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AB-1024 Driving schools. (2015-2016)

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Assembly Bill No. 1024

CHAPTER 523

An act to add Section 11102.6 to the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

[Approved by Governor October 06, 2015. Filed with Secretary of State October 06, 2015.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1024, Beth Gaines. Driving schools.

Existing law requires a person who is licensed as a driving school operator by the Department of Motor Vehicles to meet specified requirements, and provides for disciplinary action against those licensees who commit certain acts. Existing law specifies certain requirements that a driving school operator must satisfy, including, among others, passing an examination, within 3 attempts, on traffic laws, safe driving practices, the operation of motor vehicles, and other topics. Existing law requires the operator to have worked as a driving instructor for a specified number of hours, as provided.

This bill would require driving school operators who are first licensed on or after July 1, 2016, and who offer no behind-the-wheel driver training, to successfully complete a 60-hour educational program acceptable to the department with specified content, including operator responsibilities and current laws, instead of meeting the requirement of having worked as a driving instructor for a specified number of hours.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 11102.6 is added to the Vehicle Code, to read:

11102.6. (a) Notwithstanding Section 11102.5, a driving school operator who is first licensed to operate a driving school on or after July 1, 2016, and who offers no behind-the-wheel driver training, shall meet all of the following requirements:

- (1) Within three attempts, pass an examination that the department requires on traffic laws, safe driving practices, operation of motor vehicles, teaching methods and techniques, driving school statutes and regulations, and office procedures and recordkeeping.
- (2) Pay the department a fee for each examination taken, not to exceed the reasonable cost of administering the examination.
- (3) Be 21 years of age or older.
- (4) Have successfully completed an educational program of not less than 60 hours that is acceptable to the department. The program shall include a minimum of 40 hours of classroom instruction and 20 hours of behind the wheel instruction. The program shall include, but not be limited to, driving school operator responsibilities, current vehicle laws, and regulations in

Article 4.6 of Chapter 1 of Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations. The instruction may be provided by generally accredited educational institutions, private vocational schools, and education programs and seminars offered by professional societies, organizations, trade associations, and other educational and technical programs that meet the requirements of this section.

(b) The qualifying requirements referred to in this section shall be met within one year from the date of application for a license, or a new application, examination, and a fee for the examination not to exceed the reasonable cost of administering the examination shall be required.