

HB

75

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: HB075
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____
 Title "An Act relating to driver's licenses and alcohol awareness testing"
 Sponsor Rep. Ramras
 Requester (H) STA

Dept. Affected: Administration
 RDU Division of Motor Vehicles
 Component Motor Vehicles
 Component No. 2348

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contractual	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Land & Structures	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grants & Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL OPERATING	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1003 GF Match	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1004 GF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1037 GF/Mental Health	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1156 Receipt Supported Services	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2007) cost: 0.0

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2008 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Part-time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This legislation will require that an applicant for an original Alaska Driver's License, over age 21, take and pass a separate knowledge (written) test specific to alcohol awareness. The 1-time cost is to contract with our software provider for programing this new test into our existing testing machines.

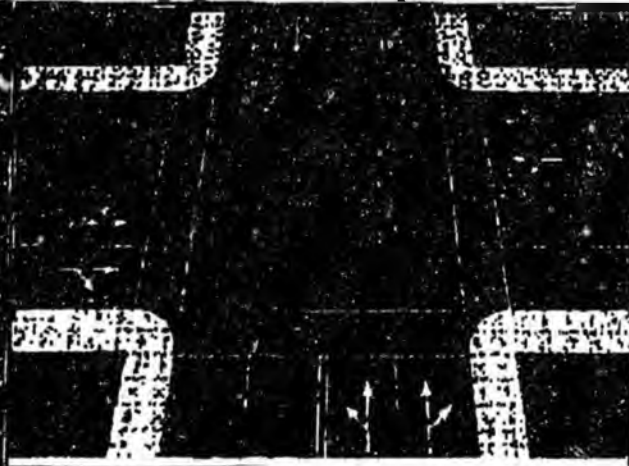
Prepared by: Duane Bannock, director
 Division: Motor Vehicles
 Approved by: Kevin Brooks, Deputy Commissioner
 Agency: Department of Administration

Phone: 465-2200
 Date/Time: 2/2/07 12:00 PM
 Date: 2/5/2007

Alaska Department of Motor Vehicles
Driver's License Test

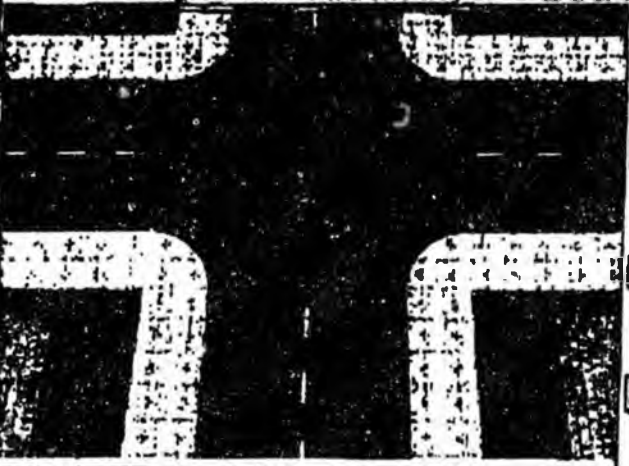
I AM A SAMPLE	123-45-7894
General Knowledge	02-06-2007
Juneau Office	English(EN)
20 Questions	25 Minutes
	16 Questions

When turning right from a two way street onto another two way street you should:



- A Get into right lane well ahead of turn
- B Look out of right side of windshield for pedestrians
- C Signal intention to turn for at least 100 feet
- D All of these

You are making left turn from a one way street to a one way street. You should:



- A Approach the intersection in the left lane, and enter either lane.
- B Approach the intersection in the left lane and enter the cross street in the left lane.
- C Approach in either lane but enter in the lane closest to the left.
- D You can not make this type of turn

Test #1

1

A solid double yellow center line means:

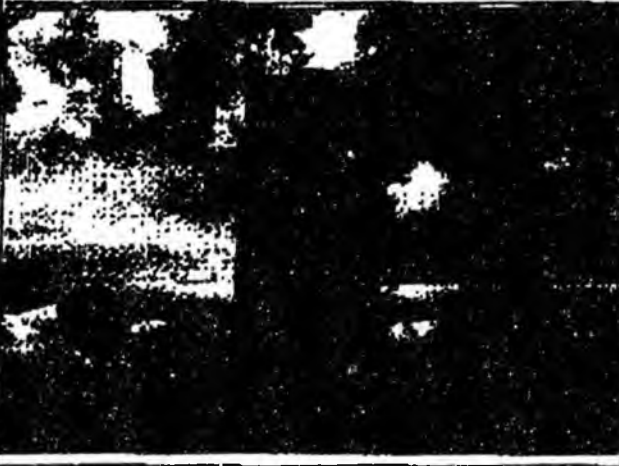


- A Passing permitted when safe
- B Residential district
- C Passing is not permitted
- D Dangerous curve ahead - reduce speed

Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) is a crime which carries mandatory jail sentence. What is the minimum jail time you will get in a first conviction for DWI?

- A 20 consecutive days
- B 96 consecutive hours
- C 10 consecutive days
- D 72 consecutive hours

You see a flashing red ball. You should:



- A Proceed only when it is safe to do so.
- B Proceed as if it were a stop sign.
- C Come to a complete stop.
- D All of these

What does the solid red arrow mean?



- A Stop and do not turn until the arrow turns to green.
- B Left turns are not permitted.
- C Stop and then proceed only when it is safe to do so.
- D None of these



The closest you can get to the back of an ambulance traveling in response to an emergency is:

- A 200 feet
- B 300 feet
- C 400 feet
- D 500 feet

What does this sign mean?



- A Merge left.
- B Winding road ahead.
- C Traffic merging in from right.
- D Keep to the right.

When approaching a school bus displaying flashing red lights, the driver should:

- A Stop, and do not move the car until the red lights go out
- B Slow down and proceed with caution
- C Stop, make sure it is safe to pass the bus, then move on
- D Blow the horn and pass slowly

One of the penalties for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) or refusal to submit to a chemical test is loss of license for not less than:

- A Six months.
- B 90 days
- C 60 days
- D 30 days

A driver approaching a stopped school bus displaying flashing amber lights should always:

- A Blow your horn and pass slowly.
- B Slow down and prepare to stop
- C Speed up and pass quickly
- D Stop, and do not start until bus has passed you

What must you do if your license has been suspended, before it is reinstated?

