MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1	(New Draft of H.P. 1838, L.D. 2431)
2	(EMERGENCY)
3 4	SECOND REGULAR SESSION
5 6	ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
7 8	Legislative Document No. 2476
9	H.P. 1874 House of Representatives, April 24, 1984
10 11 12	Reported by Representative Hobbins from the Committee on Judiciary and printed under Joint Rule 2. Original bill presented by Representative Hayden of Durham. Cosponsors: Representative Foster of Ellsworth, Senator Trafton of Androscoggin and Representative Davis of Monmouth.
13	EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
14 15	STATE OF MAINE
16 17 18	IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOUR
19 20 21 22 23	AN ACT to Amend the Law Concerning Suspensions of Drivers' Licenses on Administrative Determination of Blood-alcohol Content.
24 25 26	Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legis- lature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and
27 28	Whereas, the 90-day period may not terminate until the summer of 1984; and
29 30 31 32 33 34 35	Whereas, pursuant to the Revised Statutes, Title 29, sections 1311-A and 2241-G, the Secretary of State is expected to process a substantial number of administrative suspensions of drivers' licenses of teenagers and adults based on blood-alcohol determinations prior to termination of the 90-day period; and

Whereas, persons whose drivers' licenses are suspended are presently afforded an opportunity for a hearing before the Secretary of State pursuant to the Revised Statutes, Title 29, section 1311-A, subsection 8 and section 2241-G, subsection 2, paragraph B; and

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Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, the statutes governing the scope of administrative hearings by the Secretary of State should be amended to make it clear that the Secretary of State may consider at the hearing all the elements of the proscribed conduct; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, additional amendments to the statutes are necessary to insure a speedy, efficient and fair administrative suspension procedure; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

- Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
- 25 Sec. 1. 29 MRSA §1311-A, as enacted by PL 1983, 26 c. 505, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in 27 its place:
- 28 §1311-A. Suspension on administrative determination 29 for operating with an excessive 30 blood-alcohol level
- 31 <u>1. Purpose. The purpose of this section is:</u>
 - A. To provide maximum safety for all persons who travel or otherwise use the public highways of the State; and
 - B. To remove quickly from the public highways of this State those persons who have shown themselves to be a safety hazard by operating or at-

tempting to operate a motor vehicle with an excessive blood-alcohol level.

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- 1-A. Definition. For the purposes of this section, "operating or attempting to operate a motor vehicle with an excessive blood-alcohol level" means operating or attempting to operate a motor vehicle while having 0.10% or more by weight of alcohol in the blood.
- 9 <u>2. Suspension. The Secretary of State shall</u> 10 make the determination of suspension as follows.
 - A. The Secretary of State shall suspend the license or permit to operate, right to operate a motor vehicle and right to apply for or obtain a license of any person upon his determination that the person operated or attempted to operate a motor vehicle with an excessive blood-alcohol level.
 - B. The Secretary of State shall make a determination on the basis of the information required in subsection 3, and this determination shall be final unless a hearing is requested and held. If a hearing is held, the Secretary of State shall review the matter and make a final determination on the basis of evidence received at the hearing.
 - C. Except as provided in paragraph D, the determination of these facts by the Secretary of State is independent of the determination of the same or similar facts in the adjudication of any civil or criminal charges arising out of the same occurrence. The disposition of those civil or criminal charges shall not affect any suspension under this section. Statements made by the licensee at the hearing before the Secretary of State shall not be introduced by the State in its case in chief in any prosecution for violation of section 1312-B, 1312-C or Title 15, section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph F, arising out of the same occurrence.
 - D. Upon receipt of notice from the court, pursuant to section 1312-C, subsection 4-A, the Secretary of State shall immediately remove the sus-

pension of any person who is adjudicated not to have committed under section 1312-C, subsection 2, paragraph B, the traffic infraction of operating or attempting to operate a motor vehicle while having 0.10% or more by weight of alcohol in his blood or of any person who has had such a charge against him dismissed.

3. Report by law enforcement officer. A law enforcement officer shall forward a report to the Secretary of State as follows.

