

39:3-11.1

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

Compiled by the NJ State Law Library

LAWS OF: 2015 **CHAPTER:** 79

NJSA: 39:3-11.1 (Reestablishes certain historic driving privileges afforded holders of agricultural driver's licenses in operating farm equipment and vehicles)

BILL NO: A535 (Substituted for S2547)

SPONSOR(S) DiMaio and others

DATE INTRODUCED: January 16, 2014

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Agricultural and Natural Resources

SENATE: Transportation

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** September 29, 2014

SENATE: June 29, 2015

DATE OF APPROVAL: August 5, 2015

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (First reprint enacted) Yes

A535

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 3 of introduced bill) Yes

TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PREFILED BILL: Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** Yes

SENATE: Yes

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, ***may possibly*** be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: Yes

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

S2547

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 3 of introduced bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** No

SENATE: Yes

(continued)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:	No	
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:	No	
VETO MESSAGE:	No	
GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	Yes	8-7-15

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

REPORTS:	No
-----------------	----

HEARINGS:	No
------------------	----

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No
----------------------------	----

"Farm license bill would return kids to road," Press of Atlantic City, 10-19-14

LAW/RWH

P.L.2015, CHAPTER 79, *approved August 5, 2015*
Assembly, No. 535 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning agricultural driver's licenses and amending
2 P.L.1942, c.324.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1942, c.324 (C.39:3-11.1) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. Any person, under seventeen years of age and not under
10 sixteen years of age, may be licensed to drive motor vehicles in
11 agricultural pursuits as herein limited; provided such person has,
12 after successfully completing an approved minimum six-hour
13 behind-the-wheel driver training course, passed an examination
14 satisfactory to the chief administrator as to his ability as an
15 operator. The chief administrator, upon payment of the lawful fee
16 and after he or a person authorized by him has examined the
17 applicant and is satisfied of the applicant's ability as an operator,
18 may, in his discretion, license the applicant to drive any motor
19 vehicle which is registered under the provisions of R.S.39:3-24 and
20 R.S.39:3-25. The holder of an agricultural permit or license shall
21 be subject to the applicable requirements, restrictions and penalties
22 for special learner's permit holders ¹, including the display of
23 special learner's permit decals,¹ provided under section 6 of
24 P.L.1977, c.25 (C.39:3-13.2a); provided, however, the holder of an
25 agricultural permit or license shall not be required to be
26 accompanied by, and under the supervision of, a licensed motor
27 vehicle driver of this State over the age of 21 in order to be
28 permitted to operate a motor vehicle registered under the provisions
29 of R.S.39:3-24 or R.S.39:3-25 for farm-related purposes ¹**[**, nor
30 shall the holder of an agricultural permit or license be required to
31 display any special learner's permit decals on such a motor
32 vehicle]¹. Such registration shall expire on March thirty-first of
33 each year terminating the period for which such license is issued.
34 The annual license fee for such license shall be one dollar (\$1.00),
35 and is for the limited use herein provided, and is not to be used in
36 the operation of any other vehicle and shall have the name of the
37 licensee endorsed thereon in his own handwriting. The holder of an
38 agricultural license shall be entitled to a probationary driver's
39 license upon attaining the age of 17 years and shall be subject to
40 applicable restrictions and penalties in section 4 of P.L.1950, c.127

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly floor amendments adopted September 15, 2014 .

1 (C.39:3-13.4) as they pertain to a probationary driver's license
2 holder.

3 (cf: P.L.2009, c.38, s.4)

4

5 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month
6 following enactment.

7

8

9

10

11 Reestablishes certain historic driving privileges afforded holders
12 of agricultural driver's licenses in operating farm equipment and
13 vehicles.

ASSEMBLY, No. 535

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2014 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN DIMAIO

District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)

Assemblywoman ALISON LITTELL MCHOSE

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Riley

SYNOPSIS

Reestablishes historic driving privileges afforded holders of agricultural driver's licenses in operating farm equipment and vehicles.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



