

HB

75

Alaska State Legislature

Session:

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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

04/17/07

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

It stipulates that a drivers' license issued to a person under 21 years of age will expire 90 days after the person turns 21.

It further requires that a person applying for a new license after expiration upon turning 21 must pass a test relating to alcohol and drug awareness and safety, before the new license may be issued. The test will be designed by the Division of Motor Vehicles, and it is my intent that MADD participate in the process

The license for a person 21 and older will look totally different from the one for a person under 21. This very visible difference will make it easier for retail clerks and on-premise licenses/servers to detect minors from adults, hopefully significantly reducing under-age drinking in Alaska.

Please join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

E-Mail Representative Jay_Ramras@legis.state.ak.us

At the request of Duane Bannock (DMV), this CS adds an effective date of January 1, 2008

WORK DRAFT

WORK DRAFT

25-LS0348\O
Luckhaupt
4/18/07

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, Foster

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to driver's licenses and to alcohol and drug awareness and safety
2 testing; and providing for an effective date."

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.

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

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

1 issued to a person under 21 years of age expires 90 days after the person reaches 21
2 years of age.

3 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect January 1, 2008.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: CSHB 75(STA)
 (H) Publish Date: 2/12/07

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Administration
 Title "An Act relating to driver's licenses and alcohol awareness testing" RDU Division of Motor Vehicles
 Component Motor Vehicles
 Sponsor Rep. Ramras
 Requester (H) STA 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
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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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 programming 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

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 2
 Bill Version: CSHB 75(STA)
 (H) Publish Date: 2/26/07
 Dept. Affected: Health & Social Services
 RDU Behavioral Health
 Component Alcohol Safety Action Program

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction):

Title DRIVERS LICENSE: ALCOHOL AWARENESS/MINOR

Sponsor RAMRAS

Requester HOUSE (FIN)

Component No. 305

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						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES (0)						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other(Specify Type-do not abbreviate)						
Other(Specify Type-do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2007) cost: _____

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

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

HB75 describes an act relating to driver's licensing and alcohol awareness testing for those licensed drivers in Alaska who are turning 21 years old, and returning their "under 21" driver's license in order to receive the full privileged adult license.

There will be no fiscal impact to the division.

Prepared by: Stacy Toner, Acting Division Director
 Division Behavioral Health
 Approved by: Karleen Jackson, Commissioner
 Agency Department of Health and Social Services

Phone 465-2817
 Date/Time 02/20/2007
 Date 02/22/2007

House Bill 75, Driver's License Minor/Adult

<u>Cost of a first-time DUI</u>	\$22,000
Additional cost for a private attorney (with no guarantee of winning)	<u>8,000</u>
TOTAL	\$30,000

Cost of an education

University of Alaska 30-credit Certificate, e.g. Welding/Materials Technology Computer Applications Finance General Business Human Resources International Business Marketing Public Management Tourism (Includes materials)	\$ 9,000
Univ. of Alaska 60-credit Associates Degree, e.g. Applied Business Culinary Arts (Includes materials)	\$18,000
University of Alaska 4-year Bachelor's Degree (Tuition, books, fees, misc.)	\$24,000
U.S. average public University Bachelor's degree '06-07 cost \$16,357/yr X 4	\$65,428

Ability to Purchase a Home

With \$20,000 down and a yearly income of \$50,000,
a buyer could qualify for a 15-year loan on a \$200,000 home.

