
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DRIVER'S LICENSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 286-101.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

3 "(a) The director may grant reciprocal licensing
4 privileges to any person eighteen years of age or older who
5 holds a license from another country or state, thereby allowing
6 the examiner of drivers to waive examination requirements under
7 section [~~286-108(e)(3)~~] 286-108(d)(3) if:

- 8 (1) That jurisdiction has procedures in place to verify
9 the validity of the driver's licenses it issues;
- 10 (2) That jurisdiction has granted a waiver of all or any
11 part of the driver's license examination requirements
12 for Hawaii licensed drivers applying for a driver's
13 license in that jurisdiction; and
- 14 (3) The director determines that the standards of that
15 jurisdiction for licensing operators of motor vehicles
16 correspond substantially to those of this State."



1 SECTION 2. Section 286-108, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 **"§286-108 Examination of applicants.** (a) Except as
4 provided in section 286-107.5(a), the examiner of drivers shall
5 examine every applicant for a driver's license, except as
6 otherwise provided in this part. The examination shall include
7 a test of:

- 8 (1) The applicant's eyesight and any further physical
9 examination that the examiner of drivers finds
10 necessary to determine the applicant's fitness to
11 operate a motor vehicle safely upon the highways;
- 12 (2) The applicant's ability to understand highway signs
13 regulating, warning, and directing traffic;
- 14 (3) The applicant's knowledge of the rules of the road
15 based on the traffic laws of the State and the traffic
16 ordinances of the county where the applicant resides
17 or intends to operate a motor vehicle; provided that
18 the examination shall specifically test the
19 applicant's knowledge of the provisions of section
20 291C-121.5 and section 291C-137; and



1 (4) The actual demonstration of ability to exercise
2 ordinary and reasonable control in the operation of a
3 motor vehicle.

4 The examinations shall be appropriate to the operation of the
5 category of motor vehicle for which the applicant seeks to be
6 licensed and shall be conducted as required by the director.

7 The examiner of drivers shall require every applicant to
8 comply with section 286-102.5.

9 The examiner of drivers may waive the actual demonstration
10 of ability to operate a motorcycle or motor scooter for any
11 person who furnishes evidence, to the satisfaction of the
12 examiner of drivers, that the person has completed the
13 motorcycle education course approved by the director in
14 accordance with section 431:10G-104.

15 For the purposes of this section, the term "applicant" does
16 not include any person reactivating a license under section 286-
17 107.5(a).

18 (b) The examiner of drivers shall conduct the testing of
19 an applicant to demonstrate the ability to exercise ordinary and
20 reasonable control in the operation of a motor vehicle pursuant



1 to subsection (a) (4) in English or, upon request by the
2 applicant, the following languages:

3 (1) Hawaiian;

4 (2) Japanese;

5 (3) Mandarin;

6 (4) Korean

7 (5) Spanish;

8 (6) Tagalog;

9 (7) Ilocano;

10 (8) Vietnamese

11 (9) Samoan

12 (10) Chuukese;

13 (11) Kosraean;

14 (12) Marshallese;

15 (13) Palauan;

16 (14) Pohnpeian; or

17 (15) Yapese.

18 ~~(b)~~ (c) The examiner of drivers shall require proof from
19 every applicant under the age of eighteen that the applicant has
20 completed a driver education program and a behind-the-wheel
21 driver training course certified by the director of



1 transportation. The examiner of drivers shall not examine any
2 applicant for a provisional license who is sixteen through
3 seventeen years of age unless the applicant holds and has held a
4 valid instruction permit under section 286-110, for a period of
5 no fewer than one hundred eighty days. If the applicant's
6 instruction permit has expired and a new instruction permit was
7 issued within thirty days of its expiration, the examiner of
8 drivers may examine the applicant without requiring an
9 additional one hundred eighty day period.

10 [~~e~~] (d) The examiner of drivers may waive the written or
11 oral examination required under subsection (a) (2) and (3) and
12 the actual demonstration of ability to operate a motor vehicle
13 for any person who:

14 (1) Is at least eighteen years of age and who possesses a
15 valid driver's license issued to the applicant in any
16 other state of the United States, the District of
17 Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American
18 Samoa, Guam, a province of the Dominion of Canada, or
19 the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for
20 the operation of vehicles in categories 1 through 3 of
21 section 286-102;



1 (2) Has completed the same requirements as set forth in
2 section 286-102.6(f) in another state and possesses a
3 valid provisional license from that state; or

4 (3) Is at least eighteen years of age and who possesses a
5 valid driver's license issued to the applicant in any
6 jurisdiction for which the director has granted
7 reciprocal licensing privileges in accordance with
8 section 286-101.5 for the operation of vehicles in
9 category (3) of section 286-102(b).

10 [~~(d)~~] (e) As part of the examination required by this
11 section, the applicant for a driver's license shall produce and
12 display a valid motor vehicle or liability insurance
13 identification card for the motor vehicle required by sections
14 431:10C-107 and 431:10G-106, when the applicant demonstrates the
15 ability to operate a motor vehicle to the satisfaction of the
16 examiner of drivers. If no valid motor vehicle or liability
17 insurance identification card is displayed, the examiner of
18 drivers shall not issue a driver's license to the applicant."

19 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

21 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



H.B. NO. 2116

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INTRODUCED BY: *One Act*

JAN 19 2024



H.B. NO. 2116

Report Title:

Driver's License; Examination; Language

Description:

Requires the examiner of drivers of a county to conduct the testing of an applicant for a driver's license to demonstrate the ability to exercise ordinary and reasonable control in the operation of a motor vehicle in English or in certain other languages at the request of the applicant..

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