

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; REQUIRING DOMICILE IN NEW MEXICO FOR A PERSON TO BE ISSUED A COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE; PROHIBITING MASKING OF TRAFFIC CONTROL LAW VIOLATIONS COMMITTED BY THE HOLDER OF A COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE; RECONCILING MULTIPLE AMENDMENTS TO THE SAME SECTION OF LAW IN LAWS 2005; AMENDING AND ENACTING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA 1978; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 66-1-4.3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1990, Chapter 120, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-1-4.3. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Motor Vehicle Code:

A. "camping body" means a vehicle body primarily designed or converted for use as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping or travel activities;

B. "camping trailer" means a camping body, mounted on a chassis, or frame with wheels, designed to be drawn by another vehicle and that has collapsible partial side walls that fold for towing and unfold at the campsite;

C. "cancellation" means that a driver's license is annulled and terminated because of some error or defect or because the licensee is no longer entitled to the license, but cancellation of a license is without prejudice, and

application for a new license may be made at any time after cancellation;

D. "casual sale" means the sale of a motor vehicle by the registered owner of the vehicle if the owner has not sold more than four vehicles in that calendar year;

E. "chassis" means the complete motor vehicle, including standard factory equipment, exclusive of the body and cab;

F. "collector" means a person who is the owner of one or more vehicles of historic or special interest who collects, purchases, acquires, trades or disposes of these vehicles or parts thereof for the person's own use in order to preserve, restore and maintain a similar vehicle for hobby purposes;

G. "combination" means any connected assemblage of a motor vehicle and one or more semitrailers, trailers or semitrailers converted to trailers by means of a converter gear;

H. "combination gross vehicle weight" means the sum total of the gross vehicle weights of all units of a combination;

I. "commerce" means the transportation of persons, property or merchandise for hire, compensation, profit or in the furtherance of a commercial enterprise in this state or between New Mexico and a place outside New Mexico, including a

place outside the United States;

J. "commercial motor vehicle" means a self-propelled or towed vehicle, other than special mobile equipment, used on public highways in commerce to transport passengers or property when the vehicle:

(1) is operated interstate and has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight, of four thousand five hundred thirty-six kilograms, or ten thousand one pounds or more; or is operated only in intrastate commerce and has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight, of twenty-six thousand one or more pounds;

(2) is designed or used to transport more than eight passengers, including the driver, and is used to transport passengers for compensation;

(3) is designed or used to transport sixteen or more passengers, including the driver, and is not used to transport passengers for compensation; or

(4) is used to transport hazardous materials of the type or quantity requiring placarding under rules prescribed by applicable federal or state law;

K. "controlled-access highway" means every highway, street or roadway in respect to which owners or occupants of abutting lands and other persons have no legal

right of access to or from the highway, street or roadway except at those points only and in the manner as may be determined by the public authority having jurisdiction over the highway, street or roadway;

L. "controlled substance" means any substance defined in Section 30-31-2 NMSA 1978 as a controlled substance;

M. "converter gear" means any assemblage of one or more axles with a fifth wheel mounted thereon, designed for use in a combination to support the front end of a semitrailer but not permanently attached thereto. A converter gear shall not be considered a vehicle, as that term is defined in Section 66-1-4.19 NMSA 1978, but weight attributable thereto shall be included in declared gross weight;

N. "conviction" means:

(1) an unvacated adjudication of guilt, or a determination that a person has violated or failed to comply with the law by:

(a) a court of original jurisdiction;

or

(b) an authorized administrative tribunal if the person who has violated the law or failed to comply with the law holds a valid commercial driver's license;

(2) an unvacated forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure a person's appearance in court;

(3) a plea of guilty or nolo contendere accepted by the court;

(4) the payment of a fine or court cost;

(5) a violation of a condition of release without bail, regardless of whether the payment is rebated, suspended or probated; or

(6) an assignment to a diversion program or a driver improvement school;

O. "crosswalk" means:

(1) that part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway measured from the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the traversable roadway; and

(2) any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface; and

P. "curb cut" means a short ramp through a curb or built up to the curb."

Section 2. Section 66-1-4.16 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1990, Chapter 120, Section 17, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-1-4.16. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Motor Vehicle Code:

A. "safety glazing materials" means glazing materials constructed, treated or combined with other

materials to reduce substantially, in comparison with ordinary sheet glass or plate glass, the likelihood of injury to persons by objects from exterior sources or by these safety glazing materials when they are cracked and broken;

B. "safety zone" means the area or space that is officially set apart within a highway for the exclusive use of pedestrians and that is protected or is so marked or indicated by adequate signs as to be plainly visible at all times while set apart as a safety zone;