Ability to get a job

Companies have strict guidelines for jobs that require driving "in order to perform essential duties." Municipality of Anchorage, e.g:

	0-3 years	4-5 years	6-10years	11 years +
1 st DUI	no hire	OK	OK	OK
2 nd DUI	no hire	no hire	no hire	OK
3 or more	no hire	no hire	no hire	no hire

Number of vendors caught in A.B.C. "stings"

	Compliance Checks	Failures	Leakage Rates
FY 04	580	35	6%
FY 05	397	68	15%
FY 06	1013	266	26%

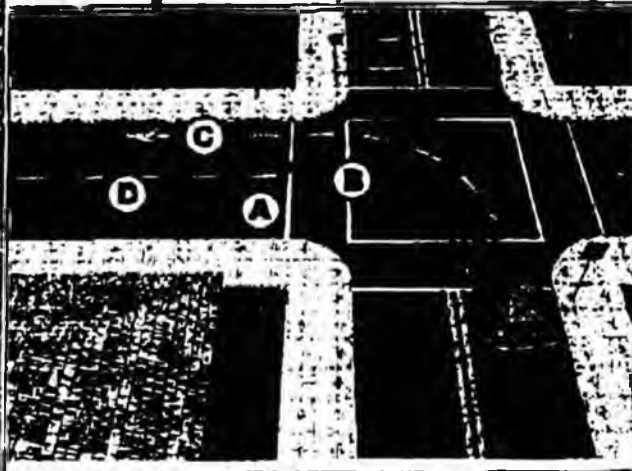
Not just about "educating minors regarding alcohol"

The license authorized in this bill gives purveyors of alcohol the ability to instantly detect whether a customer is a minor or not.

At age 21, you're either an adult or a minor. With automatic license expiration within 90 days after turning 21, it should be easier for retail clerks and on-premise licenses/servers to detect minors from adults.

**Sample Test Questions
from D.M.V.**

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



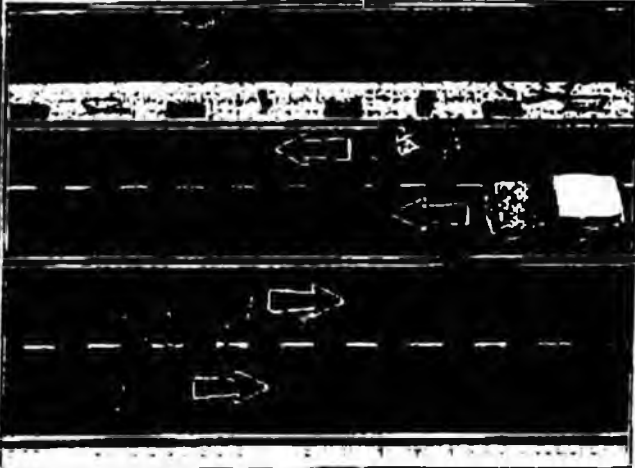
Path A

Path B

Path C

Path D

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



Passing is permitted into any lane.

Passing is prohibited.

Passing is permitted into adjoining lane across dashed white line.

None of these

Statistics show that alcohol is

involved in more than half of all traffic deaths.

rarely involved in any traffic crashes.

the cause of all traffic crashes.

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:

Look to see if another train is coming and then cross the tracks if clear.

Pull aside to have a better view and then cross the tracks.

Start to cross the tracks.

Wait 20 seconds to cross the tracks.

Slower moving vehicles on a multi-lane highway should:

Use either lane

Use right hand lane

Use left hand lane

Use lane with least traffic

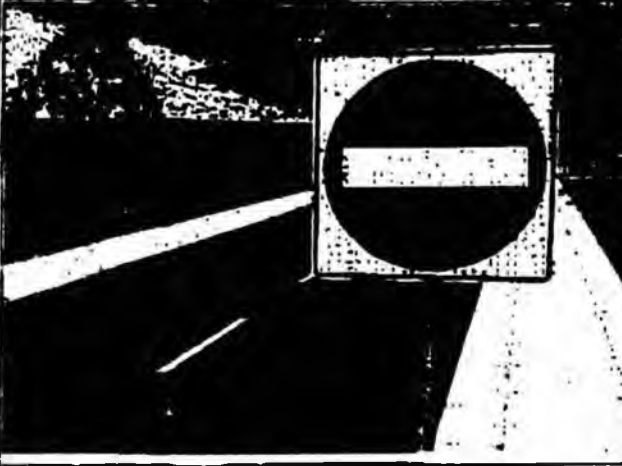
HB 75

1

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.

