**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND CHAPTER 1, TITLE 56 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO DRIVER’S LICENSES, BY ADDING SECTION 56‑1‑45 TO PROVIDE THAT IN ADDITION TO OTHER REQUIREMENTS TO OBTAIN FULL LICENSURE, A PERSON AT LEAST FIFTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER TWENTY‑ONE YEARS OF AGE WHO HAS NEVER HELD A FORM OF LICENSE EVIDENCING PREVIOUS DRIVING EXPERIENCE MUST ENROLL IN AND SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A DRIVER TRAINING COURSE CONDUCTED BY A DRIVER TRAINING SCHOOL LICENSED UNDER CHAPTER 23 OF THIS TITLE OR, IF REGULARLY ENROLLED IN A HIGH SCHOOL OF THIS STATE WHICH CONDUCTS A DRIVER’S TRAINING COURSE, A COURSE TAUGHT BY A QUALIFIED INSTRUCTOR TO OBTAIN FULL LICENSURE, AND TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON TWENTY‑ONE YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER WHO HAS NEVER HELD A FORM OF LICENSE EVIDENCING PREVIOUS DRIVING EXPERIENCE MUST ENROLL IN AND SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN EIGHT‑HOUR DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 1, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 56‑1‑45. (A) In addition to the other requirements provided for in this chapter and in order to obtain full licensure, a person at least fifteen years of age and under twenty‑one years of age who has never held a form of license evidencing previous driving experience must enroll in and successfully complete a driver training course conducted by a driver training school licensed under Chapter 23 of this title or, if regularly enrolled in a high school of this State which conducts a driver’s training course, a course taught by a qualified instructor.

(B) In addition to the other requirements provided for in this chapter and in order to obtain full licensure, a person twenty‑one years of age or older who has never held a form of license evidencing previous driving experience must enroll in and successfully complete an eight‑hour defensive driving course.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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