

S.259

Introduced by Senator Harrison

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Motor vehicles; education; driver education and training

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to permit the classroom portion of a driver education and training program to be fulfilled through an online course.

An act relating to online driver education

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

Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 1045 is amended to read:

§ 1045. DRIVER TRAINING COURSE

(a)(1) A driver education and training course, approved by the Agency of Education and the Department of Motor Vehicles, shall be made available to students whose parent or guardian is a resident of Vermont and who have reached ~~their 15th birthday~~ 15 years of age and who are regularly enrolled in a public or independent high school approved by the State Board.

(2) The driver education and training course made available to students may be an in-person course or an asynchronous online course.

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1       (e) Online driver education and training courses shall meet the content  
2       standards for driver education curricula in the most recent edition of the  
3       Novice Teen Driver Education and Training Administrative Standards.

4       (f) The Agency of Education and the Department of Motor Vehicles shall  
5       only approve online driver education and training courses that:

6           (1) include a means for each student to measure performance outcomes;

7           (2) use a pool of rotating exam questions;

8           (3) incorporate accountability features to verify the identity of each  
9       student while the student is engaged in the course of study;

10          (4) measure the amount of time that each student spends in the course;

11          (5) provide technical support to customers;

12          (6) store course content and student data on a secure server with  
13       adequate safeguards in place to protect against data breaches and data loss;

14          (7) incorporate appropriate measures to prevent unauthorized access to  
15       private information; and

16          (8) include the ability to update course content uniformly throughout the  
17       State.

18       Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

19       This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.