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SENATE FILE

2011

BY REDWINE

Passed Senate, Date _____

Passed House, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act allowing teaching parents to provide driver education
2 instruction.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SF 2011 TRANSPORTATION

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 321.178A DRIVER EDUCATION --
2 TEACHING PARENT.

3 1. TEACHING PARENT QUALIFICATIONS. As an alternative to
4 section 321.178, a teaching parent may instruct a student in
5 driver education courses. To qualify as a teaching parent,
6 the parent or guardian must have satisfied the educational
7 requirements for a teaching license at the elementary or
8 secondary level and hold a valid license to teach driver
9 education in the public schools of this state or comply with
10 the definition of a teaching parent in this section and
11 provide certified evidence that the requirements under this
12 section have been met.

13 2. DEFINITIONS. For purposes of this section:

14 a. "Student" means a person within the custody and control
15 of the teaching parent, who is between the ages of fourteen
16 and twenty-one years of age and who satisfies preliminary
17 licensing requirements of the department.

18 b. "Teaching parent" means a person who is the parent or
19 guardian of a student, who holds a valid Iowa driver's
20 license, and who elects to engage in instruction of the
21 student.

22 3. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION. A driver education course
23 administered by a teaching parent shall consist at a minimum
24 of the following:

25 a. Thirty clock hours of classroom instruction.

26 b. Fifty hours of street or highway driving.

27 c. Four hours of classroom instruction concerning
28 substance abuse.

29 The content of the course of instruction required under
30 this subsection shall be equivalent to that required under
31 section 321.178. However, the course requirements, reference
32 and study materials, manuals, study aids, workbooks, physical
33 requirements, classroom dimensions, type of chalkboards, extra
34 vehicle safety equipment, extra foot brake, cut-off switches,
35 and extra mirrors required for instruction under section

1 321.178 shall not be required for the course of instruction
2 provided under this section.

3 4. COURSE COMPLETION AND CERTIFICATION. Upon completion
4 of a course under this section, the teaching parent shall
5 document or provide evidence showing substantial statutory
6 compliance with the requirements of subsection 3 and certify
7 by affidavit to the department of education that the course
8 has been completed. Documentation shall include the
9 following:

10 a. An affidavit attesting to satisfactory completion of
11 course work and laboratory experience.

12 b. A listing of subjects presented in classroom training.

13 c. Copies of written tests completed by the student.

14 d. A statement of the number of classroom hours of
15 instruction.

16 e. A log of street and highway instruction including the
17 date when the lessons were conducted, the student's and the
18 parent's name and initials noted next to each entry, notes on
19 driving activities, including a list of driving deficiencies
20 and improvements, and the duration of the driving time for
21 each session. If the department of education is satisfied
22 that the course has been completed in accordance with this
23 section, the department shall certify it as an approved driver
24 education course.

25 5. DRIVER'S LICENSE. Any student who successfully
26 completes an approved driver education course as provided in
27 this section shall be eligible for a driver's license as
28 provided in section 321.180B or 321.194.

29 EXPLANATION

30 This bill allows a parent or guardian to teach driver
31 education and allows a student who successfully completes the
32 teaching parent instruction to obtain a driver's license. To
33 qualify as a teaching parent, the person must have satisfied
34 the educational requirements for a teaching license at the
35 elementary or secondary level and hold a valid license to

1 teach driver education in the public schools of this state or
2 comply with the definition of a teaching parent and provide
3 certified evidence that all the requirements in the bill have
4 been met.

5 The bill defines "student" as a person within the custody
6 and control of the teaching parent, who is between the ages of
7 14 and 21 years of age and who satisfies the state department
8 of transportation's preliminary licensing requirements, and
9 "teaching parent" as a person who is the parent or guardian of
10 a student who holds a valid Iowa driver's license and who
11 elects to engage in instruction of the student.

12 The bill provides that a driver education course
13 administered by a teaching parent shall consist of 30 clock
14 hours of classroom instruction, 50 hours of street or highway
15 driving, and four hours of classroom instruction concerning
16 substance abuse. Currently, an approved driver education
17 course must consist of at least 30 hours of classroom
18 instruction, six or more hours of laboratory instruction, of
19 which at least three hours must be street or highway driving,
20 four hours of substance abuse instruction, 20 minutes of
21 instruction concerning railroad crossing safety, and
22 instruction relating to becoming an organ donor. The bill
23 provides that the content of the instruction shall be
24 equivalent to that required under Code section 321.178. The
25 course requirements, reference and study materials, manuals,
26 study aids, workbooks, physical requirements, classroom
27 dimensions, type of chalkboards, extra vehicle safety
28 equipment, extra foot brake, cut-off switches, and extra
29 mirrors are not required for a course of instruction under
30 this section.

31 When the course is completed, the teaching parent must
32 document or provide evidence showing substantial statutory
33 compliance and certify that information by affidavit to the
34 department of education. Documentation shall include an
35 affidavit attesting to satisfactory completion of course work

1 and laboratory experience, a listing of subjects presented in
2 classroom training, copies of written tests completed by the
3 student, a statement of the number of classroom hours, and a
4 log of street and highway instruction including the date when
5 the lessons were conducted, the student's name and initials,
6 the parent's name and initials, notes on driving activities,
7 including deficiencies and improvements, and the driving time
8 for each session. If the department of education is satisfied
9 that the course has been completed as required in accordance
10 with new Code section 321.178A, the department shall certify
11 the course as an approved driver education course. A student
12 who successfully completes an approved driver education course
13 pursuant to new Code section 321.178A is eligible to obtain a
14 driver's license in the same manner as a person who completes
15 an approved driver education course pursuant to Code section
16 321.178.

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