of this title.

17 (e)(f) A motor-driven cycle may be operated only by a licensed driver at
18 least 16 years of age.

1 Sec. 2. 23 V.S.A. § 632 is amended to read:

2 § 632. EXAMINATION REQUIRED; WAIVER

3 (a) Before an operator's or a junior operator's license is issued to an
4 applicant for the first time in this state, or before a renewal license is issued to
5 an applicant whose previous Vermont license had expired more than three
6 years prior to the application for renewal, the applicant shall pass a ~~satisfactory~~
7 driver examination, except that the commissioner may, in his or her discretion,
8 waive the examination consisting of:

9 (1) an oral or written examination;

10 (2) at the discretion of the commissioner, a thorough road test; and

11 (3) such other examination or demonstration as the commissioner may
12 prescribe.

13 (b) However, the commissioner may waive some or all of this state's driver
14 examination requirements:

15 (1) when the applicant holds a ~~an unexpired~~ chauffeur's or operator's
16 license ~~in force~~ at the time of application; or

17 (2) when the applicant holds a license that expired within one year of the
18 application ~~in some other~~ which was issued by another state where
19 examinations are required that requires or by a foreign jurisdiction that requires
20 an examination similar to the examination required in this state; or

- 1 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE
- 2 This act shall take effect on passage.