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# 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 requires 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



1 license applicants to complete an entry-level driver  
2 training course before taking other required tests for  
3 licensure.

4 SECTION 2. Section 286-236, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
5 amended as follows:

6 1. By amending subsection (e) to read:

7 "(e) The commercial learner's permit shall not be valid  
8 for a period in excess of one hundred eighty days[-] from the  
9 date that the applicant passes the general and all required  
10 endorsement knowledge tests, or if the applicant is not required  
11 to take a knowledge test, the period shall start when the permit  
12 is issued. When driving a commercial motor vehicle, the holder  
13 of a commercial learner's permit shall be accompanied by a  
14 person with a valid commercial driver's license to operate that  
15 category of commercial motor vehicle with the proper  
16 endorsements. The licensed person shall occupy the seat beside  
17 the individual for the purpose of giving instruction in driving  
18 the commercial motor vehicle. The commercial learner's permit  
19 may be renewed no more than an additional one hundred eighty  
20 days without requiring the commercial learner's permit holder to  
21 retake the general or endorsement knowledge tests, and the



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. Beginning February 7, 2022, except for a  
13 driver 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



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. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is  
not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

