

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Judiciary to which was referred House Bill No. 560  
3 entitled “An act relating to traffic safety” respectfully reports that it has  
4 considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended by striking out  
5 all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

6 \* \* \* DUI; Ignition Interlock Devices \* \* \*

7 Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 1200 is amended to read:

8 § 1200. DEFINITIONS

9 As used in this subchapter:

10 \* \* \*

11 (9) “Ignition interlock restricted driver’s license” or “ignition interlock  
12 RDL” or “RDL” means a restricted license or privilege to operate a motor  
13 vehicle issued by the Commissioner allowing a person whose license or  
14 privilege to operate has been suspended or revoked for operating under the  
15 influence of intoxicating liquor or in excess of legal limits of alcohol  
16 concentration, or for refusing an enforcement officer’s reasonable request for  
17 an evidentiary test, to operate a motor vehicle, other than a commercial motor  
18 vehicle as defined in section 4103 of this title, installed with an approved  
19 ignition interlock device.

20 \* \* \*

1 Sec. 2. 23 V.S.A. § 1213 is amended to read:

2 § 1213. IGNITION INTERLOCK RESTRICTED DRIVER'S LICENSE;

3 PENALTIES

4 (a) First offense without death or serious bodily injury. A person whose  
5 license or privilege to operate is suspended for a first offense under this  
6 subchapter that did not result in death or serious bodily injury to another  
7 person, shall be permitted to operate a motor vehicle, other than a commercial  
8 motor vehicle as defined in section 4103 of this title, if issued a valid ignition  
9 interlock RDL. The Commissioner shall issue an ignition interlock RDL ~~to a~~  
10 ~~person eligible under section 1205(a)(1), 1205(a)(2), 1206(a), or 1216(a)(1) of~~  
11 ~~this title upon~~ to a person suspended for a first offense upon receipt of a  
12 \$125.00 application fee, ~~and upon receipt~~ and of satisfactory proof of  
13 installation of an approved ignition interlock device in any motor vehicle to be  
14 operated, and of financial responsibility as provided in section 801 of this title,  
15 ~~and enrollment in an Alcohol and Driving Education Program. The RDL shall~~  
16 ~~be valid after expiration of the applicable shortened period specified in section~~  
17 ~~1205(a)(1), 1205(a)(2), 1206(a), or 1216(a)(1) of this title.~~ A new ignition  
18 interlock RDL shall expire at midnight on the eve of the second birthday of the  
19 applicant following the date of issue, and may be renewed for one-year terms.  
20 The Commissioner shall send by first class mail an application for renewal of  
21 the RDL at least 30 days prior to the day renewal is required and shall impose

1 the same conditions for renewal as are required for initial issuance of an  
2 ignition interlock RDL. The renewal fee shall be \$125.00.

3 (b) Second First offense involving death or SBI; second offense. ~~A person~~  
4 Except for an offense under section 1216 of this subchapter or an offense  
5 arising solely from being under the influence of a drug other than alcohol, a  
6 person whose license or privilege to operate is suspended for a first offense  
7 involving death or serious bodily injury to another or a second offense under  
8 this subchapter shall be ~~permitted~~ required to operate ~~a motor vehicle, other~~  
9 ~~than a commercial motor vehicle as defined in section 4103 of this title, if~~  
10 ~~issued under a valid ignition interlock RDL. The Commissioner shall issue an~~  
11 ~~ignition interlock RDL to a person eligible under section~~ for the relevant  
12 period prescribed in subsection 1205(m), 1206(b), or 1208(a), or 1216(a)(2) of  
13 this title prior to being eligible for reinstatement of his or her regular license,  
14 unless exempt under subdivision 1209a(a)(4) of this title. A person whose  
15 license is suspended under subdivision 1216(a)(2) of this title may elect to  
16 obtain an ignition interlock RDL. The Commissioner shall issue an ignition  
17 interlock RDL upon receipt of a \$125.00 application fee; and upon receipt of  
18 satisfactory proof of installation of an approved ignition interlock device in any  
19 motor vehicle to be operated; and of financial responsibility as provided in  
20 section 801 of this title, and enrollment in an Alcohol and Driving  
21 Rehabilitation Program. The RDL shall be valid after expiration of the

1 ~~applicable shortened period specified in section 1205(m), 1208(a), or~~  
2 ~~1216(a)(2) of this title.~~ A new ignition interlock RDL shall expire at midnight  
3 on the eve of the second birthday of the applicant following the date of issue,  
4 and may be renewed for one-year terms. The Commissioner shall send by first  
5 class mail an application for renewal of the RDL at least 30 days prior to the  
6 day renewal is required and shall impose the same conditions for renewal as  
7 are required for initial issuance of an ignition interlock RDL. The renewal fee  
8 shall be \$125.00.

