

Department of Motor Vehicles 2008 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB889ER2

House of Origin ___ Introduced ___ Substitute ___ Engrossed
Second House ___ In Committee ___ Substitute X Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Lohr

3. **Committee:** Passed both House and Senate; Reenrolled

4. **Title:** Required driving hours for holders of learner's permits.

5. **Summary:** Required driving hours for holders of learner's permits. Increases the minimum driving hours from 40 to 45 hours, at least 15 of which must be after sunset. The bill additionally requires, on a form supplied by DMV, certification of the hours driven.

6. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:**

6a. **Expenditure Impact:**

| <i>Fiscal Year</i> | <i>Dollars</i> | <i>Positions</i> | <i>Fund</i> |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------|
| 2008 | | | |
| 2009 | \$23,220 | N/A | NGF |
| 2010 | | | |
| 2011 | | | |
| 2012 | | | |
| 2013 | | | |
| 2014 | | | |

7. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** None.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:**

Juvenile drivers, parents, DMV, the Department of Education, and driver training and driver education instructors.

Juveniles holding a learner's permit will be required to undergo 45 hours of driving time (up from the current 40 hours), 15 hours of which occurred after sunset (up from the current 10 hours), while accompanied by a parent, foster parent or guardian.

The parent, foster parent, or legal guardian of the juvenile driver will be required to sign a statement certifying that the juvenile driver met these requirements and provide his or her driver's license number. The Governor recommended, and the General Assembly accepted, that the parent, foster parent, or legal guardian could also provide his or her DMV-issued identification card number in lieu of the driver's license number.

The driver's education certificate if completed is submitted to DMV at the completion of the course. Driver training and driver education instructors will be required to hold the certificate of completion until the parent, foster parent or guardian has certified to completion of the 45 hours of practice driving before submitting it to DMV.

In cases where the parent, foster parent, or guardian is unlicensed, such persons usually authorize a family member, neighbor or friend who holds a valid license to accompany the juvenile while the juvenile is practicing driving. This is allowed under Va. Code Section 46.2-335(A), which specifies that a juvenile holding a learner's permit may operate a vehicle when accompanied by any licensed driver 21 years of age or older or by various family members such as siblings 18 years of age or older.

In cases where no driver's license or identification card number is provided, DMV would have to hold the driver's license and send a letter to the parent requesting that the certification be completed by including one of those numbers. DMV would not be able to forward the juvenile's license to the court for presentation to the juvenile until it receives the signed certification with the requested information.

DMV currently provides Form DTS B, "Virginia Driver Training Certificate" which is used by the driver training instructors licensed by DMV. The form includes a parental certification as to the hours the juvenile has driven a vehicle while accompanied by the parent. This form would need to be revised to include the new language for the certification and the provision to record the driver's license or ID card number of the parent, foster parent or guardian.

The Department of Education (DOE) has an instructional manual "40-Hour Parent/Teen Driving Guide" which includes a parent/teen driving agreement and a 40-hour driving log. The manual would have to be revised as part of the implementation of this bill. Driver education instructors certified by DOE use form PDL, "Driver Education Certificate", which will also have to be revised.

Costs to DMV of an estimated \$23,220 is required to amend its forms, and to further develop and implement an automated process to produce a letter to the parent and track the response.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments:

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