- A. A law enforcement officer who arrests or summons any person for operating or attempting to operate a motor vehicle with an excessive blood-alcohol level shall immediately forward to the Secretary of State a report, under oath of all information relevant to the enforcement action, including information which adequately identifies the person arrested or summonsed, a statement of the officer's grounds for belief that the person committed the offense of operating or attempting to operate a motor vehicle with an excessive blood-alcohol level, and a certificate under section 1312, subsection 8, of the results of any blood-alcohol tests by a self-contained breath-alcohol testing apparatus which were conducted.
- B. The report required in this subsection shall be made on forms supplied by or approved by the Secretary of State.
- C. If the blood-alcohol test was not analyzed by a law enforcement officer, the person who analyzed the results shall cause a copy of his certificate under section 1312, subsection 8, to be sent to the Secretary of State.
- 4. Notice of suspension. The notice of suspension by the Secretary of State shall be made as follows.
 - A. Upon receipt of the information required in subsection 3, the Secretary of State shall make the determination described in subsection 2. If the Secretary of State determines that the person

1 is subject to license suspension, he shall imme2 diately issue a notice of suspension.

- B. The notice of suspension shall be sent by regular mail to the person at the last known address on record at the Division of Motor Vehicles, or to the address provided in the report of the law enforcement officer if that address differs from the address of record. The notice is deemed received 3 days after mailing, unless returned by postal authorities.
- C. The notice of suspension shall clearly specify the reason and statutory grounds for the suspension, the effective date of the suspension, the right of the person to request a hearing, the procedure for requesting a hearing and the date by which that request for a hearing shall be made. The notice of suspension shall also clearly state that a copy of the report of the law enforcement officer under subsection 3, paragraph A, and a copy of the blood-alcohol test certificate under subsection 3, paragraph A or C, will be provided to the person upon request to the Secretary of State.
- 5. Effective date and period of suspension. The effective date and period of suspension are determined as follows.
 - A. Any suspension imposed shall be effective on a specified date not less than 10 days after the mailing of the notification of suspension by the Secretary of State. If a person whose license is suspended desires to have a hearing, he shall so notify the Secretary of State, in writing, within 10 days from the effective date of the suspension. The suspension shall be stayed for 10 days from the effective date of the suspension, the Secretary of State is notified, in writing, of a request for a hearing, the suspension shall be stayed until a hearing is held and a decision is issued. The Secretary of State shall conduct a hearing and issue a decision within 30 days from the date of receipt of a written request for hearing. Failure by the Sec-

retary of State to conduct a hearing and issue a decision within such 30-day period shall result in an extension of the stay of the Secretary of State's suspension order until such time as a hearing is conducted and a decision issued. Notwithstanding this subsection, there shall be no stay of suspension during the period of any delay in hearing which is caused or requested by the petitioner.

- B. The period of license suspension for a person who the Secretary of State has determined to have operated or attempted to operate a motor vehicle with an excessive blood-alchol level for a first or subsequent offense shall be the same suspension period as if the person was convicted or adjudicated of a violation of section 1312-B, 1312-C or Title 15, section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph F.
- C. When a person's license is suspended under this section and is also suspended after having been adjudicated or convicted on charges arising out of the same occurrence for a violation of section 1312-B, 1312-C, or Title 15, section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph F, the period of time his license has been suspended under this section prior to the adjudication or conviction shall be deducted from the period of time any court-imposed suspension ordered pursuant to section 1312-B, 1312-C, or Title 15, section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph F. The periods of suspension are intended to be minimum periods of suspension and the Secretary of State may suspend the license for the additional periods as provided in section 1312-D, subsection 1-A.
- 5-A. Work-restricted license. Upon receipt by the Secretary of State of a petition for a work-restricted license by any person whose license or right to operate a motor vehicle has been suspended pursuant to this section, the Secretary of State may stay the suspension during a statutory suspension period and issue a work-restricted license. The issuance of such a license shall be conditioned upon a showing by the petitioner by clear and convincing evidence that such a license is necessary to

- operate a motor vehicle between the residence and a
 place of employment or to operate a motor vehicle in
 the scope of employment, or both, as determined by
 Exercise the Secretary of State and that no alternative means
 of transportation is available.
 - 6. Restoration of license. The Secretary of State may issue a license or permit as follows.