9 (c) Third or subsequent offense. ~~A person~~ Except for an offense under  
10 section 1216 of this subchapter or an offense arising solely from being under  
11 the influence of a drug other than alcohol, a person whose license or privilege  
12 to operate is suspended or revoked for a third or subsequent offense under this  
13 subchapter shall be ~~permitted~~ required to operate ~~a motor vehicle, other than a~~  
14 ~~commercial motor vehicle as defined in section 4103 of this title, if issued~~  
15 under a valid ignition interlock RDL for the relevant period prescribed in  
16 subsection 1209a(b) of this title prior to being eligible for reinstatement or  
17 issuance of a regular license, unless exempt under subdivision 1209a(a)(4) of  
18 this title. The Commissioner shall issue an ignition interlock RDL ~~to a person~~  
19 ~~eligible under section 1205(a)(3), 1205(m), 1208(b), or 1216(a)(2) of this title~~  
20 upon receipt of a \$125.00 application fee, and upon receipt of satisfactory  
21 proof of installation of an approved ignition interlock device in any motor

1 vehicle to be operated, and of financial responsibility as provided in section  
2 801 of this title, ~~and enrollment in an Alcohol and Driving Rehabilitation~~  
3 ~~Program. The RDL shall be valid after expiration of the applicable shortened~~  
4 ~~period specified in section 1205(a)(3), 1205(m), 1208(b), or 1216(a)(2) of this~~  
5 ~~title.~~ A new ignition interlock RDL shall expire at midnight on the eve of the  
6 second birthday of the applicant following the date of issue, and may be  
7 renewed for one-year terms. The Commissioner shall send by first class mail  
8 an application for renewal of the RDL at least 30 days prior to the day renewal  
9 is required and shall impose the same conditions for renewal as are required for  
10 initial issuance of an ignition interlock RDL. The renewal fee shall be  
11 \$125.00.

12 (d) If a fine is to be imposed for a conviction of a violation of section 1201  
13 of this title, upon receipt of proof of installation of an approved ignition  
14 interlock device, the Court may order that the fine of an indigent person  
15 conditionally be reduced by one-half to defray the costs of the ignition  
16 interlock device, subject to the person's ongoing operation under, and  
17 compliance with the terms of, a valid ignition interlock RDL as set forth in this  
18 section. In considering whether a person's fine should be reduced under this  
19 subsection, the Court shall take into account any discount already provided by  
20 the device manufacturer or provider.

21 \* \* \*

1 (f)(1) Prior to the issuance of an ignition interlock RDL under this section,  
2 the Commissioner shall notify the applicant ~~of the applicable period prior to~~  
3 ~~eligibility for reinstatement under section 1209a or 1216 of this title, and that~~  
4 the reinstatement period under section 1209a or 1216 of this title may be  
5 extended under this subsection (f) or subsections (g)–(h) of this section.

6 \* \* \*

7 (i) Upon receipt of notice that the holder of an ignition interlock RDL has  
8 been ~~adjudicated~~ convicted of an offense under this title that would result in  
9 suspension, revocation, or recall of a license or privilege to operate, the  
10 Commissioner shall suspend, revoke, or recall the person's ignition interlock  
11 RDL for the same period that the license or privilege to operate would have  
12 been suspended, revoked, or recalled. The Commissioner may impose a  
13 reinstatement fee in accordance with section 675 of this title and require, prior  
14 to reinstatement, satisfactory proof of installation of an approved ignition  
15 interlock device, and of financial responsibility as provided in section 801 of  
16 ~~this title, and enrollment in or completion of an alcohol and driving education~~  
17 ~~or rehabilitation program.~~

18 \* \* \*

19 (l)(1) The Commissioner, in consultation with any individuals or entities  
20 the Commissioner deems appropriate, shall adopt rules and may enter into  
21 agreements to implement the provisions of this section. The Commissioner

1 shall not approve a manufacturer of ignition interlock devices as a provider in  
2 this State unless the manufacturer agrees to reduce the cost of installing,  
3 leasing, and deinstalling the device by at least 50 percent for persons who  
4 furnish proof of receipt of Three Squares, Heating Assistance, or Reach Up  
5 benefits.

6 \* \* \*

7 Sec. 3. 23 V.S.A. § 1209a is amended to read:

8 § 1209a. CONDITIONS OF REINSTATEMENT; ALCOHOL AND  
9 DRIVING EDUCATION; SCREENING; THERAPY PROGRAMS

10 (a) Conditions of reinstatement. ~~No~~ A license or privilege to operate  
11 suspended or revoked under this subchapter, except a license suspended under  
12 section 1216 of this title, shall be reinstated ~~except~~ as follows:

13 (1) In the case of a first suspension a license shall be reinstated only:

14 \* \* \*

15 (C) ~~if the person elects to operate under an ignition interlock RDL,~~  
16 ~~after:~~

17 ~~(i) a period of nine months (plus any extension of this period~~  
18 ~~arising from a violation of section 1213 of this title) if the person's license or~~  
19 ~~privilege to operate is suspended after a refusal to consent to a law~~  
20 ~~enforcement officer's reasonable request for an evidentiary test; or~~

21 ~~(ii) a period of six months (~~



1 any extension of this period arising from a violation of section 1213 of this  
2 title) ~~in all other cases, except that this requirement shall not apply if the~~  
3 underlying offense arose solely from being under the influence of a drug other  
4 than alcohol; and

5 (D) the person has no pending criminal charges, civil citations, or  
6 unpaid fines or penalties for a violation under this chapter.

