

**Senate Bill 124 Increased Penalty for Riding Without Motorcycle Endorsement**

Senate Bill 124 increases the penalty for operating a motorcycle without a motorcycle endorsement from a Class B violation (\$360) to a Class A violation (\$720). Increasing the penalty may encourage more riders to complete the Basic Rider Training necessary to receive a motorcycle endorsement. The combined cost for training and the endorsement is \$279, \$81 less than a Class B violation. SB 124 further requires a court to suspend the fine for the violation if the rider completes training and receives a motorcycle endorsement within 120 days of sentencing.

**Effective Date: January 1, 2010**

**Sponsor: Governor Kulongoski for Department of Transportation**

**House: Ayes = 39, Nays = 21**

**Senate: Ayes = 23, Nays = 3, Excused = 4**

**Senate Bill 125 Teen Driver Education**

Senate Bill 125 allows the Oregon Department of Transportation, Transportation Safety Division (ODOT-TSD) to reimburse approved commercial driver training schools up to \$210 when first-time drivers under 18 complete a driver education course. The bill broadens eligibility for reimbursement to include all ODOT-TSD approved commercial driver training schools, in addition to the public providers already eligible for reimbursement. Finally, the bill allows ODOT to fully reimburse the Department of Human Services (DHS) for first-time drivers under 18 who are wards of DHS and in foster care.

**Effective Date: July 1, 2009**

**Sponsor: Governor Kulongoski for Department of Transportation**

**House: Ayes = 46, Excused = 14**

**Senate: Ayes = 28, Excused = 2**

**House Bill 2238 Increased Waiting Period for Hardship Permit for Refusal to Take Breath Test**

Under current law, if a person has a blood alcohol level of .08 percent or greater, or the person refuses to take a breath test during the course of a DUII investigation, he or she must wait a certain period of time before applying for a hardship permit. House Bill 2238 increases the period of time that a person is ineligible for a hardship permit if the person refused to take a breath test to determine whether the person was driving under the influence of intoxicants. Under current law, the longest an individual is ineligible for a hardship permit after an implied consent suspension is one year. The bill extends that outer limit from one year to three years. A person is subject to the increased waiting period if he or she has a previous DUII conviction or a license suspension for failure or refusal of a breath test within the preceding five years, or if the person was participating in a diversion program at the time of the refusal. The bill also provides criteria for determining the length of time (at least 90 days and up to three years) during which a person who has refused to take a breath test is ineligible for a hardship permit.

**Effective Date: January 1, 2010**

**Sponsor: Governor Kulongoski for Department of Transportation**

**House: Ayes = 50, Excused = 10**

**Senate: Ayes = 27, Nays = 1, Excused = 2**