

HOUSE BILL 296

R4
HB 1191/20 – ENT

(PRE-FILED)

11r0456
CF SB 75

By: **Delegate Stein**

Requested: July 13, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 8, 2021

CHAPTER _____

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**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 16–115.

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

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

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

12 (i) Within 6 months before its expiration; or

13 (ii) When a driver qualifies for a corrected license issued under §
14 16–114.1(c) of this subtitle.

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

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

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

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

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

32 **(7) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION, THE**
33 **ADMINISTRATION MAY NOT RENEW THE LICENSE OF AN INDIVIDUAL AT LEAST 85**
34 **YEARS OLD WITHOUT REQUIRING THE INDIVIDUAL TO APPEAR IN PERSON AT AN**
35 **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 until 15 days after the licensee first returns to this State.

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

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.