7 (3) In the case of a third or subsequent suspension or a revocation, a  
8 license shall not be reinstated until:

9 (A) the person has successfully completed an alcohol and driving  
10 rehabilitation program;

11 (B) the person has completed or shown substantial progress in  
12 completing a therapy program at the person's own expense agreed to by the  
13 person and the Driver Rehabilitation Program Director;

14 (C) the person has satisfied the requirements of subsection (b) of this  
15 section; and

16 (D) ~~if the person elects to operate under an ignition interlock RDL,~~  
17 ~~after:~~

18 ~~(i) a period of four years (plus any extension of this period arising~~  
19 ~~from a violation of section 1213 of this title) if the person's license or privilege~~  
20 ~~to operate is suspended after a refusal to consent to a law enforcement officer's~~  
21 ~~reasonable request for an evidentiary test; or~~

1           ~~(ii) a period of three years (plus any extension of this period~~  
2 ~~arising from a violation of section 1213 of this title) in all other cases; and~~

3           ~~(E)~~ the person has no pending criminal charges, civil citations, or  
4 unpaid fines or penalties for a violation under this chapter.

5           (4) The Commissioner shall waive a requirement to operate under an  
6 ignition interlock restricted driver's license prior to eligibility for reinstatement  
7 if the person furnishes sufficient proof as prescribed by the Commissioner that  
8 he or she is incapable of using an ignition interlock device because of a  
9 medical condition that will persist permanently or at least for the term of the  
10 suspension or, in the case of suspensions or revocations for life, for a period of  
11 at least three years.

12           (b) Abstinance.

13           (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, a person  
14 whose license or privilege to operate has been suspended or revoked for life  
15 under this subchapter may apply to the Driver Rehabilitation School Director  
16 and to the Commissioner for reinstatement of his or her driving privilege. The  
17 person shall have completed three years of total abstinence from consumption  
18 of alcohol or drugs, or both. The beginning date for the period of abstinence  
19 shall be no sooner than the effective date of the suspension or revocation from  
20 which the person is requesting reinstatement and shall not include any period  
21 during which the person is serving a sentence of incarceration to include

1 furlough. The application shall include the applicant's authorization for a  
2 urinalysis examination to be conducted prior to reinstatement under this  
3 subdivision. The application to the Commissioner shall be accompanied by a  
4 fee of \$500.00. The Commissioner shall have the discretion to waive the  
5 application fee if the Commissioner determines that payment of the fee would  
6 present a hardship to the applicant.

7 (2) If the Commissioner, or a medical review board convened by the  
8 Commissioner, is satisfied by a preponderance of the evidence that the  
9 applicant has abstained for the required number of years immediately  
10 preceding the application and hearing, has successfully completed a therapy  
11 program as required under this section, has operated under a valid ignition  
12 interlock RDL for at least three years following the suspension or revocation  
13 or, in the case of a suspension or revocation involving a refusal, for at least  
14 four years following the suspension or revocation, and the person appreciates  
15 that he or she cannot drink any amount of alcohol and drive safely, the  
16 person's license shall be reinstated immediately, subject to the condition that  
17 the person's suspension or revocation will be put back in effect in the event  
18 any further investigation reveals a return to the consumption of alcohol or  
19 drugs and to such additional conditions as the Commissioner may impose ~~and,~~  
20 ~~if the person has not previously operated for three years under an ignition~~  
21 ~~interlock RDL, subject to the additional condition that the person shall operate~~

1 ~~under an ignition interlock restricted driver's license for a period of at least one~~  
2 ~~year following reinstatement under this subsection. However, the~~  
3 ~~Commissioner may waive this one year requirement to operate under an~~  
4 ~~ignition interlock restricted driver's license if the person furnishes proof as~~  
5 ~~prescribed by the Commissioner that he or she is incapable of using an ignition~~  
6 ~~interlock device because of a medical condition that will persist permanently or~~  
7 ~~at least for one year. The requirement to operate under an ignition interlock~~  
8 ~~RDL shall not apply if the person is exempt under subdivision (a)(4) of this~~  
9 ~~section or if all of the offenses that triggered the lifetime suspension or~~  
10 ~~revocation arose solely from being under the influence of a drug other than~~  
11 ~~alcohol.~~

12 (3) If after notice and hearing the Commissioner later finds that the  
13 person was violating the conditions of the person's reinstatement under this  
14 subsection, the person's operating license or privilege to operate shall be  
15 immediately suspended or revoked ~~for the period of the original suspension~~  
16 life.

17 (4) If the Commissioner finds that a person reinstated under this  
18 subsection was suspended pursuant to section 1205 of this title, or was  
19 convicted of a violation of section 1201 of this title, the person shall be  
20 conclusively presumed to be in violation of the conditions of his or her  
21 reinstatement.



1 Sec. 4. 23 V.S.A. § 1205 is amended to read:

2 § 1205. CIVIL SUSPENSION; SUMMARY PROCEDURE

3 (a) Refusal; alcohol concentration above legal limits; suspension periods.

4 (1) Upon affidavit of a law enforcement officer that the officer had  
5 reasonable grounds to believe that the person was operating, attempting to  
6 operate, or in actual physical control of a vehicle in violation of section 1201  
7 of this title and that the person refused to submit to a test, the Commissioner  
8 shall suspend the person's operating license, or nonresident operating  
9 privilege, or the privilege of an unlicensed operator to operate a vehicle for a  
10 period of ~~six~~ nine months and until the person complies with section 1209a of  
11 this title. However, ~~a~~ during this period, the person may operate under the  
12 terms of an ignition interlock RDL issued pursuant to section 1213 of this title  
13 ~~after 30 days of this six-month period unless the alleged offense involved a~~  
14 ~~collision resulting in serious bodily injury or death to another.~~

15 (2) Upon affidavit of a law enforcement officer that the officer had  
16 reasonable grounds to believe that the person was operating, attempting to  
17 operate, or in actual physical control of a vehicle in violation of section 1201  
18 of this title and that the person submitted to a test and the test results indicated  
19 that the person's alcohol concentration was above a limit specified in  
20 subsection 1201(a) of this title, at the time of operating, attempting to operate,  
21 or being in actual physical control, the Commissioner shall suspend the

1 person's operating license; or nonresident operating privilege; or the privilege  
2 of an unlicensed operator to operate a vehicle for a period of ~~90 days~~ six  
3 months and until the person complies with section 1209a of this title.

