

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 578

90TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR WESTFALL.

Pre-filed December 1, 1999, and 1,000 copies ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

2539S.011

AN ACT

To repeal sections 302.302, 302.505, 302.510, 302.520, 302.541, 577.012 and 577.037, RSMo Supp. 1999, relating to alcohol-related traffic offenses, and to enact in lieu thereof seven new sections relating to the same subject, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 302.302, 302.505, 302.510, 302.520, 302.541, 577.012 and 577.037, RSMo Supp. 1999, are repealed and seven new sections enacted in lieu thereof to be known as sections 302.302, 302.505, 302.510, 302.520, 302.541, 577.012 and 577.037, to read as follows:

302.302. 1. The director of revenue shall put into effect a point system for the suspension and revocation of licenses. Points shall be assessed only after a conviction or forfeiture of collateral. The initial point value is as follows:

(1) Any moving violation of a state law or county or municipal traffic ordinance not listed in this section, other than a violation of vehicle equipment provisions or a court-ordered supervision as provided in section

302.303 2 points
(except any violation of municipal stop sign ordinance where no accident is involved 1 point)

(2) Speeding

In violation of a state law 3 points

In violation of a county or municipal ordinance 2 points

(3) Leaving the scene of an accident in violation

EXPLANATION--Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

of section 577.060, RSMo	12 points
In violation of any county or municipal ordinance	6 points
(4) Careless and imprudent driving in violation	
of subsection 4 of section 304.016, RSMo	4 points
In violation of a county or municipal ordinance	2 points
(5) Operating without a valid license in violation	
of subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection 1 of section 302.020:	
(a) For the first conviction	2 points
(b) For the second conviction	4 points
(c) For the third conviction	6 points
(6) Operating with a suspended or revoked license	
prior to restoration of operating privileges	12 points
(7) Obtaining a license by misrepresentation	12 points
(8) For the first conviction of driving while in an intoxicated	
condition or under the influence of controlled substances or drugs	8 points
(9) For the second or subsequent conviction of any of the	
following offenses however combined: driving while in an intoxicated	
condition, driving under the influence of controlled substances or	
drugs or driving with a blood alcohol content of [ten-hundredths]	
eight-hundredths of one percent or more by weight	12 points
(10) For the first conviction for driving with blood	
alcohol content [ten-hundredths] eight-hundredths of one	
percent or more by weight	
In violation of state law	8 points
In violation of a county or municipal ordinance	8 points
(11) Any felony involving the use of a motor	
vehicle	12 points
(12) Knowingly permitting unlicensed operator to operate	
a motor vehicle	4 points
(13) For a conviction for failure to maintain	
financial responsibility pursuant to county or municipal	
ordinance or pursuant to section 303.025, RSMo	4 points

2. The director shall, as provided in subdivision (5) of subsection 1 of this section, assess an operator points for a conviction pursuant to subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection 1 of section 302.020, when the director issues such operator a license or permit pursuant to the provisions of sections 302.010 to 302.340.

3. An additional two points shall be assessed when personal injury or property damage

results from any violation listed in subsection 1 of this section and if found to be warranted and certified by the reporting court.

4. When any of the acts listed in subdivision (2), (3), (4) or (8) of subsection 1 of this section constitutes both a violation of a state law and a violation of a county or municipal ordinance, points may be assessed for either violation but not for both. Notwithstanding that an offense arising out of the same occurrence could be construed to be a violation of subdivisions (8), (9) and (10) of subsection 1 of this section, no person shall be tried or convicted for more than one offense pursuant to subdivisions (8), (9) and (10) of subsection 1 of this section for offenses arising out of the same occurrence.

5. The director of revenue shall put into effect a system for staying the assessment of points against an operator. The system shall provide that the satisfactory completion of a driver improvement program or, in the case of violations committed while operating a motorcycle, a motorcycle rider training course approved by the director of the department of public safety, by an operator, when so ordered and verified by any court having jurisdiction over any law of this state or county or municipal ordinance, regulating motor vehicles, other than a violation committed in a commercial motor vehicle as defined in section 302.700, shall be accepted by the director in lieu of the assessment of points for a violation pursuant to subdivision (1), (2)[.] or (4) of subsection 1 of this section or pursuant to subsection 3 of this section. For the purposes of this subsection, the driver improvement program shall meet or exceed the standards of the National Safety Council's eight-hour "Defensive Driving Course" or, in the case of a violation which occurred during the operation of a motorcycle, the program shall meet the standards established by the director of the department of public safety pursuant to sections 302.133 to 302.138. The completion of a driver improvement program or a motorcycle rider training course shall not be accepted in lieu of points more than one time in any thirty-six-month period and shall be completed within sixty days of the date of conviction in order to be accepted in lieu of the assessment of points. Every court having jurisdiction pursuant to the provisions of this subsection shall, within fifteen days after completion of the driver improvement program or motorcycle rider training course by an operator, forward a record of the completion to the director, all other provisions of the law to the contrary notwithstanding. The director shall establish procedures for record keeping and the administration of this subsection.