- A Pass any required test.
- B Provide proof of insurance (SR-22).
- C Pay a reinstatement fee.
- D All of the above.

In the event of a crash, you are required to do what right away?

- A Stop at once
- B Help anyone who may be hurt
- C Warn other traffic
- D All of the above

(3)

Excluding business districts, alleys, school zones and residential districts, the speed limit on Alaskan roadways is:

- A 55
- B 50
- C 60
- D 45

An orange triangle with red borders like this sign means:



- A Slow moving vehicle
- B Detour
- C Work zone
- D Yield

Dim your headlights when you are _____ feet away from an oncoming vehicle.

- A 300 or more
- B 500 or more
- C 400 or more
- D 200 or more

Mandatory insurance laws require that proof of insurance be provided when involved in a crash. The penalty for driving without motor vehicle liability insurance is license suspension for a minimum of:

- A 60 days
- B 90 days
- C 2 years
- D 30 days

A conviction of reckless driving will result in:

- A Revocation of the license to drive.
- B Suspension of the privilege to drive.
- C A warning for the first occurrence, and a \$50 fine in the second.
- D A \$50 fine and 4 points on your record.

One of the ways to avoid a rear end collision with the car in front of you is:

- A Use the four-second rule.
- B Watch for brake lights.
- C Look for problems ahead.
- D All of the above.

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This sign warns you to:



A Look for a traffic light ahead.

B Stop at the next intersection.

C Look for a railroad crossing ahead.

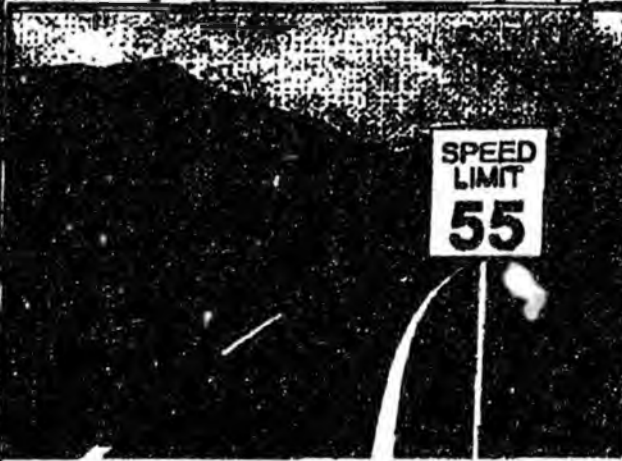
D None of these

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Alaska Department of Motor Vehicles
Driver's License Test

I AM A SAMPLE	123-45-6789
General Knowledge	02-06-2007
Juneau Office	English(EN)
20 Questions	25 Minutes
	16 Questions

When this sign is posted on a multi-lane highway, you:



- A May go 60 miles per hour to pass another car.
- B Must go 55 miles per hour
- C May go 55 miles per hour
- D May not pass

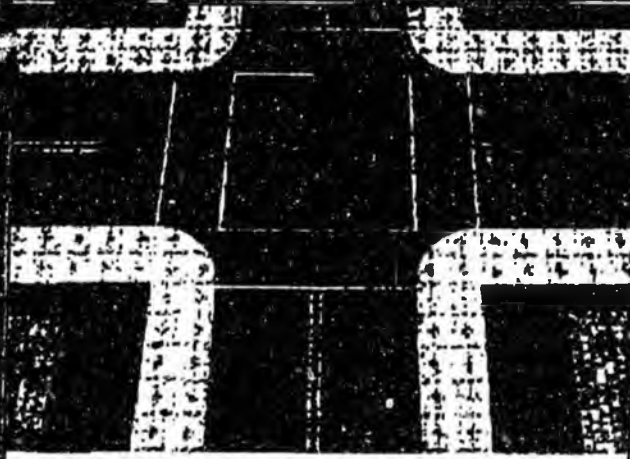
One of the penalties for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) or refusal to submit to a chemical test is loss of license for not less than:

- A 90 days
- B Six months.
- C 60 days
- D 30 days

Parking lights may only be used:

- A When visibility is poor
- B Within one hour of sunset or sunrise
- C When parked
- D All of these

The right of way law for going through an uncontrolled intersection states that:

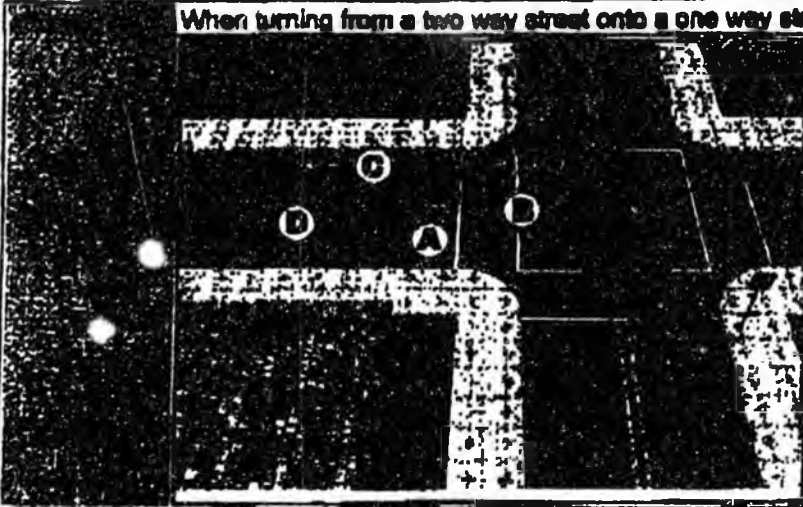


- A The driver on the right should blink the headlight to signal their intent.
- B The driver on the left has the right of way.
- C The driver on the left should never stop.
- D The driver on the right has the right of way.