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- A. Restoration of any license or permit to operate, right to operate a motor vehicle and right to apply for or obtain a license suspended under this section shall be in accordance with section 1312-D, subsections 2 to 4.
- 7. Request for hearing. A person who has received notice of suspension may request a hearing as follows.
- A. Any person who has received a notice of suspension under this section may make a written request for a review of the determination of the Secretary of State at a hearing.
 - B. The request for a hearing shall be made within 10 days from the effective date of the suspension. If a written request for a hearing is made after the 10-day period and the Secretary of State finds that the person was unable to make a timely request due to lack of actual notice of the suspension or due to factors of physical incapacity, the Secretary of State shall waive the period of limitation, reopen the matter and grant the hearing request, except, in such a case, a stay of the suspension pending the hearing shall not be granted.
- 32 8. Hearing. The hearing and notice shall be as follows.
- A. The hearing and notice shall be as provided in section 2241, subsection 3.
- 36 B. The scope of the hearing shall include wheth-37 er, by a preponderance of the evidence:

1 (1) There was probable cause to believe
2 that the person was operating or attempting
3 to operate a motor vehicle while having
4 O.10% or more by weight of alcohol in his
5 blood;

- (2) The person operated or attempted to operate a motor vehicle; and
- (3) At the time the person had 0.10% or more by weight of alcohol in his blood.
- C. A certificate duly signed and sworn to pursuant to section 1312, subsection 8, shall be prima facie proof of facts stated therein and that the person taking a specimen of blood or breath was authorized by section 1312, subsection 6, that the equipment, chemicals and other materials used in the taking of the blood specimen or breath sample were of a quality appropriate for the purpose of producing reliable test results that any equipment, chemicals or materials required by section 1312, subsection 6, to be approved by the Department of Human Services were in fact approved, that the sample tested by the person certified under section 1312, subsection 6, was in fact the same sample taken and that the percentage by weight of alcohol in the blood was, at the time the blood or breath sample was taken, as stated in the certificate.
- D. If it is determined after hearing that there was not the requisite probable cause for blood-alcohol test administration or that the person did not operate or attempt to operate a motor vehicle while having 0.10% or more by weight of alcohol in his blood, the suspension shall be removed immediately and the Secretary of State shall delete any record of the suspension.
- E. Any person whose license is suspended under this section on the basis of blood-alcohol test may, within 30 days after receipt of the decision, appeal to the Superior Court for judicial review, as provided in Title 5, sections 11001 to 11008. If the court rescinds the suspension, it shall also order the Secretary of State to delete any record of the suspension.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA §1312-C, sub-§4-A is enacted to read:

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- 4-A. Notice of adjudication. The court shall give notice to the Secretary of State of any adjudication finding the person did not commit the traffic infraction of operating or attempting to operate a motor vehicle while having 0.10% or more by weight of alcohol in his blood or of any dismissal of such a charge against the person.
- 10 Sec. 3. 29 MRSA §1312-D, sub-§3, as amended by 11 PL 1983, c. 501, §5, is further amended to read:
 - Restricted licenses. After certification under subsection 2 or after completion of the suspension imposed pursuant to this section and section 1312-B, 1312-C or Title 15, section 3314, the Secretary of State may issue the license or permit with whatever conditions, restrictions or terms he deems advisable, having in mind the safety of the public and the welfare of the petitioner, including, but not limited to, successful completion of the alcohol edueation program of the Department of Human Services, the petitioner has not already done so under subsection 2. Following the expiration of the total period of suspension imposed pursuant to subsections 1 and 1-A, section 1312-B or 1312-C, or Title 15, section 3314, the Secretary of State may issue a license or permit, subject to the conditions, restrictions or terms he deems advisable, to the person if the Secretary of State has received or when he receives written notice that the person has satisfactorily completed the alcohol educational program of the Department of Human Services and, when required, has satisfactorily completed an alcohol treatment or rehabilitation program approved or licensed by the department. The license or permit may contain the condition that the person abstain from the use of intoxicating liquor or drugs. Any license or permit issued under subsection 2 or under this subsection shall be restricted to use for travel to an alcohol education or treatment program or to employment if the amount of the total period of suspension which has expired is less than 90 days. Any such license or permit issued shall remain restricted until the amount of time the license or permit was actually suspended plus the

1 amount of time the restricted license or permit has 2 been issued equals a minimum of 90 days.