A535 DIMAIO, MCHOSE

2

1 AN ACT concerning agricultural driver's licenses and amending
2 P.L.1942, c.324.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1942, c.324 (C.39:3-11.1) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. Any person, under seventeen years of age and not under
10 sixteen years of age, may be licensed to drive motor vehicles in
11 agricultural pursuits as herein limited; provided such person has,
12 after successfully completing an approved minimum six-hour
13 behind-the-wheel driver training course, passed an examination
14 satisfactory to the chief administrator as to his ability as an
15 operator. The chief administrator, upon payment of the lawful fee
16 and after he or a person authorized by him has examined the
17 applicant and is satisfied of the applicant's ability as an operator,
18 may, in his discretion, license the applicant to drive any motor
19 vehicle which is registered under the provisions of R.S.39:3-24 and
20 R.S.39:3-25. The holder of an agricultural permit or license shall
21 be subject to the applicable requirements, restrictions and penalties
22 for special learner's permit holders provided under section 6 of
23 P.L.1977, c.25 (C.39:3-13.2a); provided, however, the holder of an
24 agricultural permit or license shall not be required to be
25 accompanied by, and under the supervision of, a licensed motor
26 vehicle driver of this State over the age of 21 in order to be
27 permitted to operate a motor vehicle registered under the provisions
28 of R.S.39:3-24 or R.S.39:3-25 for farm-related purposes, nor shall
29 the holder of an agricultural permit or license be required to display
30 any special learner's permit decals on such a motor vehicle. Such
31 registration shall expire on March thirty-first of each year
32 terminating the period for which such license is issued. The annual
33 license fee for such license shall be one dollar (\$1.00), and is for the
34 limited use herein provided, and is not to be used in the operation of
35 any other vehicle and shall have the name of the licensee endorsed
36 thereon in his own handwriting. The holder of an agricultural
37 license shall be entitled to a probationary driver's license upon
38 attaining the age of 17 years and shall be subject to applicable
39 restrictions and penalties in section 4 of P.L.1950, c.127 (C.39:3-
40 13.4) as they pertain to a probationary driver's license holder.

41 (cf: P.L.2009, c.38, s.4)

42

43 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month
44 following enactment.

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

STATEMENT

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31

This bill clarifies the requirements for persons wishing to become holders of agricultural driving permits and licenses.

Since 1942, the State of New Jersey has issued agricultural driver's licenses and permits to allow 16 year olds to lawfully operate farm equipment, and trucks registered as farm vehicles, when engaged directly and exclusively in agricultural activities.

The graduated driver license program, which was established in 2001, significantly changed the driving privileges of permit holders and new licensees. These changes, particularly the requirement that 16 year old permit holders must be in the company and under the supervision of a licensed driver over the age of 21, undermine the purpose and value of an agricultural driver's license. This bill would exempt agricultural driver's licensees from that restriction, provided they successfully complete an approved minimum six-hour behind-the-wheel driver training course.

The bill also clarifies that the Kyleigh's Law requirement to display special learner's permit decals does not apply to holders of agricultural permits or licenses or motor vehicles registered as farm vehicles. Established by that law in 2009, the decal requirement is an enforcement tool for ensuring permit holders complied with the requirements of being accompanied by a licensed driver and not driving after 11 p.m. However:

- 1) farm vehicles cannot be operated on the roadways between sunset and sunrise;
- 2) the purpose of the agricultural driver's license is to allow 16 year olds to operate farm vehicles without supervision in limited circumstances; and
- 3) less than 200 agricultural driver's licenses are issued to 16 years olds each year.

ASSEMBLY, No. 535

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2014 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman JOHN DIMAIO

District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)

Assemblywoman ALISON LITTELL MCHOSE

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Riley, Assemblymen Wilson and Fiocchi

SYNOPSIS

Reestablishes historic driving privileges afforded holders of agricultural driver's licenses in operating farm equipment and vehicles.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/26/2014)

A535 DIMAIO, MCHOSE

2

1 AN ACT concerning agricultural driver's licenses and amending
2 P.L.1942, c.324.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1942, c.324 (C.39:3-11.1) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. Any person, under seventeen years of age and not under
10 sixteen years of age, may be licensed to drive motor vehicles in
11 agricultural pursuits as herein limited; provided such person has,
12 after successfully completing an approved minimum six-hour
13 behind-the-wheel driver training course, passed an examination
14 satisfactory to the chief administrator as to his ability as an
15 operator. The chief administrator, upon payment of the lawful fee
16 and after he or a person authorized by him has examined the
17 applicant and is satisfied of the applicant's ability as an operator,
18 may, in his discretion, license the applicant to drive any motor
19 vehicle which is registered under the provisions of R.S.39:3-24 and
20 R.S.39:3-25. The holder of an agricultural permit or license shall
21 be subject to the applicable requirements, restrictions and penalties
22 for special learner's permit holders provided under section 6 of
23 P.L.1977, c.25 (C.39:3-13.2a); provided, however, the holder of an
24 agricultural permit or license shall not be required to be
25 accompanied by, and under the supervision of, a licensed motor
26 vehicle driver of this State over the age of 21 in order to be
27 permitted to operate a motor vehicle registered under the provisions
28 of R.S.39:3-24 or R.S.39:3-25 for farm-related purposes, nor shall
29 the holder of an agricultural permit or license be required to display
30 any special learner's permit decals on such a motor vehicle. Such
31 registration shall expire on March thirty-first of each year
32 terminating the period for which such license is issued. The annual
33 license fee for such license shall be one dollar (\$1.00), and is for the
34 limited use herein provided, and is not to be used in the operation of
35 any other vehicle and shall have the name of the licensee endorsed
36 thereon in his own handwriting. The holder of an agricultural
37 license shall be entitled to a probationary driver's license upon
38 attaining the age of 17 years and shall be subject to applicable
39 restrictions and penalties in section 4 of P.L.1950, c.127 (C.39:3-
40 13.4) as they pertain to a probationary driver's license holder.