Test #2

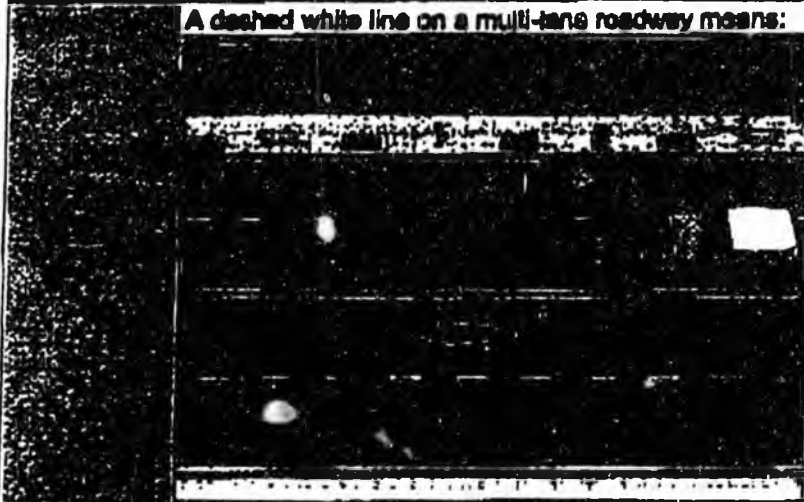
6

When turning from a two way street onto a one way street which path should you follow?



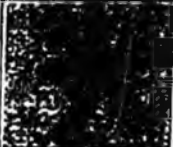
- A Path A
- B Path B
- C Path C
- D Path D

A dashed white line on a multi-lane roadway means:



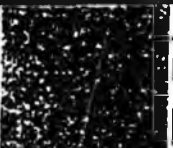
- A Passing is permitted into any lane.
- B Passing is prohibited.
- C Passing is permitted into adjoining lane across dashed white line.
- D None of these

Statistics show that alcohol is



- A involved in more than half of all traffic deaths.
- B rarely involved in any traffic crashes.
- C the cause of all traffic crashes.
- D involved only in traffic crashes when death doesn't occur.

You are stopped at a railroad crossing and the train has just passed. You can:



- A Look to see if another train is coming and then cross the tracks if clear.
- B Pull aside to have a better view and then cross the tracks.
- C Start to cross the tracks.
- D Wait 20 seconds to cross the tracks.

Slower moving vehicles on a multi-lane highway should:



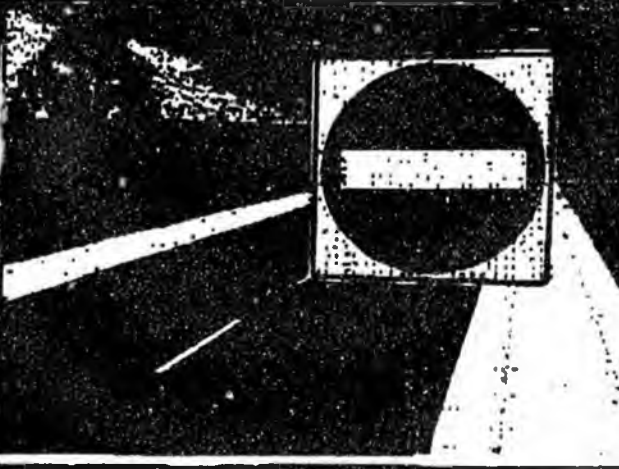
- A Use either lane
- B Use right hand lane
- C Use left hand lane
- D Use lane with least traffic



A siren is in operation on an emergency vehicle. You must:

- A Slow down and drive with caution
- B Stop where you are
- C Drive to the nearest intersection and stop
- D Pull over to the side and stop clear of intersection

When you see the sign below, you are allowed to:



- A Enter the street if you're only going less than one block.
- B Enter the street if the weather conditions are ideal
- C Drive in reverse into the street if you're only going less than a block.
- D None of these

A conviction of reckless driving will result in:

- A A warning for the first occurrence, and a \$50 fine in the second.
- B A \$50 fine and 4 points on your record.
- C Suspension of the privilege to drive.
- D Revocation of the license to drive.

You are driving on a highway with separated roadways with two or more lanes in each direction. A school bus has stopped in the opposite direction.

- A You must stop until the red lights stop flashing.
- B You must slow down.
- C You can proceed at 15 miles per hour.
- D You need not stop.

You must indicate your intention to turn at least _____ before turning.

- A 100 feet
- B 50 feet
- C 200 feet
- D 300 feet

Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) is a crime which carries mandatory jail sentence. What is the minimum jail time you will get in a first conviction for DWI?

- A 96 consecutive hours
- B 20 consecutive days
- C 10 consecutive days
- D 72 consecutive hours

At an intersection with a traffic light showing a left green arrow, you should:

- A Stop, then make the left turn
- B Wait until the light turns green
- C Turn left when intersection is clear
- D Always speed up and quickly turn left.

5

Operators or owners must have motor vehicle liability insurance coverage of not less than:

A \$50,000/\$100,000/\$25,000

B \$100,000/\$200,000/\$50,000

C \$25,000/\$50,000/\$5,000

D \$25,000/\$50,000/\$15,000

If you are involved in a traffic crash, you must notify the police as soon as possible, and must submit proof of insurance to DMV within 15 days:

A If there is death or personal injury or property damage of \$501.00 or more

B Only if there is property damage of \$2000.00 or more

C Only if there is property damage of \$1000.00 or more

D Or, there is death or personal injury

What does the solid red arrow mean?



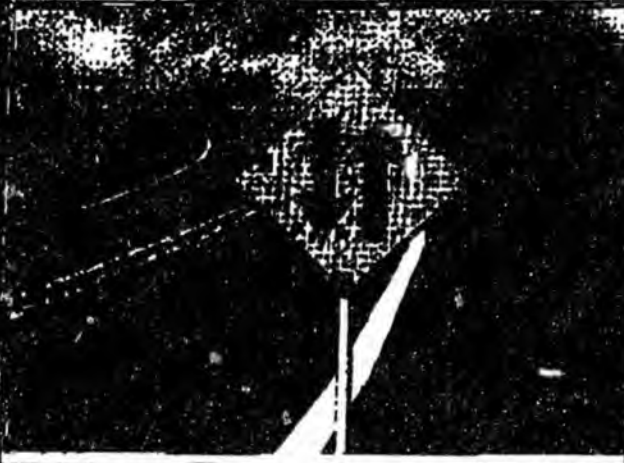
A Stop and do not turn until the arrow turns to green.

B Left turns are not permitted.

C Stop and then proceed only when it is safe to do so.

D None of these

The meaning of the sign below is:



A Two way road

B Keep to the right of a divided highway

C Traffic merging from the right

D Traffic merging from the left

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Alaska Department of Motor Vehicles
Driver's License Test

I AM A SAMPLE		123-45-7894
General Knowledge		02-06-2007
Juneau Office	English(EN)	25 Minutes
20 Questions	18 Questions	

The school zone speed limit is:

A Only enforced when kids are arriving or leaving the school premises.