4 However, ~~a~~ during this period, the person may operate under the terms of an  
5 ignition interlock RDL issued pursuant to section 1213 of this title ~~after 30~~  
6 ~~days of this 90 day period unless the alleged offense involved a collision~~  
7 ~~resulting in serious bodily injury or death to another.~~

8 (3) Upon affidavit of a law enforcement officer that the officer had  
9 reasonable grounds to believe that the person was operating, attempting to  
10 operate, or in actual physical control of a vehicle in violation of subdivision  
11 1201(d)(2) of this title and that the person submitted to a test and the test  
12 results indicated that the person's alcohol concentration was 0.02 or more at  
13 the time of operating, attempting to operate, or being in actual physical control,  
14 the Commissioner shall suspend the person's operating license; or nonresident  
15 operating privilege; or the privilege of an unlicensed operator to operate a  
16 vehicle for life. **However, during the suspension, a person** may ~~operate under~~  
17 ~~the terms of an ignition interlock RDL issued pursuant to section 1213 of this~~  
18 ~~title after one year of this lifetime suspension unless the alleged offense~~  
19 ~~involved a collision resulting in serious bodily injury or death to another~~  
20 operate a motor vehicle under the terms of an ignition interlock RDL issued  
21 under section 1213 of this title.

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(m) Second and subsequent suspensions. For a second suspension under this subchapter, the period of suspension shall be 18 months and until the person complies with section 1209a of this title or, in the case of a suspension following refusal of an enforcement officer's reasonable request for an evidentiary test, the period of suspension shall be two years and until the person complies with section 1209a of this title. However, a the person may operate a motor vehicle during this period under the terms of an ignition interlock RDL issued pursuant to section 1213 of this title ~~after 90 days of this 18-month period unless the alleged offense involved a collision resulting in serious bodily injury or death to another.~~ For a third or subsequent suspension under this subchapter, the period of suspension shall be life. However, a ~~person may operate under the terms of an ignition interlock RDL issued pursuant to section 1213 of this title~~ after one year of during this lifetime suspension ~~unless the alleged offense involved a collision resulting in serious bodily injury or death to another,~~ the person may operate a motor vehicle under the terms of an ignition interlock RDL issued under section 1213 of this title.

\* \* \*

1 Sec. 5. 23 V.S.A. § 1206 is amended to read:

2 § 1206. SUSPENSION OF LICENSE FOR DRIVING WHILE UNDER  
3 INFLUENCE; FIRST CONVICTIONS

4 (a) First conviction—generally. Except as otherwise provided, upon  
5 conviction of a person for violating a provision of section 1201 of this title, or  
6 upon final determination of an appeal, the Court shall forward the conviction  
7 report forthwith to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. The Commissioner  
8 shall immediately suspend the person’s operating license; or nonresident  
9 operating privilege; or the privilege of an unlicensed operator to operate a  
10 vehicle for a period of ~~90 days~~ six months and until the defendant complies  
11 with section 1209a of this title or, in the case of a conviction following refusal  
12 of an enforcement officer’s reasonable request for an evidentiary test, the  
13 period of suspension shall be nine months and until the person complies with  
14 section 1209a of this title. ~~However, a person may operate under the terms of~~  
15 ~~an ignition interlock RDL issued pursuant to section 1213 of this title after 30~~  
16 ~~days of this 90 day period unless the offense involved a collision resulting in~~  
17 ~~serious bodily injury or death to another.~~

18 (b) Extended suspension—fatality or serious bodily injury. In cases  
19 resulting in a fatality or a serious bodily injury to a person other than the  
20 defendant, the period of suspension shall be one year and until the defendant  
21 complies with section 1209a of this title.

1       (c) ~~Extended suspension refusal; serious bodily injury. Upon conviction of~~  
2       ~~a person for violating a provision of subsection 1201(c) of this title involving a~~  
3       ~~collision in which serious bodily injury resulted, or upon final determination of~~  
4       ~~an appeal, the Court shall forward the conviction report forthwith to the~~  
5       ~~Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. The Commissioner shall immediately~~  
6       ~~suspend the person's operating license or nonresident operating privilege or the~~  
7       ~~privilege of an unlicensed operator to operate a vehicle for a period of six~~  
8       ~~months, and until the defendant complies with section 1209a of this title.~~

9       During a suspension under this section, the defendant may operate a motor  
10       vehicle under the terms of an ignition interlock RDL issued under section 1213  
11       of this title.

12       Sec. 6. 23 V.S.A. § 1202(d) is amended to read:

13       (d) At the time a test is requested, the person shall be informed of the  
14       following statutory information:

15             (1) Vermont law authorizes a law enforcement officer to request a test to  
16       determine whether the person is under the influence of alcohol or other drug.

17             (2) If the officer's request is reasonable and testing is refused, the  
18       person's license or privilege to operate will be suspended for at least **six nine**  
19       months.

