

**SENATE, No. 3648**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**219th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED APRIL 19, 2021

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator HOLLY T. SCHEPISI**

**District 39 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires school bus drivers to retake certain knowledge and skills tests.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning school bus drivers and amending P.L.1990,  
2 c.103.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

6  
7 1. Section 4 of P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.12) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 4. a. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
10 contrary, the chief administrator shall adopt and administer a  
11 classified licensing system and a program for testing and ensuring  
12 the fitness of persons to operate commercial motor vehicles in  
13 accordance with the minimum federal standards established under  
14 the federal "Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986," Pub.  
15 L. 99-570 (49 U.S.C. s. 2701 et seq.) and the regulations  
16 promulgated pursuant to that law. The chief administrator shall not  
17 issue a commercial driver license to a person unless that person  
18 passes a knowledge and skills test for the operation of a commercial  
19 motor vehicle which complies with the federal standards. The chief  
20 administrator may issue commercial driver examination or learner's  
21 permits, subject to such conditions and restrictions as deemed  
22 necessary, to carry out the provisions of **[this act]** P.L.1990, c.103  
23 (C.39:3-10.9 et seq.).

24 b. A knowledge and skills test shall not be required by the chief  
25 administrator for the renewal of a commercial driver license issued  
26 pursuant to the provisions of **[this act]** P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-  
27 10.9 et seq.). However, a knowledge and skills test may be required  
28 for (1) the renewal of an endorsement permitting the operation of  
29 vehicles required to be placarded for hazardous materials, (2) **[for]**  
30 the renewal or reissuance of a commercial driver license if the  
31 license was suspended or revoked under section 12 of **[this act]**  
32 P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.20) during the last license period  
33 preceding the renewal or reissuance, or (3) **[for]** the renewal or  
34 reissuance of a license which had not been renewed for a period of  
35 three or more years. A knowledge and skills test shall be required  
36 to maintain a school bus endorsement as provided pursuant to this  
37 subsection.

38 A person with a school bus endorsement shall pass a school bus  
39 endorsement knowledge test and school bus endorsement skills test  
40 every five years in order to maintain the school bus endorsement,  
41 except that a person with a school bus endorsement who is 70 years  
42 of age or older shall pass a school bus endorsement knowledge test  
43 and school bus endorsement skills test every year in order to  
44 maintain the school bus endorsement.

45 c. Upon the request of an applicant for a commercial driver

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 license, the chief administrator shall administer to the applicant oral  
2 knowledge tests for the commercial driver license and any  
3 endorsements if the applicant supplies sufficient proof or otherwise  
4 demonstrates to the satisfaction of the chief administrator **【his】** the  
5 applicant's inability to comprehend a written test. The chief  
6 administrator shall provide an English and Spanish version of the  
7 knowledge tests for a commercial driver license and for any  
8 endorsements and shall be authorized to provide versions in such  
9 other languages as **【he, in his discretion,】** the chief administrator  
10 may deem appropriate.

11 d. A person who satisfactorily completes the knowledge tests  
12 required by **【this act】** P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.9 et seq.) for a  
13 commercial driver license and any endorsement shall not be  
14 required under R.S.39:3-10, R.S.39:3-10.1, or any other section in  
15 Title 39 of the Revised Statutes to take any other knowledge test for  
16 the operation of a commercial motor vehicle.

17 e. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2005, c.147)**【.】**

18 f. For the purposes of an application for a commercial driver  
19 license by a person who has never held a license issued under the  
20 provisions of **【this act】** P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.9 et seq.), a  
21 person who satisfactorily completes the knowledge test for the  
22 commercial driver license but not the test for an endorsement, or a  
23 person who satisfactorily completes the knowledge test for an  
24 endorsement but not the test for the commercial driver license, shall  
25 not be required to retake that test which was satisfactorily  
26 completed.

27 g. No provision in **【this act】** P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.9 et  
28 seq.), or in any manual, test, or administrative procedure developed  
29 to implement the provisions of **【this act】** P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-  
30 10.9 et seq.), shall be deemed to expand the requirements for  
31 commercial motor vehicle operators concerning pre-trip inspection,  
32 after-trip inspection, and inspection during a trip as such  
33 requirements are set forth in federal law or regulation. This  
34 subsection, however, shall not be deemed to limit the authority of  
35 the chief administrator, or the authority of any State department or  
36 agency, to promulgate, pursuant to other provisions of State law,  
37 standards and procedures on vehicle inspections which are  
38 consistent with federal law and regulation.

39 h. Classified licensing of drivers of school buses shall be by  
40 endorsement on the commercial driver licenses issued pursuant to  
41 P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.9 et seq.).  
42 (cf: P.L.2005, c.147, s.3)

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44 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

1 STATEMENT

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3 This bill requires a person with a school bus endorsement to  
4 retake the school bus endorsement knowledge test and the school  
5 bus endorsement skills test every five years in order to maintain the  
6 school bus endorsement. A person who is 70 years of age or older  
7 is required, under the bill, to retake the school bus endorsement  
8 knowledge test and school bus endorsement skills test every year in  
9 order to maintain the school bus endorsement.