

Date of Hearing: April 9, 2018

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Jim Frazier, Chair

AB 3195 (Acosta) – As Introduced February 16, 2018

SUBJECT: Department of Motor Vehicles: licensing: motorcycle endorsement

SUMMARY: Requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to accept only an electronic submission of a certificate of satisfactory completion of a motorcyclist training program.

EXISTING LAW:

- 1) Defines a Class M1 license as a license to drive two-wheeled motorcycles and defines class M2 license to include motorized bicycles, mopeds, or motorized scooters.
- 2) Requires an examination upon application for an original driver's license, including class M1 and M2 licenses, which must include:
 - a) A test of knowledge and understanding of the relevant vehicle code provisions
 - b) A test of ability to read English on highway and directional signs
 - c) A test of understanding of traffic signs and signals
 - d) An actual demonstration of ability to operate a motor vehicle under the supervision of an examining officer; and,
 - e) A test of hearing and eyesight.
- 3) Allows DMV to accept a certificate of satisfactory completion of a novice motorcyclist training program in lieu of a driving test for class M1 or M2 license applications.
- 4) Requires that the motorcycle training program be approved by the California Highway Patrol (CHP) Commissioner.
- 5) Allows the DMV to accept a certificate of satisfactory completion of a CHP-approved motorcyclist training program of any difficulty in lieu of a driving test for a class M1 or M2 license application.
- 6) Specifies that a person under 21 years old must complete a novice motorcycle safety training program in order to be issued a class M1 or M2 license or endorsement.

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown

COMMENTS: AB 1027 (Acosta), Chapter 205, Statutes of 2017, authorized motorcycle license-seekers the ability to take a motorcyclist training program approved by the Commissioner of CHP instead of taking a driving test.

This bill will require DMV to only accept an electronic submission of completion of the motorcyclist training program from the organizations providing the training. Currently, DMV requires license applicants to provide a paper copy of a certificate of completion from motorcyclist training programs when the individual comes in to apply for their motorcycle license. DMV issues the training programs a unique bar code to put on the certificate of completion to prevent fraud.

The American Motorcyclist Association, writing in support, argues, “Currently, the applicant for a motorcycle license or endorsement must submit a paper copy of the certificate of satisfactory completion to have the riding portion of the skills test waived at a Department of Motor Vehicles field office. This bill would modernize the process and require the certificate of completion to be submitted electronically directly to the DMV by the operator of the training program, avoiding delays and potential loss of the printed certificate.”

Other entities already have to submit forms electronically to the DMV in order to show proof of completion, including traffic violator schools.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**Support**

American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education
American Motorcyclist Association
Bay Area Riders Forum
California Motorcycle Dealers Association

Opposition

None on File

Analysis Prepared by: David Sforza / TRANS. / (916) 319-2093