20             (3) If a test is taken and the results indicate that the person is under the  
21       influence of alcohol or other drug, the person will be subject to criminal

1 charges and the person's license or privilege to operate will be suspended for at  
2 least ~~90 days~~ six months.

3 \* \* \*

4 Sec. 7. 23 V.S.A. § 1208 is amended to read:

5 § 1208. SUSPENSIONS FOR SUBSEQUENT CONVICTIONS

6 (a) Second conviction. Upon a second conviction of a person violating a  
7 provision of section 1201 of this title and upon final determination of an  
8 appeal, the Court shall forward the conviction report forthwith to the  
9 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. The Commissioner shall immediately  
10 suspend the person's operating license, or nonresident operating privilege or  
11 the privilege of an unlicensed operator to operate a vehicle for 18 months and  
12 until the defendant complies with section 1209a of this title or, in the case of a  
13 conviction following refusal of an enforcement officer's reasonable request for  
14 an evidentiary test, for a period of two years and until the person complies with  
15 section 1209a of this title. However, a during the suspension period, the  
16 person may operate under the terms of an ignition interlock RDL issued  
17 pursuant to section 1213 of this title ~~after 90 days of this 18-month period~~  
18 ~~unless the alleged offense involved a collision resulting in serious bodily injury~~  
19 ~~or death to another~~.

20 (b) Third conviction. Upon a third or subsequent conviction of a person  
21 violating a provision of section 1201 of this title and upon final determination

1 of any appeal, the Court shall forward the conviction report forthwith to the  
2 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. The Commissioner shall immediately  
3 revoke the person's operating license, or nonresident operating privilege or the  
4 privilege of an unlicensed operator to operate a motor vehicle for life.

5 ~~However, a person may operate under the terms of an ignition interlock RDL~~  
6 ~~issued pursuant to section 1213 of this title~~ after one year of during this  
7 ~~lifetime suspension unless the alleged offense involved a collision resulting in~~  
8 ~~serious bodily injury or death to another~~ revocation, the person may operate a  
9 motor vehicle under the terms of an ignition interlock RDL issued under  
10 section 1213 of this title.

11 Sec. 8. 23 V.S.A. § 1216 is amended to read:

12 § 1216. PERSONS UNDER 21; ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION OF 0.02  
13 OR MORE

14 (a) A person under the age of 21 who operates, attempts to operate, or is in  
15 actual physical control of a vehicle on a highway when the person's alcohol  
16 concentration is 0.02 or more, commits a civil traffic violation subject to the  
17 jurisdiction of the Judicial Bureau and subject to the following sanctions:

18 (1) For a first violation, the person's license or privilege to operate shall  
19 be suspended for six months and until the person complies with subdivision  
20 1209a(a)(1) of this title or, in the case of a refusal of an enforcement officer's  
21 reasonable request for an evidentiary test, for a period of nine months and until

1 the person complies with section 1209a of this title. However, during this  
2 period, a person may operate under the terms of an ignition interlock RDL  
3 issued pursuant to section 1213 of this title ~~after 30 days of this six-month~~  
4 ~~period unless the offense involved a collision resulting in serious bodily injury~~  
5 ~~or death to another.~~

6 (2)(A) For a second or subsequent violation, the person's license or  
7 privilege to operate shall be suspended until the person complies with  
8 subdivision 1209a(a)(2) of this title and for the longer of the following periods:

9 (i) until the person reaches the age of 21 years of age; or for  
10 (ii) one year, whichever is longer, and complies with subdivision  
11 1209a(a)(2) of this title or, in the case of a refusal of an enforcement officer's  
12 reasonable request for an evidentiary test, for 15 months.

13 (B) However, during the suspension period, a person may operate  
14 under the terms of an ignition interlock RDL issued pursuant to section 1213 of  
15 this title ~~after 90 days of the applicable suspension period unless the offense~~  
16 ~~involved a collision resulting in serious bodily injury or death to another.~~

17 (b) A person's license or privilege to operate that has been suspended under  
18 this section shall not be reinstated until:

19 (1) the Commissioner has received satisfactory evidence that the person  
20 has complied with ~~section 1209a of this title and~~ an Alcohol and Driving  
21 Education Program approved by the Commissioner of Health and a therapy

1 program if required, and that the provider of the a required therapy program  
2 has been paid in full;

3 (2) the person has no pending criminal charges, civil citations, or unpaid  
4 fines or penalties for a violation under this chapter; and

5 (3)(A) ~~for a first offense, after:~~

6 (i) ~~a period of one year (plus any extension of this period arising~~  
7 ~~from a violation of section 1213 of this title) if the person's license or privilege~~  
8 ~~to operate is suspended after a refusal to consent to a law enforcement officer's~~  
9 ~~reasonable request for an evidentiary test; or~~

10 (ii) ~~a period of nine months (plus any extension of this period~~  
11 ~~arising from a violation of section 1213 of this title) in all other cases; or~~

12 (B) ~~for persons operating under an ignition interlock RDL for a~~  
13 ~~second or subsequent offense, after:~~

14 (i) ~~a period of two years (plus any extension of this period arising~~  
15 ~~from a violation of section 1213 of this title) or until the person is 21,~~  
16 ~~whichever is longer, if the person's license or privilege to operate is suspended~~  
17 ~~after a refusal to consent to a law enforcement officer's reasonable request for~~  
18 ~~an evidentiary test; or~~

19 (ii) ~~a period of 18 months (plus any extension of this period~~  
20 ~~arising from a violation of section 1213 of this title) or until the person is 21,~~  
21 ~~whichever is longer, in all other cases~~ **after the end of the relevant suspension**

1 period under subsection (a) of this section, plus any extension of this period  
2 arising from a violation of section 1213 of this title if the person elects to  
3 operate under an ignition interlock RDL.