C. "salvage vehicle" means a vehicle:

(1) other than a nonrepairable vehicle, of a type subject to registration that has been wrecked, destroyed or damaged excluding, pursuant to rules issued by the department, hail damage, to the extent that the owner, leasing company, financial institution or the insurance company that insured or is responsible for repair of the vehicle considers it uneconomical to repair the vehicle and that is subsequently not repaired by or for the person who owned the vehicle at the time of the event resulting in damage; or

(2) that was determined to be uneconomical to repair and for which a total loss payment is made by an insurer, whether or not the vehicle is subsequently repaired, if, prior to or upon making payment to the claimant, the insurer obtained the agreement of the claimant to the amount of the total loss settlement and informed the claimant that,

pursuant to rules of the department, the title must be branded and submitted to the department for issuance of a salvage certificate of title for the vehicle;

D. "school bus" means a commercial motor vehicle used to transport preprimary, primary or secondary school students from home to school, from school to home or to and from school-sponsored events, but not including a vehicle:

(1) operated by a common carrier, subject to and meeting all requirements of the public regulation commission but not used exclusively for the transportation of students;

(2) operated solely by a government-owned transit authority, if the transit authority meets all safety requirements of the public regulation commission but is not used exclusively for the transportation of students; or

(3) operated as a per capita feeder as defined in Section 22-16-6 NMSA 1978;

E. "seal" means the official seal of the taxation and revenue department as designated by the secretary;

F. "secretary" means the secretary of taxation and revenue, and, except for the purposes of Sections 66-2-3 and 66-2-12 NMSA 1978, also includes the deputy secretary and any division director delegated by the secretary;

G. "semitrailer" means a vehicle without motive power, other than a pole trailer, designed for carrying

persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle and so constructed that some significant part of its weight and that of its load rests upon or is carried by another vehicle;

H. "sidewalk" means a portion of street between the curb lines, or the lateral lines of a roadway, and the adjacent property lines, intended for the use of pedestrians;

I. "slow-moving vehicle" means a vehicle that is ordinarily moved, operated or driven at a speed less than twenty-five miles per hour;

J. "solid tire" means every tire of rubber or other resilient material that does not depend upon compressed air for the support of the load;

K. "special mobile equipment" means a vehicle not designed or used primarily for the transportation of persons or property and incidentally operated or moved over the highways, including but not limited to farm tractors, road construction or maintenance machinery, ditch-digging apparatus, well-boring apparatus and concrete mixers;

L. "specially constructed vehicle" means a vehicle of a type required to be registered under the Motor Vehicle Code not originally constructed under a distinctive name, make, model or type by a generally recognized manufacturer of vehicles and not materially altered from its original construction;

M. "state" means a state, territory or possession



of the United States, the District of Columbia or any state of the Republic of Mexico or the Federal District of Mexico or a province of the Dominion of Canada;

N. "state highway" means a public highway that has been designated as a state highway by the legislature, the state transportation commission or the secretary of transportation;

O. "stop", when required, means complete cessation from movement;

P. "stop, stopping or standing", when prohibited, means any stopping or standing of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or traffic-control sign or signal;

Q. "street" or "highway" means a way or place generally open to the use of the public as a matter of right for the purpose of vehicular travel, even though it may be temporarily closed or restricted for the purpose of construction, maintenance, repair or reconstruction;

R. "subsequent offender" means a person who was previously a first offender and who again, under state law, federal law or a municipal ordinance or a tribal law, has been adjudicated guilty of the charge of driving a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug that rendered the person incapable of safely driving a motor

vehicle, regardless of whether the person's sentence was suspended or deferred; and

S. "suspension" means that a person's driver's license and privilege to drive a motor vehicle on the public highways are temporarily withdrawn."

Section 3. Section 66-5-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 35, Section 226, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-5-4. PERSONS EXEMPT FROM LICENSURE.--The following persons are exempt from licensure under the Motor Vehicle Code:

A. military personnel while driving a motor vehicle owned or leased by the United States department of defense;

B. a person who is at least fifteen years of age and who has in immediate possession a valid driver's license issued to the person in the person's home state or country may drive a motor vehicle in this state, except that the person shall obtain a license upon becoming a resident and before the person is employed for compensation by another for the purpose of driving a motor vehicle;

C. a nonresident who is at least eighteen years of age whose home state or country does not require the licensing of drivers may drive a motor vehicle for a period of not more than one hundred eighty days in any calendar year if the motor vehicle driven is duly registered in the home state or country

of the nonresident;

D. a driver of a farm tractor or implement of husbandry temporarily drawn, moved or propelled on the highway; and

E. a driver of an off-highway motorcycle."

Section 4. Section 66-5-54 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989, Chapter 14, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-5-54. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the New Mexico Commercial Driver's License Act:

