

2026 Regular Session

# ACT No. 721

HOUSE BILL NO. 1244  
(Ventrella)

(Substitute for House Bill No. 679 by Representative

BY REPRESENTATIVES VENTRELLA, BOUDREAUX, BOYD, BROUSSARD, BRYANT, CHASSION, EDMONSTON, JACKSON, KNOX, LAFLEUR, TERRY LANDRY, LYONS, MARCELLE, MARTINEZ, MOORE, SPELL, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, WALTERS, AND WILEY AND SENATORS ABRAHAM, CARTER, CONNICK, MCMATH, PRICE, AND WHEAT

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:412(Section heading) and (R) and to enact R.S. 32:412(S),  
3 relative to driver's license designations; to provide for the establishment of a brain  
4 injury designation on driver's licenses; to provide for the criteria for obtaining the  
5 designation for new applicants and renewals; to provide for penalties for persons  
6 making false statements to obtain a brain injury special designation; to require the  
7 implementation of law enforcement officer training; to provide for rulemaking; and  
8 to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 32:412(Section heading) and (R) are hereby amended and reenacted  
11 and R.S. 32:412(S) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §412. Amount of fees; credit or refund; duration of license; veteran designation;  
13 special needs or accommodation designations; brain injury designation;  
14 disbursement of funds; renewal by mail or electronic commerce of Class "D"  
15 or "E" drivers' licenses; disposition of certain fees; exception

16 \* \* \*

17 R.(1) Upon request of an applicant for a driver's license, a designation that  
18 the applicant has a brain injury shall be exhibited on the driver's license upon  
19 presentation of a statement from a qualified medical or mental health professional  
20 licensed in Louisiana or any other state or territory of the United States verifying the  
21 applicant's disability as established by administrative rule. The qualified medical or  
22 mental health professional shall be authorized to diagnose brain injuries. No  
23 additional fee shall be charged to include this designation.

1                   (2) Upon the renewal of a driver's license, a driver who has a brain injury  
2                   shall provide a statement from a qualified medical or mental health professional  
3                   licensed in Louisiana or any other state or territory of the United States verifying his  
4                   disability as established by administrative rule.

5                   (3) Any person who has not been diagnosed with a brain injury who willfully  
6                   and falsely represents himself as having the qualifications to obtain the special  
7                   designation authorized by this Subsection shall be fined not less than one hundred  
8                   dollars nor more than two hundred fifty dollars, or shall be imprisoned for not more  
9                   than thirty days, or both. Any subsequent offense shall result in a fine of not less than  
10                  two hundred fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, or imprisonment for  
11                  not more than ninety days, or both.

12                  (4) In addition to the training requirements contained in R.S. 40:2404.2(C),  
13                  the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal  
14                  Justice shall establish and implement law enforcement training relative to law  
15                  enforcement officers' interactions with persons with a brain injury. The training shall  
16                  instruct law enforcement officers on sensitivity and awareness to ensure equitable  
17                  treatment and how to effectively communicate and interact with persons with a brain  
18                  injury. At a minimum, the training shall include the following:

19                  (a) Identification of indicators that a person has a brain injury.

20                  (b) Identification of procedures that an officer should employ when  
21                  encountering a person with a brain injury.

22                  (c) Demonstrations of communication and interactive techniques required  
23                  to effectively interact with a person with a brain injury.

24                  (d) Explanations that provide law enforcement officers with an  
25                  understanding of the brain injury and examples of unexpected actions that could  
26                  potentially be taken by persons diagnosed with a brain injury.

27                  (e) Explanations of the resources available to assist an officer encountering  
28                  a person with a brain injury.

1                   (f) Descriptions of the procedures an officer should use to ensure compliance  
2                   with the Americans with Disabilities Act when encountering a person with a brain  
3                   injury.

4                   (5) The deputy secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections,  
5                   public safety services, shall promulgate rules and regulations as necessary to  
6                   implement the provisions of this Subsection, including a waiver of liability for the  
7                   release of any medical information. Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S.  
8                   49:966(B)(12), the House and Senate committees on transportation, highways and  
9                   public works shall have oversight of the adoption of rules and regulations required  
10                  by this Subsection.

11                  ~~R. S.~~ S. An applicant for any class of license may choose to donate one dollar  
12                  in addition to any license fee required by this Section to the Louisiana Military  
13                  Family Assistance Fund.

14                  Section 2. This Act shall be known as "Riley's Law".

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_