4 \* \* \*

5 \* \* \* DUI; Civil Suspensions \* \* \*

6 Sec. 9. 23 V.S.A. § 1205 is amended to read:

7 § 1205. CIVIL SUSPENSION; SUMMARY PROCEDURE

8 \* \* \*

9 (f) Review by Superior Court. Within seven days following receipt of a  
10 notice of intention to suspend and of suspension, a ~~person~~ defendant may ~~make~~  
11 a request ~~for~~ a hearing before the Superior Court by mailing or delivering the  
12 form provided with the notice. The request shall be mailed or delivered to the  
13 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, who shall then notify the Criminal Division  
14 of the Superior Court that a hearing has been requested and provide the State's  
15 Attorney with a copy of the notice.

16 (g) Preliminary hearing. The preliminary hearing shall be held within  
17 21 days of the alleged offense. Unless impracticable or continued for good  
18 cause shown, the date of the preliminary hearing shall be the same as the date  
19 of the first appearance in any criminal case resulting from the same incident for  
20 which the person received a citation to appear in court. The preliminary  
21 hearing shall be held in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Supreme

1 Court. At or before the preliminary hearing, the judicial officer shall  
2 determine whether the affidavit or affidavits filed by the State provide a  
3 sufficient factual basis under subsection (a) of this section for the civil  
4 suspension matter to proceed. At the preliminary hearing, if the defendant  
5 requests a hearing on the merits, the court shall set the date of the final hearing  
6 in accordance with subsection (h) of this section.

7 (h) Final hearing.

8 (1) If the defendant requests a hearing on the merits, the ~~Court shall~~  
9 ~~schedule a final hearing on the merits to~~ hearing shall be held within no later  
10 than 21 days of following the date of the preliminary hearing. ~~In no event may~~  
11 ~~a final hearing occur more than 42 days after the date of the alleged offense~~  
12 ~~without the consent of the defendant or for good cause shown. The final~~  
13 ~~hearing may only be continued by~~ except if this period is extended with the  
14 consent of the defendant or for good cause shown. The issues at the final  
15 hearing shall be limited to the following specifically enumerated issues:

16 (A) Whether the law enforcement officer had reasonable grounds to  
17 believe the person was operating, attempting to operate, or in actual physical  
18 control of a vehicle in violation of section 1201 of this title.

19 (B) Whether at the time of the request for the evidentiary test the  
20 officer informed the person of the person's rights and the consequences of

1 taking and refusing the test substantially as set out in subsection 1202(d) of  
2 this title.

3 (C) Whether the person refused to permit the test.

4 (D) Whether the test was taken and the test results indicated that the  
5 person's alcohol concentration was above a legal limit specified in subsection  
6 1201(a) or (d) of this title, at the time of operating, attempting to operate, or  
7 being in actual physical control of a vehicle in violation of section 1201 of this  
8 title, whether the testing methods used were valid and reliable, and whether the  
9 test results were accurate and accurately evaluated. Evidence that the test was  
10 taken and evaluated in compliance with rules adopted by the Department of  
11 Public Safety shall be prima facie evidence that the testing methods used were  
12 valid and reliable and that the test results are accurate and were accurately  
13 evaluated.

14 (E) Whether the requirements of section 1202 of this title were  
15 complied with.

16 (2) No less than seven days before the final hearing, and subject to the  
17 requirements of Vermont Rule of Civil Procedure 11, the defendant shall  
18 provide to the State and file with the Court ~~a list of the issues (limited to the~~  
19 ~~issues set forth in this subsection) that the defendant intends to raise~~ an answer  
20 to the notice of intent to suspend setting forth the issues raised by the  
21 defendant, limited to the issues set forth in this subsection, and a brief

1 statement of the facts and law upon which the defendant intends to rely at the  
2 final hearing. Only evidence that is relevant to an issue listed by the defendant  
3 may be raised by the defendant at the final hearing. The defendant shall not be  
4 permitted to raise any other evidence at the final hearing, and all other  
5 evidence shall be inadmissible.

6 \* \* \*

7 (n) Presumption. In a proceeding under this section;

8 (1) if at any time within two hours of operating, attempting to operate,  
9 or being in actual physical control of a vehicle a person had an alcohol  
10 concentration ~~of at or~~ above a legal limit specified in subsection 1201(a) or (d)  
11 of this title, it shall be a rebuttable presumption that the person's alcohol  
12 concentration was above the applicable limit at the time of operating,  
13 attempting to operate, or being in actual physical control;

14 (2) if a person operates, attempts to operate, or is in actual physical  
15 control of a vehicle in the presence of a law enforcement officer and is taken  
16 into custody in connection with such operation, attempted operation, or actual  
17 physical control, and while in the continuous custody of the officer at any time  
18 had an alcohol concentration at or above a legal limit specified in subsection  
19 1201(a) or (d) of this title, it shall be a rebuttable presumption that the person's  
20 alcohol concentration was above the applicable limit at the time of operating,  
21 attempting to operate, or being in actual physical control.