A. "commerce" means:

(1) trade, traffic or transportation within the jurisdiction of the United States between a place in New Mexico and a place outside of New Mexico, including a place outside of the United States; and

(2) trade, traffic or transportation in the United States that affects any trade, traffic or transportation described in Paragraph (1) of this subsection;

B. "commercial driver's license information system" means the information system created pursuant to the federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986 that contains information pertaining to operators of commercial motor vehicles;

C. "commercial motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles used in commerce to transport passengers or property if the motor vehicle:

(1) has a gross combination weight rating of more than twenty-six thousand pounds inclusive of a towed unit with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than ten thousand pounds;

(2) has a gross vehicle weight rating of more than twenty-six thousand pounds;

(3) is designed to transport sixteen or more passengers, including the driver; or

(4) is of any size and is used in the transportation of hazardous materials, which requires the motor vehicle to be placarded under applicable law;

D. "director" means the director of the motor vehicle division of the department;

E. "disqualification" means:

(1) a suspension, revocation or cancellation of a commercial driver's license by the state or jurisdiction that issued the commercial driver's license;

(2) a withdrawal of a person's privileges to drive a commercial motor vehicle by a state or other jurisdiction as the result of a violation of state or local law relating to motor vehicle control other than a parking, vehicle weight or vehicle defect violation; and

(3) a determination by the federal motor carrier safety administration that a person is not qualified to operate a motor vehicle;

F. "division" means the motor vehicle division of the department;

G. "driving a commercial motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol" means:

(1) driving a commercial motor vehicle while the driver has an alcohol concentration in the driver's blood or breath of four one hundredths or more;

(2) driving a commercial motor vehicle while the driver is under the influence of intoxicating liquor; or

(3) refusal to submit to chemical tests administered pursuant to Section 66-8-107 NMSA 1978;

H. "employee" means an operator of a commercial motor vehicle, including full-time, regularly employed drivers; casual, intermittent or occasional drivers; leased drivers; and independent owner-operator contractors, while in the course of operating a commercial motor vehicle, who is either directly employed by or under lease to an employer;

I. "employer" means a person, including the United States, a state and a political subdivision of a state or their agencies or instrumentalities, that owns or leases a commercial motor vehicle or assigns employees to operate such a vehicle;

J. "fatality" means the death of a person as a result of a motor vehicle accident;

K. "gross combination weight rating" means the

value specified by the manufacturer as the loaded weight of a combination vehicle. In the absence of a value specified by the manufacturer, gross combination weight rating shall be determined by adding the gross vehicle weight rating of the power unit and the total weight of the towed unit or units and any load thereon;

L. "gross vehicle weight rating" means the value specified by the manufacturer as the loaded weight of a single vehicle;

M. "imminent hazard" means a condition that presents a substantial likelihood that death, serious illness, severe personal injury or a substantial endangerment to health, property or the environment will occur before the reasonable foreseeable completion date of a formal proceeding to lessen the risk of that death, illness, injury or endangerment;

N. "noncommercial motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles that is not a commercial motor vehicle;

O. "nonresident commercial driver's license" means a commercial driver's license issued by another state to a person domiciled in that state or by a foreign country to a person domiciled in that country;

P. "out-of-service order" means a declaration by an authorized enforcement officer of a federal, state,

Canadian, Mexican or local jurisdiction that a driver, a commercial motor vehicle or a motor carrier operation is temporarily prohibited from operating;

Q. "railroad-highway grade crossing violation" means a violation of a provision of Section 66-7-341 or 66-7-343 NMSA 1978 or a violation of federal or local law or rule pertaining to stopping at or crossing a railroad-highway grade crossing;

R. "serious traffic violation" means conviction of any of the following if committed when operating a motor vehicle:

(1) speed of fifteen miles or more per hour above the posted limits;

(2) reckless driving as defined by Section 66-8-113 NMSA 1978 or a municipal ordinance or the law of another state;

(3) homicide by vehicle, as defined in Section 66-8-101 NMSA 1978;

(4) injury to pregnant woman by vehicle as defined in Section 66-8-101.1 NMSA 1978 or a municipal ordinance or the law of another state;

(5) any other violation of law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, that the secretary determines by regulation to be a serious traffic violation. "Serious traffic violation" does not

include a vehicle weight or vehicle defect violation;

(6) improper or erratic lane changes in violation of Section 66-7-317 NMSA 1978;

(7) following another vehicle too closely in violation of Section 66-7-318 NMSA 1978;

(8) directly or indirectly causing death or great bodily injury to a human being in the unlawful operation of a motor vehicle in violation of Section 66-8-101 NMSA 1978;

(9) driving a commercial motor vehicle without possession of a commercial driver's license in violation of Section 66-5-59 NMSA 1978;

(10) driving a commercial motor vehicle without the proper class of commercial driver's license and endorsements pursuant to Section 66-5-65 NMSA 1978 and the Motor Carrier Safety Act for the specific vehicle group operated or for the passengers or type of cargo transported; or

(11) driving a commercial motor vehicle without obtaining a commercial driver's license in violation of Section 66-5-59 NMSA 1978; and

S. "state of domicile" means the state in which a person has a true, fixed and permanent home and principal residence and to which the person has the intention of returning whenever the person has been absent from that state."



