AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; requiring certain young or inexperienced drivers to display a placard in a motor vehicle operated by the driver; requiring completion of a defensive driving course for any applicant for a driver’s license who is under 21 years of age; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:
Section 1 of this bill requires that a driver operating a motor vehicle while holding an instruction permit or a restricted instruction permit display a placard in the rear window of the motor vehicle which indicates that the driver holds an instruction permit. A driver who has held a driver’s license for less than 6 months must display in the rear window of any motor vehicle operated by the driver a placard which indicates the driver is a new driver. Section 1 further requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue such a placard to applicable drivers, and requires the Director of the Department to order the preparation of placards which are suitable for display in the rear window of a motor vehicle without impairing the vision of the driver.
Existing law authorizes the issuance of a driver’s license to a person who is 16 or 17 years of age under certain circumstances, including, with certain exceptions, completion by the person of a course in automobile driver education or a course provided by a school for training drivers that is licensed in this State. (NRS 483.2521) Sections 3-5 of this bill require any person under the age of 21 years to also complete a course in defensive driving to obtain a driver’s license. Section 2 of this bill requires the Department to approve for the purposes of this requirement any defensive driving course that: (1) includes both theory of defensive driving and practical experience in defensive driving skills and maneuvers; (2) is provided by a school for training drivers that is licensed in this State; and (3) is conducted by a person who is licensed in this State as an instructor for a school for training drivers. Section 2 also requires the Department to place a list of approved courses on the Internet website of the Department. Sections 6-10 of this bill make conforming changes.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 483 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. Any person who is operating a motor vehicle while holding an instruction permit or a restricted instruction permit issued pursuant to NRS 483.280 must display in the rear window of the motor vehicle a placard that indicates the driver of the motor vehicle possesses only an instruction permit.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, any person who is operating a motor vehicle while holding a driver’s license must display, for 6 months after the initial issuance of the driver’s license, in the rear window of the motor vehicle a placard that indicates the driver of the motor vehicle is a new driver.

3. The provisions of subsection 2 do not apply to the holder of a driver’s license who, before obtaining a driver’s license in this State, held a driver’s license in another jurisdiction for not less than 6 months.

4. The Director shall order the preparation of placards which meet the requirements of this section and which:

   (a) Can be displayed in the rear window of a vehicle without impairing the ability of the driver to see out of the rear window; and

   (b) Are distinct in appearance from a special parking placard issued pursuant to NRS 482.384.

5. The Department shall provide an appropriate placard at the time of issuance of an instruction permit, a restricted instruction permit or a driver’s license to any person who is required by the provisions of this section to display such a placard.
Sec. 2. 1. The Department shall approve a course in defensive driving for the purposes of NRS 483.2521, 483.290 and 483.291 if the course:

(a) Includes instruction in the theory and practical applications of defensive driving;

(b) Requires a person taking the course to practice defensive driving skills and maneuvers, including, without limitation, emergency avoidance and response techniques;

(c) Is provided by a school for training drivers that meets the requirements of NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive, and section 2 of this act; and

(d) Is conducted by a person who holds a license as an instructor for a school for training drivers and who meets the requirements of NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive, and section 2 of this act.

2. The Department shall maintain on the Internet website of the Department a list of courses in defensive driving that are approved pursuant to this section.

Sec. 3. NRS 483.2521 is hereby amended to read as follows:

483.2521 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the Department may issue a driver’s license to a person who is 16 or 17 years of age if the person:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, has completed:

(1) A course in automobile driver education pursuant to NRS 389.090; or

(2) A course provided by a school for training drivers which is licensed pursuant to NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive, and section 2 of this act and which complies with the applicable regulations governing the establishment, conduct and scope of automobile driver education adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to NRS 389.090;

(b) Submits to the Department proof that the person has successfully completed a course in defensive driving that has been approved by the Department pursuant to section 2 of this act;

(c) Has at least 50 hours of supervised experience in driving a motor vehicle with a restricted license, instruction permit or restricted instruction permit issued pursuant to NRS 483.267, 483.270 or 483.280, including, without limitation, at least 10 hours of experience in driving a motor vehicle during darkness;

[(e)] (d) Submits to the Department, on a form provided by the Department, a log which contains the dates and times of the hours of supervised experience required pursuant to this section and which is signed:
(1) By his or her parent or legal guardian; or
(2) If the person applying for the driver’s license is an emancipated minor, by a licensed driver who is at least 21 years of age or by a licensed driving instructor, who attests that the person applying for the driver’s license has completed the training and experience required pursuant to paragraphs (a) and [(b)]((c));
[(d)](e) Submits to the Department:
(1) A written statement signed by the principal of the public school in which the person is enrolled or by a designee of the principal and which is provided to the person pursuant to NRS 392.123;
(2) A written statement signed by the parent or legal guardian of the person which states that the person is excused from compulsory attendance pursuant to NRS 392.070;
(3) A copy of the person’s high school diploma or certificate of attendance; or
(4) A copy of the person’s certificate of general educational development or an equivalent document;
[(e)](f) Has not been found to be responsible for a motor vehicle crash during the 6 months before applying for the driver’s license;
[(f)](g) Has not been convicted of a moving traffic violation or a crime involving alcohol or a controlled substance during the 6 months before applying for the driver’s license; and
[(g)](h) Has held an instruction permit for not less than 6 months before applying for the driver’s license.