1 \* \* \*

2 (u) In any proceeding under this section;

3 (1) for cause shown, a party's chemist may be allowed to testify by  
4 telephone in lieu of a personal appearance;

5 (2) a party's chemist shall be allowed to testify by videoconference in  
6 lieu of a personal appearance, provided that videoconferencing shall be at the  
7 party's own expense and by the party's own arrangement.

8 Sec. 10. 23 V.S.A. § 1204 is amended to read:

9 § 1204. PERMISSIVE INFERENCES

10 (a) Upon the trial of any civil or criminal action or proceeding arising out  
11 of acts alleged to have been committed by a person while operating, attempting  
12 to operate or in actual physical control of a vehicle on a highway, the person's  
13 alcohol concentration shall give rise to the following permissive inferences:

14 \* \* \*

15 (3) If the person's alcohol concentration at any time within two hours of  
16 the alleged offense was ~~0.10 or more~~, at or above the applicable legal limit  
17 specified in subsection 1201(a) or (d) of this title, or was at or above the  
18 applicable legal limit at any time after the alleged offense if the person was in  
19 the continuous custody of the arresting officer until the time of the evidentiary  
20 test, it shall be a permissive inference that the person was under the influence  
21 of intoxicating liquor in violation of subdivision 1201(a)(2) or (3) of this title.

1 (b) The foregoing provisions shall not be construed as limiting the  
2 introduction of any other competent evidence bearing upon the question  
3 whether the person was under the influence of intoxicating liquor, nor shall  
4 they be construed as requiring that evidence of the amount of alcohol in the  
5 person's blood, breath, urine, or saliva must be presented.

6 \* \* \* DUI Penalties \* \* \*

7 Sec. 11. 23 V.S.A. § 1210 is amended to read:

8 § 1210. PENALTIES

9 \* \* \*

10 (b) First offense. A person who violates section 1201 of this title may be  
11 fined not more than ~~\$750.00~~, \$1,000.00 or imprisoned for not more than two  
12 years, or both.

13 (c) Second offense. A person convicted of violating section 1201 of this  
14 title who has been convicted of another violation of that section shall be fined  
15 not more than ~~\$1,500.00~~ \$2,000.00 or imprisoned not more than two years, or  
16 both. At least 200 hours of community service shall be performed, or 60  
17 consecutive hours of the sentence of imprisonment shall be served and may not  
18 be suspended or deferred or served as a supervised sentence, except that credit  
19 for a sentence of imprisonment may be received for time served in a residential  
20 alcohol facility pursuant to sentence if the program is successfully completed.

1 (d) Third offense. A person convicted of violating section 1201 of this title  
2 who has previously been convicted two times of a violation of that section  
3 shall be fined not more than ~~\$2,500.00~~ \$3,000.00 or imprisoned not more than  
4 five years, or both. At least 96 consecutive hours of the sentence of  
5 imprisonment shall be served and may not be suspended or deferred or served  
6 as a supervised sentence, except that credit for a sentence of imprisonment may  
7 be received for time served in a residential alcohol facility pursuant to sentence  
8 if the program is successfully completed. The Court may impose a sentence  
9 that does not include a term of imprisonment or that does not require that the  
10 96 hours of imprisonment be served consecutively only if the Court makes  
11 written findings on the record that such a sentence will serve the interests of  
12 justice and public safety.

13 (e)(1) Fourth or subsequent offense. A person convicted of violating  
14 section 1201 of this title who has previously been convicted three ~~or more~~  
15 times of a violation of that section shall be fined not more than ~~\$5,000.00~~  
16 \$4,000.00 for a fourth offense or imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.  
17 A person convicted of violating section 1201 of this title who has previously  
18 been convicted four or more times of a violation of that section shall be fined  
19 not more than the sum of \$5,000.00 plus an additional \$1,000.00 for each prior  
20 conviction that exceeds four priors or imprisoned not more than 10 years, or  
21 both. At least 192 consecutive hours of the sentence of imprisonment shall be

1 served and may not be suspended or deferred or served as a supervised  
2 sentence, except that credit for a sentence of imprisonment may be received for  
3 time served in a residential alcohol treatment facility pursuant to sentence if  
4 the program is successfully completed. The Court shall not impose a sentence  
5 that does not include a term of imprisonment unless the Court makes written  
6 findings on the record that there are compelling reasons why such a sentence  
7 will serve the interests of justice and public safety.

8 \* \* \*

9 \* \* \* Alcohol Screening Devices \* \* \*

10 Sec. 12. 7 V.S.A. § 501 is amended to read:

11 § 501. UNLAWFUL SALE OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS; CIVIL  
12 ACTION FOR DAMAGES

13 \* \* \*

14 (e) Evidence. In an action brought under this section, evidence of  
15 responsible actions taken or not taken is admissible, if otherwise relevant.  
16 Responsible actions may include, ~~but are not limited to,~~ instruction of servers  
17 as to laws governing the sale of alcoholic beverages, training of servers  
18 regarding intervention techniques, admonishment to patrons or guests  
19 concerning laws regarding the consumption of intoxicating liquor, making  
20 available an alcohol screening device, and inquiry under the methods provided  
21 by law as to the age or degree of intoxication of the persons involved.

