

**Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 4, 2005**

SENATE BILL NO. 2099
(Transportation Committee)
(At the request of the Department of Transportation)

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections 39-06-30 and 39-06-34, subsection 1 of section 39-06-42, sections 39-16-03.1 and 39-20-01, subsection 2 of section 39-20-04, and subsection 1 of section 39-20-04.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the meaning of the term conviction, time required for a decision after a hearing, driving while license is suspended, when entries on a driving record are confidential, the implied consent advisory for refusal to submit to alcohol test, procedure to negate effect of a refusal, and suspension of person under twenty-one years of age for driving with a prohibited alcohol concentration; and to repeal sections 39-16-30 and 39-16.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to driving while a license is suspended.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 39-06-30 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

39-06-30. Conviction - Meaning and effect. For purposes of this title the term "conviction" means a final order or judgment of conviction by the North Dakota supreme court or, any lower court having jurisdiction, a tribal court, or a court in another state provided that no appeal is pending and the time for filing a notice of appeal has elapsed. Subject to the filing of an appeal, a conviction includes those instances when:

1. A sentence is imposed and suspended;
2. Imposition of a sentence is deferred under subsection 4 of section 12.1-32-02; or
3. There is a forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure a defendant's appearance in court and the forfeiture has not been vacated.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 39-06-34 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

39-06-34. Director may require reexamination. In addition to other powers set forth in this chapter, the director, having good cause to believe that a licensed operator is incompetent or otherwise not qualified to be licensed, may upon written notice of at least five days to the licensee require the licensee to submit to such physical, mental, or driver's examination as may be deemed necessary. If the director has good cause to believe that the licensed operator presents an immediate danger to the motoring public, the director may immediately, and without prior notice, suspend the operator's license pending the examination. The notice of suspension must provide the operator with the opportunity for a hearing within five days of the receipt of the notice of suspension. When a hearing is requested it must be conducted under section 39-06-33 and the hearing officer's recommended decision must be rendered within two days of the conclusion of the hearing. Upon the conclusion of such examination the director shall take action as may be appropriate and may suspend or revoke the license of such person or permit the licensee to retain the license, or may issue a license subject to restrictions as permitted under section 39-06-17. Refusal or neglect of the licensee to submit to such examination shall be grounds for suspension or revocation of the license.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 39-06-42 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. Except as provided in ~~chapters 39-16 and 39-16.1~~ and section 39-06.1-11, any person who drives a motor vehicle on a highway or on public or private areas to which the public has a right of access for vehicular use in this state while that person's license or privilege so to do is suspended or revoked in any jurisdiction is guilty of a class B misdemeanor for the first, second, or third offense within a five-year period. Any subsequent offense within the same five-year period is a class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. Section 39-16-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

39-16-03.1. Entries on driver record abstract confidential. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the following entries on a driver record or abstract are not available to the public, except for statistical purposes, other than by order of a court of competent jurisdiction accompanied by a fee of twenty-five dollars:

1. An entry more than three years old.
2. After the period of suspension ceases, an entry concerning a suspension under subsection 4, 5, 6, or 7 of section 39-06-03 or subsection 2, 5, or 6 of section 39-06-32.
3. An entry concerning a suspension as the result of a person under twenty-one years of age who has an alcohol concentration of at least two one-hundredths of one percent but under ~~ten~~ eight one-hundredths of one percent by weight within two hours after driving or being in actual physical control of a vehicle.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENT. Section 39-20-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

39-20-01. Implied consent to determine alcohol and drug content of blood. Any person who operates a motor vehicle on a highway or on public or private areas to which the public has a right of access for vehicular use in this state is deemed to have given consent, and shall consent, subject to the provisions of this chapter, to a chemical test, or tests, of the blood, breath, saliva, or urine for the purpose of determining the alcohol, other drug, or combination thereof, content of the blood. As used in this chapter the word "drug" means any drug or substance or combination of drugs or substances which renders a person incapable of safely driving, and the words "chemical test" or "chemical analysis" mean any test to determine the alcohol, or other drug, or combination thereof, content of the blood, breath, saliva, or urine, approved by the state toxicologist under this chapter. The test or tests must be administered at the direction of a law enforcement officer only after placing the person, except persons mentioned in section 39-20-03, under arrest and informing that person that the person is or will be charged with the offense of driving or being in actual physical control of a vehicle upon the public highways while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, drugs, or a combination thereof. For the purposes of this chapter, the taking into custody of a child under section 27-20-13 or a person under twenty-one years of age satisfies the requirement of an arrest. The law enforcement officer shall also inform the person charged that refusal of the person to submit to the test determined appropriate will result in a revocation for up to ~~three~~ four years of the person's driving privileges. The law enforcement officer shall determine which of the tests is to be used. When a person under the age of eighteen years is taken into custody for violating section 39-08-01 or an equivalent ordinance, the law enforcement officer shall attempt to contact the person's parent or legal guardian to explain the cause for the custody. Neither the law enforcement officer's efforts to contact, nor any consultation with, a parent or legal guardian may be permitted to interfere with the administration of chemical testing requirements under this chapter. The law enforcement officer shall mail a notice to the parent or legal guardian of the minor within ten days after the test results are received or within ten days after the minor is taken into custody if the minor refuses to submit to testing. The notice must contain a statement of the test performed and the results of that test; or if the minor refuses to submit to the testing, a statement notifying of that fact. The attempt to contact or the contacting or notification of a parent or legal guardian is not a precondition to the admissibility of chemical test results or the finding of a consent to, or refusal of, chemical testing by the person in custody.

