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2 Chairman Phil Mendelson


Councilmember Mary M. Cheh

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Councilmember David Grosso

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9 A BILL

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13 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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18 To amend the District of Columbia Traffic Act, 1925, to require that all motor vehicle operator
19 qualification assessments provide language services to persons with limited or non-
20 English proficiency, to establish that requirements for driver's education shall provide
21 no-cost education for qualified applicants; and to require equivalent application
22 procedures and qualification assessments for limited purpose driver's licenses, permits, or
23 identification cards.

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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
26 act may be cited as the "Driver's License Fair Access and Equality Amendment Act of 2016".

27 Sec. 2. The District of Columbia Traffic Act, 1925, approved March 3, 1925 (43 Stat.
28 1119; D.C. Official Code § 50-1401.01 *et seq.*), is amended as follows:

29 (a) Section 7(a)(1) (D.C. Official Code § 50-1401.01(a)(1)) is amended as follows:

30 (1) A new subparagraph (C-i) is added to read as follows:

31 "(C-i) The requirements set forth in subparagraph (a)(1)(B) and sections
32 100 through 113 of Title 18 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (18 DCMR §§
33 100-113) shall include oral or written language services to persons with limited or no-English
34 proficiency in accordance with sections 3 and 4 of the Language Access Act of 2004, approved
35 June 19, 2004 (D.C. Law 15-167; D.C. Official Code §§ 2-1932 and 2-1933). Written materials,

36 including examinations, study guides, or other materials produced by the Department shall be
37 considered vital documents as defined by section 2 of the Language Access Act.”.

38 (2) A new subparagraph (D-i) is added to read as follows:

39 “(D-i) A requirement that an applicant complete mandatory driver’s
40 education shall include the opportunity for qualified applicants to complete such education at
41 low or no cost, based on qualifications established by the Department through rulemaking.”.

42 (b) Section 8c (D.C. Official Code § 50-1401.05), is amended by adding a new
43 subsection (e-1) to read as follows:

44 “(e-1) The department shall provide substantially equivalent procedures for the
45 application of and assessment for a limited purpose driver’s license, permit, or identification card
46 as are used for traditional driver’s licenses and identification cards; provided, that procedures and
47 assessments related to the issuance of a limited purpose driver’s license, permit, or identification
48 card shall be consistent with the requirements of this section.”.

49 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

50 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal
51 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
52 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

53 Sec. 4. Effective date.

54 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
55 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
56 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
57 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
58 Columbia Register.