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- Sec. 4. 29 MRSA §2241-G, sub-§2, ¶¶B, C, D, E and F, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 478, are repealed and the following enacted in their place:
- B. Except where a longer period of suspension is otherwise provided by law, the Secretary of State shall suspend for a period of one year, without preliminary hearing, the provisional license of any person who has not attained his 20th birthday:
 - (1) As to whom there is received a record of conviction or adjudication for violation of section 1312-B or 1312-C or Title 15, section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph F; or
 - (2) As to whom he determines has operated or attempted to operate a motor vehicle while having 0.02% or more by weight of alcohol in his blood.
 - C. Any person not having attained his 20th birthday who operates or attempts to operate a motor vehicle within this State shall have the duty to submit to a test to determine his blood-alcohol level by analysis of his blood or breath, if there is probable cause to believe he has operated or attempted to operate a motor vehicle while having 0.02% or more by weight of alcohol in his blood. The provisions of section 1312 shall apply, except that in all cases probable cause shall be to believe that the person was operating or attempting to operate a motor vehicle while having 0.02% or more by weight of alcohol in his blood and that the person had not attained his 20th birthday, and except that suspension for failing to comply with the duty to submit to the test shall be for a period of one year.
 - D. The Secretary of State shall make the determination of suspension as follows:
 - (1) The Secretary of State shall suspend the provisional license of any person who

has not attained his 20th birthday, and the right to apply for or obtain a license of any such person upon his determination that the person operated or attempted to operate a motor vehicle with 0.02% or more by weight of alcohol in the blood. The suspension shall be for a period of one year and shall continue until satisfaction of any conditions imposed pursuant to paragraph I or 0.

- (2) The Secretary of State shall make a determination on the basis of the information required in paragraph E and this determination shall be final unless a hearing is requested and held. If a hearing is held, the Secretary of State shall review the matter and make a final determination on the basis of evidence received at the hearing.
- (3) The determination of these facts by the Secretary of State is independent of the determination of the same or similar facts in the adjudication of any civil or criminal charges arising out of the same occurrence. The disposition of those civil or criminal charges shall not affect any suspension under this section. Statements made by the licensee at the hearing before the Secretary of State shall not be introduced by the State in its case in chief in any prosecution for violation of section 1312-B, 1312-C or Title 15, section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph F, arising out of the same occurrence.
- E. A law enforcement officer shall forward a report to the Secretary of State as follows.
 - (1) A law enforcement officer who had probable cause to believe any person who had not attained his 20th birthday was operating or attempting to operate a motor vehicle with 0.02% or more by weight of alcohol in the blood shall immediately forward to the Secretary of State a report, under oath of all information relevant to the enforcement action, including information which adequately

officer's grounds for belief that the personal committed the offense of operating or a tempting to operate a motor vehicle whis having 0.02% or more by weight of alcohol the blood, and a certificate under section 1312, subsection 8, of the result of a blood-alcohol test by a self-contain breath-alcohol testing apparatus which work conducted and which shows the presence		
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breath-alcohol testing apparatus which w conducted and which shows the presence 0.02% or more by weight of alcohol in t	7	1312, subsection 8, of the result of any
10 conducted and which shows the presence 11 0.02% or more by weight of alcohol in to	8	blood-alcohol test by a self-contained
11 0.02% or more by weight of alcohol in t	9	breath-alcohol testing apparatus which was
	10	conducted and which shows the presence of
12 <u>blood.</u>	11	0.02% or more by weight of alcohol in the
	12	blood.

- (2) The report required in this subsection shall be made on forms supplied by or approved by the Secretary of State.
- (3) If the blood-alcohol test was not analyzed by a law enforcement officer, the person who analyzed the results shall cause a copy of his certificate under section 1312, subsection 8, to be sent to the Secretary of State.
- F. The notice of suspension by the Secretary of State shall be made as follows.
 - (1) Upon receipt of the information required in paragraph E, the Secretary of State shall make the determination described in paragraph D. If the Secretary of State determines that the person is subject to license suspension, he shall immediately issue a notice of suspension.
 - (2) The notice of suspension shall be sent by regular mail to the person at the last known address on record at the Division of Motor Vehicles, or to the address provided in the report of the law enforcement officer if that address differs from the address of record.
 - (3) The notice of suspension shall clearly specify the reason and statutory grounds for the suspension, the effective date of the suspension, the right of the person to re-

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quest a hearing, the procedure for requesting a hearing and the date by which that request for a hearing shall be made. The notice of suspension shall also clearly state that a copy of the report of the law enforcement officer under paragraph E, subparagraph (1), and a copy of the blood-alcohol test certificate under paragraph E, subparagraph (1) or (3), will be provided to the person upon request to the Secretary of State.