Section 5. Section 66-5-60 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989, Chapter 14, Section 9, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-5-60. COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE--QUALIFICATIONS--STANDARDS.--

A. The division shall not issue a commercial driver's license to a person unless that person can establish that New Mexico is the person's state of domicile and has passed a knowledge and skills test for driving a commercial motor vehicle and for related endorsements, has passed a medical fitness test and has satisfied any other requirements of the New Mexico Commercial Driver's License Act.

B. The division may authorize a person, including an agency of this or another state, an employer, a private driver-training facility or other private institution or a department, agency or instrumentality of local government to administer the skills test specified by this section.

C. The director may waive the requirement of any test specified in this section for a commercial driver's license applicant who complies with the other provisions of the New Mexico Commercial Driver's License Act through any pertinent rules, regulations or contractual agreements with the public education department, other governments or private entities.

D. A commercial driver's license applicant shall not take a test specified in this section more than three

times within one year.

E. If the department determines that a commercial driver's license applicant has committed an offense in taking a test specified in this section, the division shall not issue a commercial driver's license to that applicant within one year of the department's determination."

Section 6. Section 66-5-65 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989, Chapter 14, Section 14, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-5-65. CLASSIFICATIONS--ENDORSEMENTS--RESTRICTIONS.--

A. Commercial driver's licenses may be issued with the classifications, endorsements and restrictions enumerated in Subsections B, C and D of this section, provided that the applicant has passed the knowledge and skills test required by the department. The holder of a valid commercial driver's license may drive all vehicles in the class for which that license is issued and all lesser classes of vehicles except motorcycles and vehicles that require an endorsement, unless the proper endorsement appears on the license.

B. The following classifications shall apply to commercial driver's licenses:

(1) class A - any combination of vehicles with a gross combination weight rating of more than twenty-six thousand pounds, if the gross vehicle weight rating of the vehicle or vehicles being towed is in excess of ten thousand

pounds;

(2) class B - any single vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than twenty-six thousand pounds and any such vehicle towing a vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of ten thousand pounds or less; and

(3) class C - any single vehicle or combination of vehicles that does not meet either the definition of Paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection but is:

(a) designed to transport sixteen or more passengers, including the driver; or

(b) used in the transportation of hazardous materials, which requires the vehicle to be placarded under applicable law.

C. The secretary, by regulation, may provide for classifications in addition to those set forth in Subsection B of this section.

D. The following endorsements and restrictions shall apply to commercial driver's licenses:

(1) "H" - authorizes driving a vehicle transporting hazardous material;

(2) "L" - restricts the driver to vehicles not equipped with airbrakes;

(3) "T" - authorizes driving a vehicle towing more than one trailer;

(4) "P" - authorizes driving vehicles, other

than school buses, carrying passengers;

(5) "N" - authorizes driving tank vehicles;

(6) "X" - represents a combination of the hazardous material ("H") and tank vehicle ("N") endorsements;

(7) "S" - authorizes driving a school bus;

and

(8) "K" - restricts the driver to driving a commercial motor vehicle in intrastate commerce only.

E. The department shall require an applicant requesting a hazardous material ("H") endorsement to be subject to a background check pursuant to the federal Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001. Information received pursuant to a background check required by the federal transportation security administration of the department of homeland security shall be kept confidential and shall be released only to the subject of the background check and the division. Fees charged for the background check shall be borne by the subject of the background check or by the employer."

Section 7. Section 66-5-67 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989, Chapter 14, Section 16, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-5-67. EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL--STAGGERED LICENSING DURING IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD.--

A. Except as provided in Subsections C and E of

this section, a commercial driver's license issued pursuant to the provisions of the New Mexico Commercial Driver's License Act shall expire thirty days after the applicant's birthday in the fourth year after the effective date of the license.

B. The license is renewable within ninety days prior to its expiration or at an earlier date as approved by the secretary.

C. At the option of an applicant, a commercial driver's license may be issued for a period of eight years, provided that the applicant:

(1) pays the amount required for a commercial driver's license issued for a term of eight years;

(2) otherwise qualifies for a four-year commercial driver's license; and

(3) will not reach the age of seventy-five during the last four years of the eight-year license period.