B Only enforced when weather conditions are less than ideal.

C 20 miles per hour

D 25 miles per hour

When backing up your vehicle you should:

A Use only your mirror to look out for things to the rear.

B Honk your horn so pedestrians and other vehicles know what you are doing

C Turn your body and head to the right to look out the rear window.

D None of these

Driving under less than ideal conditions requires you to adjust your speed to:

A Other traffic

B Weather conditions

C Existing road conditions

D All of these

The first thing affected after drinking alcohol is a person's:

A Speech

B Judgment

C Balance

D Vision

Upon the approach of a vehicle displaying a flashing blue or red light the law requires that you must:

A Stop where you are

B Drive to the nearest intersection & stop

C Pull over to the side & stop clear of any intersection

D Slow down & drive with caution

Mandatory insurance laws require that proof of insurance be provided when involved in a crash. The penalty for driving without motor vehicle liability insurance is license suspension for a minimum of:

A 90 days

B 60 days

C 2 years

D 30 days

One of the penalties for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) or refusal to submit to a chemical test is loss of license for not less than:

A Six months.

B 90 days

C 60 days

D 30 days

Test #3

10

When turning around on a city street, the safest idea is to:

- A Drive around the block.
- B Never make a "U" turn because it is illegal.
- C Back up to where you should have been.
- D Pull over and park.

An arrow painted on the roadway means:

- A You must only follow the arrow directions when traffic lights are not working.
- B It is suggested that you make the movement indicated by the arrow.
- C You must make the movement indicated by the arrow after coming to a complete stop.
- D You must make the movement indicated by the arrow.

A flashing yellow traffic signal means:



- A Stop
- B Go straight ahead
- C No left turn
- D Slow down and proceed with caution

The closest you can get to the back of an ambulance traveling in response to an emergency is:

- A 500 feet
- B 400 feet
- C 300 feet
- D 200 feet

When getting ready to pass, you should:

- A Move out across center line to better see the road ahead.
- B Pull up close to the vehicle in front of you as safely as possible.
- C Check for a no passing zone.
- D Try to avoid passing at all as this is a very dangerous maneuver.



The sign below means:



A Sharp curve ahead

B No left turn

C No U turn

D None of these

In the event of a crash, you are required to do what right away?

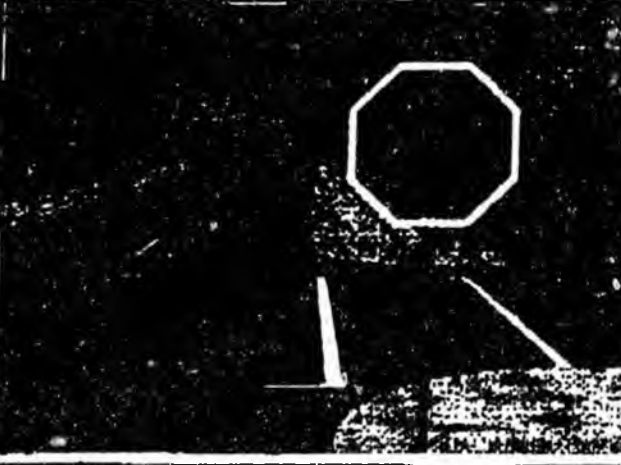
A Help anyone who may be hurt

B Stop at once

C Warn other traffic

D All of the above

At this sign you must:



A Slow down and prepare to stop if another car is close

B Make a complete stop

C Stop at least two car lengths from the intersection

D None of these

Dim your headlights when you are _____ feet away from an oncoming vehicle.

A 300 or more

B 500 or more

C 400 or more

D 200 or more

You are driving on a highway with separated roadways with two or more lanes in each direction. A school bus has stopped in the opposite direction.

A You need not stop.

B You must slow down.

C You must stop until the red lights stop flashing.

D You can proceed at 15 miles per hour.

12

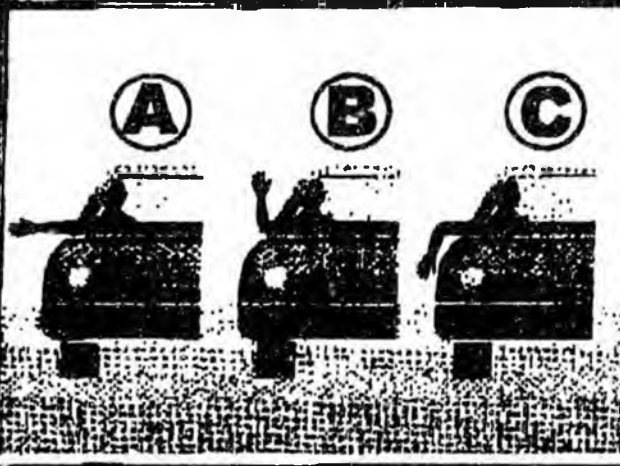
Test > I AM A SAMPLE | General Knowledge | 02-06-2007

This sign is at a corner where you want to turn left. You should:



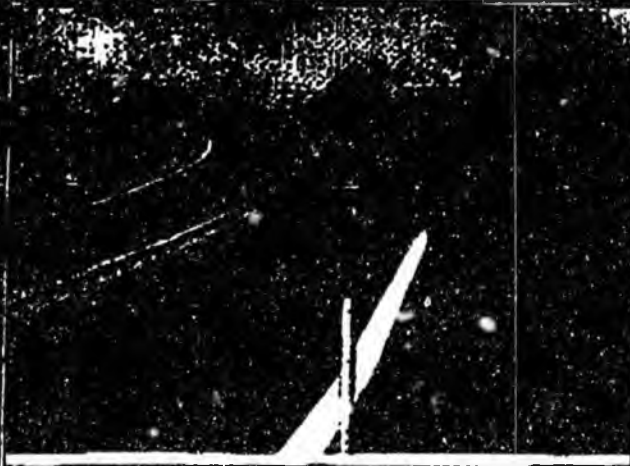
- A Turn left only if there is no other traffic
- B Back up into the street
- C Go straight ahead, no left turn permitted
- D Turn left but yield to other traffic

Which illustration shows the hand signal for a right turn?



- A Image A
- B Image B
- C Image C
- D None of these

An orange sign with black letters means:



- A Stop.
- B A warning sign to alert drivers to dangerous conditions ahead.
- C Construction.
- D Yield.

