A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSES.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that, effective
- 2 February 7, 2022, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety
- 3 Administration is requiring states to comply with federal
- 4 regulations requiring entry level driver training for certain
- 5 first-time commercial driver license's applicants. Failure to
- 6 comply will result in a penalty. The first year the State fails
- 7 to comply will result in the withholding of four per cent of
- 8 funds required to be apportioned to Hawaii under title 23 United
- 9 States Code section 104(b)(1) and (2). The second and
- 10 subsequent years the State is out of compliance will result in
- 11 an eight per cent penalty. The dollar amounts that will be
- 12 withheld respectively are \$6,185,220 and \$12,370,440.
- 13 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:
- 14 (1) Clarify the validity period of a commercial learner's
- 15 permit; and
- 16 (2) Bring the State into compliance with federal
- 17 regulations by requiring certain commercial driver's

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              license applicants to complete an entry-level driver
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              training course before taking other required tests for
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              licensure.
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         SECTION 2. Section 286-236, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
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    amended as follows:
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         1. By amending subsection (e) to read:
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               The commercial learner's permit shall not be valid
    for a period in excess of one hundred eighty days [-] from the
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    date that the applicant passes the general and all required
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    endorsement knowledge tests, or if the applicant is not required
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    to take a knowledge test, the period shall start when the permit
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    is issued. When driving a commercial motor vehicle, the holder
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    of a commercial learner's permit shall be accompanied by a
    person with a valid commercial driver's license to operate that
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    category of commercial motor vehicle with the proper
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    endorsements. The licensed person shall occupy the seat beside
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    the individual for the purpose of giving instruction in driving
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    the commercial motor vehicle. The commercial learner's permit
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    may be renewed no more than an additional one hundred eighty
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    days without requiring the commercial learner's permit holder to
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    retake the general or endorsement knowledge tests, and the
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- 1 applicant requalifies meeting the requirements of
- 2 subsection (d). The commercial learner's permit holder is
- 3 eligible to take the commercial driver's license skills test no
- 4 earlier than fourteen days after obtaining the permit."
- 5 2. By amending subsection (g) to read:
- 6 "(g) Every applicant shall successfully complete the
- 7 commercial driver's license general knowledge test before being
- 8 issued a commercial learner's permit. A driver holding a valid
- 9 commercial driver's license who seeks an upgrade for which a
- 10 skills test is required shall also pass the appropriate
- 11 knowledge test [prior to] before obtaining a commercial
- 12 learner's permit. As of February 7, 2022, except for a driver
- 13 holding a valid commercial learner's permit or commercial
- 14 driver's license that was obtained before February 7, 2022,
- 15 every applicant shall complete the entry-level driver training
- 16 requirements as specified in title 49 Code of Federal
- 17 Regulations part 380, subpart F, and be verified with the
- 18 Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Training Provider
- 19 Registry before taking the skills test for a class A or class B
- 20 commercial driver's license, passenger endorsement, or school

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- 1 bus endorsement, and before taking the knowledge test for a
- 2 hazardous materials endorsement."
- 3 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2050.

Report Title:

Transportation; Commercial Driver's License; Commercial Learner's Permit; Entry-Level Driver Training Course

Description:

Clarifies the validity period for a commercial learner's permit. Adds a requirement for certain commercial driver's license applicants to complete an entry-level driver training course before taking other required tests for licensure. Effective 1/1/2050. (HD2)

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