



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

**Committee Bill No. 698**

LCO No. 4376

\*04376SB00698TRA\*

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:  
(TRA)

**AN ACT EXPANDING THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH A SPECIAL  
MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR'S PERMIT MAY BE ISSUED.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 14-37a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

3 (a) Any person whose operator's license has been suspended  
4 pursuant to any provision of this chapter or chapter 248, except  
5 pursuant to section 14-215 for operating under suspension or pursuant  
6 to section 14-140 for failure to appear for any scheduled court  
7 appearance, and any person identified in subsection (g) of this section  
8 may make application to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for a  
9 special permit (1) to operate a motor vehicle to and from such person's  
10 place of employment or, if such person is not employed at a fixed  
11 location, to operate a motor vehicle only in connection with, and to the  
12 extent necessary, to properly perform such person's business or  
13 profession, (2) to operate a motor vehicle to receive necessary health  
14 care or treatments, as directed or prescribed by a licensed physician, or  
15 (3) to attend an accredited institution of higher education.

16 (b) The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion upon a  
17 showing of significant hardship, grant each such application that is  
18 submitted in proper form and contains such information and  
19 attestation by the applicant as the commissioner may require. In  
20 determining whether to grant such application, the commissioner may  
21 also consider the driving record of the applicant and shall ascertain  
22 that the suspension is a final order that is not under appeal pursuant to  
23 section 4-183. A special operator's permit shall not be issued pursuant  
24 to this section to any person for the operation of a motor vehicle for  
25 which a public passenger transportation permit or commercial driver's  
26 license is required or to any person whose operator's license has been  
27 suspended previously pursuant to section 14-227a or 14-227b. A  
28 special operator's permit shall not be issued pursuant to this section to  
29 any person whose operator's license has been suspended pursuant to  
30 subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of subsection (i) of section 14-227b  
31 for refusing to submit to a blood, breath or urine test or analysis until  
32 such operator's license has been under suspension for a period of not  
33 less than ninety days. A person shall not be ineligible to be issued a  
34 special operator's permit under this section solely on the basis of being  
35 convicted of two violations of section 14-227a unless such second  
36 conviction is for a violation committed after a prior conviction.

37 (c) A special operator's permit issued pursuant to this section shall  
38 be of a distinctive format and shall include (1) the expiration date,  
39 [and] (2) the legend "work only", "medical only", "educational only",  
40 or combination thereof, and (3) with respect to medical or educational  
41 permits, the times during which the operation of a motor vehicle is  
42 permitted.

43 (d) Any person issued a special operator's permit pursuant to this  
44 section who operates a motor vehicle during the period of the permit  
45 for a purpose not authorized by the conditions of the permit shall,  
46 upon receipt of written report of a police officer, in such form as the  
47 commissioner may prescribe, of such unauthorized operation, be  
48 subject to a civil penalty of not more than five hundred dollars. Any

49 person who makes improper use of a special operator's permit issued  
50 pursuant to this section or in any manner alters any such permit or  
51 who loans or sells such permit for use by another person shall be  
52 subject to the penalties provided by section 14-147.

53 (e) If a person issued a special operator's permit pursuant to this  
54 section has his operator's license suspended by the commissioner in  
55 connection with any motor vehicle violation or other offense for which  
56 suspension action is authorized, the special operator's permit shall be  
57 deemed revoked on the effective date of such suspension, and any  
58 such person with notice of the suspension who operates a motor  
59 vehicle shall be operating under suspension and shall be subject to  
60 double the penalties provided by the applicable provisions of  
61 subsection (b) of section 14-111 and section 14-215.

62 (f) Any decision made by the commissioner under this section shall  
63 not be subject to appeal pursuant to the provisions of chapter 54 or any  
64 other provisions of the general statutes.

65 (g) Any person who is an applicant for a motor vehicle operator's  
66 license and whose license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle has  
67 been restricted by any other state in a manner that the commissioner  
68 deems to be substantially similar to the restrictions imposed by a  
69 special operator's permit issued in accordance with this section, may,  
70 in the discretion of the commissioner, be issued an operator's license  
71 together with a special operator's permit. The special operator's permit  
72 shall be required to be held by such person for such time as the  
73 commissioner prescribes.

74 (h) The commissioner may adopt regulations in accordance with the  
75 provisions of chapter 54 to implement the provisions of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2009	14-37a

**Statement of Purpose:**

To expand the purposes for which a special operator's permit may be issued by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to include medical care and education.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

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