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Alaska Department of Motor Vehicles
Driver's License Test

I AM A SAMPLE		123-45-7894
General Knowledge		02-06-2007
Juneau Office	English(EN)	25 Minutes
20 Questions	16 Questions	

A conviction of reckless driving will result in:

- A Suspension of the privilege to drive.
- B Revocation of the license to drive.
- C A warning for the first occurrence, and a \$50 fine in the second.
- D A \$50 fine and 4 points on your record.

The first thing affected after drinking alcohol is a person's:

- A Speech
- B Balance
- C Judgment
- D Vision

A pedestrian is crossing the street in a crosswalk. You must:

- A stop until the person is out of the crosswalk.
- B slow down and go around the person at a slow pace.
- C drive off as soon as the person has moved past your car.
- D honk your horn to alert them, as they are not being careful.

When this sign is posted on a multi-lane highway, you:

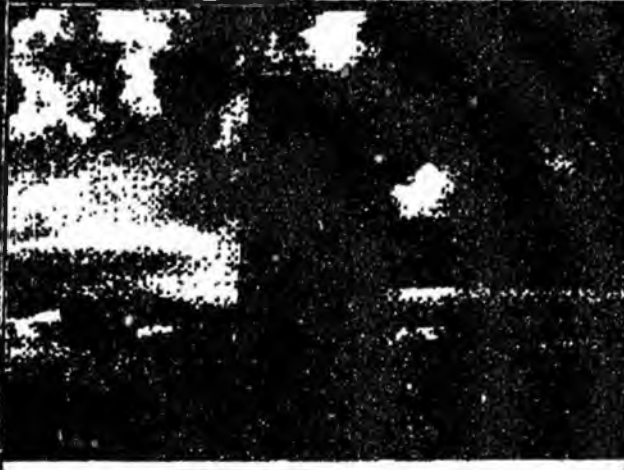


- A Must go 55 miles per hour
- B May go 60 miles per hour to pass another car.
- C May go 55 miles per hour
- D May not pass

Test #4

14

What does the solid red arrow mean?

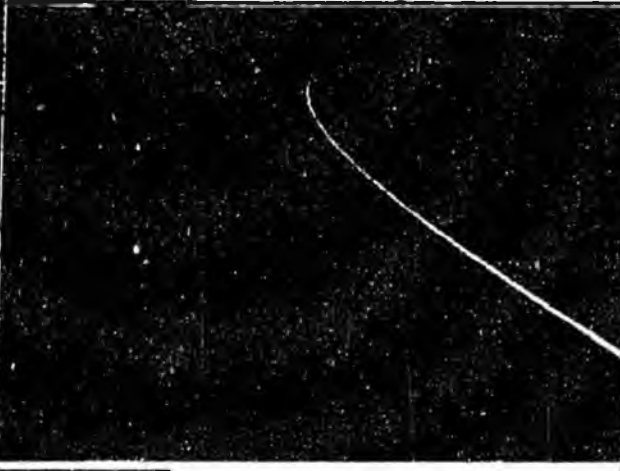


- A Stop and do not turn until the arrow turns to green.
- B Left turns are not permitted.
- C Stop and then proceed only when it is safe to do so.
- D None of these

After drinking, doing the following can help you sober up:

- A Drink black coffee. The caffeine accelerates detoxification.
- B Take a cold shower.
- C Wait a period of time. Only time will eliminate the effects of alcohol.
- D None of these

A dashed yellow line on a roadway means:



- A No passing zone
- B Passing permitted when safe
- C Residential district
- D A speed zone

When entering a controlled access highway-freeway it is important:

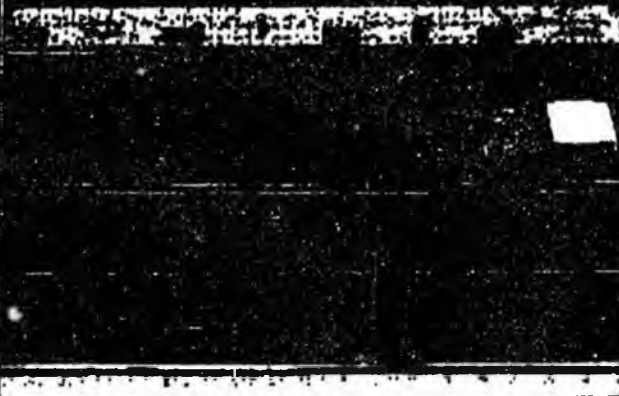
- A Get up to speed just as quickly as possible.
- B Move directly into the right hand traffic lane.
- C Make your vehicle noticed so that the drivers already on the roadway will yield and let you in.
- D Use the acceleration lane before merging into the traffic stream.

If you are involved in a traffic crash, you must notify the police as soon as possible, and must submit proof of insurance to DMV within 15 days:

- A Only if there is property damage of \$2000.00 or more
- B If there is death or personal injury or property damage of \$501.00 or more
- C Only if there is property damage of \$1000.00 or more
- D Only if there is death or personal injury

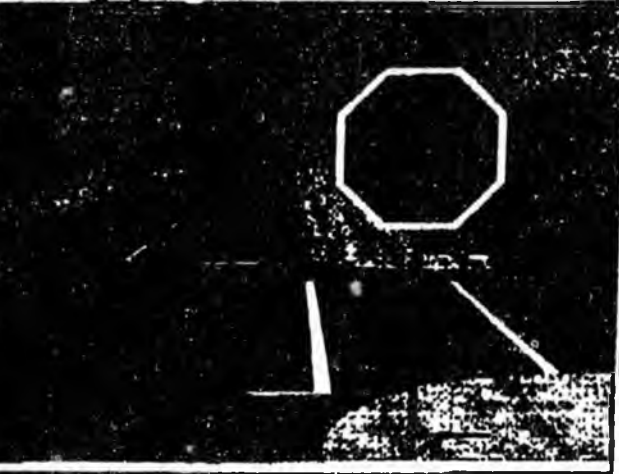
15

A dashed white line on a multi-lane roadway means:



- A Passing is prohibited.
- B Passing is permitted into adjoining lane across dashed white line.
- C Passing is permitted into any lane.
- D None of these

At this sign you must:



- A Slow down and prepare to stop if another car is close
- B Make a complete stop
- C Stop at least two car lengths from the intersection
- D None of these

Upon the approach of a vehicle displaying a flashing blue or red light the law requires that you must:

- A Stop where you are
- B Drive to the nearest intersection & stop
- C Pull over to the side & stop clear of any intersection
- D Slow down & drive with caution

Dim your headlights when you are _____ feet away from an oncoming vehicle.

