

LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

December 7, 1988 to July 1, 1989

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> J.S. McCarthy Company Augusta, Maine 1989

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1989

tion to, from or in connection with employment of the applicant; and a verification of employment by the employer.

A special restricted license issued under this subsection only authorizes the holder to operate a motor vehicle between the holder's residence, school, and place of employment and in other places if necessary in direct connection with that employment.

3. Provisional license. A special restricted license is a provisional license, but the provisions of subsection 4 shall apply in place of section 2241-G, subsection 2, paragraph A.

4. Cancellation. In addition to the provisions of section 586, the Secretary of State shall cancel a special restricted license issued under this section when:

A. The holder is convicted of or adjudicated to have committed any violation of the license restriction or of any motor vehicle moving violation during the time when the special restricted license is in force. In this case, the person shall not be entitled to any further special restricted license under this section; or

B. The Secretary of State receives written notice from the holder, parent, guardian, principal, or employer that the holder no longer qualifies for a special restricted license.

In case of cancellation under paragraph A or B, a hearing may be requested of the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of State shall afford the provisional licensee opportunity for hearing as soon as practicable after receipt of the request. Upon the hearing, the Secretary of State, for good cause shown, may continue, modify or rescind the cancellation. This paragraph shall not apply when a person is convicted of or adjudicated to have committed an offense which carries a suspension or revocation period greater than that prescribed in this paragraph.

Sec. 5. 29 MRSA §581, as amended by PL 1965, c. 369, §3-A, is further amended to read:

§581. Examination required; reexamination

Before the operator's license is granted, an applicant shall be required to pass such physical examination and such examination by actual demonstration or otherwise as to his the applicant's qualifications to operate a motor vehicle as the soid Secretary of State shall require. Failure to complete the driving test within one year 18 months of issue date of permit will require reexamination for the permit. No such application for reexamination shall be accepted until 6 months after the expiration of said permit, except that the Secretary of State, in his discretion, may waive such 6-month "waiting period." Sec. 6. 29 MRSA §583, as amended by PL 1987, c. 415, §20, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§583. Driver education required for minors

No operator's license, except to operate a moped only, may be issued to any person under 17 years of age unless that person presents a certificate of successful completion of a driver education course and examination given by a public secondary school, a private secondary school approved for attendance purposes by the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services, a vocational center or a vocational region; or a certificate of successful completion of a driver education course and examination given by a person or persons licensed by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Board of Commercial Driver Education.

A successful course completion certificate may be issued to any person permitted by law to have an operator's license or a special restricted license provided the course meets the standards adopted by the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services, or, if applicable, the commercial driver education school licensing requirements under Title 32, chapter 95. A successful course completion certificate shall not be issued to any person who was not at least 15 years of age at the commencement of the driver education course.

Sec. 7. 32 MRSA §9601, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Exclusion. No license under this chapter may be required of a certified teacher conducting a driver education course in a public secondary school, a private secondary school approved for attendance purposes by the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services, a vocational center or a vocational region.

See title page for effective date.

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S.P. 460 - L.D. 1245

An Act to Amend Commercial Driver License Laws

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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA §1, sub-§1-E, as amended by PL 1987, c. 415, §1, is further amended to read:

1-E. Bus. "Bus" means every motor vehicle designed for carrying more than 15 passengers, including the operator, and used for the transportation of passengers driver.

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA §1, sub-§§1-J and 1-K are enacted to read:

1-J. Commercial driver's license. "Commercial driver's license" means a license issued by this State or other jurisdiction to an individual which authorizes the individual to operate a class of commercial motor vehicle.

<u>1-K. Commercial motor vehicle.</u> "Commercial motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle that:

A. Has a gross vehicle weight rating or a registered weight of 26,001 or more pounds;

B. Is designed to carry more than 15 passengers, including the driver; or

C. Is in any vehicle weight class and is used in the transportation of hazardous materials requiring placarding under the federal Hazardous Materials Transportation Act and related regulations in 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 172, Subpart F.