302.505. 1. The department shall suspend or revoke the license of any person upon its determination that the person was arrested upon probable cause to believe such person was driving a motor vehicle while the alcohol concentration in the person's blood, breath, or urine was **[ten-hundredths] eight-hundredths** of one percent or more by weight, based on the definition of alcohol concentration in section 302.500, or where such person was less than twenty-one years of age when stopped and was stopped upon probable cause to believe such person was driving while intoxicated in violation of section 577.010, RSMo, or driving with excessive blood alcohol

content in violation of section 577.012, RSMo, or upon probable cause to believe such person violated a state, county or municipal traffic offense and such person was driving with a blood alcohol content of two-hundredths of one percent or more by weight.

2. The department shall make a determination of these facts on the basis of the report of a law enforcement officer required in section 302.510, and this determination shall be final unless a hearing is requested and held. If a hearing is held, the department shall review the matter and make a final determination on the basis of evidence received at the hearing.

3. The determination of these facts by the department is independent of the determination of the same or similar facts in the adjudication of any criminal charges arising out of the same occurrence. The disposition of those criminal charges shall not affect any suspension or revocation under this section.

302.510. 1. Except as provided in subsection 3 of this section, a law enforcement officer who arrests any person for a violation of any state statute related to driving while intoxicated or for a violation of a county or municipal ordinance prohibiting driving while intoxicated or a county or municipal alcohol related traffic offense, and in which the alcohol concentration in the person's blood, breath, or urine was ~~[ten-hundredths]~~ **eight-hundredths** of one percent or more by weight or two-hundredths of one percent or more by weight for anyone less than twenty-one years of age, shall forward to the department a verified report of all information relevant to the enforcement action, including information which adequately identifies the arrested person, a statement of the officer's grounds for belief that the person violated any state statute related to driving while intoxicated or was less than twenty-one years of age and was driving with two-hundredths of one percent or more by weight of alcohol in the person's blood, or a county or municipal ordinance prohibiting driving while intoxicated or a county or municipal alcohol related traffic offense, a report of the results of any chemical tests which were conducted, and a copy of the citation and complaint filed with the court.

2. The report required by this section shall be made on forms supplied by the department or in a manner specified by regulations of the department.

3. A county or municipal ordinance prohibiting driving while intoxicated or a county or municipal alcohol related traffic offense may not be the basis for suspension or revocation of a driver's license pursuant to sections 302.500 to 302.540, unless the arresting law enforcement officer, other than an elected peace officer or official, has been certified by the director of the department of public safety pursuant to the provisions of sections 590.100 to 590.180, RSMo.

302.520. 1. Whenever the chemical test results are available to the law enforcement officer while the arrested person is still in custody, and where the results show an alcohol concentration of ~~[ten-hundredths]~~ **eight-hundredths** of one percent or more by weight of alcohol in such person's blood or where such person is less than twenty-one years of age and the results show that there is two-hundredths of one percent or more of alcohol in the person's blood, the officer, acting

on behalf of the department, shall serve the notice of suspension or revocation personally on the arrested person.

2. When the law enforcement officer serves the notice of suspension or revocation, the officer shall take possession of any driver's license issued by this state which is held by the person. When the officer takes possession of a valid driver's license issued by this state, the officer, acting on behalf of the department, shall issue a temporary permit which is valid for fifteen days after its date of issuance and shall also give the person arrested a notice which shall inform the person of all rights and responsibilities pursuant to sections 302.500 to 302.540. The notice shall be in such form so that the arrested person may sign the original as evidence of receipt thereof. The notice shall also contain a detachable form permitting the arrested person to request a hearing. Signing the hearing request form and mailing such request to the department shall constitute a formal application for a hearing.

