

Summary of S.123 as Proposed by House Transportation

Sec. 1. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 4(28). Definitions

- Clarifies that “pleasure car” includes plug-in electric, battery electric, and plug-in hybrid vehicles.

Sec. 2. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 7. Enhanced Driver’s License

- Clarifies that documents to prove identity are required for new applications only.

Sec. 3. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 115. Nondriver Identification Cards

- Adds language permitting an individual with a nondriver ID to elect to be an organ donor.

Sec. 4. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 304a. Special Registration Plates and Placards for Individuals with Disabilities

- Updates law to reflect that placards for volunteer drivers are not marked “volunteer driver”.

Sec. 5. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 115(a). Nondriver Identification Cards

- Waives fee for a nondriver ID card for individuals under 23 who are transitioning out of foster care in Vermont.

Sec. 6. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 376. State, Municipal, Fire Department, and Rescue Organization Motor Vehicles

- Waives EV Infrastructure Fee for EVs owned by State, municipalities, and volunteer fire and rescue organizations.

Sec. 7. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 378. Veterans’ Exemptions

- Waives the EV Infrastructure Fee and emissions fees for veterans who received a vehicle through financial assistance from the U.S. Dept. of Veterans’ Affairs.
- Extends fee waiver to any qualifying veteran discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.

Sec. 8. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 608. Fees

- Waives operator’s license and motorcycle endorsement fees for individuals under 23 who are transitioning out of foster care in Vermont.

Sec. 9. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 617. Learner’s Permit

- Waives learner’s permit fees for individuals under 23 who are transitioning out of foster care in Vermont.

Sec. 10. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 4111a. Commercial Learner’s Permit

- Provides that commercial learner’s permits shall include a photo of the holder.

Sec. 11. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 4122. Deferring Imposition of Sentence; Prohibition on Masking or Diversion

- Prohibits deferred sentence for CDL permit holders who commit traffic violations.

Sec. 12. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 632. Examination Required; Waiver

- Permits waiver of drivers test for holder of junior operator’s license from another jurisdiction.

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Sec. 13. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 634. Fee for Examination

- Provides that DMV shall start charging \$29.00 scheduling fee for road test on or before 7/1/26 to allow time for rollout of new IT system.
- Permits waiver of fee if appointment is canceled at least 48 hours in advance or for good cause.

Sec. 14. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 603. Application for and Issuance of License

- Provides that operator's privilege cards shall bear the phrase "non-REAL ID" to conform with federal law.

Sec. 15. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 604. Early Renewal

- Permits an operator's license or privilege card to be renewed early and for the applicant to pay a prorated fee based on the number of years left on original license.

Sec. 16. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 115b. Early Renewal

- Permits an Nondriver ID to be renewed early and for the applicant to pay a prorated fee based on the number of years left on original ID.

Sec. 17. Information Regarding Privilege Cards and Nondriver IDs; Intent

- States intent that individuals who do not want to or cannot provide documentation necessary for a REAL ID be given information about operator's privilege cards and nondriver IDs.

Sec. 18. Outreach; Updates

- Requires DMV to develop a public outreach campaign regarding ability to obtain a license or ID card, ability to self-attest to gender marker, and reduced fees available to certain individuals.
- Requires DMV to provide to updates to Transportation Committees regarding implementation and utilization of license and ID early renewal provisions.

Sec. 19. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 705. Commercial Driving Instructors

- Establishes experience requirements for commercial motor vehicle behind the wheel and theory instructors.

Sec. 20. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 734. Instructor Requirements and Training

- Reduces the amount of licensed experience as a motorcycle operator that is required to be a motorcycle instructor from four years to two years.

Sec. 21. Amends 32 V.S.A. § 8902. Definitions

- Replaces NADA Official Used Car Guide with JD Power Values for purposes of determining clean trade-in value of used car to reflect acquisition of NADA Used Car Guide by JD Power.