2. If a course described in paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 1 is not offered within a 30-mile radius of a person’s residence, the person may, in lieu of completing such a course as required by that paragraph, complete an additional 50 hours of supervised experience in driving a motor vehicle in accordance with paragraph [(b)]((c)) of subsection 1.

3. A person who is 16 or 17 years of age, who has held an instruction permit issued pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 483.280 authorizing the holder of the permit to operate a motorcycle and who applies for a driver’s license pursuant to this section that authorizes him or her to operate a motorcycle must comply with the provisions of paragraphs [(d)]((e)) to [(g)]((h)), inclusive, of subsection 1 and must:
(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, complete a course of motorcycle safety approved by the Department;
(b) Have at least 50 hours of experience in driving a motorcycle with an instruction permit issued pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 483.280; and
(c) Submit to the Department, on a form provided by the Department, a log which contains the dates and times of the hours of experience required pursuant to paragraph (b) and which is signed by his or her parent or legal guardian who attests that the person applying for the motorcycle driver’s license has completed the training and experience required pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b).

4. If a course described in paragraph (a) of subsection 3 is not offered within a 30-mile radius of a person’s residence, the person may, in lieu of completing the course, complete an additional 50 hours of experience in driving a motorcycle in accordance with paragraph (b) of subsection 3.

Sec. 4. NRS 483.290 is hereby amended to read as follows:

483.290 1. An application for an instruction permit or for a driver’s license must:

(a) Be made upon a form furnished by the Department.

(b) Be verified by the applicant before a person authorized to administer oaths. Officers and employees of the Department may administer those oaths without charge.

(c) Be accompanied by the required fee.

(d) State the full legal name, date of birth, sex, address of principal residence and mailing address, if different from the address of principal residence, of the applicant and briefly describe the applicant.

(e) State whether the applicant has theretofore been licensed as a driver, and, if so, when and by what state or country, and whether any such license has ever been suspended or revoked, or whether an application has ever been refused, and, if so, the date of and reason for the suspension, revocation or refusal.

(f) Include such other information as the Department may require to determine the competency and eligibility of the applicant.

2. Every applicant must furnish proof of his or her full legal name and age by displaying:

(a) An original or certified copy of the required documents as prescribed by regulation; or

(b) A photo identification card issued by the Department of Corrections pursuant to NRS 209.511.

3. The Department shall adopt regulations prescribing the documents an applicant may use to furnish proof of his or her full legal name and age to the Department pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2, including, without limitation, a document issued by the Department pursuant to NRS 483.375 or 483.8605.

4. At the time of applying for a driver’s license, an applicant may, if eligible, preregister or register to vote pursuant to NRS 293.524.
5. An application for a driver’s license from a person who is less than 21 years of age must be accompanied by proof that the applicant has successfully completed a course in defensive driving that has been approved by the Department pursuant to section 2 of this act.

6. Every applicant who has been assigned a social security number must furnish proof of his or her social security number by displaying:
   (a) An original card issued to the applicant by the Social Security Administration bearing the social security number of the applicant; or
   (b) Other proof acceptable to the Department, including, without limitation, records of employment or federal income tax returns.

7. The Department may refuse to accept a driver’s license issued by another state, the District of Columbia or any territory of the United States if the Department determines that the other state, the District of Columbia or the territory of the United States has less stringent standards than the State of Nevada for the issuance of a driver’s license.

8. With respect to any document presented by a person who was born outside of the United States to prove his or her full legal name and age, the Department:
   (a) May, if the document has expired, refuse to accept the document or refuse to issue a driver’s license to the person presenting the document, or both; and
   (b) Shall issue to the person presenting the document a driver’s license that is valid only during the time the applicant is authorized to stay in the United States, or if there is no definite end to the time the applicant is authorized to stay, the driver’s license is valid for 1 year beginning on the date of issuance.

9. The Administrator shall adopt regulations setting forth criteria pursuant to which the Department will issue or refuse to issue a driver’s license in accordance with this section to a person who is a citizen of any state, the District of Columbia, any territory of the United States or a foreign country. The criteria pursuant to which the Department shall issue or refuse to issue a driver’s license to a citizen of a foreign country must be based upon the purpose for which that person is present within the United States.

10. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Department shall not accept a consular identification card as proof of the age or identity of an applicant for an instruction permit or for a driver’s license. As used in this subsection, “consular identification card” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 232.006.
Sec. 5. NRS 483.291 is hereby amended to read as follows:

483.291 1. An application for an instruction permit or for a driver authorization card must:

(a) Be made upon a form furnished by the Department.

(b) Be verified by the applicant before a person authorized to administer oaths. Officers and employees of the Department may administer those oaths without charge.

(c) Be accompanied by the required fee.

(d) State the name, date of birth, sex and residence address of the applicant and briefly describe the applicant.

(e) State whether the applicant has theretofore been licensed as a driver, and, if so, when and by what state or country, and whether any such license has ever been suspended or revoked, or whether an application has ever been refused, and, if so, the date of and reason for the suspension, revocation or refusal.

(f) Include such other information as the Department may require to determine the competency and eligibility of the applicant.

2. Every applicant must furnish proof of his or her name and age by displaying an original or certified copy of:

(a) Any one of the following documents:

(1) A birth certificate issued by a state, a political subdivision of a state, the District of Columbia or any territory of the United States;

(2) A driver’s license issued by another state, the District of Columbia or any territory of the United States which is issued pursuant to the standards established by 6 C.F.R. Part 37, Subparts A to E, inclusive, and which contains a security mark approved by the United States Department of Homeland Security in accordance with 6 C.F.R. § 37.17;

(3) A passport issued by the United States Government;

(4) A military identification card or military dependent identification card issued by any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States;

(5) For persons who served in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, a report of separation;

(6) A Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood issued by the United States Government;


(8) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the Department of State;

(9) A document issued by the Department pursuant to NRS 483.375 or 483.8605; or
(10) Such other documentation as specified by the Department by regulation; or

(b) Any two of the following documents:

(1) A driver’s license issued by another state, the District of Columbia or any territory of the United States other than such a driver’s license described in subparagraph (2) of paragraph (a);

(2) A passport issued by a foreign government;

(3) A birth certificate issued by a foreign government;

(4) A consular identification card issued by the Government of Mexico or a document issued by another government that the Department determines is substantially similar; or

(5) Any other proof acceptable to the Department.

No document which is written in a language other than English may be accepted by the Department pursuant to this subsection unless it is accompanied by a verified translation of the document in the English language.

3. Every applicant must prove his or her residence in this State by displaying an original or certified copy of any two of the following documents:

(a) A receipt from the rent or lease of a residence located in this State;

(b) A record from a public utility for a service address located in this State which is dated within the previous 60 days;

(c) A bank or credit card statement indicating a residential address located in this State which is dated within the previous 60 days;

(d) A stub from an employment check indicating a residential address located in this State;

(e) A document issued by an insurance company or its agent, including, without limitation, an insurance card, binder or bill, indicating a residential address located in this State;

(f) A record, receipt or bill from a medical provider indicating a residential address located in this State; or

(g) Any other document as prescribed by the Department by regulation.

4. An application for a driver authorization card from a person who is less than 21 years of age must be accompanied by proof that the applicant has successfully completed a course in defensive driving that has been approved by the Department pursuant to section 2 of this act.

5. Except as otherwise provided in subsection [5,] 6, a driver authorization card or instruction permit obtained in accordance with this section must:
(a) Contain the same information as prescribed for a driver’s license pursuant to NRS 483.340 and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto;

(b) Be of the same design as a driver’s license and contain only the minimum number of changes from that design that are necessary to comply with subsection [5-] 6; and

(c) Be numbered from the same sequence of numbers as a driver’s license.


[6-] 7. Notwithstanding the provisions of NRS 483.380, every driver authorization card:

(a) Expires on the fourth anniversary of the holder’s birthday, measured in the case of initial issuance or renewal from the birthday nearest the date of issuance or renewal.

(b) Is renewable at any time before its expiration upon application and payment of the required fee. The Department may, by regulation, defer the expiration of the driver authorization card of a person who is on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States upon such terms and conditions as it may prescribe. The Department may similarly defer the expiration of the driver authorization card of the spouse or dependent son or daughter of that person if the spouse or child is residing with the person.

[7-] 8. A driver authorization card shall not be used to determine eligibility for any benefits, licenses or services issued or provided by this State or its political subdivisions.

[8-] 9. Except as otherwise provided in this section or by specific statute, any provision of this title that applies to drivers’ licenses shall be deemed to apply to a driver authorization card and an instruction permit obtained in accordance with this section.

Sec. 6. NRS 483.700 is hereby amended to read as follows:

483.700 No person may operate a school for training drivers, or engage in the business of giving instruction for hire in driving motor vehicles or in the preparation of an applicant for an examination given by the Department for a driver’s license, unless the person has secured a license therefor from the Department as provided in NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive [—], and section 2 of this act.