G. Effective date and period of suspension.

(1) Any suspension imposed shall be effective on a specified date not less than 10 days after the mailing of the notification of suspension by the Secretary of State. If a person whose license is suspended desires to have a hearing, he shall so notify the Secretary of State, in writing, within 10 days from the effective date of the suspension. The suspension shall be stayed for 10 days from the effective date of the suspension. If, within 10 days from the effective date of the suspension, the Secretary of State is notified, in writing, of a request for a hearing, the suspension shall be stayed until a hearing is held and a decision is issued. The Secretary of State shall conduct a hearing and issue a decision within 30 days from the date of receipt of a written request for hearing. Failure by the Secretary of State to conduct a hearing and issue a decision within the 30-day period shall result in an extension of the stay of the Secretary of State's suspension order until such time as a hearing is conducted and a decision issued. Notwithstanding this subsection, there shall be no stay of suspension during the period of any delay of hearing which is caused or requested by the petitioner.

(2) When a person's license is suspended under this section and is also suspended after having been adjudicated or convicted on

 charges arising out of the same occurrence for a violation of section 1312-B or 1312-C or Title 15, section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph F, the period of time his license has been suspended under this section prior to the adjudication or conviction shall be deducted from the period of time of any court-imposed suspension ordered pursuant to section 1312-B or 1312-C or Title 15, section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph F.

- H. Upon receipt by the Secretary of State of a petition for a work-restricted license by any person whose license or right to operate a motor vehicle has been suspended pursuant to paragraph B, subparagraph (2), the Secretary of State may stay the suspension during the statutory period and issue a work-restricted license. The issuance of such a license shall be conditioned upon a showing by the petitioner by clear and convincing evidence that such a license is necessary to operate a motor vehicle between the residence and a place of employment or to operate a motor vehicle in the scope of employment, or both, as determined by the Secretary of State and that no alternative means of transportation is available.
- I. Following the expiration of 1/2 of the total period of suspension imposed pursuant to paragraph B, the Secretary of State may issue a provisional license, subject to the conditions, restrictions or terms he deems advisable, to the person if the Secretary of State receives written notice that the person has satisfactorily completed the alcohol educational program of the Department of Human Services and, when required, has satisfactorily completed an alcohol treatment or rehabilitation program approved or licensed by the department.
- J. A person who has received notice of suspension may request a hearing as follows.
 - (1) Any person who has received a notice of suspension under this section may make a written request for a review of the determination of the Secretary of State at a hearing.

1	(2) The request for hearing shall be made
2	within 10 days from the effective date of
3	the suspension. If a written request for a
4	hearing is made after such date and the Sec-
5	retary of State finds that the person was
6	unable to make a timely request due to lack
7	of actual notice of the suspension or due to
8	factors of physical incapacity, the Secre-
9	tary of State shall waive the period of lim-
10	itation, reopen the matter and grant the
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12	hearing request, except, in such a case, a
	stay of suspension pending the hearing shall
13	not be granted.
14 K	C. The hearing and notice shall be as follows.
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15	(1) The hearing and notice shall be as pro-
16	vided in section 2241, subsection 3.
17	(2) The scope of the hearing shall include
18	whether, by a preponderance of the evidence:
19	(a) There was probable cause to be-
20	lieve that the person had not attained
21	his 20th birthday and that the person
22	was operating or attempting to operate
23	a motor vehicle while having 0.02% or
24	more by weight of alcohol in his blood;
25	(b) The person operated or attempted
26	to operate a motor vehicle;
27	(c) At such time the person had 0.02%
28	or more by weight of alcohol in his
29	blood; and
30	(d) At such time the person had not
31	attained his 20th birthday.
32	(3) A certificate duly signed and sworn to
33	pursuant to section 1312, subsection 8,
34	shall be prima facie proof of facts stated
35	therein and that the person taking a speci-
36	men of blood or breath was authorized by
37	section 1312, subsection 6, that the equip-
38	ment, chemicals and other materials used in
39	the taking of the blood specimen or a breath

