

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

C.S.H.B. 90  
By: Driver (Bivins)  
Education  
5/13/1999  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **DIGEST**

Data from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety shows that 16-year-olds are three times more likely, and 17- to 19-year-olds, twice as likely, to die in traffic accidents as all other drivers combined. A disproportionate number of fatal accidents involving teenage drivers occurs at night. C.S.H.B. 90 increases the number of hours of behind-the-wheel practice and the minimum amount of night time behind-the-wheel practice for student drivers.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, C.S.H.B. 90 increases the number of hours of behind-the-wheel practice and the minimum amount of night time behind-the-wheel practice for student drivers.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 521.204, Transportation Code, to authorize the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) to issue a Class C driver's license to an applicant under 18 years of age, only if the applicant has submitted a written statement by a parent or guardian that the applicant has completed at least 50 hours of actual driving practice, including at least 10 hours of practice at night.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 521.222, Transportation Code, by amending Subsection (d), to provide that an instruction permit entitles the holder to operate a type of motor vehicle on a highway while the holder is accompanied by a person occupying the seat by the operator who is 21, rather than 18, years of age or older.

SECTION 3. Amends Chapter 521K, Transportation Code, by adding Section 521.2221, as follows:

Sec. 521.2221. ADDITIONAL RESTRICTION ON MINOR. Prohibits a holder of a Class A, B, or C driver's license who is under 18 years of age from operating a motor vehicle after 11 p.m. and before 5 a.m. unless certain conditions exist. Provides that the restrictions under Subsection (a) apply during the period beginning on the date the holder is first issued a Class A, B, or C driver's license and ending on the earlier of certain dates. Provides that a person commits an offense if the person operates a motor vehicle in violation of the restriction under this section. Provides that an offense under this section is punishable in the same manner as a violation of a restriction imposed on the holder of a license under Section 521.221. Provides that a restriction under this section is not required to be noted on the driver's license.

SECTION 4. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 5. Effective date: January 1, 2000.

SECTION 6. Emergency clause.