3. A copy of the completed notice of suspension or revocation form, a copy of any completed temporary permit form, a copy of the notice of rights and responsibilities given to the arrested person, including any request for hearing, and any driver's license taken into possession pursuant to this section shall be forwarded to the department by the officer along with the report required in section 302.510.

4. The department shall provide forms for notice of suspension or revocation, for notice of rights and responsibilities, for request for a hearing and for temporary permits to law enforcement agencies.

302.541. 1. In addition to other fees required by law, any person who has had a license to operate a motor vehicle suspended or revoked following a determination, pursuant to section 302.505, or section 577.010, 577.012, 577.041 or 577.510, RSMo, or any county or municipal ordinance, where the judge in such case was an attorney and the defendant was represented by or waived the right to an attorney, that such person was driving while intoxicated or with a blood alcohol content of [ten-hundredths] **eight-hundredths** of one percent or more by weight or, where such person was at the time of the arrest less than twenty-one years of age and was driving with a blood alcohol content of two-hundredths of one percent or more by weight, shall pay an additional fee of twenty-five dollars prior to the reinstatement or reissuance of the license.

2. Any person less than twenty-one years of age whose driving privilege has been suspended or revoked solely for a first determination pursuant to sections 302.500 to 302.540 that such person was driving a motor vehicle with two-hundredths of one percent or more blood alcohol content is exempt from filing proof of financial responsibility with the department of revenue in accordance with chapter 303, RSMo, as a prerequisite for reinstatement of driving privileges or obtaining a restricted driving privilege as provided by section 302.525.

577.012. 1. A person commits the crime of "driving with excessive blood alcohol content" if such person operates a motor vehicle in this state with [ten-hundredths] **eight-hundredths** of

one percent or more by weight of alcohol in such person's blood.

2. As used in this section, percent by weight of alcohol in the blood shall be based upon grams of alcohol per one hundred milliliters of blood or two hundred ten liters of breath and may be shown by chemical analysis of the person's blood, breath, saliva or urine. For the purposes of determining the alcoholic content of a person's blood under this section, the test shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of sections 577.020 to 577.041.

3. For the first offense, driving with excessive blood alcohol content is a class C misdemeanor.

577.037. 1. Upon the trial of any person for violation of any of the provisions of section 565.024, RSMo, or section 565.060, RSMo, or section 577.010 or 577.012, or upon the trial of any criminal action or violations of county or municipal ordinances or in any license suspension or revocation proceeding pursuant to the provisions of chapter 302, RSMo, arising out of acts alleged to have been committed by any person while driving a motor vehicle while in an intoxicated condition, the amount of alcohol in the person's blood at the time of the act alleged as shown by any chemical analysis of the person's blood, breath, saliva or urine is admissible in evidence and the provisions of subdivision (5) of section 491.060, RSMo, shall not prevent the admissibility or introduction of such evidence if otherwise admissible. If there was [ten-hundredths] **eight-hundredths** of one percent or more by weight of alcohol in the person's blood, this shall be prima facie evidence that the person was intoxicated at the time the specimen was taken.

2. Percent by weight of alcohol in the blood shall be based upon grams of alcohol per one hundred milliliters of blood or grams of alcohol per two hundred ten liters of breath.

3. The foregoing provisions of this section shall not be construed as limiting the introduction of any other competent evidence bearing upon the question whether the person was intoxicated.

4. A chemical analysis of a person's breath, blood, saliva or urine, in order to give rise to the presumption or to have the effect provided for in subsection 1 of this section, shall have been performed as provided in sections 577.020 to 577.041 and in accordance with methods and standards approved by the state department of health.

5. Any charge alleging a violation of section 577.010 or 577.012 or any county or municipal ordinance prohibiting driving while intoxicated or driving under the influence of alcohol shall be dismissed with prejudice if a chemical analysis of the defendant's breath, blood, saliva, or urine performed in accordance with sections 577.020 to 577.041 and rules promulgated thereunder by the state department of health demonstrate that there was less than [ten-hundredths] **eight-hundredths** of one percent of alcohol in the defendant's blood unless one or more of the following considerations cause the court to find a dismissal unwarranted:

(1) There is evidence that the chemical analysis is unreliable as evidence of the defendant's intoxication at the time of the alleged violation due to the lapse of time between the alleged

violation and the obtaining of the specimen;

(2) There is evidence that the defendant was under the influence of a controlled substance, or drug, or a combination of either or both with or without alcohol; or

(3) There is substantial evidence of intoxication from physical observations of witnesses or admissions of the defendant.

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