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sample were of a quality appropriate for the purpose of producing reliable test results, that any equipment, chemicals or materials required by section 1312, subsection 6, to be approved by the Department of Human Services were in fact approved, that the sample tested by the person certified under section 1312, subsection 6, was in fact the same sample taken and that the percentage by weight of alcohol in the blood was, at the time the blood or breath sample was taken, as stated in the certificate.

- 13 (4) If it is determined after hearing that 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
 - there was not the requisite probable cause for blood-alcohol test administration or that the person had attained his 20th birthday at the time of operation or attempted operation or that the person did not operate or attempt to operate a motor vehicle while having 0.02% or more by weight of alcohol in his blood, the suspension shall be removed immediately and the Secretary of State shall delete any record of the suspension.
 - (5) Any person whose license is suspended under this section on the basis of a blood-alcohol test may, within 30 days after receipt of the decision, appeal to the Superior Court for judicial review as provided in Title 5, sections 11001 to 11008. If the court rescinds the suspension, it shall also order the Secretary of State to delete any record of the suspension.
 - L. Any suspension pursuant to this section or license reissued after suspension pursuant paragraph I may extend beyond the person's 20th birthday to allow for completion of the total suspension period or to continue the period of conditions, restrictions or terms imposed on a license reissued pursuant to paragraph I.
 - The Secretary of State may promulgate whatever rules are necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

- N. In the event that a person who has not attained his 20th birthday is determined to have operated or attempted to operate a motor vehicle while having 0.10% or more of alcohol in the blood such that both this subsection and section 1311-A apply, this section shall govern to the exclusion of section 1311-A.
 - O. Following the expiration of the total period of suspension imposed pursuant to paragraph B, the Secretary of State may issue a provisional license, subject to the conditions, restrictions or terms he deems advisable, to the person if the Secretary of State has received or when he receives written notice that the person has satisfactorily completed the alcohol educational program of the Department of Human Services and, when required, has satisfactorily completed an alcohol treatment or rehabilitation program approved or licensed by the department.
- 20 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited 21 in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when ap-22 proved.

23 STATEMENT OF FACT

This new draft makes the following changes in the original bill.

The original bill reduced the current one-year license suspension under the teen drinking laws to 90 days. This new draft replaces the 90-day proposed suspension period with the current one-year suspension period.

The new draft requires the notice of license suspension sent by the Secretary of State to persons who have violated the teen drinking laws or the law permitting administrative suspension of adult licenses for driving with an excessive blood-alcohol level to include new information. These notices must state that a copy of the law enforcement officer's report and a copy of the blood-alcohol test certificate are available to the person from the Secretary of State.

The new draft retains a provision of current law permitting the Secretary of State to issue a license to a person under 20 years of age whose license has been suspended under the teen drinking laws if 1/2 of the suspension period has expired and the person has completed an alcohol educational program.

The new draft makes it clear that, if a person whose license is suspended under the teen drinking laws or the law permitting the administrative suspension of adult licenses requests a hearing, the standard of proof at the hearing by the Secretary of State will be by a preponderance of the evidence.

The new draft provides that all persons under 20 years of age and adults whose licenses are suspended under any of the drinking and driving laws must complete an alcohol educational program before their licenses may be restored after the expiration of the suspension period.

The original bill provided for the suspension of a license for a minimum of 45 days upon an administrative determination of driving with an excessive blood-alcohol level. The new draft replaces this provision with the language of the current law, which requires the administrative suspension of a license to coincide with the suspension periods imposed for the traffic infraction or criminal violation of drunk driving.

The original bill requires the court to notify the Secretary of State if a person is adjudicated not to have committed a drunk driving traffic infraction. Upon such a notification, the Secretary of State will restore the administratively suspended license of the person. The new draft adds that restoration must also occur if the Secretary of State is informed by the court that the drunk driving traffic infraction charge has been suspended.