House Bill 169 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)
By: Representatives Corbett of the 174th, Ridley of the 6th, Momtahan of the 17th, Pirkle of the 155th, Watson of the 172nd, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 40-5-147 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to requirements for issuance of commercial driver's license or instruction permit, administration of skills test by third party, waiver or exemption, and disqualification and notice, so as to provide for requirements for issuance of a commercial driver's license; to revise the length of validity of a commercial driver's instruction permit; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 40-5-147 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to requirements for issuance of commercial driver's license or instruction permit, administration of skills test by third party, waiver or exemption, and disqualification and notice, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (a) and paragraph (4) of subsection (c) as follows:

"(a)(1)(A) Except as otherwise provided in Code Section 40-5-148, no person may shall be issued a commercial driver's license unless that person is:

(i) Is a resident of this state; is:

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(ii) Is at least 18 years of age;

(iii) Has completed a commercial driver training course which complies with 49 C.F.R. Parts 383 and 384;

(iv) Has passed a knowledge and skills test for driving a commercial motor vehicle which complies with minimum federal standards established by federal regulations enumerated in 49 C.F.R. Part 383, subparts G and H, and has; and

(v) Has satisfied all other requirements of the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986, Title XII of Public Law 99-570, in addition to any other requirements imposed by state law or federal regulation. The tests shall be prescribed and

(B) Any test required pursuant to this Code section shall be conducted by the department in English only."

"(4) The commercial driver's instruction permit may not be issued for a period to exceed 180 days and may be renewed one time for an additional 365 days. Upon the expiration of the second 180 day term, if applicable, the commercial driver's instruction permit holder shall upgrade to a commercial driver's license or submit a new application, pay the required fees, and retake the required knowledge and skills tests to obtain a commercial driver's instruction permit. The holder of a commercial driver's instruction permit may drive a commercial motor vehicle on a highway only when accompanied by the holder of a commercial driver's license valid for the class of vehicle being operated, along with all required endorsements and restrictions, who occupies a seat beside the individual for the purpose of giving instruction in driving the commercial motor vehicle."

SECTION 2.

This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2021, and the portions relating to driver training shall apply to the issuance of any commercial driver's license on or after January 1, 2022.
SECTION 3.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.