Sec. 3. 29 MRSA §1, sub-§3-H is enacted to read:

3-H. Hazardous material. The term "hazardous material" has the same meaning as in the federal Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, Section 103, United States Code, Title 49, Section 1801 et. seq.

Sec. 4. 29 MRSA §530, sub-§1, ¶C, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 539, §4, is amended to read:

C. No person may receive an operator's license unless and until he that person surrenders to the Secretary of State all valid licenses in his that person's possession issued to him that person by this or any other jurisdiction. No person may have more than one valid operator's license at any time unless specifically authorized by the Secretary of State. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this paragraph, no person is authorized to hold more than one valid commercial driver's license at any time.

Sec. 5. 29 MRSA §530, sub-§2, ¶B, as amended by PL 1987, c. 415, §19, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

B. There shall be 3 classes of licenses to become effective January 1, 1990. Any operator's license issued by the Secretary of State shall be invalid for the operation of vehicles unless endorsed as follows:

(1) Class A: any combination of vehicles with a gross combination weight rating or registered weight of 26,001 or more pounds, provided the gross vehicle weight rating of the vehicle or vehicles being towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds. A Class A license is a commercial driver's license. Holders of a Class A license may, with any appropriate endorsements, operate all vehicles in Class B and Class C;

(2) Class B: any single vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating or registered weight of

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26,001 or more pounds or any such vehicle towing a vehicle not in excess of 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight rating. A Class B license is a commercial driver's license. Holders of a Class B license may, with any appropriate endorsements, operate all vehicles in Class C; or

(3) Class C: any single vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating or registered weight of less than 26,001 pounds or any such vehicle towing a vehicle not in excess of 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight rating. A Class C license is a commercial driver's license only if it carries an endorsement under section 530-B, subsection 4. Holders of a Class C license may, with any appropriate endorsements, operate all vehicles in that class.

Classes of licenses issued prior to January 1, 1990, shall continue to be valid until their normal expiration, except that Class 1, Class 2 and Class 3 licenses and licenses endorsed for the operation of school buses shall not be valid for the operation of commercial vehicles as defined in this Title after December 31, 1991.

Sec. 6. 29 MRSA §530, sub-§2, ¶C, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 692, §3, is amended to read:

C. School buses, motorcycles or motor driven cycles shall not be given a separate class, but their use shall be provided for by special endorsement on their operator's license, except that nonresident school bus drivers picking up and discharging school children or driving in conjunction with school-related activities in this State shall be issued a certificate by the Secretary of State. This endorsement or issuance of a school bus certificate shall be made only after the applicant has successfully passed the examination designed for the specific vehicle as provided elsewhere in this Title.

Sec. 7. 29 MRSA §530, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 692, §3, is amended to read:

3. Need for immediate examination. Any applicant who has made application for a "Class $4 \underline{A}$ " or "Class $2 \underline{B}$ " license and provides the Secretary of State with satisfactory evidence that an immediate examination is needed for employment purposes shall be examined as provided in this section within 7 days of such notification.

Sec. 8. 29 MRSA §530, sub-§5, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 692, §3, is amended to read:

A. Nothing in this section shall chapter may prevent a <u>full-time or volunteer</u> member of an organized municipal or volunteer, state or federal fire department from operating any fire apparatus, or any law enforcement officer from operating any motor vehiele or combination of vehicles in the performance of his law enforcement duties, operators of recrea-

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tional vehicles for personal use, operators of military vehicles including National Guard vehicles or operators of registered farm motor trucks bearing the letter "F" used within 150 miles of the registered owner's farm from operating those vehicles on a "Class 3 C" operator's license.

Sec. 9. 29 MRSA §530-B is enacted to read:

§530-B. Commercial driver's licenses

The following requirements apply to commercial drivers' licenses.

