

# HI 113 CONGRESS SIMULATION 2010

**Committee:**

**Principal Author: Green, Tokarz**

**Bill No: 113.2**

**Section: 6**

## **Title of Bill: Elderly Driving Regulations Bill**

### Elderly Driving Regulations Bill

Whereas in today's society, means of transportation are essential in the daily lives for those who reside in the United States of America. One issue surrounding this important aspect of American life is that of elderly drivers. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety reported that drivers over the age of 75 have a higher rate of fatal accidents nationwide, second to only teenagers. With a population increasing in age, experts predict that by 2024 the number of fatal elderly crashes will grow due to one in every four drivers being over the age of 65. Currently there are 15 states which require accelerated license renewal (Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, Rhode Island and South Carolina) and two states, New Hampshire and Illinois, require a road test for applicants over the age of 75.

#### SECTION I

It will be enacted in federal law, that driving requirements will be standard once the driver reaches the age of 65. Once the driver has reached 65 years in age, the driver must take part in an accelerated drivers education course. Upon the conclusion of the course, drivers will be required to undergo a road exam similar to that which is issued to drivers who reach legal age to receive a drivers permit.

#### SECTION II

It will be enacted in federal law, that drivers who are 70 years old must undergo a formal vision and hearing assessment and be deemed suitable to drive. Hearing assessment can be provided by the driver's personal practitioner, while the vision assessment will be issued at the Department of Motor Vehicles which the driver chooses to renew their license. Failure may be appealed once, and the driver may re-take the hearing and vision assessment within 20 days of the initial test failure. Drivers who do not meet requirements for the assessment will be subject to immediate and permanent revocation of license.

After completing and passing the above mentioned assessments, drivers aged 70 years or over will be required to complete the same testing with the same standards every two years.

\*Drivers who wear doctor prescribed hearing devices and/or glasses are allowed to use both during testing and strongly encouraged to bring them if applicable.

\*Drivers who fail hearing and/or vision devices are subject to a six month suspension of license. Following this suspension period, those who failed initial testing may retake the vision and hearing test only after completing the testing required in Section I.

#### ENACTMENT

Pending approval of Congress, this act will take place January 1, of the following year.