

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 27-24.2 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/27-24.2) (from Ch. 122, par. 27-24.2)

7 Sec. 27-24.2. Safety education; driver education course.
8 Instruction shall be given in safety education in each of
9 grades one through 8, equivalent to one class period each week,
10 and any school district which maintains grades 9 through 12
11 shall offer a driver education course in any such school which
12 it operates. Its curriculum shall include content dealing with
13 Chapters 11, 12, 13, 15, and 16 of the Illinois Vehicle Code,
14 the rules adopted pursuant to those Chapters insofar as they
15 pertain to the operation of motor vehicles, and the portions of
16 the Litter Control Act relating to the operation of motor
17 vehicles. The course of instruction given in grades 10 through
18 12 shall include an emphasis on the development of knowledge,
19 attitudes, habits, and skills necessary for the safe operation
20 of motor vehicles, including motorcycles insofar as they can be
21 taught in the classroom, and instruction on distracted driving
22 as a major traffic safety issue. In addition, the course shall
23 include instruction on special hazards existing at and required

1 safety and driving precautions that must be observed at
2 emergency situations, highway construction and maintenance
3 zones, and railroad crossings and the approaches thereto.
4 Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the course shall also
5 include instruction concerning law enforcement procedures for
6 traffic stops, including a demonstration of the proper actions
7 to be taken during a traffic stop and appropriate interactions
8 with law enforcement. The course of instruction required of
9 each eligible student at the high school level shall consist of
10 a minimum of 30 clock hours of classroom instruction and a
11 minimum of 6 clock hours of individual behind-the-wheel
12 instruction in a dual control car on public roadways taught by
13 a driver education instructor endorsed by the State Board of
14 Education. Both the classroom instruction part and the practice
15 driving part of such driver education course shall be open to a
16 resident or non-resident student attending a non-public school
17 in the district wherein the course is offered. Each student
18 attending any public or non-public high school in the district
19 must receive a passing grade in at least 8 courses during the
20 previous 2 semesters prior to enrolling in a driver education
21 course, or the student shall not be permitted to enroll in the
22 course; provided that the local superintendent of schools (with
23 respect to a student attending a public high school in the
24 district) or chief school administrator (with respect to a
25 student attending a non-public high school in the district) may
26 waive the requirement if the superintendent or chief school

1 administrator, as the case may be, deems it to be in the best
2 interest of the student. A student may be allowed to commence
3 the classroom instruction part of such driver education course
4 prior to reaching age 15 if such student then will be eligible
5 to complete the entire course within 12 months after being
6 allowed to commence such classroom instruction.

7 A school district may offer a driver education course in a
8 school by contracting with a commercial driver training school
9 to provide both the classroom instruction part and the practice
10 driving part or either one without having to request a
11 modification or waiver of administrative rules of the State
12 Board of Education if the school district approves the action
13 during a public hearing on whether to enter into a contract
14 with a commercial driver training school. The public hearing
15 shall be held at a regular or special school board meeting
16 prior to entering into such a contract. If a school district
17 chooses to approve a contract with a commercial driver training
18 school, then the district must provide evidence to the State
19 Board of Education that the commercial driver training school
20 with which it will contract holds a license issued by the
21 Secretary of State under Article IV of Chapter 6 of the
22 Illinois Vehicle Code and that each instructor employed by the
23 commercial driver training school to provide instruction to
24 students served by the school district holds a valid teaching
25 license issued under the requirements of this Code and rules of
26 the State Board of Education. Such evidence must include, but

1 need not be limited to, a list of each instructor assigned to
2 teach students served by the school district, which list shall
3 include the instructor's name, personal identification number
4 as required by the State Board of Education, birth date, and
5 driver's license number. Once the contract is entered into, the
6 school district shall notify the State Board of Education of
7 any changes in the personnel providing instruction either (i)
8 within 15 calendar days after an instructor leaves the program
9 or (ii) before a new instructor is hired. Such notification
10 shall include the instructor's name, personal identification
11 number as required by the State Board of Education, birth date,
12 and driver's license number. If the school district maintains
13 an Internet website, then the district shall post a copy of the
14 final contract between the district and the commercial driver
15 training school on the district's Internet website. If no
16 Internet website exists, then the school district shall make
17 available the contract upon request. A record of all materials
18 in relation to the contract must be maintained by the school
19 district and made available to parents and guardians upon
20 request. The instructor's date of birth and driver's license
21 number and any other personally identifying information as
22 deemed by the federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act of 1994
23 must be redacted from any public materials.

24 Such a course may be commenced immediately after the
25 completion of a prior course. Teachers of such courses shall
26 meet the licensure requirements of this Code and regulations of

1 the State Board as to qualifications. Except for a contract
2 with a Certified Driver Rehabilitation Specialist, a school
3 district that contracts with a third party to teach a driver
4 education course under this Section must ensure the teacher
5 meets the educator licensure and endorsement requirements
6 under Article 21B and must follow the same evaluation and
7 observation requirements that apply to non-tenured teachers
8 under Article 24A. The teacher evaluation must be conducted by
9 a school administrator employed by the school district and must
10 be submitted annually to the district superintendent and all
11 school board members for oversight purposes.

12 Subject to rules of the State Board of Education, the
13 school district may charge a reasonable fee, not to exceed \$50,
14 to students who participate in the course, unless a student is
15 unable to pay for such a course, in which event the fee for
16 such a student must be waived. However, the district may
17 increase this fee to an amount not to exceed \$250 by school
18 board resolution following a public hearing on the increase,
19 which increased fee must be waived for students who participate
20 in the course and are unable to pay for the course. The total
21 amount from driver education fees and reimbursement from the
22 State for driver education must not exceed the total cost of
23 the driver education program in any year and must be deposited
24 into the school district's driver education fund as a separate
25 line item budget entry. All moneys deposited into the school
26 district's driver education fund must be used solely for the

1 funding of a high school driver education program approved by
2 the State Board of Education that uses driver education
3 instructors endorsed by the State Board of Education.

4 (Source: P.A. 99-642, eff. 7-28-16; 99-720, eff. 1-1-17;
5 100-465, eff. 8-31-17.)

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
7 becoming law.