1. Compliance with federal law. The State shall comply with the federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986, Public Law 99-570, Title XII, and any regulations adopted under that Act in the issuance and suspension of a commercial driver's license.

2. Rulemaking. The Secretary of State shall adopt rules, as provided in the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, to ensure compliance with the federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986, Public Law 99-570, Title XII. These rules shall incorporate provisions to satisfy subsection 1, including, but not limited to, provisions that:

> A. Strengthen commercial driver licensing and testing standards;

> B. Make the State a full participant in the national commercial drivers license clearinghouse;

<u>C.</u> Continue to implement the requirement that commercial drivers have a single license;

D. Reduce and prevent commercial motor vehicle accidents, fatalities and injuries by disqualifying commercial drivers who have committed serious traffic or_other designated offenses from operating commercial motor vehicles;

E. Remove quickly from the public highways of this State those commercial drivers who have shown themselves to be a safety hazard by:

(1) Operating or attempting to operate a commercial vehicle while having 0.04% or more by weight of alcohol in the blood;

(2) Refusing to submit to and complete a lawfully requested test to determine the blood-alcohol level; or

(3) By operating or attempting to operate a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs; and

F. Further implement the public policy of the State to provide maximum safety for all persons who travel or use the public highways of the State. 3. Classifications. Class A or Class B licenses and Class C licenses carrying any endorsement under subsection 4 are commercial drivers' licenses and shall be prominently marked.

4. Endorsements for double or triple trailers, buses, tank trucks or hazardous materials. Effective January 1, 1990, double or triple trailers, buses, tank trucks requiring a commercial driver's license and vehicles carrying hazardous materials requiring placarding by the United States Department of Transportation standards shall not be given a separate class, but their use shall be provided for by special endorsement on the commercial driver's license. This endorsement shall be made only after the applicant has successfully passed the examination for the specific vehicle as provided in this Title. In order for an operator to retain a hazardous material endorsement at the time of any renewal of a commercial driver's license, a reexamination of the hazardous material written test shall be required.

5. Air brakes. If an applicant for a commercial driver's license either fails the air brake component of the knowledge test or performs the skills test in a vehicle not equipped with air brakes, that person shall be restricted from operating a commercial motor vehicle equipped with air brakes and the license shall be endorsed accordingly.

6. Operation with a blood-alcohol level of 0.04% or more, or under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs. The Secretary of State shall suspend, without preliminary hearing, the commercial driver's license of any person whom the Secretary of State determines has operated or attempted to operate a commercial motor vehicle while having 0.04% or more by weight of alcohol in the blood or while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs. The period of suspension shall satisfy the regulations adopted by the United States Secretary of Transportation under the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986, Public Law 99-570, Title XII, and the rules adopted by the Secretary of State under subsection 2.

Sec. 10. 29 MRSA §532-A is enacted to read:

§532-A. Bus and school bus learners' permits

Any person who is at least 21 years of age may make application to the Secretary of State for a bus learner's permit to operate a bus. The Secretary of State shall require that, before the bus learner's permit is issued, any applicant must pass a knowledge test on the safe operation of a bus and a vision test. The instruction permit shall entitle the applicant, while having the permit in the applicant's immediate possession, to drive a bus upon the public highways for a period of one year when accompanied by a licensed bus operator who has at least one year of driving experience and is at least 22 years of age. The accompanying operator must occupy a seat in the immediate vicinity of the driver and no other passengers may be allowed on the bus.

Any person who is at least 21 years of age may make application to the Secretary of State for a school bus learner's permit to operate a school bus. The Secretary of State shall require that, before the school bus learner's permit is issued,

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the applicant must meet the school bus operator requirements found in this Title, and must pass a knowledge test on the safe operation of a school bus and a vision test. The instruction permit shall entitle the applicant, while having the permit in the applicant's immediate possession, to drive a school bus upon the public highways for a period of one year when accompanied by a licensed school bus operator who has at least one year of driving experience and is at least 22 years of age. The accompanying operator must occupy a seat in the immediate vicinity of the driver and no other passengers may be allowed on the bus.

Sec. 11. 29 MRSA §540, first ¶, as amended by PL 1985, c. 539, §5, is further amended to read:

Each license shall state the name, date of birth, place of residence of the licensee, permanent number assigned him the licensee, and may contain such other information as the Secretary of State deems necessary. The license shall also bear a full-face <u>color</u> photograph of the licensee for the purpose of identification except that those persons who renew their licenses on or after their 65th birthday, persons in active military service stationed outside the State and temporary licenses issued under section 533 may be exempt from the photograph requirement. A license which does not contain a photograph of the licensee may be issued as the Secretary of State deems necessary, except that the holder of a commercial driver's license shall not be exempt from the color photograph requirement.

Sec. 12. 29 MRSA §582, sub-§§1 and 2, as repealed and replaced by PL 1981, c. 492, Pt. E, §17, are amended to read:

1. Class A or B license. The examination fee for a Class 4 A or 2 B license shall be $\frac{\$25}{\$35}$, which shall include the first road test. All subsequent examination fees shall be \$15.

2. Class C license. The examination fee for a Class 3 <u>C</u> license shall be \$10, which shall include the first road test. All subsequent examination fees shall be \$5.

Sec. 13. 29 MRSA §582, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:

2-A. Examination fee for endorsements. The examination fee for double or triple trailer, bus, tank truck or hazardous materials endorsements shall be \$10. All subsequent examination fees shall be \$5.

Sec. 14. 29 MRSA §582, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 437, §15, is amended to read:

4. Fees and waivers. If a driver license examination administered by the Department of Secretary of State requires an appointment and that appointment is not kept, an additional $\frac{55}{500}$ fee for a Class A or Class B examination and $\frac{55}{500}$ for a bus, school bus or Class C examination shall be assessed at the time of reappointment for examination. Upon notification of cancellation to the Department of Secretary of State, Division of Motor Vehicles, Driver Examination Section, 48 hours prior to the actual examination, the addi-

tional fee will be waived. This subsection does not apply to persons required to take an examination because of advanced age or physical disability.

Sec. 15. 29 MRSA §582, sub-§5, as reallocated by PL 1981, c. 698, §130, is repealed.

Sec. 16. 29 MRSA §1312, sub-§12 is enacted to read:

12. Implied consent to chemical tests for operators of commercial motor vehicles. Any person who operates or attempts to operate a commercial motor vehicle within the State shall have the duty to submit to and complete a test to determine the blood-alcohol level by analysis of blood or breath, if there is probable cause to believe that the person has operated or attempted to operate a commercial motor vehicle while having 0.04% or more by weight of alcohol in the blood. The provisions of this section shall apply, except that in all cases probable cause shall be to believe that the person was operating or attempting to operate a commercial motor vehicle while having 0.04% or more by weight of alcohol in the blood and except that the suspension for failing to comply with the duty to submit to and complete the test shall be for a period of one year, unless the person was operating or attempting to operate a commercial motor vehicle containing hazardous materials, in which case the suspension shall be for a period of 3 years or, in the case of a 2nd or subsequent failure to submit to a test, a permanent suspension.

When a person's commercial driver's license is suspended under this section and is also suspended after the person has been adjudicated or convicted on charges arising out of the same occurrence for a violation of section 1312-B, the period of time that the person's commercial driver's license has been suspended under this section prior to the adjudication or conviction shall be deducted from the period of time of any suspension of the commercial driver's license ordered by the court or imposed by the Secretary of State.

Sec. 17. 29 MRSA §1312-D, sub-§5, as amended by PL 1985, c. 412, §6, is further amended to read:

5. Restricted licenses for suspension for failure to comply with duty to submit to blood-alcohol test. The Secretary of State may issue a restricted license or permit to any person whose license or permit has been suspended for a first failure to comply with the duty to submit to a blood-alcohol test under section 1312, subsection 2, if the conditions of issuance following a conviction or adjudication under section 1312-B are met by the person and a period of suspension of not less than 90 days has elapsed. This subsection does not apply to any suspension of a commercial motor vehicle driver's license or permit to operate for failure to submit to and complete a test to determine the blood-alcohol level pursuant to section 1312, subsection 12.

Sec. 18. 29 MRSA §2013, sub-§1, ¶A, as repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 780, §4, is amended to read:

A. Hold a valid Maine operator's license for operation of the class vehicle to be operated and have at least one year's experience as a licensed motor vehicle operator in this or some other state;

Sec. 19. 29 MRSA §2013, sub-§1, ¶E, as amended by PL 1987, c. 676, §3, is further amended to read:

E. Must pass an examination as the Secretary of State shall prescribe to determine his that person's ability to operate the specific vehicle which will be driven as a school bus or any comparable type vehicle. A fee of \$8 \$10 shall accompany the initial application for the examination. The fee for subsequent examinations shall be \$5;

Sec. 20. 29 MRSA §2241, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1987, c. 791, §§26 to 28, is further amended to read:

1. Suspension or revocation. The Secretary of State or any deputy secretary of state may suspend or revoke any certificate of registration, certificate of title or any license or <u>commercial driver's license</u> issued to any person to operate a motor vehicle or right to operate a motor vehicle or right to obtain an operator's license after hearing for any cause which he deems deemed sufficient. He The Secretary of State or any deputy secretary of state is also authorized to suspend or revoke any certificate of registration, certificate of title, any license or <u>commercial driver's license or</u> any fuel use decal issued to any person without preliminary hearing upon showing by his the Secretary of State records or other sufficient evidence that the driver <u>person</u>:

A. Has committed an offense for which mandatory suspension or revocation of license or registration is required upon conviction or adjudication;

B. Has been convicted or adjudicated with such frequency of offenses against traffic regulations governing the movement of vehicles as to indicate a disrespect for traffic laws and disregard for the safety of other persons on the highways;

C. Is a reckless or negligent driver of a motor vehicle, such fact being established by the point system, by a record of accidents or by other evidence;

D. Is incompetent to drive a motor vehicle;

E. Has permitted an unlawful or fraudulent use of such license;

F. Has committed an offense in another state which, if committed in this State, would be grounds for suspension or revocation;

G. Has been convicted of failing to stop for a police officer;

H. Has been convicted of reckless driving or driving to endanger;

I. Has failed to appear in court on the day specified, either in person or by counsel, after being ordered to do so to answer any violation of chapter 25.

J. Has failed to provide sufficient proof of ownership or other documentation in support of his the person's title claim;

K. Is subject to action of the Secretary of State pursuant to section 55-B or section 2378, subsection 1;

M. Has failed to provide, pursuant to section 246, proof of payment of the use tax imposed by the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1954, Section 4481, within time periods established by federal statute and regulations promulgated pursuant to federal statute; Θ

N. Has failed to submit to or complete a test to determine the blood-alcohol level pursuant to section 1312, subsection 11, paragraph $D_{=i}$

O. Has violated any of the provisions of the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986, Public Law 99-570, Title XII, and any rules and regulations promulgated and adopted under that Act; or

P. Has failed to surrender to the Secretary of State a commercial driver's license which has been suspended or revoked.

He The Secretary of State or any deputy secretary of state is also authorized to suspend any certificate of registration, certificate of title or any license issued to any person without preliminary hearing upon showing by his the Secretary of State's records or other sufficient evidence that the owner of a vehicle or holder of a title certificate fails has failed to deliver or assign the certificate of title upon the request of the Secretary of State.

