

## HOUSE BILL 103: 2022 Appropriations Act, Sec. 41.10: Exams for Restricted Instruction Permit

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee: July 28, 2022
Introduced by: Prepared by: Wendy Ray
Analysis of: Sec. 41.10 of S.L. 2022-74
Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: Section 41.10 of S.L. 2022-74 authorizes driver training instructors to administer exams required for issuance of a restricted instruction permit, which a teen must have prior to taking the behind the wheel portion of driver education. Per administrative rule, the exams are currently administered by a Division of Motor Vehicles representative.

This section becomes effective October 1, 2022, and applies to restricted instruction permits issued on or after that date.

CURRENT LAW: In North Carolina, teens aged 15-18 may become licensed to drive through the graduated driver licensing program, which provides for three levels of permitting and provisional licensing. In order to obtain a Level 1 limited learner's permit, a teen must complete a course of driver education, including six hours of behind the wheel training. Prior to taking this training, the teen must be issued a restricted driving permit by the Division of Motor Vehicles, as authorized by G.S. 20-7(m). Currently, in order to issue the restricted driving permit, administrative rule requires a student's vision and physical condition to be checked by a representative of the Division or medical personnel and the results recorded on the permit, which must be signed by a Division representative (19A NCAC 03G.0301). Generally, a Division examiner goes to the school to do these exams at some point during or after the classroom portion of driver education but before the behind the wheel instruction, for which the permit is required.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Section 41.10 of S.L. 2022-74 authorizes a driver training instructor to administer vision and physical condition exams and provide signatures required for issuance of a restricted instruction permit. It further directs the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to adopt or amend rules consistent with this authorization.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This section becomes effective October 1, 2022, and applies to restricted instruction permits issued on or after that date.

Jeffrey Hudson Director



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