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AN ACT

RELATING TO DRIVER'S LICENSES; PROVIDING FOR REPORTS BY EXPERTS TO BE USED BY THE MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION OF THE TAXATION AND REVENUE DEPARTMENT IN ADDRESSING RESTRICTED LICENSES; REPEALING A SECTION OF THE NMSA 1978.

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

SECTION 1. Section 66-5-19 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 35, Section 241, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-5-19. RESTRICTED LICENSES.--

A. The division, upon issuing a license, may, whenever good cause appears, impose restrictions, including the shortening of the licensure period suitable to the licensee's driving ability with respect to the type of or special mechanical control devices required on a motor vehicle that the licensee may operate or such other restrictions applicable to the licensee as the division determines to be appropriate to ensure the safe operation of a motor vehicle by the licensee.

B. At age seventy-nine and thereafter, the applicant shall renew the applicant's license on a yearly basis at no cost to the applicant.

C. The division may either issue a special restricted license or may set forth such restrictions upon the usual license form.

1           D. The division may issue a restricted license or  
2 a restricted provisional license for driving during daylight  
3 hours only to some visually impaired persons who fail the  
4 usual eyesight test. The division shall evaluate the extent  
5 of the visual impairment and the impairment's effect on the  
6 driving ability of the applicant and the director may issue a  
7 restricted license under the following conditions:

8                   (1) the applicant has no record of moving  
9 violations;

10                   (2) the necessity of the license is shown to  
11 the satisfaction of the director; and

12                   (3) the applicant satisfies the provisions  
13 of Section 66-5-206 NMSA 1978 relating to proof of financial  
14 responsibility.

15           E. The division may seek the advice of experts  
16 necessary to advise the division on physical and mental  
17 criteria and vision standards relating to the licensing of  
18 drivers pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Code.

19           F. The division, having cause to believe that a  
20 licensed driver or applicant may not be physically, visually  
21 or mentally qualified to be licensed, may request a written  
22 report on a form prescribed by the division from a health  
23 care provider of the driver's or applicant's choice for  
24 consideration after the licensed driver or applicant has  
25 again undergone an on-the-road examination and any physical,

