

H.494

Introduced by Representatives Grad of Moretown, Donaghy of Poultney,  
Jewett of Ripton, Minter of Waterbury, Pellett of Chester and  
Potter of Clarendon

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Motor vehicles; junior operators; learner's permits; nighttime  
operation restrictions

Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to:

(1) prohibit driving between midnight and 5:00 a.m. by junior operators  
except when accompanied by a parent or guardian or when carrying the written  
permission of a parent or guardian.

(2) prohibit driving between midnight and 5:00 a.m. by holders of learner's  
permits under any circumstances.

An act relating to restrictions on nighttime operation of motor vehicles by  
junior operators and holders of learner's permits

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

Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 614(c) and (d) are added to read:

(c) A person operating with a junior operator's license shall not operate a  
motor vehicle between 12 midnight and 5:00 a.m. except when accompanied

1 by a parent or guardian or when carrying the signed and dated written  
2 permission of a parent or guardian that contains the parent's or guardian's  
3 home and work addresses and telephone numbers.

4 (d) A person in violation of subsection (c) of this section shall be allowed  
5 to drive home, on a direct route, following issuance of a traffic ticket by a law  
6 enforcement officer.

7 Sec. 2. 23 V.S.A. § 615 is amended to read:

8 § 615. UNLICENSED OPERATORS

9 (a)(1) An unlicensed person 15 years of age or older, may operate a motor  
10 vehicle, if he or she has in possession, a valid learner's permit issued to him or  
11 her by the commissioner and if their licensed parent or guardian, licensed or  
12 certified driver education instructor, or licensed person at least 25 years of age  
13 rides beside him or her. Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a  
14 person against whom a revocation or suspension of license is in force, or a  
15 person less than 15 years of age, or a person who has been refused a license by  
16 the commissioner, to operate a motor vehicle. Notwithstanding the provisions  
17 of this subdivision, an unlicensed person 15 years of age or older shall not  
18 operate a motor vehicle under any circumstances between 12 midnight and  
19 5:00 a.m.

20 (2) A licensed person who does not possess a valid motorcycle  
21 endorsement may operate a motorcycle, with no passengers, only during

1 daylight hours and then only if he or she has upon his or her person a valid  
2 motorcycle learner's permit issued to him or her by the commissioner.

3 (b) The commissioner, in his or her discretion, may recall a learner's permit  
4 in the same circumstances as he or she may recall a provisional license.

5 (c) A person in violation of subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall be  
6 allowed to drive home, on a direct route, following issuance of a traffic ticket  
7 by a law enforcement officer.