



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES**

60 State Street, Wethersfield, CT 06161

<http://ct.gov/dmv>



***Testimony of Department of Motor Vehicles  
Commissioner Melody A. Currey  
Transportation Committee Public Hearing  
February 22, 2012***

**H.B. No. 5169 (RAISED) AN ACT ESTABLISHING INSTRUCTION PERMITS AND ELIMINATING AN OBSOLETE FEE (Bill requested by the Department)**

Good morning Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrero, Senator Boucher, Representative Scribner and other members of the Transportation Committee.

I am pleased to be here today to testify in support of HB 5169, AN ACT ESTABLISHING INSTRUCTION PERMITS AND ELIMINATING AN OBSOLETE FEE.

Sections 1 through 9 of the proposed legislation would amend statutes in Title 14 to eliminate the term "learner's permit" and to use the term "instruction permit" uniformly to refer to any permit issued for training to operate a vehicle. The term is already used in reference to Commercial Driver's Licenses in Connecticut statutes.

In addition, section 2 establishes an adult instruction permit for people who are over the age of eighteen. It does not impose any specific training requirements. It attempts to accomplish two things: (1) It adds that adult to the DMV database at the beginning of the licensing process, similar to 16 and 17 year old trainees. This allows the DMV to maintain an electronic record of the person from the outset. This would eliminate the need for the DMV to maintain a paper record of the person's knowledge test results (which would require that person to return to the same branch for the road test). It would also enable the person to remit fees electronically thereby enhancing customer service. This will also facilitate the testing process when the DMV moves to driver testing using electronic scoring (through the use of laptops); (2) It prevents an unlicensed adult operator from operating a motor vehicle if that person does not have an adult instruction permit. Presently, an unlicensed operator over the age of eighteen with one other adult in the vehicle has the ability to legally operate by simply claiming to a law enforcement officer that he or she is "in training."

Based upon the establishment of an adult instruction permit, the term for the permit issued to 16 and 17 year old operators has been changed to "youth instruction permit." In addition, the expiration of both types of permits has been changed to two years or until the trainee receives a license, whichever is earlier.

Finally, section 9 of the bill would remove the fee for a four-year license since the issuance of a four-year was eliminated in the 2011 session.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on behalf of this proposal and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.