Sec. 22. Amends 32 V.S.A. § 8907. Commissioner; Computation of Taxable Costs

- Replaces NADA Official Used Car Guide with JD Power Values for purposes of determining clean trade-in value of used car to reflect acquisition of NADA Used Car Guide by JD Power.
- Permits Commissioner to develop process to determine value of vehicles not in JD Power Values.

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Sec. 23. Amends 32 V.S.A. § 8914. Refund

- Provides that request for purchase and use tax refund must be submitted within one year of paying tax.

Sec. 24. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 326. Refund Upon Loss of Vehicle

- Permits Commissioner to accept proof other than a returned registration or plates as proof that a vehicles registration was cancelled for purposes of refunding registration fee for destroyed vehicle.

Sec. 25. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 3020. Credits and Refunds

- Shortens period in which to request a fuel tax refund from 33 months to 12 months.

Sec. 26. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 1704a. Alteration of Odometers

- Clarifies that penalty for alteration of odometers applies to all offenses described in section.

Sec. 27. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 102. Duties of Commissioner

- Adds cross reference to definition of “conviction” for clarity.

Sec. 28. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 108. Application Forms

- Adds cross reference to definition of “conviction” for clarity.

Sec. 29. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 1709. Report of Convictions to Commissioner of Motor Vehicles

- Adds cross reference to definition of “conviction” for clarity.

Sec. 30. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 1200. Definitions

- Adds cross reference to definition of “conviction” for clarity.

Sec. 31. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 1205. Civil Suspension; Summary Procedure

- Adds clarification throughout section that drunken driving provisions apply to an individual operating a vehicle at or above the legal limit.

Sec. 32. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 1205(d). Civil Suspension; Summary Procedure

- Updates notice of intent to suspend for drunken driving to provide that the notice does not serve as a temporary license.

Sec. 33. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 367. Trucks

- Updates weights for truck registration fees to reflect Department’s fee schedule.

Sec. 34. Amends 32 V.S.A. § 8902. Definitions

- Updates purchase and use tax definitions with definition of mail and clarified cross reference in definition of motor vehicle.

Sec. 35. Amends 32 V.S.A. § 8905. Collection of Tax; Education; Appeals

- Requires Commissioner to establish appeal procedures for purchase and use tax and to create education and outreach materials for appeal process.

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Sec. 36. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 2502. Point Assessment; Schedule

- Adds cross-reference to statute prohibiting excessive speed in point assessment for operating 30+ mph over the speed limit.

Sec. 37. Repeals 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 165, Secs. 14, 15, and 16

- Repeals window tinting amendments from last year's motor vehicle bill.

Sec. 38. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 3501. Definitions

- Updates definition of ATV to allow for wider vehicles (72" vs. 64").

Sec. 39. Motor Vehicle Purchase and Use Tax; Inspections; Report

- Requires DMV to report on process for determining taxable cost of used motor vehicles, including appraisal process and appeals, and to examine the financial impact of inspections on Vermonters.

Sec. 40. Amends 23 V.S.A. § 1139. Riding on Roadways and Bicycle Paths

- Permits bicycles to cross an intersection with a pedestrian walk signal.

Sec. 41. Adds 23 V.S.A. § 1139a. Bicycle Control Signals

- Establishes requirements for bicycle operation at bicycle-specific traffic signals.

Sec. 42. Bicycle Operation at Stop Signs and Signals; Education; Outreach

- Requires DMV and Dept. of Public Safety, in consultation with stakeholders, to develop education and outreach materials regarding laws governing operation of bicycles on roadways and requirements for operation of motor vehicles in relation to bicycles.

Sec. 43. Findings; Intent; Legal Trails

- Sets forth intent of General Assembly to clarify municipalities' authority to maintain legal trails.

Sec. 44. Amends 19 V.S.A. chapter 3. Town Highways

- Updates town highway law's definition of "trail" (aka legal trails) and provision's related to trails to clarify that municipalities have right to maintain trails created under town highway law.

Sec. 44. Effective Dates

- Secs. 15 and 16 (early renewal of licenses and nondriver IDs) take effect on passage.
- Remainder of bill is effective July 1, 2025.