

1 SB596
2 121376-1
3 By Senator Figures
4 RFD: Industrial Development and Recruitment
5 First Read: 06-APR-10

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a person who applies
9 for a learner's license is required to substantiate
10 his or her age by filing a copy of his or her birth
11 certificate with the Department of Public Safety.

12 This bill would allow an applicant for a
13 learner's license to provide a passport as an
14 additional form of identification to substantiate
15 his or her age.

16
17 A BILL
18 TO BE ENTITLED
19 AN ACT

20
21 Relating to motor vehicle learner's licenses; to
22 amend Section 32-6-8 of the Code of Alabama 1975, to allow
23 additional forms of identification to substantiate an
24 applicant's age.

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

26 Section 1. Section 32-6-8, Code of Alabama 1975, is
27 amended to read as follows:

1 "§32-6-8.

2 "(a) Any person 16 years of age or older who, except
3 for his or her lack of instruction in operating a motor
4 vehicle, would otherwise be qualified to obtain a driver's
5 license under this article may apply for a learner's license,
6 and the Department of Public Safety, Driver License Division,
7 may issue the license upon a form which shall be provided by
8 the Director of Public Safety, entitling the applicant, while
9 having the license in his or her immediate possession, to
10 drive or operate a motor vehicle upon the highways for a
11 period of four years, except when operating a motorcycle, the
12 person shall be accompanied by a licensed driver who is
13 actually occupying a seat beside the driver. At the time of
14 applying for the license, the applicant shall pay to the
15 Department of Public Safety, Driver License Division, a fee of
16 twenty dollars (\$20), and the Department of Public Safety,
17 Driver License Division, shall give the applicant a learner's
18 license therefor on a form to be provided by the Director of
19 Public Safety. The temporary instruction license may be
20 renewed only by order of the Director of Public Safety, and in
21 no case shall the original license be renewed or extended more
22 than once. The Department of Public Safety, Driver License
23 Division, shall not issue the temporary instruction license
24 until the applicant has undergone the same examination that a
25 person applying for a driver's license is required by law to
26 undergo, with the exception of the driving test, and produced

1 a certificate to that effect signed by the proper examining
2 officer.

3 "(b) Any person not less than 15 but under 16 years
4 of age may obtain a learner's license to learn to operate a
5 motor vehicle upon application to the Department of Public
6 Safety, Driver License Division, which license shall entitle
7 the person to operate a motor vehicle when he or she is
8 accompanied by a parent or his or her legal guardian or a
9 person who is age 21 or over who is duly licensed in this
10 state as a motor vehicle operator or when accompanied by a
11 licensed or certified driving instructor who is actually
12 occupying a seat beside the motor vehicle operator. The
13 application for the learner's license shall be accompanied by
14 a payment of a fee of twenty dollars (\$20), to be distributed
15 as provided in Section 32-6-5. The age of the applicant shall
16 be substantiated by the applicant filing with the department a
17 certified copy of his or her birth certificate or a valid U.S.
18 or foreign passport. A learner's license issued under this
19 subsection shall be in such form as the Director of Public
20 Safety may prescribe; it shall expire in four years; or when
21 the holder subsequently applies for and receives a driver's
22 license. The driver's license shall be issued for the
23 remainder of the four year life of the learner's license at no
24 additional fee, the certificate thereof shall be prima facie
25 evidence that the license holder was 15 years of age or older
26 on the date of its issuance. The license may be suspended or
27 revoked in the same manner and for the same causes as a

1 driver's license and may also be revoked for any violation of
2 the terms and conditions on which it was issued. The
3 Department of Public Safety, Driver License Division, shall
4 not issue such a license to any person until the applicant has
5 undergone the same examination that a person applying for a
6 driver's license is required by law to undergo, with the
7 exception of the driving test, and has produced a certificate
8 to that effect signed by the proper examining officer."

9 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
10 first day of the third month following its passage and
11 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.