

# **MDTSEA History Highlights**

## **2010 - 2019**

### **2010 History Highlights**

The Michigan Department of State updated the Driver Education Provider Manual. The update included revision of several required forms.

House Bill 4747, Motorcycle Helmet Repeal, was recommended to the full house in March of 2010.

The US Department of Transportation announced a federal rule prohibiting texting by interstate commercial truck drivers. March 2010.

Governor Jennifer Granholm signed Michigan House Bill 4394 (Texting Ban) into law on April 30, 2010.

In November 2010, the use of all Segment I and Segment II Driver Education tests was extended to a 12 month period.

Public Act 568 of 2008 was signed into law in December 2010. It became known as the Basic Driver Improvement Course (BDIC), which allows driver to take a course to avoid points being added to the driver's record. The Michigan Secretary of State provided criteria and requirements for individuals to attend a BDIC.

PA 268, the GDL Passenger Restriction, was signed into law on December 14, 2010.

Because of term limits, Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land fulfilled her final year in office. Ruth Johnson was elected as the 42nd Secretary of State in November of 2010 with her term beginning in January 2011.

### **2011 History Highlights**

2011 History Highlights In 2011, UMTRI and the Michigan Dept. of Community Health teamed up with Driver Education Instructors to promote the UMTRI Checkpoints Program in Michigan.

In 2011, Motorcycle Helmet Repeal bills were again introduced. MDTSEA and SMARTER continued to campaign to keep the current Michigan all-rider helmet law in effect.

In the spring of 2011, the Check Points Program moved into Phase Two. It promoted new videos and an updated website.

PA 268, the GDL Passenger Restriction, went into effect on March 30, 2011 with the exemptions to the law relating to school-sanctioned events. The law was revised in July of 2011 to allow exemptions to include all authorized activities determined in the revised law.

In the spring, new bills, HB 4608 and SB 291, were introduced regarding Helmet Repeal. These bills were identical with no action taken.

The Driver Education Segment II tests questions were updated by the MDOS.

### **2012 History Highlights**

- The American Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association (ADTSEA) made available for distribution an updated ADTSEA 3.0 curriculum. The binder and associated DVD's/CD's became available for distribution through MDTSEA once the Michigan Department of State adopted the 3.0 version for use in Michigan.

### **2013 History Highlights**

- Public Act of 592 of 2012, more commonly known as "Kelsey's Law", was signed into law in January. The new law banned cellphone use (with certain exceptions) for anyone driving on a Level 1 or Level 2 license in Michigan. It was named in honor of Kelsey Raffaele, 17, of Sault Ste. Marie, who died in a cellphone related automobile crash in 2010.
- Michigan Department of State announced they were adopting the ADTSEA 3.0 curriculum. A revised MDOS Driver Education Curriculum Guide was issued in September.

### **2014 History Highlights**

- A panel from The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) came to Lansing in the spring to review Michigan's Driver Education Program and compare it to the Driver Education National Standards. Michigan came away with high marks from the panel at the conclusion of the assessment along with a number of recommendations. These included requiring a parent to attend some sort of parent meeting / seminar, requiring documentation of the 50 hours of supervised driving practice, incrementally increasing hours of instruction, and other suggestions.
- Letters from MDTSEA were sent to House & Senate members and the Governor's office opposing SB1029. This bill would have allowed home schooling of driver education in Michigan. The bill did not get out of committee.

- In October, Governor Rick Snyder signed Public Act 317 of 2014 into law. This bill was also known as "Nathan's Law" in memory of Nathan Bower, a 19 year old motorcyclist killed in a motorcycle-vehicle crash in 2009. The new law mandated that driver education curricula must "include information concerning the laws pertaining to bicycles and motorcycles and shall emphasize awareness of their operation on the streets, roads, and highways of this state." PA 317, however, did not mandate any changes to the driver education curriculum but did bring public awareness to the issue.

It is also worth noting that this bill (HB5438), when first introduced, included language which would have allowed online / Internet-based driver education. MDTSEA worked with elected officials to remove the language from the bill which would have allowed this and basically codified current practices.

### **2015 History Highlights**

- Public Act No. 120 of 2014 became effective January 1, 2015. This Act amended 1949 PA 300 by providing authority to the Secretary of State to issue a motorcycle temporary instruction permit to applicants 16, 17, or 18 years old under certain conditions.
- Public Act No. 283 of 2014 amended 1949 PA 300 to allow an individual that was assessed a Driver Responsibility Fee to engage in 10 hours of community service as an alternative to paying that fee. The community service shall be completed within 45 days.
- Public Act 11 of 2015 amended 1949 PA 300 to modify Michigan law as needed to meet the new Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations that were published in 2011 (FMCSA-2007027659).

### **2016 History Highlights**

- Beginning in early 2016, MDOS required providers and instructors to utilize the new "Driving Skills Report Card."
- MDOS updated the Segment 2 Risk Awareness Fact Sheet and revised test questions.
- Public Act No. 135 of 2015 became effective January 5, 2016. This Act amended 1949 PA 300 by amending Section 328 to permit the electronic copy of the certificate of insurance of the vehicle using an electronic device.
- Public Act 443 of 2016 was passed to direct the state transportation department and the State Police to increase the speed limits on at least 600 miles of limited access freeway to 75 mph and 900 miles of trunk line highway to 65 mph after the completion of specific engineering & safety studies.
- Public Act No. 23 of 2016 became effective May 23, 2016. An Act to amend 1949 PA 300 by amending sections 309 and 312b such that the Secretary of State shall waive the requirement of a written knowledge test, road sign test, and driving skills test of the applicant for an original motorcycle endorsement if the person has successfully passed a motorcycle safety course approved by the Department as described in sections 811a and 811b.