D. A driver's license issued pursuant to the provisions of Subsection C of this section shall expire thirty days after the applicant's birthday in the eighth year after the effective date of the license.

E. A commercial driver's license with a hazardous material endorsement shall expire:

(1) for an applicant transferring a commercial driver's license with the hazardous material endorsement, four years from the date of the last background

check and testing for the hazardous material endorsement; or

(2) for an applicant adding endorsements or other changes to the commercial driver's license, no later than the expiration date of the commercial driver's license originally issued with the hazardous material endorsement."

Section 8. Section 66-5-68 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989, Chapter 14, Section 17, as amended by Laws 2005, Chapter 310, Section 3 and by Laws 2005, Chapter 312, Section 7) is amended to read:

"66-5-68. DISQUALIFICATION.--

A. The department shall disqualify a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle for at least thirty days if the federal motor carrier safety administration reports to the division that the person poses an imminent hazard.

B. The department shall disqualify a person who holds a commercial driver's license from driving a commercial motor vehicle for a period of not less than one year, which shall run concurrently with any revocation or suspension action for the same offense, if the person:

(1) refuses to submit to a chemical test when requested pursuant to the provisions of the Implied Consent Act;

(2) is twenty-one years of age or more and submits to chemical testing pursuant to the Implied Consent Act and the test results indicate an alcohol concentration of

eight one hundredths or more;

(3) submits to chemical testing pursuant to the Implied Consent Act and the test results indicate an alcohol concentration of four one hundredths or more if the person is driving a commercial motor vehicle;

(4) is less than twenty-one years of age and submits to chemical testing pursuant to the Implied Consent Act and the test results indicate an alcohol concentration of two one hundredths or more; or

(5) is convicted of a violation of:

(a) driving a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs in violation of Section 66-8-102 NMSA 1978, an ordinance of a municipality of this state or the law of another state;

(b) leaving the scene of an accident involving a commercial motor vehicle driven by the person in violation of Section 66-7-201 NMSA 1978 or an ordinance of a municipality of this state or the law of another state;

(c) using a motor vehicle in the commission of a felony;

(d) driving a commercial motor vehicle after the driver's commercial driver's license is revoked, suspended, disqualified or canceled for violations while operating a commercial motor vehicle; or

(e) causing a fatality in the unlawful

operation of a motor vehicle pursuant to Section 66-8-101 NMSA 1978.

C. The department shall disqualify a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle for a period of not less than three years if any of the violations specified in Subsection B of this section occur while transporting a hazardous material required to be placarded.

D. The department shall disqualify a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle for life if convicted of two or more violations of any of the offenses specified in Subsection B of this section, or any combination of those offenses, arising from two or more separate incidents, but the secretary may issue regulations establishing guidelines, including conditions, under which a disqualification for life under this subsection may be reduced to a period of not less than ten years. This subsection applies only to those offenses committed after July 1, 1989.

E. The department shall disqualify a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle for life if the person uses a commercial motor vehicle in the commission of any felony involving the manufacture, distribution or dispensing of a controlled substance or the possession with intent to manufacture, distribute or dispense a controlled substance.

F. The department shall disqualify a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle for a period of not less



than sixty days if convicted of two serious traffic violations or one hundred twenty days if convicted of three serious traffic violations, if the violations were committed while driving a commercial motor vehicle, arising from separate incidents occurring within a three-year period.

G. The department shall disqualify a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle for a period of not less than one hundred eighty days nor more than two years if the person is convicted of a first violation of an out-of-service order while transporting hazardous materials required to be placarded pursuant to the federal Hazardous Materials Transportation Act or while operating a motor vehicle designed to transport more than fifteen passengers, including the driver. The department shall disqualify a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle for a period of not less than three years nor more than five years if, during any ten-year period, the person is convicted of any subsequent violations of out-of-service orders, in separate incidents, while transporting hazardous materials required to be placarded pursuant to that act or while operating a motor vehicle designed to transport more than fifteen passengers, including the driver.

H. The department shall disqualify a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle for sixty days if:

(1) the person has been convicted of two serious traffic violations in separate incidents within a

three-year period; and

(2) the second conviction results in revocation, cancellation or suspension of the person's commercial driver's license or noncommercial motor vehicle driving privileges for sixty days.

I. The department shall disqualify a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle for one hundred twenty days, in addition to any other period of disqualification, if:

(1) the person has been convicted of more than two serious traffic violations within a three-year period; and

(2) the third or a subsequent conviction results in the revocation, cancellation or suspension of the person's commercial driver's license or noncommercial motor vehicle driving privileges.