- A 200 or more
- B 400 or more
- C 500 or more
- D 300 or more

You are driving on a highway with separated roadways with two or more lanes in each direction. A school bus has stopped in the opposite direction.

- A You can proceed at 15 miles per hour.
- B You must stop until the red lights stop flashing.
- C You must slow down.
- D You need not stop.

Operators or owners must have motor vehicle liability insurance coverage of not less than:

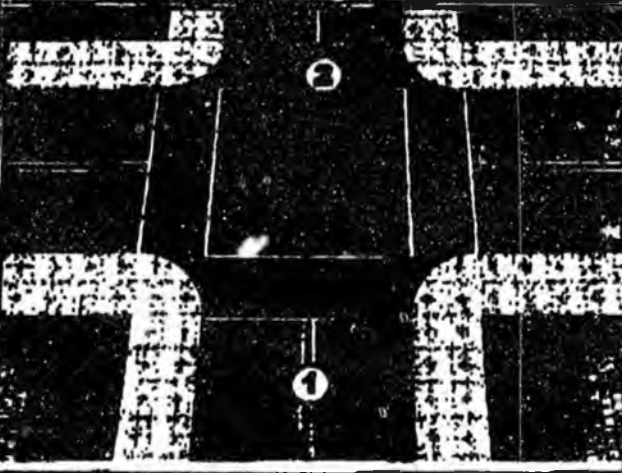
- A \$50,000/\$100,000/\$25,000
- B \$100,000/\$200,000/\$50,000
- C \$25,000/\$50,000/\$5,000
- D \$25,000/\$50,000/\$15,000

16

If you are about to miss your exit from a controlled access highway-freeway you should:

- A Pull over to the right and carefully back up to the exit ramp.
- B Continue on to the next exit.
- C Cross over the median strip to exit going the opposite way.
- D Signal your intentions, break, and move sharply to the right.

You are in the red car (1) turning left and the blue car (2) has started into the intersection. You must:



- A Yield to the blue car (2).
- B Turn quickly to the left.
- C Stop where you are.
- D Speed up so you can safely make your turn.

The sign below means:



- A Sharp curve ahead
- B No left turn
- C No U turn
- D None of these

Slower moving vehicles on a multi-lane highway should:

- A Use left hand lane
- B Use lane with least traffic
- C Use either lane
- D Use right hand lane

You are presumed driving under the influence if the alcohol concentration of your breath is _____ or more:

- A .08%
- B .06%
- C .10%
- D .40%

17

Alaska State Legislature

Chairman
State Affairs Committee

Vice-Chairman
Economic Development, Trade & Tourism
Committee

Member
Judiciary Committee
Joint Armed Services Committee

Finance Subcommittees
Corrections
Labor and Workforce Development
Military and Veterans' Affairs
Public Safety



A Communication From
REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN
District 31 Anchorage

E-Mail: Representative Bob Lynn@legis.state.ak.us
"Bob Lynn's Alaska Blog" RepBobLynnBlog.com

Session:
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Phone: (907) 465-4931
Fax: (907) 465-4316
Toll Free: (800) 870-4391

Interim:
716 W. 4th Ave., #650
Anchorage, AK 99501-2133

Phone: (907) 269-0205
Fax: (907) 269-0207

FAX

To: Legal Services

Fax #: 2029

From: Nancy Manly x2794
Alaska State Capitol, room 104
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

of Pages (including cover): 1

Phone: 907-465-4931
Fax: 907-465-4316

Re: State Affairs Final CS for HB 75

February 9, 2007

Please draft a final CS for HB 75. The committee adopted a CS for House Bill 75 Version M (25-LS0348\M). This version was amended as followed:

1) Amendment #1

Page 1, Line 11 and 12; after "renewed." delete the sentence: "The license issued to a person after the person has passed this test must state that the person has passed the alcohol and drug awareness and safety test."

TRANSACTION REPORT

FEB-09-2007 FRI 08:56 AM

FOR: REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN 907 465 4316

SEND (M)

DATE	START	RECEIVER	PAGES	TIME	NOTE	M#
FEB-09	08:55 AM	2029	1	29"	OK	24

25-LS0348\W
Luckhaupt
2/7/07

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 75()

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES RAMRAS, Crawford

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to driver's licenses and to alcohol and drug awareness and safety
2 testing."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1.** AS 28.15 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 28.15.085. Alcohol and drug awareness and safety examination of**
6 **applicants.** Notwithstanding another provision of this chapter and in addition to other
7 requirements, a person applying for a new license after expiration of the person's
8 license on reaching 21 years of age under AS 28.15.099 must pass a test developed
9 and administered by the department regarding alcohol and drug awareness and safety
10 and the laws relating to alcohol, drugs, and driving before the license may be issued or
11 renewed. The license issued to a person after the person has passed this test must state
12 that the person has passed the alcohol and drug awareness and safety test.

13 * **Sec. 2.** AS 28.15 is amended by adding a new section to read:

14 **Sec. 28.15.099. Expiration and renewal of license issued to person under**

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21 years of age. Notwithstanding another provision of this chapter, a driver's license issued to a person under 21 years of age expires 90 days after the person reaches 21 years of age.

25-LS0348E
Luckhaupt
1/26/07

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 75()

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES RAMRAS, Crawford

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to driver's licenses and alcohol awareness testing."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 *** Section 1.** AS 28.15 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Sec. 28.15.085. Alcohol awareness examination of applicants.**
5 Notwithstanding another provision of this chapter and in addition to other
6 requirements, a person applying for a new license after expiration of the person's
7 license on reaching 21 years of age under AS 28.15.099 and a person 21 years of age
8 or older applying for a new license must pass a test developed and administered by the
9 department regarding alcohol awareness and safety and the laws relating to alcohol
10 and driving before the license may be issued or renewed. The license issued to a
11 person after the person has passed this test must state that the person has passed the
12 alcohol awareness test.

