

1 SB318  
2 199360-2  
3 By Senators Chesteen, Williams, Jones, Price, Melson, Givhan,  
4 Livingston, Holley, Shelnutt, Whatley, Allen, Gudger, Elliott,  
5 Beasley, Smitherman, Sanders-Fortier, Butler, Stutts, Barfoot,  
6 Roberts, Waggoner, Marsh, Burkette, Coleman-Madison,  
7 Singleton, Reed, Figures, Scofield, Ward, Chambliss and  
8 Albritton  
9 RFD: Transportation and Energy  
10 First Read: 18-APR-19

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill will permit Alabama to issue Class  
9 A commercial driver licenses, limited to intrastate  
10 travel, to applicants at least 18 years of age and  
11 under 21 years of age.

12 Amendment 621 of the Constitution of Alabama  
13 of 1901, now appearing as Section 111.05 of the  
14 Official Recompilation of the Constitution of  
15 Alabama of 1901, as amended, prohibits a general  
16 law whose purpose or effect would be to require a  
17 new or increased expenditure of local funds from  
18 becoming effective with regard to a local  
19 governmental entity without enactment by a 2/3 vote  
20 unless: it comes within one of a number of  
21 specified exceptions; it is approved by the  
22 affected entity; or the Legislature appropriates  
23 funds, or provides a local source of revenue, to  
24 the entity for the purpose.

25 The purpose or effect of this bill would be  
26 to require a new or increased expenditure of local  
27 funds within the meaning of the amendment. However,

1 the bill does not require approval of a local  
2 governmental entity or enactment by a 2/3 vote to  
3 become effective because it comes within one of the  
4 specified exceptions contained in the amendment.

5  
6 A BILL  
7 TO BE ENTITLED  
8 AN ACT

9  
10 Relating to transportation; to permit the issuance  
11 of Class A commercial driver licenses, limited to intrastate  
12 travel, to applicants at least 18 years of age and under 21  
13 years of age; and in connection therewith would have as its  
14 purpose or effect the requirement of a new or increased  
15 expenditure of local funds within the meaning of Amendment 621  
16 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as  
17 Section 111.05 of the Official ReCompilation of the  
18 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended.

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

20 Section 1. The Legislature finds that current  
21 economic conditions are such that the number of individuals  
22 willing and qualified to operate commercial vehicles is  
23 insufficient in relation to the volume of freight available,  
24 and that it will be advantageous, consistent with Commercial  
25 Driver License safety rules, for this state to issue Class A  
26 commercial driver licenses to persons who have reached the age  
27 of 18 years and have not yet reached the age of 21 years and

1 who otherwise meet the requirements imposed by state and  
2 federal law to obtain a commercial driver license for use only  
3 in intrastate commerce.

4 Section 2. Notwithstanding any provision of law to  
5 the contrary, the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency shall  
6 issue Class A commercial driver licenses to persons who have  
7 reached their 18th birthday but have not yet reached their  
8 21st birthday and are otherwise qualified for a commercial  
9 driver license, with such operation being restricted to  
10 intrastate commerce. Any person possessing a Class A  
11 commercial driver license shall comply with all state and  
12 federal laws and safety regulations.

13 Section 3. All applicants shall be familiar with and  
14 governed by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations at 49  
15 CFR 380, Subparts E, F, and G, and Parts 382 through 397,  
16 inclusive.

17 Section 4. Nothing in this act allows the issuance  
18 of any commercial driver license in violation of federal law.  
19 This act applies only where federal law allows the states a  
20 field of operation or authorizes a variance from applicable  
21 federal standards.

22 Section 5. If federal law is amended to permit  
23 persons who have not yet reached the age of 21 years to  
24 operate a commercial vehicle in interstate commerce with a  
25 Class A commercial driver license, then this state shall  
26 promulgate such rules, regulations, restrictions, and

1 eligibility requirements as are necessary to permit interstate  
2 travel.

3 Section 6. The provisions of this act are severable.  
4 If any part of this act is declared invalid or  
5 unconstitutional, that declaration shall not affect the part  
6 which remains.

7 Section 7. Although this bill would have as its  
8 purpose or effect the requirement of a new or increased  
9 expenditure of local funds, the bill is excluded from further  
10 requirements and application under Amendment 621, now  
11 appearing as Section 111.05 of the Official Recompilation of  
12 the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, because the  
13 Legislative Fiscal Office has determined the bill has an  
14 aggregate fiscal impact of less than \$50,000 annually.

15 Section 8. This act shall become effective on  
16 February 7, 2020, following its passage and approval by the  
17 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.