J. When a person is disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle, any commercial driver's license held by that person is invalidated without separate proceeding of any kind and the driver is not eligible to apply for a commercial driver's license until the period of time for which the driver was disqualified has elapsed.

K. The department shall disqualify a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle for not less than:

(1) sixty days if the person is convicted of a first violation of a railroad-highway grade crossing

violation;

(2) one hundred twenty days if, during any three-year period, the person is convicted of a second railroad-highway grade crossing violation in a separate incident; and

(3) one year if, during any three-year period, the person is convicted of a third or subsequent railroad-highway grade crossing violation in a separate incident.

L. After disqualifying, suspending, revoking or canceling a commercial driver's license, the department shall, within ten days, update its records to reflect that action. After disqualifying, suspending, revoking or canceling a nonresident commercial driver's privileges, the department shall, within ten days, notify the licensing authority of the state that issued the commercial driver's license.

M. When disqualifying, suspending, revoking or canceling a commercial driver's license, the department shall treat a conviction received in another state in the same manner as if it was received in this state.

N. The department shall post and enforce any disqualification sent by the federal motor carrier safety administration to the department that indicates that a commercial motor vehicle driver poses an imminent hazard.

O. The transportation security administration of

the department of homeland security shall provide for an appeal of a disqualification for a commercial driver's license hazardous materials endorsement on the basis of a background check, and the department shall provide to a hazardous materials applicant a copy of the procedures established by the transportation security administration, on request, at the time of application.

P. New Mexico shall conform to the federal transportation security administration of the department of homeland security rules and shall "look back" or review a maximum of seven years for a background check."

Section 9. A new section of the New Mexico Commercial Driver's License Act is enacted to read:

"VIOLATION CONVICTIONS--ACTIONS TO MASK, DEFER OR DIVERT--PROHIBITED.--

A. A person shall take no action to prevent a conviction of a traffic control law violation from appearing on the driving record of a commercial driver's license holder, regardless of the vehicle or state in which the violation occurred, including:

(1) masking or deferring imposition of a judgment of a traffic control law violation committed by a holder of a commercial driver's license; or

(2) allowing a holder of a commercial driver's license to enter a diversion program upon conviction

of a traffic control law violation.

B. As used in this section, "traffic control law violation" does not include a parking violation."

Section 10. Section 66-8-102 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1953, Chapter 139, Section 54, as amended by Laws 2005, Chapter 241, Section 5 and by Laws 2005, Chapter 269, Section 5) is amended to read:

"66-8-102. PERSONS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR OR DRUGS--AGGRAVATED DRIVING WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR OR DRUGS--PENALTY.--

A. It is unlawful for a person who is under the influence of intoxicating liquor to drive a vehicle within this state.

B. It is unlawful for a person who is under the influence of any drug to a degree that renders the person incapable of safely driving a vehicle to drive a vehicle within this state.

C. It is unlawful for:

(1) a person who has an alcohol concentration of eight one hundredths or more in the person's blood or breath to drive a vehicle within this state; or

(2) a person who has an alcohol concentration of four one hundredths or more in the person's blood or breath to drive a commercial motor vehicle within this state.

D. Aggravated driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs consists of a person who:

(1) has an alcohol concentration of sixteen one hundredths or more in the person's blood or breath while driving a vehicle within this state;

(2) has caused bodily injury to a human being as a result of the unlawful operation of a motor vehicle while driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs; or

(3) refused to submit to chemical testing, as provided for in the Implied Consent Act, and in the judgment of the court, based upon evidence of intoxication presented to the court, was under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs.

E. A person under first conviction pursuant to this section shall be punished, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 31-18-13 NMSA 1978, by imprisonment for not more than ninety days or by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500), or both; provided that if the sentence is suspended in whole or in part or deferred, the period of probation may extend beyond ninety days but shall not exceed one year. Upon a first conviction pursuant to this section, an offender shall be sentenced to not less than twenty-four hours and not more than forty-eight hours of community service. In addition, the offender may be required to pay a

fine of three hundred dollars (\$300). The offender shall be ordered by the court to participate in and complete a screening program described in Subsection K of this section and to attend a driver rehabilitation program for alcohol or drugs, also known as a "DWI school", approved by the bureau and also may be required to participate in other rehabilitative services as the court shall determine to be necessary. In addition to those penalties, when an offender commits aggravated driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, the offender shall be sentenced to not less than forty-eight consecutive hours in jail. If an offender fails to complete, within a time specified by the court, any community service, screening program, treatment program or DWI school ordered by the court or fails to comply with any other condition of probation, the offender shall be sentenced to not less than an additional forty-eight consecutive hours in jail. Any jail sentence imposed pursuant to this subsection for failure to complete, within a time specified by the court, any community service, screening program, treatment program or DWI school ordered by the court or for aggravated driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs shall not be suspended, deferred or taken under advisement. On a first conviction pursuant to this section, any time spent in jail for the offense prior to the conviction for that offense shall be credited to any term

of imprisonment fixed by the court. A deferred sentence pursuant to this subsection shall be considered a first conviction for the purpose of determining subsequent convictions.

