

AN ACT

relating to requiring an applicant for a driver's license to demonstrate knowledge of motorists' rights and responsibilities in relation to bicyclists.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subsections (b) and (c), Section 521.161, Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b) The examination must include:

(1) a test of the applicant's:

(A) vision;

(B) ability to identify and understand highway signs in English that regulate, warn, or direct traffic; ~~and~~

(C) knowledge of the traffic laws of this state;

and

(D) knowledge of motorists' rights and responsibilities in relation to bicyclists;

(2) a demonstration of the applicant's ability to exercise ordinary and reasonable control in the operation of a motor vehicle of the type that the applicant will be licensed to operate; and

(3) any additional examination the department finds necessary to determine the applicant's fitness to operate a motor vehicle safely.

(c) The department shall give each applicant the option of

1 taking the parts [~~traffic law and highway sign part~~] of the  
2 examination under Subsections (b)(1)(B), (C), and (D) in writing in  
3 addition to or instead of through a mechanical, electronic, or  
4 other testing method. If the applicant takes that part of the  
5 examination in writing in addition to another testing method, the  
6 applicant is considered to have passed that part of the examination  
7 if the applicant passes either version of the examination. The  
8 department shall inform each person taking the examination of the  
9 person's rights under this subsection.

10 SECTION 2. A driver's license examination administered by  
11 the Department of Public Safety is not required to include a  
12 question required by Paragraph (D), Subdivision (1), Subsection  
13 (b), Section 521.161, Transportation Code, as added by this Act, if  
14 the examination is administered before February 1, 2010.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

S.B. No. 2041

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 2041 passed the Senate on April 23, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 1.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 2041 passed the House on May 26, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, one present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor