



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 131

February Session, 2002

Substitute Senate Bill No. 417

Senate, March 25, 2002

The Committee on Transportation reported through SEN. CIOTTO of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT IMPOSING LIMITATIONS ON LICENSED MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATORS WHO ARE SIXTEEN OR SEVENTEEN YEARS OF AGE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) No holder of a motor
2 vehicle operator's license who is sixteen or seventeen years of age
3 shall, for a period of six months from the date of issuance of such
4 license or until he or she attains the age of eighteen years, whichever is
5 earlier, transport more than one passenger who is under twenty-one
6 years of age in a motor vehicle operated by him or her, except any
7 passenger who is a member of his or her immediate family, unless
8 accompanied and supervised by a parent or guardian who is a licensed
9 motor vehicle operator.

This act shall take effect as follows:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
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TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Fund-Type	Agency Affected	Current FY \$	FY 03 \$	FY 04 \$
TF - Cost	Motor Vehicle Dept.	-	10,000	10,000

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill would allow sixteen- or seventeen-year-old drivers to transport only one passenger under the age of 21, except for family members, unless they are accompanied by a parent or guardian who is a licensed driver. This prohibition applies for the first six months they hold their driver licenses or until they reach 18 years of age, whichever is earlier.

The Department of Motor Vehicles will need to update the Driver’s Manual, the informational pamphlets that are distributed to the public and the agency’s website. The update will cost approximately \$10,000. However, it can be absorbed within the agency’s existing budget without the need for additional resources.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 417

AN ACT IMPOSING LIMITATIONS ON LICENSED MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATORS WHO ARE SIXTEEN OR SEVENTEEN YEARS OF AGE**SUMMARY:**

This bill prohibits 16- and 17-year olds from transporting more than one passenger under age 21, exclusive of immediate family members (not defined), for the first six months they hold their drivers licenses or until they reach age 18, whichever is earlier. The restriction does not apply if the minor driver is accompanied and supervised by a parent or guardian who is a licensed driver. Currently, 16- and 17-year olds must hold a learner's permit for a fixed period before they can be licensed but, once licensed, they are under no operational restrictions.

The bill specifies no explicit penalty for violating the restriction. Assuming it would be codified in the motor vehicle laws in the chapter that includes the other driver licensing laws (Chapter 246), a general penalty statute specifying a fine of up to \$100 would probably apply (CGS § 14-164).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2002

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 27 Nay 1