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\* \* \* Alcohol Screening Devices; Study \* \* \*

**Sec. 13. ALCOHOL SCREENING DEVICES; STUDY**

The Commissioner of Liquor Control shall study whether and how the State should promote the availability and use of alcohol screening devices in the State, and whether making such devices available on the premises of liquor licensees and to individuals will promote public safety. On or before January 15, 2017, the Commissioner shall submit a written report of his or her findings and any proposed recommendations for legislation to the House and Senate Committees on Judiciary, the House Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs, and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

\* \* \* Serious Bodily Injury; Definition \* \* \*

Sec. 14. 23 V.S.A. § 4 is amended to read:

§ 4. DEFINITIONS

Except as may be otherwise provided herein, and unless the context otherwise requires in statutes relating to motor vehicles and enforcement of the law regulating vehicles, as provided in this title and 20 V.S.A. part 5, the following definitions shall apply:

\* \* \*

1           (84) “Serious bodily injury” has the meaning set forth in 13 V.S.A.  
2           § 1021.

3           \* \* \* Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle; Penalties \* \* \*

4           Sec. 15. 23 V.S.A. § 1091 is amended to read:

5           § 1091. NEGLIGENT OPERATION; GROSSLY NEGLIGENT  
6           OPERATION

7           (a) Negligent operation.

8           (1) A person who operates a motor vehicle on a public highway in a  
9           negligent manner shall be guilty of negligent operation.

10          (2) The standard for a conviction for negligent operation in violation of  
11          this subsection shall be ordinary negligence, examining whether the person  
12          breached a duty to exercise ordinary care.

13          (3) A person who violates this subsection shall be imprisoned not more  
14          than one year or fined not more than \$1,000.00, or both. If the person has been  
15          previously convicted of a violation of this subsection, the person shall be  
16          imprisoned not more than two years or fined not more than \$3,000.00, or both.

17          If serious bodily injury to or death of any person other than the operator  
18          results, the operator shall be subject to imprisonment for not more than two  
19          years or to a fine of not more than \$3,000.00, or both. If serious bodily injury  
20          or death results to more than one person other than the operator, the operator

1 may be convicted of a separate violation of this subdivision for each decedent  
2 or person injured.

3 (b) Grossly negligent operation.

4 (1) A person who operates a motor vehicle on a public highway in a  
5 grossly negligent manner shall be guilty of grossly negligent operation.

6 (2) The standard for a conviction for grossly negligent operation in  
7 violation of this subsection shall be gross negligence, examining whether the  
8 person engaged in conduct which involved a gross deviation from the care that  
9 a reasonable person would have exercised in that situation.

10 (3) A person who violates this subsection shall be imprisoned not more  
11 than two years or fined not more than \$5,000.00, or both. If the person has  
12 previously been convicted of a violation of this section, the person shall be  
13 imprisoned not more than four years or fined not more than \$10,000.00, or  
14 both. If serious bodily injury as defined in ~~13 V.S.A. § 1021~~ to or death of any  
15 person other than the operator results, the ~~person~~ operator shall be imprisoned  
16 for not more than 15 years or fined not more than \$15,000.00, or both. If  
17 serious bodily injury or death results to more than one person other than the  
18 operator, the operator may be convicted of a separate violation of this  
19 subdivision for each decedent or person injured.

20 (c) The provisions of this section do not limit or restrict the prosecution for  
21 manslaughter.

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\* \* \* Passing Vulnerable Users; Violations \* \* \*

Sec. 16. 23 V.S.A. § 1033 is amended to read:

§ 1033. PASSING MOTOR VEHICLES AND VULNERABLE USERS

\* \* \*

(c) If serious bodily injury to or death of any person other than the operator results from the operator’s violation of subsection (b) of this section, the operator shall be subject to imprisonment for not more than two years or a fine of not more than \$3,000.00, or both. The provisions of this section do not limit prosecution under section 1091 of this chapter or for any other crime.

\* \* \* Distracted Driving \* \* \*

Sec. 17. 23 V.S.A. § 607a is amended to read:

§ 607a. RECALL OF LEARNER’S PERMIT OR JUNIOR OPERATOR’S  
LICENSE

(a)(1) A learner’s permit or junior operator’s license shall contain an admonition that it is recallable and that the later procurement of an operator’s license is conditional on the establishment of a record which is satisfactory to the Commissioner and showing compliance with the motor vehicle laws of this and other states.

(2) The Commissioner may recall any permit or license issued to a minor:

1           (A) whenever he or she is satisfied, from information provided by  
2 a credible person and upon investigation, that the operator is mentally or  
3 physically unfit or, because of his or her habits or record as to accidents or  
4 convictions, is unsafe to be trusted with the operation of motor  
5 vehicles. ~~On; or~~

6           (B) for up to 30 days on recommendation of a diversion or reparative  
7 board, ~~the Commissioner may recall the learner's permit or junior operator's~~  
8 ~~license of a person~~ if the minor is enrolled in a diversion or reparative program  
9 for up to 30 days.

10           (3) The Commissioner shall ~~also~~ recall any learner's permit or junior  
11 operator's license issued to a minor for:

12           (A) 30 days following conviction of a second violation of section  
13 1095a of this chapter;

14           (B) 30 days ~~when an operator is adjudicated~~ following conviction of  
15 a single texting violation under section 1099 of this title;

16           (C) 90 days following ~~adjudication of~~ conviction of a single speeding  
17 violation resulting in a three-point assessment;

18           (D) 90 days when the minor has accumulated a total of six points ~~has~~  
19 ~~been accumulated,~~ against his or her driving record; or

20           (E) 90 days ~~when an operator is adjudicated~~ following conviction of  
21 a violation of subsection 614(c) or 615(a) of this title.