41 (cf: P.L.2009, c.38, s.4)

42

43 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month
44 following enactment.

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

ASSEMBLY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 535

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 10, 2014

The Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 535.

This bill clarifies the requirements for persons wishing to become holders of agricultural driving permits and licenses.

Since 1942, the State of New Jersey has issued agricultural driver's licenses and permits to allow 16 year olds to lawfully operate farm equipment, and trucks registered as farm vehicles, when engaged directly and exclusively in agricultural activities.

The graduated driver license program, which was established in 2001, significantly changed the driving privileges of permit holders and new licensees. These changes, particularly the requirement that 16 year old permit holders must be in the company and under the supervision of a licensed driver over the age of 21, undermine the purpose and value of an agricultural driver's license. This bill would exempt agricultural driver's licensees from that restriction, provided they successfully complete an approved minimum six-hour behind-the-wheel driver training course.

The bill also clarifies that the Kyleigh's Law requirement to display special learner's permit decals does not apply to holders of agricultural permits or licenses or motor vehicles registered as farm vehicles. Established by that law in 2009, the decal requirement is an enforcement tool for ensuring permit holders complied with the requirements of being accompanied by a licensed driver and not driving after 11 p.m. However:

- 1) farm vehicles cannot be operated on the roadways between sunset and sunrise;
- 2) the purpose of the agricultural driver's license is to allow 16 year olds to operate farm vehicles without supervision in limited circumstances; and
- 3) less than 200 agricultural driver's licenses are issued to 16 years olds each year.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2014-2015 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 535

with Assembly Floor Amendments
(Proposed by Assemblyman DIMAIO)

ADOPTED: SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

This floor amendment provides that a holder of an agricultural permit or license subject to the applicable requirements, restrictions and penalties for special learner's permit holders also must display special learner's permit decals as required under current law.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 535

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 15, 2015

The Senate Transportation Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 535(1R).

As reported, this bill clarifies the requirements for a person seeking to obtain an agricultural driving license.

This bill requires that a person seeking to obtain an agricultural license successfully complete an approved minimum six-hour behind-the-wheel driver training course. The bill further provides that the holder of an agricultural license is exempt from the requirement that a driver under the age of 17 be in the company and under the supervision of a licensed driver over the age of 21 while operating a motor vehicle. The exemption only applies when the agricultural licensee is operating a registered farm vehicle for farm-related purposes.

Finally, the bill clarifies that the holder of an agricultural license is required to display the reflectorized decals that are required under current law to be displayed by all drivers under the age of 21.

As reported, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 2547 which also was reported by the committee on this date.

SENATE, No. 2547

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 27, 2014

Sponsored by:

Senator JEFF VAN DREW

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

Senator STEVEN V. OROHO

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

SYNOPSIS

Reestablishes certain historic driving privileges afforded holders of agricultural driver's licenses in operating farm equipment and vehicles.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning agricultural driver's licenses and amending
2 P.L.1942, c.324.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.1942, c.324 (C.39:3-11.1) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. Any person, under seventeen years of age and not under
10 sixteen years of age, may be licensed to drive motor vehicles in
11 agricultural pursuits as herein limited; provided such person has,
12 after successfully completing an approved minimum six-hour
13 behind-the-wheel driver training course, passed an examination
14 satisfactory to the chief administrator as to his ability as an
15 operator. The chief administrator, upon payment of the lawful fee
16 and after he or a person authorized by him has examined the
17 applicant and is satisfied of the applicant's ability as an operator,
18 may, in his discretion, license the applicant to drive any motor
19 vehicle which is registered under the provisions of R.S.39:3-24 and
20 R.S.39:3-25. The holder of an agricultural permit or license shall
21 be subject to the applicable requirements, restrictions and penalties
22 for special learner's permit holders , including the display of special
23 learner's permit decals, provided under section 6 of P.L.1977, c.25
24 (C.39:3-13.2a); provided, however, the holder of an agricultural
25 permit or license shall not be required to be accompanied by, and
26 under the supervision of, a licensed motor vehicle driver of this
27 State over the age of 21 in order to be permitted to operate a motor
28 vehicle registered under the provisions of R.S.39:3-24 or R.S.39:3-
29 25 for farm-related purposes. Such registration shall expire on
30 March thirty-first of each year terminating the period for which
31 such license is issued. The annual license fee for such license shall
32 be one dollar (\$1.00), and is for the limited use herein provided, and
33 is not to be used in the operation of any other vehicle and shall have
34 the name of the licensee endorsed thereon in his own handwriting.
35 The holder of an agricultural license shall be entitled to a
36 probationary driver's license upon attaining the age of 17 years and
37 shall be subject to applicable restrictions and penalties in section 4
38 of P.L.1950, c.127 (C.39:3-13.4) as they pertain to a probationary
39 driver's license holder.

