

SENATE BILL 75

R4

(PRE-FILED)

1lr0458
CF HB 296

By: **Senator Hettleman**

Requested: October 1, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Driver's Licenses – Older Licensees – In-Person Renewal**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting, subject to a certain exception, the Motor Vehicle
4 Administration from renewing the driver's license of an individual at least a certain
5 age without requiring the individual to complete the renewal transaction in person
6 at an office of the Administration; and generally relating to driver's license renewal.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Transportation

9 Section 16–115(a)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2020 Replacement Volume)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

13 Article – Transportation

14 Section 16–115(f)

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2020 Replacement Volume)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Transportation**

20 16–115.

21 (a) (1) Subject to paragraph (5) of this subsection, a license issued under this
22 title to a driver at least 21 years old shall expire on the birth date of the licensee at the end
23 of a period of not more than 8 years determined in regulations adopted by the
24 Administration following the issuance of the license.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2) Subject to paragraph (5) of this subsection, a license issued under this title to a driver under the age of 21 years shall expire not later than 60 days after the driver's 21st birthday.

(3) A license is renewable on the presentation of an application, the payment of the renewal fee required by § 16–111.1 of this subtitle, and satisfactory completion of the examination required or authorized by subsection (i) of this section:

(i) Within 6 months before its expiration; or

(ii) When a driver qualifies for a corrected license issued under § 16–114.1(c) of this subtitle.

(4) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, the Administration may not renew an individual's license for more than one consecutive term without requiring the individual to appear in person at an office of the Administration.

(5) (i) If an applicant has temporary lawful status, the Administration may not issue to the applicant a license to drive for a period that extends beyond the expiration date of the applicant's authorized stay in the United States or, if there is no expiration date, for a period longer than 1 year.

(ii) Nothing contained in this paragraph may be construed to allow the issuance of a temporary license to drive for a period longer than the period described in this subsection.

(iii) The Administration shall indicate on the face and in the machine-readable zone of a temporary license to drive that the license is a temporary license to drive.

(6) A holder of a temporary license to drive who had temporary lawful status at the time of the issuance of the temporary license to drive shall present satisfactory documentary evidence of lawful status if the holder applies for issuance or renewal of any license to drive under this subtitle.

(7) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION, THE ADMINISTRATION MAY NOT RENEW THE LICENSE OF AN INDIVIDUAL AT LEAST 85 YEARS OLD WITHOUT REQUIRING THE INDIVIDUAL TO APPEAR IN PERSON AT AN OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

(f) If a licensee is absent from this State for cause, other than as provided in subsection (d) of this section, and is unable to renew the licensee's license in the manner required by this section, the licensee may renew by mail to the Administration. The renewal application shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee and a statement giving the reason for and the expected length of the absence. On receipt of the application, the Administration may issue a regular license which bears a photo or a notation that it is valid without a photo

1 until 15 days after the licensee first returns to this State.

2 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
3 October 1, 2021.