

## HB88 INTRODUCED



1 HB88  
2 7B9H4EV-1  
3 By Representative Pettus  
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security  
5 First Read: 13-Jan-26  
6 PFD: 17-Dec-25



SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, initial applicants and certain individuals seeking a renewal for a driver license are subject to an examination created by the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA).

This bill would require ALEA to administer all examinations for securing a driver license exclusively in the English language.

This bill would also make nonsubstantive, technical revisions to update the existing code language to current style.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to driver licenses; to amend Section 32-6-3, Code of Alabama 1975; to require the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency to administer examinations for securing a valid driver license in the English language; and to make nonsubstantive, technical revisions to update the existing code language to current style.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 32-6-3, Code of Alabama 1975, is



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amended to read as follows:

"§32-6-3

(a) (1) Every ~~person~~individual who applies for an initial Alabama ~~driver's~~driver license issued ~~by the Department of Public Safety~~ under this article shall be given and successfully pass an examination before the issuance of a ~~driver's~~driver license.

(2) The ~~person~~individual seeking a driver license shall apply ~~to~~at an ALEA office to take the examination. The examination shall be conducted by ~~the~~an officer, state trooper, or duly authorized ~~third-party~~third-party testing agent of ~~the Director of Public Safety~~ALEA, ~~or one of them where there is more than one, designated by the Director of Public Safety to conduct examinations.~~

(3) A minor shall ~~furnish~~provide to ALEA a certified ~~copy of his or her~~ birth certificate and any other documents proving identity or authorized presence required by rule adopted under Section 32-6-13~~or a certified statement from the county superintendent of education of the county in which the minor resides or from the superintendent of the school which the minor attends proving that the minor is at least 16 years of age. Upon satisfying this requirement, the minor shall be examined.~~

(b) (1) The ~~Director of Public Safety~~Secretary of ALEA shall ~~promulgate~~adopt ~~reasonable rules and regulations not in conflict with the laws of this state as to the kind of~~ providing for the examination ~~or test~~ to be given ~~and~~z the method and manner of giving the examination, ascertaining<sub>z</sub> and



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reporting the results of the examination, and ~~to who qualifies~~  
~~to give~~ the qualifications for giving the examination.

(2) All written, oral, vision, and driving portions of the examination administered for purposes of obtaining or renewing a driver license must be in the English language only. An applicant may not use a translation dictionary, an electronic device, or an interpreter to assist with the administration of the examination.

(3) In lieu of examination by ~~the Department of Public Safety~~ ALEA for the written, oral, vision, and driving portion of the examination, an applicant currently enrolled or beginning enrollment in a high school drivers' education class may submit proof that the applicant has passed the written, oral, vision, and driving portion of the examination which has been given by either of the following:

a. A certified driver education instructor at a public high school who is approved by the State Department of Education and trained as a ~~third party~~ third-party testing agent for ~~the Department of Public Safety~~ ALEA.

b. A driver education instructor at a private high school who is certified, approved, and trained by ~~the Department of Public Safety~~ ALEA to act as a ~~third party~~ third-party testing agent for ~~the Department of Public Safety~~ ALEA.

~~(2)~~ c. In no way shall the State Department of Education be responsible for the approval and training of private high school driver education instructors as ~~third party~~ third-party testing agents for ~~the Department of Public Safety~~ ALEA.



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~~(3)~~ (4) ~~Reports of all examinations shall be on forms provided by the Director of Public Safety and shall indicate~~  
~~if~~ The individual administering the examination shall report to the Secretary of ALEA whether the applicant passed the examination. The report shall be on a form provided by ALEA.

(c) If the applicant passes the examination, the applicant shall be given a certificate to that effect, on a form provided by ~~the Director of Public Safety~~ ALEA, by the ~~officer, state trooper, or duly authorized third party testing agent of the Director of Public Safety~~ individual conducting the examination. The applicant shall present the certificate to a ~~driver's~~ driver license office of ~~the department~~ ALEA.

(d) If ~~a person~~ the applicant fails to pass the examination, no certificate shall be given to the ~~person~~ applicant. No application for an initial Alabama ~~driver's~~ driver license shall be accepted by a judge of probate or license commissioner.

(e) (1) ~~A person~~ An individual who ~~secures~~ applies for the renewal of a driver license ~~in the manner provided by law~~ shall not be required to take the examination again unless the ~~Director of Public Safety~~ Secretary of ALEA deems it advisable to require the ~~person~~ individual to take the examination, or the individual does not comply with the application deadline provided in Section 32-6-1.

(2) If the ~~Director of Public Safety~~ secretary determines the applicant for renewal must take the examination, the ~~director~~ secretary shall notify the ~~person~~ individual in writing by letter sent to the address



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given on the application of the ~~person~~individual stating the  
time and place of the examination at least 10 days before the  
date on which the examination or test is given ~~of the time and~~  
~~place of the examination. The examination given to such a~~  
~~person~~Renewal examinations shall be conducted in the same  
manner, and the result of the examination ascertained and  
reported in the same way, as examinations that are given to  
~~persons~~individuals applying for an initial Alabama  
~~driver's~~driver license.

(f) Failure of ~~a person~~an individual to appear after  
notice to take such an examination or test, or refusal by ~~a~~  
~~person~~an individual to take the examination or test, shall be  
grounds for suspension or revocation of the license of the  
~~person~~individual ~~by the Director of Public Safety. A person~~An  
individual ~~to whom such an examination or test~~who is given an  
examination ~~who~~and fails to pass ~~the examination or test~~ shall  
have his or her license revoked ~~by the Director of Public~~  
~~Safety.~~"

Section 2. This act shall become effective on October  
1, 2026.