13 *** Sec. 2.** AS 28.15 is amended by adding a new section to read:

14 **Sec. 28.15.099. Expiration and renewal of license issued to person under**
15 **21 years of age.** Notwithstanding another provision of this chapter, a driver's license

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issued to a person under 21 years of age expires

(1) at the end of the month in which the person reaches 21 years of age if the person's birthday is on or after the first day of the month but before the 16th day of the month; or

(2) at the end of the month following the month in which the person reaches 21 years of age if the person's birthday is on or after the 16th day of the month.

Conceptual Amendment #1

page 1
line 9
after
alcohol

Bob

Conceptual Amendment to ~~add~~
add (drug as well as alcohol
awareness)



Coguer
Hold
Bill

age 16 to/or
initial license
1st renewal

draft a CS

amendment # 2

pg 1 line 12

alcohol & drug awareness test

Alaska State Legislature

Session:

State Capitol, Room 118
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Ph: (907) 465-3004
Fax: (907) 465-2070
Toll Free: (877) 465-3004



Interim:

1292 Sadler Way, Suite 324
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
Ph: (907) 452-1088
Fax: (907) 452-1146
Toll Free: (877) 465-3004

Representative Jay Ramras House District 10

Chair, House Judiciary Committee • Member, House Labor & Commerce Committee • Member, House Oil & Gas Committee • Member, House Military & Veteran Affairs Committee

Sponsor Statement HB 75

Driver's License: Alcohol Awareness/Minors 1/29/07

House Bill 75 continues my efforts to improve alcohol management and awareness in Alaska.

It stipulates that all drivers' licenses issued to a person under 21 years of age will expire within two weeks of the person's 21st birthday.

HB75 will further require that a person turning 21 years of age or a person 21 years of age or older applying for a new license must take a test regarding alcohol safety and awareness, and laws related to drinking and driving, prior to receiving an Alaska driver's license.

Once HB75 takes effect, all drivers' licenses of Alaskans 21 years of age will reflect that they have passed the alcohol awareness and safety test when they are issued an adult license. The test will serve to relate the privilege of driving to the responsibility of consuming alcohol. The test will be designed by the Division of Motor Vehicles, and it is the sponsor's intent to have MADD participate in the process of designing this test.

HB75 will also help cut down on minors consuming alcohol, since a license issued to a person over 21 years of age who has passed the test will look different than a license issued to a minor.

Please join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

Alaska State Legislature

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**Interim:**

1292 Sadler Way, Suite 324
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
Ph: (907) 452-1088
Fax: (907) 452-1146
Toll Free: (877) 465-3004

Representative Jay Ramras House District 10

Chair, House Judiciary Committee • Member, House Labor & Commerce Committee • Member, House Oil & Gas Committee • Member, House Military & Veteran Affairs Committee

Sectional Summary

HB 75/Driver's License: Alcohol Awareness/Minors
Work Order 25-LS0348\E

Section 1. States that a person upon reaching 21 years of age or over 21 years of age applying for a new Alaska driver's license must pass a test administered by the Department of Motor Vehicles regarding alcohol awareness, safety, and laws relating to alcohol and driving before their license may be issued or renewed.

Section 2. States when a persons' driver's licenses will expire in relation to their 21st birthday.

Alaska State Legislature

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Changes to House Bill 75 version 25-LS0348\A to version 25-LS0348\E

The following changes were made to version \A:

- Page 1, Lines 8-9 the following language was removed [, and a person renewing a license for the first time after the effective date of this Act]. The effect of this amendment is that a person, whose driver's license is in good standing, will not be required to take the alcohol awareness test when renewing their license.
- Section 2. **Expiration and renewal of a license issued to a person 21 years of age.** This section was reworded to eliminate the problem that would occur if a person was turning 21 on the last day of the month, and it fell on a weekend. This would cause their license to expire and it would not be renewable until the following work week.



A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
SERVING EAGLE RIVER,
CHUGIAK AND EKLUTNA

POWER SEARCH **editorial**

- Alaska Star
- Web

Story Last modified at 9:07 a.m. on Thursday, January 11, 2007

Go

Birchwood Weather

Last updated: Mon, 22-Jan-2007 10:32

- Temperature: 14° F
- Rel. Humidity: 85%
- Wind: Calm
- Pressure: 29.61 in. Hg
- Visibility: 10 miles
- Conditions: Clear

QUICK HITS

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- > Letters to the Editor
- > Contact Editor
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- > Local Sports
- > Public Safety
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- > Your Business
- > Corrections
- > Wellness
- > Being Human

Educated bill has prevention potential

Kudos to Rep. Jay Ramras, R-Fairbanks, of House District 10 for pre-filing a bill that goes beyond enforcement and stresses the importance of educating drivers on the dangers of alcohol and responsible drinking practices.

According to a Jan. 4 press release, legislation passed through the pre-filed bill would require those 21 years of age or older applying for a new license or renewing a license for the first time to pass a test regarding alcohol awareness, safety and the laws relating to alcohol and driving before a license is issued or renewed.

The release said Ramras plans to invite Mothers Against Drunk Driving officials to work with the Division of Motor Vehicles in creating the alcohol awareness and safety test to reinforce the importance of responsible driving practices for those who are legally able to drink alcohol.

The new law would also seek to reduce minor alcohol consumption, since the license of a driver who passes the test would differ in appearance from one issued to a minor, allowing those who are under 21 to be easily recognized by businesses that serve and sell alcohol.

We all know youth who want to drink can be very creative in how they obtain alcohol, but Ramras' proposed legislation is one more step toward creating responsible drivers by further reinforcing the importance of responsible drinking behavior.

No one can discount the steps taken for youth as

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Calendar

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

far as education goes. Anchorage Police Department school resource officers work regularly within the Anchorage School District to educate youth about the dangers of drugs and alcohol through the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program.

The message of not driving while intoxicated is further reinforced for young drivers prior to obtaining a license through the DMV's standard testing, but how many of them remain aware of what the laws and repercussions are beyond the one or two questions they might have to answer to obtain or qualify for a license?

The best form of prevention is education, and Ramras' proposed legislation takes a valuable step toward reinforcing that instruction shouldn't end for young drivers who are no longer in school. Providing additional reinforcement of the importance of drinking responsibly will go a long way toward reinforcing laws and saving lives before irresponsible habits can be formed by drivers who have left the classroom behind.

