

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

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Legislative Document

No. 661

H.P. 491

House of Representatives, February 17, 2011

### An Act To Require Driver Education for All New Drivers

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Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST  
Clerk

Presented by Representative TILTON of Harrington.  
Cosponsored by Senator SAVIELLO of Franklin and  
Representatives: CEBRA of Naples, FITTS of Pittsfield, FITZPATRICK of Houlton.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1351, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 470, §20, is  
3 repealed and the following enacted in its place:

4 **1. Driver education required.** Except to operate a moped only, a license may not  
5 be issued to a person:

6 A. Under 18 years of age unless that person presents a certificate of successful  
7 completion of an approved driver education course and examination; or

8 B. Eighteen years of age or older unless that person presents a certificate of  
9 successful completion of at least 4 hours of an approved driver education course.

10 The requirement of completion of an approved driver education course may be waived  
11 for a person who holds a valid driver's license from another jurisdiction.

12 **Sec. 2. Secretary of State directed to amend rules governing driver**  
13 **education.** The Secretary of State shall establish rules authorized by the Maine Revised  
14 Statutes, Title 29-A, section 153 governing the driver education curriculum for persons  
15 18 years of age or older. The curriculum must include, but is not limited to, a review of  
16 motor vehicle laws in this State and information about driving under the influence of  
17 alcohol and drugs and its effect on a person's ability to drive safely.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill requires persons 18 years of age or older to successfully complete a 4-hour  
20 driver education course before they are issued a license to operate a motor vehicle in this  
21 State. The bill also directs the Secretary of State to establish rules governing the driver  
22 education curriculum for persons who are 18 years of age or older so that the driver  
23 education course includes, but is not limited to, a review of motor vehicle laws and  
24 information about driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs and its effect on a  
25 person's ability to drive safely.