Sec. 21. 29 MRSA §2243, sub-§1, as repealed and replaced by PL 1979, c. 210 is amended to read:

1. Provisions not applicable to nonresidents. The provisions of this Title, relative to registration of vehicles and the issuance of operators' licenses, shall not apply to any nonresident owner or operator, provided that the owner or operator has complied with the provisions of the laws of the country, state or province of his the owner or operator's residence relative to the registration of motor vehicles and the possession of operator licenses. A Maine registration and operator license shall be applied for within 30 days if residence in this State is declared or established.

A nonresident student enrolled in a university, college or school within this State shall be exempt from the registration and licensing requirements of this State as long as he that student possesses a valid registration and license issued by his the state or of legal residence.

The exemptions from registration and licensing set forth in this subsection apply only to the noncommercial use and operation of vehicles in this State.

Sec. 22. Transitional provisions. The following transitional provisions shall apply to persons holding valid

Class 1, 2 or 3 licenses as of January 1, 1990. This section is repealed December 31, 1991.

1. Any person holding a valid Class 1 or Class 2 operator's license or school bus endorsement issued by the Secretary of State, provided such license is not suspended or revoked, may apply to the Secretary of State to have that license endorsed with a Class A or Class B, double or triple trailer, bus, tank truck or hazardous material endorsement, without the payment of an additional fee and without examination other than the written test provided the following conditions have been met:

A. An applicant must certify that, during the 2-year period immediately prior to applying for a commercial driver's license, the applicant has not:

(1) Had more than one license except as provided for in the federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986, Public Law 99-570, Title XII;

(2) Had any license suspended, revoked or canceled;

(3) Had any conviction for any type of motor vehicle violation which is a disqualification offense contained in the federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986, Public Law 99-570, Title XII; or

(4) Had any violation, other than a parking violation, of state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control arising in connection with any traffic accident and has no record of an accident in which the applicant was at fault; and

B. An applicant must provide evidence and certify that the applicant:

(1) Is regularly employed in a job requiring operation of a commercial motor vehicle;

(2) Has previously taken and passed a skills test given by a state with a classified licensing and testing system, and that the test was behind the wheel of a representative vehicle for that applicant's driver's license classification; or

(3) Has operated, for at least 2 years immediately preceding application for a commercial driver's license, a vehicle representative of the commercial motor vehicle the applicant operates or expects to operate.

2. Any person holding a valid Class 3 operator's license issued by the Secretary of State, may, without the payment of an additional fee, be issued a Class C commercial driver's license endorsed to operate vehicles carrying hazardous material upon successful completion of the written examination.

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3. The Secretary of State may waive the written test for any person holding a Class 1 or Class 2 operator's license who wishes to obtain a Class A or Class B commercial driver's license provided that authority has been granted by the United States Secretary of Transportation.

Sec. 23. Allocation. The following funds are allocated from the Transportation Safety Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1989-90	1990-91
SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF THE		
Administration - Motor Vehicles		
Positions Personal Services All Other Provides funds for 3 Driver License Examiner I positions, one Driver License Examiner II position, 2 Clerk Typist II posi- tions, one Clerk Typist III posi- tion and general operating ex- penses to administer the com- mercial driver's license program.	(7) \$89,075 144,946	(7) \$166,235 72,122
DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY		

OF STATE TOTAL \$234,021

Sec. 24. Allocation. The following funds are allocated from the Highway Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

\$238,357

5		1989-90	1990-91
t	SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF THE		
y	Administration - Motor Vehicles		
g	All Other Capital Expenditures	\$61,000	\$75,000
s g s	Provides funds for 3 automo- biles and one van in fiscal year 1989-90 and general operating expenses for the commercial driver's license program for fis- cal year 1990-91.		

Sec. 25. Effective date. This Act shall take effect January 1, 1990, except that sections 16, 17 and 20, and the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29, section 530-B, subsection 6 in section 9 of this Act shall take effect January 1, 1991.

Effective January 1, 1990, unless otherwise indicated.