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. Subsection 2 of section 39-20-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

2. A person's driving privileges are not subject to revocation under subdivision a of subsection 1 if all of the following criteria are met:
 - a. An administrative hearing is not held under section 39-20-05;
 - b. The person mails an affidavit to the director within twenty-five days after the temporary operator's permit is issued. The affidavit must state that the person:
 - (1) Intends to voluntarily plead guilty to violating section 39-08-01 or equivalent ordinance within twenty-five days after the temporary operator's permit is issued;
 - (2) Agrees that the person's driving privileges must be suspended as provided under section 39-06.1-10;
 - (3) Acknowledges the right to a section 39-20-05 administrative hearing and section 39-20-06 judicial review and voluntarily and knowingly waives these rights; and
 - (4) Agrees that the person's driving privileges must be revoked as provided under this section without an administrative hearing or judicial review, if the person does not plead guilty within twenty-five days after the temporary operator's permit is issued, or the court does not accept the guilty plea, or the guilty plea is withdrawn;
 - c. The person pleads guilty to violating section 39-08-01 or equivalent ordinance within twenty-five days after the temporary operator's permit is issued;
 - d. The court accepts the person's guilty plea and a notice of that fact is mailed to the director within twenty-five days after the temporary operator's permit is issued;
 - e. A copy of the final order or judgment of conviction evidencing the acceptance of the person's guilty plea is received by the director prior to the return or reinstatement of the person's driving privileges; and
 - f. The person has never been convicted under section 39-08-01 or equivalent ordinance.

SECTION 7. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 39-20-04.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. After the receipt of a person's operator's license, if taken under section 39-20-03.1 or 39-20-03.2, and the certified report of a law enforcement officer and if no written request for hearing has been received from the arrested person under section 39-20-05, or if that hearing is requested and the findings, conclusion, and decision from the hearing confirm that the law enforcement officer had reasonable grounds to arrest the person and test results show that the arrested person was driving or in physical control of a vehicle while having an alcohol concentration of at least eight one-hundredths of one percent by weight or, with respect to a person under twenty-one years of age, an alcohol concentration of at least two one-hundredths of one percent by weight at the time of the performance of a test within two hours after driving or being in physical control of a motor vehicle, the director shall suspend the person's operator's license as follows:
 - a. For ninety-one days if the person's driving record shows that, within the five years preceding the date of the arrest, the person has not previously violated section 39-08-01 or equivalent ordinance or the person's operator's license has not previously

been suspended or revoked under this chapter and the violation was for an alcohol concentration of at least eight one-hundredths of one percent by weight or, with respect to a person under twenty-one years of age, an alcohol concentration of at least two one-hundredths of one percent by weight, and under eighteen one-hundredths of one percent by weight.

- b. For one hundred eighty days if the operator's record shows the person has not violated section 39-08-01 or equivalent ordinance within five years preceding the last violation and the last violation was for an alcohol concentration of at least eighteen one-hundredths of one percent by weight.
- c. For three hundred sixty-five days if the person's driving record shows that, within the five years preceding the date of the arrest, the person has once previously violated section 39-08-01 or equivalent ordinance or the person's operator's license has once previously been suspended or revoked under this chapter with the last violation or suspension for an alcohol concentration under eighteen one-hundredths of one percent by weight.
- d. For two years if the person's driving record shows that within the five years preceding the date of the arrest, the person's operator's license has once been suspended, revoked, or issuance denied under this chapter, or for a violation of section 39-08-01 or equivalent ordinance, with the last violation or suspension for an alcohol concentration of at least eighteen one-hundredths of one percent by weight or if the person's driving record shows that within the five years preceding the date of arrest, the person's operator's license has at least twice previously been suspended, revoked, or issuance denied under this chapter, or for a violation of section 39-08-01 or equivalent ordinance, or any combination thereof, and the suspensions, revocations, or denials resulted from at least two separate arrests with the last violation or suspension for an alcohol concentration of under eighteen one-hundredths of one percent by weight.
- e. For three years if the operator's record shows that within five years preceding the date of the arrest, the person's operator's license has at least twice previously been suspended, revoked, or issuance denied under this chapter, or for a violation of section 39-08-01 or equivalent ordinance, or any combination thereof, and the suspensions, revocations, or denials resulted from at least two separate arrests and the last violation or suspension was for an alcohol concentration of at least eighteen one-hundredths of one percent by weight.

SECTION 8. REPEAL. Sections 39-16-30 and 39-16.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code are repealed.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2099.

Senate Vote: Yeas 47 Nays 0 Absent 0

House Vote: Yeas 68 Nays 18 Absent 8

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2005.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2005.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2005,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State