4

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

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 60 days
- B 90 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

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.

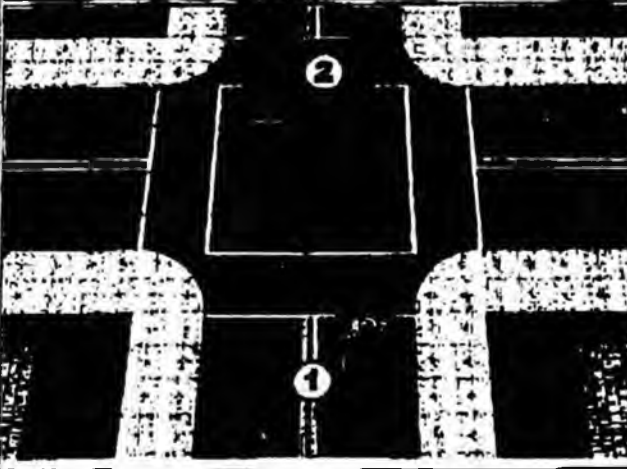
- A Only if there is property damage of \$2000.00 or more
- B If there is death or personal injury or property damage of \$501.00 or more
- C Only if there is property damage of \$1000.00 or more
- D Only if there is death or personal injury

15

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 .05%
- C .10%
- D .40%

17



A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
SERVING EAGLE RIVER,
CHUGIAK AND EKLUTNA

editorial

POWER SEARCH

Alaska Star
Web
Go

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

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

POWER LINKS

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- > 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
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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			

INTERACTIVE

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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

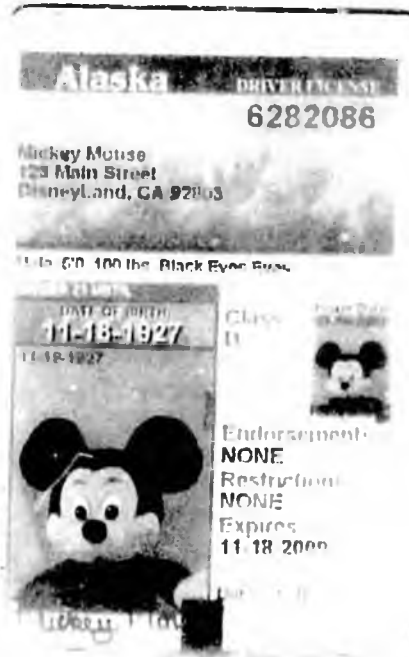
This article published in The Alaska Star on Thursday, January 11, 2007.

E-MAIL STORY TO FRIEND

PRINTER FRIENDLY FORMAT

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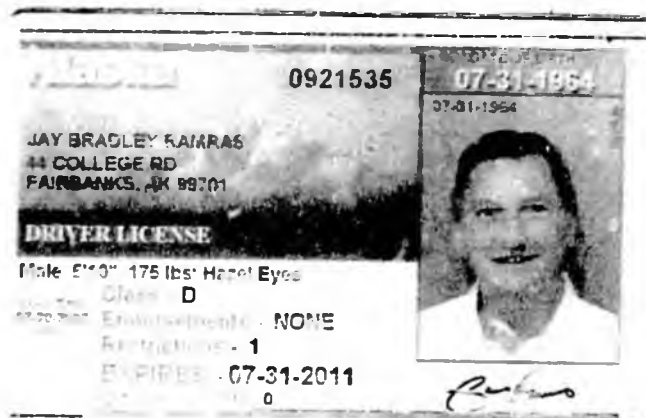
MINOR'S LICENSE



← requires automatic expiration of minor driver's license

90 days after turning 21
This will reduce the "leakage

ADULT'S LICENSE



amongst retail clerks and on-premise locations who get confused by over 21 adult who still have "minor" driver licenses. HB7 will eliminate this confusion.