Sec. 7. NRS 483.725 is hereby amended to read as follows:

483.725 1. [Each] Except as otherwise provided in section 2 of this act, each course of training provided by a school for training
drivers licensed pursuant to NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive, and section 2 of this act must include, without limitation, instruction in:

(a) Motor vehicle insurance.
(b) The effect of drugs and alcohol on an operator of a motor vehicle.

2. If a course of training provided by a school for training drivers licensed pursuant to NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive, and section 2 of this act consists in whole or in part of classroom instruction, that part of the course which consists of classroom instruction may be taught interactively through the use of communications technology so that persons taking the course need not be physically present in a classroom.

3. The Department shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of subsection 2. The regulations must include, without limitation:

(a) Provisions for the licensing and operation of interactive courses that use communications technology;
(b) Provisions to ensure that interactive courses which use communications technology are secure, reliable and include measures for testing and security that are at least as secure as the measures for testing and security which would be available in an ordinary classroom; and
(c) Standards to ensure that interactive courses which use communications technology offer a curriculum that is at least as stringent as the curriculum which would be available in an ordinary classroom.

4. As used in this section, “communications technology” means any method or component, or both, that is used by a school for training drivers licensed pursuant to NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive, and section 2 of this act to carry out or facilitate the transmission of information, including, without limitation, the transmission and reception of information by:

(a) Systems based on the following technologies:
   (1) Video;
   (2) Wire;
   (3) Cable;
   (4) Radio;
   (5) Microwave;
   (6) Light; or
   (7) Optics; and
(b) Computer data networks, including, without limitation, the Internet or its successor, if any, and intranet services.

Sec. 8. NRS 483.760 is hereby amended to read as follows:
483.760 The Department may refuse to issue a license or may cancel, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew any license granted
pursuant to NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive [—], and section 2 of this act:

1. If the applicant or licensee makes a material misstatement on an application.
2. If the applicant or licensee fails or refuses to provide any information requested by the Department in conjunction with an application.
3. If the applicant has been convicted of a crime for a violation of any of the provisions of NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive [—], and section 2 of this act.
4. If the licensee permits fraud or engages in fraudulent practices either with reference to the applicant or the Department or induces or countenances fraud or fraudulent practices on the part of any applicant for driver’s license.
5. If the licensee fails to comply with or is convicted of a crime for a violation of any of the provisions of NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive, and section 2 of this act or any of the regulations or requirements of the Department made pursuant thereto.
6. If the licensee or any employee or agent of the licensee solicits persons for enrollment in a school for training drivers in an office of the Department or within 200 feet of any such office.
7. If the licensee or any employee or agent of the licensee follows the identical course of training which is used by the Department in giving an examination for a driver’s license.

Sec. 9. NRS 483.767 is hereby amended to read as follows:

483.767 1. The Department may impose an administrative fine, not to exceed $2,500, for a violation of any provision of NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive, and section 2 of this act or any rule, regulation or order adopted or issued pursuant thereto. The Department shall afford to any person so fined an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to the provisions of NRS 233B.121.
2. All administrative fines collected by the Department pursuant to subsection 1 must be deposited with the State Treasurer to the credit of the State Highway Fund.
3. In addition to any other remedy provided by NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive, and section 2 of this act, the Department may compel compliance with any provision of NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive, and section 2 of this act and any rule, regulation or order adopted or issued pursuant thereto, by injunction or other appropriate remedy and the Department may institute and maintain in the name of the State of Nevada any such enforcement proceedings.
Sec. 10. NRS 483.780 is hereby amended to read as follows:

483.780 The Department shall charge annually the following fees for licenses issued pursuant to the provisions of NRS 483.700 to 483.780, inclusive [±], and section 2 of this act:

1. License for a school for training drivers............................ $50
2. License for a driving instructor ........................................ 10
3. License for a school, an agency or a business that provides an educational course on the abuse of alcohol and controlled substances........................................ 250
4. License for an instructor of an educational course on the abuse of alcohol and controlled substances................................................................. 50
5. License for a school for traffic safety.............................. 250
6. License for an instructor of traffic safety ....................... 50

Sec. 11. 1. The requirements of section 1 of this act do not apply to any person who holds:
   (a) An instruction permit or a restricted instruction permit issued pursuant to NRS 483.280;
   (b) A driver’s license; or
   (c) A driver authorization card, issued before the effective date of this act.

2. The amendatory provisions of sections 3 to 10, inclusive, of this act do not apply to a person who applies for a driver’s license or a driver authorization card before July 1, 2019.

Sec. 12. This act becomes effective July 1, 2019.