It's all too easy for young drivers to embrace the right to drink when they turn 21 and forget everything that was stressed years before or for educators to say they've done their part in telling them the rules. In the end, it's each driver's responsibility to make the right decision, and no driver can plead ignorance of the laws that govern alcohol consumption and driving, but there is no harm in giving drivers a reminder and reinforcing laws, particularly when they are reaching an age of change, such as those who are becoming legally able to drink.

Driving while intoxicated is not a victimless crime. Those who drive under the influence of alcohol transform their vehicle into a weapon and threaten the life of everyone sharing the streets with them. I have no pity for drivers who make the conscious choice to climb behind the wheel while intoxicated only to end up in the back seat of a police car. However, it makes sense to give them a gentle reminder of the laws governing drinking and driving before they or someone else pays with their life.

Other legislators should take a cue from Ramras and push through what is a simple way to help keep our roadways and citizens safer. While I know there is no cure for the human tendency to forego common sense in the wake of a night of drinking, perhaps additional education will reinforce for young drivers the importance of planning before partying and the very real consequences of their actions before they end up with a MADD mother of their own.

- Mary M. Rall

This article published in The Alaska Star on Thursday, January 11, 2007.

E-MAIL STORY TO FRIEND

PRINTER FRIENDLY FORMAT

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Representative Jay Ramras
Co-Chair, House Resources
V-Chair, Economic Develop.
Tourism & Trade
House State Affairs

119 N. Cushman St. Suite 207
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
Phone: (907) 452-1088
Fax: (907) 452-1146

Alaska State Legislature



While in Session
State Capitol, Room 104
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465- 3004
Fax: 465-2070
Toll Free: (877) 465-3004

House District 10

House of Representatives

MEMO

To: Representative Bob Lynn, Chair House State Affairs Committee

Fm: Representative Jay Ramras

Date: January 29, 2007

Re: House Bill 75 – Driver’s License: Alcohol Awareness/Minors

Please accept this memo as a request that the House State Affairs Committee to hear House Bill 75. “An Act relating to driver’s licenses and alcohol awareness testing.”

Attachments to this memo:

- Sponsor Statement
- Blank CSHB75 25-LS0348\E
- Original Copy of HB 75
- Sectional for HB 75
- Changes to HB75 from version \A to version\E
- Articles

Thank you.

2-6-07

MADD Fairbanks, thoughts / comments re: Jay's DMV bill HB 75
Jane Pierson (Jay's aide)

We have not yet talked to either Jay, or Duane Bannock (DMV Director) about this bill.

Under this bill, a driver's license obtained before the driver reaches the age of 21 would expire at the end of the month in which that person reaches age 21.

A driver would then have to pass a re-test at the age of 21.

This re-test would focus on alcohol awareness and safety, and the laws related to alcohol and driving.

The new license would state that the person has passed this alcohol awareness test.

We do like the idea of putting this kind of emphasis on the dangers of drinking and driving, and we think that DMV is the appropriate place -- it's a perfect and efficient funnel point for virtually all resident drivers driving on Alaskan roads. We think that Jay's idea has merit, and that it can just be incorporated into the existing licensing process.

You can get a learner's permit at 14 -- we believe (but aren't sure) that this is a different test from the one you take at 16 to get your license.

You can get your permanent driver's license at 16.

We think that every test -- age 14 (learner's permit), age 16 (permanent driver's license), & age 21 (re-test, w/ alcohol emphasis) -- should have direct questions regarding DUI laws and the effects of driving under the influence.

We should introduce the alcohol issue early and often.

There should be tough, no-nonsense questions, statements, and graphic photos -- nothing watered down or sugar-coated.

We don't think that we should wait until age 21 (when young people often still feel that they know it all and that they're immortal).

It would be much better to influence them at the youngest age (14, for learner's

permit) when they are eager to get "wheels" and might pay closer attention to things that help them achieve that.

In subsequent years to 21, they might pay more attention to DUIs, DUI crashes, insurance rates, etc., and realize that these are very serious issues, especially as the prospect of passing the test again looms.

Kids as young as 14 are well capable of understanding the dangers of drinking and driving. (They should begin hearing this message at home and at school at a much younger age than that.) It's a mistake to wait until they are 21 to emphasize it. That's too late.

We suggest that the DUI problem be covered very thoroughly in the driver's test study manual, and that there be a significant percentage of alcohol / DUI-related questions on every test (we don't know how many questions, total or alcohol-related, are on the test now), and that you don't pass the test if you miss more than one of these questions. This will help stress the importance of this issue.

A few extra questions should add no more than a few short minutes to the test -- if they study and know the info, they breeze right through -- if they didn't study, they struggle and it's their own fault.

Again, this will help elevate the importance of alcohol issues and safety, and they will study it if only to pass the test.

We would be happy to submit and / or review questions for consideration for a test (favor multiple choice over True / False ?).

We are also in favor of requiring the viewing of the Troopers' year 2000 Alaska DUI fatalities video (~45 minutes) at one or more of the licensing ages (at 21, and again at either 14 or 16?).

It is a very, very good video, and it really brings the message home. (If you have not yet seen it, you should do so.)

While we can see DMV's point (Mr. Bannock made this point with us a couple of years ago) of not wanting to lengthen the time that one spends at DMV, we respectfully think that it is misguided in this case.

People spend many hours a week shopping, watching TV and movies, surfing the

net, watching and playing sports, etc. Again, with all due respect, we should not be cowed into believing that it's a big imposition to have them spend one extra hour at DMV **once or twice in their lifetime**, especially when it will help save lives. A strong, responsible, caring legislature should step up and demonstrate that they care more about saving Alaskan lives than they do about some tired old joke about the lines at DMV. A clever ad campaign could kill this joke in a hurry.

Incorporating these changes into the existing licensing process should minimize the cries of added state budget expense and also emphasize the importance of this issue. And theoretically, any small increase in the cost of improving the manual and test questions would be negated quickly by decreased DUI-related crashes, damages, and court costs (and DUI perpetrators should have a tough time convincing the system that they were ignorant of the law or of the consequences of driving under the influence).

Thanks for your consideration of these comments and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Pete Eagan

President, MADD Fairbanks

TRANSACTION REPORT

FEB-09-2007 FRI 01:45 PM

FOR: REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN 907 465 4316

SEND(M)

DATE	START	RECEIVER	PAGES	TIME	NOTE	M#
FEB-09	01:44 PM	2070	2	41"	OK	28

HB 75
Faxed CS to June

2-6-07

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