F. A second or third conviction pursuant to this section shall be punished, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 31-18-13 NMSA 1978, by imprisonment for not more than three hundred sixty-four days or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or both; provided that if the sentence is suspended in whole or in part, the period of probation may extend beyond one year but shall not exceed five years. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary for suspension or deferment of execution of a sentence:

(1) upon a second conviction, an offender shall be sentenced to a jail term of not less than ninety-six consecutive hours, forty-eight hours of community service and a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500). In addition to those penalties, when an offender commits aggravated driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, the offender shall be sentenced to a jail term of not less than ninety-six consecutive hours. If an offender fails to complete, within a time specified by the court, any community service, screening program or treatment program ordered by the court, the offender shall be sentenced to not less than an additional seven consecutive days in jail. A penalty imposed



pursuant to this paragraph shall not be suspended or deferred or taken under advisement; and

(2) upon a third conviction, an offender shall be sentenced to a jail term of not less than thirty consecutive days, ninety-six hours of community service and a fine of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750). In addition to those penalties, when an offender commits aggravated driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, the offender shall be sentenced to a jail term of not less than sixty consecutive days. If an offender fails to complete, within a time specified by the court, any community service, screening program or treatment program ordered by the court, the offender shall be sentenced to not less than an additional sixty consecutive days in jail. A penalty imposed pursuant to this paragraph shall not be suspended or deferred or taken under advisement.

G. Upon a fourth conviction pursuant to this section, an offender is guilty of a fourth degree felony and, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 31-18-15 NMSA 1978, shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of eighteen months, six months of which shall not be suspended, deferred or taken under advisement.

H. Upon a fifth conviction pursuant to this section, an offender is guilty of a fourth degree felony and, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 31-18-15 NMSA 1978,

shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of two years, one year of which shall not be suspended, deferred or taken under advisement.

I. Upon a sixth conviction pursuant to this section, an offender is guilty of a third degree felony and, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 31-18-15 NMSA 1978, shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of thirty months, eighteen months of which shall not be suspended, deferred or taken under advisement.

J. Upon a seventh or subsequent conviction pursuant to this section, an offender is guilty of a third degree felony and, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 31-18-15 NMSA 1978, shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of three years, two years of which shall not be suspended, deferred or taken under advisement.

K. Upon any conviction pursuant to this section, an offender shall be required to participate in and complete, within a time specified by the court, an alcohol or drug abuse screening program approved by the department of finance and administration and, if necessary, a treatment program approved by the court. The requirement imposed pursuant to this subsection shall not be suspended, deferred or taken under advisement.

L. Upon a second or third conviction pursuant to this section, an offender shall be required to participate in

and complete, within a time specified by the court:

(1) not less than a twenty-eight-day inpatient, residential or in-custody substance abuse treatment program approved by the court;

(2) not less than a ninety-day outpatient treatment program approved by the court;

(3) a drug court program approved by the court; or

(4) any other substance abuse treatment program approved by the court.

The requirement imposed pursuant to this subsection shall not be suspended, deferred or taken under advisement.

M. Upon a felony conviction pursuant to this section, the corrections department shall provide substance abuse counseling and treatment to the offender in its custody. While the offender is on probation or parole under its supervision, the corrections department shall also provide substance abuse counseling and treatment to the offender or shall require the offender to obtain substance abuse counseling and treatment.

N. Upon a conviction pursuant to this section, an offender shall be required to obtain an ignition interlock license and have an ignition interlock device installed and operating on all motor vehicles driven by the offender, pursuant to rules adopted by the bureau. Unless determined by

the sentencing court to be indigent, the offender shall pay all costs associated with having an ignition interlock device installed on the appropriate motor vehicles. The offender shall operate only those vehicles equipped with ignition interlock devices for:

(1) a period of one year, for a first offender;

(2) a period of two years, for a second conviction pursuant to this section;

(3) a period of three years, for a third conviction pursuant to this section; or

(4) the remainder of the offender's life, for a fourth or subsequent conviction pursuant to this section.

O. Five years from the date of conviction and every five years thereafter, a fourth or subsequent offender may apply to a district court for removal of the ignition interlock device requirement provided in this section and for restoration of a driver's license. A district court may, for good cause shown, remove the ignition interlock device requirement and order restoration of the license; provided that the offender has not been subsequently convicted of driving a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs. Good cause may include an alcohol screening and proof from the interlock vendor that the

person has not had violations of the interlock device.