40 (cf: P.L.2009, c.38, s.4)

41

42 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month
43 following enactment.

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

STATEMENT

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35

This bill clarifies the requirements for persons wishing to become holders of agricultural driving permits and licenses.

Since 1942, the State of New Jersey has issued agricultural driver's licenses and permits to allow 16 year olds to lawfully operate farm equipment, and trucks registered as farm vehicles, when engaged directly and exclusively in agricultural activities.

The graduated driver license program, which was established in 2001, significantly changed the driving privileges of permit holders and new licensees. These changes, particularly the requirement that 16 year old permit holders must be in the company and under the supervision of a licensed driver over the age of 21, undermine the purpose and value of an agricultural driver's license. This bill would exempt agricultural driver's licensees from that restriction, provided they successfully complete an approved minimum six-hour behind-the-wheel driver training course.

The bill also clarifies that the Kyleigh's Law requirement to display special learner's permit decals does not apply to holders of agricultural permits or licenses or motor vehicles registered as farm vehicles. Established by that law in 2009, the decal requirement is an enforcement tool for ensuring permit holders complied with the requirements of being accompanied by a licensed driver and not driving after 11 p.m. However:

- 1) farm vehicles cannot be operated on the roadways between sunset and sunrise;
- 2) the purpose of the agricultural driver's license is to allow 16 year olds to operate farm vehicles without supervision in limited circumstances; and
- 3) less than 200 agricultural driver's licenses are issued to 16 years olds each year.

This bill provides that a holder of an agricultural permit or license subject to the applicable requirements, restrictions and penalties for special learner's permit holders also must display special learner's permit decals as required under current law.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2547

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 15, 2015

The Senate Transportation Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2547.

As reported, this bill clarifies the requirements for a person seeking to obtain an agricultural driving license.

This bill requires that a person seeking to obtain an agricultural license successfully complete an approved minimum six-hour behind-the-wheel driver training course. The bill further provides that the holder of an agricultural license is exempt from the requirement that a driver under the age of 17 be in the company and under the supervision of a licensed driver over the age of 21 while operating a motor vehicle. The exemption only applies when the agricultural licensee is operating a registered farm vehicle for farm-related purposes.

Finally, the bill clarifies that the holder of an agricultural license is required to display the reflectorized decals that are required under current law to be displayed by all drivers under the age of 21.

As reported, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 535(1R) which also was reported by the committee on this date.

Governor Christie Takes Action to Support Garden State's Family Farms

Friday, August 07, 2015 Tags [Bill Action](#)



Stay Connected
with *Social Media*

Stay Connected
with *Email Alerts*

LIKE THIS PAGE? SHARE IT WITH YOUR FRIENDS.



Trenton, NJ – Governor Christie has signed A-535, legislation that restores driving privileges for 16-year-old permit holders of a New Jersey agricultural driver's license, allowing these teens to operate farm equipment and vehicles on their family farms without adult supervision

"Agriculture strengthens a way of life for farming families in our communities, provides access to Jersey Fresh produce and other agricultural products while maintaining our rural landscapes," said Governor Christie "By signing this legislation, we are providing an exemption that will ensure our robust agricultural industry – and the tradition of family farming that gets passed down through generations – remains strong now and in the future "

Under New Jersey's current graduated driver license program, privileges are phased in for drivers under the age of 21 New drivers between the age of 16 and 17 are subject to six months of supervised driving under a learner's permit followed by one year of restricted driving under a probationary license

This legislation resolves the issue by allowing drivers who are at least 16 years old to obtain an agricultural driver's license once an approved six-hour behind-the-wheel driver training course has been successfully completed

An agricultural driver's license limits the holder to operating a registered farm vehicle for farm-related purposes and also requires each licensed driver to display special learner's permit decals on their farm vehicle A holder of an agricultural driver's license would not be subject to either the six months of supervised driving or the one year of restricted driving

"Farming is very much a family business and often, in this economy, everyone needs to help," said Assemblyman John DiMaio, R-Warren, Hunterdon, Somerset "These limited use driver's licenses allow younger family members to provide assistance that is vital to the farm's operations "

Sponsors of the legislation include Assemblyman John DiMaio, (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren), Assemblywoman Alison Little McHose (Morris, Sussex and Warren), Assemblyman Bob Andrzejczak (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland) as well as Senator Jeff Van Drew (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland) and Senator Steven V Oroho (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

Press Contact
Brian Murray
Nicole Sizemore
609-777-2600