P. In the case of a first, second or third offense under this section, the magistrate court has concurrent jurisdiction with district courts to try the offender.

Q. A conviction pursuant to a municipal or county ordinance in New Mexico or a law of any other jurisdiction, territory or possession of the United States or of a tribe, when that ordinance or law is equivalent to New Mexico law for driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, and prescribes penalties for driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, shall be deemed to be a conviction pursuant to this section for purposes of determining whether a conviction is a second or subsequent conviction.

R. In addition to any other fine or fee that may be imposed pursuant to the conviction or other disposition of the offense under this section, the court may order the offender to pay the costs of any court-ordered screening and treatment programs.

S. With respect to this section and notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, if an offender's sentence was suspended or deferred in whole or in part and the offender violates any condition of probation, the court may impose any sentence that the court could have originally imposed and credit shall not be given for time

served by the offender on probation.

T. As used in this section:

(1) "bodily injury" means an injury to a person that is not likely to cause death or great bodily harm to the person, but does cause painful temporary disfigurement or temporary loss or impairment of the functions of any member or organ of the person's body; and

(2) "commercial motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles used in commerce to transport passengers or property if the motor vehicle:

(a) has a gross combination weight rating of more than twenty-six thousand pounds inclusive of a towed unit with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than ten thousand pounds;

(b) has a gross vehicle weight rating of more than twenty-six thousand pounds;

(c) is designed to transport sixteen or more passengers, including the driver; or

(d) is of any size and is used in the transportation of hazardous materials, which requires the motor vehicle to be placarded under applicable law."

Section 11. Section 66-8-135 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 35, Section 543, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-8-135. RECORD OF TRAFFIC CASES.--

A. Every trial court judge shall keep a record of

every traffic complaint, uniform traffic citation and other form of traffic charge filed in the judge's court or its traffic violations bureau and every official action and disposition of the charge by that court.

B. Within ten days of the later of entry of judgment and sentence or failure to appear on a charge of violating the Motor Vehicle Code or other law or ordinance relating to motor vehicles or the final decision of any higher court that reviews the matter and from which no appeal or review is successfully taken, every trial court judge, including children's court judges, or the clerk of the court in which the entry of judgment and sentence or failure to appear occurred shall prepare and forward to the department an abstract of the record containing:

- (1) the name and address of the defendant;
- (2) the specific section number and common name of the provision of the NMSA 1978 or local law, ordinance or regulation under which the defendant was tried;
- (3) the plea, finding of the court and disposition of the charge, including fine or jail sentence or both, forfeiture of bail or dismissal of the charge;
- (4) an itemization of costs assessed to the defendant;
- (5) the date of the hearing;
- (6) the court's name and address;

(7) whether the defendant was a first or subsequent offender; and

(8) whether the defendant was represented by counsel or waived the right to counsel and, if represented, the name and address of counsel.

C. The abstract of record prepared and forwarded under Subsection B of this section shall be certified as correct by the person required to prepare it. With the prior approval of the department, the information required by Subsection B of this section may be transmitted electronically to the department. Report need not be made of any disposition of a charge of illegal parking or standing of a vehicle except when the uniform traffic citation is used.

D. When the uniform traffic citation is used, the court shall provide the information required by Subsection B of this section in the manner prescribed by the department.

E. Every court of record shall also forward a like report to the department upon conviction of any person of any felony if a motor vehicle was used in the commission. With the prior approval of the department, the information required by this subsection may be submitted electronically to the department. The report shall be forwarded to the department within ten days of the final decision of the court or of any higher court that reviews the matter and from which the decision of no appeal or review is successfully taken.



F. The failure or refusal of any judicial officer to comply with this section is misconduct in office and grounds for removal.

G. Except as set forth in Subsection H of this section for records of a person holding a commercial driver's license, the department shall keep records received on motorists licensed in this state at its main office. Records showing a record of conviction by a court of law shall be open to public inspection during business hours for three years from the date of their receipt, after which they shall be destroyed by the department except for records of convictions under Sections 66-8-101 through 66-8-112 NMSA 1978, which may not be destroyed until fifty-five years from the date of their receipt. Any record received on a motorist licensed in another state or country shall be forwarded to the licensing authority of that state or country.

H. The department shall keep records received on a person holding a commercial driver's license in its main office. Records showing a record of conviction by a court of law shall be open to public inspection during business hours for fifty-five years from the date of their receipt. Any record received on a person holding a commercial driver's license licensed in another state or country shall be forwarded to the licensing authority of that state or country."

Section 12. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public  
peace, health and safety that this act take effect  
immediately.

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